

THE
FREEMASONS'
MONTHLY MAGAZINE.

JANUARY 1, 1855.

ADDRESS.

DURING the existence of the QUARTERLY MAGAZINE, for twenty-one years, the suggestion was frequently made to its successive Proprietors to change the time of publication, in order to make it a Monthly periodical. The growing prosperity of the Order, and the increased activity of its members, seemed to some, probably more in advance of the age than their Fellow Craftsmen, to demand larger means of information, and to require a more continuous chronicle of events than could, by any possibility, be afforded through the medium of a three months' regular issue of their Organ. The price, also, of the publication was a bar to its circulation; and the spirit in which it was conducted for several years, prior to its changing hands in 1850, both with respect to Proprietors and Editor, unhappily very much tended to detract from its usefulness.

Since the year 1850, several changes have been made in the method of conducting the FREEMASONS' QUARTERLY. For two years it was carried on exclusively by means of gratuitous contributions. In 1852, the then Proprietors relinquished their connection with the undertaking, and the Brethren who took their place, resolved to commence active operations, by offering remuneration for such papers as might seem to be useful, not only for the illustration of the principles of Freemasonry, but for the advance of a higher order of literature. One year's trial showed the benefit of this determination, and, for the last two years, a higher rate of remuneration for contributions insured a series of papers on various subjects, which gave a new and more elevated tone to the publication, and gained admission for it into several learned societies, in which, as a purely Masonic work, it would never have obtained any consideration. During this system of management, the great feature of the QUARTERLY, MASONIC INTELLIGENCE—as a record of the proceedings of the

Craft in the United Kingdom, the Colonies, America, and the Continent—was, to a certain extent, retained; but a general impression seems to have prevailed, that it would have been better suited to the interests of the Order, had this feature been made the chief, rather than a comparatively subordinate, characteristic. The suggestion offered to the Craft, upon the advice of many highly esteemed lights in Masonry, during the last year, that the time seemed to have arrived for changing the QUARTERLY appearance of the MAGAZINE to a Monthly issue, met with such universal approbation, and received such extensive promises of increased support, that the Proprietors could no longer hesitate to venture upon the change. They, therefore, closed the volume for 1854 with the October Number, and prepared to commence the year 1855 with a MONTHLY publication, the first number of which is now presented to the Brethren, in the hope of meriting, and with the assurance of obtaining, not only a continuance of that support which has invariably been accorded to the QUARTERLY, but a considerable increase of subscribers throughout the Masonic domains of the United Empire.

From the contents of the first number of the FREEMASONS' MONTHLY MAGAZINE, it will be perceived that the object of the Editor is, henceforth, to make the periodical almost EXCLUSIVELY MASONIC. For this purpose arrangements have been entered into to secure writers well versed in Masonic lore, who shall, from time to time, illustrate the principles, and investigate the hidden mysteries of nature and science. Judgment will be also exercised in the selection of lighter papers, to balance the publication, and to induce the fairer members of society, whose husbands, brothers, and other relatives, may be members of the Order, to take an interest in our labours. In this field of literature—taking due care to make it subordinate to the more important purposes of a Masonic publication—we shall be better able to keep up the interest of any lengthened tale or story, by presenting portions of it at MONTHLY, instead of QUARTERLY, intervals.

With respect to the publication of MASONIC INTELLIGENCE, we declare at once, that this will be *our chief object* in the future conduct of the FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE. We shall strive, to the utmost of our power and ability, to give a due report of all Masonic proceedings in every quarter of the globe, but especially of those transactions which take place in localities under the immediate jurisdiction of the United Grand Lodge of England, so as to do justice to the activity and exertions of those Brethren, who devote not only their time and talent, but also their money to the propagation of the noble principles of FREEMASONRY, and to the increase of its great and leading object—CHARITY. In order that our wishes may be fully realised in this respect, and that each MONTHLY issue may be as full as possible of such MASONIC INTELLIGENCE, we have earnestly to request the valuable assistance of our Brethren in all parts of the world, where our publication travels; and especially would we ask

the help and co-operation of those in town and country to favour us with *instant communications* of any proceedings either in the London Lodges, the Provincial Grand Lodges, the Country Craft Lodges, and the Royal Arch Chapters, &c. &c., which may be likely to interest the Masonic body, and to promote its truly philanthropic and Fraternal objects. We have such confidence in our Brethren, that we make this appeal to them for information, in the full assurance that we shall not be disappointed. We have converted the QUARTERLY into a MONTHLY MAGAZINE, at the reduced price of *One Shilling*, not only to meet their suggestions, but to give the most ample opportunities for the publication of their communications, which the nature of a QUARTERLY MAGAZINE could not always permit, but which a MONTHLY will fully allow. If we are met, as we believe we shall be, in this respect, with that truly Fraternal aid which has ever been accorded to us, since the Organ of the Craft came into our hands, we have no fear of making the MAGAZINE a welcome guest at every Mason's fireside, without which he will feel at a loss to know how the interests of the Craft are faring, and what is the progress its principles are making.

In the prosecution of the pleasing task which we have, "of our own free will and accord," set ourselves to accomplish, we shall make it a prominent feature of our future labours to reply to such inquiries upon Masonic practice and law as may be submitted to us for elucidation. We shall also publish a list of Lodge meetings in town for each month throughout the year. As there will be some unavoidable inaccuracies at first in the sources, from which we shall have to draw this information, we shall highly esteem it, if Brethren, members of such Lodges in which mistakes as to their day and time of meeting may unavoidably occur, will kindly supply us with accurate details. We shall also be thankful to receive the earliest intimation of the time and places at which Provincial and Deputy Provincial Grand Masters, and Grand Superintendents of Royal Arch Masons, may determine to hold their annual meetings for the appointment of Officers and the transaction of other business, as well as the fullest report that can be furnished of the proceedings.

As permanent subscriptions to the FREEMASONS' MONTHLY MAGAZINE will be of invaluable service for securing the perfect fulfilment of our promise, and for making the publication worthy of increased support and consideration, we respectfully request that the names of Brethren, who desire the Magazine to be sent regularly to them, may be furnished *immediately* to our Publishers, Bro. Routledge and Co., 2, Farringdon-street; to Bro. R. Spencer, Masonic Bookseller, 314, Holborn; to the Editor, 74-5, Great Queen-street, Lincoln's-Inn-Fields, London; or to any of our numerous country agents, a list of whom we have the pleasure to annex to the cover of our present number.

We have now only to conclude our observations by wishing the Brethren a happy and prosperous New Year, not only in Masonic proceedings, but in every circumstance of their lives. May our

MONTHLY labours, thus begun in order and in obedience to our laws, be conducive to peace and concord with *all* our Brethren, and promote the pursuit of honour and justice, the practice of virtue and benevolence, that those labours may continually redound to the honour and praise of the M. H. *So mote it be!*

THE PATRIOTIC FUND.

FEW announcements have ever caused greater satisfaction in Grand Lodge, or through the Craft in general, than the proposition of the M. W. the G. M., at the last QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION, that £1,000 be voted in March next to the Royal Patriotic Fund from the fund of General Purposes. The idea, previously to the last Grand Lodge, was rife in the minds of many Masons that a subscription, worthy of the Craft, ought to be offered to that truly national provision for the widows and orphans of our brave and noble soldiers, now fighting their country's battles, under the greatest discouragement of cold and wretchedness, yet with true English heart and spirit, in the Crimea; but very few were prepared for so extensive a proposition as that most gracefully and impressively brought forward by THE EARL OF ZETLAND himself, which, whilst it carries out the noble principle—CHARITY—the brightest jewel of Freemasonry—also tells to the world that there is something more in the Order itself than the uninitiated and the prejudiced are disposed to accord to it. That the M. W. the G. M.'s proposition will be unanimously agreed to is certain. The spirit with which his address was received, and the many marks of approbation which it elicited, are guarantees that not a dissentient voice will be heard against it. The only regret expressed in Grand Lodge was, that the vote could not be immediately taken. The suggestion was offered by a worthy Brother, that the standing orders should, in this instance, be suspended; but the M. W. the G. M. replied, that the law was imperative upon the subject of propositions in Grand Lodge, and that he must abide by its literal interpretation as to giving the usual notice required in such cases. Had the M. W. the G. M. exercised his undoubted prerogative, and determined to take the sense of Grand Lodge immediately, we are convinced no exception would have been offered to the proceeding; but since—like all his Brethren—he has been taught to be cautious, he undoubtedly exercised a wise discretion in abiding by the rules and regulations of the Order. In some cases, “delays are dangerous;” but in this it cannot be so. The time that will elapse between the last QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION and that of next March, will not be wasted; for it will give ample opportunity to every Lodge in the United Kingdom to subscribe to the Patriotic Fund, and to swell the donations about to be voted by Grand Lodge to such an amount, as to cause the

expression to be once more on every man's lips, "*O Wonderful Masons!*"

We have availed ourselves, in this number of the FREEMASONS' MONTHLY MAGAZINE, of the opportunity of recording the subscriptions of a few private Lodges to the Patriotic Fund; but we shall deem it a privilege to set apart a portion of our succeeding numbers to record the various sums contributed by Lodges and Masons in all parts of the kingdom, by which means an authorised notification will circulate through the Craft, and our Brethren at home and abroad, as well as the popular world, will be able to test the spirit of benevolence which invariably prevails with Freemasons, when any positive benefit can be afforded to those who stand in need of their assistance. We believe that an immediate compliance with our request, by a return made to us from every Lodge contributing to this truly national undertaking, will show that the gifts of Freemasons are quite equal to, if not above, the average of the subscriptions of the general public. We have implicit faith in the benevolence of the members of the Order. All that we ask of our Brethren is, that they will permit us to be the means of showing to the world that there is much—very much—more in the profession of Masonic Charity than an empty name.

A YOUNG MASON'S MONTH AMONGST THE BRETHREN IN JERSEY.

LAST September opened upon me with so fair a prospect of a month's relaxation from professional duties and anxieties, that I was unable to resist the temptation to set out in quest of health and recreation in some rural retreat. The various routes so profusely advertised for "delightful excursions" caused a little hesitation; but at length the island of Jersey was decided upon, as in many respects, the most preferable on that occasion. On the morning of the 5th, therefore, I packed my portmanteau and set out for the station at Waterloo Bridge. By an alteration in the trains, of which I was totally unaware, I found I had arrived at Southampton too late for the Jersey boat of that day, and that I should have to remain there till nearly twelve o'clock the next night. Having rested and refreshed myself a little, I took out my Freemasons' Calendar, to see if haply there might be a Lodge there that evening. It was the first Tuesday in the month, and I found that that was the meeting night of No. 555. Although but young in the Craft, I was of course aware that the Metropolitan Lodges had not commenced their season, but I also knew that some of our Provincial Brethren meet all the year round. In hope that this might be the case on the present occasion, I took my Masonic clothing and certificate, and set out for the Freemasons' Hall, but found, to my regret,

that the season there had not commenced ; so, after a brief conversation with a Brother, whom I took to be the Tyler, I returned to my hotel.

After breakfast the next morning, I strolled forth to see the "Argo" come into the dock,—a fine screw steamer from Australia. The sight is doubtless common-place enough to many ; but to me it presented several features of deep interest. Crowds pressed upon the barriers erected by the Custom House officials, watching eagerly for friends about to disembark. The earnest solicitations of the cabmen and porters from the divers hotels served to interest for awhile amidst the varied scenes attending the debarkation of a large number of passengers. Just as I was strolling away, a particularly clean and intelligent-looking seaman came on shore, having finished his work and dressed himself in his holiday habiliments for the occasion. There was none of that rapturous greeting vouchsafed to him, which was accorded to many who had preceded him in landing ; he appeared unknown, but a peculiarly interesting and joyous expression played over his countenance, as he ran down the plank from the side of the vessel to the quay ; impatient of the few remaining steps he sprang upon the shore, and he audibly exclaimed to himself, as his feet once more rested upon *terra firma*, "God be praised ! It's many long months since I put my foot on this blessed shore !" He disappeared amongst the crowd, and I went away.

The rest of the forenoon I whiled away on board the magnificent yacht belonging to the Egyptian government. It was their dinner-hour, and the vast crowds of Egyptian sailors in their singular dresses were giving themselves up to boyish and boisterous merriment.

Later in the day I put my portmanteau on board the Jersey packet, secured a berth, and spent the rest of the afternoon in listening to the amusing "yarns" of an "old salt," whose boat I chartered for "a sail" amidst the picturesque scenery of the far-famed "Southampton water." The weather was delightfully fine, there was not much wind, but we had a very pleasant little excursion, and at twelve o'clock I went on board the steamer. The mail train had arrived, and busses and cabs soon enlivened the half-deserted pier. After a few moments of excitement and squabbles with cabmen, and porters, and the like, our passengers came on board, and we steamed quietly out of the shades of the pier on to the exquisitely placid and majestic bosom of "Old Ocean." After a brief space had elapsed, we came to the "Needles," which sparkled in the moonbeams like mighty silver mountains, and when at length we lost sight of land, the scene was most magnificent, calling forth from the midst of our poetic reminiscences those beautiful words of Byron, evidently dictated by some similar scene :—

"Thou glorious mirror, where the Almighty's form
Glasses itself in tempests, in all time
Calm or convulsed—in breeze, or gale, or storm,
Icing the pole, or, in the torrid clime,

Dark-heaving ;—boundless, endless, and sublime—
The image of Eternity—the throne
Of the Invisible ; even from out thy shrine,
The monsters of the deep are made ; each zone
Obeys thee ; thou goest forth, dread, fathomless, alone.”

A number of the passengers grouped together, lit up their meershaums for an hour or so, while we contemplated the glorious expanse around us ; and then, one by one, we departed to “turn in.”

The incidents of so brief a voyage are of course too common-place to be further remarked on. We sailed into the beautiful little harbour of St. Heliers (having touched at Guernsey), at eleven o'clock the next morning.

Here I was, in a strange place, knowing neither the name nor countenance of any one around me, or upon the island. A busy little man, who had come on board at Guernsey, was going about to the passengers handing his card, and inviting them to his “boarding house,” “replete with every comfort,” “terms moderate,” &c. I was fain to go with him to save the annoyances of the “touters,” whom I saw busy upon the shore ; so we hailed a cab and soon set down at the place of his abode.

After dinner I went forth to explore the place a little. I had not come to spend my time in solitary peregrinations ; so I determined at once to find out “the Brethren.” I was encumbered by no “introduction,” verbal or written. I sallied forth, therefore, to test the reality and the universality of that “Fraternity,” which I had been given to understand attached to the “Order,” wherever it might be found. I saw a flag floating over the Royal Yacht Club’s wine merchant’s, with an outward and visible sign that a Brother was within. But I passed on. I soon saw the magic marks again ; it was a busy little tavern : I entered, and seated myself opposite the worthy host. I sipped my cognac and lighted my cigar ; but I need not say to the initiated that, as his eye was fixed upon the “stranger,” I had speedily to put down my glass, and grasp the hand of a Brother ! The great cordiality which was immediately manifested dispelled the last remaining cloud of the solitude which, till then, I felt, and the comforting sunshine of “Fraternity” burst forth. One by one the guests retired, as we chatted on things in general ; and, as the door closed behind the last as he departed, fuller explanations were entered into. I learned that the Fraternity was numerous, respectable, and influential in the island. There were no fewer than five Lodges under the Grand Lodge of England, and one holding under the Grand Lodge of Ireland.

To those who think with the poet that—

“ There is a pleasure in the pathless woods,
There is a rapture on a lonely shore ;
There is society where none intrudes,
By the deep sea, and music in its roar”—

to those who think thus, there are few places, which will be visited with so much pleasure as the little island of Jersey. The marine

views are numerous and exquisitely beautiful. The inland scenery is exceedingly varied and interesting. The roads are everywhere good, although there is not a turnpike in the entire island, and they are, moreover, so numerous as to make the place a perfect labyrinth to those, who are unacquainted with their windings. The effect of this is heightened by the fact that some ancient landmark, which, ever and anon, might indicate to you the locality to which you had wandered, is, probably, obscured from your view, at the very moment when you most need to see it, by the roads being arched over for miles by the trees on either side; but the evil is not very serious. You can soon get to a spot within sight of the sea, whatever may be the portion of the island to which you have wandered; and, in the heat of the summer's sun, these shadowy covered ways afford a most agreeable shade to the traveller. There is a geniality about the climate of Jersey, which cannot be secured anywhere else within the same distance from the metropolis. It is not so hot as England in summer, and not nearly so cold as we have it in winter. The climate is equable and admirably adapted as well to restore health as to preserve it. In fact, even if you have "a sound mind in a sound body," the mere act of living is pleasurable in such a climate, and amidst such scenery. If I were to detain the readers by indulging in descriptions of all the localities which could not fail to charm nine-tenths of them, as they have charmed me, I should not only spin out these chatty observations beyond all reasonable limits, but I should fill up an entire number of this journal, to the utter exclusion of all Masonic intelligence of any kind, sort, or description whatsoever.

Now to the Craft there. Amongst the earliest of the Masons I had the pleasure of meeting was Bro. Benjamin Parkes, W.M. of the Samares Lodge, No. 818, and with him I had a long and interesting conversation on the state and prospects of the Craft in the island. Bro. Parkes was initiated in the St. George and Corner Stone Lodge, No. 5, London, more than thirty years ago, and is one of the oldest Masons at present in the island. I inquired what had become of the Jersey Lodge, No. 222 (Marinet), mentioned by Preston as having presented Sir John Doyle with a splendid testimonial, when he was Governor; and understood that the members of it had amalgamated with the Mechanics' Lodge, No. 306, having by some means lost or forfeited the warrant. I learned also that there were Mark Master Masons' Lodges, holding under the Grand Lodge of Ireland, Jersey being a species of extra-parochial locality in this respect; and that with them the Mark is regarded as a "link" between the Craft and the Arch. Instead of a twelvemonth's Arch being a *sine quâ non* in a candidate for the Mark, as in London, every Master Mason, of a year's standing as such, can proceed in this degree, whether he has taken the Arch or not. The consequence is that, in all the Lodges at Jersey, the exquisitely chaste, simple, and beautiful Jewel, of this degree, is seen upon the bosoms of a large number of Brethren; whether they can legally wear it in Craft Lodges it is not for me to decide. Having long desired to

penetrate this additional recess in the mysteries of Masonry, I inquired when the next meeting of the Lodge would be held; but was informed that there had not been a meeting for several years; that it was possible, but not probable, that I could succeed in getting up a meeting during the brief period of my sojourn there, and especially as September was a very unfavourable season of the year. However, I set about the business in good earnest, and with what success the kindness of the Brethren crowned my labours, will appear before I conclude my remarks.

The warrants of the two oldest Lodges in the island were taken out under the Athol *régime*, previous to the Union. Their ritual was quite different, and they were at one time not on visiting terms with each other. At the Union, fraternity was restored, but the working was still inefficient and unsatisfactory. The improvements effected by that auspicious event, did not at once extend to Jersey; and when Bro. J. O. Lyte, P.M., was first elected W.M. of the Farmers' Lodge, there was no one in the island who could perform the installation. Bro. Daly, of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement, went over in 1843, and rendered very material assistance to the Jersey Brethren, and communicated much valuable information to Bro. Lyte. The Athol ritual was then forsaken for that agreed on by the United Grand Lodge; but, even then, the Arch was in a wretched state of dilapidation: so much so as to prevent any working therein. To Bro. Daly every credit is due; but Bro. Lyte, and those who then and since worked so cordially with him to render efficient the Fraternity they adorn, were chiefly indebted to Bro. G. P. de Rhé Phillipe, P.G.S.B., to whom he was introduced by the late Bro. Dr. J. Lane. Bro. Daly communicated to them the "Craft," and Bros. Lane and Phillipe the "Arch;" and, from that time, Bro. Lyte and others, as the numerous jewels and other testimonials they have received from their grateful Brethren of the various Lodges, will abundantly show, devoted themselves energetically and incessantly to elevate the Fraternity to that degree of efficiency, which now characterizes the Lodges of that island.*

The oldest Lodge now existing in the island is the Farmers' Lodge, No. 302, the charter of which dates from 1813. Bro. Dr. Cuquemelle is W.M. This was the only Lodge in the island I had not the pleasure of visiting; but I saw most, if not all the Brethren members of it at the other Lodges. This Lodge was first held at Gronville, but moved to St. Heliers, where all the Lodges now meet; and after flitting about from house to house, it has settled peaceably down at the Freemasons' Hall, Grove-place; † meeting on the first Monday

* I may here remark, that the labours of Bro. Lyte have extended still further, as he wears a handsome P. Z. jewel, presented to him by the Comps. of Doyles Chapter, No. 99, Guernsey, on the occasion of his visit to that island, when he installed the Ps., and instructed the officers of the said Chapter in their several duties. The jewel bears date "May 26, 1845."

† There are two Halls, one known as "the Masonic Hall," in Museum-street, and the other as "Freemasons' Hall," in Grove-place. There are also a host of Lodges for the illegitimate offspring of Masonry, such as Odd Fellows, Foresters,

in the month all the year round. In fact, all the Lodges in Jersey keep it up month after month in their own Lodges; and not only so, but many of them frequently visit one or two Lodges they do not belong to, as well as their own, in the course of the month. *There are no visitors' fees.* The pleasure and profit are mutual. The visited Brethren of to-night, return the compliment by becoming themselves visitors in a few days. There is one advantage in this plan—it greatly promotes unity and fraternity. But if, instead of being held every month there was a recess, as in London, perhaps the average attendance would increase in all the Lodges. On this score, however, there is but little cause for complaint, judging from what could be seen in a month. There are about forty paying members in this Lodge.

Two or three days after my arrival in the island, I had managed to see several of the Brethren, but had not attended any Lodge meeting. The first was on September the 14th, and after a long drive in the early part of the day, I returned to my lodgings in the suburbs of St. Heliers, and began to prepare to present myself at the door of No. 722, the Royal Sussex Lodge, which held a meeting that evening. I sent the servant to ask the landlord of the house, whom I had only once seen for a few moments when engaging my apartments, if he knew where the Masonic Hall was, and which was my nearest way to it. Here the garrulity of the feminine sex proved advantageous—she saw my Masonic clothing, and told her master what she had seen, as well as asking the question I had sent her to ask. In a moment she re-entered, with her master's compliments, and he would be happy to show me the way if I would allow him the honour. "Certainly," I replied, and I was just going to say, how "sorry I was to trouble him," &c. &c. when up he came. He was a Jersey man by birth, but had spent so much of his life in France that he could speak but little English; he was to all intents and purposes a Frenchman. "Par-r-r-don M'ssieur," said he, and suiting the action to the word, he speedily convinced me that, knowing no one, I had unwittingly selected from the various houses in which bills notified "AP-
PARTEMENTS À LOUER," lodgings at the residence of a Brother! After mutual explanations and congratulations, we set out for the Lodge; where, on due examination, as well as the production of my G.L. certificate, I was admitted. I was struck with the excellence of the furniture, &c., and with the regularity, order, and efficiency with which the work was carried on. Bro. Miller, P.M. of the Lodge, was W.M. on the occasion. Bro. Adams, the Secretary of this Lodge, is a very able Mason, and is W.M. elect of the Samares Lodge. He is highly spoken of for his extensive acquaintance with Masonry, his

Ancient Shepherds, *et hoc genus omne.* The Freemasons' Hall was formerly a Jewish Synagogue; the Masonic Hall was built by Bro. Miller as a concert-room, and is occasionally used for lectures and other public purposes. Both are now admirably fitted up; and the furniture of either of them (designed and executed in the establishment of Bro. T. O. Lyte), would be no discredit to the best of our London Lodges; it is, in fact, superior to many of them.

retentive memory, and his devotion to the best interests of the Craft. This Lodge, the necessity for which arose out of some differences of opinion at the time amongst the Brethren, was founded in 1843; the interesting ceremonies of constitution, consecration, and installation being performed by Bro. T. O. Lyte, then W.M. of the senior Lodge (Farmers', No. 302). This took place on the 27th of December of that year, when there were thirty-five members, and about as many visitors, present. Bro. Adams, P.M., the present Secretary, was installed as S.W. upon that occasion. The proceedings concluded by a dinner, at which English, Irish, French, Germans, and Jerseyites united together in the most cordial and friendly manner. So far as I saw, the same spirit pervades the Lodge *now!* Visitors are freely received and cordially welcomed.*

The Mechanics', No. 306, was the worst Lodge I visited. Bro. T. O. Lyte, P.M., in the chair. This Lodge was formed in 1813, the same year as the Farmers' Lodge. It was originated by Bro. Inchcliffe, of whom it now possesses a beautiful portrait, hung up in the Lodge-room, executed by Bro. J. Oules, also a member of the Lodge, who, it will be remembered, is honoured with the commands of her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen, to execute a marine view, the subject being some spot in Jersey. The present W.M. of the Lodge, Bro. Metcalfe, has gone to Australia, and he will be gratified to learn, through the medium of these pages, that his health was drunk with much enthusiasm, and that his name was mentioned in connection with the most cordial wishes for his future happiness and prosperity, expressed by Bro. Lyte, and cordially responded to by every Brother present. Bro. T. O. Lyte, P.M. of the Lodge, occupies the chair till the close of Bro. Metcalfe's year of office.†

On the following Monday (Sept. 25), I had the honour and gratification of visiting a French Lodge, holding under the G.L. of England, viz., La Césarée, No. 860. Here I met the V.W. Prov. G.M. Bro. Hammond, to whom I was introduced, and on whom I had the honour of calling the next morning, when we had a long and interesting conversation on the state of the Craft in Jersey. La Césarée numbers between thirty and forty paying members. The chair is at present occupied by Dr. Barbier, a political *proscrit*. The celebrated Pierre Leroux, who is residing at Jersey under similar circumstances, is also a member. This lodge comprises not only Frenchmen tem-

* Capt. Dundas, a relative of the admiral, was S.W. on the evening of my visit. There are thirty-seven paying members in this Lodge.

† Last year this Lodge recognised Bro. Lyte's unwearied exertions, by presenting him with a magnificent P.S.G.W.'s jewel, which bore the following inscription:—

“Presented to the V. W. Bro. T. O. Lyte, P.M. of the Mechanics' Lodge, No. 306, P.P.G.S.W., and P.P.G. Sec. of this Province, in acknowledgment of valuable services rendered to the Lodge.

“ Jersey, Dec. 27, 1853.”

This is only a specimen of a number of splendid jewels which have been from time to time presented to Bro. Lyte, for his untiring exertions to promote the welfare of the Fraternity in this island.

porarily and permanently resident in the island; but a large portion of the Jersey men themselves prefer French to English, and most of them are perfectly familiar with both languages, so that we had no lack of visitors on this occasion. The ritual was a simple, beautiful, and almost a literal French translation of that in use in our own Lodges. The whole of the proceedings are conducted in the French language. The W.M. is known as "Le Vénérable," and there is one officer unknown in English Lodges, "Le Frère Orateur," whose duty it is to deliver brief essays on matters of interest to the Craft in the absence of other business. This is a most decided improvement, if restricted within due limits, upon the old mode of opening, and (in the absence of business) closing at once for the "knife and fork degree." Bro. P.M. Dr. Cuquemelle was Le Frère Orateur on this occasion, and delivered a very able little essay, of some fifteen or twenty minutes' duration, on "Secrecy," in connection with Masonry and other Secret Societies. This address was exceedingly appropriate, blending the interesting with the instructive in a manner most judicious and satisfactory. The proceedings throughout were conducted in the most efficient manner, under the able superintendence of Bro. Barbier, assisted by an accomplished staff of officers; and the Lodge was closed in due form. At the festive board the scene was most interesting to those who are not content with observing merely that which is upon the surface. There we were—French, English, Irish, Scotch, Poles, Jerseymen, and Germans—all cheerfully united by one common bond of brotherhood. Every shade of politics surrounded the Brother proscribed for his opinions. That little company contained representatives of the Court, the Legislature, and literature; law, physic, and divinity; trade, commerce, and manufactures. All grades in the social scale and body politic were there:—Whig, Tory, Radical, and Republican, rallied round the *proscrit* in the chair! "This," I thought, as one young in Masonry, "this is the *true fraternity*, for which philanthropists in all ages have longed." A more cordial meeting—a more perfect absence of a look or word, which could foster strife or dissension—I never witnessed in my life, even when all have been of the same religious or political opinions. The evening passed off most pleasantly. The Chairman gave the usual patriotic toasts, and the proceedings were enlivened by some French songs and speeches. Bro. Du Jardin made a very amusing speech in French, and then gave us a rather "free translation" of it in English, for the benefit of any who might not have understood his French oration. On both occasions his remarks were mirth-provoking to a high degree; and in particular did he excite the risibilities of the Brethren by his reference to sundry "incidents" of a peculiarly "interesting" character, which had, on a considerable number of meetings, either prevented his attendance altogether, or caused him to be hurriedly called away. This will be enough to recall the smiles of those who were present, as there is no necessity to spread such information more widely. Bro. Aland, W.M. of the Irish Lodge (Justice, No. 34); Bro. T.O. Lyte, and Bro. Bohm (a London visitor,

and P.M. of No. 201), respectively enlivened the proceedings by songs serious and heroic, comic and sentimental. At eleven o'clock, which is the stated hour in this island, the company separated.

The next evening, which was September 26th, was the meeting of the Samares Lodge, No. 818, Bro. B. Parkes, W.M. I found that by a bye-law no man could join this Lodge except he belonged to the Prov. G.L., for the use of the members of which the Lodge was alone intended. It meets four times a year, but there are no initiations or workings. It was founded in 1848, to give the P.G. Officers an opportunity of meeting four times a year to discuss P.G.L. matters. Nevertheless, visitors of other Lodges, not being P.G. Officers, are received. So I went, and found many of those whom I had seen on the previous occasions. Bro. Aland was one whom I met everywhere; and as he came up to me in the Samares, I could not resist a smile, on which he remarked, "So you see, Brother, *I give them all a turn!*" Such is the fraternal spirit which pervades the Craft in Jersey.

The Lodge having been opened, a discussion ensued on the subject of the bye-laws, which, from divers delays and other obstacles, have never yet been officially sanctioned, confirmed, and printed. The P.G.M., who was present, acknowledged the receipt of an official copy of them, but said he had not had time to give them that consideration which their importance demanded. The W.M. said he should call a Lodge of Emergency in about a fortnight, as perhaps the P.G.M. might then be able to let them have them. Bro. Miller and others expressed their opinion on the importance of the bye-laws of the Lodge being sanctioned, and printed at as early a period as possible, and the subject dropped. The next business was the election of W.M., for the ensuing year. There were two candidates; Bro. Adams, before referred to, and Bro. the Rev. Charles Marrett, Rector of St. Clement's, and Prov. Grand Chaplain. Bro. Adams, P.M., was the successful candidate. The Lodge being closed, there was but a repetition of that kindness, fraternity, hospitality, and good feeling, towards visitors, and towards one another, which had distinguished all the previous meetings of the Brethren, which I had had the honour and gratification of attending.

The Lodge I have referred to as holding under the G.L. of Ireland, is the Lodge of Justice, No. 34, on the Irish Registry; and this, I regret to say, I had not an opportunity of visiting. Notwithstanding the extra-jurisdictional situation of Jersey in many respects, some well-meaning persons have deprecated the fact that there should exist in Jersey any Lodge, which is not under the jurisdiction of the G.L. of England; others say, "Let it alone as a refuge for the malcontents from other Lodges, and as a retreat for the P.G.M.'s own insubordinates, if any such there are, or may be." This, however, is a point which I must leave to the decision of older and abler Brethren. The rapidity of action, the brevity of intervals between different steps, the extreme lowness of the subscription, which entitles a suitable person to all the mysteries and privileges of the

Craft, were some of the reasons adduced to me why it would be better for the Brethren of the Justice Lodge to amalgamate with the English Brethren. There is hardly an Irishman amongst them; the present W.M., Bro. Aland, although blessed with much of that brilliancy and readiness of repartee, and other sparkling conversational characteristics of the sister island, has no personal connexion with it. He is a Londoner, who has retired with the fruits of his industry, to enjoy the *otium cum dignitate* in Jersey. There is, therefore, no necessity for an Irish Lodge on these grounds, if other objections can be as satisfactorily encountered.

Having given an account of the Monday and Tuesday of the last week of my sojourn in Jersey, I must now come to the Wednesday (September 27). This day, with the able and cheerful assistance of several of the Brethren to whom I had spoken on the matter, I succeeded in getting fixed for the holding of the Mark Master Masons' Lodge, with a view to my own initiation. Due notice having been given, and a very large number of Brethren assembled, it was decidedly the most numerously attended, and in every way the most agreeable and satisfactory Masonic meeting during my visit; and this is mainly attributable to the activity of some of the Brethren, who were so kind as to accede to my suggestions for an immediate meeting in that degree, and did their best to gratify my desire. So far from being myself the only candidate, as I had feared, and as some of the less sanguine had at first prognosticated, there were no fewer than *sixteen* properly qualified Brethren arrayed beside me as candidates when we were called into the Lodge. We were initiated in a very solemn, impressive, and efficient manner by Bro. Aland, who filled the chair, with the able assistance of Bros. T. O. Lyte, Adams, Miller, Du Jardin, Blood, and others. The Lodge being closed, we spent a most agreeable evening.*

In conclusion, I can only express my hopes—*first*, that every Brother who goes to Jersey will spend his "holiday" there as agreeably as I did; and, *secondly*, that every "holiday" I may have, wherever I may wander, may be attended with, at least, an equal degree of pleasure and profit. Brethren, adieu.

H. RISEBOROUGH, S., *Phœnix*, No. 202.

* This Mark Degree, I may here remark, has of late become increasingly popular in the Craft, and many London Brethren would be happy to take it, while those who have taken it would rejoice in the formation of a Lodge under the G. L. of England. I am told, I know not with how much truth, that the G. L. has seriously discussed the propriety of recognising it, in its proper place, as a *link* between the Craft and the Arch; those who know both are aware (it is said) that something has been lost, and those who have the Mark in addition to the Craft and Arch, can see (it is also said) very well where it supplies the vacancy.

CHURCHMEN AND FREEMASONS.

THE philosopher's dog was not whipped for destroying the precious manuscript of its master. He, making allowance for its ignorance, simply ejaculated, "Thou little knowest the mischief thou hast done." With similar forbearance we wish to treat a human delinquent, with whom we have to do, whose ignorant destructiveness rivals the canine.

A few words, and our meaning will be clear.—

The zealous Vicar of Newcastle-on-Tyne, out of ten projected schools, has already succeeded in laying the foundation-stones of two. By special invitation, the Freemasons were present on both occasions; and the P.G.M. laid one of them in ancient and solemn form. This "consecration" is nauseous to the editor of the *English Churchman*, who, on the 23rd of November, deals out a wrathful column of denunciation and warning on the subject. Following up, in this attack on Masons and their "paraphernalia," the sharp dose of censure it administered to the Bishop of Winchester, for countenancing, at Newport, Isle of Wight, the same "unmeaning mummeries," when the first stone of a new church was laid there, on the 24th of August last, he now calls on clergy and laity to repudiate us altogether, and runs full butt at our ceremonies, with all the energy of a Papal bull. *Ecce argumentum!*

"Masons certainly refuse to acknowledge any Christian creed or profession as the principle of their organization."

"If, as a body, they admire and wish to promote Christian works, why do they not make their work Christian?"

"If Christian Freemasonry be an anomaly, is not Freemasonry an anomaly for a Christian?"

"Freemasonry recognises no church. Why should any church recognise Freemasonry?"

We cannot resent the writer's complacent attempt to destroy an institution older than the Pyramids. It is more a subject for pity, that a mind apparently earnest in its task can thus conveniently assume its facts, for the avowed purpose of narrowing human sympathies, and advocating a spirit of cold exclusiveness.

The two first clauses of this heap of assumptions we shall leave untouched. Our opponent must necessarily be ignorant of the nature of the problem he is proposing, and will, therefore, be scarcely competent to appreciate its solution.

The next passage is more promising:—

"If Christian Freemasonry be an anomaly, is not Freemasonry an anomaly for a Christian?"

This is quite a pretty play of words; but, like many other prettinesses, entirely useless. It all rests upon *if*, that crutch of limping logicians. We challenge the writer to the proof. Let him produce vouchers for his assertion, and we will produce *men* in answer to its depending question—*men*, living and dead—humble Christians,

honest citizens, upright men, to whose faith and lives Freemasonry was no anomaly, but a valued privilege and an active principle.

The last position is equally bold and baseless:—

“Freemasonry recognises no church. Why should any church recognise Freemasonry?”

Freemasonry recognises no church? Who then are its Grand Chaplains here? Are they promiscuously chosen from the many sects that jar and wrangle around it. They are clergymen of the English church, yoke-fellows of the *English Churchman*. Nay, we believe the very P.G.M., whose ceremonies at Newcastle so much disagreed with our contemporary, to be actually a clergyman himself. Do not Freemasons go to church *en masse* at their annual meetings? and is a clergyman tabooed whenever he appears amongst them? Happily there are English churchmen, clergy and laity, *our brethren*, whose lives testify that Catholic truth and Masonic principles, so far from being anomalous, are harmonious ingredients of a virtuous character.

When the former limb of the argument is thus destroyed, the latter is quite paralysed. “Why should any church recognise Freemasonry?” is unmeaning stuff; but we may observe, in passing, that Masonry courts no such recognition; unencumbered by anything without, it will maintain an undeviating course, seeking no proselytes, but giving due instruction to all who seek it, and tending, we humbly trust, to make Christians more useful in *their* sphere, and to disseminate amongst men of every creed and nation those principles of unity and charity, which will, we believe, form the ultimate basis of one Christian family over the face of the whole earth.

But the theme warns us of a duty to our Brethren. Our ancient Brethren silenced all cavils by their prominence for good deeds. Practically useful in their generation, their career was steadily consistent, earnest, *real*. We should remember this now. When every class and society is giving proofs of renewed vitality and active exertion, Freemasons must be something more than boon companions, or it will be left to the nineteenth century to witness the degradation of an Institution, which has successively illuminated, through adverse times, empires as great and intellects as lofty as ours, and, itself unshaken, has survived them all.

ON SPECULATIVE MASONRY.

A PAPER READ BY THE W.M. OF THE Humber Lodge, No. 65,
TO THE BRETHREN OF THAT LODGE.

IN treating of the subject of Speculative Masonry, I do not propose, in this paper, to enter upon the theme of the antiquity of the Order; nor is it my intention to point out to you how, in bygone ages, the Romish church, so long as she conceived it her interest so

to do, fostered our Order; nor how, during those ages, our Brethren conceived and carried into execution those vast and magnificent cathedrals and churches, which are still the monuments, and attest the practical utility of Masonry in the exterior world, and the comprehensive genius that must have existed, which could thus, from rude matter as it were, call into being those temples, which, even in the present day, strike the beholder with astonishment, and lead him involuntarily to exclaim, "Truly there must have been giants in those days;" and which temples, though we are so constantly in the habit of boasting of our progress and advancement in the liberal arts and sciences, are still the types and models of the architects of our own day. My present business is with Speculative Masonry.

That Freemasonry has existed in remote ages, and flourished most where civilization has most largely conferred upon mankind its precious boons, are facts that, I think, few will fail to admit; neither, I think, can it be denied, that during the dark ages, when the world has been overshadowed with the canopy of ignorance and superstition, though occasionally dimmed and shorn of its effulgence, has Freemasonry failed to shed its benign influences upon mankind, conferring inestimable blessings (limited though at times they may have been) not only upon those who were included within its mystic portals, but also, by the doctrines which it inculcates, upon the human race in general. Age has succeeded age in the ceaseless roll of time; thrones and kingdoms have tottered to their foundations; ancient dynasties have ceased to exist; wars and commotions have from time to time scattered the mightiest fabrics that human greatness has been able to rear, whose existence (if such it may be termed), can only be traced in the pages of history, or the researches of the antiquary. Even the glorious temple of King Solomon, the most spacious and magnificent, and constructed by so many celebrated artists, hath not escaped the ravages of barbarous force; and, in their course, nigh all terrestrial things have undergone an essential change. Yet, amidst all the shocks, which, as it were, have caused the world to vibrate to its foundations, annihilated the stupendous works which man's ingenuity hath been able to rear, and changed the face of society itself—amidst all this ruin, desolation, and change, one bright star remains unaltered, and Freemasonry, by its beautiful symmetry and benevolent adornments, has been able to withstand those storms which have levelled all beside even with the dust, and never has it ceased to exercise its sway, silently, but surely, holding its onward course, ever forward in the work of Charity, and linking together, in the bonds of Brotherly love, the most distant nations of the earth, regardless alike of language, of clime, or of kindred. It is, therefore, that abandoning for the present the interesting subject of the antiquities of Masonry, I propose, in the present paper, to examine the causes and reasons why, when other things have changed and passed away, this science still remains, ever exercising its beneficial influences upon mankind, and ever foremost in the great work of doing good, gathering renewed strength in its never-

ceasing progress. I could, indeed, have wished that a theme of such importance had fallen into abler hands than mine to dwell upon; for, as I proceed with this my pleasing task, I feel that I do not adequately possess the power to trace out the beauties of the subject, nor to do that justice to it, which it so well and worthily deserves. Still I flinch not from it; and I trust that not only will my Brethren look with a favourable eye upon the deficiencies which I feel satisfied will largely abound, but that they will be tempted to emerge from silence, point out any errors I may have committed, and supply the defects of this paper. And upon this point, perhaps, I may not be considered as digressing unnecessarily, if I urge upon my Brethren of this Lodge, the great advantage that would ensue if the science we now profess were, by all of us, more studied than it is. To the newly initiated, much of our forms and ceremonies, beautiful though they undoubtedly are, can only convey to the mind a vague and faint light of the real beauties of the Craft, which others would then be able to explain and illustrate. I do not say, nor would I have you to infer, that our members are behind others; still all will, I think, admit that there is yet much to be done; and I would that a spirit of emulation would arise amongst us, and that we would not only satisfy our minds by obtaining such information, but that when so obtained, it should be freely imparted to the Brethren. We live in times when the march of men's intellect exhibits itself on all sides; and if we would have Masonic knowledge advance too, carefully observing the landmarks of our Order, it can only be done by each of us communicating freely that which the other has been able by study and observation to acquire.

The greatest discoveries the world has seen, have not been the fruit of one man's mind alone. It is true that grand principles have been originated by one contriver, but the perfection and applicability of the invention, or the theory has arisen, not because the inventor kept to himself that which his imagination had conceived, but because he propounded it to the world, and the minds of other men were brought to bear upon the numerous details requisite, and the general combination of the whole, for one or more great ends. So it is with Freemasonry; and I would humbly submit, that although an accurate knowledge of our system, and the correct working of a Lodge, are essential in themselves to the perpetuating of our Order, yet at the same time there are other requisites besides these to be considered, and no subject, in my opinion, stands so prominently in the foreground, as a careful application of the mind to Masonic knowledge, and a general desire, when that shall have been obtained, to impart it freely to the Brethren. I fear that I shall be considered as having been straying from my subject, but the importance of what I have said must form my apology for having so done. But now to my subject. Freemasonry is defined to be a peculiar system of morality, by the careful teaching of which, Masons learn to regard it as a duty incumbent on them to yield homage to the Deity, thereby securing to them both happiness and pleasure. It teaches

them also to regard with awe, reverence, and admiration, the stupendous works of Him, "Who hath measured the waters in the hollow of his hand, and meted out the heaven with His span, and comprehended the dust of the earth in a measure, and weighed the mountains in scales, and the hills in a balance," and through the secret paths of nature and of science to trace the unerring hand of the G. A. O. T. U. The secrets that are intrusted to Masons are veiled in beautiful allegories, indelibly impressing themselves on the minds of each of us, and each illustrated by various symbols. The universal principles are to unite in one indissoluble bond of Brotherly love, men of the most opposite tenets, the most distant countries, and of the most contradictory opinions. Surely, Brethren, this presents a vast field for the imagination to dwell upon. In this universal bond of Brotherhood, no horizon bounds the eye, no limitation here presents itself to say, thus far and no further shalt thou go; but Freemasonry, spreading its branches around the habitable globe, throws the ample folds of its peaceful mantle around all who desire to enter, and are found worthy to be admitted. The doctrines inculcated by Freemasonry are, I take it, founded on the Sacred Law of God, by which we are taught to form our standard of Truth and Justice, and by its precepts and examples to guide and to regulate our lives and actions; and to this Freemasonry attaches so much importance, that no member is admitted into a participation with us in our privileges, without having had first pointed out to him the necessity that there exists for its serious contemplation and earnest study, by all who are desirous of becoming good Masons and worthy members of society. That this is a solid foundation, I think none will feel disposed to deny; and were the doctrines more studied than they are, and its precepts acted upon more generally by the Brethren at large, much, if not all, of the prejudice that now exists against Freemasonry would cease, and instead of the Craft being regarded by many, who belong not to our Order, with suspicion, it would be but another name for respect and veneration—respect for the antiquity of the Order, and the beautiful system that flows from it; and veneration for the doctrines it teaches, and the benefit it has conferred and continues to confer upon mankind.

Upon this solid foundation Freemasonry has raised a glorious superstructure, and amongst the many ornaments that grace and adorn it, is found that noblest of all human virtues—Charity. Charity, as is designated by a well-known author on Freemasonry,* "is the chief of every social and moral virtue, and the distinguishing mark amongst good Masons. This virtue inculcates a supreme degree of love to the G. A. O. T. U., and an unlimited affection to the beings of His creation, of all characters and of every denomination." In the exercise of this virtue it is that we learn to estimate the actions of those by whom we are surrounded, and instead of indulging in censorious conversation, we rather seek to discover good objects as the

* Preston, p. 17.

motive power for what, in our neighbour, might at first view appear to be a fault, and thus we forbear to give either credence or utterance to that which might have a tendency to detract from his fair fame or good reputation. In the exercise of this virtue it is that we learn to regard the feelings of ever-failing human nature, not with the stern eye of never-erring rectitude (for who is he that dares to say, "I am upright?"), but to regard a Brother who may have slightly deviated from the paths of extreme right, as having been placed in a situation of temptation, which from the imperfection of his nature he has not been able to resist. It is in the exercise of this virtue that we learn to lend a ready ear to the wants of a poor and distressed Brother, who may be suffering under severe trials and misfortunes, and instead of coldly passing by on the other side, to come forward, not only with words of consolation to soothe his wounded spirit, and pour into his dejected soul oil and wine; not only with advice to guide and direct him in the path that is freer from the thorns and briers of adversity than the one he has been pursuing; but so far as is consistent with our circumstances, and the cause of the misfortune of our distressed Brother, to afford from our surplus stores of this world's goods, that which shall bring comfort to his body. It is in the exercise of this virtue that around us are erected, and still are rising, those noble Institutions destined to become monuments of that virtue which we so abundantly profess; and to hand down to future generations unmistakable evidences of the utility of our Order. I mean those Masonic Institutions for the reception of the aged and infirm amongst us. It requires no effort on my part to point out to you the good effects that must ever result from such Institutions, for each of you, Brethren, will reflect occasionally, that however happiness and prosperity may dawn upon you now—however bright the meridian sun may now shine upon you—yet a time may come,—and the wisest of us knows not how soon, when the dark cloud of adversity, which, unobserved, may have been gathering around you, may suddenly burst upon you, and overwhelm your fondest hopes and highest ambitions in its relentless storm, leaving naught behind but regrets for the past, and but small hopes for the future. It is, therefore, for such as these, that from our Masonic funds we provide a bright star of hope, which the weary Brother may look forward to, in the comfortable assurance that, at least, after a well-spent life, the few years that may be spared to him may be passed in the peace and quietude of Masonic benevolence.

But not only is it to the aged and infirm amongst us that Masonry confers its blessings; but to the rising generation it holds out its hand, laden with benevolence, and in its tender grasp holds childhood, caring not only to supply the body with food and raiment, but also to heap up in the granary of the mind that which shall hereafter bring forth its fruit in abundance. It is thus that for those amongst us who may not be enabled to give their children that education which shall fit them for society, or who may be snatched away by the hand of death before they shall have been able to provide their education,

that by Freemasonry schools are provided, where sound instruction is given; and thus, instead of numbers of our fellow-creatures being cast upon the wide world, without the blessings of education by which to direct their course, they are trained to become useful members of that society wherein a bountiful Providence may place them. These are some of the instances of charity wherewith Freemasonry abounds, and if time were permitted, doubtless numberless others, though perhaps not holding so prominent a position as those I have named, but all in their respective degrees conferring good in their circumscribed spheres, might be adduced to prove that the cultivation of this virtue is one of the principal objects and aims of our Institution; and to establish this, I need only mention the minor charities connected with the various Lodges that are so universally distributed throughout the length and breadth of the land. I feel, however, that I have sufficiently dwelt upon this head, and I will therefore proceed with another.

Besides the beauties I have already pointed out, there exist in the science of Freemasonry many others, in the exercise of which mankind are held together in the bonds of friendship; and amongst these brotherly love abounds, by which natures the most opposite, and opinions diametrically opposed, find a place where their dissimilarities are united and their asperities forgotten. Within our walls no discordant jarrings are heard; and though the minds of men outside are distracted by the heavings to and fro of factions attempting to uproot each other; though despots may rule with a rod of iron; though religious enthusiasm may cause men to doubt and hesitate; though the priest may fulminate his anathemas; and though discord may enter into every house, and divide those united by the ties of kindred and relationship;—though all these have arisen in their turns, yet within our sacred walls the still peaceful voice of Masonry is heard, beyond and above the contending elements of strife; still preaching her doctrines of brotherly love, relief, and truth; and still exhorting her children to cultivate Faith, Hope, and Charity.

Freemasonry, however, stops not here; and in order that its ramifications may extend themselves in every country and in every clime, care is taken that two of the greatest causes which stir up and rouse the angry passions of men are excluded; and not only are all discussions upon religious and political subjects most carefully forbidden, but Freemasons, in whatever country they may happen to be, are taught to submit themselves to the ruling power of the particular state wherein they may for the time being be living, and to conform and act in accordance with the laws of that country; and hence it is, that though for a time it may be, and has been, found necessary to suspend from holding their meetings, most other secret societies, yet Freemasons have generally formed an exception; or should it have happened, by reason of the convulsive throes of nations, that one arbitrary rule should apply to all secret societies whatever, yet with the first dawn of returning order has Masonry been permitted to resume her peaceful course.

I have now pointed out some of the leading characteristics of Freemasonry ; and viewing them in the light in which I have placed them, can it be wondered at, that an Institution resting on so solid a basis, and having its superstructure knit together with every social and moral virtue that can grace mortality, has stood the test of ages, and still rears its majestic head ? And judging of the future from the past, may we not be permitted to argue, that so long as Masons continue to act according to the principles of Freemasonry, and to carry out what they profess, so long will our Institution prosper, and exercise its influence upon generations yet to come ? The seeds have been widely cast, and deep is the root they have taken ; and though here and there a sickly plant may be found, yet perhaps there never was a time when Masonic influence was more felt than it now is, nor when Freemasonry ranged beneath its banners more members ; but though its members may be on the increase now, yet unless the landmarks of the Order are preserved, its precepts acted upon, and its professions carried into effect, being deprived of its vital principles, it will, in the ordinary course of things, droop, fade, and decay. - But this is a state of things which we least anticipate ; nor should I have mentioned it here, were it not necessary that, in treating upon any subject, the dark as well as the bright side should be considered,—the bright side to urge forward the object in view, and stimulate energy to its attainment ; the dark, to disclose the inevitable results of retrogression.

A MORAL.

THE Sun, that glorious orb, which displays to the children of humanity the might and the power of the Great Architect of the Universe, whose appearance in the East gives notice to all animated creation that it is time to rise, and pay homage to the Deity, and to recommence the active duties of life. Its setting in the West, as the earth revolves on its axis, also intimates that it is time to cease from our labours, that nature requires repose, and thus demonstrates the wisdom as well as the great care a kind and merciful God has for his creatures. The Moon, also, with her pale beams and silver rays, when the great solar orb has disappeared, displays the kindness of the Creator. The stoutest heart would quail, and the strongest nerve tremble, if darkness prevailed through that period of time appointed for all created beings to repose and rest. Does not the Almighty declare, through this handiwork of his creation, that he is with us, and takes care of his children at night as well as by day ? that at all times we are under his protection, and that his watchful eye is constantly over all his works ? Praise ye then Him, and let his name be praised evermore, and let us manifest our gratitude for all his mercies and blessings by acting in accordance with his will.—*Mirror and Keystone (American)*.

TO THE ARMY.

BY BRO. G. K. GILLESPIE, A. M.

CROWN high the bowl, raise loud the cheer, to the gallant warrior band,
Who fight for home, for sires and sons, on Euxine's distant strand :
To the bleeding bulwarks of our peace, who fearless breast the steep
Of Alma's deathful heights, or wake wild thunders o'er the deep.

Be nerved your arm, ye heroes free ! 'gainst a despot's chain ye draw
The sword of Right, to vindicate all nations' outraged law :
And, wreathed with victory, back to hurl, to the chilly North afar,
The robber horde that on neighbours weak wages unholy war.

Burn fierce your ire ! a hypocrite blasphemes Religion's fame,
And stealthy masks th' enslaver's vows beneath her sacred name.
Fain would barbarian swarms again o'er freemen's arts prevail,
More odious still in cloaking Crime with Superstition's veil.

Smite home ! for Europe's liberty, for justice, and to save
The rights, the powers, the hopes, of man from a disgraceful grave :
For, 'neath despot's frown, to noble deeds in vain the soul aspires ;
Quelled by a tyrant's darkening sway, its heaven-lit flame expires.

Soldiers ! in you are fixed the hopes and pride of Britain bold,
In you—inspired by the deathless fame won by your sires of old.
Unanimous your Fatherland acclaim your stern emprise,
And he who falls in your glorious cause for ALL his country dies.

Up ! then, at duty's call, ye sons of Albion's warlike ground ;
Forward ! ye Highlandmen, 'mid battle's thickest ever found ;
Ye kindred septs of Welsh and Celts from green Hibernia's shore,
Do feats like those your fathers wrought for Bards to sing of yore.

To victory on ! your fatal steel, thank God ! ye urge no more
'Gainst Gallia's sons, who so oft have heard your cannon's vengeful roar.
Brothers in arms now, by your side, they with tiger-onset show
How blest is he who has made a friend of a once relentless foe.

Hew down the Russ !—th' ensanguined guilt of the fell aggressor's deed,
Deep branded on his ruthless serfs, invokes the felon's meed :—
Till last ye strike, with might combined, resistless Freedom's blow ;
Till ye earn undying name, and lay the lawless tyrant low.

Nor, warriors ! fear—the only dread that Britons ever knew—
For those ye leave your absence or, perchance, your fall to rue.
Your tender care, adopted by a nation's fostering love,
Shall know no pang which gratitude or friendship can remove.

Smile fair your hope ! if in death ye sleep, of fame ye wear the crown ;
If unhurt amidst war's madding din, high soar ye in renown.
Then be firm your ranks ! away to sweep the foeman's savage boasts,
And undismayed commit your fate to the rule of the Lord of Hosts.

November, 1854.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[THE EDITOR does not hold himself responsible for any opinions entertained by Correspondents.]

THE ROYAL PATRIOTIC FUND AND THE FREEMASONS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE FREEMASONS' MONTHLY MAGAZINE.

SIR AND BROTHER,

Would it not be expedient that the different Lodges and Chapters in London and the Provinces, as well as in the Colonies, should hand in the amount of their subscriptions collected for the above Fund to the bankers of the Grand Lodge, there to be entered in a book specially marked outside, "Subscriptions of the Freemasons to the Royal Patriotic Fund," and retained at the bankers until after the vote proposed by the M.W.G.M., the Earl of Zetland, of £1,000 has been granted (which I hope will be carried unanimously), that sum to head the list of Masonic subscribers, and the various subscriptions from Lodges, &c. to follow, according to their number in the Register of Grand Lodge; the amount collected, after a certain time specified, could then be handed over to the general fund in one sum, headed "THE FREEMASONS' LIST." By adopting this mode of payment, subscriptions now forwarded from private Lodges would not be overlooked, which otherwise might be the case, from the immense number of subscribers' names advertised in the various lists sent in.

Trusting the Craft in general will carry out the suggestions hinted at by the M.W.G.M. at the last Grand Lodge for furthering the object of this most admirable Fund, believe me, with hearty good wishes for the prosperity of Freemasons and Freemasonry, to be

Yours ever fraternally,

RICHARD SPENCER.

Masonic Library, 314, High Holborn,
21st December, 1854.

NATIONAL MASONIC BANQUET.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE FREEMASONS' MONTHLY MAGAZINE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,

OBSERVING in the *Times* of last week, that it is the intention of the R.W. the G.M., the Earl of Zetland, to propose that a grant of 1,000*l.* should be made by the Grand Lodge of England towards the Patriotic Fund, and that the R.W. the G.M. expressed a hope that the example would be followed by all the lodges, I beg most humbly to suggest that if the R.W. the G.M. should be pleased to call a Lodge of emergency at his earliest convenience on this occasion, and propose a Masonic National Banquet at the Freemasons' Tavern, to take place about the middle of February, causing a general invitation through all his P.G.Or., and appointing every P.G. Warden, and P.G. Secretary Stewards, in addition to his Grand Stewards, it be proposed that a general subscription be raised by the P.G.M.'s calling Lodges of emergency throughout England, and fixing a Banquet on the occasion, that subscriptions be raised at those banquets by the W.M.'s, Wardens, and the P.G. Stewards, and passed to the Grand Lodge Fund, and called the Freemasons' Subscriptions of the United Grand and Provincial Lodges of England, on behalf of the Patriotic Fund.

Such as the above, I have no doubt would be duly responded to by every

Brother, in every sphere of life, for the support of his Brethren in arms, the Widow, and Orphan, by carrying out the Masonic Principles; for what live we for?

We live for those who love us,
 For those who know us true;
 For the Heaven that smiles above us,
 And awaits our spirits too;
 For the cause that lacks assistance,
 For the wrong that needs resistance,
 For the future in the distance,
 And the good that we can do.

Should you be pleased to consider this worthy to be inserted in your first Number of the *Freemasons' Monthly Magazine*, I shall be very thankful. Nothing would give me greater pleasure than in seeing those Masonic feelings of charity and brotherly love carried out, which would be an everlasting honour to be remembered by the Brethren.

*Droits of Admiralty Office,
 Poole, 18th Dec. 1854.*

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,
 THOMAS WITT DOMINY, 199.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE FREEMASONS' MONTHLY MAGAZINE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,

SEEING by the *Times* that the M. W. the G. M. has given notice that he shall propose a vote of £1,000 to the Patriotic Fund, and wishing every Lodge to contribute to that Fund, I beg to inform you that the Lodge of St. Matthew, No. 786, has anticipated his lordship's recommendation by giving Five Guineas to the subscription being raised in this town; and also that the surplus proceeds of the Annual Masonic Ball held here, will be devoted to the same purpose.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours truly and fraternally,
 Walsall, December 12, 1854. THOS. JAMES, P.M. 786,
 Hon. Sec. to the Walsall Committee Patriotic Fund.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE FREEMASONS' MONTHLY MAGAZINE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,

IT is very gratifying to see that the noble example set by the M.W.G.M., the Earl of Zetland, is being followed by most of the Provincial and private Lodges. The Loyal Monmouth Lodge is, I am glad to say, not last in coming forward in voting £5 to the Patriotic Fund, and at our late Prov. G.L. meeting, held at the King's-Head Hotel, Newport, Monmouthshire, a vote would have been proposed by our R.W.D. Prov. G.M. Bro. John E. W. Rolls, had there been a fund which could have been drawn upon; but as you are aware, until a few years ago, Freemasonry was nearly extinct in Monmouthshire.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,
 December 16th, 1854. ISAAC CHILCOTT,
 Prov. G. Dir. of Cer., Monmouth.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE FREEMASONS' MONTHLY MAGAZINE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,

I HAVE been informed by a well-known Mason, and one of high standing in the Craft, that the Pope is a Mason. Now if this be true, and it was told me as true, is it not strange that any bishop or priest paying allegiance to the See of Rome, should behave in the manner that the Right Rev. Dr. Collier, the Roman Catholic Bishop of Mauritius, has done? Perhaps some of the numerous readers of your Magazine may be able to inform me whether the Pope be a Mason or not; and for the benefit of the Craft, should he prove to be one, relate some of the facts connected with his Masonic career. By inserting this you will greatly oblige your faithful friend and Brother,

ALPHA.

MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

SUPREME GRAND CHAPTER OF ROYAL ARCH MASONS OF ENGLAND.

QUARTERLY CONVOCATION, *November 1, 1854.*

Present.—E. Comp. T. H. Hall, as Z. ; S. Rawson, as H. ; H. R. Willit, as J. ; W. H. White, E. ; B. Lawrence, as N. ; H. L. Crohn, P.S. ; C. Baumer, as Assist. Soj. ; T. R. White, as Assist. Soj. ; Rev. E. Moore, Sword B. ; G. W. K. Potter, P.S.B. ; J. Hodgkinson, P.S.B. ; J. Hervey, Stand. B. ; J. Havers, P. Stand. B. ; J. H. Goldsworthy, P. Stand. B. ; W. F. White, P. Stand. B. ; H. Lloyd, Dir. of Cer. ; J. B. King, P. Dir. of Cer. ; A. A. Le Veau, P. Dir. of Cer. ; the Principals, Past Principals, &c., of other Chapters.

The Grand Chapter was opened in ancient and solemn form. The minutes of the last Quarterly Convocation were read and confirmed.

The Report of the Committee of General Purposes, stating the amount of receipts and disbursements of the last quarter, was read and approved.

After the despatch of the ordinary business, the Chapter was closed.

UNITED GRAND LODGE.

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION, *December 6, 1854.*

Present.—The Right Hon. the Earl of Zetland, M.W.G.M., on the throne ; R.W. Thomas Henry Hall, Prov. G.M. for Cambridgeshire, as D.G.M. ; Bonamy Dobree, Jun., S.G.W. ; Edward Baldwin, J.G.W. ; S. Rawson, Prov. G.M. for China ; C. P. Cooper, Q.C., Prov. G.M. for Kent ; B. B. Cabbell, M.P., Prov. G.M. for Norfolk ; Col. Burlton, C.B., Past Prov. G.M., Bengal ; W. F. Beadon, P.J.G.W. ; F. Pattison, P.J.G.W. ; Chev. B. Hebel, P.S.G.W., Rep. from G.L. Berlin ; Revs. J. E. Cox and E. Moore, G. Chaps. ; S. Tomkins, G.T. ; W. H. White, G.S. ; H. L. Crohn, G. Sec. for German Correspondence, and Rep. from G.L. Hamburg ; J. Hervey, S.G.D. ; H. Faudell, J.G.D. ; S. C. Norris, P.J.G.D. ; C. Baumer, P.J.G.D. ; G. R. Rowe, P.S.G.D. ; T. Parkinson, P.J.G.D. ; J. Havers, P.S.G.D. ; J. B. King, P.J.G.D. ; J. Nelson, P.S.G.D. ; J. Hodgkinson, P.S.G.D. ; G. Leach, P.J.G.D. ; P. Hardwick, G. Sup. of Works ; R. W. Jennings, G. Dir. of Cer. ; T. Chapman, Assist. G. Dir. of Cer. ; G. Biggs, G.S.B. ; J. Masson, P.G.S.B. ; E. H. Patten, P.G.S.B. ; A. A. Le Veau, P.G.S.B. ; W. Farnfield, Assist. G. Sec. ; G. G. Elkington, G.P. ; Rev. W. J. Carver, Rep. from G. L. Massachusetts ; the Grand Stewards of the year ; the Master, Past Masters, and Wardens of the Grand Steward's Lodge ; and the Masters, Past Masters, and Wardens of many other Lodges.

The G. L. was opened in ample form, and with solemn prayer.

The M.W. the G.M. directed four Brethren appointed by himself, and four nominated at the General Committee on the 30th November, to collect the balloting-papers for twelve P.M.'s to act on the Board of Benevolence for the ensuing year, upon which these Brethren retired from the G. L. for the purpose of making their return from the votes recorded for the following Brethren :—

Absolon, W. H. . . .	No. 40	Lee, C.	No. 9
Adlard, F. . . . .	.. 7	Long, J. W. . . .	.. 257
Attwood, M. . . . .	.. 212	Prince, H. . . . .	.. 15
Barnes, J. . . . .	.. 30	Robinson, C. . . .	.. 8
Barrett, G. . . . .	.. 188	Samuel, D. . . . .	.. 264
Bywater, W. M. . . .	.. 19	Smith, J. . . . .	.. 206
Couchman, T. . . . .	.. 165	Varden, W. H. . . .	.. 57
Edwards, W. . . . .	.. 118	Warren, H. G. . . .	.. 202
Killick, J. . . . .	.. 168	Young, W. . . . .	.. 11

The minutes of the last Quarterly Communication, of Sept. 6, were read and confirmed.

This being the usual period for nominating a G.M. for the ensuing year, the Right Hon. Thomas Dundas, Earl of Zetland, Baron Dundas, of Aske, in the county of York, Lord Lieutenant of the North Riding of Yorkshire, &c., was put in nomination for that high office, the nomination being accompanied with every demonstration of respect, gratitude, and affection.

The Report of the Lodge of Benevolence for September, October, and November, was read, and ordered to be entered upon the minutes.

The Report of the Board of General Purposes was read and approved, and ordered to be entered upon the minutes.

The M.W. the G.M. then rose, and in a most appropriate and truly feeling address, submitted to the G. L. a notice of motion, to be brought under consideration at the next Quarterly Communication, March 7,—“That £1,000 be voted from the fund for General Purposes, as a subscription from the United Grand Lodge of England to the Royal Patriotic Fund.” This notice of motion was received with the warmest demonstration of satisfaction by the members of the Grand Lodge.

The M.W. the G.M. also took occasion to refer to the lamented death of Bros. Lord Dudley Coutts Stuart, P.S.G.W., and Henry Stuart, P.J.G.W.; and passed a well-deserved eulogium upon those deceased Brethren for the excellence both of their public, private, and Masonic character.

Bro. Joseph Smith, P.M. of No. 206, Domatic Lodge, after a few observations, moved that £100 be annually added to the sum of £100 granted by G. L. for annuities to the distressed widows of Freemasons. The motion having been duly seconded, the M.W. the G.M. rose, and earnestly advised the withdrawal of this proposition, inasmuch as he did not think the Fund of Benevolence could bear this additional grant, especially at a season when in all probability great demands would be made upon it by the widows of those Brethren who have fallen, and may still fall, victims to the war in the Crimea.

Bro. Smith having declined to accede to the wishes of the M.W. the G. M., the G. L. divided, when the proposition was carried by a considerable majority.

The scrutineers, having returned to the G. L., announced the result of the ballot, and that the election had fallen upon the following twelve of the above-mentioned Brethren, who were forthwith declared to be the P.M.'s of the Board of Benevolence during the ensuing year, viz. :—

Bros. W. H. Absolon, Adlard, Attwood, Barnes, Barrett, Bywater, Long, Prince, Robinson, Samuel, Varden, and Young.

All business being concluded, the G. L. was closed in ample form, and with solemn prayer.

MASONIC CHARITIES.

LODGE OF BENEVOLENCE.

The amount of relief granted by the Lodge of Benevolence, during the months of September, October, and November last, was £214. 7s.—viz. :—

On Wednesday, September 27th, W. Bro. H. Faudell, J.G.D., in the chair, three petitioners were relieved, to the extent of £50. 10s.

On Wednesday, October 25th, W. Bro. George Biggs, G.S.B., in the chair, eight petitioners were relieved, in the sum of £75. 17s.

On Wednesday, November 29th, W. Bro. Thomas Parkinson, P.J.G.D., in the chair, eight petitioners were relieved, in the sum of £88.

THE ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED RITE.



A MEETING of the Supreme Council of Sovereign Grand Inspectors General for England and Wales, and the Dependencies of the British Crown, convened by special summons for auditing the accounts, and for general business, was held at their Grand East, Freemasons' Hall, London, on Tuesday, the 31st October, A.D. 1854.—The Sov. Com. of the Order presided, assisted by the Grand Dignitaries and most of the members of the Supreme Council. After the general affairs of the Order had been investigated, it was resolved to confer the dignity of the Thirty-first Degree of the Order on Captain Cholmeley Dering. The Supreme Council was then closed in ancient and solemn form.

The Supreme Council then proceeded to a convocation of the members of the Ancient and Accepted Rite, who had attained the rank of Kts. K.H. of the Thirtieth Degree of the Order.

A Council of Kts. K.H. was then opened, and was presided over by the Ill. G. T. Gen. of the Order, Henry Udall, assisted in the solemn ceremonies of the Degree by the Ill. Sov. G. Insp. Gen. Col. Vernon, the Ill. Sov. Pr. of R.S. of the Thirty-second Degree, George Beauchamp Cole, and the Ill. G. Inq. Com. of the Thirty-first Degree, Charles Goolden, when the rank of the Thirtieth Degree of the Order was conferred on several Brethren who had previously attained the rank of Kts. of the Sun, and Kts. of St. Andrew, of the Twenty-ninth Degree.

The Council was then closed, and the members of the High Grades then banqueted together.

This was the last Convocation of the Order for the year, which has been one of great prosperity for the Ancient and Accepted Rite. Besides the London meetings, there have been very large meetings of Chapters of Rose Croix of the Eighteenth Degree, and degrees under that rank; and we may especially mention the large and influential meetings that have been held of the Chapter of St. Peter and St. Paul at Bath, and the late meeting of the Vernon Chapter at Birmingham.

A Supreme Council of Sovereign Grand Inspectors General called together by special summons, to fill up the vacancy in the Supreme Council, was held at their Grand East, Freemasons' Hall, on Wednesday, the 1st of November, A.D. 1854. The Sov. Commander of the Order presided. After the Council had been opened, the solemn ceremonies of admission were proceeded with, and Sir John George Reeve de la Pole, Bart., of Shute, Devon, was placed in the vacant stall of the Supreme Council. The Supreme Council then conferred the dignity of a G. Inq. Com. of the Thirty-first Degree on Capt. Cholmeley Dering.

The next Convocation of the Order will be on the 16th of February, when the Thirtieth Degree will be conferred.

METROPOLITAN.

ROYAL FREEMASONS' SCHOOL FOR FEMALE CHILDREN, HOUSE COMMITTEE, 21st Dec.—A most pleasing occurrence took place at the School-house at this meeting. A lady residing at Clapham, Mrs. Pickering, who had long had her needle-work done by the children, presented to each child a present suitable to its

age and attainments; and to the Matron was given a very handsome quarto Bible, bound in morocco, and work-boxes, writing-cases, knitting-cases, Bibles and Prayer-books, with such other works as were ornamental and useful. Mrs. Pickering was unfortunately so unwell as to be unable to witness the gratitude evinced by the children; but Miss Pickering, with some friends, were present, and appeared delighted with the appearance and manners of the children, all of whom acknowledged, by words and actions, their extreme delight at the kind notice taken of them by one so perfectly unconnected with the Institution, excepting in so much as the School partook of the universal charity, which Mrs. Pickering and her family so generously afford. We are grieved there were so few of the members of the House Committee present, and that the very munificent and acceptable gift of Mrs. Pickering had not been more generally known amongst the Governors, for we are sure, if it had been known that so agreeable a sight was to be witnessed, there would have been many members of the Craft and their families present. We are glad to find that the House Committee passed a vote of thanks to the benevolent lady, and that the gift will stand recorded upon the Minutes of the Institution.

We cannot either refrain from giving the praise so justly due to the W. Bro. J. Foster White, for his most acceptable present to the library of the Institution, of the remaining volumes of *Chambers's Journal*, and a selection of other useful publications. This Brother, so bountiful to all the Charities in aid of Freemasonry, has always evinced a particular partiality for this noble Institution.

We are glad to find that there is no probability of an opposition to the appointment of Miss Jerwood to the situation of Matron. She was educated in the School, and is quite conversant with the management required, her whole attention having been devoted to the interests of the establishment all her life.

Miss Souter, a certificated pupil of the Government school, Whitelands, has been most strongly recommended to the General Committee for election as Schoolmistress, and will be recommended to the Quarterly Court on the 11th of January, for approval.

GRAND STEWARD'S LODGE.—The half-yearly public night held, pursuant to the Warrant, on Wednesday, the 20th of Dec., for the purpose of working the Lecture of the Second and Third Degrees in Sections, had not so large an attendance as we have generally seen. The W.M. Bro. J. N. Tomkins presided. Bro. J. Hodgkinson as P.M., Bro. J. Blake, S.W., Bro. F. Burges, J.W., Bro. W. Johnstone, S.D., Bro. Stohwasser, J.D., Bro. W. Watson, I.G., Bro. Baumer, P.M., Bro. H. Giraud, P.M., and other members of the Lodge being present. The several Lectures were most efficiently worked in the following order:—Second Degree—First Section, by Bro. J. Blake; Second Section, by Bro. Johnstone; Third Section, by Bro. Burges; Fourth Section, by Bro. Hodgkinson; Fifth Section, by Bro. Burges. Third Degree—First Section, by Bro. Watson; Second Section, by Bro. Burges; Third Section, by Bro. Johnstone. Previous to closing the Lodge, the W.M., in feeling terms, alluded to the death, by untimely means, of Bro. Moore, who had undertaken to discharge a portion of the duties of that day. The Visiting Brethren, upon the motion of Bro. the Rev. D. Shaboe, of No. 812, seconded by Bro. How, of No. 82, tendered their thanks to the W.M. and Officers of the G. S. Lodge for the opportunity afforded them in witnessing the excellent working of that evening. The inclemency of the weather was the cause of the comparatively thin attendance; besides the Members, there being but about forty present.

THE GRAND MASTER'S LODGE, No. 1, at their last meeting, voted £20 to the Patriotic Fund.

ENOCH LODGE (No. 11).—On Wednesday, Nov. 8, this Lodge resumed its Masonic duties for the season, when Bro. Young, P.M., passed Bros. Wilton, Sewel, and Bailey, and also raised Bros. Shotton and Herbert, with his well-known usual ability. After the business of the Lodge was over, the Brethren retired to an excellent banquet, presided over by Bro. Ledger, W.M. Among the toasts was "Success to the Armies and Fleets of France, England, and Turkey," which was

warmly responded to. The visitors were Bros. Stokes, No. 10 ; J. W. Adams, P.M., No. 169 ; Warren, P.M., Nos. 202 and 195 ; E. Warwick, &c. Bros. J. W. Adams and Stokes returned thanks for the visitors, and the latter, who is an African missionary, gave a most graphic and interesting account of the progress of Masonry in Africa and other countries he had constantly visited.

This Lodge also held its December meeting on Wednesday the 13th, when Bro. W. Young, P.M., passed Bro. Reeves, and raised Bro. Sewell. This being the day of election for W.M., Bro. F.W. Spooner was unanimously elected to that distinguished position, and Bro. Williams was re-elected Treasurer. A subscription in aid of the Patriotic Fund was entered into, and 20*l.* was collected. The Lodge adjourned to banquet, at which Bro. Ledger, the W.M., presided in his accustomed efficient manner.

GLOBE LODGE, No. 23.—The Brethren of this Lodge held their first regular meeting for the season, on Thursday, December 21st. As Lodges of Emergency had been held in October and December, the business of the evening was light. Bros. Morris and Capt. Barnett were raised, and Bro. W. Adams passed by the W.M. Bro. Hewlett. Bro. Humphries, S.W., was then elected W.M. for the ensuing year ; the present Treasurer (Bro. Bennett) re-elected, and Bro. Crawley appointed Tyler in the room of Bro. Dalton, deceased. Other Masonic business having been transacted, the Brethren supped together, the pleasures of the evening being enhanced by the exertions of Miss M. Taylor, who was accompanied by her brother.

EGYPTIAN LODGE (No. 29), George and Blue Boar, Holborn.—This Lodge met on Thursday, Dec. 7, under the presidency of Bro. L. Roughton, W.M., and Bro. Monroe was raised to the Third Degree. On this occasion, Bro. Fernandez was elected W.M., and Bro. Todd the Treasurer. Bro. Todd proposed that a jewel, in value not less than 5*l.* 5*s.*, be presented to Bro. Buss, as a mark of the esteem of the members for the efficient performance of the duties of Secretary for several years, which was carried by acclamation.

LODGE OF UNITY (No. 82), London Tavern.—At the meeting of the Lodge on Monday, Dec. 4, Bro. How, P.M. presiding, in the absence of Bro. Thurle, W.M., Bro. A. L. Bellinger, S.W., was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year.

MOIRA LODGE (No. 109), London Tavern.—At the meeting held Nov. 28, Bro. Law, W.M., initiated Mr. Driver, a member of the Society of Friends ; and the Brethren unanimously elected Bro. Hogg, S.W., W.M. for the ensuing year ; and on Thursday, Dec. 7, Bro. Hogg was duly installed into the Chair by Bro. Palmer, P.M. The W.M. appointed Bro. Ledger, S.W. ; Bro. Millish, J.W. ; Bro. Bell, S.D. ; Bro. Stubbs, J.D. ; Bro. Slight, I.G.

LODGE OF FAITH (No. 165).—This Lodge met on Tuesday, Oct. 31, at the Gun Tavern, Pimlico, for the installation of Bro. Gillard as W.M., which ceremony was admirably performed by Bro. Rackstraw. The W.M. appointed the following Brethren as his officers :—Bros. M'Manus, S.W. ; Odell, J. W. ; Anslow, Treasurer ; Anslow, jun., Secretary ; Carter, S.D. ; Fitch, J.D. ; Kardell, I.G. ; and Longstaff, Tyler. The visitors were Bros. Potter, P.M., No. 11 ; J. W. Adams, P.M., No. 169 ; J. Smith, P.M., No. 206 ; Grimstone, P.M., No. 276 ; Mortimer, P.M., and Prov. G.S.D., Surrey ; Andrew, P.M., No. 752 ; Daly, P.M., No. 752 ; Kirby, W.M., No. 169 ; Corser, W.M., No. 276 ; Heppel, No. 103 ; Slaymaker, No. 57 ; Hadsden, No. 168 ; Collard, No. 227 ; Wise, No. 752 ; Haywood, No. 752 ; Wills (Old Concord) ; Cogan (Fortitude and Old Cumberland). After the business of the Lodge, the Brethren adjourned to an excellent banquet, provided by Bro. Rackstraw, and the company separated at an early hour.

LODGE OF PRUDENT BROTHERS (No. 169).—On Tuesday, Nov. 28, this Lodge met, when Bro. Kirby, W.M., performed the duties with his usual ability. Bro. Hewlett, S.W., was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year, and Bro. J. W. Adams, of Kew, was also elected unanimously Treasurer. Bros. Hart,

Boyd, and Lea were appointed the Auditors, and after the Lodge closed the Brethren sat down, to the number of twenty-one, to refreshment. The visitors were Bro. T. Bohn, P.M., No. 201; Bro. Goodyer, P.M., No. 277; Bro. Bromley, No. 276; Bro. Banks, No. 902; and Bro. Adams, No. 25. In the course of the evening the W.M. gave "The Brethren now serving in the Crimea." The W.M. paid his officers a very high compliment in the course of the evening, for which Bro. Hewlett, S.W. and W.M. elect, returned thanks in a very neat and appropriate speech.

LODGE OF HONOUR AND GENEROSITY (No. 194).—This old-established Lodge met on Monday, Nov. 6, at the London Tavern, Bishopsgate Street, Bro. R. C. Driver, P.M., presiding, in the absence of the W.M.

OLD CONCORD (No. 201).—The members of this very excellent Lodge held its second meeting since the recess on Tuesday, Nov. 7, at the Freemasons' Tavern. On this occasion there was a full attendance, and the W. M. Bro. Kennedy presided in his usual efficient manner, and had the honour of initiating the Rev. J. W. Laughlin into the Order. Bro. Cosgrave was raised to the degree of a M.M.; after which Mr. H. A. Taylor was initiated into Freemasonry; Bro. P. M. Booth and the immediate P.M. of the Lodge were appointed Trustees to the Benevolent Fund; and some other business having been transacted, the Lodge was closed, and the Brethren retired to refreshment, and enjoyed a very delightful evening. The Rev. Bro. Laughlin, in returning thanks, spoke of the great delight he felt in becoming one of "the Craft;" also of the kind feeling which seemed to exist amongst the Brethren of this Lodge, and that he hoped long to continue with them. Bro. Kirby, W.M. of the Prudent Brethren Lodge, in returning thanks on behalf of the visitors, eulogised the W.M. on the able working of his Lodge, and spoke of the happy evening himself and his brother visitors had spent. Besides Bro. Kirby, there were present Bro. Grover, P.M. Royal Cumberland Lodge; Bro. Killick, P.M. St. Luke's Lodge; Bro. Sachs, late of the Old Concord; Bro. Alckandes Saydell, German Lodge; and Bro. Illingworth, Texas, U.S. Lodge.

DOMATIC LODGE (No. 206), at Bro. Ireland's, Masonic Hall, Fetter Lane.—This most efficiently worked Lodge met on Monday, Dec. 11, and the first business was the installation of the W.M., Bro. T. A. Adams, P.M., No. 196, which ceremony was performed by Bro. Joseph Smith, P.M. The W.M. afterwards initiated three gentlemen, in his usual careful and correct style.

LODGE OF HARMONY, No. 317.—This Lodge met for its usual business, Dec. 6, Bro. Cole, W.M., presiding. The meeting had a melancholy cast thrown over it, inasmuch as the members were put into mourning for Bros. Col. Mackinnon, Capt. H. Jolliffe, Capt. H. Cust, and Capt. Bouverie, members of the Lodge, who have been killed in the Crimea. (See *Obituary*.) The other members of this Lodge who are at the seat of war, are the Hon. Capt. P. Fielding, *severely wounded*, Capt. Drummond, *severely wounded*, Capt. Baring, *wounded*, Capt. Armitage, and Lieut. H. Tower. This being the occasion of the election of W.M. for the ensuing year, Bro. J. A. D. Cox was once more elected to serve that responsible office.

BANK OF ENGLAND LODGE (No. 329), Radley's Hotel, New Bridge Street.—On Thursday, Dec. 14, being the annual meeting of the Lodge for the choice of W.M. for the year ensuing, Bro. Stronghill, S.W., was unanimously elected. Bro. Wright, who for a considerable time has so efficiently held the Office of Treasurer, was unanimously re-elected. Bro. P.M. Whitmore, in his customary impressive manner, initiated Mr. W. Addison into F.M., and raised to the Third Degree Bro. Wilson, of Lodge 593. The members voted 10*l.* from their Benevolent Fund to aid the admission of a child of the late Bro. Mullins into the Infant Orphan Asylum. The Brethren adjourned to an elegant banquet at 7 o'clock, under the presidency of Bro. Warrick, W.M.; and among the visitors present, were Bros. Symonds, of the Ionic Lodge, No. 275, and Bro. How, Prov. G.D.C., Surrey.

POLISH NATIONAL LODGE, No. 778.—At the meeting on Thursday, Dec. 14, Bro. Lemanski presiding, in the absence of the W.M., initiated Messrs. Isaacs and Smith, and passed Bros. Leith and Murray. The Lodge was hung with black, as a mark of respect to the memory of the late member Bro. Lord Dudley Stuart. About forty Brethren were present.

BEADON LODGE, No. 902.—A Lodge of Emergency was held at the Star and Garter, Kew Bridge, on Friday, December 22nd, for the purpose of initiating Mr. John Woodley, when the W.M. Bro. Wm. Watson conducted the business of the evening with his accustomed accuracy, afterwards raising Bros. Davis and White to the sublime degree of M.M.

EMULATION LODGE OF IMPROVEMENT.—This Lodge held its annual festival at the Freemasons' Tavern, on 30th Nov., when about 200 of the Brethren assembled; amongst whom were Bro. Beadon, P.J.G.W.; Bro. Gooch, D.P.G.M. for Wilts; Bro. Le Veau, P.G.S.B.; Bro. S. B. Wilson; Bro. J. Hervey, S.G.D., and many other distinguished and well-known members of the Craft.

The business of the evening was comprised in the working of the Second and Third Lectures, the various Sections being delivered by the following Brethren—Bro. Artus, First Section of the Second Lecture; Bro. W. H. Absolon, Second; Bro. A. H. Rixon, Third; Bro. Hervey, S.G.D., Fourth; Bro. Symonds, Fifth; Bro. Palmer, First Section of Third Lecture; Bro. Oram, Second; and Bro. S. B. Wilson, jun., Third. The Lodge being presided over by Bro. Beadon, P.J.G.W., assisted by Bro. S. B. Wilson, who put the questions, and Bro. H. Lloyd and F. D. M. Dawson as Senior and Junior Wardens.

Never, to our knowledge, has this Lodge been so numerously attended; but this may well be accounted for, when it is known that besides being the festival, when a more than ordinary attraction is offered to the Brethren, by way of illustrating the ceremonies of the Craft, it was the evening appointed to present a valuable testimonial to Bro. J. Hervey, S.G.D., for his extreme kindness to the members generally, his untiring assiduity to the interests of the Lodge, his philanthropy in every way carried out in Masonry at large, as likewise in testimony of their appreciation of his seven years' service as their Treasurer.

Nothing could possibly exceed the cordiality that prevailed on this memorable occasion; each one appeared to vie with the other in promoting harmony and brotherly love—there was a smile on every face, and a gleam of pleasure in every eye. Bro. Hervey may well feel proud of the compliment paid him, for we never knew a case where similar favours have been more freely bestowed, nor more fairly earned.

The Masonic business of the evening being concluded, the Brethren adjourned to the Hall, where an elegant entertainment had been prepared for them by Bros. Watson, Coggin, and Banks.

After the cloth was removed, the Chairman gave "The pious memory of the late Bro. Peter Gilkes," it being customary to pay this tribute of respect to the memory of the Brother who first established this as a Lodge of instruction.

"Her Majesty the Queen," "The Prince Albert and Royal Family," with "The Army and Navy," "The M.W.G.M. the Earl of Zetland," "The Earl of Yarborough and Grand Officers," next followed in succession.

Bro. Beadon then, in a most eloquent and effective speech, introduced "The health of Bro. Hervey, S.G.D.," at the same time producing a splendid chronometer watch and gold chain, the result of the subscriptions among the members of the Emulation Lodge. He alluded in the most feeling manner to the analogy of the fabrication of the chain to the C.T., and trusted it would remind the wearer to keep within due length of his Lodge; and drew also a pleasing picture of the many hours he hoped Bro. Hervey would have the gratification of regarding his watch, as it would continually be telling him how the time flitted by, and how profitably he had employed it, not merely for his own enjoyment, but for the benefit and welfare of his fellow-creatures; for so long as life was given to him, he (the worthy Chairman) was satisfied Bro. Hervey would continue so to devote his energies, that when at last the time came for him to remove to another and

a better world, he must still live in the kindest recollection of his friends, and with the blessings of all those who have been recipients of his bounty.

The worthy Chairman spoke at some length, amidst frequent bursts of applause, which continued long after he had resumed his seat.

Bro. Hervey (who was nearly overcome with the warmth of the reception which greeted him on rising) acknowledged the compliment in suitable terms; he professed himself no orator, particularly when he had so arduous a task as that of following the eloquent Chairman through his brilliant address; he assured the Brethren that they had far overrated his exertions—that all he had done was no more than any other would do, had he been in the same situation. That he had taken a lively interest in all that appertained to Masonry was most true, nor was there anything in that to excite surprise or admiration; for it was next to impossible that any one could listen to the beautiful phraseology of both ceremonies and lectures without being lured away from the cares of the world, and resolving within himself that he would strive to carry out in the everyday business of life some, at least, of its beautiful precepts. He had most assuredly been a considerable gainer by his services, humble as they were, in Masonry; many, very many of his warmest and dearest friendships owed their origin to the Freemasons' Lodge; friendships, he trusted, which would continue to the latest hour of his existence; and (alluding to the testimonial in his hand) he trusted that with the last palpitation of his heart, the magnificent watch would echo its regular beat, that the two must from this time be constant companions, never to separate, but when death shall part them.

Bro. Hervey, who had been listened to with deep silence, then resumed his chair, when a long-continued burst of applause rang through the Hall. The Chairman then proposed "The health of the Wardens and Officers of the Lodge," which was responded to by Bro. H. Lloyd; "Prosperity to the Stability Lodge, No. 264," was then given; "The Stewards," and afterwards "All Poor and Distressed Masons." We should be wanting in duty if, before closing this short report, did we not make some allusion to the very excellent arrangements of the Stewards; the whole affair was certainly a credit to them as well as to the Emulation Lodge of Improvement; and it is not to be wondered at, if such attraction and such entertainment are offered to the Craft, that the Lodge is so well supported, and takes the distinguished position it so fairly deserves; indeed, if matters proceed thus, we shall not be surprised to find in a few years that the Grand Festival itself is not better nor more numerously attended than the annual festival of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement.

THE LATE BRO. MULLINS, P.M. (No. 329).—The earnest and active support of every good Mason is entreated to assist the election of Godwin Roscoe Mullins, one of the children of the late Bro. Mullins, P.M. of the Bank of England Lodge, into the Infant Orphan Asylum at Wanstead, at the next election in May. Bro. Spencer, Masonic Library, 314, Holborn; Bro. H. Lloyd, Milk-street; Bro. J. Hodgkinson, Upper Thames-street; and Bro. the Rev. J. E. Cox, G.C., 44, Burton Crescent, will thankfully receive proxies in favour of this most deserving case.

ROYAL ARCH.

ROYAL YORK CHAPTER OF PERSEVERANCE (No. 7).—A Convocation of this Chapter was holden at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Tuesday, the 24th October, Comp. Hervey, M.E.Z., presiding, when four qualified Brethren were duly exalted in the Royal Arch.

ENOCH CHAPTER (No. 11).—This Chapter held its second anniversary meeting at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Tuesday, Oct. 7, when Comp. Biggs installed Comps. Williams, Z.; Simpson, H.; Young, J. A Brother was then exalted to the sublime degree of a Royal Arch Mason.

MOUNT SINAI (CHAPTER No. 49).—On Tuesday, Nov. 21, this Chapter brought its duties to a close for the season. The Brethren exalted were Bros. Henley and Kardall. It is not often that the working of this degree is carried out with that

talent which was exhibited by Bro. Andrews, as Z. ; Bro. Kirby, as H. (who was a visitor) ; and Bro. Cooper, of Kensington, J. Comp. Mortimer carried out the duties as P.S., and Comp. Kirby returned thanks for the visitors.

POLISH NATIONAL CHAPTER (No. 778).—The sixth anniversary Convocation of this Chapter was held at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Thursday, Oct. 26, the business of the evening being the Installation of the Principals. The first and second Principals elect—Comp. Lord Dudley Stuart, who was then ill abroad, and is since dead (see *Obituary*), and Comp. J. W. Adams—being unavoidably absent, the only installation was that of Comp. H. G. Warren, as J. The ceremony was performed by Comp. Watson, P.Z., assisted by Comps. Blackburn, P.Z. ; Sigrist, P.Z. ; and Jos. Smith, P.Z. The Comps. subsequently supped together, in celebration of the anniversary, and a special toast was drunk (in vain, as it has since appeared) to the better health of Comp. Lord Dudley Stuart, that nobleman having been a great favourite amongst the members of the Chapter, by whom his loss is greatly deplored.

KNIGHT TEMPLARISM.

THE ENCAMPMENT OF OBSERVANCE have voted Ten Guineas to the Crimean Fund, and Ten Guineas to the Caledonian Asylum, in consideration of that Institution having resolved to admit Twenty-five Children of such of her Majesty's Forces as have fallen during this conflict, and One Hundred more also to be eligible on payment of Fifty Guineas for each.

CROSS OF CHRIST ENCAMPMENT.—At the usual Quarterly Meeting of this Encampment, held at Radley's Hotel, 15th December, 1854, Sir Kt. the Rev. John Edmund Cox was unanimously elected E.C. for the ensuing year, and Sir Kt. C. Baumer, P.E.C., Treasurer : the members very much regretted the absence, from severe illness, of Sir Kt. Goldsworthy, the oldest member of this Encampment. On this occasion Sir Kt. Rawson, after several years' absence in China, renewed his fealty to the Encampment.

PROVINCIAL.

CARMARTHENSHIRE.

CARMARTHEN.—*St. Peter's Lodge*, No. 699.—At the last regular meeting of this Lodge in December, when the Bishop of St. David's nephew, Mr. John Thirlwall, barrister-at law, was received into the Order, Bro. Ribbans moved, and Bro. Johnes, the Judge of the County Court, seconded—

“That the sum of Five Guineas from the fund of the Lodge be remitted to the Treasurer of the Freemasons' School for boys, in part payment of the sum required to constitute the S.W. of this Lodge, for the time being, a Governor of that Charity.”

Thus, the chief principle of Masonry is carried out in this Lodge, and with such zeal, activity, and intentions as to set a good example to others ; for if every Lodge in the Craft were to copy the exertions made by Bro. Ribbans, and establish the principal Officers of their Lodges governors of the different charities, what a *staff* of support would be given to the Schools and the Aged Masons' Asylum. We congratulate the Lodge in having such an advocate as one of its members, and the members themselves in thus carrying out the suggestions and schemes of so able and disinterested a friend to the Masonic Institutions as Bro. Ribbans.

DERBYSHIRE.

On September 27th, the Freemasons of Derbyshire held their annual meeting at the Royal Hotel. At twelve o'clock the Royal Arch-Chapter of Justice was

opened, when Comp. S. Wilder was elected as first P., Comp. E. Lowe as second P., and Comp. S. Henschley, jun., was duly installed as third P. At two o'clock the Brethren of the Tyrian Lodge, No. 315, assembled, when Bro. S. Henschley, jun., (who has been re-elected W. M.) proceeded to appoint his Officers for the ensuing year. At three o'clock the R. W. Acting G. M., Bro. C. R. Colville, *M.P.*, held his Prov. G. L. The following Brethren were appointed Prov. Grand Officers for Derbyshire:—G. Wright, Prov. D.G.M., G. Mason, S.W., W. Stewart, J.W., Rev. T. Welch, Chaplain, S. Henschley, R., S. Willder, T., W. Allen, Sec., N. Bentley, S.D., J. Wilkinson, J.D., H. Duesbury, Sup. of W., J. Gamble, D. of Cer., G. A. Hewitt, Assist. D. of Cer., W. Prince, S. B., T. Buckley, St. B., S. Collinson, Pur., John Riding, T. Amongst the visiting brethren were Dr. Burton, P.G.S.W., Staffordshire; J. James, P.G.D. of Cer., Staffordshire; W. Sollory, W.M. 594, Nottingham; F. James, J.W. 786, Walsall; N. Bentley, W.M. 399, Manchester; Bro. Swain, &c. It was announced that negotiations were concluded for the purchase of land for a Masonic Hall in Derby, his Grace the Duke of Devonshire, Prov. G. M., having liberally contributed the sum of £100. About forty Brethren afterwards partook of an excellent banquet, provided by Bro. Huggins of the Royal Hotel.

DURHAM.

The Prov. G.L. of this Province was held at Stockton-on-Tees, Sept. 19th, under the presidency of Bro. J. Fawcett, R.W.P.G.M., on which occasion it was recommended that 10% per annum be subscribed out of the Prov. G.L. funds to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Annuity Fund, for aged Freemasons and their Widows, and that 5% also be subscribed annually out of the same funds to the Girls' Schools in London.

The R.W.P.G.M. welcomed some Brethren from the neighbouring Province of North and East Ridings of Yorkshire, who had honoured the Prov. G.L. with their presence, and he also expressed his satisfaction with the state of Freemasonry in the Province.

The following Officers for the ensuing year were then appointed, and invested with the insignia of their office:—Bros. H. Fenwick, D.G.M.; the Rev. J. Milner, G.S.W.; R. Saville, G.J.W.; the Rev. R. J. Simpson, G. Chap.; R. Reynolds, G. Treas.; J. Husdell, G.R.; J. Crossby, G. Sec.; P. Ditchburn, G.S.D.; W. J. Hodgson, G.J.D.; L. Gales, G.S. of W.; H. Hammerbom, G.D.C.; J. Smith, G.O.; M. Douglas, G.P.; J. Thompson, G.S.B.; W. M. Laws, G. T.

A. Stewart, Industry, No. 56; M. Joseph, St. John's, No. 95; W. Kyle, Phoenix, No. 111; R. A. Johnson, Palatine, No. 114; W. Walte., Restoration, No. 128; M. Story, Granby, No. 146:—G. Stewards.

The R.W.P.G.M. intimated that the Foundation Stone of the Schools about to be erected on the proposal of the Vicar of Newcastle, would shortly be laid by the R.W.P.G.M. and Brethren of Northumberland, and that an invitation had been received by him to assist with the P.G.L. of Durham, and that he wished to take the opinion of the P.G. Lodge on the subject, when a general desire having been expressed to assist at the ceremony, it was proposed and resolved to leave the arrangement entirely to the R.W.P.G.M., who gave his full sanction to the attendance of the Lodges of the Province with their Masonic Clothing and Jewels. The P.G. Lodge was then closed, and the Brethren retired to the Tees Lodge Room, Black Lion Hotel, where eighty-six sat down to "refreshment." The day was spent with that conviviality and harmony which ever distinguishes Freemasons.

ESSEX.

TESTIMONIAL TO BRO. THE REV. STEPHEN LEA WILSON.—*North Essex Lodge, No. 817, White Hart Hotel, Bocking.*—The members of the Lodge assembled on the 28th of October in full strength, it being fixed that on that occasion a testimonial, in acknowledgment of the eminent services of Bro. Wilson in aid of the cause of Freemasonry, and especially of the Lodge No. 817, which had been unanimously voted at a preceding meeting, should be presented. The business commenced by the working of the sections of the 1st Degree, by Bros. Wilson,

Hustler, Hemming, Savill, and Brooks, in a most satisfactory manner, after which a new member was initiated. The Brethren adjourned to a banquet at six o'clock, at which Bro. S. J. Surridge presided, in consequence of the illness of the W.M.; and on presenting the testimonial,—which was an elegant silver ornament in form of an antique font,—Bro. Surridge referred to the increase and excellent working order into which the Lodge had been brought by Bro. Wilson, who, as he was about to leave their neighbourhood, would bear with him that mark of the gratitude and esteem of the North Essex Lodge. Among the visitors present on this pleasing occasion, were Bros. the R.W. Capt. Skinner, Dep. Prov. G.M. of Essex; T. J. Darvill, P. Prov. J.G.W., Herts; A. L. Bellinger, Prov. J.W., Herts; J. Dace, Prov. G.O., Essex; Jer. How, Prov. G.D.C., Surrey; J. H. Biddles, G.M.L., No. 1. It is worthy of remark, that during Bro. Wilson's connection with the North Essex Lodge, he had introduced into Masonry the *élite* of society, and many of the clergy of the neighbourhood.

HERTFORDSHIRE.

Berkhampstead Lodge, No. 742, King's Arms Hotel, Berkhamstead.—This Lodge held its Quarterly meeting, October 4, Bro. A. L. Bellinger, W.M.; when Bro. Harvey, S.W., was unanimously elected W.M. for the year ensuing, and Bro. R. L. Wilson, Treasurer. Bro. Wilson proposed, as a memorial of the efficient and munificent way in which Bro. Bellinger had presided over the Lodge, that a jewel of the value of five guineas be presented to him at the January meeting, which was carried by acclamation. The Prov. G.M., Bro. W. Stuart, has been pleased to confer on Bro. Bellinger the office of G.J.W. of Hertfordshire, vacant by the decease of Bro. Robottom.

KENT.

MARGATE.—The Union Lodge, No. 149, Margate, has set a good example by subscribing out of its funds 10*l.* 10*s.* (beyond the individual subscriptions of its members) towards the Patriotic Fund.

LEICESTERSHIRE.

LEICESTER.—The Prov. G.L. of this district held the customary annual meeting in the Lodge-room at the Three Crowns Hotel, on Wednesday, Nov. 15. The P.G.M. Bro. Sir F. G. Fowke, Bart., presided, and the various Officers of the Province were appointed for the ensuing year. Owing to bodily indisposition, Bro. W. Cooke, P.G.S., resigned his office, which he has held for a long series of years. A high compliment was paid to him, in terms at once just and feeling, by the P.G.M., and Bro. W. Kelly was appointed his successor, with the approbation of all the Brethren present. In acknowledging the honour done to him by the appointment, the new Secretary alluded, in appropriate and well-expressed language, to the services of his predecessor.

LEICESTER PATRIOTIC FUND.—Subscriptions to this Fund amounted on the 16th Nov. to 1703*l.* 6*s.* 3*d.* St. John's Lodge, No. 348, per Peter Jackson, W.M., and John of Gaunt Lodge, No. 766, per F. Goodyer, W.M., contributed 50*l.*

MONMOUTHSHIRE.

NEWPORT.—On Thursday, the 19th of October, the annual festival of the Free and Accepted Masons of Monmouthshire was held at the King's Arms Hotel, Newport. The proceedings commenced at 10 o'clock, by the opening, in due form, of the Silurian Lodge, No. 693, at the Masonic Hall; the W.M., Bro. E. Wells, presiding. The Prov. G. L. was opened in form at the King's Head Hotel by the R.W. the Dep. Pr. G.M. Bro. Rolls, of the Hendre, Monmouth. The Minutes of the last Prov. G.L. were then read and confirmed, and the Treasurer's accounts were audited. In the absence of the R.W. the P.G.M. (who was unavoidably prevented from attending), the Dep. P.G.M. proceeded to appoint the following Brethren P.G. Officers:—Bros. C. Lyne, No. 693, Prov. S.G.W.; Major A. Rolls, No. 671, Prov. J.G.W.; J. Nicholas, No. 693, Prov. G. Treasurer; Rev. G. Roberts, No. 671, Prov. G. Chaplain; Capt. Tynte,

No. 671, Prov. G. Registrar ; J. P. King, No. 671, Prov. G. Secretary ; C. Evans, No. 693, Prov. S.G.D. ; Capt. Davis, No. 671, Prov. J.G.D. ; G. Vaughan, No. 671, Prov. G. Sup. of Works ; Chilcott, No. 671, Prov. G.D.C. ; W. West, No. 693, Prov. A.G.D.C. ; J. Pearson, No. 671, Prov. G.S.B. ; H. J. Groves, No. 693, Prov. G. Organist ; E. Wells, No. 693, Prov. G. Purs. Bros. T. Dyke, No. 671, J. Nayou, No. 671, T. W. Oakley, No. 671, W. Williams, No. 693, Hallen, No. 693, Thomas, No. 693, Prov. G. Stewards.

The vote of thanks passed to Bro. Crook, P. Prov. G. Sec., at the last Pr. G. Lodge, was presented to him, written on vellum.

Bro. Groves, whose talent as a musician is well known and justly appreciated in Newport, is the first Prov. G. Organist appointed since the revival of this Prov. G. Lodge.

The Prov. G. Lodge was closed in form, and repaired to the Silurian Lodge in the Masonic Hall, whence the Brethren started for Divine Service at the Town Hall, in the following order of procession :—

Band of the Monmouthshire Militia.

Members of the Silurian Lodge, No. 693.

Members of the Loyal Monmouth Lodge, No. 671.

Prov. G. Lodge.

Vol. of Sacred Law borne on a cushion.

The Prov. G. Chaplain.

The Chaplain of the Silurian Lodge, No. 693.

The Prov. G. Wardens.

The D. Prov. G.M.

We must here explain how it was that the Town Hall was used on this occasion for Divine Service. The Parish church (St. Woolos') is at present under repair ; but as the Brethren wished to celebrate their Festival by attending Divine Service in a consecrated building, they requested the Rev. H. Wybrow, the Incumbent of St. Paul's Church, to grant the use of his pulpit either in St. Paul's Church, or in the Trinity District Church, to the Rev. G. Roberts, Prov. G. Chaplain, or, in case of his absence, to the Rev. J. S. Sidebotham, Chaplain of the Silurian Lodge. This the rev. gentleman declined to do to the former gentleman, because his religious opinions were at variance with his own ; and to the latter, because he was unacquainted with him. Considerable excitement prevailed in consequence, not only among the Masonic body, but among many other respectable inhabitants of the town ; the general opinion being that no clergyman of the Church of England would be guilty of such bad taste as to preach in another clergyman's pulpit what he knew to be opposed to that clergyman's usual teaching. The Prov. G. Chaplain, in returning thanks for his health after dinner, it will be seen, very happily alluded to the fact that on a former occasion, when he was Vicar of Monmouth, the Rev. H. Wybrow being appointed Chaplain to the High Sheriff, requested the use of his pulpit, which he might have refused on the same grounds as those on which Mr. Wybrow had refused it on the present occasion ; however, he assured the Brethren that even after this refusal from Mr. Wybrow, if he (Mr. Wybrow) were again to request the use of his pulpit, he should know too well the part of a gentleman, a clergyman, and a Freemason, to refuse it ; he would say, "Take it, and do all the good you can in it."

To return, however, from this digression—under these circumstances, the Rev. E. Hawkins, Vicar of St. Woolos' Church, very kindly placed his temporary pulpit in the Town Hall at the services of the Prov. G. Chaplain. Prayers were read by the Rev. J. S. Sidebotham, and a most eloquent sermon preached by the Rev. G. Roberts, which was listened to by the Brethren with the utmost attention throughout. The text was taken from Gen. xi. 8, 9 : "So the Lord scattered them abroad from thence upon the face of all the earth : and they left off to build the city. Therefore is the name of it called Babel."

The Brethren then returned to the Masonic Hall in the same order as before. The procession was admirably arranged and kept in order by Bros. Chilcott, Prov. G.D.C., and West, Prov. A.G.D.C., and a clear road was kept for the Brethren through the whole line of march by the police ; so that though the streets were full of people to witness the (in this town unusual) spectacle, no disturbance

or annoyance, whatever occurred. The windows, also, all along the streets were filled with ladies, and other friends of the Brethren.

On the return of the Brethren to the Masonic Hall, the Silurian Lodge (which had been adjourned) was closed in due form.

The Brethren sat down at 5 o'clock to an excellent dinner, provided by Bro. Lloyd, the worthy landlord of the King's Arms.

On the removal of the cloths, the D.P. Grand Master addressed the company, with his usual felicity of manner, in the following terms:—"After nearly forty years of peace, 'grim-visaged war had again shown his wrinkled brow;' but our intrepid warriors have already gloriously won laurels in a hard-fought field; and will doubtless continue to act in a manner worthy of their beloved Sovereign, and the fame of their native land. He would heartily toast 'the Queen and the Craft'" (great cheering, reiterated and Masonic honours).

"The R.W. the G.M., the Earl of Zetland." "Every man," said the worthy President, "who has had an acquaintance with, or knowledge of, the noble earl, will admit his condescending manners, his urbanity, and his kindness" (Masonic cheers).

"The R.W. the Earl of Yarborough, Dep. G.M." (applause, and the usual Masonic honours).

"The R.W. Col. Tynte." The Chairman deemed it superfluous, amongst gentlemen of this Province, to dwell on the estimable qualities of Col. Tynte, one of the oldest and best Masons in England (deafening cheers).

Capt. Tynte, grandson of the venerable Colonel, arose, and in graceful and feeling terms, acknowledged the compliment so enthusiastically paid to the Somersetshire Grand Master, who, the gallant captain said, had been upwards of fifty years in the Craft, and who still took an unabated interest in Masonry. He would not fail to communicate to him the very animated tribute of regard which had been so kindly extended to him that day (great applause).

"The R.W. the Rev. Dr. Bowles, Prov. Grand Master of Hereford." The Chairman, in proposing this toast, impressively eulogised the estimable qualities which characterized the Rev. Doctor, whose kindness, generosity, and high intellectual attainments, were deservedly lauded by all who had the honour of his acquaintance; while, as to his hospitality, he (the Chairman), who had been recently on a visit with his valued friend, could speak most favourably from experience (cheers).

Dr. BOWLES, on rising, was received by the meeting with very animated applause. "We all know," said the Rev. Dr., "that the R.W. the Dep. Prov. G.M. resides in the immediate neighbourhood of Monmouth; and as I listened to the interesting and complimentary speech of my hon. friend and Bro., the thought glanced across my mind, whether it were possible that he could have been the evil-disposed person mentioned in the newspapers about a month ago, who was described as having entered the garden of the Mayor of Monmouth, where he wantonly threw about the flower-pots, damaged many valuable plants, and stole a large quantity of choice and beautiful flowers (great laughter and cheering). As a Mason, I am pledged not to judge uncharitably, and it is against every principle of English law to condemn any man on purely conjectural evidence (laughter)—I therefore only venture to suggest, that if my R.W. Bro. really were that culprit, I think we need be at no loss to account for the manner in which he became possessed of those attractive flowers of rhetoric and compliment which he has so profusely scattered around him this evening (loud cheers). I really am at a loss, Sir, how properly to acknowledge the compliments you have paid me, for whilst you were uttering them, conscience whispered in my ear, that 'praise undeserved, is censure in disguise;' and truth compels me to confess that I owe the high position which I have the honour to hold in Masonry, rather to the circumstance of my having been the personal friend and chaplain of his Royal Highness the late G.M., and to the exceeding kindness of Lord Zetland, than to any merit of my own (loud and continued cheers). With more immediate reference to the business of this evening, Brethren, I cannot give you a more convincing proof of my desire to become acquainted with my Masonic Brethren of the Province of Monmouth, than by stating the plain and simple fact, that, notwithstanding the particular

and most orthodox aversion which, in common with my rev. friend opposite, I have to *NEW-Port*, I have travelled nearly seventy miles to-day on purpose to enjoy the honour and gratification of becoming personally known to you—(loud and long-continued cheers)—being most unfeignedly anxious that the Masons of the Province of Hereford should unite with the Masons of the Province of Monmouth in extending their C.T., until they are all firmly joined together in the strong and enduring bonds of Masonic friendship and brotherhood (great cheering, with Masonic honours). I do believe, that such a union would be productive of the most beneficial effects in both Provinces; for whilst it would enable us to realize the beautiful Masonic precept, that ‘it is good for brethren to dwell together in unity,’ it would also prove to our neighbours, that to submit to the powers that be, to obey the laws which yield protection, to conform to the government under which we live, to be attached to our native soil and sovereign, to encourage industry, to reward merit, to practise universal benevolence, and to strive to become patterns worthy of imitation and regard, are the fundamental tenets of Freemasonry (enthusiastic cheers). The union between the Brethren of the two Provinces is the more essential, inasmuch, that as the principles of architectural masonry became mature, they also became symbolic; and we cannot conceal from ourselves that too many of our Brethren rest satisfied with being merely symbolic Masons; and instead of endeavouring to comprehend, to illustrate, and to work out the great truths of Masonry, content themselves with the surface and the shell (hear, hear). If you will not consider me tedious, Brethren, I will endeavour to illustrate what I mean, by an example drawn from your own beautiful county. I mean the far-famed Cistercian Abbey of Tintern (hear, hear), which I visited about five weeks ago. You are all aware that our ancient Brethren were practical Masons, who covered Europe with monuments of their science, and of that plastic genius which from an infinity of elaborate, incongruous, and often worthless details, knew so well how to evoke one sublime and harmonious whole (cheers). Tintern Abbey was one of the almost countless edifices reared by our Masonic predecessors; and the majestic ruins of the cruciform plan, the lofty arch, the oriel windows, the lateral chapels, and the central elevation, are full of mystic significance. Not a groining, a mullion, or a tracery remains there, in which the initiated eye cannot read some Masonic enigma, some ghostly counsel, or some inarticulate summons to penitence and prayer (cheers). As I gazed upon this crumbling monument to the glory of Masonry—so august even in its decay, the voices of our ancient Brethren seemed to sigh through the ruined arches, and bade me, instead of standing idly there, vainly regretting that we were not practical Masons as they had been—and consequently were unable either to extract beautiful forms from lifeless stone, or to rear those lofty piles which were the wonder of the age in which they were built, and are the glory of our own—to be content, my friends, with that station in life in which God had placed me (loud cheers), and to be cheered by the recollection that to us symbolic Masons, the G.A.O.T.U. had intrusted the far nobler task of aiding, however humbly and imperfectly, in building up the character of a nation, of rising to great truths, of rearing the more magnificent and enduring structures of civil and religious liberty and mental progress, and thereby adding strength to the foundations, and fulness and splendour to the development, of moral and religious truth (great cheering). These, Sir, are edifices far nobler than any which the Masons of old ever reared, for they are imperishable—they will benefit us in time, go with us into eternity, and confer upon us the best and noblest of all distinctions—that of being fellow-labourers with the Great Master Builder, God! It now only remains for me to discharge a very pleasing duty, in proposing the health of your Prov. G.M. Col. Tynte (cheering). Many years have passed since I had the honour of frequently meeting the gallant Colonel at the table of his late Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex, and I should have been delighted to have shaken him by the hand to-day; for, in common with yourselves, I fully appreciate the great kindness of his heart, the urbanity of his manners, and his active and judicious exertions to promote the interests of Masonry in the Province, which he governs, with so much benefit to the Craft, and so much honour to himself.”

When the Prov. G.M. of the Province of Hereford resumed his seat, the

company simultaneously arose, and evinced, by their enthusiastic plaudits, many times repeated, the pleasurable impressions made by the eloquence of the reverend gentleman.

“The Prov. G.M. Col. C. J. K. Tynte, *M.P.*” (Masonic honours). The Chairman said he had received a letter from Col. Tynte, regretting that, in consequence of illness, he was prevented having the pleasure of being present, but his heart and best wishes were with them (cheers).

Capt. Tynte returned thanks.

The gallant captain again rose, and said that the very pleasing duty and honour devolved upon him of proposing the health of the Dep. Prov. G.M., their esteemed Chairman (bursts of applause). He need scarcely say, that his proverbial hospitality, his kindness of manner to every one who had the valued privilege of his acquaintance, and his traits of honour and manly conduct, might well render him, as it did, a general favourite (loud and prolonged cheering).

The CHAIRMAN, on rising, was again greeted with the most animated applause. He said, he felt as he ought to feel at the extraordinary manifestation of their favour and kind regards. He (the Chairman) did not pretend to eloquence or flowers of rhetoric, but as long as he lived he would support Masonry, and do everything in his power to promote it (deafening cheers). Before he resumed his seat, he would propose the health of the P.D.P. Grand Master, Bro. De Bernardy, a gentleman who was wont to cheer them with his eloquence, and enlighten them with his knowledge. The Chairman, in conclusion, read a letter from Bro. De Bernardy, explaining the cause of his absence on the present occasion, and pleasingly alluded to his connection, during ten years, with the Prov. G. L. of Monmouth (loud cheering followed the reading of the letter).

“The Prov. G. Chaplain.”—In proposing this toast, the Chairman paid an animated tribute to the talents and worth of the rev. gentleman, whom all who knew him must love.

The Rev. GEORGE ROBERTS, on rising to acknowledge the compliment, was hailed with the warmest expressions of the meeting. The rev. gentleman expressed his hearty thanks for the very cordial reception which he had experienced at the hands of the Brethren. To be greeted with enthusiasm and affection would compensate for any inconvenience either of engagements elsewhere, or of occupations interrupted; and he rejoiced that he had been able to attend the meeting of the Prov. G. Lodge of Monmouthshire upon the present occasion (cheers). Beside uniting the fraternal bond of good feeling and fellowship with numerous Brethren, and enlarging his Masonic acquaintance, to him this annual assemblage brought with it a more than usual amount of gratification, because it revived old associations and friendships (loud cheers). Connected as he had been with the county for some years, it was delightful to him to be welcomed with the sunny smiles of well-known faces; and again, after a lapse of time, to clasp the same warm hands, and to find friendship undiminished by absence (very animated applause). He could not find himself once more in Newport, without reverting to the history and progress of Masonry in that town (hear, hear). He remembered being present when the first great step was taken in laying the foundation of that commercial prosperity in the neighbourhood, to which none might at this day assign a limit (hear, hear, and cheers), he meant the opening of the docks; some sneered at the dreams of future greatness which seemed to dawn, in the opinion of others, upon the young rising port; many thought in their secret minds the speculation would be a failure, although their hopes and wishes were bound up in its success. The Masonic body, then small, were present upon that most interesting event (hear, hear); but a short time before, Masonry was almost extinct in the county; a few sparks lingered in the decayed Lodge at Monmouth; at Abergavenny there was total darkness; at Newport there was a light just perceptible. But wherever energy, industry, and active intelligence prevail, there the progress of Masonry is certain (cheering), and so will be the rising fortunes of Newport. Masonry advanced with equal step, until it had embraced in its arms the many zealous, respectable, and influential Brethren, whom he saw around the table that day. But it should not be forgotten that the youthful Lodge at Newport owed much of its vitality to the energy and new life infused into the old

Lodge at Monmouth (hear, hear), chiefly by the instrumentality of one individual Bro. Chilcott, to mention whose name again this day, was to him (the rev. speaker) a matter of unmixed gratification ; he understood it was contemplated to raise a subscription for the purpose of presenting that Brother with a testimonial of the esteem in which he was held generally, and for his active and unwearied services in reviving and strengthening the Masonic order in that Province particularly ; towards this testimonial, which was to be something, in its character, serviceable to him in smoothing his declining years, and in providing for comforts when old age should creep upon him, he (the Rev. Chaplain) believed a considerable amount had been cheerfully promised in many quarters ; he had no doubt the Brethren here would also respond to the call (cheers), especially when some of the most distinguished members of the Craft in the Province had been induced by his (Bro. Chilcott's) good offices to be initiated. There was another topic, personal to himself, which he must mention before he sat down, but to which he should not have alluded, had it not been a matter of publicity, and dealt with accordingly ; as the question was thus prominently before the world, he could not avoid touching upon it, to avoid misconception. He learnt publicly, and from private information, that the incumbent of St. Paul's (the Rev. H. Wybrow) had refused the pulpit either of St. Paul's or of Trinity to himself, the Prov. Grand Chaplain (hear, hear), because he disagreed with him in certain theological views (derisive cheers). Now he (the Prov. Grand Chaplain) could not conceive any clergyman who received permission of a rev. Brother's pulpit could have the bad taste to select controversial points for discussion at such a time (great cheering, which for some time interrupted the rev. speaker), or, my friends and Brethren, to advance any doctrine opposed to the teaching of the incumbent, by whose kindness he was officiating upon a special occasion (loud and prolonged cheering). Surely there was a breadth in the Gospel, and a common ground of fundamental truths in which all of the same communion concur, which might be trodden without trespassing upon individual speculative opinions ; a gentleman and a clergyman would undoubtedly keep within this obvious rule (much cheering). He rejoiced, when singularly enough he had the opportunity (notwithstanding the wide gulf of opinion which Mr. Wybrow considered separated them both in religious views), that he had not been influenced by the same narrow-mindedness (loud cheers). It so happened, when he (the Rev. Chaplain) was vicar of Monmouth, Mr. Wybrow was appointed chaplain to the high sheriff ; although he believed it was the under-sheriff's appointment, the high sheriff of that year happened to be a Roman Catholic ; at any rate, upon the same grounds, he might have refused the pulpit of St. Mary's, Monmouth, when Mr. Wybrow asked for it ; and he, moreover, now assured the meeting, if the same circumstances should occur again, even after what had happened, he should know too well what becomes a gentleman, a clergyman, and a Mason, to refuse Mr. Wybrow the use of his pulpit, when he was justified in asking for it ; he would say, " Yes, certainly, and do all the good you can in it " (enthusiastic cheering, prolonged for some minutes). Passing from this painful topic, the Rev. Chaplain, in graceful terms, expressed his thanks cordially, to the vicar of St. Woollos', for his liberality in placing the Town Hall at the service of the Masons, his own church being under repair ; and concluded in eloquent terms, with hearty good wishes for the growth and welfare of the town and interests of Newport.

The CHAIRMAN proposed the health of Bro. Charles Lyne, who had rendered him valuable assistance as Prov. G.W. (Masonic honours).

Bro. Lyne returned thanks in an appropriate and telling speech. He (Bro. Lyne) regretted the absence of the Prov. J.G.W., Alexander Rolls, &c., who not only as a Mason, but as an officer, was deservedly popular and much respected in Newport ; and who, whenever applied to for the services of the band, on any befitting occasion, was courteously accommodating ; very unlike a certain other person, from whom better things might have been expected (loud cheers and honours).

The health of Capt. Tynte was proposed by the Chairman, with an expression of his pleasure at making the captain's acquaintance that day. Tynte was a magic name in Masonry (loud cheers).

Capt. Tynte suitably replied.

The Chairman, in proposing the health of the P.G.M. of the Ceremonies, took that opportunity of bringing forward the subject of a subscription, now on foot, as a provision for the declining years of Bro. Chilcott.

P.M. Wells informed the chairman that the subject of a testimonial to a good old servant of the Province had been already brought before the Silurian Lodge, and would again be entertained by the Brethren.

The Director of the Ceremonies feelingly expressed his thanks.

The P.G. Chaplain, in suitable terms, proposed the health of the Visiting Brethren, complimenting gentlemen who came from Bristol, Herefordshire, &c., and naming the Rev. Bro. Sidebotham, a chaplain of New College, Oxford, who, though not charged with the transaction of the Mayor of Monmouth's garden, had doubtless come honestly by some flowrets from the banks of the Isis (laughter and cheers).

The Rev. Bro. Sidebotham appropriately thanked the company.

Several other toasts, amongst which were "The W.M. Wells, the P.G. Organist, Bro. H.J. Groves, and thanks for the admired choral service that day performed," to which he replied for himself and the ladies and gentlemen. "The P.G. Sec., J. P. King," who spoke to the toast with correct taste, and apposite allusions to the necessity of an iron bond of connection—a railway between the county town and this great commercial port, which he trusted ere long to see carried out. "The Happy union of the Brethren of this country and France," by Bro. Wells. "The Press," proposed from the Chair, with highly eulogistic observations respecting the Editor of the *Merlin*. "The Royal Monmouth Lodge," &c., &c.

After the D.P.G.M. had vacated the chair, his carriage having been for some time in waiting, Bro. Lyne was called on to preside, Bro. Wells in the Vice-Chair; and a very delightful evening, unruffled by a single ripple on the clear, social current, enlivened with an intellectual interchange of sentiment and harmony, worthy the brothers of the "mystic tye," was spent.

NORTHUMBERLAND.

NEWCASTLE.—The proceedings of the Prov. G. Lodge of Northumberland, which took place on the 8th Nov., related to the laying of the foundation stone of one of the Vicar's schools; the Vicar himself being the Grand Treasurer of the Province. From *legal* delays in the conveyance of the property, where the schools have to be erected, and from the desire that the outgoing Mayor, R. Dodds, Esq., should lay the foundation stone of one of these schools, the notice was very short, though the longest that could be given under the circumstances, the Mayor vacating his office the following day. On this account, the Prov. Grand Lodge of Durham was only represented by the Prov. Gr. Treas., Gr. Sec., Gr. Purs. and Gr. Tyler, besides several P.G. Officers.

The Brethren met at half-past 9 A.M., in the Assembly Rooms, where the Prov. G. Lodge was opened by the Prov. G.M. the Rev. E. C. Ogle.

A procession was then formed, and repaired to the church of St. Nicholas in the following order:—

Police Officers.

The Right Worshipful the Mayor, and Members of the Corporation of Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

The Clergy.

Band of Music.

Tyler.

Visiting Brethren, not Members of any Lodge present, two and two.

Visiting Lodges, according to Rank, Junior Lodge going first.

Lodge "De Ogle,"	.....	No. 919.
" " "De Loraine,"	.....	" 793.
" " "St. Peter's,"	.....	" 706.
" " "St. George's,"	.....	" 624.
" " "Borough,"	.....	" 614.
" " "Northern Counties,"	....	" 586.
" " "St. David's,"	.....	" 554.

Lodge "St. Hild's,"	.....	No.	292.
„	"Palatine,"	.....	„ 114.
„	"Phoenix,"	.....	„ 111.
„	"St. John's,"	.....	„ 95.
„	"Industry,"	.....	„ 56.
„	"Newcastle-on-Tyne,"	.....	„ 24.

Tyler.

Banner.

Brethren, two and two, Juniors first.

Inner Guard.

Senior Deacon, with Wand.

Junior Deacon, with Wand.

Secretary.

Treasurer.

Senior Warden.

Junior Warden.

Past Masters, two and two.

Steward, with Wand.

Worshipful Master.

Steward, with Wand.

THE PROV. GRAND LODGE OF NORTHUMBERLAND.

P.G. Pursuivant, W. Richardson.

Cornucopia with Corn, borne by a P.M.

Ewer with Wine,

Ewer with Oil,

borne by P.M. Bro. Hewitt.

borne by P.M. Bro. Hodgson.

P.G. Organist, James Spark.

P.G. Assistant Director of Ceremonies, D. W. Spence.

P.G. Director of Ceremonies, W. Dalziel.

Silver Trowel, borne by Past Master, G. Wetherhead, 24.

P.G. Superintendent of Works, with Plans, J. Green.

T. Robinson.

Past P.G. Deacons.

J. Barker.

P.G. Secretaries, with Book of Constitutions and Brass Plate, with Inscription.

J. Crosby.

G. P. Birkenshaw.

P.G. Registrar, bearing the Seal of P.G. Lodge, T. Fenwick.

P.G. Treasurer, carrying a Phial containing Coins, to be deposited in the Stone.

The Rev. C. Moody, M.A., Vicar of Newcastle.

P.G. CHAPLAIN, BEARING THE SACRED LAW ON A CUSHION, the Rev. J. F. Bigge, M. A.

E. French P.G. Steward.

P.G. Steward, J. Foreman.

W. Panshon.

Past P.G. Wardens.

J. W. Mayson.

The Corinthian Light, borne by a Past Master.

The Column of the P.J.G. Warden, borne by a Past Master.

THE P.J.G. WARDEN, WITH THE PLUMB RULE, J. S. Challoner.

The Doric Light, borne by Bro. L. H. Monro, P.M., 56.

The P.J.G. Deacon, with Wand, J. Winlow.

The Column of the Prov. S.G. Warden, borne by a P.M., Capt. Ducane, R.E.

THE P.S.G. WARDEN WITH THE LEVEL, W. Berkley.

THE V.W. THE D.P.G. MASTER, R. MEDCALF.

P.G. Steward.

P.G. Steward, Stephen Owen.

The Ionic Light, borne by Bro. W. H. Smith, P.M., 706.

The Mallet, borne by Past Master, J. Calbreath, 24.

Banner of the P.G. Master of Northumberland, W. E. Franklin.

The P.G. Sword Bearer, G. Fenwick.

THE R.W. THE PROV. G.M., the Rev. E. C. Ogle.

J. Shield, P.G. Steward.

P.G. Steward, J. Gilpin.

The P.G.S. Deacon, J. C. Gibson.

P.G. Tyler, A. Dickson.

On the arrival of the procession at the church, prayers were read by the Rev. Bro. C. Moody, Vicar, who has become a Mason during his residence in Newcastle. The Rev. R. W. Williamson, Perpetual Curate of Lamesley, preached the sermon from Ephes. vi. 4, and delivered an earnest and appropriate discourse, expressing a hope that the Vicar's scheme for the establishment of schools would be carried out until not a poor child in Newcastle should lack a religious education.

At the close of the service, the procession was re-formed, and received the

interesting addition of a long line of school children, amounting to about 2,000, who attracted especial attention. The site fixed upon for the school for St. Andrew's parish is situated behind the Percy-street Iron Manufactory. On the arrival of the procession at the site, after a short delay, the Right Worshipful the Mayor proceeded with the ceremony of laying the stone, on which the stone was raised and maintained in its elevation until the children sung a hymn, entitled "THE FOUNDATION STONE," the words of which were written by the Right Hon. Stephen Lushington, D.C.L., and the music composed by Mr. J. Garnett.

At the termination of the hymn, the Rev. R. Buckeridge, Perpetual Curate of St. Andrew's, offered up a suitable prayer, when a phial, containing several medals, was deposited in a cavity of the stone by the Mayor; after which, Br. J. H. Ingledew read the following inscription, engraved on a brass plate, intended to cover the cavity:—

"The foundation stone of this school, being the first of a series of ten Church of England Schools about to be erected (God willing), for the industrial classes of this borough; it was laid by the Right Worshipful the Mayor of Newcastle, Ralph Dodds, Esq., on Wednesday, the 8th November, 1854.

"The Right Rev. Edward Maltby, D.D., Bishop of this diocese of Durham.

"The Rev. Clement Moody, Vicar of Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

"The Rev. Richard Buckeridge, Incumbent of the parish of St. Andrew.

"DEO GLORIA."

A handsome silver trowel manufactured by Messrs. Reid and Sons, Grey-street, was then presented to the Mayor as a gift, bearing the following inscription:—

"Presented to Ralph Dodds, Esq., Mayor of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, on the occasion of laying the foundation stone of a school, for the parish of St. Andrew, by the Rev. Clement Moody, Vicar of Newcastle, and the Rev. Richard Buckeridge, Incumbent of the parish of St. Andrew.—Wednesday, Nov. 8, 1854."

The cement having been spread over the stone by the Mayor, it was lowered into its bed, and, after its true position had been tested by the plumb, level, and square, the children, aided by the band, and a great number of the company, sang the "Old Hundredth Psalm." The Vicar then proposed three cheers for the Mayor and Mayoress, which was most heartily responded to. The blessing then followed, after which the National Anthem was sung, by all present, thus terminated this interesting part of the day's proceedings.

The procession was thereupon formed, with the exception of the members of the Corporation taking their places behind the Masonic body, and proceeded onward by Percy-street and Blakett-street, to the Shieldfield, to lay the foundation stone of the school for the parish of All Saints, the ceremony having to be performed by Bro. the Rev. E. C. Ogle, of Kirkley Hall, P.G.M. of the Free and Accepted Masons of Northumberland and Berwick-upon-Tweed. The site fixed upon was a large piece of vacant ground, the property of Mr. Copeland, Shieldfield, and to prevent disorder and pressure by the crowd, a large space had been taken off, and enclosed by a wooden fence. As at the Percy-street site, a large company of ladies were assembled to witness the ceremony, including the Mayoress, the lady of the Vicar, and several other highly respectable individuals. On the arrival of the children, they were arranged around the extremities of the square, while within it were placed the ladies, and the numerous body of gentlemen and officials present to take part in the proceedings. The P.G.M. having approached the stone, it was raised, when the "Foundation Stone" hymn was again sung by the children. This having been concluded, a handsome silver trowel was presented to the Rev. gentleman, bearing a similar inscription to that on the trowel previously presented to the Mayor, with the name of the Grand Master, the Vicar, and the Rev. W. Irvine, Perpetual Curate of All Saints, upon it. The silver trowel was manufactured by Messrs. Donald and Son, Newcastle. The ceremony then proceeded, the stone having been placed in its bed, and the Grand Chaplain (the Rev. F. Bigge), having poured corn, wine, and oil thereon, offered up the following prayer:—

"O Lord, Thou that inhabitest eternity, and hast raised out of nothing the mighty fabric of this universe, the heavens, the air, the earth, and the sea; Thou that fillest the whole and every thing that is in it, and art Thyself boundless and

incomprehensible, look down graciously upon Thy servants who are about to presume to erect this building to the honour of Thy name. Let Thy Holy Spirit descend upon it in the blessing of Thy peculiar presence; Thou that art everywhere, deign also to be with us. Thou that seest and hearest all things, look down from Thy throne of glory, and give ear to our supplications; and if, at any time hereafter, Thou shalt be moved, in Thy just displeasure, to punish this people for their transgressions, with any of Thy terrible judgments—famine, pestilence, or the sword—yet, if they make supplication and return to Thee, with all their heart and with all their soul, then hear Thou them, O Lord, in heaven, Thy dwelling place, and forgive their sin, and remove Thy judgment.”

The Prov. G.M. then said,—“Having laid this stone, may the Grand Architect, who has so kindly blessed us in the proceedings of the day, enable those engaged in the building to complete it, and may it hereafter be preserved from ruin and decay, and be of lasting prosperity. I therefore strew corn on the stone as the emblem of plenty; I pour wine on it as the emblem of cheerfulness; and I anoint it with oil as the emblem of comfort and consolation.” The G.M. then turning to the entire assembly, addressed it as follows:—“Fellow Craftsmen, respected vicar, citizens of this great and important town, and all who are interested in this day’s proceedings, if I had a hundred tongues and a hundred voices, I could not express to you sufficiently the probable result of the great events of this day’s engagements. When men build schools, it is impossible to see the end thereof. To a few the end may be unfortunate, but to the many the end must be blessed. The education which the sons and daughters of the labourer, the artizan, the mechanic may receive at school may, in a few cases, have results we do not wish to see, but in the great majority of instances the result is most harmonizing, not to say divine. But if anything will tend to promote the true design and the prosperity of this school and its kindred ones, which the vicar of this town so magnanimously contemplates, it will be the blessing of heaven which we have invoked this day on our undertaking. I almost invariably have found that out of evil good comes, that is, so long as man does not directly do evil that good may come; but if I am not mistaken, the very dire plague and grievous sickness which desolated so many of the once happy homes of this town last year about this time, opened the eyes of the ecclesiastics as well as those of the civil authorities, to the alarming destitution of schools and the want of education for your children. I cannot but lament the destruction of valuable lives that pestilence made, but I must rejoice, as a Christian and as a man, that the rod has not smitten you in vain, that the scourge has produced such noble-minded efforts to stem and turn the evil tide of ignorance, and misery, its great companion. The mayor and corporation and the burgesses have been busily employed this day in laying the foundation stone for another school, but we, in no spirit of sectarian rivalry, have done the same for this school. There are, it is well known, other schools in this town and elsewhere, conducted on what are termed liberal principles; but these schools will be conducted on church principles. The scholastic duties within them are designed so that the children shall receive no religious bias or check from their teachers, as the schools are designed to teach dogmas of the church, and to bend the thoughts of children to a great and fixed society, and keep them there. These schools, therefore, will place the simple text of the Bible in the hands of their scholars, and leave it to their ministers to interpret, or authorize the teachers to interpret, the simple text by formularies and word of mouth. But however different may be the methods in which they proceed, I am sure that your mayor and your vicar have both one object in view, which is to promote the welfare of the present and the rising generation, and the glory of God. I may illustrate their respective proceedings by your ships in your port. You must have bent ‘knees’ as well as ‘straight planks’ for a perfect and proper vessel. So you must have the bendings of the church and the straight lines of unfettered religion to perfect the proper proportions of the great social edifice in this land. So you observe there is no rivalry in this day’s proceedings except the emulation for good purposes. There is, however, room for every possible exertion in bringing in the degraded and ignorant children from the streets and lanes of this town, and we all join head and heart in the excellent cause. We shall find that we can have unity

of purpose without uniformity of practice in scholastic duties ; and we shall rejoice to think that we have taken warning betimes, when we see these schools flourishing and children brought up in 'the nurture and fear of the Lord.' And pardon me if I still retain the impression of my old calling in life, and thank God that he has vouchsafed to touch our heart with this admonition, and so to avoid His judgments—'Take heed that ye despise not one of these little ones ; for I say unto you, that their angels do always behold the face of my Father which is in heaven.'" The Prov. G. M., after paying a brief and merited mark of respect to the Vicar, whose exertions were beyond all comment in commencing this noble project, concluded by alluding to the gift of the trowel, as follows :—"You have presented me with an instrument of our Craft, which I will immensely prize, and I cordially thank you for it. I shall take it home and deposit it in a conspicuous place in my house of residence ; and I will direct that it be handed from me to my son, and to my son's son 'in perpetual generations,' as a valuable ornament and as an excellent token—an ornament for its surpassing workmanship, which does honour to the silversmith—and a token, that as it spread the well-tempered mortar on the foundation stone, so may the well-tempered mortar of the prophet be spread by means of this school on the great edifice of humanity, which shall rise generation after generation from the people of this town." (Loud cheers.)

The schools which are to form a portion of ten, proposed to be erected in Newcastle, in accordance with a proposition made by the worthy vicar, and which has been warmly seconded by the inhabitants, have been designed by Mr. G. Wallen, architect, of Newcastle ; and the building has been entrusted to Messrs. Gibson and Stewart.

Both before and after the ceremony, the children were regaled with substantial refreshments.

About four o'clock, the ladies and gentlemen, who had taken part in the ceremony, sat down to an elegant cold collation, provided at the Assembly Rooms, Westgate-street. The Mayor of Newcastle occupied the chair ; the vice-chair being ably filled by the Under-Sheriff (J. Fenwick, Esq.), the Sheriff being unavoidably absent from indisposition. At the head table were the Mayoress, the Lady of the Vicar of Newcastle, Mrs. Dr. Headlam, Miss Walton, Miss Clayton, &c. The excellent band of the Northumberland and Newcastle Yeomanry Cavalry, stationed in an ante-room, boomed forth appropriate airs in the course of the evening.

At the conclusion of the repast, the health of her Majesty, Prince Albert, Albert Prince of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family ; the Bishop and Clergy of the diocese, responded to by the Rev. Dr. Davies, Rector of Gateshead ; the Army and Navy, acknowledged by Capt. Weatherly, having been drunk with all the honours ;

The Rev. E. C. OGLE rose to propose a toast. He said, that had not been to him a common day, beginning and ending merely with the usual occurrences of life, but had been a day which had opened up to him sources of satisfaction, which he should not speedily forget. He had found himself associated with the Mayor and Corporation of Newcastle in one of the greatest works that man could put his hand to. If their fellow-creatures had souls to be saved, then they must feel that they had been engaged this day in promoting the noblest of man's work—namely, making preparations for the education of the child. By education he did not mean merely writing and reading, for these, after all, were only the instruments of education, and might be used against it ; but he meant, that sound moral training, which would enable the child to grow up into a man of good, sound principles, wherewith to meet the attacks of the knave and the infidel. Associated in this work as he had been this day with the Mayor and Corporation of this important town, he had very great pleasure in proposing their health as a toast. (Applause.)

The MAYOR responded ; observing that he scarcely remembered any day in his life the proceedings of which had afforded him more heartfelt gratification. He had given to this scheme all the assistance in his power ; but he hoped, in a very short time, to have more leisure to lend his Reverend friend the vicar a little more assistance. In nothing should he be more willing to co-operate than

in the furtherance of such a scheme as the one they had that day so well commenced. (Applause.)

The Corporation of the Trinity House of Newcastle having been toasted,

The VICE-CHAIRMAN then said:—"Mr. Mayor, I do not know that a greater honour could have been done to myself than by entrusting to me the toast which I hold in my hand. I have the pleasure to propose to you the health of 'The Provincial Grand Master of Free and Accepted Masons of Northumberland.' Whether I consider the high character and attainments of the Master of this important branch of Masonry, or whether I look to the ancient and noble families with which he is connected, he is equally entitled to our admiration in these and in other respects. But when I look upon him as an individual associated with a most important society—a society which carries charity and benevolence in all directions, for I may almost say that in whatever country a man may find himself, he meets with a Mason, and every Mason he meets with is a brother and a friend,—I say, that to see a gentleman of Mr. Ogle's position in society making common cause with a number of gentlemen of the same benevolent feelings with himself, and bringing out all the influence which his station commands to bear on this great and important subject, it redounds in honour of the very highest degree to himself. I therefore propose, with very great pleasure, the health of Mr. Ogle, and all the Brethren connected with the Lodges of Northumberland."

The Rev. C. E. OGLE, after a few preliminary remarks in responding, humorously continued:—"It has been most truly said that Freemasons take a pleasure in associating themselves with those who engage in doing good to their fellow-creatures. And there are many here present—amongst them, many of our fair guests—who would be glad to know from me, as the Prov. G.M. of Northumberland, what is the great secret of Masonry. I know that many of them have even asked their husbands what it is. I have often longed for a good opportunity of telling it myself; and where such an opportunity as the present is afforded, I will not allow it to escape, but I will reveal to our fair guests what is the great secret of Freemasonry, and set their curiosity at rest for ever. The great secret that we have to tell one another, is, that we promise to be good husbands, and good fathers, and good brothers. Therefore, let me urge upon our fair guests the strong necessity of their immediately impressing upon all who are nearest and dearest to them, the extreme importance of immediately joining our ranks. But," continued the reverend gentleman, "in sober earnest, all that I have said is true. Their great object—and let that suffice—is to do good to all men. On all occasions where the good of our fellow-creatures is concerned, I and my fellow-Masons of Northumberland will always be found at our post."

A variety of other toasts were drunk, not forgetting the health of the worthy Vicar, who had been the original cause of the meeting. A benediction closed the proceedings of the day, which were throughout of a most agreeable character.

NORTH WALES.

BANGOR.—The "Brethren of the Mystic Tie," resident in Bangor and the neighbourhood, and subscribing to the St. David's Lodge, No. 540, celebrated, by anticipation, on Tuesday, Dec. 19, the Festival of St. John, in order that their doing so on the regular Lodge night might save the unpleasantness of clashing with other celebrations of the patron saint, at the proper time, in Lancashire, Cheshire, and Shropshire. The attendance—probably on account of the bad state of the weather—was not so numerous as had been expected, but there was a fair muster of those who are known to take an interest in the proceedings and welfare of this distinguished and truly noble Order.

The business (comprising two initiations and one raising) of the Lodge having been transacted in the Lodge-room, the Brethren adjourned for refreshment to the Castle Hotel, where Bro. Bicknell had provided a most *recherché* banquet, which was enjoyed by the select number of eighteen. The W.M. of the Lodge, Bro. Stevenson, V.W.P.P.J.G.D., of North Wales and Shropshire, presided, the W.M. of the Segontium Lodge, No. 881, Carnarvon, Bro. Jennings, V.W.P.P.G.D.C. of Oxfordshire, acting as S.W., and P.M. Bro. Pritchard, V.W.P.P.S.G.D. North Wales and Shropshire, occupying the chair of J.W., P.M. Bro. Martin,

V.W.P.P.J.G.W., West Lancashire, filled the important office of D.C., and Bro. Hayden, of the Segontium, presided at the pianoforte. The other Brethren present were, Capt. Cummins, of the H.R.A.C. Malta; P.M. Aronson, P.M. Thomas, Algeo, S.D., Twigge, J.D., Hughes, I.D., Bicknell, Dew, Atkinson, Williams, all of the St. David's, No. 540; and Potter, S.W., Turner, S.D., R. M. Williams, V.W.P.G. Steward, North Wales and Shropshire, all of the Segontium, No. 881. The evening was spent most delightfully in the "feast of reason and the flow of soul," and in that feeling of loyalty and chastened joyousness, which are peculiarly the characteristics of the Brethren, and indeed, in the experience of most of those present, was never surpassed for conviviality and harmony, and a full meed of gratification to every one.

On the cloth being drawn, and grace said, the W.M. proposed "The Queen and the Craft," dwelling upon the virtues of her Majesty as queen, wife, and mother, and in every relation of life, and stating, that, as her Majesty was the daughter of a Mason, and the niece of several Royal Masons, she was entitled to the honours, which were accordingly given, and the toast was drank with heartfelt enthusiasm.

The National Anthem was sung in excellent style by Bros. Hayden, Jennings, and Martin, the other Brethren joining heartily and effectively in the chorus.

The W.M. then noticed the various traits of character displayed so beneficially to the country by his Royal Highness Prince Albert, since he had been united to the Queen, especially the encouragement which he gave to agriculture, and the arts and sciences, and expressed a hope that "his sons would prove worthy of their sire," and obtain the same amount of affectionate gratitude from the people, which was enjoyed by their illustrious parents. He gave "Prince Albert, Albert Prince of Wales, and the other Branches of the Royal Family."

P.M. Martin, in the absence of three Reverend Brethren, residing in the neighbourhood, and two of whom, the present and the past Chaplains of the Lodge, had promised to attend, made a few remarks upon the character of St. John, and its reflection of the principles of the Order, and explained how it was that the Evangelist and the Baptist had both been considered the Patron Saints of Masonry. He then gave "The Blessed Memory of St. John," which was drank in solemn silence.

The W.M., with a suitable eulogium upon their government of the Craft, proposed "The Earl of Zetland, M.W.G.M. of England, and the Earl of Yarborough, M.W.D.G.M."

The W.M. next gave "Sir W. W. Wynn, Bart, M.P., R.W.P.G.M., North Wales and Shropshire, and Rev. E. Dymoke, R.W.D.P.G.M."

P.M. PRITCHARD, as a P.G. Officer of the Province, responded, and urged that the Craft ought to feel deeply grateful that these and other distinguished personages came forward to promote the interests of the Order, and their doing so ought to be considered a clear proof that there was nothing but good to be found in Masonry. He then expressed his regret that their example was not followed by the leading gentry of our own neighbourhood, who, until they came amongst us, could not, by possibility, know anything of its usefulness and excellence.

The W.M. gave "The Dukes of Leinster and Athol, M.W.G.M. of Ireland and Scotland."

P.M. PRITCHARD drew attention to the bravery of Lord Combermere, and the literary and scientific accomplishments and liberal spirit of the Earl of Ellesmere, and proposed "Lord Combermere, Lord Ellesmere, and Le Gendre N. Starkie, Esq., R.W.P.G.M. Cheshire and Lancashire, and their Deputies, J. F. Maddock, Esq., the Rev. G. Robinson and S. Blair, Esq."

P.G. MARTIN, as a P.G. Officer of West Lancashire, replied, and spoke warmly of the liberality of Bro. Starkie, who had sent 5*l.* to the Bangor New Church, though he had no connexion whatever with the neighbourhood, and of the good qualities of Bros. Robinson and Maddock, with both of whom he had the honour of having been long acquainted. He then referred to the anxiety evinced by the W.M. to improve the Lodge, and to the sterling straightforward honesty and liberality, the admirable social disposition, and the practical kindness ever shown

by him as a citizen of the world, and proposed "The W.M. of the St. David's Lodge, Bangor."

The W.M. replied, and proposed "The Newly Initiated Brethren."

Bros. DEW and WILLIAMS expressed their satisfaction that they had been admitted into the Order.

P.M. ARONSON proposed "The Segontium and the Hibernia Lodges," and "The Visiting Brethren," to which Bros. JENNINGS and PRITCHARD returned thanks.

The W.M. gave "The Army and Navy," and "The Heroes of the Crimean War," calling upon Bro. Cummings, who acknowledged the toast in a very neat speech.

P.M. PRITCHARD then referred to the kindness to the Craft of Lady Combermere and Lady Wynn, and proposed their healths, when the W.M. gave the last toast, "All Poor and Distressed Masons throughout the globe, and speedy relief to them." The Lodge then resumed labour, and shortly afterwards closed about a quarter to ten o'clock, in perfect harmony, all the Brethren being delighted with the pleasures of the evening.

OXFORDSHIRE.

Apollo University Lodge.—The first meeting of this Lodge for this term took place on Wednesday, the 25th of October, when on account of the death of the Prov. G.M., Bro. Rev. C. J. Ridley, the Lodge as well as the Brethren appeared in mourning. The W.M., Bro. W. W. Beach, of Christ Church, being absent from Oxford, the W.M. of the Alfred City Lodge, was solicited to preside in the Lodge, and to perform the ceremonies of initiation, &c., which he fulfilled in a masterly and impressive manner. Several Brethren were initiated and passed, and the raising of nine others was deferred until the following morning. At the conclusion of their labours, the Brethren withdrew to refreshment, when the Senior Warden, Bro. J. W. Malcolm, Gentleman Commoner of Christ Church, presided, supported by the Mayor of Oxford, Bro. R. J. Spiers, P.G.S.B., and a large number of the Brethren of the Apollo and Alfred Lodges. The Meeting was a most agreeable one, and was rendered the more interesting in consequence of its being the first occasion of the two Lodges assembling after a separation of four months. The subsequent meetings have been equally well attended, and the number of candidates initiated on each occasion has been very large. At the last meeting this term, the Brethren unanimously elected Bro. J. W. Malcolm, S.W., to the office of W.M. for the ensuing year. This Lodge has also, greatly to its credit, voted the sum of £10 to the Patriotic Fund. The total number of initiations in this Lodge during the last quarter is twenty. Among the candidates recently initiated were Lord Garlies, son of the Earl of Galloway; Hon. W. H. North, son of Col. North, M.P.; C. S. Bigge, Esq.; F. H. Cox, Esq.; W. B. Long, Esq.; Quinton Twiss, Esq.; Spencer Madan, Esq., all of Christ Church; A. Faber, Esq., Fellow of New College; G. W. De Vaux, Esq., of Baliol College.

Alfred City Lodge.—The meetings of the Alfred City Lodge during the last quarter have been numerous attended, and under the able auspices of its intelligent W.M., Bro. T. Randall, the Lodge has during the past year been admirably conducted, and maintained its high character as a working Lodge. There has been a large number of initiations; and the W.M. has had the pleasing duty of recently initiating Mr. J. J. Ireland, the grandson of the late Dr. Ireland, the Founder of the Alfred Lodge. The Benevolent Fund established, a twelvemonth ago, in connection with this Lodge, for the purpose of assisting distressed Brethren to a larger extent than the Lodge Funds would permit, has been most successful and productive of immense benefit. It is no less creditable to this Lodge that it was, at the instance of the W.M., the first in the kingdom to contribute to the Patriotic Fund, to which it unanimously voted the sum of 10*l*.

The Brethren have unanimously elected Bro. J. Thorp, son of Mr. Alderman J. Thorp, to the office of W.M. for the ensuing year. At the same meeting, Bros. Frazer and Thurland were unanimously appointed Stewards, and will enter on their duties on Wednesday, the 27th of December, being St. John's day, when the Lodge holds its annual festival.

Prov. G. L. of Oxfordshire.—The Prov. G. L. of Oxfordshire is, for the present, literally defunct by the death of the Prov. G.M., Bro. Rev. J. C. Ridley; but it is anticipated that the M.W.G.M. will fill up the appointment ere long, as the business of this large and important Prov. is now suspended, and the Annual Meeting usually takes place in February.

United Lodge of Instruction at Oxford.—About two years ago, several of the Brethren of the Alfred (City) and Apollo (University) Lodges met and agreed to establish a Lodge of Improvement and Instruction for the Province of Oxfordshire. The project was taken up by the Brethren generally, with much spirit, and has succeeded far beyond their anticipations. A number of very interesting papers relating to Freemasonry have been read and discussed, the various sections have been regularly worked, and the tracing boards and ceremonies explained. By a very judicious arrangement, the W.M. is selected from the Brethren at one meeting to preside at the next, and he appoints his Officers, so that there is a constant change, whereby each has the opportunity of making himself perfect in his office. The result of these meetings cannot fail to secure good working Officers for the two Lodges in future, and for that reason they ought to be encouraged and supported.

Civic Banquet to the Masonic late Mayor of Oxford.—A public dinner was given a few days since in the Town Hall at Oxford, to the late Mayor of that city, Bro. Alderman R. J. Spiers, P.G.S.B., in acknowledgment of his many and eminent services as Chief Magistrate during the past year. The company numbered about 150, among whom were the Vice-Chancellor of the University, (the Rev. Dr. Cotton), Col. North, M.P., J. H. Langston, Esq., M.P., the Rt. Hon. E. Cardwell, M.P., President of the Board of Trade, the Master of University College, the Warden of All Souls' College, the Rector of Exeter College, the Principal of Magdalen Hall, the Margaret Professor of Divinity, R. Goffe, Esq., Mayor of Banbury, most of the Aldermen and Councillors of the City of Oxford, and a large number of the principal inhabitants. The present Mayor, Bro. Alderman Sadler presided, and the proceedings were of a very interesting character, and highly complimentary to Bro. Spiers, whose Mayoralty was distinguished for ability and hospitality, the appreciation of which his fellow-citizens testified by this demonstration.

SHROPSHIRE.

St. John's Lodge, No. 875, Admaston-spa, Wellington.—This Lodge held its annual meeting for the installation of Bro. Evett as W.M., on Friday, December 1. This ceremony was performed by Bro. Marriott. A jewel was unanimously voted to Bro. Eyton, P.M., in testimony of the munificent manner in which he had presided over the Lodge during the past year.

SOMERSETSHIRE.

PROVINCE OF SOMERSET.—It is gratifying to announce that the health of the venerable and venerated chief of the Province, Col. Tynte, continues good, notwithstanding his affliction of almost *loss* of sight. It is uncertain which town in the Province will have the honour of receiving the next Prov. Grand Lodge; wherever it may be, it is hoped that a grant to the Patriotic Fund may be among the votes, in aid of Masons' wives and orphans. The Grand Treasurer of the Province (Bro. Eales White), has admitted that he thought the funds of the Province would afford a grant for this Masonic purpose. The *Lodges* have righteously contributed from their funds, and now await the co-operation of the G. and Prov. G. Lodges.

TAUNTON.—The Lodge No. 327 celebrated the Festival of St. John on the 28th inst., when the W.M. elect, Bro. the Rev. W. R. Crotch, was installed W.M. for the year ensuing, and his Officers invested. The Right Wor. the Prov. G.M., Col. Tynte, did the Lodge the honour to invite his Grand Lodge to meet him on emergency in the same Lodge room, for the purpose of voting a sum to that truly Masonic object, the Patriotic Fund. Of this truly interesting Masonic gathering, we promise our readers a full report in our next number.

Municipal Fame.—The High Bailiffs of this town on retiring from office, have received a handsome compliment at the hands of their fellow townsmen. At the last Borough Court, which comprises persons of every shade of politics, it was unanimously resolved—“That the thanks of the Burgesses be given to Robert Badcock and Eales White, Esqrs., the late bailiffs of the borough, for the able, dignified, and liberal manner in which they discharged the duties of their office during the past year, and that the resolution be entered in the records of the borough.”—(Bro. Eales White is Grand Treasurer of the Province of Somerset.)

THE PATRIOTIC FUND.—The Lodge, No. 327, Taunton, have contributed five guineas to this, which have been paid to the active Treasurer to the local Committee, Bro. Eales White. The celebrated Dr. Shaw has recently been initiated into Masonry in Lodge 327, Taunton.

SURREY.

Frederick Lodge of Unity, No. 661, Greyhound Hotel, Croydon.—The members of this Lodge assembled, under the presidency of the W.M. Bro. J. W. Shillito, on Monday, November 20, when Robert Stewart, Esq., of Streatham, was initiated into Freemasonry. The Brethren, fifteen in number, afterwards adjourned to an excellent banquet provided in Bro. Bean's usual excellent manner.

SUSSEX.

After a lapse of nearly thirty years, the Grand Lodge of this Province was held under the banner of the Royal Clarence Lodge, No. 338, at the Old Ship Hotel, in Brighton, on 17th November, when nearly one hundred members of the Craft were in attendance.

Prior to the assembling of the G. L., the Lodge No. 338 was (in the absence of Col. McQueen, its W.M.), opened by Bro. Wilkinson, P.M., in the 1st and 2nd Degrees, when Bro. T. K. Fitzgerald was duly passed; the Lodge was closed in the 2nd Degree, when Bro. Fitzgerald having retired, it was announced to the Brethren, that the V.W.P.D.G. Master, Bro. McQueen, was approaching; whereupon the Masters and Past Masters in attendance of Lodges Nos. 45, 47, 338, 390, 394, 426, and 878, proceeded to the portal, ranged in procession, and conducted the V.W. Bro. Col. McQueen to the chair of the Lodge, the Brethren all standing. On taking the chair, the D.G.M. handed to Bro. Folkard, the Senior Past Master, the patent of his appointment to the office of D.G.M. for the Province of Sussex, commanding him to read it aloud in open Lodge; at its conclusion, it was directed to be entered on the minutes of the Royal Clarence Lodge. Bro. Folkard then called upon the Brethren to salute the V.W.D.G. Master with the accustomed honours. Lodge 338 was then closed.

Previous to the opening of the G. L., the V.W.D.G. Master delivered the following address:—

“Brother Past Provincial Grand Officers, Past Masters, Masters and Wardens of Lodges, Members of the Provincial Lodge of Sussex; Brethren of the Province, and Brother Visitors:—By virtue of the Patent just read to you in the Royal Clarence Lodge, No. 338, and in accordance with my letter addressed to each Lodge in the Province, bearing date 19th October, 1854, I have convened this Prov. G. L.; and now let me crave your indulgent consideration on the difficulties that attend my position. I question whether there is a similar instance in the annals of Freemasonry, of a Prov. G. L., instituted as that of Sussex, in the year 1801, having sustained a lapse of twenty-seven years without assembling; and had it not been for the unceasing and zealous exertions of several energetic and worthy members of the Craft in effecting the present arrangement, this, our G. L., might have continued from year to year in comparative abeyance. In May last, I sent to each Lodge in this Province a notice of my appointment; since then diligent inquiry has been instituted after the minute-book of proceedings, the by-laws and regalia of the Lodge, but nothing belonging to the Prov. Lodge can be found, except some papers and Treasurer's documents, handed to me by his Grace the Duke of Richmond, our R.W.P.G.M., on my appointment in April last,

the same having been placed in his hands by the P. Prov. Treas., Bro. William Ridge, on his quitting Sussex many years ago, to whose high Masonic principles our G. L. is indebted for the recovery of the sum of £40. 4s. 4d., standing in the Chichester Savings' Bank to the credit of our Prov. G. L.; that amount Bro. W. Ridge has transferred to me as trustee, until you shall have this day elected a Treasurer. We have also regained the Prov. Grand Banner and Grand Deacon's Wand, which Bro. Butcher, W.M., of the South Saxon Lodge, No. 390, and his brethren, have carefully preserved; our best thanks are due to them, for their promptitude in placing them at our disposal this day. I had hoped on this occasion to have had the honour and advantage of the assistance of Bro. Dobie, the R.W.G.M. for the Province of Surrey, and Grand Registrar of England, but I lament that the serious accident he met with in Switzerland prevents his attendance. Beyond the members of my mother Lodge, the Royal Clarence, I stand before you a stranger, sensible of the difficulties which beset my path, but desirous to the best of my ability, zealously and impartially to carry out the duties of my office. The first step I have to take is, I fear, one that may lay me open to misconception and an imputation of partiality, namely, the appointment of Officers, as I deem it prudent to surround myself with Brethren long known to me for their zeal, integrity, and experience in Masonry, who promise to aid me in my difficult undertaking, and to stand forward and bear the expenses attendant on their respective appointments, which, until I am better acquainted with my Brethren belonging to other Lodges, I feel a delicacy in calling upon them to sustain. But let us consider this year one of probation, in order that we may fairly re-launch our long-stranded Institution, unruffled by waves of anger or envy, and united in the strongest bonds of brotherly love. These sentiments alone influence me in the appointments I shall presently make, which I am convinced will give general satisfaction, and as we progress in Masonic intercourse and become accustomed to G. L. regulations, I shall be better able, as vacancies occur, to select Brethren from other Lodges for appointment as Officers. I must be firm and straightforward in a strict line of duty, determined to enforce conformity and obedience to the regulations of the G. L. of England, and to support and uphold the ancient landmarks of the Order. A code of by-laws for our Prov. G. L. (copies of which have been duly forwarded to the Lodges in the Province), will be presently submitted to your consideration, and if adopted, I would suggest that the date of contributions to the Prov. G. L. fund should commence from the 30th day of June last."

The P.G.D.M. then commanded the assistance of Bro. Folkard, P.M., Bro. Vallance, P.M., Bro. Turner, P.M., Bro. G. W. King, P.M., and Bro. Rev. E. H. Lloyd, to (preliminarily) open the Grand Lodge, which was done with solemn prayer.

The D.G.M. then appointed and invested the following Brethren to their respective offices, viz.—

Bro. Vallance, G.S.W.; Bro. Turner, G.J.W.; Bro. the Rev. E. H. Lloyd, G. Chap.; Bro. Folkard, G. Regis.; Bro. Pocock, G. Sec.; Bro. Wilkinson, G.S.D.; Bro. Langtry, G.J.D.; Bro. Williams, G. Sup. of Works; Bro. Smithers, G.D.C.; Bro. McGee, G.A.D.C.; Bro. W. A. Stuckey, G. Sword Bearer; Bro. G. W. King, G. Pur; Bros. H. Verrall, P.M., W. Adams, P.M., W. Batley, and G. F. Folkard, G. Stewards; Bro. T.H. Barnard, G. Tyler.

The P.D.G.M. then called upon the Brethren members of the Grand Lodge to elect a Brother as Grand Treasurer by ballot, when Bro. Wm. Verrall, P.M., was unanimously approved and invested.

The Grand Officers were saluted with the accustomed honours.

The Grand Secretary for Surrey, Bro. J. J. Blake, and Past Grand Officers present, were then saluted with the accustomed honours.

The Grand Secretary was directed to read the returns and correspondence which he had received from the various Lodges in the Province, when he was ordered to place them in the hands of the G. Registrar.

The By-laws were agreed to and adopted.

The D.P.G.M. announced his intention to hold the next annual Grand Lodge in September, under the auspices of the Derwent Lodge, No. 47, at the Swan Hotel, in Hastings.

The D.G.M. was unanimously requested to allow his address to be printed with the By-laws.

The Grand Lodge was then closed.

About eighty of the Brethren proceeded to the banquet, when, after paying due honours to the Queen and the Craft, the M.W. the Earl of Zetland, G.M., the Earl of Yarborough, D.G.M., and the Officers of the Grand Lodge of England, the Duke of Richmond, P.G.M. for Sussex, the health of the R.W. Bro. Dobie, and the Grand Lodge for Surrey, was given. In proposing this toast, the V.W. Bro. McQuin expressed his regret at the cause which deprived him of the countenance and aid of Bro. Dobie this day; and also alluded to the presence of Bro. J. J. Blake, G. Sec. for Surrey, to whom he felt greatly indebted for the valuable suggestions and advice he had rendered on this occasion, and to *whom* the satisfactory manner in which the proceedings of the day had gone off were mainly owing.

Bro. J. J. BLAKE heartily responded to this toast, and felt certain that Bro. Dobie regretted his inability to be present; he felt proud of the opportunity to return the compliment paid to the Grand Lodge for Surrey, at its meeting in August last, by the presence of several members of the Royal Clarence Lodge, by attending with his old friend and Bro., Bro. Andrew, P.P.G.D., at this happy meeting; he also felt grateful to the G.M. for having alluded to the trifling service he had rendered in so flattering a manner; it was a high gratification to him to see the few suggestions he had given so admirably carried out, and complimented the Sussex Brethren on so large a gathering of the Craft.

The health of the D.G.M. was proposed by the G. Registrar, in congratulatory terms, on his having the happiness to preside over so numerous an assembly as graced their tables this day, which augured well for Masonry in the Province, the last Grand Lodge having been held at Horsham, in 1827. "This was a consummation," he said, "of a long cherished wish—the resuscitation of the Prov. Grand Lodge for Sussex; for several years he had striven, in conjunction with many esteemed and zealous members of the Craft, to remove from our county the stigma which had for so many years acted as a drag on our Masonic progression, by compelling the Members of the Craft to be as strangers to each other. Many of us meet to-day for the first time—the happy hour that we have spent at this festive board has instilled into our minds a desire to unite the bonds of brotherly love, and as much as in us lies, to induce a uniformity of formula in the Masonic proceedings of our respective Lodges. To our worthy and Very Worshipful D.G.M. we are deeply indebted for having so promptly responded to my appeal, by accepting the arduous and difficult appointment, by whose authority we are assembled this day; fifteen years ago I had the honour to initiate him, and the zealous manner in which he has carried out the difficult duties of the day may be taken by every Brother present as an earnest of his continued exertion to maintain and promote the principles of our Order, and raise our Grand Lodge to as high a standard as any other county under the Grand Lodge of England. I call upon you, Brethren, to join me most heartily in drinking the health of our D.G.M. and may he long fill that distinguished office."

The V.W. D.P.G. Master, in returning thanks for the kind reception he had met with throughout the proceedings of the day, gratefully referred to the valuable assistance accorded to him by many of the Brethren around him, and also the kind manner in which he had been urged to seek and undertake the duties of this appointment, and the promises of support by the Past Masters of his Mother Lodge and other Old Masons, which had been so fully carried out. This was indeed a proud moment to find himself surrounded by such a numerous band of worthy Members of the Craft; he would, to the utmost of his ability, carry out the views he had expressed to them in the earlier part of their proceedings, and begged most gratefully to acknowledge the warm response they had given to the toast of his worthy Bro. the G. Registrar.

Other toasts succeeded, such as the Grand Officers, the Past Grand Officers, Bros. Wilson, P.D.G.M., Winton, P.G.D.C., and Bros. Wright, P.G. Organist, and Snow, P.P.G. Stand. Bearer, the Masters and Brethren of the several

Lodges present, which were all responded to in suitable terms; and also thanks to the Royal Clarence Lodge, 338, for their effective arrangements and hospitality.

The proceedings of the evening were passed in harmony and good fellowship; many admirable songs were sung by Members of the Craft, among which, the "Old Hat" of our Bro. Andrew, although somewhat mellowed by time, appeared to our Sussex Brethren as fresh and enlivening as it did when sung by him at the fiftieth anniversary of the Royal Clarence Lodge, full fifteen years ago.

The meeting broke up about ten o'clock, and every Brother retired, highly gratified with the proceedings of the day.

YORKSHIRE.

BATLEY.—At a Provincial Grand Lodge of Improvement, holden in the Town Hall, Batley, on Wednesday, the 4th day of October, 1854, present, Bros. B. Shaw, 342, P.S.G.W., T. Hemingway, 251, P.P.S.G.W., J. Peace, 342, P.P.J.G.W., W. Dixon, 529, P.G. Treasurer, J. Sykes, 763, P.J.G.D., W. Smith, 365, P.G.D.C., J. O. Gill, 251, P.G. Pur., Wm. Smith, 73, P.G.S.B., G. Warrener, 108, P.G.S., R. R. Nelson, 251 and 384, P.G.S., J. Thomas, 365, P.G.S., W. Hall, 529, P.P.G.S., J. Beckett, 727, P.G. Tyler, and Masters, Past Masters, Officers, and Brethren from Lodges, No. 73, 251, 330, 322, 342, 365, 384, 422, 529, 727, 763, 874, and 877.

The circular convening the meeting having been read, W. Bro. Thos. Hemingway, P.P.S.G.W., was unanimously called to preside as W.M. over the Lodge. He appointed W. Bro. James Peace, P.P.J.G.W., to act as S.W. and W. Bro. W. Smith, P.G.D.C., as J.W. Letters, stating reasons for non-attendance, from W. B. Charles Lee, D.P.G.M., and from other Brethren were read. The Lodge was opened up to the Third Degree, and instructions were given in the workings of the Three Degrees, and continued for a lengthened time. W. Bro. J. Peace, P.P.J.G.W. (after stating his reasons for so doing), proposed, that the laws respecting the Meetings being held Quarterly in West Yorkshire, be allowed to remain as they are.—Seconded by W. Bro. W. Smith, P.G.S.B., and agreed to unanimously. Bro. Warrener, P.G.S., gave notice that he should move at the next Prov. G.L., that a Committee be appointed of not less than Five Past Masters, members of the Prov. G.L., to determine all disputed points respecting the working in any of the Lodges of the Province.—Seconded by Bro. J. Thomas, P.G.S. It was unanimously resolved that the next Quarterly Meeting be held at Halifax, after which the Lodge was closed in peace, harmony, and brotherly love.

BEVERLEY.—The Prov. G.L. for the North and East Ridings of Yorkshire, was held in the Constitutional Lodge, Beverley, on the 31st October. The Right Hon. and M.W. the Earl of Zetland, G.M. and P.G.M. for the North and East Ridings, on the throne, supported by the Right Hon. Lord Londesborough, the Marquis of Conyngham, Sir Wm. Somerville, Geo. Marwood, Esq., and other gentlemen of the county.

The Prov. G.L. was opened in due form and with solemn prayer; the minutes of the last Prov. G.L. were read and confirmed; and the various Lodges in the Province having communicated by representatives present, the Brethren proceeded to exercise their privilege by unanimously re-electing the V.W., Bro. Hollon, P.G.T., for the ensuing year.

The M.W. the G.M. then appointed the following officers:—R.W. Bros. G. Marwood, D.G.M.; R.W. Lord Londesborough, S.G.W.; R.W. C. Arden, J.G.W.; V.W. the Rev. Wm. Hutchinson, G.C.; V.W. J. C. Smith, G.R.; V.W. J. Stark, G.S.; W. J. Richardson, S.G.D.; W. W. Dobson, J.G.D.; W. R. R. Burgess, G.S.B.; W. W. J. Earle, P.G.S.B.; W. W. Rawling, P.G.O.

The M.W. the G.M. gave notice that he would hold the next Prov. G.L. at the Old Globe Lodge, Scarborough.

The M.W. the G.M. congratulated the Brethren on the flourishing condition of Masonry, not only in this Province, but also throughout the world, and impressed on its members the necessity of upholding the dignity of the Craft, by increasing the respectability of the Order, rather than by a mere increase in numbers, for by the former, rather than the latter, must Masonry maintain its position in the

estimation of the public. The G.M., after alluding to the Masonic charities and other matters, trusted that the Brethren would continue to meet in the spirit of brotherly love and kind feeling towards each other; so that this Province, which happened to be presided over by the G.M. of England, might be a pattern to the Lodges of other Provinces.

All business being ended, the Prov. G.L. was closed in ample form, and with solemn prayer.

At five o'clock, 150 Brethren sat down to a refreshment at the assembly room, which was beautifully decorated with banners and evergreens, and the Flag of England united with the eagle and crescent.

During the evening some spirited addresses were delivered by the M.W. the G.M. Bro. Geo. Marwood, D.G.M., Lord Londesborough, and on behalf of the G.L. of Ireland, by the Marquis of Conyngham and Sir W. Somerville.

LEEDS.—The Alfred Lodge held its monthly meeting on Friday, December 1, for the purpose of installing the W.M. elect, Bro. Thos. Dixon. The ceremony of Installation was admirably performed by Bro. P. M. J. Hargreaves, P.S. of West Yorkshire. The W.M. appointed the following Brethren as his Officers:—Bros. W. Chadwick, S.W.; Dr. Hulme, J.W.; G. Pullan, S.D.; Dr. Knight, J.D.; C. Sharp, I.G.; W. H. Butterworth, Sec. A Lodge of Instruction is held every Friday evening, at seven o'clock, and is numerously attended. The Alfred St. John's will be celebrated on Friday, January 25, at the Griffin Hotel, when a numerous gathering of the Provincial Brethren is expected.

ROYAL ARCH.

Frederick Chapter, No. 661, Greyhound Hotel, Croydon.—The Companions of this Chapter met on Monday, November 20th, when Bros. Westall and F. Robins, of Lodge No. 194, were exalted to this sublime Degree by Comp. J. How, P.Z.; assisted by Comps. R. L. Wilson, P.Z.; C. Beaumont, H.; J. W. Shillito, J.; previous to which, Comp. Shillito was installed in the chair of J. by Comp. How.

Royal Standard Chapter, Worcestershire, No. 730.—The consecration of this Chapter took place on Wednesday, the 25th of October, at the Dudley Arms Hotel, Dudley.

The undermentioned Companions were named in the warrant as the three Principals:—Companions Masefield, Z.; Bolton, H.; Barns, J. The Companions assembled at twelve o'clock, among whom were Dr. Burton, P.Z.; James, P.Z.; T. James, P.Z.; and Newsam, H., of St. Matthew's, Walsall. Companions Renand, Rev. A. G. Davies, Bateman, Dennison, Steedman, of No. 730; and Companions Patterson, Light, Rudd, and Bristow, of No. 313.

At half past twelve, the R.W.P. Grand Superintendent, H. C. Vernon, Esq., P.G.M. for Worcestershire, proceeded to the business of consecration, in which he was assisted by the Comp. Rev. A. G. Davies, M.A., S.W., of No. 730.

The Chapter having been duly consecrated and constituted, proceeded to the election of officers, when the following Companions were balloted for and elected unanimously, viz.:—Companions Renaud, W.M. of No. 730, E.; Dennison, M.C. of No. 730, and P.Z. No. 313, N.; Rev. A. G. Davies, M.A., S.W. of No. 730, P.S.; Bateman, P.Z. No. 313, and T. No. 730, T.; Steedman, No. 730, S.; Jeffs, No. 730, Janitor. The ballot was then taken for the candidates for exaltation: after which Bros. Dudley, P.M., No. 730; Wainwright, P.M., No. 730; and Bennet, No. 730, were exalted to the Supreme Degree.

The work was done in first-rate style by the Officers, who, from their education and station in life, are just the men to make No. 730 a good working Chapter.

Several candidates having been proposed for exaltation at the next meeting, the Chapter was closed in due form, and the meeting adjourned.

At five o'clock the banquet was served; and after the cloth was removed, and the usual loyal and Masonic toasts proposed and honoured, the M.E.Z. Comp. Masefield rose and addressed the Companions:—He was sure the toast he was

now about to bring to their notice was one which would be received by them with the greatest cordiality; it was no less than the health of the R.W.P. Grand Superintendent for Worcestershire, Comp. H. C. Vernon. It was always a pleasure to see him among them, and he was quite sure that all present felt deeply the honour he had conferred upon them in coming to consecrate the Royal Standard Chapter, at considerable inconvenience to himself.

The usual honours having been given with much enthusiasm, the R.W.P.G. Superintendent rose and said:—"Companions—It has given me very great pleasure in being with you this day; I am always ready and delighted to promote the interests of Masonry in my Province, and I trust the Chapter which I have this day consecrated may prosper and flourish. I regret that my Bro. Col. Vernon, R.W.P.G.M. for Staffordshire, was unable to accompany me here; he is a good man and a most excellent Mason; I therefore give you the health of the R.W.G.P.M. of Staffordshire, Col. Vernon."

The usual honours having been given, the R.W.P.G.S. H. C. Vernon, Esq., said, that he wished to bring before their notice the name of one who he knew was highly esteemed among them; he himself had known him for some years, and had always found him a good, hard-working Mason; he begged to propose the health of their M.E.Z. Comp. Masefield.

Comp. Masefield, in returning thanks, expressed his sense of the cordial manner with which his name had been mentioned and received, and assured the Companions that while he occupied the high and proud position in which he had that day been placed, he would do his best to promote the interests of the Chapter.

The M.E.Z. then gave the health of the visiting Brethren, Comps. Burton, James, T. James, and Newsam. He was delighted to see them there that day; he trusted that they would frequently visit No. 730 Chapter, and if they did, they might make sure of a hearty welcome.

Comp. Burton returned thanks for himself and the visiting Companions, in a short but able speech.

Comp. Burton, *M.D.*, *P.Z.*, of St. Matthew's, Walsall, having obtained permission to propose the next toast, said,—He had experienced very great pleasure in being present on that interesting occasion; he had been much pleased at the effective manner in which the ceremonies had been worked. He therefore gave the health of Comps. H. and J. and the other officers, and while doing so, could not but mention how very well the Comp. P.S. had done his work that day. The duties of the P.S. were arduous, and always appeared somewhat of a task to those who performed them; but he had never yet met with a P.S. to whom they appeared less of a task than to Comp. A. G. Davies; in fact, he could not have done it better had he been born a P.S.

Comp. Rev. A. G. Davies, *P.S.*, in returning thanks for his brother-officers and himself, said,—He was much gratified at the way in which their names had been brought before the Companions; he believed that no Chapter would ever prosper unless it was a good *working* Chapter; he was sure his fellow-officers would unite with him in efficiently discharging the duties which devolved upon them, and hoped that the principles of Masonry, as set forth in the R. A. Degree, might ever grow with 730 Chapter's growth, and strengthen with its strength.

Comp. J. having returned thanks for the Second Principal and himself, the R.W.P.G.S. then retired, and the Companions spent a pleasant evening, breaking up at an early hour.

BIRMINGHAM, *Nov. 23rd.*—The various Masonic bodies of this City have this day received an addition to their number, by the consecration of a Rose Croix Chapter, under the authority of the Supreme Grand Council of the Thirty-third Degree, denominated the Vernon Chapter, for which a warrant was granted some time since, but from unavoidable circumstances had not hitherto been acted on. The fulness of the meeting this day, however, clearly proved that no time had thus been lost, as it also proved the earnest wish of the Brethren of this city and the neighbourhood for the establishment of such a Chapter. The number of applications for admission are most gratifying to its founders, though, at the same time, it will give them some pain and trouble to select worthy men and worthy Masons for this exalted and

beautiful degree, in which character is ever more to be regarded than numbers ; they being determined not to admit any but Masons who are duly qualified by virtues, which should be more especially the distinctive mark of those who add Christian Masonry to their former O.B.O.

The Ill. Bro. Col. G. Vernon, P.G.M. of Staffordshire, and Member of the Supreme Grand Council of the Thirty-third Degree, consecrated the Chapter, assisted by the Ill. Bro. C. J. Vigne, Thirty-second Degree. Col. Vernon was named in the Warrant as the first M.W.S., but, by permission of the Supreme Grand Council, he installed the Ill. Bro. Dee, Thirty-second Degree, in that exalted and honourable Post ; when the following Ill. Bros., Lord Leigh, Thirtieth Degree, P.G.M. of Warwickshire ; Ward, Thirty-second Degree ; Harvey, Thirtieth Degree ; Rev.—Peak, Eighteenth Degree ; Masefield, Eighteenth Degree ; Newsom, Eighteenth Degree ; Dr. B. Fletcher, Eighteenth Degree, &c., were appointed to various offices in the Chapter. A letter was read from Bro. Lord Leigh, regretting the necessity of his being absent from the meeting, but assuring the Princes of the great interest he took in the establishment of the Chapter, and of his best wishes for its welfare and prosperity. Let us here observe, that a more zealous, hardworking Mason than Bro. Lord Leigh cannot be found, if we take him in his high office of P.G.M., or in the various degrees of Christian Masonry, which have already been granted to him ; and he bids fair, in time, to attain the highest rank under the Supreme Grand Council, and to emulate the example of his Brother, the P.G.M. of Staffordshire.

The ceremony of Consecration and Installation, we need not say, was beautifully and impressively performed ; for those Brethren, who have ever had the pleasure of meeting the Ill. Bro. Col. Vernon, on such, or any other Masonic occasion, will readily understand that from him nothing else could be expected. The ceremony of admitting the Candidates, eighteen in number, to this degree (among whom we were most happy to see a member of the Church, who was directly appointed to a high office in the Chapter, a post which, if possible, should always be filled by a Minister of the Christian Faith), were admitted to the Order, by the Ill. Bro. Vigne, Thirty-second Degree, assisted most ably by Bros. Robertson and Harris, Eighteenth Degree, of the Chapter of St. Peter and St. Paul, Bath, who kindly lent their valuable assistance on the occasion. One of the principal features of the day's proceedings was the Collection, which amounted to 5*l.* 5*s.*, and which was directly voted to be given to the Patriotic Fund. Among the distinguished visitors present, were the Ill. Bro. Dawes, Thirty-second Degree, from Lancashire ; the Ill. Bro. Morrison, Thirtieth Degree, under the Supreme Grand Council of Scotland, from Nottingham, &c. &c. The Brethren afterwards partook of a most recherché, and we need not add excellent, dinner, at Bro. Dee's, when everything was conducted with the greatest harmony and good feeling.

KNIGHT TEMPLARISM.

Frederick Encampment, Croydon.—On Monday, November 20th, the members of this Encampment assembled, when Sir Knight R. L. Wilson, P.E.C., assisted by Sirs Knights How, E. Vickers, and Beaumont, inducted into this Degree Comp. the Rev. Octavius Frere Owen, G. Chap. of Surrey.

IRELAND.**NORTH MUNSTER.**

LIMERICK, 4th November, 1854.—The Ancient Union Lodge, No. 13, met this day for the election of Officers, initiation of candidates, &c. The W.M. being absent, the R.W. and Ill. M. Furnell, 33rd Prov. G.M., presided.

The Officers elected for the ensuing half-year were as follows:—W. Murphy, M.D., W.M.; W. F. Holland, S.W.; Rev. J. W. Skelton, J.W.; E. Lloyd, S.D.; C. Cheyne, J.D.; H. Sargint, I.G.; E. W. Maunsell, Treas. and Sec.

After the election, four highly eligible candidates were initiated; and subsequently a ballot was held for two others, who were unanimously admitted.

The Lodge then voted a sum of £5 as a subscription to the Patriotic Fund, for the widows and orphans of the gallant defenders of their country—an example which ought to be followed by every Masonic body in the kingdom.

COLONIAL.**CANADA.**

KINGSTON.—At the regular Convocation of the Ancient Frontenac Chapter, No. 491, the following Comps. were installed and invested as Masonic officers for the ensuing year:—M. Ex. Comps., Samuel D. Fowler, Z.; W. J. B. McLeod Moore, H.; J. Lanktree, J. Ex. Comps., A. Gordon, E.; J. Salmon, N.; W. Ferguson, Treas.; E. J. Barker, P.S. Comps., J. Robb, R. Bunt, Assist. S.; W. Keely, M. of Cer.; E. W. Palmer, S. Stevenson, Stewards; H. Gibson, J. The M.E.P.Z., J. A. Henderson, assisted by M.P.Z.'s Angell and Milo, formed the Conclave of Installed P.'s and R.'s of the Sublime Degree of R. R. A. Masons, and installed the M.E. Comps. elect into the three chairs of Z. H. and J. respectively.

MALTA.

The Union of Malta Lodge, No. 588.—Through the kindness of Bro. Spencer, the Masonic bookseller, we have been favoured with the sight of a handsome Bible, in 4to., beautifully bound in morocco, with Masonic emblems elaborately tooled on the sides and back in gold, with the following inscription:—

Presented by the
Officers of the Brigade of Guards,
who were initiated in this their mother Lodge,
March and April, 1854.

Attached to the Bible by silver chains, is a highly-finished Square and Compasses, also in silver, with the name of the Lodge engraved on each.

We have also been favoured with a view, at Bro. Spencer's, of a handsome presentation P.M. jewel in silver, inscribed as follows:—

To Worshipful Brother Lord Loughborough,
by W. Master Winthrop,
Officers and Brethren of Lodge 588,
The Union of Malta,
April, 1854.

Attached to the above, on a blue watered ribbon, is a handsome broad silver chain, with Masonic emblems manufactured expressly for it, and most beautifully executed.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

Zetland Lodge, No. 884.—Fort Beaufort, Cakefood Stoke, 9th Sept., 1854.—This Lodge was established by warrant, dated 24th November, 1853, and now numbers thirty subscribing members, besides some few who have left for various parts of the world. We have just parted with our Bro. J. H. Sale, Dep. Assist. Commissary General, the present S. W., who is under orders to proceed to England.

At the regular meeting of the Lodge on the 6th September, a resolution was passed, containing a flattering but well-merited encomium, he having been one of the original founders of the Lodge, and rendered great service by assisting in the introduction of Freemasonry in this distant part of the globe, and by his uniform conduct in setting forth the principles of the Craft, and in the formation of a Lodge library, consisting of the valuable Works of Dr. Oliver and others, has added greatly to the instruction of the Brethren.

After Lodge, the Brethren met at refreshment, to show respect to a Brother, with whom they have always been

“ Happy to meet, sorry to part,
And will be most
Happy to meet again ; ”

knowing that whenever our Bro. Sale may meet with Bro. Masons, they will always be delighted to recognise a Brother of the mystic, but indissoluble tie,

“ May the M. H. speed him ! ”

METROPOLITAN LODGE MEETINGS FOR THE MONTH OF
JANUARY.

1st. Monday.—Quarterly General Meeting of Boys' School, at 11 a.m.

No. 25, Robert Burns', Freemasons' Tavern. No. 85, Royal Jubilee, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street. No. 107, St. John's, Radley's Hotel, Bridge-street, Blackfriars. No. 168, St. Luke's, Builders' Arms, Russell-street, Chelsea. No. 194, Lodge of Honour and Generosity, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street. No. 223, Lodge of Joppa, White Hart, Bishopsgate-street. No. 257, Euphrates, George and Vulture, Cornhill. No. 318, Lodge of Unions, Freemasons' Tavern. Chapter No. 30, Old King's Arms, Freemasons' Tavern.

2nd. Tuesday.—Audit Committee Female School, at 11 a.m.

No. 9, Albion, Freemasons' Tavern. No. 18, Old Dundee, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street. No. 33, United Mariners', Chequers, Providence-row, Finsbury. No. 98, United Lodge of Prudence, Albion-Tavern, Aldersgate-street. No. 118, Temple, Ship and Turtle Tavern, Leadenhall-street. No. 201, Old Concord, Freemasons' Tavern. No. 264, Lodge of Stability, George and Vulture, Cornhill. No. 784, La Tolérance, Freemasons' Tavern.

Chapter, No. 196, St. John's, Radley's Hotel, Bridge-street, Blackfriars.

6th. Saturday.—Committee Boys' School, at 4 p.m.

No. 125, London, Freemasons' Tavern. No. 166, St. Thomas's, Freemasons' Tavern.

8th. Monday.—No. 5, St. George's and Corner Stone, Freemasons' Tavern. No. 12, Lodge of Fortitude and Old Cumberland, Freemasons' Tavern. No. 32, St. Alban's, London Coffee House, Ludgate-hill. No. 206, Domatic, Falcon, Fetter-lane. No. 228, Lodge of Confidence, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.

9th. Tuesday.—No. 113, Burlington, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street. No. 211, St. James's Union, Westmoreland Arms, George-street, Portman-square. No. 234, Percy, Ship and Turtle Tavern, Leadenhall-street. No. 247, Lodge of Israel, St. James's Tavern, St. James's-place, Aldgate. No. 255, St. Michael's, George and Blue Boar, Holborn. No. 276, Lodge of United Strength, Gun Tavern, Pimlico. No. 286, Lodge of Nine Muses, Freemasons' Tavern. No. 805, Wellington, Railway Tavern, Lewisham.

Chapter No. 218, Jerusalem, George and Vulture, Cornhill.

10th. Wednesday.—Committee Royal Benevolent Institution, at 3 p.m.

No. 3, Lodge of Fidelity, Freemasons' Tavern. No. 11, Enoch, Freemasons' Tavern. No. 13, Union Waterloo, Queen's Arms, Woolwich. No. 15, Kent, Three Tuns Tavern, Southwark. No. 19, Royal Athelstan, George and Blue Boar, Holborn. No. 70, Royal Naval, Radley's Hotel, Bridge-street, Blackfriars. No. 103, Vitruvian, White Hart Tavern, College-street, Lambeth. No. 112, Eastern Star, Wade's Arms, Poplar. No. 172, Lodge of Justice, Royal Albert, New-cross-road, Deptford. No. 289, Pilgrim, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.

11th. Thursday.—Quarterly General Court Female School, School House, at 12 a.m.

No. 6, Lodge of Friendship, Thatched-house Tavern, St. James's-street. No. 30, Old King's Arms, Freemasons' Tavern. No. 108, Lodge of Regularity, Freemasons' Tavern. No. 248, Lodge of Friendship, George and Vulture, Cornhill. No. 329, Bank of England, Radley's Hotel, Bridge-street, Blackfriars. No. 778, Polish National, Freemasons' Tavern.

12th. Friday.—No. 183, Bedford, Freemasons' Tavern. No. 195, Lodge of Union, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street.

15th. Monday.—No. 1, Grand Master's Lodge, Freemasons' Tavern. No. 21, Lodge of Emulation, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street. No. 66, Lodge of Felicity, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street. No. 218, Lodge of Tranquillity, George and Vulture, Cornhill.

Chapter No. 12, Chapter of Prudence, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.

16th. Tuesday.—No. 54, Old Union, Radley's Hotel, Bridge-street, Blackfriars. No. 87, Mount Lebanon, Green Man Tavern, Tooley-street. No. 88, Cadogan, Freemasons' Tavern. No. 229, St. Paul's, London Coffee House, Ludgate-hill.

Chapter No. 49, Mount Sinai, Gun Tavern, Pimlico.

17th. Wednesday.—General Committee of Grand Chapter, at 3 p.m.

The Grand Steward's Lodge. No. 7, Royal York Lodge of Perseverance, Freemasons' Tavern. No. 164, St. George's, Yacht Tavern, Greenwich. No. 203, Lodge of Sincerity, Crooked Billet Tavern, Tower-hill. No. 225, Oak, Radley's Hotel, Bridge-street, Blackfriars.

18th. Thursday.—House Committee Female School, at 3 p.m.

No. 23, Globe, Freemasons' Tavern. No. 57, Gihon, Bridge-house Hotel, Southwark. No. 63, Constitutional, Exeter-hall Hotel, Strand. No. 76, St. Mary's, Freemasons' Tavern. No. 198, Lodge of Temperance, George and Vulture, Cornhill. No. 209, Manchester, Old Red Lion, Bridge-street, Lambeth.

Chapter No. 812, Yarborough, George Tavern, Commercial-road East.

19th. Friday.—No. 38, Britannic, Thatched House Tavern, St. James's-street. No. 78, Lodge of Prosperity, Earl of Durham, Murray-street, Hoxton. No. 167, Middlesex, Thatched House Tavern, St. James's-street. No. 237, Jordan, Freemasons' Tavern.

22nd. Monday.—No. 4, Royal Somerset House and Inverness, Freemasons' Tavern. No. 27, Castle Lodge of Harmony, Thatched House Tavern, St. James's-street.

Chapter No. 25, Robert Burns', Freemasons' Tavern. No. 169, Mount Sion, George and Vulture, Cornhill.

23rd. Tuesday.—Board of General Purposes, at 3 p.m.

No. 14, Tuscan, Freemasons' Tavern. No. 109, Moira, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street. No. 169, Lodge of Prudent Brethren, Freemasons' Tavern. No. 219, Lodge of Industry, Swan Tavern and Lord Dover Hotel, Hungerford-Market. No. 324, Prince of Wales, Thatched House Tavern, St. James's-street.

Chapter No. 21, Cyrus, London Coffee-house, Ludgate-hill.

24th. Wednesday.—No. 2, Lodge of Antiquity, Freemasons' Tavern. No. 40, Mount Moriah, Freemasons' Tavern. No. 745, Lodge of United Pilgrims, Horns Tavern, Kennington.

Chapter No. 13, Union Waterloo, Woolwich.

25th. Thursday.—General Committee Female School, Freemasons' Tavern, at 12 a.m.

No. 22, Neptune, George and Vulture, Cornhill. No. 72, Lodge of Peace and Harmony, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street. No. 79, Grenadiers, Freemasons' Tavern. No. 116, Shakspeare, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.

Chapters: No. 206, Domatic, Falcon, Fetter-lane. No. 248, Chapter of Hope, Globe Tavern, Royal Hill, Greenwich. No. 778, Polish National, Freemasons' Tavern.

26th. Friday.—No. 212, Universal, Freemasons' Tavern. No. 830, Fitzroy, Head Quarters of the Hon. Artillery Company, London.

27th. Saturday.—No. 215, Lodge of Unity, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street.

Chapter No. 5, St. George's, Freemasons' Tavern.

29th. Monday.—No. 93, Pythagorean, Globe Tavern, Royal Hill, Greenwich.

30th. Tuesday.—No. 165, Lodge of Faith, Gun Tavern, Pimlico.

31st. Wednesday.—Lodge of Benevolence, at 7 p.m. precisely.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Meeting under Sanction, in conformity with the Laws of the Grand Lodge.

SUNDAY.

Albion Lodge, No. 19, Union, Marylebone-street, Piccadilly, at 7 p.m. Royal Athelstan Lodge, No. 19, Albion, Vernon-place, Bloomsbury-square, at 8 p.m. Royal Jubilee Lodge, No. 85, Falcon, Fetter-lane, at 8 p.m. Lodge of Sincerity, No. 203, Crooked Billet, Tower-hill, at 7 p.m. Lodge of Joppa, No. 223, Swan, Mansel-street, Goodman's-fields, at 7 p.m.

MONDAY.

Union Waterloo Lodge, No. 13 (for M. M.), Queen's Arms, Woolwich, 2nd and 4th Monday, at 7 p.m. Globe Lodge, No. 23, Prince of Wales, Exeter-street, Sloane-street, Chelsea, at 7 p.m. Strong Man Lodge, No. 53, Three Tuns, Chancery-lane, at 7 p.m. Old Concord Lodge, No. 201, Lord Keith Tavern, 21, York-street, Portman-square, at 8 p.m. Lodge of Industry, No. 219, Swan,

Hungerford Market, at 8 p.m. Percy Lodge, No. 234, Marquis of Granby, Down-street, Piccadilly, at 7.30 p.m.

TUESDAY.

Universal Lodge, No. 212, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, at 7.30 p.m. Euphrates Lodge, No. 257, White Hart, Bishopsgate-street, at 7 p.m. St. Andrew's Lodge, No. 281, 1A, George-street, Euston-square, at 8 p.m. Yarborough Lodge, No. 812, George, Commercial-road East, at 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY.

Constitutional Lodge, No. 63, Jolly Sailor, Back-road, Shadwell, at 7 p.m. Lodge of Faith, No. 165, Gun Tavern, Pimlico, at 7 p.m. St. John's Lodge, No. 196, Hollybush Tavern, Hampstead, at 7 p.m. Lodge of United Strength, No. 276, Stafford Arms, Stafford-place, Pimlico, at 7 p.m. Domatic Lodge, No. 206, Albert Arms, Richmond-terrace, London-road, Southwark, at 7 p.m.

THURSDAY.

Vitruvian Lodge, No. 193, White Hart, College-street, Lambeth, at 8 p.m. Lodge of Israel, No. 247, St. James's Tavern, Aldgate, at 8 p.m.

FRIDAY.

Kent Lodge, No. 15, Halfway House, Webber-street, Blackfriars-road, at 8 p.m. Robert Burns' Lodge, No. 25, Union, Marylebone-street, Piccadilly, at 7.30 p.m. Lodge of Prosperity, No. 78, Durham Arms, Murray-street, Hoxton, at 7 p.m. Lodge of Friendship, No. 248, White Lion, High-street, Shadwell, at 7 p.m. Lodge of Stability, No. 264, George and Vulture, Cornhill, at 7 p.m. Lodge of Unions, No. 318 (Emulation), (for M. M.) Freemasons' Tavern, at 7 p.m. Lodge of United Pilgrims, No. 745, Clayton Arms, Kennington Oval, at 7 p.m. Wellington Lodge, No. 805, Lord Duncan, Broadway, Deptford, at 7 p.m.

 CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

Meeting under Sanction, in conformity with the Laws of the Grand Chapter.

Robert Burns' Chapter, No. 25, King of Prussia, Lower John-street, Golden-square, Wednesday, at 8 p.m.

Domatic Chapter, No. 206, Falcon, Fetter-lane, Friday, at 8 p.m.

Royal York Chapter, No. 7, Freemasons' Tavern, Saturday, at 7 p.m.

Obituary.

BRO. CAPT. HORACE W. CUST.

Died, the night after the battle of Alma, Capt. H. W. Cust, aged twenty-five, of the Coldstream Guards, aide-de-camp to Major-General Bentinck, from the effect of a severe wound in the leg, which rendered amputation necessary. Capt. Cust was the third son of the Hon. Col. P. F. Cust, maternal nephew of the Duke of Buccleugh, and grandson of the first Lord Brownlow, and a member of the Lodge of Harmony, No. 317, Richmond.

BRO. CAPT. HYLTON JOLIFFE.

Died, October 4th, on the heights before Sebastopol, Capt. H. Joliffe, of the Coldstream Guards, aged twenty-eight, eldest son of Sir W. G. Joliffe, of Merts-ham, Surrey, and nephew of the late Marquis of Anglesea. Bro. Capt. H. Joliffe was a member of the Lodge of Harmony, No. 317, Richmond.

BRO. JOHN DALTON.

October 4, Bro. John Dalton, aged 83, for many years known and respected as the Tyler of several Lodges. Bro. Dalton was initiated into Freemasonry in the Lodge of Nine Muses, July, 1818, and was enrolled in the R. A. Chapter, No. 212, in Dec. 1829. Though occupying a comparatively humble position in the Craft, Bro. Dalton subscribed cheerfully to many of the Masonic charities.

REV. C. J. RIDLEY, PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER OF OXFORDSHIRE.

Since our last publication, the Province of Oxfordshire has sustained a severe loss by the death of its Provincial Grand Master, Bro. the Rev. C. J. Ridley, M.A., Senior Fellow of University College, which took place on Sunday, the 8th of October, at the Rectory of West Harling, Norfolk, to which he was instituted in 1826. The deceased Brother was initiated into Masonry in the Apollo University Lodge, Oxford, in 1820, and was selected to fill the office of W.M. of that Lodge, in the years 1824, 1828, 1829, 1833, and 1834. On the re-establishment the Provincial Grand Lodge in 1837, the Prov. G.M., Lord John Spencer Churchill, appointed Bro. Ridley to the office of Dep. Prov. G.M. On the death of Lord John Churchill in 1840, the office of Prov. G.M. of Oxfordshire became vacant, and remained in abeyance until 1845, when the M.W. the G.M., the Earl of Zetland, conferred that distinction on Bro. Ridley. In Royal Arch Masonry, Bro. Ridley also took a lively interest, and filled the highest offices with great zeal and ability, having been installed 3rd P. in 1847, 2nd P. in 1848, and 1st P. in 1849. In 1850, he was installed Grand Superintendent of the Province of Oxford, which office, as well as that of Prov. G.M., he retained till his death. Bro. Ridley took so much delight in Masonry, and evinced such a watchful care over his Province, that he never failed to attend the meetings of the Brethren, except when illness or absence from Oxford prevented him. He also attended most of the meetings of the Grand Lodge in London, as well as the Festivals of the various Masonic Charities, in which he took an especial interest. He was distinguished alike for his benevolence and urbanity, and his loss is severely felt by all the Brethren of this Province, over which he presided with so much ability and courtesy. His many amiable qualities will long be cherished in affectionate remembrance by all who had the opportunity of bearing testimony to them. The remains of the deceased, who was sixty-two years of age, were interred in the family vault at West Harling.

MRS. CROOK.

Died, Sunday, October 15, Frances Crook, aged 78 years. Mrs. Crook was well known to the Metropolitan and many of the Provincial members of the Craft, as the worthy and indefatigable Matron of the Freemasons' Girls' School, over which Institution she presided for upwards of half a century, having been appointed Sub-Matron in 1802, and Matron in 1807, during which period she never slept a single night beyond the walls of the two buildings. For several years past, Mrs. Crook had been sinking rapidly "into the sere and yellow leaf;" but up to the day previously to her decease she showed no symptoms of approaching death. She was seized on Saturday, October 14, with that fatal disease cholera, and rapidly sunk under its destructive influence. Her remains were interred on Thursday, Oct. 19, at the Norwood Cemetery, being followed to their last resting-place by Bros. Beadon (Vice-President of the Girls' School), P.J.E.W. Barrett, Barnes, Mills, Patten, Robinson Purdy, Rev. D. Shaboe, &c. &c., and thirty children, inmates of the Institution. The funeral service was read by the Rev. Bro. J. E. Cox, Grand Chaplain, Vicar of St. Helen's, Bishopsgate, London, as a mark of respect to the memory of the deceased.

BRO. H. STUART.

We have the melancholy task of announcing the death of Bro. Henry Stuart, *M.P.*, *P.J.G.W.*, (who held that office in the G.L. of England last year) one of the members for the borough of Bedford, which took place very suddenly on Wednesday night, October 25. On that evening he had attended the Stuart Lodge, No. 787, at Bedford, which had been named after him, and left at his usual time for his residence. When he was in the act of alighting from his carriage, he was seized with a convulsive fit, and died in ten minutes after he was carried into the house. He had for some time past been subject to fits of that nature, and had been under medical treatment. Bro. H. Stuart, who was born in 1804, was grandson of the third Earl of Bute, being the second son of the late Archbishop Stuart, of Armagh, and Sophia, grand-daughter of the celebrated William Penn. He was first returned for the borough of Bedford, in the Conservative interest, in 1837, but was unseated on petition, and Mr. Samuel Crawley took the seat until 1841, when, after a close contest, Bro. Stuart was again returned. At the subsequent general election he was returned, with Sir Harry Verney, his old colleague Captain Polhill being rejected; and at the last general election he was again returned, with Mr. Samuel Whitbread, Mr. Chisholm Anstey being the unsuccessful candidate.

BRO. CAPT. HENRY MONTOLIEU BOUVERIE.

Killed at the battle of Inkermann, aged twenty-four, Capt. H. M. Bouverie, of the Coldstream Guards, only son of the late Lieut.-Gen. Sir H. F. Bouverie, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., and cousin of the Earl of Radnor. Capt. Bouverie was a member of the Lodge of Harmony, No. 317, Richmond.

BRO. COL. L. D. MACKINNON.

Killed at the battle of Inkermann, Bro. Col. L. D. Mackinnon, of the Coldstream Guards, youngest son of W. A. Mackinnon, Esq., *M.P.*, leaving a bereaved widow and several children to lament his loss. Bro. Col. Mackinnon was a member of the Lodge of Harmony, No. 317, Richmond, and was universally beloved by his Brethren.

BRO. EDWARD HARPER, P.G. SECRETARY.

Died, November 12th, Bro. Edward Harper, at an advanced age. Bro. Harper was initiated into Freemasonry in the G.M. Lodge, No. 1, on November 3rd, 1803, and held the office of Assistant Secretary of the Athol Masons, at the period of the Union, in the year 1813, when he was appointed, in conjunction with Bro. W. H. White, Grand Secretary of the United Grand Lodge of England. He resigned this office in the month of October, 1838, since which period, to the day of his decease, he enjoyed a gratuity of £100 *per annum* from the funds of G.L.

BRO. LORD DUDLEY COUTTS STUART.

On the 18th November, at Stockholm, universally regretted, after an illness of some duration, Bro. Lord Dudley Coutts Stuart, *M.P.* for Marylebone, and *P.S.G.W.* of the *G.L.* of England, aged 51. Our lamented brother was the seventh and last surviving son of the first Marquis of Bute. In political circles Bro. Lord Dudley Coutts Stuart was well known as an ardent advocate of liberal principles, and especially by his philanthropic exertions in behalf of the exiled Poles, for whose cause he was labouring when death seized upon him. The deceased Brother was a Scotch Mason, having been initiated in early life into the mysteries of the Craft at Edinburgh, in the old and well-known Kilwilling Lodge. After many years' retirement from the active duties of the Craft, he was induced to resume them on the occasion of the consecration of the Polish National Lodge, No. 778, in which he served every office from that of *S.D.*, and occupied the chair as *W.M.* in 1851. Bro. Lord Stuart was also an active Royal Arch Mason, and served the two chairs of the Polish National Chapter, No. 778, during the years 1852 and 1853, being appointed *Z.* in the month of April, 1854; but owing to his absence from England, he had not been installed at the time of his death. The funeral of this distinguished nobleman took place at Hertford, on Friday, December 15, 1854. The remains had been removed on the previous evening, from Stratford-place to Ball's-park, near Hertford, the seat of Captain Townshend, *M.P.* Notwithstanding the desire entertained by the family of Lord Dudley Stuart that the funeral should not be a public one, it was found impossible to carry this intention fully into effect, with a due regard to the earnest wishes expressed by various public bodies that they might be permitted to testify their high respect for the deceased by following his remains to their last resting-place. In addition to Captain Stuart, the only son of Lord Dudley, the Earl and Countess of Harrowby, Lord James Stuart, Captain and Mrs. Townshend, and the younger branches of these families, there were present Sir B. Hall, the colleague of Lord Dudley Stuart in the representation of Marylebone; Mr. J. A. Smith, *M.P.*, and some other very intimate friends of the deceased; Prince Ladislas Czartoryski and Mr. Blotnicki attended as representatives of Prince Adam Czartoryski and the Polish refugees in France; Colonel Szyrma and seven other gentlemen as representatives of the Polish refugees in England; Mr. Kirby and three other gentlemen as a deputation from the Literary Association of the Friends of Poland, a deputation of nine gentlemen from the vestry of St. Marylebone, and of nine from the vestry of St. Pancras. The windows were closed in the streets of Hertford, and the children of Christ's Hospital lined a portion of the road through which the long procession passed. The coffin of polished oak, in which the remains were brought from Stockholm, was deposited in the chancel amid manifestations of regret—neither equivocal nor confined to a few.

BRO. GEORGE MOORE.

On the 9th of December, at his house in Warren-street, Fitzroy-square, in his 60th year, Bro. George Moore, a well-known and highly-respected member of the Fraternity. We saw Bro. Moore in *G. L.* on the 7th instant, a perfect sample of good health, but ere forty-eight hours had passed he was hurried from this world to another and better, by the foul hand of an assassin. The murderer, Barthélémy, being yet under examination, the cause that prompted this horrid act is unknown. We shall give full particulars of the trial. Bro. Moore was initiated in the Lodge of Peace and Harmony, No. 72, in 1834, served the office of *W.M.* in 1841, and also that of Grand Steward.

MRS. EVANS.

Died, December 10, at Hastings, after a short illness, Mrs. Evans, aged 51, widow of the late Bro. William Evans, Masonic Jeweller, Great Queen-street, Lincoln's-Inn Fields, London, leaving two affectionate children to mourn the irreparable losses sustained by them within the last eight months. The notice of Bro. William Evans' sudden death appeared in the July number (p. 329) of the *FREE-MASONS' QUARTERLY MAGAZINE* for 1854.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

THE EDITOR requests that ALL COMMUNICATIONS may be sent to him at 74-5, Great Queen-street, Lincoln's-Inn Fields, by the 20th of each month *at latest*, to insure their insertion. The attention of contributors is most earnestly requested to these directions, who are also desired to retain copies of their MSS., as the Editor does not undertake to return, or be accountable for any, which are sent to him for perusal or approval.

ADVERTISEMENTS must not be sent later than the 23rd of each month to the same address, and bills for stitching on the 25th.

MASONIC LITERATURE.—At the moment of our going to press, we have received a copy of Dr. Oliver's "Revelations of a Square," published by Bro. R. Spencer, 314, Holborn. At so late an hour, it is impossible for us to do justice to so elaborate a work. We shall, therefore, make it the subject of a lengthened article in the next (February) number.

TRINIDAD.—H. L.—We would earnestly recommend your thinking twice, before causing such a fearful schism as that proposed in your communication. Get some Brother to give notice at the Board of Masters a week before a Quarterly Communication, that the matter may be discussed in G. L. But before taking even this step, once more write urgently to the G. Sec.'s office, appealing for the consideration of the B. of G.P.

APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS.—As the installation of the W. M., and the appointment of his Officers, is now about very generally to take place, both in town and country, we shall esteem it a mark of confidence and support on the part of our Brethren, if some member of the respective Lodges will favour us with the names of such Officers, and the nature of the business transacted. All such information will be gratefully received, and properly administered; and there are but very few Lodges which have not something in this respect to communicate.

THE GRAND REGISTER.—W. K.—We are only too happy to reply that Bro. Dobie has returned to London, and is gradually recovering from his sad accident, which took place on the Brunig Pass, in Switzerland, from the kick of a horse, breaking his leg, and otherwise injuring the limb. Bro. Dobie has, however, not at present been able to resume his Masonic duties.

NOMINATION OF GRAND MASTER.—A PROV. P. M.—The Right Hon. the Earl of Zetland was nominated *for the twelfth time*, at the last Quarterly Communication, by Bro. Joseph Smith, of the Domatic Lodge, No. 206, and seconded by Bro. William Jones, *M.D.* The nomination thus again came, it will be seen, as it ought always to do, *from below the dais*.

THE PATRIOTIC FUND.—X. Y. Z.—We most sincerely hope no such amendment as you mention will be submitted to G. L. The amount proposed is sufficient, and will do honour enough to the Craft.

THE WIDOWS' FUND.—AN ABSENT MEMBER OF G. L.—The Brother inquires how it happened that such a decision was come to? We believe simply from the name of the Widows being brought before the G. L. It would be far better for the Brethren, who have been most active in obtaining this vote from G. L., to become contributors themselves to the Charity; then their motion would come from them with a better grace. Doubtless the vote will be confirmed in March, though it is much to be regretted that Bro. Harvey's notice of an amendment, to the effect that the sum should be thus divided—two-thirds to the aged and decayed Masons, and one-third to the Widows, was not moved. It was, however, scarcely possible to propose such an amendment after the G.M. had spoken as he had done. It would but have been graceful for G. L. to have listened to the G.M.'s appeal.

LORD HARRIS.—H. L.—We are informed that Lord Harris is not a Mason, though he is universally respected as a man.

GIRLS' SCHOOL.—A SUBSCRIBER.—Nothing permanent is yet settled; but there is no doubt that Miss Jerwood, who has been an indefatigable mistress of the school for twenty-five years, and was herself educated in the Institution, will be appointed to succeed the late Matron, Mrs. Frances Crook. In the school, it is probable that Miss Souter, from the Training College, at Whitelands, will be Miss Jerwood's successor. We heard that it will also be proposed for Miss Jack to retire upon a pension. The matter will be decided at the next Quarterly Court, which will be held at the School-house on Thursday, January 11th.

FREEMASONS' HALL.—ARCHITECT.—We believe that the new process of lighting and ventilation will be found to be satisfactory. It was high time that improvement should have been made. The alteration has been carried out under the direction of Bro. Hardwick, the G. Sup. of Works.

KINGSTON.—CANADA WEST.—The simple reason of your complaint is, that the work is so heavy in the G. Sec.'s office, that it is impossible to compass it with the present staff. It takes the entire time of one clerk to prepare certificates. The non-acknowledgment of money returns is equivalent to a receipt of their being paid, for if they were not received, notice would very speedily be sent out to that effect. It would be well, however, if the system of the Poor-law and other Government boards were adopted, of having a printed form, always ready to be filled in and forwarded, acknowledging the receipt of all communications. Whether the war will make any difference in the enormous amount of business now transacted in the G. Sec.'s office is to be proved; but with the present staff, it is utterly impossible that every letter and communication can be replied to.

REPORTS OF PROCEEDINGS OF G. L. No. 872.—PORT ADELAIDE.—We should be glad to send out these documents to you; but they have not been issued for several months. The usual time of their appearance is about a fortnight after the QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION; but they have not appeared at all regularly for some time past. Your inference is not correct, that because the proceedings are given briefly in this periodical, they are no longer reported and issued by authority. We will forward you copies of the next issue as soon as they appear.

COUNTRY LODGES.—We shall be happy to add the time and place of meeting of country Lodges to our list of the London Lodges, if any member of such Lodges will favour us with the same.

BOYS' BUILDING FUND.—A SUBSCRIBER.—It goes on *slowly*, but *surely*. Communicate with Bro. J. Hervey, S.G.D., 84, King William-street, City, if you wish to double your subscription, as you propose, and to collect in other quarters for it.

BRETHREN REFUSING TO ATTEND G. L.—STOIC.—We have never met with such an instance. It may be from the cause stated; but the instance is certainly not common.

AN ABSENT BROTHER.—TWOPENNY.—We do not know ; are not anxious to inquire ; and if we did, should not give any reply, beyond saying that we have no reason to suppose he would be found at the Crimea. We should advise,

“ Be to a Brother’s faults a little kind.”

We offer no palliation, for none can be offered ; but we would remind TWOPENNY that the greatest of the three cardinal, no less than Masonic virtues, is CHARITY.

MASONRY IN THE CRIMEA.—*Post nubila Phœbus.*—We have not heard of any Lodge being held. Our brave soldiers have had something more to do than to hold Masonic meetings on the tops of the hills, and in the valleys of the Crimea, after the manner of their ancient Brethren. The prevalence of Masonry, however, in the British and French camps has been productive of the largest amount of good.

19TH REGIMENT.—WALMER.—There has been for some years an excellent Lodge connected with this regiment. Many of its members were amongst the fallen, in their brave and noble attack upon the Russian intrenchments at the battle of the Alma.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER.—A. R. Z.—We should only be too glad to give the fullest reports of Chapter Meetings, if any Companion would oblige us by sending the Names of Principals and other Comps. appointed. We wish to make “The Monthly” a record of Masonic proceedings in every department : aid us by your promised valuable assistance.

POINT OF PRECEDENCE.—R. A. P. S.—We never heard of such a thing. A T. of a Craft Lodge might just as well demand to do the duty of the J. W. Submit, we pray you, at once with the best grace you can, for you are clearly wrong.

HIGH GRADES.—A CRAFT AND ONLY A CRAFT MASON.—We may perhaps have given too much prominence to the proceedings of these degrees, which are not acknowledged in this country by the G. L. or G. C. ; yet we are bound to notice the meetings and the business transacted as articles of Masonic intelligence. We have a desire to oblige every subscriber to our periodical to the utmost of our ability, and though we report the transactions of the High Grades, it does not, we hope, infer that we have left our first love, which has been, and always will be, Craft Masonry. We ask in this, as in everything else, to be judged upon the pure principles of Masonry, “ the chiefest of which is CHARITY.”

AMERICAN MASONIC PUBLICATIONS.—TEASER.—Masonic publications are much more numerous in the United States than in any other country. We may have occasion to act upon your advice, and give some of the best papers which appear from time to time in those periodicals, to which you have called our attention.

BENGAL.—At the very moment of our going to press, THE REPORT of the District G. L. of Bengal and its territories has reached us. We shall give it *in extenso* in our *February* number.

