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REVELATIONS OF A SQUARE.*

THERE is something in Masonry deeper and better than words, and signs, and ceremonies, and charity, and conviviality, and fraternity: these are but the shadows which indicate the existence of those great fundamental principles of the Order—principles, indeed, which constitute the bases of all social and political happiness and progress—which form the substance and reality of our system. Our exquisitely beautiful and appropriate ceremonial is but the curtain which conceals the inner courts of our allegorical temple, while it indicates the sanctity of that which is within the veil. Those who are content with the signs, the ceremonies, and the enjoyments of the festive board, are merely resting upon the very threshold of our sanctuary, while all the sacred mysteries which they have the opportunity of penetrating, remain, to them, even as the things which are not; they are but floundering about amongst the straws upon the surface, while the pearls lie unheeded at the bottom; our fruitful fields to them are but as a wilderness, for want of tillage. Let us have conviviality and good fellowship, by all means; let not the refreshment cease to succeed to labour; let us continue to charge our columns, and let us not forget to “*fire!*” But, at the same time, let us not cease to remember that the labour is of primary, and the refreshment but of secondary importance. Refreshment is an adjunct rendered necessary by the tastes and habits of Englishmen, who are but too prone, unfortunately, to reverse the natural order of things, and place that first which should be last. Happily, however, these parties are in the minority; but if a little more caution were observed by the Brethren before a candidate’s admission, it would be much less necessary to inculcate it so strongly afterwards; and this minority would become “small by degrees, and

* “Revelations of a Square,” &c.—By Rev. G. Oliver, D.D.—London, Spencer.

beautifully less.” The Craft would be fewer in number, perhaps; but, while numerically weaker, the addition to their moral strength would be vast indeed. Having once declared his adhesion to our principles, and having been admitted into the Order, it becomes every man’s duty to inquire into details—to familiarize himself with our great principles—to make himself acquainted with the doctrines laid down for his observance, and to endeavour to show them forth in his daily life. He can only do this fully, and satisfactorily, by the exercise of considerable diligence. Masonic publications will prove an invaluable aid to this end. His primary object will naturally be punctuality and regularity in his attendance at the Lodge. He will of course endeavour not only to commit to memory, but to understand and appreciate what he hears there. He will find in the ceremonial much that is merely elemental—much that is veiled in obscurity—and these points he should pursue as far as possible. In the accomplishment of this, it would be impossible to over estimate the aid which may be afforded him by the authorized Masonic literature of the times; for, while carefully concealing all that we hold sacred, it can nevertheless convey much invaluable information, even on such matters, to the initiated, without at all enlightening those who are not amongst us. Of the great services which our Reverend Brother, Dr. Oliver, has rendered in this direction, it would be perfectly superfluous for us to speak. His labours are known; his zeal is appreciated; his books are read; and his praise is in all the Lodges. The “Star in the East,” the “Mirror for the Johannite Masons,” the “Book of the Lodge,” the “History of Witham Lodge,” the “Philosophy of Freemasonry,” the “Dictionary of Symbolical Masonry,” the “Symbol of Glory,” and his other works, will hand down the name of the “Vicar of Scopwick,” to a remote posterity, as the most industrious and successful of Masonic *literati* in the nineteenth century.

There is a story told—whether founded on fact or not is quite immaterial for the purposes of our illustration—of a certain printer, who at the death of the author of the “Pilgrim’s Progress,” issued a little statement, entitled, “Last Words of John Bunyan.” The bait took. Faithful or forged, the publication sold, to the astonishment and delight of the printer. When the excitement flagged, and the sale stopped, he tried to stimulate the public mind again, and accordingly issued another publication, entitled, “*More* last Words of John Bunyan.” How this went off we quite forget. But so it is, on the present occasion, with our Reverend Brother. The “Symbol of Glory” was “Dr. Oliver’s farewell to Masonry”—his “last words” to the fraternity he adorns—but now the judicious solicitations of his friends have happily prevailed upon him once more to make his appearance; and, as nothing is said to the contrary, we trust that the idea of ceasing from his literary labours, so long as health and strength hold out, is totally abandoned.

The machinery which the Reverend Doctor has called into operation for the purpose of placing before us, in an interesting and

impressive manner, his truly "graphic display of the sayings and doings of eminent Free and Accepted Masons, from the revival in 1717, by Dr. Desaguiliers, to the re-union in 1813, by their Royal Highnesses the Dukes of Kent and Sussex," is well conceived and sustained with considerable ability throughout.

Some of our readers, of course, will well recollect the papers which appeared in these pages, entitled, the "Revelations of a Square." They constitute the first part of the work before us, in which they are continued and completed, with all that ability which might be expected from the application of a practised pen, to a subject with which the writer was fully conversant—a subject in itself so closely allied to a multiplicity of his most interesting reminiscences.

An old Silver Square was sent to Dr. Oliver by a friend and Brother, who knew his fondness for antiquities; it had been used in one of the best and earliest Lodges after the revival in 1717. It was a good deal battered, but upon one limb was inscribed, "KEEPE WITHIN COMPASSE," and upon the other, "ACTE ON YE SQUARE." Such a relic of a bygone age could not fail to be suggestive of a train of thought of the most interesting character to such a man as Brother Oliver. He meditated upon it, and thought of the solemn hours of labour—the convivial evenings—the racy jests, the good-humoured sarcasms, the smart repartees, the judicious advice, the valuable instruction, and the gentle reproofs, of which that ancient Square could tell, if endowed with the powers of speech!

Musing in this strain late one evening, with the Square on the table before him, he saw a face peer out from a heart inscribed at its angle. He traced the features as clearly as one traces the features of the faces in the fire during the winter nights. A thin small voice called upon him by name, and the Square stood up, with great solemnity, upon the exterior points of its limbs. The Doctor rubbed his eyes and looked around. All was still, and everything was in its place as before, except the Square, which began to address him, promising, that if he would consent not to utter a word of interruption, it would tell him a few interesting facts, relating to the history of the Craft during the eighteenth century—the subject on which he had been reflecting. The Doctor nodded assent, and the Square began his story by explaining that he (the Square) had originally been the property of Sir Christopher Wren, who was the Grand Master of Masonry at the close of the seventeenth century. George I. had the impolicy to supersede Wren by a Bro. Benson, who was so distasteful to the Craft that they refused to acknowledge him, and almost ceased to assemble as a regularly organized society. Several pamphleteers, in fact, had already begun to chuckle at the extinction of the Order. But they had reckoned without their host. About this time, one Dr. Desaguiliers, a Fellow of the Royal Society, and Professor of Philosophy, happened to read some of these publications. His curiosity was excited. He was made a Mason in the old Lodge, at the Goose and Gridiron, St. Paul's Churchyard, which now goes by the name of the "Lodge of Antiquity." It occurred to him,

that if the Society could be invigorated, its influence would be beneficial to the community. An interview with Sir Christopher Wren served greatly to stimulate his enthusiasm, and he determined to exert himself to restore the order to its primitive importance. In this laudable endeavour, he was joined by several of the principal Brethren of the time ; and how he succeeded the Square describes in a very interesting manner. Rules and regulations were formed on the ancient models ; order and harmony were restored, and the Craft once more began to flourish. Dr. Desaguiliers became Dep. Grand Master. The strength and influence which Masonry now displayed, very naturally called forth a host of opponents. The Constitutions were revised and published, and the Fund of Benevolence, which has proved the balm of Gilead to so many wounded hearts and troubled spirits amongst our Brethren, from generation to generation, was set on foot. Noblemen, gentlemen of rank and station, learned men and clergymen once more adorned our ranks. Newspaper hacks, and paltry pamphleteers, now redoubled their slanderous energy ; and it was currently reported that the Masons “ raised the devil ” in their Lodges, and that they branded the candidates, at initiation, with a red-hot iron. They were, in fact, accused, in the most open and unblushing manner, of almost every crime that stains the calendar ; while all who maintained an apparent secrecy were denounced as being Freemasons. The shafts of ridicule, however, could not penetrate the armour of truth and justice ; and the Brethren replied to their antagonists in a glee for three voices, which commenced by the following verse :—

“ To all who Masonry despise,
 This counsel we bestow ;
 Don't ridicule, if you are wise,
 A secret you *don't know*.
Yourselves you banter, but not it—
 You show your *spleen*, but not your *wit*.”

As there was one Judas amongst “ The Twelve,” our ancient Brethren could not expect to gain their great numerical strength without finding, here and there, one who proved himself unworthy of admission into their fellowship. There were then, as there have been ever since, and always will be, persons who do not scruple to confess that they have sworn to conceal that which they openly reveal in print (thereby admitting that they are perjured individuals), for the sake of a little filthy lucre, to be obtained by pandering to the prurient curiosity of the multitude. It is a curious fact, that although Masonry never closes its portals against any worthy and well-meaning man, there are found, even to the present day, persons otherwise respectable—persons who would scorn to further the interests of perjurers in anything else—who will pay away their money, and stifle their consciences, hoping (vainly) to attain, in a disreputable manner—in a manner which they would themselves be the first to condemn under different circumstances—that which they might easily have procured by the prescribed and legitimate course of procedure.

But happily, men who are capable of perjury, and such deeds dishonourable as are indicated here, are not of a class to persevere in the acquisition of Masonic lore to a sufficient extent to do any lasting or material injury. So little, in fact, has Masonry to fear from scum of this sort, that Dr. Oliver has noticed every pretended revelation and antagonistic production which appeared throughout the eighteenth century, giving titles at full length, with the dates, and publishers.

About 1730, these "belchings of Billingsgate" had become so numerous, that a worthy and accomplished Brother, the Rev. James Anderson, D.D., brought out a masterly "Defence of Masonry," mainly in reply to the productions of one Prichard, a renegade. This "Defence" produced a very powerful effect upon the public mind, and turned the current in favour of Masonry. The "Defence" proved fatal to the poor perjurer Prichard.*

The Square pursues his story, giving an amusing account of the different Masters to whose sashes he was from time to time appended, and reporting, in brief, their sentiments on divers matters affecting the good conduct of their particular Lodge, as well as the welfare of the Craft in general. Masonic processions and Masonic balls come in for a share of his notice, and the latter meet with his severe reprehension, as also does the hard drinking which was so customary in those days. During the time the Square adorned the breast of Dr. Manningham, D.G.M., the Fraternity made great progress, although the exercise of discipline led to some disaffection and division of opinion, resulting in the melancholy schism which, for half a century and upwards, divided the Craft into two sections. The ultimate effect of the schism, however, according to the Square's version of it, was beneficial rather than otherwise. Numerous innovations, of a continental origin, were about this time introduced into some of the Lodges, to the great perplexity of those who wished to adhere to the ancient landmarks of the Order. Some of the singular and incredible legends attached to these novel observances are related by the Square in a very amusing manner. He also gives the ancient test questions, and affords a vast variety of curious information.

We are now brought down to the age of Preston, Dagge, and Dunckerley, when publications of all kinds relating to Masonry appeared in great abundance. This portion of the Square's story is full of fact and anecdote, and cannot fail to excite the deepest interest in the minds of all those who are concerned for the welfare of our Order. Bro. Dunckerley's career is sketched in a very graphic manner; he was an able and indefatigable Mason, and devoted himself to the progress of Masonry with great enthusiasm. One day, in the year 1760, Bro. Dunckerley received a curious piece of information. A lady partaking of the last rites of the church, upon her

* About this time Lord Lovel was Grand Master, and amongst those initiated were H.R.H. the Duke of Lorraine, the Duke of Newcastle, and H.R.H. the Prince of Wales. The Earls of Loudon, Morton, and Darnley, as well as the Marquis of Caernarvon, were also members of the order.

death bed, disclosed the fact that he was a natural son of George II. a fact which procured for him a pension of £800 a year. He now devoted himself to Masonry with renewed energy. He revised the lectures for the Military Degrees. He was P.G.M. for several counties, and was G.M. of the Templars and Rose Croix. He visited the self-styled *ancients*, to see wherein they differed from the *bonâ fide* ancients. He was the oracle of the Grand Lodge, and the recognised interpreter of its constitutions. He was, in fact, its leading spirit, and what he said was law. He revised and rearranged the lectures, and the influence of his name, in conjunction with that of the Duke of Clarence, was sufficient to bring his version into general use, and to insure its cordial adoption. He also reconstructed the Royal Arch, and introduced it; the attempt was bold, but eminently successful. Bro. Dunckerley gave numerous Masonic parties at Hampton Court, where he resided, to eminent Brethren in all classes of society; and these *réunions* appear to have been of the most delightful description. At least, so the Square says. Bro. Dunckerley died at Portsmouth, A.D. 1795, aged seventy-one.

But to return to our story-teller—the Square. His Lodge had been weakened and laid waste by mismanagement, and was just on the point of expiration, when the celebrated but unfortunate Dr. Dodd accepted the Mastership. His methodical arrangements, his punctuality, his firmness in the exercise of discipline, soon restored the Lodge to its pristine vigour. The Square now again, as is its wont, having set matters right in his own Lodge, casts around him and presents a graphic picture of the state of the Craft in general at the time of which he speaks. He relates a number of occurrences which are truly illustrative of the character of Masonry in all ages; and which cannot be perused without profit, inasmuch as they will constitute a healthful stimulus to others to “go and do likewise.” We may here remark, for the satisfaction of the reader, that the Rev. Dr. vouches for the accuracy of the facts stated, having drawn them from copious memoranda left by his father, who was himself an accomplished and enthusiastic member of our fraternity.

In the year 1776, the Square comes down to the solemn dedication of Freemasons’ Hall, of which ceremony an interesting account is given. Dr. Dodd was G.C., and this was the closing public act of that Clergyman’s Masonic life. How his public career terminated is unfortunately but too widely known.

Preston succeeded Dr. Dodd in the Chair, and gave up a considerable portion of his leisure to the revision of the lectures, and to the promotion of a uniform working amongst the Lodges. The Square gives a sketch of Preston’s Masonic career, and shows how a paltry misunderstanding led to the most inconvenient, and even serious results in the Lodge of Antiquity, of which he was P.M. Quite a feud was kept up, and for a long time the G.L. and the L. of A. defied each other, and Bro. Preston was deprived of all his honours and dignities. But under H.R.H. the Duke of Cumberland as G.M., he was restored, and the Lodge was again received into the

fellowship of the Craft. In this way we not only catch a glimpse of the internal economy of the Lodges in general at the period referred to, but we are permitted also to glance at the inner life of the G.L. itself. We are treated, furthermore, with a graphic sketch or two of the modes of "refreshment" in those days. The cordiality, conviviality, ability, and true fraternity exhibited by our talented Brethren, appear to have furnished, what may be truly designated, "a feast of reason and a flow of soul," quite equal to anything we can meet with, as a general rule, in the times which are passing over us.

Next we come to Bro. Noorthouck's Mastership, which affords the Square an opportunity of reporting a very important discussion which took place between the W.M. and one of the Members of the Lodge, on the necessity of secrecy, the merits of the lectures, and many other topics of vital moment. This discussion is replete with facts and arguments which might be perused with advantage in the present day.

The question of Masonic impostors has always attracted considerable attention. The pretended "revelations" have ever been a thorn in the sides of the weaker and less informed of the Brethren. But if a man confesses that the secrets he is unfolding he was bound to retain by a great and solemn obligation—if he confesses that he is perjuring himself by what he is now relating—does that confession entitle him to credence in all that rashness, ignorance, and cupidity may lead him to assert? How can such men be believed? One of two things must inevitably be true respecting them. If they never were initiated, they are liars and impostors; if they have been initiated, they are perjurers by their own admission! From such men, therefore, no society, which is founded as ours is, upon truth and justice, has aught to fear. If we be of man, we shall, assuredly, come to nought in due time; but if we be of T. G. A. O. T. U., let those beware who seek to injure us.

One can imagine how the Square would whirl round upon his dexter limb, and frown out of the heart-face at the angle, when referring to Finch and Lefranc; and, truth to speak, he has to keep up a considerable amount of his sternness at a conversation which he relates to have taken place previous to the opening of the Lodge on one occasion, in which an enthusiastic young Mason, of the name of Bell, entered into a long discussion with two of his Brethren, who unblushingly announced their preference for the "knife and fork degree," and the secondary aspect in which they regarded all the rest. We fear that the sentiments of Bro. Bell's opponents are somewhat too prevalent at the present moment for the real interests of our Fraternity. There is too strong an attachment to charging, firing, and driving the piles! Bro. Bell makes a very creditable figure in his arguments against his over-convivial Brethren; his observations are characterised by a great deal of sound common sense, and cannot be too widely pondered by the Craft at the present moment. The effect of a candid perusal of this portion of the work

could not fail to be to check, in all pure and right-minded Brethren, the tendencies towards excessive devotion to the comforts of the table, while it would foster a love for the higher and purer occupations which should engage the attention of a Mason. In the worst and most degraded it would do something, at any rate, to modify external appearances—to make vice and excess, at least, pay *outward* homage to virtue and temperance.

“Begging Masons” is the theme of one of the most interesting and instructive chapters in the volume. It should be studied attentively, as it will do much to place the Brethren on their guard against impostors of all descriptions. The lesson it teaches, if properly adhered to, is alone worth fifty times the price of the volume. It is comprised in a single sentence which was uttered by a successful impostor—“*Take care who you admit as candidates, and you will have fewer begging Masons!*” This witness is true, and we commend his testimony to all whom it may concern.

The *régime* of the Rev. Jethro Inwood, forms the subject of the next chapter; and that which follows it is devoted to the “Lady Masons”—full of good sense, valuable fact, and logical argumentation. An important conversation, which took place at a Lodge meeting, is next related; and here, as throughout the volume, there are copious references to the divers Masonic publications which have from time to time appeared. We very much question, indeed, whether the majority of our readers, particularly those who are young in Masonry, will not be greatly astonished at the vastness of the extent of Masonic literature which issued from the press, during the period referred to. Towards the close of this conversation, one of the Brethren gave a very curious and amusing account of the female Freemasons in France. They had all the scenic appliances of the theatre. The young lady candidate was conducted through the usual trials of fortitude, and reached the summit of the symbolical mountain. She was now told she must prove her constancy by plunging from the precipice into the abyss below, where a double row of sharp steel pikes were plainly visible. At the given word, the young lady in question plunged off the precipice; but the *Frère terrible*, who had charge of the machinery, so transformed the scene, that when she got to the bottom of the dark abyss, she lighted on a piece of velvet herbage, beneath which was a bed of the softest down to receive the body of the fair one. All around her, the darkness had changed into an Elysium of green fields and shady trees, bubbling fountains and purling streams. If she faints, she is restored and tranquillized by the application of essences and perfumery. The R.W.M. and the *Grand Maîtresse* occupy two gorgeous thrones, and the ladies are clad in white, with aprons and scarfs of sky-blue. Still the thing did not take, and the ladies attended but thinly, except on occasions for special display.

The Square goes on to relate the various measures which paved the way for the healing of the breach, and the union of all the Lodges under the present Grand Lodge. It describes the mode in which

the jewels were changed at the Union, and how it was, consequently, laid aside. The Square was just about to give an account of the Public Ceremonial of the Union, which took place at Freemasons' Hall, but as Dr. Oliver knew this as well as the Square did, the Doctor forgot himself, and could not help putting in a word.

The compact was on the instant broken. The charm was lost. The Square was silent. The book is closed!

No one who feels the slightest interest in the history of the Craft, between these two great epochs, can fail to feel a very high degree of pleasure in its perusal; and few will lay it down without regret that the story is ended.

The work is embellished with well-executed illustrations of the Commemoration Medal, a curious floor-cloth, and a very singular symbolical picture, entitled, "The Mysterious Mirror of Wisdom." It is enriched by copious references to all the Masonic writers, *pro* and *con*, during the period referred to; and a host of curious incidents are related, which have been collected with great diligence, arranged with much judgment, and related in a very graphic style.

We wish *all* to read this book; it well deserves the attention of all; we hope it will meet with its deserts. We cannot wish it greater success. We might say much more; it would be injustice to the accomplished author to have said less.

THE PRINCIPLES OF MASONRY,

AS SYMBOLIZED IN THE

REMAINS OF THE STRUCTURAL ERECTIONS OF THE MIDDLE AGES.

BY BRO. E. G. BRUTON, ARCHITECT.

IN considering the application which, in past time, has been made of the symbols of Freemasonry, and examining how far they may be considered a key of the mind and principles of those who applied them, we must consider rather the general way in which they have been so applied, than that exemplified by any particular application; the object of this essay being rather to lead the Brethren to observe where Masonic symbols have been used, than to catalogue the instances of their employment.

The latter course would be inexpedient for several reasons; the stronger of which, in the writer's opinion, lies in the danger of committing to print such an exposition of those examples as might be necessary to enforce their application upon the more obtuse of our Brethren, and at the same time avoid such as should escape the penetration of the more acute of the uninitiated.

Every attentive observer of the principles of Craft Masonry, in their application to the ordinary transactions of life, must have rejoiced

that the essence of his inherent virtues became developed under its influence, and were much enlarged and enforced by the precepts and examples of our ancient brethren, and chastened by the contemplation of the examples which the work of the Lodge constantly lays before him. Such Brethren will easily credit that the application of these principles can be proved, and the essence of Masonry discovered, in the most perfect of the remains which Time has left us.

But for our more sceptical and less attentive Brethren, we will attempt to indicate the analogy, which we believe may be found to exist, between the principles of Craft Masonry and those embodied in the petrified symbols of the Middle Ages; and we shall find that we cannot attentively examine one of those erections which have been spared to us, without recognizing in its every line the hand of a worthy disciple of him under whose immediate inspection arose that magnificent temple, the memory of which lives in the affections of every true Brother.

It has been said by Professor Hay, Mr. Griffiths, and others, that the plans, elevations, and details, of the erections of the Middle Ages were all constructed upon a kind of scaffolding,—of mathematical proportions as believes Mr. Hay, and geometrical figures as believes Mr. Griffiths,—which pervaded every part of the edifice.

It is not difficult to believe, knowing that Freemasonry was largely practised in those days, that their designs were produced by some such system of proportion, though we do not think that the same system can be fairly applied to all periods, but that we should take into consideration the date of the work to which the key is to be applied; believing that if one system was in use between the eleventh and twelfth centuries, a more advanced system would prevail in the thirteenth and fourteenth; and that, before we proceed to test its application, we must remove from our plans those portions of the buildings which are subsequent to the foundation.

As this is a deeper subject than is desirable or convenient to discuss here, though it may probably be found to be intimately connected with Freemasonry, we will proceed to consider the general application of our subject.

The plan of our Christian temples, though in their entirety they were developed in that most sacred of all symbols, the cross, are in their parts composed of parallelograms; complete, they are situate due east and west, while in a convenient position adjoining the western entrance is performed the ceremony of preparation for the admittance of candidates into the brotherhood of the Church. There, by the assistance of those who vouch for his future instruction, is laid the foundation upon which, it is hoped, the candidate himself will rear a temple of honour and virtue.

Proceeding onwards towards the east, we reach—situated in an analogous position with those pillars upon which much of the fabric of Masonry rests—the position of the expounders of the Christian faith! Without the knowledge they teach, we cannot, in either instance, obtain that consolation which all good Masons, as well

as Christians, desire, and which is only administered to those who have been found to be worthy recipients of its minor virtues.

But it is rather the consideration of the structural and decorative symbolism of these temples which is our present object; and first, with reference to *structural* symbolism. The main walls which have to sustain the thrust of the roof, we find are composed only of such stones as have had their knobs and excrescences rudely removed: they were compactly laid, and cemented together by a composition of hot lime and gravel, and therefore not unworthily represent that Brotherhood, who are bound to each other by the warmest ties of friendship and esteem. At the angles of the walls, and in other convenient positions, hewn stones were placed; these were wrought by the chisel with the greatest care, and finished with level beds, upright joints, and square angles, and had occasionally designs of rare beauty wrought upon their face.

The roofs were constructed and tiled in the most skilful manner; their parts were composed of a number of carefully hewn stones, swung together in mid-air, each having a common centre; while at the groin, formed by two or more of these roofs intersecting, beautifully moulded, and occasionally carved, ribs were inserted, the whole forming a network of much beauty.

In some examples, too, a carved boss, or sculptured figure of a saint, and sometimes even of an animal, enriched the interior of these roofs.

At the lower point, where the arches were gathered together by the groining, the force was concentrated, and consequently this was the point where the greatest resistance was required; here, then, they placed a strong buttress, which, like a sturdy Brother, kept the whole in equilibrium, while, to mark its importance and value, it was frequently honoured by some amount of decoration.

Light was admitted into these temples by openings left in the walls, which openings were like the lights of Freemasonry, cast into such symbolic forms as should best explain the truths they were intended to illustrate. Symbolic illustration was also employed in the glass which was placed in these openings, which, being stained into representations of the forms of the earliest expounders of our faith, beautifully typify, by their resplendent hues, the glorious career of those devout men.

To protect the tracery of these openings from the continual dripping of such water as should run down the walls, moulded labels were placed round their arches, at the terminations of which quaint monsters were occasionally placed, watching, as it were, to prevent the intrusion of any but the purest rays of heaven.

Round the principal doorways, also, these labels and their quaint terminations were placed, while, in some instances, round the entire arch of the door was sculptured figures illustrative of the lives and virtues of those men who had devoted their best energies to the service of their Order.

In the balance of powers, or order, which usually pervades the

western fronts, of our Cathedrals and larger conventual and abbey churches, some further analogy may be found; while the pinnacle which surmounts the flying buttress, and by its great specific gravity keeps the whole in repose, must be of especial interest to the Craft.

In the parapet and string-courses, too, we may discover much that belongs to Freemasonry, both being freely covered with sculptured emblems that will repay the attentive examination of an inquiring mind. That national humour, and love of caricature, which, in our days, finds vent in the pages of a facetious weekly contemporary, and in the last century was depicted by the pencil of an illustrious painter, in the Middle Ages forced itself upon the attention of the multitude from numberless points and curious positions on the walls and furniture of our sacred edifices. We have no doubt that many of the illustrious characters of those days have had their salient points gibbeted in a manner not flattering to their vanity, though strongly embodying the opinion of their merits which possessed the mind of the sculptor.

There was much scope for action of this kind in those days. The princely revenues of the Church were actively employed in extending her influence; new edifices were continually arising, and older ones as continually receiving additions and embellishments, which were seldom, if ever, mere restorations of the parts which had fallen into decay. And though the events which were caricatured were of too little importance to be chronicled, or have passed from our history, we feel that the embodied remains of the wit of those ages has still sufficient interest to repay examination.

When we look at these works in that light, we may detect in the features of the individual who, with distended mouth, is discharging the drainage of the roofs, perhaps the image of one whom the sculptor thought a fitting subject for ridicule; a little farther, we see the carver's devotion breaks out in the figure of an angel, perhaps as some atonement for polluting the walls of the sacred edifice with such an image as we have previously conceived,—or he exhibits his horror of some demon, by gibbeting the phantom which has haunted him while suffering from indigestion, or a fit of the "blues;" and then proves his love for the beauties of nature by seeking to embody his sense of her bounty in a representation of some favourite flower.

Again, the representation of the distorted figures to be met with in string-courses may be intended to represent, or symbolically to exhibit, the incidents which continually occur, and which not unfrequently sever that bond of love and harmony which the string-course aptly represents.

In the choir of these temples, symbolic representations of Christian and Masonic virtues were frequently sculptured; while in the painted decorations which usually adorned this portion of the edifice, they were abundantly placed; the most frequent being the double triangle, which is said to be one of the most sacred of symbols, and typical of the Trinity.

The tracery of the stalls, and the tessellated pavement, will also prove of much interest to inquiring Masons, as much which will prove the designer's knowledge of the Craft will frequently be found there. The banners, too, and altar-tombs, which occupy this portion of the edifice, and the chapels which are frequently attached, are of much Masonic interest.

Ascending now by the winding staircase which leads to the roof, and then continuing upwards, we reach that chamber where hang those iron-tongued heralds that peal forth, in harmonious cadence, the gratifying intelligence that the doors of this Christian temple are open for the relief of all those who are "weary and sick at heart;" while still higher, and beyond the reach of our footsteps, swings another symbol, emblematic of the watchfulness we should exhibit to prevent surprise; and also typical of the rebuke administered to one who denied the relationship he bore to HIM who suffered to atone for the sins of man.

Beneath these temples was frequently placed another chamber, well worthy of a visit; descending from the churchyard with some caution, for the steps are generally irregular and dilapidated, with a little care, we are enabled to reach the crypt. Once there, and our eyes focussed for the subdued light, our first exclamation is one of wonder at the beauty of the spot, and our next expresses a conviction that, by the care bestowed in its construction, our ancient Brethren were accustomed to make frequent visits to this repository of the remains of their predecessors and contemporaries, and probably returned from the contemplation of the virtues which once adorned its inanimate occupants, relieved and chastened by the visit.

OXFORD, *December*, 1854.

MASONIC CURIOSITIES.

BY BRO. THE REV. J. S. SIDEBOTHAM, B.A., NEW COLLEGE, OXFORD.

THERE are doubtless many curious old Masonic books and manuscripts stowed away in various libraries in different parts of our land, with which the Brethren of the Craft are little, probably many not at all, acquainted, but which nevertheless contain at least entertaining, if not instructive matter.

It appears from the catalogue of the far-famed Bodleian Library in the University of Oxford, that Freemasonry is so far an important subject, that several works on the science have found a place even in that valuable collection, one of which is the subject of the present article.

It seems to be a kind of Masonic album, or common-place book, belonging to Brother Richard Rawlinson, LL.D., and F.R.S., of the following Lodges:—Sash and Cocoa-tree, Moorfields, 37; St. Paul's

Head, Ludgate-street, 40; Rose Tavern, Cheapside, and Oxford Arms, Ludgate-street, 94; in which he inserted anything which struck him either as useful or particularly amusing. It is partly in manuscript, partly in print, and comprises some ancient Masonic charges, constitutions, forms of summons, a list of all the Lodges of his time under the G.L. of England, whether in London, the country, or abroad; together with some extracts from the "Grub-street Journal," the "General Evening Post," and other journals of the day. The dates range from 1724 to 1740.

The first leaves of this book consist of the advertisements of various tradesmen, who probably thought that an intimation that they were members of the Masonic body would bring "grist to the mill." Accordingly, the first of these consist of a medallion in one corner, containing a figure, which I shall have occasion to describe presently, and the motto, "*Ab origine mundi*," underneath it: while in the centre is a Freemason (supposed, we imagine, to be a P.M., as he carries in his hand the celebrated Forty-seventh Proposition of the First Book of Euclid, and probably intended for Mr. Carrington himself,) clothed in a white apron, and the old-fashioned white gauntlets, which are now so seldom seen, indeed, I only know one Brother who wears them now, an old P.M. in Cardiff. At the foot of this picture are the following words:—"Carrington's best mild York River Tobacco." There are also three other tobacco advertisements, two of which are "Betts's best Virginia;" the third (a most elaborate picture of an architect showing the ground plan of a building to a W.M. and other Brethren, surrounded by Masonic implements of all kinds,) of "Stainer's best Virginia."

It is clear from these advertisements that the custom of making Freemasonry of use for increasing trade, was then, as it is now, very commonly adopted; it is a custom "more honoured in the breach than in the observance," and I confess that I much dislike to see the square and compasses, or interlaced triangles, or any Masonic emblems displayed on a tradesman's card, or at the top of a playbill, announcing a benefit night for a country actor, with a request to his "Brethren" to support him; in the present day there is no knowing whether the "Brother" so advertising is a Freemason or an Odd-fellow, for the Odd-fellows too have adopted the square and compasses, cross pens, and other Masonic emblems, and I have before now seen precisely the same emblems used indiscriminately in a local paper heading advertisements both for Freemasons and Odd-fellows. Such practices cannot be in accordance with the spirit of the Craft, for as every one before his initiation signs a declaration that he is not induced to join the Craft from any mercenary motion, he surely ought not afterwards to attempt to make Freemasonry a portion of his trade. By the above remarks, I do not mean to cast a slur on the character of any of our ancient Brethren, the above instances are quoted merely to show what was then in vogue, but in the present advanced and enlightened age, such practices are surely most reprehensible.

The next thing worthy of remark in Dr. Rawlinson's book is a circular of the Hurlo-Thrumbo Society. What may have been the distinguishing characteristics of this Society I am not prepared to say, but will simply give a description of their circular. It is headed by the figure to which I alluded, in the advertisement of "Carrington's Best Mild York River Tobacco;" which is made up of a human head and breast, with beard and moustaches, a horse's ears, neck, and mane, and the wings and tail of a dragon; it is represented as issuing from a stone wall, with the motto, "*Risum teneatis amici*," above, and "*Ab origine mundi*," below. The form of summons is as follows:—

"SIR,—
 "You are desired to meet the President, Senior Fellows, and the rest of the Hon^{ble} Society of HURLO-THRUMBO, at ———, on Fryday, the — day of ———, at ——— noon, being the Feast day of the said Society.
 "By order of the
 "Given at ———" "President."

I insert this not for its real value, but merely as a sample of the many Societies of the same kind which existed at the time, and to which (though probably a kind of Bastard Freemasonry) Dr. Rawlinson, perhaps, belonged, for much the same reasons for which many Masons now belong to the Order of Ancient Britons, Druids, Foresters, &c., merely for the sake of conviviality, or to oblige a friend, or for some similar reason.

There is also an old Grand Lodge summons of the year 1732, when Lord Viscount Montague was M.W.G.M. The form of summons is—

"Montague,
 Grand Master,
 You are desired to meet your Brethren,
 The Free and Accepted Masons,
 On the ———, at 12 a clock at Noon, to chuse a Grand Master
 and other general officers, and to dine.
 No. 563.
 10 Shillings 6d.
 Sturt Sculpsit.
 N.B.—No Brother admitted uncloath'd or arm'd."

The list of recognised Lodges existing at that time may not be uninteresting. Dr. Rawlinson evidently intended to make it a complete list of every Member of the Craft, as he has devoted at least an entire page to every Lodge; most of these are, however, blank; and, as in all the pages which contain the list of the Members of the Lodge, his own name appears, we may infer that he only completed the lists of the Lodges to which he himself belonged. They are all headed in the same way:—

1. "A list of the members of the Lodge held at the, &c."
2. "Ditto at the, &c."

As in most cases the Lodges seem to have been named after the

sign of the house in which it was held, I shall use the same names to express both :—

LIST OF RECOGNISED LODGES.

[Those printed in *Italics* are Country, those with an Asterisk prefixed Foreign, Lodges.]

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. King's Arm's, St. Paul's Church-yard. 2. Bull and Gate, Holborn. 3. Horn, Westminster. 4. Swan, at Hampstead. 5. Ship, behind the Royal Exchange. 6. Brawn's Head, New Bond-street. 7. Rummer, Queen-street, Cheapside. 8. Devil Tavern, Temple-bar. 9. One Tun, Noble-street. 10. King's Arms, New Bond-street. 11. Queen's Head, Knave's-acre. 12. Castle Tavern, Drury-lane. 13. Duke of Bedford Arms, Covent-garden. 14. Queen's Head, Great Queen-street. 15. Bull's Head, Southwark. 16. Goat, the foot of the Haymarket. 17. Crown Tavern, St. Giles's. 18. Crown Tavern, Ludgate-hill. 19. Lodge, formerly held at the Crown, upon Snow-hill, from thence removed to the Queen's Arms, Newgate-street. 20. Swan, Long-acre; a French Lodge. 21. Anchor and Baptist Head, Chancery-lane. 22. Swan, Fish-street-hill. 23. Half Moon, Cheapside. 24. Crown, Without Cripplegate. 25. King's Head, Greenwich. 26. King's Arms, Strand. 27. Crown and Sceptre, St. Martin's-lane. 28. <i>Queen's Head, City of Bath.</i> 29. <i>Nag's Head, Bristol.</i> 30. <i>Queen's Head, City of Norwich.</i> 31. <i>Swan, City of Chichester.</i> 32. <i>Bull, Northgate-street, City of Chester.</i> 33. <i>Castle, Watergate-street, City of Chester.</i> 34. <i>Bunch of Grapes, Carmarthen, South Wales.</i> 35. <i>East-India Arms, Gosport, Hampshire.</i> 36. <i>Red Lion, Congleton, Cheshire.</i> 37. Sash and Cocoa Tree, Moorfields. 38. <i>Swan, Tottenham High Cross.</i> 39. Swan and Rummer, Finch-lane. 40. St. Paul's Head, Ludgate-street. 41. Vine Tavern, Holborn. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 42. Salutation, Billingsgate. 43. Cross Keys, Henrietta-street, Covent-garden. 44. Swan, Long-acre. 45. White Hart, without Bishopsgate. 46. Mount's Coffeehouse, Grosvenor-street. 47. Three Crowns, Stoke Newington. 48. <i>King's Head, Salford, near Manchester.</i> 49. Castle and Leg, Holborn. *50. French Arms, St. Bernard-street, in Madrid. *51. Lodge, at Gibraltar. 52. <i>Woolpack, Warwick.</i> 53. Hoop and Griffin, Leadenhall-street. 54. Rose and Crown, Greek-street, Soho. 55. Red Lion, at Richmond. 56. Crown and Anchor, Short's-gardens. 57. Lion and Bull, Holborn. 58. <i>Crown, Corn-market, Oxford.</i> 59. <i>Three Tuns, Scarborough.</i> 60. Three Tuns, Billingsgate. 61. King's Arms, Cateaton-street. 62. <i>George, at Northampton.</i> 63. Bear and Harrow, Butcher-row. 64. Rose, without Temple-bar. 65. <i>St. Rook's Hill, near Chichester, in Sussex.</i> 66. <i>Red Lyon, in the City of Canterbury.</i> 67. Castle, St. Giles's. 68. Vine, in Long-acre. 69. Sarazons, near the Seven-dials. 70. Duke's Head, Lynn Regis, in Norfolk. 71. Bricklayers' Arms, in Barbican, now removed to the Rose Tavern, in Cheapside. *72. East India Arms, at Bengal, in the East Indies. 73. <i>Sarazon's Head, Lincoln.</i> 74. University Lodge, held at the Bear and Harrow, in Butcher row. 75. Rainbow Coffee House, York-buildings. 76. White Bear, King-street, Golden-square. 77. Black Lyon, Jocky-fields. |
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|---|---|
| <p>78. <i>Fountain, St. Edmondsbury.</i>
 79.
 80. <i>Angel, at Macclesfield, Cheshire.</i>
 81. <i>Fleece, St. Edmondsbury.</i>
 82. <i>Three Tuns, Newgate-street.</i>
 83. <i>Three Tuns, West Smithfield.</i>
 84. <i>Freeman's Coffee House, Cheap-side.</i>
 85. <i>King's Arms, Russel-street, Covent-garden.</i>
 86. <i>King's Arms, St. Margaret's-hill, Southwark.</i>
 87. <i>King's Arms, at Leigh, in Lancashire.</i>
 88. <i>Bell and Raven, at Wolverhampton, in Staffordshire.</i>
 89. <i>Rummar and Horse Shoe, Drury-lane.</i>
 *90. <i>King's Head, in the Butcher-row, in Paris.</i>
 91. <i>Sun, in Fleet-street.</i>
 92. <i>The Antwerp, Threadneedle-street.</i>
 93. <i>Goose and Gridiron, St. Paul's Churchyard.</i>
 94. <i>Oxford Arms, Ludgate-street.</i>
 95. <i>Horn and Feathers, Wood-street.</i>
 96. <i>White Horse, at Ipswich.</i></p> | <p>97. <i>New Inn, at Exeter.</i>
 98. <i>Duke of Lorraine, Suffolk-street.</i>
 99. <i>Leg, in Fleet-street.</i>
 100. <i>George, Butcher-row.</i>
 101. <i>Crown, Upper Moorefields.</i>
 102. <i>Royal Vineyard, St. James's Park.</i>
 103. <i>Ship, without Temple Bar.</i>
 104. <i>Virgin's Inn, Darby.</i>
 105. <i>Private Room, at Bolton Lee Moors, in Lancashire.</i>
 106. <i>Nag's Head, Audley-street.</i>
 107. <i>Dale's Coffee House, Warwick-street.</i>
 108. <i>Seven Stars, St. Edmonds, Bury.</i>
 109. <i>Three Lyons, Salisbury.</i>
 110. <i>Rummer and Mitre, on Labour-in-Vain-hill, in Old Fish-street.</i>
 111. <i>Theatre Tavern, Goodman's-fields.</i>
 112. <i>King's Arms, Tower-street, near the Seven Dials.</i>
 113. <i>White Bear, the City of Bath.</i>
 114. <i>Ship, in St. Mary Axe.</i>
 115. <i>Devil Tavern, Temple Bar, a Scotch Masons' Lodge.</i>
 116. <i>Bear and Harrow, in the Butcher-row, a Master Masons' Lodge.</i></p> |
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I have been induced to give the above list entire, as many of the signs are still existing, and it may be interesting to some Brethren (especially in the country) if they are enabled, by means of this list (which may be relied on as authentic), to trace any of the history of their respective Lodges.

Dr. Rawlinson's book contains so much that is entertaining, that it is impossible to compress it all within the limits of one paper. I will now conclude with—

“The order for aprons at the Institution of the Lodge at the Prince of Orange's Head, in Milk-street, Southwark, given by Thomas Batson, Esq., D.G.M., 1734.”

“Two Grand Master's aprons, lined with garter blue silk, and turn'd over two inches with white silk strings.”

“Two Deputy Grand Master's aprons, turn'd over an inch & $\frac{1}{2}$ ditto.”

“One apron lined with the deepest yellow silk for the Grand Master's Swordbearer.”

What would Grand Sword Bearers of the present day, say to an order to wear yellow aprons?

(To be continued.)

LAYS OF THE WAR.

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

LAY THE SECOND.—TO THE NURSE.

WHERE Scutari's cypress-crested hill glooms o'er the darkened brine,
A warrior wounded sore in fitful anguish lay supine :
Late stanch'd life's redly oozing stream athwart his ample brow,
That dauntless front so firm and calm that ne'er had paled till now.

Pitying beside his lowly bed an ardent spirit bent,
To tend the sick in lazar-house by heavenward impulse sent :
As keen he writhed she held to his parched lips an anodyne,
And smoothed the couch where softly might his wasted form recline.

The sufferer lulled, brief while she paused, ere on holy mission sped,
And well the flickering crisis in his changeful visage read :
As with hands tight-clasped she stood, he turned on her his eyes, and slow
His soul's emotions thus he breathed in accents faint and low :

" Ah ! vain the leech's craft without the Nurse's tenderer aid,
The sleepless care by kindred love or saintly mercy paid.
Best glory yours who, patriots true, war's prostrate exiles save,
O'er Mars triumphant ; and ev'n noisome plague heroic brave.

" To our country's flag, the soldier rushed obedient to his vow ;
With spontaneous virtue militant THE SOLDIER'S SISTER thou.
Kind sister PHILOMEL, we both from home-felt ease were torn ;
And both, alas ! sad hearts have left our perils dire to mourn.

" 'Tis of home I muse through the slow lone hours of solemn midnight's calm,
When deathly torture intermits, but Sleep denies his balm :
Then of long-fled days wild rural scenes before my memory sweep ;
And fondest friends departed some, some left my fall to weep.

" With approving glance bent on my scars, my father's shape appears ;
His last precept, ' Honour first, then Life,' still echoing in my ears :
Near him a gentler shade benign upon me smiles once more,
Who aye strove my heart from earliest age t' expand with heaven-sent lore.

" Oft my thoughts return to the sun-lit glades, where, in life's springtime
confessed,

My fervent passion's transport first by answering love was blest :
To the rustic shrine, 'midst oaks embowered, and with ivy garb o'ergrown,
Where a guileless heart in a graceful form surrendered all my own.

" Fleet roll the years of day-dreaming bliss, swift fade its transient charms !
Alert my sword I grasped aroused by England's shout ' To Arms.'
Too soon to sob farewell we stood where dashed the billow's spray,
While tossed upon the surge the bark that summoned me away.

" Meanwhile upon the sea-beach played with my helm and glaive our boy ;
And, the gilded trappings donned, his eye flashed with an infant's joy :
But a mother's prescient soul new grief found in his sportive theft,
By martial fire she feared to be of both son and sire bereft.

" The woe of parting o'er, our fleet impetuous ploughed the main,
Bearing eager hearts since proved on many a gore-polluted plain.
Yet in victory's hour, though in fierce pursuit, we spared the suppliant foe,
And mercy for the fall'n we felt 'mid our haughtiest triumph's glow.

" But dread the mulct for honour's love and for fadeless laurels paid !
Noble heart-blood freely spilt as e'er on altar offering laid :
Some maimed and gashed, lie suffering here the throes 'twixt death and life,
Or, while helpless stretched, were coldly slain by the foeman's murderous knife

"O would that from this restless couch, to wonted might restored,
In battle's van this arm again could flash th' avenging sword !
Full many a lightning stroke's descent th' unpitying foe should feel,
For my best-loved comrade's soul dismissed by a foul assassin's steel."

He ceased. A throb of pain and grief his bosom's core upheaved ;
Yet much his care's imparting had his manly breast relieved.
With witching charm the Nurse applied the drug NEPENTHE hight,
Which pain dispels, harsh rage subdues, and sorrow lures to flight.*

Mild medicine for despairing hearts into the ear distilled !
How dost thou heal the morbid soul by varying passions thrill'd ?
Thy potent influence springs alone from famed ingredients three,
Throned Intellect, with soothing Speech, and kindly Sympathy.

Peaceful the warrior slumbered : death's dark-hovering angel fled,
As a beam of hope and prideful joy the Nurse's face o'erspread.
Nor longer there she lingered, but to her Seraph-errand true,
On wings of ruth away sweet SISTER PHILOMELA flew.

"REFRESHMENT" IN THE 17TH CENTURY.—"One evening, as these choice spirits sat round the table after supper,—and suppers, I must tell you, in those halcyon days, generally terminated the business of the Lodge,—Brothers Lamball, Sorell, Beloe, Ware, Madden, Villeneau, Noyes, Cordwell, Salt, Gofton, Senex, Hobby, Mountain, and a few others being present with the W.M., all celebrated Masons, whose names are well known to the Craft, Bro. Lamball, who was an incorrigible laugh, and that in no very mild tone of voice, being tickled by some witty remark, indulged his propensity in a regular horse-laugh. Bro. Madden rose with much gravity, and addressing the chair, said,—"R. W. Sir, did you ever hear a peaceful *lamb bawl* (Lamball) so vociferously?"

"No," said Bro. Desaguliers, 'but I've heard a *mad'un* (Madden) make an ugly *noise* (Noyes).'

"Oh," rejoined Bro. Sorell, 'let him ride his *hobby* (Hobby) quietly, his lungs will be no worse for *wear* (Ware).'

"Aye," Bro. Ware snapped in, 'particularly if the colour of his hobby be *sorrel* (Sorrel). Ha! ha! ha!'

"The lamb had better go to *sea next* (Senex), and then he may *bellow* (Beloe) against the roaring of the *salt* (Salt) waves as they dash upon the *mountain* (Mountain,' shouted Bro. Hobby.

"Well," replied Bro. Lamball, 'I shall never quarrel with any Brother who holds the *cord well* (Cordwell—*cable tow*) for this or anything else, provided he does not call me a *villain O* (Villeneau). Ha! ha! ha!'

"I shall not, Brothers and fellows," responded Bro. Villeneau, 'question your good faith, although you carry on so briskly a *Pun—ic* war.'

"A truce to your wit," Bro. Madden interposed, 'I *thirst* to mend my simile.'

"Nay," said the W.M., 'if Bro. Madden *thirsts*, why there's an end of it.

"Oh, ho!" echoed Bro. Noyes, 'if a *pun is meant*, I move that we inflict the usual *punishment*.'

"Why, then," says the chair, 'we will replenish the glasses, and try to quench Bro. Madden's *thirst* with a *toast*.'

"Now all this may appear very puerile to you, Sir, but I assure you it is a correct sample of the wit of the age, and formed the staple commodity of a lively conversation at taverns and clubs, which were then the resort of the highest nobility and gentry in the land."—*The Revelations of a Square*.

*

Φάρμακον

Νηπενθές τ' ἄχολόν τε, κακῶν ἐπίληθον ἀπάντων.

ODYSS. Δ. 220.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

TO THE EDITOR OF THE FREEMASONS' MONTHLY MAGAZINE.

SIR,

IN your report of the last Annual Festival of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement, you state (p. 32), that after the cloth was removed, the Chairman gave "The pious memory of the late Bro. Peter Gilkes," which I acknowledge to be true; you also further state, that it is customary to pay this tribute of respect to him, "he being the first who established this particular Lodge, as a Lodge of Instruction." Now, sir, I have no wish to detract from the late Bro. Peter Gilkes any merit to which he is justly entitled, being myself a pupil of his, but beg to state, for the information of the Brethren, that instead of his being the first to promote its establishment, he gave it "*his great and most violent opposition*," stating as his reason for so doing, that it was impossible it could ever succeed, while it excluded those in the inferior degrees. Therefore, the only reason, if any, that can be truly assigned for paying this tribute of respect to the memory of Bro. Gilkes, is, that this particular Lodge *was established by his pupils*, only four of whom are now living, who had anything to do with its formation, viz., Bros. Dennis, Garner, Longstaff, and myself,—I remain, Sir, yours fraternally,

37, Howland Street, Fitzroy Square,
January 16th, 1855.

THOMAS SCOTT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE FREEMASONS' MONTHLY MAGAZINE.

DEAR SIR, AND BROTHER,

YOUR remarks on the active support given to the Patriotic Fund, by the M.W. the G.M. and the Craft at large, will, I sincerely hope, stimulate all Lodges in this country, and in our colonies, to contribute to the funds now being raised for the support of the widows and orphans of our gallant soldiers and sailors. An interesting list will be that of the contributions by the various Lodges, which, it must be remembered, are over and above the private donations of the individual Brethren.

I would, however, remind the Craft of another interesting fact, the establishment of the Central Association for Soldiers' Wives and Children, founded by a Brother of the Craft, the Hon. Henry Littleton Powys, major in the 60th royal rifles, and ably managed by a committee, including Bro. the Earl of Shaftesbury, and several other influential Masons.

The Patriotic Fund is established by Government, for the permanent support of those women and children who may by the war be deprived of husbands and fathers. But the Central Association, the offspring of voluntary charity, has been in active operation ever since the first rumour of war caused the embarkation of our soldiers for the East. Fourteen thousand cases have been actually assisted, and a large proportion of these really saved from starvation. Many have been enabled, by the Association's judicious assistance, to commence some little trade or business, and thus earn a livelihood in the absence of their natural guardians.

I am sure the Craft will be glad to have this excellent Society mentioned in the *Freemasons' Monthly Magazine*, so that while pensions from the Patriotic Fund are justly provided for the widow and orphan of the soldier slain in battle, it may not be forgotten that to the Central Association is committed the equally serious charge of the wife and child of the soldier fighting in the field, or stretched on the hospital couch, sick or wounded.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, your fraternally,

January 18th, 1855.

B.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE FREEMASONS' MONTHLY MAGAZINE.

SIR,

MY attention has just been called to an error in your report of the consecration of the Royal Standard Chapter, No. 730, in your journal of January 1st. The health of Col. Vernon was not proposed by his brother: it was proposed by me, and responded to by the P.G. Sup., who, at the conclusion of his speech, gave, "Our brave and patriotic Army now fighting their country's battles in the East."

Yours fraternally,

Dudley, January 25th, 1855.

WM. MANFIELD, Tr.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE FREEMASONS' MONTHLY MAGAZINE.

SIR AND BROTHER,

PERMIT me to call the attention of the Brethren to some most interesting remarks recorded in your last number, in "the Young Mason's Visit to Jersey." On his visit to the French Lodge, he finds an Officer there unknown in our Lodges, viz., "Le Frère Orateur," "whose duty it is to deliver brief essays on matters of interest to the Craft." Now I would propose (but will you tell us if it could be legally carried out?),* that this idea be partly adopted in our English Lodges, by one of the Brethren, each regular Lodge night, being invited by the W.M. to compose and read a Paper on Masonry on the following Lodge night, and that such should not occupy more than ten minutes in delivery. There would be no doubt that papers could be produced of sufficient interest to merit its insertion in your pages, besides the additional zest it must give to the Brethren who constantly attend Lodge. Our gallant army in the East have shown their good feeling by adopting many improvements of the French, and should not we also seize the opportunity to do so likewise?

I will next call attention to the following passage:—"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." I ask, can any Brother on reading this not feel a glow, a brotherly warmth come over him, and reflect how he could assist to more constantly bring about such truly interesting meetings as here described—meetings that probably could not be met with under any other circumstances on this earth?

Could not greater encouragement be held out for the Brethren to visit each Lodge oftener, by more constant pressing invitations (I do not mean to *banquet*), and by the absence altogether of "visitor's fees," except in *peculiar* cases? I am sure many of us have forgotten, that in part of the twenty-second section, under Private Lodges in our Constitution, it is there enacted, that "In order to preserve this uniformity (established mode of working), and to cultivate a good understanding among Freemasons, some members of every Lodge should be deputed to visit other Lodges as often as may be convenient." I have no doubt that this constant interchange of visits among the Jersey Brethren has tended greatly towards the meeting I have alluded to, and is a part of Masonry approaching that which all true Masons would pray for.

I cannot conclude these remarks on our Jersey Brethren, without mentioning that I noticed the name of Bro. P.M. Adams, now W.M. of the Samares Lodge, with peculiar pleasure, as last summer he most kindly replied to a letter of inquiry from me, a perfect stranger to him, and on a matter totally unconnected with

* See Notices to Correspondents.

Masonry, in a most *brotherly* manner ; and I felt at the time I received the said reply, a glow of the "true fraternity" alluded to as experienced by our Brother, the writer of the "Mason's Visit to Jersey." I long to see many such descriptions of Freemasonry as his for the future.

One other matter : the writer alludes to the Mark Degree. Being a Mark Mason myself, I can truly join with him in hoping that this interesting Degree may become more increasingly popular in the Craft ; for this, in connection with the other Degrees, tends greatly to appreciating the many and beautiful Masonic works we have often the pleasure of reading.

With hearty good wishes for Masonry,

I remain, faithfully and fraternally yours,

A. B. C.

DORSET, *January*, 1855.

MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

MASONIC CHARITIES.

LODGE OF BENEVOLENCE.

On Wednesday, December 27th, 1854, W. Bro. John Masson, P.G.S.B., in the chair, Four Petitioners were relieved to the extent of £22.

ROYAL FREEMASONS' SCHOOL FOR FEMALE CHILDREN.

On Thursday, January 11, a Quarterly General Court of the Governors of this Institution was held in the School-house, St. John's-hill, Battersea-rise. Bro. J. Barnes, Vice-President, in the Chair. The Court was very thinly attended, not more than thirteen or fourteen Brethren being present.

The minutes of the House Committee were approved, recommending the names of the following eight children as candidates to fill up the vacancies which will occur at the next Quarterly Court in April, with the exception of one candidate, whose case was reserved for consideration, some doubts being suggested as to the medical certificate, viz. :—Caroline Priest, from Bridgewater ; Selina Taggart, from Oxford ; Ellen Jackson (whose father carried on business at Soho, though residing in the country ; was a victim to cholera ; he reached his place of business one morning ; and feeling unwell, went to a medical man, and died whilst receiving advice, leaving a wife and several children quite unprovided for) ; Sarah Osborne ; Helen Shaw ; Emma C. Hurrell ; Malonie Rogers ; and Sarah Harris ; the last six reside in London. There are now sixty-five girls inmates of the Institution.

The Report of the Audit Committee, was also received, and the Treasurer was instructed to pay bills to the amount of £436. The Report announced the funds of the Institution to be in a very satisfactory state.

Bro. SYMONDS moved that application be made to the Committee of Privy Council on Education to have this School placed under Government inspection, and explained the advantages to be attained thereby. He said, he did not think an Institution like this, with its large funds, should receive any grant for maps and books ; but the suggestions and advice of the inspector would be very serviceable. The schoolmistress who already (the present mistress) held a certificate of the second class, might receive a grant of £15 or £17 from Government in augmentation of her salary ; and might have one pupil teacher for every forty scholars, to whom a stipend would be paid by the Government, progressing from £10 to £20, for five years ; and the pupil afterwards might be examined for a Queen's scholarship, by means of which, if she deserved it, she might be educated

in a training school, and ultimately, with a certificate of merit, obtain a good situation as a schoolmistress.

Bro. C. ROBINSON seconded the motion, saying that he went, the other day, to the offices of the Committee of Council, to ask whether it was likely this school might be received under inspection, and he found there would be no difficulty in its being admitted, and also that two of the largest Institutions of this kind, the London Orphan Asylum and the Infant Orphan, had just made similar applications, which he regarded as an excellent example.

Bro. BARRETT strongly opposed the motion, upon the ground that many subscribers would refuse their support, if the independent character of the Charity were compromised by Government aid. He declared that such a change in the management would be the commencement of the ruin of this school, which had been the pride of the Masonic body; and he feared that, if Government were once let in, they would by-and-bye take possession of the whole concern.

Bro. PATTEN expressed the same apprehension to which Bro. Barrett had given expression, which was shared, he said, by Bro. White, the G.Sec., a liberal supporter of the school. He knew fifteen or twenty subscribers who would, he was perfectly certain, withdraw their contributions if the school were placed under Government inspection. He acknowledged, however, that for his own part he was not so well informed upon the question as to give a decided negative to the proposition; and if the advantages of a Government inspection could be shown to him, in six months or twelve months hence, he would vote for it.

Bro. G. BONE likewise thought that, if the Institution were given into the hands of Government, the subscribers would feel deprived of their responsibility, and lose their interest in the school.

Bro. NEWSOME was very desirous of having the school visited by a Government inspector, for it had been going on too long in the old-fashioned dame-school way, and was not creditable to the intelligence of its managers. A new era had now begun, and they should avail themselves of all the advantages offered by the Committee of Privy Council. A healthy spirit of emulation would be excited among the children, and the best girls might be rewarded with a maintenance for life, in the profession of a schoolmistress, which was as high an object of ambition as he (Bro. Newsome) could wish for a daughter of his own.

Bro. J. J. BLAKE complained that the subscribers had not been sufficiently apprised of this motion, which he opposed as a monstrous innovation, that would be repugnant to the feelings of most of the Brethren, the supporters of this Institution. Freemasons had always prided themselves on their independence, and why should they now, for advantages that appeared quite insignificant, put the control of their school out of their own hands? The house Committee should examine the children regularly, and if they wanted inspection, they might request some educated gentleman to visit the school occasionally.

Bros. G. T. FOX and L. CHANDLER both said they were unwilling to decide a question of such importance in so small a meeting as the present.

Bro. WARREN signified his doubts of the expediency of accepting Government control.

Bro. SYMONDS replied, challenging those who disapproved of Government inspection to find any single instance, since 1839, where the subscriptions to any school had fallen off, because its supporters were dissatisfied with the conduct of the Government inspectors. No one would withdraw his money on so fallacious and unfair a pretext. A school, in his own neighbourhood, had trebled its numbers lately, because the improvements suggested by the inspector were carried out. The inspector could never dictate or order anything, but only advise. They might dispense with the inspection at any time, if they chose, since they would not receive any grant for books and maps; and as for the Government obtaining any control over the funds or management of the school, it was utterly impossible.

The motion, on being put to the vote, was negatived, only three hands being held up in its favour.

The appointment of Miss Jarwood as matron, and that of Miss Souter as schoolmistress, were then approved. A motion, of which Bro. Robinson had given

notice, that no child of a Brother who had ceased to subscribe to Freemasonry for more than seven years (unless it were from circumstances beyond his own control), should be eligible, was deferred until a revision of the rules and bye-laws; a report from the Committee upon which was ordered to be printed, and to be considered by a Special Court in March.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

A Quarterly General Court of the Governors and Subscribers was held at the Offices of the Institution, No. 34, Great Queen-street, on Monday, the 1st of January, 1855, when the following boys (in consequence of the number of vacancies exceeding the number of approved candidates), were elected to receive the benefits of this charity without ballot. The chair was occupied by Bro. John Hervey, S.G.D.:—1. Tom Miller, born March 1, 1845, and residing at Manchester. 2. Mark Keymer, born February 12, 1845 (father deceased), and residing at Colchester, Essex. 3. Samuel Robert Speight, born June 4, 1847; resides in London. 4. Edward James Jackson, born March 9, 1845 (father died last September, of cholera, during the fearful Golden-square visitation), and residing in London. 5. Alfred James Crichton, born July 14, 1846 (father now serving in the Black Sea), and residing at Lambeth.

* * The Anniversary Dinner of this Institution, will take place on Wednesday, the 14th of March, 1855, when the attendance of the Governors and subscribers is earnestly requested. (See advertisement.)

PATRIOTIC FUND.

SUMS of Money voted to the Patriotic Fund by Lodges in the Registry of the United G.L. of England.

PROVINCE.	LODGE.	AMOUNT.
CAMBRIDGESHIRE	Cambridge, Scientific, No. 105	£10 10 0
DURHAM	North Shields, St. George's, No 624	10 10 0
KENT	Margate, Union, No. 149	10 10 0
	Sheerness, Adam's, No. 184	5 0 0
	Gravesend, Lodge of Freedom, No. 91	5 5 0
LEICESTER	St. John's, No. 348, and John of Gaunt Lodge, No. 776	50 0 0
	Grand Master's Lodge, No. 1	20 0 0
LONDON	Enoch, No. 11	20 0 0
	Lodge of Tranquillity, No. 218	10 0 0
	Mount Moriah, No. 40	10 10 0
	Peterborough, St. Peter's, No. 646	10 10 0
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE	Apollo, No. 460	10 0 0
	Alfred, No. 425	10 0 0
STAFFORDSHIRE	Tipton, Noah's Ark, No. 435	5 0 0
SHROPSHIRE	Shrewsbury, Charity, No. 135	2 2 0
	Salopian, No. 328	10 10 0
SOMERSET	Taunton, Prov. G.L., Dec. 27th (through the G.T. Bro. Eales White)	100 0 0
	Bath, Royal Cumberland, No. 48	7 5 0

IRELAND.

NORTH MUNSTER	Limerick, Eden Lodge, No. 73	10 10 0
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BATH	Royal Chapter	3 3 0
BIRMINGHAM	Rose Croix Chapter	5 5 0

METROPOLITAN.

THE SOMERSET HOUSE LODGE (No. 4), assembled on Monday, Jan. 22nd, when Bro. Le Veau, W.M., P.G.S.B. initiated three gentlemen into the Order, and raised a Brother to the 3rd Degree. This being the election night, Bro. C. Locock Webb, S.W., was unanimously chosen W.M. for the ensuing year, and will also serve the office of Steward at the Boys' School Festival. The Brethren afterwards adjourned to "refreshment," which passed off in the agreeable manner usual with this Lodge. Bros. Hodgkinson, P.S.G.D.; Hervey, S.G.D.; Beech, W.M., Apollo Lodge, Oxford, and several other guests, were most hospitably entertained.

ROYAL YORK LODGE OF PERSEVERANCE (No. 7).—This Lodge met January 17th, at Freemasons' Inn.—Previous to the installation of the W.M. into the chair, Bro. J. Hervey, P.M.S.G.D., acting for the W.M., Bro. Dr. W. Jones, in his usual effective manner, initiated a candidate, and afterwards installed Bro. Hopwood, the father of the Lodge, who was initiated in 1820, and elected W.M. in 1826. Bro. Hopwood appointed the following Brethren as his Officers:—J. Hervey, P.M., S.W.; Levinson, J.W.; Sams, Treasurer; Fraser, S.D.; Collings, J.D.; Siccama, I.G.; Adlard, P.M., D. of C.; Harrison, Steward. A host of visitors attended on this interesting occasion, amongst whom were Bro. Bagshaw, Prov. G.M. for Essex *elect*; Bros. W. H. White, Grand Sec.; King, P.J.G.D., Nokes, Robinson, Bradford, Carter, Canham, Bohn, Figg, Wright, Spencer, Roby, Hopwood, jun., &c. &c. After the banquet, a testimonial, beautifully written on vellum, and bound in a rich crimson morocco case, with Masonic emblems, was presented to Bro. F. Adlard, P.M. and D. of C., recalling his valuable services to the Lodge, and the esteem and affection he is held in by all the members.—This highly-respectable Lodge ranks amongst its P.M.'s the names of Hopwood, Sams, Hervey, Adlard, May, Key, Baab, Mackenzie, Harrison, Wood, Pratt, and Jones, M.D.

ENOCH LODGE (No. 11).—On Wednesday, January 10th, one of the largest meetings of this influential Lodge was held. The visitors were Bros. White, G. Sec.; Dr. R. Rowe, P.J.G.D. and P.P. Dep. G.M. of Essex; Chown, No. 113; Woodley, No. 902; Kennedy, No. 201; England, No. 57; Marsh, No. 30; Goldsmith, No. 25; Mallalieu, No. 227; Barrett, No. 188; Morby, No. 169; Watson, No. 23; Taylor, No. 201; Lavender, No. 183. The amount of business was small, but it was made up by the quality of the working, the excellence of the speeches, and by the "refreshment," spread before the members and their guests by the spirited and liberal proprietors of the Freemasons' Tavern. After the usual loyal toasts, Bro. Spooner, who had been installed W.M. on this occasion, paid a highly deserved compliment to Bro. White, Secretary of the Grand Lodge of England, in which he expressed the earnest hope that T. G. A. O. T. U. would add to his days many more years of usefulness to those he had already attained, that the Craft might still have the benefit of his great experience and useful advice. Bro. White most appropriately acknowledged the compliment. Bro. Dr. Rowe returned thanks for the Grand Officers at some length, thanking the W.M. for his hearty good wishes, and fraternal good feeling. The W.M. also highly eulogised Bro. F. Ledger, the late W.M., upon his retiring from the chair, as his influence, with the combined and able assistance of the P.M.'s on all occasions, had raised the Lodge to that eminence in the Craft which it now enjoys. The installation was most admirably performed by Bro. P.M. W. Young, of the Albion Tavern, Vernon-place, Bloomsbury, and the W.M. appointed his Officers as follows:—Bros. Binckes, S.W.; Masterman, J.W.; Peter Mathews, Sec.; W. Williams, Treas.; R. Temple, Dir. of Cer.; J. Austin, S.D., Payne, J.D., and German, I.G.

GLOBE LODGE (No. 23).—The annual meeting for the installation of the W.M. of this Lodge, was held on Thursday, January 18th, when about sixty Brethren were assembled. The Lodge was opened by Bro. A. Hewlett, W.M., and Mr.

James Richard Haig was initiated. The Lodge was then opened, in the second degree, by Bro. W. Watson, P.M., and Bro. Hewlett presented Bro. M. T. Humphrey, who had been unanimously elected W.M., for installation. The ceremony was performed in the most perfect manner by Bro. Watson, whose able address to the W.M. and Brethren assembled, was the theme of universal admiration. The W.M. then appointed Bros. G. S. Brandon, S.W. ; G. F. Goodman, J.W. ; J. B. Ponsford, S.D. ; C. J. Collins, J.D. ; G. Oliver, I.G. ; W. Watson, jun., D.C. ; and Bro. Blackburn, Sec. The W.M. informed the Brethren that he would represent the Lodge, as Steward, at the ensuing festival for the Boys' School ; and Bro. J. W. Adams, in like manner, as Steward for the Girls' School. A P.M.'s jewel was voted to Bro. Hewlett. The Brethren were called off, at seven o'clock, to a banquet, which was as complete a display of good things as Bros. Watson, Coggin, and Banks, with their accustomed taste and liberality, could provide. After the accustomed toasts of the Queen, the M.W.G.M., and G. Officers, the W.M. proposed the health of the visitors, especially alluding to one Brother, with whom he had been long connected in business, which was responded to by Bro. Ernest, of Lodge No. 113. Bro. Ernest availed himself of the opportunity then afforded him of referring to the many years of mutual good feeling that had existed between the W.M. and himself ; he had been an eye-witness of the steady passage through life of the W.M., and one of the most pleasing events of that life was his accession to the chair of the Globe Lodge. On the part of the visitors, he was disposed to say, "Long success to No. 23 ;" but it would appear the Lodge had outstripped all calculation ; he had seen few to equal it, none to excel. The W.M. then proposed "The newly-initiated Brother." In returning thanks for the kind wishes of the W.M., Bro. Haig said, that hearing and seeing in far-off countries the vast benefits produced by Masonry, he had determined, immediately on his return to England, to join the Order.—In returning thanks for the P.M.s of the Lodge, Bro. Watson observed that "The Globe" was his *pet*, and he was sure that Bro. Fenn, the father of the Lodge, was pleased to see so goodly and loving a family around him. The great and leading feature of Masonry was charity ; the true bearing of this virtue did not consist in disposing of superfluous cash, but in kindly encouraging every Brother in his career, finding excuses for his errors, and aiding and supporting him under trouble and affliction.—The health of the W.M. was proposed by Bro. Hewlett ; and, in gratefully acknowledging the kindness of the Brethren, the W.M. confessed he was proud of the position he held in the Craft, by being considered worthy of presiding over the Globe Lodge ; and looking to the long roll of famous names that preceded him in that office, he was, to some extent, fearful lest he might fall short of their excellence ; but having the welfare of the Lodge at heart, he would, to the best of his ability, discharge his duties, and trusted, at the expiration of his year of office, he should retire with perfect satisfaction to himself and his Brethren.—After the healths of the Wardens and other Officers, &c., the Lodge was closed in peace, harmony, and brotherly love.—The banquet was enlivened by the vocal abilities of Bros. Farquharson and Perren ; the sojourn of the latter in Italy, has not only advanced his science, but given increased powers to his voice.—Among the visitors present, were Bros. J. Smith, P.M., No. 32 ; Summers, P.M., No. 11 ; Bellinger, Prov. G.J.W., Herts ; J. How, P.M., No. 82 ; J. H. Anderson, No. 18 ; and J. Woodley, 902.

THE MOUNT MORIAH LODGE (No. 40), held its installation meeting, Wednesday, Jan. 24th, when the W.M., Bro. Oram, raised a Brother most ably. The W.M. elect, Bro. Luis Artus, was then installed by Bro. W. H. Absolon, P.M., in his usual admirably impressive manner. Ten guineas were voted to the Patriotic Fund. The following Brethren were appointed Officers for the ensuing year : viz., Bros. Rixon, S.W. ; Russell, J.W. ; Rev. Braund, S.D. ; Vine, J.D. ; and Castello, I.G. ; Bros. N. L. Hadley, Treas. ; Absolon, Sec. About thirty then sat down to banquet, amongst whom were several visitors, viz., Bros. Warwick, W.M., No. 30 ; Palmer, P.M., No. 19 ; Adlard, P.M., No. 7 ; Webster, P.M., No. 275 ; Barrett, P.M., No. 188 ; Dr. Randall, No. 4 ; Watson, No. 229 ; Warren, P.M., No. 202. The usual toasts were given and responded to, and a very happy evening ensued.

LODGE OF PEACE AND HARMONY (No. 72).—This old and celebrated Lodge has been singularly unfortunate. The W.M., Bro. Major, through severe illness, has been unable to attend during his entire year of office, and not having appointed his Officers, the J.W. ruled the Lodge; and the recent violent death of Bro. Moore, its respected Treasurer, by the hands of the assassin Barthélémy, would of necessity create a somewhat gloomy meeting of the members. The Lodge proceeded to the installation of Bro. Elwood as W.M. for the year ensuing, which ceremony was performed by Bro. J. N. Tomkins. Bro. J. Dawson was passed to the Second Degree by the W.M. Bro. W. Young, P.M., No. 11, was elected a member of the Lodge. A resolution was entered into to convey to the family of Bro. Moore, the deep sympathy of the members of the Lodge for his untimely death. Bro. Tomkins was elected Treasurer; Bro. Long was nominated G.S. for the ensuing year.

MOIRA LODGE (No. 109).—The members of this Lodge assembled at the London Tavern, on Tuesday, Jan. 23, in full strength, to greet Bro. Francis Graham Moon, the Lord Mayor, who had accepted their invitation. The Lodge was opened by the W.M., Bro. C. Hogg, and Messrs. W. Rains and R. N. Phillips, barrister-at-law, were initiated. The Brethren, seventy-two in number, adjourned to banquet at half-past six; the tables were spread with all the delicacies the good taste of Bro. Bathe is accustomed to provide.

LODGE OF HONOUR AND GENEROSITY, No. 194.—The members met at the London Tavern on Monday, January 1st, the day for the annual election of W.M. and Treasurer, Bro. Richard Bell, W.M. presiding. Bro. C. J. Corbet was unanimously elected W.M., and Bro. R. L. Wilson re-elected Treasurer. It being New Year's Day, the attendance was rather thin. The only visitor present was Bro. J. How, P.M., No. 82.

OLD CONCORD LODGE (No. 201).—This Lodge met on Tuesday, January 2nd, when the W.M., Bro. Kennedy, initiated Mr. Edmonds and Mr. Smith into the mysteries of the Order. Bro. Westwood and Darby were passed to the second Degree, and Bro. the Rev. J. W. Laughlin and Bro. Silcock raised to the Degree of M.M. This being the installation meeting, Bro. G. M. Gurton, S.W., (who had been unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year), was ably installed by Bro. Kennedy. The installation having been concluded, the W.M. appointed his Officers, viz. Bro. Collard, S.W.; Bro. Nicholson, J.W.; Bro. Jeffries, S.D.; Bro. G. Watson, J.D.; Bro. Jackson, I.G.; and Bro. Emmens (the Senior P.M. and member of this Lodge), Secretary for the fifteenth year. Bro. the Rev. J. W. Laughlin was appointed Chaplain to the Lodge, and Bros. J. Gurton and Harrison, Stewards. It was then proposed and unanimously agreed that a vote of thanks should be recorded to Bro. Kennedy for the very efficient manner in which he had conducted the affairs of the Lodge during the past year, and that he be presented with a P.M.'s jewel. After several other propositions and business being concluded, the Brethren (numbering nearly fifty) adjourned to "refreshment," and spent a very delightful evening. Bro. W. Watson, P.M., No. 25, returned thanks on behalf of the visitors, and spoke in high terms of the very able and efficient manner in which the entire business of the Lodge had been conducted, and congratulated the W.M. on having such good working Officers. Several appropriate toasts were proposed and responded to. The visitors were Bros. Somers, P.M., No. 11; Watson, P.M., No. 25; Lowick, No. 15; M'Manus, S.W., No. 165; Collard, No. 168; J. Gurton (late of this Lodge); Barfield, P.M., No. 752; Hammett, No. 752; Copas, No. 752; and Simpson, No. 752. A subscription list was opened, and a very liberal subscription made for the Patriotic Fund.

LODGE OF TRANQUILLITY (No. 218).—The following Officers have been appointed for the year ensuing, viz.:—Bro. Solomon, W.M.; Bro. Van Goor, S.W.; Bro. Davis, J.W.; Bro. Rev. Levy, Chap.; Bro. Isaacs, Treas.; Bro. Levy, P.M., Sec.; Bro. Smart, S.D.; Bro. Eyre, J.D.; Bro. Harris, I.G.; Bro. Hirschfeld, D. of C.; Bros. Lipman and Hirschberg, Stewards.

LODGE OF STABILITY (No. 264).—This Lodge met on Tuesday, January 2nd, when Bros. Short and Laurie were passed, and Bro. Taylor raised, after which

ceremony Bro. H. James, S.W., who had been unanimously elected W.M. at the last meeting, was installed by Bro. H. Muggeridge, P.M. 227, the Preceptor of the Lodge of Instruction held under the sanction of this Lodge, in his usual able and correct style. The W.M. then appointed his Officers, viz.:—F. R. Mason, S.W.; J. D. Brown, J.W.; J. King, P.M., Treasurer; D. Samuels, P.M., Secretary; T. E. Bradley, S.D.; W. D. Whaley, J.D.; F. F. Hermann, I.G.

THE LODGE OF UNIONS (No. 318) held its monthly meeting on Wednesday, the 3rd instant, when Bro. J. Hervey, P.M., who occupied the Chair in the absence of the W.M., after passing Bros. Ambrosoni and Wade to the Second Degree, installed the W.M. elect, Bro. G. Blair, who appointed the following Brethren his Officers for the ensuing year, viz.:—Bros. H. Greene, S.W.; G. Luff, J.W.; W. Farnfield, Sec.; J. Figg, S.D.; J. Watson, J.D.; and Standen, I.G. Bro. Rouse was re-elected Treasurer, and Bro. Rice, Tyler. About thirty of the Brethren afterwards sat down to banquet, the usual toasts given and responded to, and the evening passed off in the usual harmonious manner.

THE BANK OF ENGLAND LODGE (No. 329), met January 11th, at Radley's Hotel, when Bro. Graves, P.M., acting for the W.M., after passing a candidate to the second Degree, most ably performed the ceremony of installing Bro. Stroughill into the chair. A handsome P.M.'s jewel was presented to Bro. Warrick, on his retirement from the W.M.'s chair, as a token of respect and esteem entertained for him by the members of the Lodge. The W.M. Bro. Stroughill, appointed the following Brethren as his Officers, viz.:—Chance, S.W.; Salomo, J.W.; Rev. T. B. Ferris, Chaplain; Wright, P.M., Treasurer; Dr. Bainbridge, *pro tem.* Secretary; Moore, S.D.; Hopwood, J.D.; Leslie, I.G.; Imrie, D. of C. and Steward. Among the Visitors were Bro. J. Hodgkinson, P.S.G.D.; Bro. Wing, from the Province of Essex; Bro. Rev. T. Russell, of the Alfred Lodge, Oxford; Moore, &c. &c. The following Past Masters were also present:—Watkins, Wright, Spencer, Bainbridge, Whitmore, Graves, and R. Costa.

YARBOROUGH LODGE (No. 812).—This flourishing Lodge met on Thursday, 4th January, in the Lodge-room, George Tavern, Commercial-road, when Bro. P. Edinger, the respected Superintendent of the East London Water-works, was installed in the Master's Chair by a numerous board of Installed Masters, amongst whom were the W. Bro. Geo. Biggs, G.S.B. of England; Bro. Simmonds, the late W.M.; Bro. Thos. Vesper (the first W.M. of the Lodge); Bro. Thos. E. Davis, P.M., of 812, and W.M. 830, Past Steward of all the Masonic Charities; Bro. W. W. Davis, Treasurer of 812, P.M. 112, also a Past Steward of all the Charities; Bro. Purdy, P.S. 812, P.M. 93, 169, 212, &c. &c.; Bro. Potts, P.M. 203; Bro. Tuxford, P.P.G.S.D., Lincolnshire; Bro. Wynne, P.M., &c. &c.; after which the Officers were appointed and invested, viz., Bro. W. Vesper, S.W.; Bro. Kindred (one of those who assisted in founding the Lodge), J.W.; the Rev. Bro. D. Shaboe, M.A., Chaplain; the W. Bro. W. Wentworth Davis, Treasurer; the W. Bro. Thos. Vesper, P.M. 212 and 812, Sec.; Bro. E. U. Gardner, S.D.; Bro. Crisp, J.D.; Bro. Hampton, H.M.C., I.G.; Bros. Watts and Standerwich, Stewards; Bro. Austin, Organist; Bro. Vasey, D.C., and Bro. Hookey, Tyler. Messrs. Akerstein and Barrett were initiated, Bro. Ross and another passed, and Bro. Thomas raised. An elegant banquet having been provided by the host, the W. Bro. R. S. Williams, P.M. No. 71, the Brethren adjourned to the banquet-room, when about fifty Brethren, consisting of members of the Lodge, and several very esteemed visitors, partook of the good cheer of the season in the harmonious manner that at all times is characteristic of this useful and highly influential Lodge. The usual toasts were given, in excellent style, by the newly-installed Master, who was ably supported by the P.M.'s and other Officers. The business of the evening finished early, and the Brethren departed on their several ways, mutually delighted with the events of the meeting, and each other.

PROVINCIAL.

BERKSHIRE.

WINDSOR.—*The Etonian Lodge* (No. 252), of the ancient and honourable fraternity, met at the New Inn, on Tuesday, the 2nd of January, at "high twelve," to celebrate their annual festival of St. John, and to install the W.M. elect for the ensuing year. The Lodge was early opened by Bro. Wigginton, W.M., and the usual Lodge business completed, the W.M. then requested P.M. Bro. Jenkins to take the chair, and to raise a Brother to the M.M. Degree, which was done in a very satisfactory manner. Bro. Dangerfield then presented Bro. Lambert, P.M. 192, and also a P.M. of this Lodge, to be again installed W.M. of the Freemasons of the ancient and royal borough of Windsor; the ceremony was ably performed by Bro. Jenkins, assisted by Bros. R. P. Blake (of Oxford), Sir J. M. Doyle, *K.C.B.*, and the other P.M.'s of the Lodge. At the conclusion of the installation, the new W.M. appointed his Officers as follows:—Bros. Palmer, S.W.; Harley, J.W.; Evans, S.D.; Lester, J.D.; and Cantrell, I.G.; Bro. Holden was unanimously elected Secretary; P.M. Bro. W. Hall, Treasurer; Stacey, Organist; and G. Weight, and for the thirtieth time, Tyler. The Brethren were then called from labour to refreshment, which was provided by Bro. Dangerfield, in a manner highly creditable to his establishment and satisfactory to the Brethren, the charges being moderate, and the dinner excellent. In due time the Lodge was closed, and the Brethren separated highly pleased with the day's proceedings. We are glad to announce, that in token of gratitude for the prosperity which has attended this Lodge for the past three years, (during which period more candidates have been initiated, and more Brethren have joined the Lodge, than for many years previous), it is intended to present the Patriotic Fund with a handsome donation, of which due notice will be given in the *Freemasons Monthly Magazine*.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

CAMBRIDGE.—*Scientific Lodge*, No. 105.—According to the usual custom of the above Lodge, the Installation of the W.M. for the year ensuing took place on Monday, the 8th ult.

The Brethren assembled at 12 o'clock, and after the three degrees had been conferred upon several candidates, the Installation took place, and the late W.M. (Bro. Arthur R. Ward, B.A. of St. John's Coll.) again installed. The ceremony was most beautifully performed by Bro. J. W. Baxter, P.M., and was duly appreciated by the Brethren.

A vote of thanks was then passed to the W.M. for his services for the past year; in returning thanks for which, the W.M. thanked the Brethren for their kindness in again electing him their Master, and congratulated them on the prosperity of their Lodge in the past year, during which they had celebrated their Centenary by a dinner and ball, and at which the M.W. the G.M. the Earl of Zetland had done them the honour of being present. He congratulated them also on their increase of numbers, as, during the past term, they had had no less than twenty-two initiations, amongst whom were Lords Cavendish and Rolls, and Viscount Althorp, and several fellows of colleges, and other persons of high rank in the Province, and hoped, in conclusion, that at the end of his (the W. M.'s) next year of office they would be as satisfied with him as they seemed now to be.

The W.M. then elected his Officers for the next year, as follows:—Bros. J. Wentworth, S.W.; R. Ransom, J.W.; W. A. Gully (King's), S.D.; Captain Webster, J.D.; F. R. Hall, I.G.; A. Westmoreland (Jesus), Chap.; W. Crisp, P.M., Stew.; C. Wisbey, Sec.; J. Bentley, P.M., Dir. of Cer.

It was then proposed and carried unanimously, that the sum of ten guineas be given to the Patriotic Fund from the Lodge funds.

The Brethren then adjourned at half-past four, and re-assembled at half-past five, and sat down to a most sumptuous dinner, provided by Bro. Mitchell; and the evening was spent in good cheer and fellowship.

CHESHIRE.

CHESTER MASONIC BALL.—This annual festivity took place at the Royal Hotel, on Thursday evening, 11th January, when the popularity of the Craft, the distinguished patronage with which the ball was honoured, and the intended appropriation of the proceeds to the Patriotic Fund, insured a full attendance, not only of the Brethren and their families, but of all who were desirous of enjoying the social pleasures of "Friendship, Love, and Truth," which the principles of Freemasonry inculcate and exemplify.

DORSETSHIRE.

WAREHAM.—On Wednesday evening, January 3, the W.M. elect of the Lodge of Unity, No. 542, in this town, Bro. the Rev. Thomas Pearce, was duly installed for the ensuing year by Bro. C. O. Bartlett, assisted by P.M.'s Groves and Cust. After the ceremony, the Brethren of the Lodge, not P.M.'s, were recalled, and the following Officers chosen by the W.M., and invested with their respective Jewels of Office :—Bros. C. Filliter, S.W. ; J. O. Phippard, J.W. ; H. Hatherley, S.D. ; L. Barnett, J.D. ; J. Cust, Treas. ; H. D. Cole, Sec. ; C. Groves, Org. ; W. Phippard, I.G. ; Bros. C. B. Barfoot, and C. Yearsley, Stewards ; and Bro. J. Frampton, T. Each Officer, on being invested, was addressed by the Installing M., Bro. Bartlett, in suitable terms ; after which the Lodge was called from labour to refreshment. The banquet took place at the Red Lion Hotel, provided by Bro. Yearsley in his usual good style, and the Brethren enjoyed themselves in a mutual interchange of fraternal regard.

On Thursday, January 4th, being the regular night of meeting of the Lodge of Unity, No. 542, in this town, the Brethren assembled in the Lodge-room at five o'clock. The object of this early meeting was to allow the attendance of Visiting Brethren from various Lodges in the Province, as well as from a distance ; the W.M., Bro. Thomas Pearce, having specially invited the members of his own Lodge, the R.W.P.G.M. and Officers of the Prov. Grand Lodge, as well as the Masters and Wardens of various other Lodges, to dine with him at the Red Lion Hotel. The Lodge was opened in form precisely at five, and about twenty-six Brethren were found to have responded to the friendly invitation of the Rev. Brother. After the usual routine business, the Lodge was duly closed, and the Brethren adjourned to the Red Lion Inn. The dinner was served by Bro. Yearsley, with more than his usual good taste. The whole arrangements gave the greatest satisfaction. The chair was filled and most ably sustained by the W.M. of the Lodge of Unity, Bro. the Rev. Thos. Pearce ; the vice-chair was filled by P.M. Bro. C. O. Bartlett. Among those present were Bro. Mainwaring, P.M., of the Lodge of Hengist, No. 230, Bournemouth ; Bro. Bailey, P.M., ditto ; and Bro. Rebbick, ditto ; Bro. J. Sydenham, No. 160, Poole, P.G., Registrar ; Bro. J. Osment, P.G., Deacon ; Bro. W. Parr, P.G., Director of Ceremonies ; Bro. G. H. Gutch, P.G.S.B. ; Bro. T. W. Dominey, and Bro. J. H. Boyt, P.G., Stewards ; Bro. Stone, Bro. Pettitt, and Bro. Knight, all of Lodge of Amity, No. 160, Poole ; Bro. Kingdon, Lodge of St. Cuthburga, No. 905, Wimborne ; Bro. J. Cust, P.M. and Treasurer, Lodge of Unity, No. 542, Wareham ; Bro. H. D. Cole, Secretary ; Bro. F. Filliter ; Bro. J. O. Phippard, P.G.S.B. ; Bro. C. Filliter, P.G., Deacon ; Bro. Hatherly, S.D. ; Bro. Barnett, J.D. ; Bro. Yearsley, Steward ; Bro. W. Phippard, I.G. ; Bro. J. Drew ; Bro. C. Groves, P.M. and Organist ; Bro. Frampton, Tyler. Letters, pleading unavoidable absence, from business and other causes, were read in the Lodge. Among them, one from the R.W.P.G.M., Bro. Ralph Willett ; one from Bro. R. J. Spiers, P.G.S.B., late Mayor of Oxford ; one from Bro. Deacon, Southampton, and many others. The first toast was the health of her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen, introduced in the usual Masonic style, and with all the honours. His Royal Highness Prince Albert, the Prince of Wales, and the rest of the royal family, followed. The next toast was that of the G.M. of England, the Earl of Zetland, who had, for the twelfth time, been just elected to that high office ; this toast, as well as that of the R.W. the D.G.M., was responded to by the Brethren, and drank with all the honours. The health of the P.G.M., Bro. Willett, of the

Officers of the P.G. Lodge, of the W.M. of the Lodge of Unity, as well as of the several Lodges then present, were severally drank and responded to, and the Brethren passed a truly fraternal evening in the mutual interchange of kindly Masonic feelings.

An esteemed correspondent thus writes concerning this meeting of the Lodge of Unity :—" I never before attended a banquet, where all the Brethren behaved so extremely well. It has been the general remark, 'how well everything was conducted.' They began to leave at ten o'clock, and in a short time the room was entirely cleared. I have reason to know that the Rev. W.M., who is most anxious to advance the best interests of Masonry, was much gratified with the results of the meeting. Dr. Mainwaring, of Bournemouth, was a great help to the meeting, and made some most excellent remarks."

POOLE.—At the Masonic Hall, on St. John's Eve, Bro. C. J. Stone, merchant of this town, was unanimously elected W.M. for the year ensuing of the Lodge of Amity, No. 160.

On Tuesday, January 2, at eleven o'clock, the funeral procession of the Masonic Brethren, as private friends, together with a great number of the most respectable tradesmen and his friends, followed the remains of Bro. Joseph Barter Bloomfield, to St. James's Church, where the funeral service was performed by the Rev. John Barrow, after which the lamented Bro.'s remains were deposited in the family vault in the churchyard.

POOLE.—*Lodge of Amity*, No. 160.—The Brethren of this Lodge assembled on St. John's Day, agreeably to ancient custom, to elect Officers for the ensuing year, when Bro. C. J. Stone was elected W.M. On Wednesday, January 17th, the Brethren assembled in goodly numbers, when Bro. Stone, the W.M. elect, was regularly installed by Bro. J. Osment, assisted by Bros. J. Sydenham, J. H. Colborne, P.M.'s, and the Rev. T. Pearce, P.G.C., Vicar of Morden; the ceremony was impressively gone through, and very much to the satisfaction of the Brethren. The W.M. next proceeded to invest his assistant Officers, viz., Bro. Benj. Moore, S.W.; G. H. Gutch, J.W.; J. R. Brown, S.D.; T. Pettit, J.D.; J. Greaves, Treas.; J. H. Boyt, Sec.; — Meaden, I.G. Bro. the Rev. T. Pearce was appointed Chaplain to the Lodge. The duties of the Lodge being concluded, the Brethren partook of refreshment provided by the Stewards, and enjoyed themselves in that harmony and good fellowship, which always distinguish the assemblages of the members of this Society.

WEYMOUTH.—At the annual meeting of the Brethren of the All Souls' Lodge, No. 199, Friday, January the 22nd, Bro. B. Harvey was re-elected W.M. for the ensuing year.

The Bomarsund Flag of Truce.—Bro. Capt. Wm. King Hall, of the *Bulldog* steamer, returned home to his family on December 22, 1854, and paid the All Souls' Lodge, No. 199, the compliment of sending them the "FLAG OF TRUCE," used at the capture of Bomarsund, on the 16th August last. This memorable trophy, we understand, will be placed in the Archives of the Lodge, as an interesting remembrance of the services to his country of an esteemed Bro. of the Order.

DURHAM.

NORTH SHIELDS.—*St. George's Lodge*, No. 624.—The Brethren of this Lodge, at their regular meeting, on the 4th day of December last, anticipated the recommendation of the M.W. the G.M. by voting ten guineas to the Patriotic Fund, which was paid through the Mayor of Tynemouth, Bro. J. W. Mayson, whom we are proud to designate "a Mason, not in name only, but in deed and in truth."

A Lodge of Emergency was held on the 19th day of December last, when Bro. Thomas Fenwick, W.M., who had been unanimously elected W.M. for the third consecutive year, was (by Dispensation) re-installed in his honourable office. Bro. J. W. Mayson, P.M., performed the beautiful and most instructive ceremony of Installation, to the great satisfaction of a large assembly of the Brethren. The W.M. then appointed the following Officers :—J. G. Tulloch, S.W.; S. Owen,

J.W. ; C. A. Adamson, Sec. ; J. D. Brown, S.D. ; W. C. H. Willems, J.D. ; W. Twizell, J.G. William Blackwood, P.M., was unanimously elected Treasurer by the Brethren. Bro. Fenwick has received this unusual honour from his Brethren, partly as a graceful acknowledgment for the exertions he has used for the benefit of the Lodge whilst in possession of the chair, St. George's Lodge never having been in so flourishing a condition as during the last two years, and partly on account of a case of suspension of one of the Brethren, on which the decision of the W.M. the G.M. may yet be required.

The regular meetings of this Lodge are held on the first Monday in every month.

HARTLEPOOL.—The Brethren of the St. Helen's Lodge, No. 774, held their annual festival on Friday, the 29th December. The Brethren assembled in the Lodge Room, King's Head Hotel, at three o'clock in the afternoon, for the purpose of installing the W.M. Bro. H. A. Hammerbom, who then appointed Bros. T. Marshall, S.W. ; G. Moore, J.W. ; W. J. Hodgson, P.M. ; H. Hansen, Treas. ; T. W. Hearon, Sec. ; M. Child, S.D. ; T. Cockburn, J.D. ; J. Gaskell, I.G. ; G. Sanderson and R. Wilson, Stewards ; and J. Lundy, Tyler. In the course of the evening the W.M. presented Bro. W. J. Hodgson with a P.M.'s jewel which had been unanimously voted to him for his strict attention to the duties of the Lodge, and the general courtesy shown to the Brethren during the term of his office. The proceedings of the evening were spent with a cordiality of feeling which peculiarly characterizes the social meetings of the mystic Brotherhood.

HERTFORDSHIRE.

Berkhampstead Lodge, No. 742.—The first meeting of this Lodge for the present year was held on Wednesday, January 3, at the King's Arms Hotel. The chief business of the day was the Installation of the W.M., Bro. F. B. Harvey, which ceremony was performed by Bro. J. How, P.M., No. 82, Prov. G.D.C., Surrey. The W.M. appointed Bro. C. H. Law, S.W. ; and Bro. Thaine, J.W. After the banquet, Bro. R. L. Wilson, the Treas., on behalf of the Lodge, and in acknowledgment of the able manner and truly Masonic spirit, in which Bro. A. L. Bellinger had presided over the Lodge for the past year, presented that Bro. with a most elegant testimonial, in the form of a J.G.W. jewel, of the Province of Herts ; the taste displayed by Bro. Thearle in its manufacture was the theme of universal praise. Among the visitors on the occasion was, the V.W. Bro. T. A. Ward, Prov. D.G.M. of Herts, who, in acknowledging the toast of the M.W. the Prov. G.M., said he was deputed to confer on a member of the Berkhampstead Lodge the office of S.G.W. which had been vacated by the promotion of Bro. Bellinger, and he accordingly presented it to Bro. C. H. Law, the S.W. of the Lodge. The excellent arrangements of the Hotel, since its restoration under Bro. Softlaw's management, contribute to render this Lodge one of the most flourishing in the Province.

KENT.

GRAVESEND.—*Lodge of Freedom*, No. 91, and *Lodge of Sympathy*, No. 709, met on Monday, December 18th, 1854, at Wale's Hotel ; the former for a threefold, and the latter for a twofold purpose. The first was for the transaction of the monthly business ; the second for the annual banquet of the Lodge of Instruction ; and the third for the Presentation of a handsome silver Tea-Service. The Lodge of Freedom was opened at six o'clock, by Bro. F. Southgate, W.M. : there were present, Bros. W. T. Dobson, *Mayor*, and P.P.J.G.W. ; G. E. Sharland, P.P.G.S.W. ; J. J. Nickoll, P.P.G.S. ; and G. Gore, P.P.G.S. ; and about twenty of the Brethren. The business consisted of one Raising, one Passing, and one Initiation ; by the request of the W.M., the two former were performed by Bro. H. W. Moore, P.P.J.G.D., in his usual style and ability ; by permission of the W.M., Bro. G. Gore, P.M., No. 709, and P.P.G.S., initiated Mr. T. Halsey, which was ably performed, and received the thanks of the P.P.G. Officers. We hope that the W.M. will continue to manifest the same zeal for the Craft which was apparent on this occasion, and he will become one of its

brightest ornaments. After the business was concluded, the Brethren adjourned to the George Inn, to partake of the annual banquet of the Lodge of Instruction, provided by Bro. Moore. The chair was occupied by Bro. Southgate, W.M. Bros. G. E. Sharland, P.P.S.G.W. ; W. T. Dobson, P.P.J.G.W. ; J. J. Nickoll and Gore, P.P.G. Stewards ; and about thirty of the Brethren sat round the festive board. After the cloth was cleared, and the usual Loyal, Masonic, and Patriotic toasts had been given and responded to with great heartiness, the Chairman said, that the chief business of the evening was to do honour to a worthy Brother, whose Masonic worth and great ability had entitled him to the praise of the Craft ; and whose kindness and affability had won for him the regard of all the Brethren. In order to show their appreciation of such sterling Masonic worth, the members of the two Gravesend Lodges had subscribed nearly thirty guineas, which had been expended in the purchase of a very handsome silver Tea Service, which, in the name of the assembled Brethren, he now presented to Bro. Moore, as a testimonial of their esteem and affection, and as a token of their sense of his services to Masonry at the Lodge of Instruction. Bro. Moore's health was then drank with hearty cheers. Bro. Moore acknowledged this distinguished compliment in a very appropriate speech ; and after several other Masonic toasts had been given, the meeting separated.

Round the lid and outer rim of the teapot belonging to the service presented to Bro. Moore, is engraved the following inscription :—"Presented to Bro. Henry William Moore, P.M. No. 20, and P.P.G.J.D. for the Province of Kent, by the members of the Lodge of Instruction of Lodges No. 91 and No. 709, for his disinterested services."

(This report was unfortunately received too late for the January number.)

SHEERNESS.—*Adam's Lodge*, No. 184.—On Tuesday, January 9th, the installation of the W.M. took place. The business of the evening commenced by the raising of Bro. G. M. Smith, Lieut. *R.N.* to the sublime Degree of M.M., which ceremony was performed by Bro. Keddell, P.S.G.W., Kent. The installation ceremony was ably conducted by Bro. J. Townsend, P.P.G.R., P.P.G.S.W., the able and active Secretary of the Lodge.

The W.M. for the ensuing year, although a young Mason, bids fair to be an active one, having evinced during the time he has been a member of the Lodge, such readiness in attaining that knowledge so requisite to fill the chair with honour to himself, and advantage to the Lodge, that he has fully convinced the Brethren their choice will prove a happy one ; indeed, the admirable manner in which he initiated two gentlemen into Masonry fully proved that Bro. J. Whittall, Paymaster, *R.N.*, has richly deserved the Gavel.

The following Brethren were then invested, Bros. Bigley, S.W. ; Capt. Forbes, *R.A.*, J.W. ; Courts, S.D. ; Kitt, J.D. ; L. Shrubsole, Tr. ; Townsend, S. ; Bates, I.G. ; and Wilkins, T.

The Lodge having been closed, the Brethren, to the number of twenty-seven, sat down to an excellent banquet, arranged by their judicious Steward, Bro. Bigley, and provided by "mine host," Bro. Davis of the Fountain. The usual toasts were ably proposed by the W.M., and cordially responded to by the Brethren, and a high fund of comic humour emanated from Bros. Swandale, Keddell, Sen. and Jun.

The prospects of Masonry at Sheerness, are, at present, peculiarly promising, many initiations having taken place during the past year, and those of a character calculated to raise the Lodge to a high position in the Province, as well as to extend Masonry, inasmuch as several of the newly initiated are officers of the army and navy. We are happy to state that three candidates for initiation were proposed for the next Lodge night. Nor is this pleasing prospect confined to Craft Masonry ; the Chapter attached to the Lodge is also prospering, and we have no doubt that both Lodge and Chapter will bear the test of any visit in the summer season from our Metropolitan and Provincial Brethren.

We have much pleasure in stating that the Lodge unanimously voted £5, in aid of the Patriotic Fund, which was forwarded to London last month.

LANCASHIRE.

GRAND MASONIC LIVERPOOL BALL.—This splendid entertainment sustained, on Tuesday, the 9th of January, its well-deserved reputation, from the magnificence of the scene, the liberality of the arrangements, the beauty of the music, and the excellence and plenteousness of the refreshments; upwards of five hundred and fifty ladies and gentlemen participated in the enjoyment. The elegant suite of rooms, by permission of the Mayor, was thrown open at half-past eight; dancing commenced at nine, and was continued with great spirit till four o'clock the following morning. The bands, of which there were three, namely, a quadrille band in each ball-room, and a military band in the vestibule, were furnished by Bro. G. Wielopolski Phillips. The supper was supplied by Bro. Lawton, of the Bee Hotel, in his usual *recherche* style. Bro. Lawton and Miss Annie Lawton undertook the general management. The modelling and ornamental work was executed by Mr. Eve, and it was remarked as unusually effective. It included the arms of Liverpool, the arms of England, and many fanciful and artistic productions. The proceeds of the ball, as heretofore, are to be applied in aid of the funds of the West Lancashire Masonic Institution for the education and advancement in life of children of distressed Masons. The ball was held under most distinguished patronage.

OLDHAM.—On Wednesday the 3rd inst. the Brethren of the Lodge of Friendship, No. 344, celebrated the Festival of St. John the Evangelist, in their new room, which has just been completed and decorated in a very characteristic and Masonic manner, rendering it one of the most commodious and best Lodge rooms in the Province.

The Lodge was opened at two o'clock. After the confirmation of the minutes of the preceding meeting, and the transaction of some preliminary business, the W.M. elect, Bro. Daniel Evans, was duly installed; the beautiful installation ceremony being performed in a very impressive manner by the Prov. J.G.D. of East Lancashire, Bro. Isaac Gaitskell, P.M. and P.Z., of No. 344. The following officers were then invested for the year, viz.:—Bros. John Bamford, P.M.; Henry W. Litler, S.W.; J. Booth, J.W.; Thomas Mattinson, Treas.; the Rev. J. S. Hague, Chap.; W. Hudson, Sec.; Robert Holt, D.C.; S. Cooper, S.D.; J. Sharples, J.D.; Edwin Travis, I.G.; R. Greaves, Org.; W. Blackburn and J. N. Breakey, Stewards; and U. Shaw, Tyler. The banquet took place at five o'clock. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts followed, but our limits will not permit us to give even an outline of the speeches, many of which were excellent, enlivened by several beautiful glees, by members of the "Lancashire Choral Union." In the course of the evening the W.M., in a very feeling and impressive address, presented Bro. John Bamford, on his passing the Chair, with a beautiful P.M.'s jewel as a small token of the high esteem entertained for Bro. Bamford by the members of his Lodge, as a mark of their fraternal regard, and of their appreciation of the benefits rendered by him to the Lodge whilst acting as W.M.

The Lodge of Friendship is now in a very flourishing state, numbering upwards of seventy members. A Royal Arch Chapter was attached about three years ago, and on the 21st December last a Knight Templar's Encampment was consecrated.

LINCOLNSHIRE.

BOSTON.—On Thursday, the 28th December, the Brethren of the Lodge of Harmony, No. 389, celebrated the festival of St. John, by dining together at the Woolpack Inn, where "refreshment" was provided by Bro. Button. The newly-installed W.M., Bro. F. Cooke, the Mayor, presided, supported by a company of the P.M.'s, Officers, Brethren, and visiting Brethren.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

PETERBOROUGH.—The Brethren of the St. Peter's Lodge, No. 646, met for the purpose of celebrating their annual festival, and installing their W.M. on St. John's Day, 27th December. The ceremony was ably performed by Bro. J. Hervey, P.M.

of the Lodge, P.S.G.W. of the Province, and S.G.D. of the United Grand Lodge of England. Bro. R. Richardson, immediately after being placed in the Chair, proceeded to initiate a friend of his own, Mr. Greille, in a most masterly manner. After the Masonic business had been concluded, upwards of thirty of the Brethren, amongst whom was the Marquis of Huntley, Prov. G.M., who honoured the meeting with his presence, dined in the Assembly Rooms. The W.M. gave "The Queen and the Craft;" "The M.W. the G.M.;" "Success to the Masonic Charities;" a theme ever grateful to a Mason's heart, of the state and progress of which, at the present period, a brief but beautiful exposition was given by Bro. John Hervey, S.G.D., whose name was coupled by the W.M. with the toast. But the toast which perhaps elicited the most applause was the health of the Prov. G.M., who responded to it in his usual kind, happy, and hearty manner. The health of the D.P.G.M., Bro. Ewart, the W.M., the ladies, and various other toasts were most warmly received, and the Brethren separated after enjoying a most happy day. The following Officers were appointed:—Bros. W. Bodge, S.W.; R. Taverner, J.W.; W. Hart, Treas.; W. Willoughby, Sec.; J. Barton, S.D.; J. Bristow, J.D.; G. F. Buckle, I.G.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

Presentation of a superb Testimonial to the Prov. Grand Master of Nottinghamshire, Col. Wildman, of Newstead Abbey.—The presentation by the Freemasons of Nottinghamshire of a testimonial to Col. Wildman, of Newstead Abbey, Prov. G.M., was celebrated at the Exchange Hall, Nottingham, on Dec. 21st, 1854, with great pomp and *éclat*.

At four p.m. a Prov. G.L. was opened in the magistrates' room, Exchange, for the reception of reports and transaction of the usual business. Exclusive of other officers and members of the G.L., there were present Bros. the Prov. G.M. Col. Wildman; Dep. P.G.M. Dr. Pigot; Bros. Allen, P.G.S.W., Danks, P.P.G.S.W., Bradbury, Sollory, and Davis, P.G. Stewards; Percy, Gr. Sec.; Rev. L. Jackson, P.G. Chap.; the Past and Present Masters and Wardens of the various Lodges in Nottingham, Eastwood, Mansfield, &c., and the representatives of the Prov. G. L. of Derbyshire. At half-past four o'clock the G.L. was closed, and the room appropriated to the reception of visitors, who in great numbers had assembled in the court-room of the building, and were now admitted to pay their respects to the gallant Colonel and the noble Earl (Scarborough). Shortly after five p.m. the company, wearing the appropriate costume, sashes, clothing, and jewels, of the Order, were marshalled in procession, two and two, and proceeded in advance of the Grand Office Bearers, who were now joined by the Mayor of Nottingham, to dinner in the Exchange Hall. The band of the Royal South Notts Yeomanry Cavalry struck up the spirited and beautiful "Freemason's Anthem," as the procession moved forward.

The chair was occupied by the Right Hon. the Earl of Scarborough, Lord Lieutenant of the County. On his right sat the Right W. Prov. G.M. Col. Wildman, wearing the superb gold collar of his office; the Mayor of Nottingham, Sir T. G. A. Parkins, Bart., W.M., 576, Dr. Williams, P.P.G.S.W., E. Percy, P.G. Sec., and M. Mills; whilst on the left of the chair were Dr. Pigot, Dep. Prov. G.M. of Nottinghamshire, Sir Edward Walker, Knt., T. Close, P.G.T., and G. Rawson, P.G.S.D., the Revs. L. Jackson, M. Wilkins, and J. Prior; and amongst the company were Bros. Carter, W.M., of the Forest Lodge, Lindley; Wright, Wakefield, Midworth, W. Neale, C. J. Neale, E. Paulson, Goodacre, S. Hurt, T. Godfrey, Greenhalgh, Jackson, Cooper, Barrenger, S. Allen, Thompson, Revel, Walkden, White, &c. of Mansfield; Bros. Warner, of Manchester; Huggins and Mason, of Derby; R. Barber, J. A. Shaw, and Godber, of Eastwood; and the following members of Nottingham Lodges and visitors, viz., Bros. Aldermen Heymann and Cullen, Lieut. Kingston, R.N., Capt. Wightman, Drs. Ransom and Robertson, H. Hadden, Long, Miller, Tennant, Martin, Hurst, Johnson, W. Maltby, Temple, Goodson, Nixon, Siemers, T. Danks, and R. Allen, T. C. Morrison, N. Hurst, P. V. Hatton, T. A. Cullen, T. Shaw, S. Parr, Abrahams, W. F. Gibson, J. F. Saville, Webster, Semple, T. Forman, Sollory,

Bradbury, Evans, Berenhart, Kidd, Campbell, Barwis, Davis, Hearn, Jacobson, Hoyles, &c.

Bros. W. Page and Comyn officiated as vice-chairmen. Gonfalons charged in emblazonry with the arms and quarterings of Col. Wildman, and the Prov. G. L. were displayed on standards behind the Chairman's platform.

The dinner was served up by Bro. W. H. Malpas, of the Flying Horse Hotel, in his usual elegant style.

Grace before and after meat was said by the Prov. G. Chap. Rev. L. Jackson, of Hucknall. During dinner, the band played a succession of spirited military and other pieces of music. The cloth having been withdrawn,

The Noble CHAIRMAN rose and emphatically pronounced the words "The Queen," which elicited a hearty burst of loyalty and applause.

The Noble CHAIRMAN then gave "His Royal Highness Prince Albert and the Royal Family;" and afterwards "The Grand Master, the Earl of Zetland," which was received with great cheering and applause.

THE TESTIMONIAL.

On the disposal of the above toasts, a novel and interesting ceremony presented itself. The testimonial, consisting of a rich and massive silver Epergne, valued at 200 guineas, and weighing nearly 300 ounces, was introduced in the midst of a procession formed as under, the band enlivening the scene by playing a portion of the "War Gallop."

ADDRESS.

R. Allen, P.G.S.W. | T. Danks, P.P.G.S.W.
E. Percy, Prov. G. Sec.
W.M.'s Allen and Danks, with blue scarfs and wands.

THE TESTIMONIAL.

W.M.'s Bradbury and Comyn, with blue scarfs and wands.

The *coup d'œil* of the whole of the elegant presentation scene was greatly heightened in effect by the remarkably elegant form of the Epergne, and the brilliant exotic flowers with which its seven glasses were crowned. The Epergne, of frosted silver, thirty inches in height, had its prominent portions highly burnished, and was surmounted by cut glass dishes. The base was a massive tripod with sculptured compartments betwixt the boldly enscrolled claws. On these compartments were executed in *basso relievo* three life impersonations of Col. Wildman in his three prominent characteristics. First, of Prov. G.M. Mason in complete costume, and surrounded by Masonic emblems traced in highly burnished lines; then as Colonel of the 7th Hussars, standing beside his war steed in the battle-field, the sword and cannon being brightly burnished; and, finally, as a country gentleman, surrounded by the emblems of agricultural industry. On a shield over the Masonic *bas relief* is inscribed the record of the presentation as follows:—

Presented by the
Freemasons of Nottinghamshire
to
COL. THOMAS WILDMAN,
of Newstead Abbey,
As a token of fraternal esteem and regard
for his valuable services
as Grand Master of the Province,
during a period of thirty-five years.

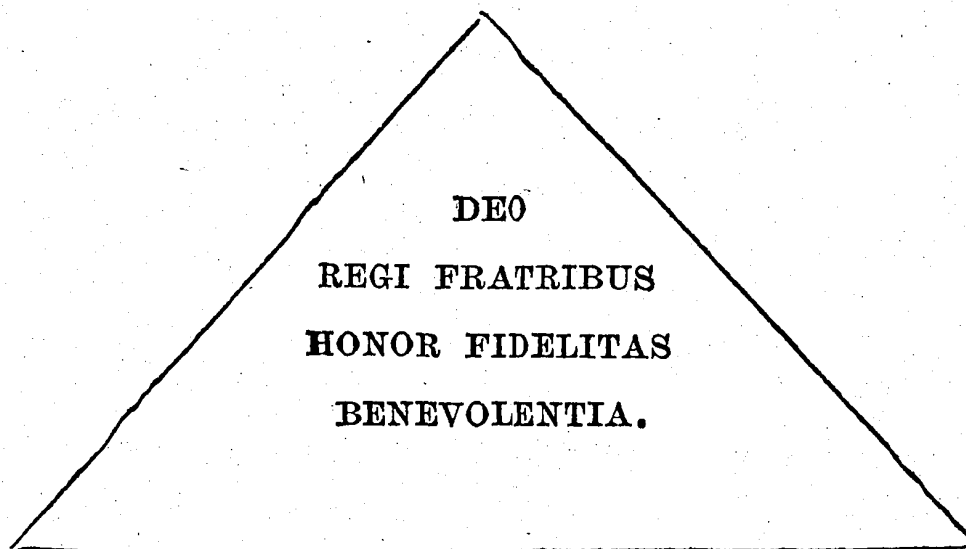
Dec. 21, 1854.

The shield over the hussar, *bas relief*, was charged with the gallant colonel's armorial bearings, and that over the agricultural in like manner, with the arms of the Prov. Grand Lodge. The figures and still-life accessories in these basement sculptures were most artistically executed, and much admired. From above the tripod springs a long-stemmed hollow cup or tube, most gracefully formed of a series of West India palm leaves, beautifully sculptured in frosted silver, as indicative of Colonel Wildman's West India possessions. The central stem bears

externally a fillet sculptured in silver, with the Greek word in burnished relief:—

“EYPHKAMEN!”

“We have found them!”—meaning “Wisdom,” “Strength,” and “Beauty,” represented by three solid silver statuettes of betwixt eight and nine inches in height, standing also upon the massive tripod around the palm stem—the arm of “Wisdom” entwined with the form of the serpent; “Beauty” bearing a magic wand and bunch of flowers; and “Strength” displaying a burnished Greek triangle in actual relief, dependent from his right hand, with this inscription:—



Springing over all from the curved labiæ of the stem-like central calyx, diverge six scroll branches and a central support, sustaining the seven cut glass dishes of the Epergne. This magnificent piece of plate was supplied by Messrs. Danks and Nixon, Beast Market Hill, Nottingham, who engaged to execute it by the most eminent London artists in silver.

The noble CHAIRMAN, upon the deposition of the plate upon the table, rose, and proposing the health of the Prov. G.M., Colonel Wildman, which was drank with all the honours and bursts of “Masonic firing,” then called upon the Prov. G. Sec., Bro. Percy, to read the accompanying address:—

Bro. PERCY, P.G.S., then said—My lord: I have the honour of reading the address presented on this occasion to the Prov. G.M., which is as follows:—

Address from the ancient, free, and accepted Masons of Nottinghamshire to Col. Wildman, of Newstead Abbey, Provincial Grand Master.

Right Worshipful Sir and Brother.—In the name of the Freemasons of Nottinghamshire, we joyfully avail ourselves of this opportunity to express our deep respect and affectionate attachment to you as our Prov. G.M., and to beg your acceptance of the accompanying piece of plate. As G.M. of this Province for nearly thirty-five years, we gratefully acknowledge the valuable services you have rendered to our venerable Order, and the zeal and ability with which you have upheld and extended the principles of Masonry. At the present time, when all hearts are stirred and beat high with enthusiasm at the gallant deeds of our noble soldiers in the East, our thoughts naturally recur with thankfulness to the period, when, for so many years, you were a distinguished member of that band of heroes who upheld the honour of England under the departed brother of the Craft and great Captain of the age, the immortal Wellington, and shared in his crowning triumph on the field of Waterloo. Nor can we omit to bear our cordial testimony to the social and domestic virtues you have so long exhibited as a country gentleman, as a landlord, and as a friend and neighbour. Your name will long be held in honour as the ancient friend and schoolfellow of the noble and greatest poet, and as the munificent restorer of his much loved home, the “time-honoured Abbey of Newstead.” In conclusion, and with “all humility and reverence,” we supplicate the Divine Disposer of Events to bless and keep you and your inestimable wife, preserve you in peace for many years to come, and guard you in happiness through the evening of life, and when you are called to leave this “sublunary abode,” may you pass in faith and pious trusting to those “immortal mansions” where “the World’s Great Architect lives and reigns for ever.”—December 21, 1854.

At the close of this address, the band concluded the “War Gallop” with pistol

accompaniments, the whole company upstanding, and finishing off with a hearty cheer.

COL. WILDMAN then rose to reply, amidst enthusiastic cheering. He said—My lord, and Brethren. Often as I have had the honour of addressing the Brethren of this Province, I most assuredly never rose to do so under the influence of feelings in any respect to be compared to those which now, at this moment, warm my heart towards them; and I must necessarily beg the indulgence of this company if, from the strong emotion which these sentiments inspire, I should find myself unequal to give expression to my feelings in as full and impressive language as I could wish. To do so, would indeed require far greater gifts of natural eloquence than I can by any means lay claim to. Brethren, when an individual has devoted, for a long series of years, his exertions to carry out one favourite pursuit, and at the end of his career has obtained for his reward the approbation and regard of those who have supported him, and whose good opinion he most values and esteems, he may well deem himself a most fortunate and happy man (applause). And now, Brethren, when I look upon that elegant and splendid work of art which you have here placed before me, and when I recur to that beautiful and, to me, most interesting address by which it is accompanied, I cannot but feel that my debt of gratitude to you is of a threefold character; and, however clearly I may perceive that your kindness and partiality have exaggerated any merits of mine, at the same time I feel proud, doubly, trebly proud, of such a testimonial as you have awarded me, and of your so proclaiming your approbation and esteem (loud cheers). Brethren, you have kindly thought fit, in presenting this testimonial and address, to advert to my humble services during the late war. Alas! those were long, long forgotten, but the memory of them has again been vividly refreshed and brought back to my recollection by the glorious achievements of our gallant army in the East. I cannot but look back upon those stirring times and those noble achievements, when the noble chief who now leads them learned the art of war, in many a battle field, by the side of the great Wellington, and has certainly proved himself, both as a man and a warrior, a most apt pupil of the Great Captain of his age. Brethren, it has been well said, "The warrior is no patriot, save when, obedient to his country's call, he draws the sword of justice." Never did justice more loudly call, and never was her call more nobly answered than it has been by our gallant countrymen and their ancient rivals, now their glorious allies, banded together to defend the rights of nations, of Europe, and the world—banded together to resist the foul encroachments and inordinate ambition of a base and unprincipled despot (loud cheers). We may fairly exclaim in allusion to the pending struggle,

"Oh war, when Right thine arm employs
And Freedom's spirit guides the lab'ring storm,
'Tis then thy vengeance takes a hallowed form,
And, like Heaven's lightning, sacredly destroys."

But, Brethren, I must strive to set aside these old recollections to which I have been led back, and remember that I am now the quiet country gentleman. There are duties, and important ones, attached to that position, which I must endeavour to discharge with all the ability of which I am capable, being encouraged by the support and approbation of all my most valued friends and neighbours. And now, Brethren, I really feel somewhat pained to have occasion to talk so much of myself (hear). I think it was the Prince de Ligné who said, "*Je n'aime pas parler de moi; et le mot Je m'est odieux quand je m'en sers.*" [I love not to speak of myself; and the word I is odious to me whenever I must use it.] These are my sentiments also; and if you, Brethren, are tired of this egotistical harangue, it is your own kindness, partiality, and liberality, which have placed me under the necessity of inflicting it upon you. I hope, therefore, I may now be permitted to say, that I come to that character in which I more especially appear before you on this occasion, that of Prov. G.M. of Nottinghamshire, appointed to this high office, I believe, some thirty-five years ago; selected first by the illustrious prince who then presided over the Craft, the very name of the Duke of Sussex was a sure passport to the confidence and affection of the Masonic body; for if ever the

mind and heart of man were fully and truly imbued with the real feelings and principles of Masonry, it was that of his royal highness. And I do consider it the most honourable, important, and gratifying circumstance of my life, to have enjoyed the confidence and friendship of that illustrious man. It would neither be suitable nor convenient, on the present occasion, to enter into any details of the history of Masonry, during the last thirty years, in this Province; but for their result, I would say to the Brethren present, and to the visitors this evening, "Look around you." To the Brethren from other Provinces I would say, "Visit our Lodges; you will be received with kindness and hospitality, and may judge for yourselves of the manner in which they are conducted." But I would say more than that, Brethren; I would caution visitors that we do not confine ourselves to the more strict performance of the rites and ceremonies of our ancient Order; no, we aim at something higher, and are anxious to instil into the members of the Craft, those high principles and rules which are calculated to exalt the character of man. I remember a French precept, which I hold to possess particular aptitude, conciseness, and meaning, with reference to my noble friend on the left (the noble chairman): "*Noblesse oblige*." This I shall take leave to apply to Masonry, and say, "*La maçonnerie oblige*," which I may interpret simply in this way, viz.: that a Brother should always be ready to say, "such and such follies are improper—because I am a Mason" (loud cheers). That is the principle which ought to reign in the breast of every one. Yet, my Brethren, I am not going to read you a moral lecture, which is quite unnecessary, and would be out of place here. Yet if the great principles and important objects of our Order have been successfully carried out in this Province; if our numbers have greatly increased; if, in addition to this great accession, numerous new Lodges have sprung up; if the manner in which the Craft has been conducted amongst us, has been such as to gain the approbation of the Grand Lodge of England, and the Grand Lodges of the neighbouring Provinces, it is not to the exertions of one individual alone that such results are to be attributed. Brethren, I will not attempt to pretend, with any false modesty, that I have not warmly and zealously used my best exertions in a cause which I have so much at heart. But those exertions would have been unavailing and futile without the efficient support and assistance afforded me by Brethren whose talents, experience, knowledge, and attainments have been always readily brought forward to my aid. By the leading members of the Craft I have been admirably supported throughout. I see, even now, around me—though only but a few—some of those who were amongst them when I first came in; and, since then, I have met with numbers whose conduct has been truly fraternal. And now, Brethren, I will merely say, with respect to this beautiful testimonial before me, that had it been a Sprig of Heather from the forest so presented, I should have esteemed it above all price. As it is, a model of art, having everything in keeping, I shall only say that it will be treasured as one of my proudest possessions, one of my brightest heirlooms, which I hope may be transmitted down as a precious relic, by which this day may be had in remembrance in my family. (The gallant colonel sat down amidst loud and protracted enthusiasm).

Colonel WILDMAN almost immediately rose and said, I rise again to propose the health of a nobleman with which I feel sure you will all be delighted. I myself feel especially grateful to him for coming here this day, which, however, is only of a piece with his constant kindness towards me. Those who have been much amongst us and all his colleagues, know how he conducts himself as a Mason; and what is extraordinary, I had the honour and pleasure of making him a Mason. When Master of the Royal Sussex Lodge, I had the honour of making Lord Scarborough a Mason, and raising him to the second degree. It was after my time that he attained to the Mastership; but I need not tell you that his heart is truly Masonic, and filled with every noble feeling. "The health of the Earl of Scarborough, Lord Lieutenant of the county." (Masonic honours.)

The Noble CHAIRMAN in reply said—Right Worshipful Grand Master, Brethren, and Gentlemen—In rising to thank you for the honour which the Grand Master has conferred upon me in proposing, and you in receiving, the toast which has just been drank, I feel quite unable to find words suited to the occasion. I feel

extremely grateful for your kindness. At the same time, as a Mason, I am sorry to say I have neglected many of my duties ; but I only feel, on that account, the more strongly the kind manner in which you have received the toast which the Grand Master has done me the honour to propose. I am extremely gratified that my presence, on this occasion, should have afforded me an opportunity of witnessing the kindly feeling which has been testified towards my old and kind friend, the Grand Master. At the same time I may be allowed (though I have been rather remiss in the discharge of my own duties) to observe, that I have always felt that Institutions like these were the greatest pride of the country. Had I been able earlier in life to see the merits of associations such as these, I should, no doubt, have been a better and more accomplished Mason ; for although, perhaps, not very well qualified for taking the lead upon occasions like this, I beg leave, at the same time, to assure you that I am not wanting in inclination or zeal towards the cause in which we are all embarked, and will never be found sparing of my exertions in favour of the Fraternity. I beg again to assure you how grateful I am for the kind manner in which you have received the toast, and also to express my sincere thanks to the Prov. G.M. for the manner in which he has proposed it. (Applause.)

The Noble CHAIRMAN then said—Gentlemen and Brethren—In the list of toasts I perceive I am set down to propose one—a toast which you will all, I am convinced, receive with the greatest enthusiasm. I beg to propose “ The Army and Navy, and our gallant Allies.” Drank with three cheers for the “ Army and Navy and Allies.”

Colonel WILDMAN rose to reply, saying—Brethren—I find that I am put down as the person to return thanks for this toast. As a soldier, I have already made acknowledgments for your kindness, and can again do so with every kind feeling. But, Brethren, with regard to those who are now engaged in active service, I can assure you that I envy them from the bottom of my heart—especially in their alliance with those noble Frenchmen. It may seem strange for me to say this—an old soldier—particularly when it is recollected that, as a child in the nursery, I was taught to regard the French as the most horrible bugbears and savages. But what was our condition when we first went to war with them, and found ourselves allied to a miserable race of Spaniards, and opposed as enemies to these noble Frenchmen ? Having, in after times, contracted many friendships with French officers, I have learnt to appreciate them for what they are, am proud of the alliance we have formed, and really envy our soldiers who have to fight side by side with such noble allies (applause).

Colonel WILDMAN shortly again rose and said—Brethren, you will see that your kindness has brought me upon my legs again. I am called upon to propose a toast, to do which yields me the utmost delight, as I am sure it will be received with the greatest pleasure. Long as I have known the county of Nottingham, and connected as I have been in many ways with this town, I have always found the principles and views of Masons actuating the first magistrates of the town and county. This very evening we are indebted to the kindness and hospitality of the Mayor of Nottingham for the use of this noble apartment. Having the pleasure of the company of that gentleman on this occasion, I am sure you will all cordially join with me in drinking the health of “ The Mayor of Nottingham and Magistrates ” (applause).

The MAYOR said—My lord and gentlemen, in rising to respond to the toast, allow me to thank you for affording me the honour of being present on this most interesting occasion. It was not necessary for me to be a Member of the Craft to enable me to enter into the feelings with which you have so gracefully marked your respect for your esteemed Provincial Grand Master. It would be presumptuous on my part, after the eloquent address which has been read to you, to attempt any eulogy of the character of Colonel Wildman. I can only say that I subscribe to every sentiment of that address, and that it not only echoes my feelings but those of all this large community. Few men are more highly esteemed amongst us than Colonel Wildman. As chief magistrate of this town, I am new in office, and cannot refer back to anything in my own merits which could mark the estimation upon which it has pleased my fellow-townsmen to place me in the

discharge of the highest duties amongst them, perhaps unworthily, but which I shall endeavour to discharge to the best of my ability ; and if I shall meet with the approbation of my fellow townsmen, their thanks will amply compensate me. The gentlemen I am now associated with, and with whom I do feel it an honour to act as borough magistrates, merit your esteem ; by them justice is discharged firmly and emphatically ; and whilst they are a terror to evil-doers, the unfortunate always receive from them merciful consideration (loud cheers). With these imperfect remarks I return you my own and the borough magistrates' most grateful thanks.

Bro. T. CLOSE then rose and said, My lord and Bro. Masons, a toast has been entrusted to my care to which I purpose especially to allude, a little later, when you will see that, in entire connection with that toast, I desire, with your kind permission, to indulge in a few preliminary remarks, which my heart tells me should be uttered, although my tongue may fail to do them justice. As an old Mason in the Province and an old and intimate friend of the Prov. G.M., I would crave permission to be allowed once more to revert to the beautiful testimonial which has just been presented to our honoured friend and Brother. In looking at the effigies of the human figure sculptured upon it in *bas relief* in three distinct attributes of the country gentleman, soldier, and G.M. Mason, I would again refer to the separate phases of this threefold character in which he whom we have this day met to honour is therein represented. On each of these I would wish now to offer a few observations. In the first place then I would allude to his character as a gallant soldier ; but here permit me to trespass on your patience for a few moments in order to refer to his earlier days in his boyhood at the celebrated school of Harrow ; for Lord Byron was his playfellow at that school ; and little could the poet have then imagined that in the companion of his youthful sports he saw the friend of his manhood, the future owner of his manor, and the conservator and restorer of the beautiful mansion in which through so long a series of years his illustrious forefathers had been cradled. From Harrow to Oxford and from Oxford to the army as a gallant Hussar were rapid steps. In the Peninsular War the young Hussar contended with great bravery and chivalrous courage, fighting in that band of heroes which quelled and triumphed over no ordinary foes but the numerous, disciplined, brave, and well-directed forces of that great man, the great Napoleon. After the peace of Paris, in the next conflict, he served as the aide-de-camp of the chivalrous Anglesea, and fought at that great victory which was gained at Waterloo against those daring and brave men till then the hereditary enemies of our country—but henceforward, thank God, to prove as I believe, our foremost friends and surest allies. It is glorious to see the two magnificent armies of the two nations, France and England, ranged not in hostile but in united ranks, combating not for miserable and ambitious projects or selfish purposes, but arrayed against the Attila of modern days, and his barbarian Huns who threaten the liberties of modern Europe. May the glorious slopes of Inker-mann, where each man proved himself a hero, obliterate every painful reminiscence of the concluding struggle in which our gallant friend appeared for the last time as a soldier on the plains of Belgium. Peace came ; for after the battle of Waterloo Othello's occupation was gone : but other pursuits engaged the attention of our Prov. G.M. ; and through the acquisition of the lordly *demesne* of Newstead he became connected for the first time with the county of Nottingham. I will not here say in his presence, all that I think of his bearing in this his second character of a country gentleman. You all know the qualities of his heart, benevolence, kindness, princely hospitalities, and how charitable, yet conscientious he is in the administration of justice as a magistrate. But it would be altogether unpardonable in a meeting of Masons not to allude to the fine taste and feeling displayed in his restoration of the ruinous mansion of the Byrons, and especially to the admirable care he has evinced in the scrupulous preservation of every architectural feature, of every heraldic allusion, even of every tree, and every association allied to the home of the Byrons (loud cheers). A vain or selfish man would have pursued another course. Nor must I fail to notice the gracious liberality with which that mansion has been thrown open every day of the year to every pilgrim who has come to contemplate the lovely ruins of Newstead Abbey, or to pay his homage

at the shrine of Byron's genius. If we may suppose that the spirit of the immortal poet of Nottinghamshire still hovers around the disrupted, consecrated, and beautiful *facade* of the Abbey Church, or, thanks to our Prov. G.M., the now no longer ruined halls which form the "vast and venerable pile" of Newstead, it surely must look down and smile with satisfaction upon the labours of the companion of his youth, and rejoice that henceforth in the records of history and more especially in the annals of Nottinghamshire will continue entwined and interlaced for ever with the name of Byron that of Wildman. I now come to that third part of our friend's character, which to us as Masons must be dearest of all. It were unnecessary to dwell in this Province on the important services which have been rendered to the cause of Masonry by our Prov. G.M. Nearly every gentleman present is deeply sensible of his merits in this capacity; for most have experienced proofs of his considerate kindness and opportune assistance. Who that has ever heard him, can forget the deep feeling, the earnest tones of his voice, and his impressive manner when the stranger is introduced to the mysteries of our Craft, or when permitted to plunge still deeper into them,—could fail to be deeply impressed with his honesty of purpose? I cannot abstain from alluding to what I regard as the peculiar idiosyncrasy of Colonel Wildman's character, that wonderful amiability of disposition which positively compels him to make so far as may be in his power a friend of every individual who may approach him whatever may be his rank or station. Surely this is the attribute of a good man. How appropriate seem the beautiful words of Sheridan Knowles, applied to such a career! It is Hero who speaks looking out of a window—

"Whether mine eye with a new spirit sees,
Or nature is grown lovelier, I know not;
But ne'er, methinks, was sunset half so sweet!
He's down, and yet his glory still appears
Like to the memory of a well spent life,
That's golden to the last, and when 'tis o'er
Shines in the witnesses it leaves behind."

But thank God the life of the sun of Newstead is not spent; it shines upon us now, and is conscious of the "witnesses" of its worth and goodness. Having trespassed thus far upon you, I now propose my toast, "The Masonic Charities and Mrs. Wildman" (loud cheers). Of Mrs. Wildman I can say this much that she is not well, otherwise she would be here, in Nottingham. It is impossible to speak as they deserve of the excellent qualities of Mrs. Wildman. I never can forget her kindness of disposition; the graceful manner in which she dispenses the hospitalities of Newstead; and her affectionate attachment as a wife; for I know that her greatest pleasure is occasioned by doing justice to the merits of her husband and being silent upon her own. With regard to The Charities of Masonry, she supports and promotes them in every way she can. I know therefore that you will join me in drinking "The Masonic Charities and Mrs. Wildman" (applause).

Col. WILDMAN, in acknowledgment, said,—My kind brethren, I believe that if I were to rise fifty times this night you would kindly receive me; but allow me to remark that there are various sorts of fortitude; great fortitude there may be in bearing affliction, but there must be greater in bearing such kindness. I might almost say to my friend on the left, "*et tu, Brute,*" and I might certainly say he has driven his dagger home to my heart by the manner, in which he has been pleased to speak of that kind partner who is the blessing of my life, and who for so many years has made me happy. She is more connected with Masonry than most ladies, because she is a Life Governess of the Masonic Charities, both for boys and girls, and very few except her Majesty possess the same privilege. I shall report to Mrs. Wildman the manner in which you have accepted this toast, and I am sure that nothing will affect her more deeply than to know she is respected amongst my Masonic brethren (applause).

Dr. WILLIAMS said, the Committee had done him the honour to request him to propose a toast—"the Magistrates of the County of Nottingham." He felt quite sure he need not eulogise them in reference to their private capacities. Whenever

the borough magistrates had occasion to meet them, they derived from them the greatest assistance. In short, as they were acquainted with them all, he need not mention their good qualities, but should at once propose "the Magistrates of Nottinghamshire."

Sir EDWARD WALKER, Knt., said, he found that he was expected to return thanks for the magistrates of the county; he only wished that the G.M. had entrusted the task to some more worthy officer of his staff. He could only say that the magistracy of the county were actuated by impartiality in their decisions, and that, if they ever wavered, it was from the inclination to incline the balance on the side of the oppressed (cheers).

The noble CHAIRMAN proposed as the next toast "the Deputy Provincial Grand Master of Nottinghamshire" (enthusiastically responded to).

Dep. Prov. G.M., Dr. PIGOT, in acknowledging the toast which they had done him the honour of drinking, said, that he had enjoyed the felicity a great many years, almost a quarter of a century, of acting as the Deputy of that estimable man in whose honour they had met. In other Provinces the situation of Dep. G.M. was one of some responsibility and great labour, but in the Province of Nottingham it was a sinecure; for Col. Wildman, who had been made G.M. by a great Prince whom they had all respected (cheers), took upon himself all the labour. In conclusion, he would call attention to those labourers who were in the field that day, eulogistically alluding to the labours of Bros. Danks, Comyn, Bradbury, Sollory, and last, not least, Bro. R. Allen, to whom he paid some handsome compliments, and finally proposed the health of the latter gentleman.

Bro. R. ALLEN, in acknowledging the compliment, thought that those Brethren who were working with him in Masonry, would bear him out when he expressed himself more delighted that their arrangements for the day had proved satisfactory, than in having his name brought forward in this prominent manner. The remarks of the Dep. Prov. G.M. were only what he had expected from his kind Brother; but, for his part, he much rather studied to cherish, as a working Mason, the three Masonic principles of BROTHERLY LOVE, RELIEF, and TRUTH. After a few more remarks, Bro. R. Allen added, that had the name of Bro. Danks been put in place of his, perhaps more, and certainly not less, justice would have been done. That was the proudest day of his life, which enabled him to testify to the merits and worth of his esteemed Bro. Danks.

The Noble CHAIRMAN then proposed "The Provincial Grand Master and Grand Lodge of Derbyshire," which was received with loud cheers.

Colonel WILDMAN then rose and said: Brethren, I once more claim your attention: My worthy Deputy in the conducting of the affairs of this Province has in some measure already forestalled the toast, and like the one given by him it also is not upon the list. The worthy Deputy has occupied your attention in proposing the health of a Brother who is an efficient member of the Craft, but whose coadjutors have not been put forward so prominently as they deserve. Others who have acted with him have rendered themselves equally conspicuous by their services and assistance. As the Senior Grand Wardens of this Province, the next in rank to myself and Deputy, they have discharged the duties of their high office with the same credit as others who have held office before them. I refer particularly to worthy Bro. Danks, a P.S.G.W. of this Lodge, to whom I might say I was indebted for my first reception as a Mason, having sat side by side with him, and although I may not venture to say what I thought of him, lest it might appear like fulsome eulogy, his agreeable manners and information deeply impressed me; I have known him ever since, and the long lapse of thirty years has only served to improve my opinion of a coadjutor who has proved my support and stay, and everything I could wish. I see only one other Brother present who was a member of the Lodge at that time; but soon afterwards I formed the acquaintance of Dr. Pigot as a visitor; and long afterwards many others of my firm supporters and assistants in the Craft joined us. To them all I feel a deep debt of gratitude, and amongst others whom I see present I may be permitted to mention the Grand Secretary (Bro. Percy), whose services I shall never forget. Than thanking the united Brethren for these services I know no task more delightful, and I only wish that every other Province in the kingdom could show such a Grand Lodge. I

give you "The Senior and Junior Grand Wardens and Office Bearers and Past Office Bearers of the Grand Lodge of Nottinghamshire, coupled with the name of Bro. T. Danks" (applause).

Bro. T. DANKS returned thanks for the honour done him, which he accepted with the greatest gratitude. He had sufficient experience in Masonry to know that he must do whatever he was told to do by his superior; and as he had been told that he must get up and return thanks for the health which had been drank, he felt bound to do it. The Grand Master had reminded him of many circumstances connected with the officers of the Grand Lodge and its Past officers; and he could only say, that they had done their duty to the best of their ability. The example set them by their Grand Master rendered neglect impossible. He had heard with delight the eulogy which had been passed upon the Prov. G.M. by Bro. Close, as a warrior and as a country gentleman, but the only character they knew him by here was that of a Mason, and he could render him a tribute in that character as strong as was possible in any other character (cheers). He honoured him as a working Mason, and in that capacity he was an example to the whole kingdom. As a working Mason he had been enabled to raise them from the lowest depths; for they were upon a very low scale of Masonry before he came amongst them, and by his efforts and excellent conduct they had become what they saw them that day (cheers).

Bro. E. PERCY, G.S., had a toast to propose before they parted, which he felt sure nobody would omit to drink, it was the health of the governing body of that borough. Gentlemen who had lived for their whole lives, as he had done, in that town, and watched the rise and progress of events, must have seen with what degree of talent and success the corporation of Nottingham had addressed itself to effect very great improvements in the town. Their ideas seemed to have become enlarged and expanded co-existently with what the town of Nottingham was likely to become. There was one point especially worthy of notice in the history of the town, and it was that it had been one of the very few Corporations of England which, when their charters had been menaced by the then reigning sovereign had refused to be coerced. He congratulated their Dep. G.M. on the circumstance that his ancestors had been amongst those who had withstood these encroachments. He thought, therefore, they might well emulate the motto which the town bore upon its banner "*Vivit post funera virtus*." He proposed "The Corporation of Nottingham and Mr. Alderman Heymann" (applause).

Mr. Alderman HEYMANN in reply, said, every corporation which exercised its privileges aright was a Parliament in itself; and he did believe that, without these ancient bodies we should not stand so much the envy and admiration of all the world. It would be very bad taste in him to enlarge on this matter; but he did feel that an honour had been conferred upon him—a foreigner, though not an alien—for he felt as proud of being considered an Englishman as any one there, and entered into matters affecting the interests of that town with as much warmth as any man could. And he could not forget, as a German, that in the Baltic provinces and in some others, whence a part of our population came, there were at the present time institutions such as Mr. Macaulay describes them to have been in England 200 or 300 years ago; and he wished in his heart that the institutions which did so much for this country were carried back to the ancient race also (cheers).

Bro. CLOSE moved the thanks of the company to the noble Earl for presiding; which were heartily accorded. The band struck up a Masonic air, and Colonel Wildman bowing to the Brethren as he passed, left the room, attended by the noble Chairman, the Mayor, Sir Thomas Parkyns, Sir Edward Walker, Messrs. Close, Williams, Percy, and the Office Bearers of the G.L.

OXFORDSHIRE.

OXFORD.—On Wednesday, the 27th Dec., the Brethren of the Alfred City Lodge assembled at the Masonic Hall, for the purpose of installing the W.M. elect, Bro. John Thorp, son of Mr. Alderman J. Thorp. The ceremony of installation was admirably performed by Bro. R. J. Spiers, P.G.S.B. of England, and late Mayor of this city. On the conclusion of the ceremony, the W.M. appointed

the following Brethren to be his Officers for the year :—Bro. J. T. Hester, S.W. ; Bro. Houghton, J.W. ; Bro. Rev. J. S. Sidebotham, Chap. ; Bro. T. Randall, Tr. ; Bro. J. G. Betteris and Hobbs, Secs. ; Bro. E. Bevers, S.D. ; Bro. Rainsford, J.D. ; Bro. Rev. T. Russell, St. John's College, Dir. of Cer. ; Bros. Marshall and T. B. Hosken, Wor. Coll., Organists ; Bro. E. G. Bruton, I.G. ; Bros. Fraser and Thurland, Stewds. ; Bro. Bull, T. A large number of Brethren, including the Dep. Prov. G.M. Bro. Capt. Bowyer, Bro. Alderman R. J. Spiers, Bro. Alderman J. C. Dudley, Bro. T. Joy, the W.M. of the Churchill Lodge, Bro. Rev. W. P. Walsh, vicar of Stanton Harcourt, were present. No less than fourteen P.M.'s sat down to an elegant banquet provided by the Stewards, Bros. Fraser and Thurland. The W.M. was well supported by all his Officers, and presided in a very able manner, introducing the various toasts neatly and concisely, affording the best proof that he was qualified to discharge the duties which the Brethren by their unanimous voice have selected him to fulfil. The addresses of the late W.M. (Bro. Randall), of Capt. Bowyer (who expressed his desire to become a joining member of this Lodge), and Br. Spiers, were well timed, and couched in striking and appropriate terms. The evening was spent in that happy and social manner so peculiar to this Order, and, judging from the "opening day" of the new W.M., and the number of initiations which will shortly take place, there is every reason to hope that the coming year will be as prosperous, as far as Masonry is concerned, as the last.

MASONIC MAYORS.—It is worthy of notice, that the civic chair of this city has been filled during the last three years by members of the Masonic body, viz. :—the present Mayor, Bro. Alderman Sadler, for the third time ; Bro. Alderman R. J. Spiers, the late Mayor ; and Bro. Alderman J. C. Dudley, Mayor in the previous year. In the Town Council there are four Aldermen and eight Councillors who belong to the fraternity.

SOUTH WALES.

CARMARTHEN.—On the celebration of the Festival of St. John the Evangelist, the members of the Lodge of Saint Peter, No. 699, received into the Order the following distinguished persons, who were initiated by our old friend, Bro. Ribbans :—Colonel Watkins, M.P. ; James Bower, Esq., Barrister-at-Law ; William Olive Bird, Esq., of the 10th Hussars ; John Thirlwall, Esq., Barrister-at-Law. This was a proud day for the Brethren of No. 699, and one that will not be forgotten by those who took part in the proceedings. There is so much elegance and courtesy in the manner of Bro. Ribbans's natural and easy method of *making*, that every one must admire, and such readiness to impart instruction as every Brother must respect. On this occasion Colonel Watkins was pleased to express himself highly delighted with the mode of initiation, especially, as he emphatically said, at the kind and gentle demeanour of the initiating Master.

At the banquet served by Bro. Rees at the Joy Bush Hotel nothing was wanting, and the evening passed in friendly and cheerful converse. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given, and the following is but an imperfect outline of the speeches on the occasion.

On giving the health of the present Master and Father of the Lodge, Bro. Tardrew, Bro. David Morris, the member of Parliament for the borough, paid a high and deserved compliment to that worthy Brother's zeal and readiness at all times to further the interests of Masonry, and of this Lodge in particular.

Bro. Tardrew's reply, coupled with his thanks to the Brethren for the honour they had done him by placing him in the Chair, the support he had ever received from Bro. Ribbans—"Sir," said the esteemed Brother, "had not Bro. Ribbans promised me to give his assistance during my term of office, I could not have accepted the post of Master of this increasing and now good-working Lodge ;" he had known, he added, the proposer of his health upwards of forty years, and as a Freemason, he believed there did not exist a warmer advocate of the society, or a more constant friend to mankind.

The health of the retiring W.M. having been given by Bro. Ribbans, the opportunity was embraced for recapitulating the attention, uniform support, and untiring desire of Bro. Fitzwilliams to benefit this Lodge, who had, during his two

years of office, not only introduced all the new members into the society by this Lodge, but had been the means of enabling the Lodge so to subscribe for the benefit of The Masonic Charities as to constitute the W.M. for the time being a governor of the Girls' School, and the Senior Warden a governor of the Boys' School; and following strictly in the advice given by our late M.W.G.M., the Duke of Sussex, he had carefully studied the stability of the Order by adding only such members as are of the highest respectability. No man had done more for a Lodge than Bro. Fitzwilliams had done for this, his Mother Lodge, and no Brother had ever afforded greater satisfaction as W.M. than Bro. Fitzwilliams.

The healths of the newly initiated having been given, Col. Watkins rose and said:—"Worshipful Sir and Brethren, you have this day been pleased to receive me as a member of your ancient and honourable body, and I consider myself happy in being admitted amongst you. It has long occupied my thoughts, and from all I could glean from various sources I heard everything to cheer, and nothing to daunt me in my wishes. Now, that I know not the day I may be summoned with my regiment to proceed to some foreign station, I resolved to become a Freemason, and Bro. Fitzwilliams kindly undertook thus to introduce me, for which I feel exceedingly obliged to him, as also to you, Worshipful Sir and Brethren, for the kind manner you have shown in responding to the toast. But how shall I express my heartfelt acknowledgments—my inward gratitude to Bro. Ribbans for the considerate attention, and very marked regard he paid me and those who were my companions during the ceremony of initiation—the worthy Brother's address was noble during the ordeal, and deprived my curiosity of all anxiety. I felt as one in the hands of a friend who was determined that I should not experience the slightest uneasiness—and to him—my Brother Ribbans, I thus return my best, my warmest, my devoted thanks, and may God long preserve him amongst us." Bros. Thirlwall, Jones, Thomas, Morris, and Lascelles, enlivened the flying hours by some excellent songs.

Bro. Col. Watkins proposed the health of the host, Bro. Rees, with the thanks of all present for the excellent banquet provided, and a little after ten the Brethren separated, perfectly satisfied that such gatherings serve more than anything else to promote true harmony, and to cultivate the kindest feelings between man and man.

STAFFORDSHIRE.

TIPTON.—*Noah's Ark Lodge, No. 435.*—On the 15th of last month, this Lodge met and elected the Rev. Bro. E. H. A. Gwynne, incumbent of the district parish, W.M. The much respected R.W.P.G.M., Col. Vernon, whose presence is always hailed with delight, visited the Lodge, and was pleased to compliment the officers upon their working and regular attendance, scarcely one being absent any Lodge night during the past year, which speaks volumes for their love of Masonry.

We had occasion a few months ago to record an instance of liberality in this Lodge presenting, with a few more of his friends, a purse of fifty pounds to their Rev. Senior Warden, and we have now to mention the further exercise of their charitable and truly Masonic feelings by their voting five pounds to the Patriotic Fund. The Lodge has also been lately presented with a very handsome silk banner, by Bro. Millard, with new and beautiful tracing boards by Bro. Josiah Creswell, a new carpet by Bro. Howell, new P.M. jewel by Bro. Gwynne, and new collars by Bro. Whitehead. The Brethren are also about to compliment their late worthy and respected P.M., Bro. Warner, P.G.J.W., with a testimonial of esteem, particulars of which, as well as the installation of Bro. Gwynne, will be furnished in our next number.

SUFFOLK.

WOODBIDGE.—The Brethren of the Doric Lodge (No. 96) celebrated the return of the Festival of St. John the Evangelist, at their private room, Doric Place, the 27th Dec., when Bro. George A. Grimwood was duly installed to the chair as W.M. for the ensuing year. Amongst the P.M.'s present, were some from London and other places, members of this Lodge, who annually visit their "Mother," and who

are proud to acknowledge that though she is of ancient days, she is yet admired by the young, and indeed by all who have the advantage of the "Light."

The Brethren afterwards partook of an excellent banquet, provided by Bro. Salmon in his usual style; and with toasts and songs the Brethren enjoyed themselves exceedingly until the Lodge was closed, when the Brethren retired highly delighted with the labours of the day.

WILTSHIRE.

SWINDON.—The Royal Sussex Lodge of Emulation (No. 453) held their Annual Festival at Swindon, on St. John's Day, when Bro. W. F. Gooch was installed W.M. by Bro. D. Gooch, Dep. Prov. G.M. of the Province, who had occupied the Chair of this Lodge for the two previous years, and during which time he initiated into it 38 candidates. This Lodge, and indeed Masonry in general, is in a most prosperous state in this Province, three new Lodges having been opened during the last year, and a very large increase made in the subscribing members, as well as those newly initiated. The Royal Sussex Lodge alone counts upwards of 60 Members. After the ceremony of the installation was finished, Bro. D. Gooch presented the Lodge with a handsome Bible, saying, "W.M., I deem it a great privilege to be permitted, as my last act in this Lodge, before taking my place amongst its P.M.'s, to place on your pedestal this copy of the Volume of the Sacred Law, and to express a hope that you W. Sir and Brethren, will accept it as the strongest proof I can give you of my deep and heartfelt gratitude for the great support and uniform kindness I have received from you all during the two past years that I have had the honour of occupying the Chair. I feel sure that the great prosperity of this Lodge, and the large attendance we have had at our numerous meetings, is mainly due to the truly Masonic spirit, founded on the principles contained in that Holy Work, that has actuated every one of the Brethren; we have met and parted, on all occasions, in perfect harmony and Brotherly love; and the young Brethren amongst us must, I am sure, have been deeply impressed with the good order and propriety that has invariably been observed not only in Lodge, but at our refreshment table. But, Brethren, let me hope (and believe me that I do so most fervently), that our meetings have not been held as a mere form, or for conviviality, and refreshment alone. Let me hope that we have had a higher and nobler object in view, and a more just appreciation of the aim and design of Freemasonry, and that the true labour of the Lodge has been our chief attraction; that our beautiful ceremonies, inculcating as they do the purest and most sublime principles of Morality, Piety, and Virtue, may have led us more earnestly to take this Sacred Volume for our guide, and in all things to consider it as the unerring standard of Truth. Brethren, believe me it is in this Sacred Book pure Freemasonry is to be studied, and doubt not that such study will amply reward you both in time and eternity. Let me also remind you that the solemn obligations you have entered into are not merely to keep our secrets, but in our conduct to practise the virtues taught by this Holy Book, and so to live in this life that we may look forward with cheerfulness, because with hope to that home where we shall be summoned from this sublunary abode to the Grand Lodge above, there to render an account of all our actions; and God grant that it may then be found our time spent in this Lodge has not been spent in vain. To those young Brethren, whom it has been my privilege to initiate into the Order, I would earnestly say, persevere in the study of our mysteries; you will find, as you proceed, how much beauty and meaning is contained in our ceremonies. Nay, Brethren, I feel that without this study these ceremonies must appear to you an outward form without a soul. Let me also entreat you to bear in mind that humility is an essential qualification of a good Mason; do not allow yourselves to be led away by an idea that because you have taken the usual degrees, and may even, perhaps, be able to work our ceremonies, you are, therefore, well versed in Masonry; you may even then be only on the threshold, all the knowledge and the beauty being within; but they are freely open to them who will with humility and diligence seek for them, assisted by the light of this Sacred Volume. I fear, Brethren, I have detained you at too great a length; but the deep interest I take in the welfare of the Lodge must plead my excuse. In conclusion,

let me express a hope that the same kind support and indulgence will be given to my successor, that has been given to me, and that the same Brotherly love and harmony may ever continue to prevail amongst us."

A vote of thanks was passed to Bro. D. Gooch for his present, and for his conduct while in the Chair of the Lodge.

The third ceremony was then very ably worked by the newly installed W.M., giving great promise of his filling the Chair with advantage to the Lodge and credit to himself.

A resolution was unanimously passed, requesting Bro. D. Gooch, P.M., to sit for a Portrait, to be hung in the Lodge room. Last year the Brethren of this Lodge subscribed amongst themselves, independent of the Lodge funds, and presented Bro. D. Gooch with a splendid gold P.M.'s jewel, set with brilliants, as a mark of their esteem.

Bro. E. J. Hutchins, *M.P.*, Prov. G.M. for the eastern division of South Wales, was present, and expressed how pleased he was with the excellent manner in which the work of the Lodge had been performed. The Lodge being closed, the Brethren retired to banquet, which was provided by Bro. Westmacot, of the Goddard Arms, and the evening was spent with the usual Masonic spirit and harmony.

The following is the inscription on this splendid copy of the Volume of the Sacred Law:—

Presented
to the
Royal Sussex Lodge of Emulation, No. 453,
Swindon ;
27th December, 1854 :
By
Bro. DANIEL GOOCH, P.M., D.P.G.M. for Wiltshire,
As an acknowledgment of the great kindness he received while acting as
Worshipful Master.
1853 and 1854.

WORCESTERSHIRE.

WORCESTER.—On Monday, January 1, at its Head-quarters, the Crown Hotel, in this city, the Lodge Semper Fidelis (No. 772) celebrated the great winter festival of the Society, which among Masons is commonly but mythically termed, the Feast of St. John. The W.M. Bro. T. Clutterbuck presided, and the Brethren as usual greatly enjoyed a happy time, their enjoyment having been well aided by the "refreshment" prepared by Bro. Barnett. The festive board was graced by a splendid Severn salmon of 16 lbs. caught that day near to this city, and being the first fish of the season taken in the neighbourhood. On the previous Thursday the Old Worcester Lodge (No. 349) celebrated the same festival at the Bell, on which occasion Bro. Webb presented one of his unrivalled banquets. The W.M. Bro. R. Hill presided.

YORKSHIRE.

YORK.—On St. John's Day, the Freemasons throughout the county had their annual gathering. The members of the York Lodge, the Union, No. 287, dined together at the house of Bro. John March, in Goodramgate. Bro. W. Cowling, W.M., presided, and Bro. R. Farrer, S.W., occupied the vice-chair. The dinner was sumptuous, and excellent in all its details, and the party spent a very delightful evening.

KNIGHT TEMPLARISM.

LANCASHIRE.—It will be in the remembrance of our readers that, in the *Freemasons' Quarterly Magazine* for July last, we announced the Consecration, by Sir Knight Matthew Dawes, V.E., Prov. G.C. of Lancashire, of the Geoffrey de St. Omer Encampment, at Manchester, on the previous 31st May; and we have now

the pleasure of noticing the further progress of Templar Masonry in Lancashire, as exhibited by the V.E.P.G. Commander of that Province having consecrated the Almeric de St. Maur Encampment, stationed at Bolton, on the 13th December last; and also the St. George's Encampment, stationed at Oldham, on the 22nd of the same month. The officers named in the warrant for the Almeric de St. Maur Encampment are the same as those appointed by the warrant for the Geoffrey de St. Omer Encampment, these two Encampments being *united*, and holding their meetings alternately in Manchester and in Bolton, on the days named in their respective warrants; and as the members of these United Encampments reside in different parts of the Province, and some even in the adjoining Province of Cheshire, it is hoped that the reunion, from time to time, of Sir Knights living at a distance from each other, will not only cement the ties of Knight Templarism, but will diffuse a general good feeling, and a uniformity in the mode of working and conducting the business of Encampments in this Province, which cannot but be beneficial to the general interests of the Order; and when we inform our readers that these United Encampments have taken for their model, in every respect, the Observance Encampment in London (of which the V.E.P.G. C. of Lancashire is a member), we have stated sufficient to show, to every Knight Templar acquainted with the Observance, that the United Encampments of Almeric de St. Maur, and of Geoffrey de St. Omer, are exactly what are wanted to elevate the tone of Templar Masonry in the Provinces.

The officers named in the warrant for the St. George's Encampment, stationed at Oldham, were Sir Knight J. G. Blackburne, who was duly installed as E. C. by the V. E. the P.G. C. of Lancashire, and Sir Knights Thomas Mattinson and John Wrigley, who were likewise duly installed by the E.C. as first and second Captains. The attendance of Sir Knights at the consecration of this Encampment was not numerous, owing to the tempestuous state of the weather; but the D.P.G. C., Sir Knight Royds, honoured the Encampment with his presence, and Sir Knights Stephen Smith, Ellis, and Bell, of the Jerusalem Encampment, Manchester, kindly assisted in the ceremonies of the day, and at the installation of the several candidates.

MANCHESTER.—The first Prov. Grand Conclave for Lancashire was held within the Jerusalem Encampment, at the Waterloo Hotel, in Manchester, on Friday, the 13th January, 1855, by the V.E. Sir Kt. Matthew Dawes, the Prov. G.C. of Lancashire.

The Jerusalem Encampment, the oldest in the Province (its warrant bearing date 20th May, 1795), was opened by Sir Kt. Dr. C. Clay, E.C., about one o'clock; and after the installation of Comp. Bro. St. John B. Joule, the Prov. G.O.'s were announced, and entered the Encampment in procession, arranged, according to their rank in the Order, by Sir Kt. W. H. Wright, the very efficient Prov. G. Dir. of Cer.

The Prov. G. C. was then opened in ample form, and after alms had been collected, pursuant to the statutes of the Order, and Sir Kt. E. Barlow had been unanimously elected Prov. G.T., the V.E. Prov. G.C. appointed the following Prov. G.O.s for the ensuing year, viz.:—Dep. Prov. G.C. Sir Kt. Royds; P.G. Sub Prior Sir Kt. Bridson; P.G. 1st Capt. Sir Kt. G. Ormerod; P.G. 2nd Capt. Sir Kt. T. R. Bridson, jun.; P.G. Prel. Sir Kt. Rev. E. J. Bolling (absent in Malta); P.G. Chanc. Sir Kt. Newall; P.G. Vice-Chanc. Sir Kt. French; P.G. Registrar Sir Kt. H. Bridson; P.G. Chamb. Sir Kt. Holbrook (absent in the Crimea); P.G. Hospit. Sir Kt. Ainsworth, M.D.; P.G. 1st Exp. Sir Kt. R. Burton; P.G. 2nd Exp. Sir Kt. J. R. Lingard; P.G. 1st Stand. B. Sir Kt. C. Clay, M.D.; P.G. 2nd Stand. B. Sir Kt. Varley; P.G. Almoner Sir Kt. J. Hick; P.G. Dir. of Cer. Sir Kt. W. H. Wright; P.G. 1st Aide-de-Camp Sir Kt. E. Alleyne Dawes, Lieut. 97th Regt. (absent in the Crimea); P.G. 2nd A.D.C. Sir Kt. G. Barlow, Lieut. 4th Royal Lancash. Mil.; P.G. 1st Capt. of Lines Sir Kt. R. Crossland; P.G. 2nd Capt. of Lines Sir Kt. W. Redick; P.G. S. B. Sir Kt. Alpass; P.G. 1st H. Sir Kt. Mattinson; P.G. 2nd H. Sir Kt. Hine; P.G. O. Sir Kt. Joule; P.G. B. B. Sir Kt. S. Smith; P.G. Eq. Sir Kt. W. Dawson.

The P.G. C. then elected the following Sir Kts. Members of the Committee

for the year ensuing, viz. :—Sir Kts. W. H. Wright, G. W. Ormerod, R. Burton, C. Clay, and T. R. Bridson, jun. ; and the V.E. Prov. G.C. nominated Sir Kts. Royds, H. Bridson, E. Barlow, and H. Alpass, as Members of the same Committee.

The V.E. Prov. G.C. then addressed the assembled Sir Kts., and, after alluding to the number present (45), which was most satisfactory, and to the fact that each Encampment in the Province was there represented, remarked on the importance of every one of those Encampments immediately procuring a copy of the new statutes, and adopting the recently revised Ritual ; on the fees for installation not being reduced below the amount prescribed by the new statutes ; on the impropriety of some of the Encampments continuing to hold meetings on Sundays ; on the necessity of Bye-laws for each Encampment ; and of notice being given to the P.G. Vice-Chanc. whenever any change was made in the days of meeting ; and on several other matters connected with the conduct and well-being of the Order, in the Prov. of Lancashire.

The business having been concluded, and the Prov. G.C. having been closed in solemn form, the Sir Kts. accompanied the V.E. Prov. G.C. to the Banqueting-room, where the V.E. Prov. G.C. was supported, on his right, by Sir Kt. Wm. Courtenay Cruttenden, the V.E. P.G.C. of Cheshire ; Sir Kt. Masson, E.C. of the Observance Encamp., London, and P. 1st G.C. ; Sir Kt. Capt. Burney of the Observance Encamp., Madras, &c. &c. &c. ; and on his left by Sir Kt. Royds, D.P.G.C. of Lancashire ; Sir Kt. H. Bridson, P.G.R. ; Sir Kt. R. F. Ainsworth, P.G.H., &c. &c. &c.

We regret that our space will not allow us to give more than a portion of the several excellent speeches which were delivered on the occasion.

In proposing the first toast the Prov. G.C. said, it might be confidently asserted that “there never was a Sovereign on the throne of these realms who had so entirely won the affections of her people as our present most gracious Queen. Whether we regard her as a Sovereign, as a wife, or as a mother, she equally claims our respect and admiration, and I therefore call upon you, Sir Kts., without further preface, to fill bumpers to the health of her Majesty, Queen Victoria, and may God bless her.”

On the next toast the Prov. G.C. remarked, that it would be a want of respect to her Majesty Queen Victoria, if they did not drink to the health of those nearest and dearest to her. Prince Albert, though devoted to science, was not a patron of the science of Masonry, and therefore could not be a Masonic Templar ; but it was to be hoped, when the Prince of Wales arrived at man’s estate, he would, by becoming a Kt.T., emulate the steps of his grandfather, and of his royal mother’s uncles.

In introducing the next toast, the V.E.P.G. C. said, “At a time like the present, when our brave fellows in the Crimea are enduring such fearful hardships and privations, it would ill become any assembly of Britons, gathered around the festive board, to omit to toast the healths of the Army and Navy, who have so recently added fresh laurels to those so nobly won in former days. The insignificant River Alma, which until September last was scarcely known, except to a few wandering Tartar herdsmen, will now flow down the stream of time renowned for the victory achieved on its banks—the brilliant, though, alas ! fatal, charge of our light cavalry at Balaklava, will henceforth take its place in history, along with the chivalrous exploits of our sainted ‘predecessors,’ the Kts. T. of old, and the indomitable bravery and courageous endurance of our fine fellows at Inkermann will ever command the admiration and respect of the whole civilised world,—and shall we, Sir Kts., with such deeds as these fresh in our recollection, restrict ourselves to the usual Masonic toasts ? No, let us all fill bumpers, and upstanding, with three cheers, give the hearty good health of our Army and our Navy, and may they, and our brave allies, soon return victorious to their Western homes (great applause). With this toast, I will couple the name of our guest, Sir Kt. Capt. Burney, of the 51st regiment ; which regiment, I believe, is shortly going to the Crimea, and we will charge him to inform our ‘Companions in arms,’ before Sebastopol, that they are not forgotten in our convivial moments” (Cheers).

Sir Kt. Capt. Burney, in returning thanks for his name being coupled with the

preceding toast, regretted that he was not so fortunate as to be going to the Crimea ; for having recently been appointed Paymaster to the *Depôt Battalion* at Preston, he had retired from the 51st regiment. But there were several Masonic Brethren, yet in the 51st, who were going to the Crimea with the regiment, and he was certain they would, with pleasure, take charge of the message the V.E. Prov. G. C. had entrusted to him ; and he was equally sure that message would gladden the hearts of those of our brave "Companions in arms" who were now before Sebastopol ready to lay down their lives in their country's service, and who would be rejoiced to hear, in that far distant land, that they were not forgotten by their Brethren the Kts.T. of Lancashire.

The V.E. Prov. G.C. then rose and said,—“It is now, Sir Kts., my pleasing duty to propose to you the health of our M.E. and S.G.M. Col. Chas. Kemeys Kemeys Tynte. When he first assumed the sovereignty of our Order, he found our forces scattered like sheep without a shepherd ; each encampment ‘did that which was right in its own eyes ;’ and when our ceremonies were attempted to be performed, they were so mixed up with those of the Kts. of St. John of Jerusalem, of the Kts. of the Mediterranean Pass, and of various other Orders, that when a Mason became a Kt. T. it was next to impossible for him to recollect the signs and the words peculiar to this Degree, so jumbled were they with those of the other Degrees which he had taken at the same time. Our M.E. and S.G.M. set himself to cleanse this Augean Stable, and to purify the ceremonies of our Order, not only from the intermixture of those of other Degrees, but from (I think I may fairly use the term) the buffooneries, which had gradually been foisted into our imposing and beautiful Ritual. I rejoice that he has lived to see the day when the Degree of Masonic Kt. T. is given pure and unmixed with other Degrees ; and though the infirmities of age are creeping on him, and his sight is rapidly failing, his most anxious thoughts are still given to the welfare of our Order. I had the pleasure of sitting the next but one to him, on the occasion of the presentation of the beautiful piece of plate, which was lately given to him as a testimonial of the affectionate regard of the Kts. T. of England and Wales ; and never shall I forget the (I may say, affecting,) speech which he made on that occasion, replete with a truly Christian spirit, and with every good Masonic feeling. His heart and soul are with us ; and I call upon you, Sir Kts., to fill bumpers, and to rise to the health of our M.E. and S.G.M. ; long may he live to preside over us” (great applause).

In proposing the healths of the Dukes of Athol and of Leinster, the M.E. and S.G. Masters of Scotland and of Ireland, the V.E. Prov. G.C. remarked, that he had not had the pleasure of being present at an Encampment in either of those countries ; but he believed that, although they differed from each other, as well as from us, in their mode of working this Degree, they considered themselves second to none in their devotion to the Order.

The V.E. Prov. G.C. then said,—“I have now the pleasure of proposing to you the health of a distinguished Sir Kt., whose friendship I have long enjoyed, our V.H. and E.D.G.M. Sir Kt. W. Stuart ; who unites in his own person, not only the utmost devotion to our Order, but that aristocratic, I may say, that Royal, descent, which so well befits him for the high position he holds in our ranks, and, to crown all, he has ‘that most excellent gift’ of Charity, the Mason’s brightest jewel. I was on a visit at his residence, Aldenham Abbey, last summer, and amongst the rare and beautiful objects which there attract the attention of a stranger, I think I was most struck with a neat and unobtrusive row of almshouses, which Sir Kt. Stuart has built, on his own estate, and amply endowed ; where six old men and their wives were, through our D.G.M.’s truly Masonic bounty, spending their declining years in peace and comfort. I give you, Sir Kts., with hearty good will, the health of our V.H. and E.D.G.M. Sir Kt. W. Stuart.”

The V.E. Prov. G.C. of Cheshire, Sir Kt. W. Courtenay Cruttenden, then rose and said : “Having the permission of the Chair to propose the next toast, he did so with the utmost pleasure ; and when he announced that that toast was the health of their V.E. Prov. G.C. Sir Kt. Dawes, he was sure it would be hailed with that enthusiasm, which such a toast deserved. They had all along known Sir Kt.

Dawes as a zealous and excellent Mason, and one who had done a great deal to advance the cause of Templar Masonry in Lancashire, and he felt that no words of his would add to the estimation, in which their Prov. G.C. was held in this Province. It was a great pleasure to him to cross the water from Cheshire, and see how things were carried on in Lancashire, and he must say that the proceedings of this day had given him very great satisfaction. He only wished he could get up such a Prov. meeting in Cheshire. He had held one or two Prov. Grand Conclaves, but with the small number of Encampments in his Province, the meetings had been more a name than a reality. He would not detain them longer, but would at once propose the health of their V.E. Prov. G.C. Sir Kt. Dawes" (applause).

The V.E. Prov. G.C., who was much cheered on rising, said: "It is to me a source of the utmost pride and gratification to have seen assembled, on this occasion so goodly a muster of the Kt.T.s of this great county. Our numbers and our unanimity, at this our first Prov. Grand Conclave, will show to the other Provinces of the kingdom, that, as in arts, manufactures, and commerce, so in Templar Masonry, Lancashire takes the lead of every other county. It has been my most anxious and earnest wish, ever since our M.E. and S.G.M. conferred on me the high honour of the command of this Province, to advance the interests and to promote the welfare of our Order; and when I tell you that, during the few years which have elapsed since my appointment, I have had the pleasure of consecrating four new Encampments in this Province, and that a fifth awaits consecration, you will perceive that Templar Masonry is making steady and I trust healthy progress—I say, healthy, because I am not one of those who think that numbers alone constitute all that is required—I would have you look not merely to numbers, but to respectability—so as to endeavour to be the *crème de la crème* of Masonry. Let none but good and worthy Masons enter a Templars' Encampment; and if you all steadily adhere to this rule, and if every E.C. is true to his obligation in this respect, we shall soon become a band of Christian Masons second to none in this kingdom. I am well aware that objections have been raised against the Christian Degrees, as being inconsistent with genuine Masonry; and that many conceive that with the three First Degrees, crowned by the Royal Arch, Freemasonry is completed. But, believe me, it is not so: the higher you go in the Christian Degrees, the more you will admire them. What would have become of Freemasonry after the destruction of the Second Temple? It would have been lost to us entirely, but for the Ecclesiastics,—the *Christian Ecclesiastics*—of the Dark and the Middle Ages, who not only preserved to us the fabric of Craft Masonry, but also studied and practised operative Masonry; as is evidenced by those magnificent Cathedrals, and those beautifully designed Parish Churches (both in this land and on the continent), which testify so strongly to the skill and learning of the Christian Masons who erected them. To whom then are we indebted for the preservation of our ancient system, but to the *Christian Masons*, who formed themselves, in the hour of need, into distinct fraternities? Of these fraternities, not the least glorious was the Order of the Temple, originally founded by Hugh de Payens and Geoffrey de St. Omer, and one or two other Knights, for the purpose of escorting and protecting Pilgrims through the Desert to the Holy City. Though we have now no Pilgrims to protect, let us, as much as possible, endeavour to follow the footsteps of our founders in evincing those true Masonic characteristics, BROTHERLY LOVE, RELIEF, AND TRUTH; and whilst we render all honour to Craft Masonry, without which we should none of us have been here; and whilst we allow to the Jew and the Mahomedan that most excellent Degree, the Royal Arch, let us, who profess the Christian Faith, hold it our duty to maintain those Christian Degrees, which were established by our sainted predecessors, whose zeal and fidelity has alone preserved to us the ancient and mystical Degrees of Freemasonry. For the very kind and flattering manner in which my health has been given by the V.E. the Prov. G.C. of Cheshire, and received by you, I beg to tender my warmest thanks; and to assure you that my best endeavours shall never be wanting to promote the progress and the welfare of our Order" (great applause).

The V.E. the Prov. G.C. then called for bumpers to the toast which he had next

the pleasure to propose to them, and when he asked them to dedicate that glass to the health of the Prov. G.C., who had that day honoured them by his presence, he was sure he should not call for bumpers in vain. Sir Kt. Cruttenden, the Prov. G.C. of Cheshire, was so well known to all the Templars of Lancashire, that he felt it to be quite unnecessary to say one word in his praise ; his merits spoke for themselves ; and the fact of his having now "crossed the water" (to use his own words), to honour this Prov. G.C. with his presence, was of itself sufficient to entitle him to a hearty welcome at their hands ; and he felt he might say with confidence, that when another Prov. G.C. was held in Cheshire, the Templars of Lancashire would not be slow to return the compliment.

The V.E. Prov. G.C. of Cheshire returned thanks, in a neat and appropriate speech ; after which the following toasts were given, viz. : the D.P.G.C. of Lancashire, Sir Kt. Royds ; the G. Officers of G.C. ; the Prov. G. Officers of Lancashire ; the E.C. of the Jerusalem Encamp., Dr. C. Clay, and his Officers ; and the Sir Kts. Visitors ; all of which were responded to in suitable terms, the latter being acknowledged by Sir Kt. Masson, E.C. of the Observance Encamp-London. The Prov. G.C. then gave the health of the Prov. G. D. of Cer., Sir Kt. W. Wright, to whose able assistance and excellent arrangements he felt, not only he, but the Prov. G.C., was greatly indebted. And this was followed by the Eq., according to ancient custom, giving the usual toast, "To all Knights Templars," &c., with which concluded the proceedings of a day that will long be remembered, and marked with a white stone, in the annals of Templar Masonry in Lancashire.

WATFORD ENCAMPMENT.—The members met in the noble Masonic Hall, on Monday, January 8, for the purpose of electing the E.C. and Treasurer for the year ensuing. Sir Kt. W. S. Tootell was unanimously re-elected to the distinguished post of E.C., and Sir Kt. Rogers, Treasurer. Among the members present were Sir Kts. H. H. Burchell Herne, T. Abel Ward, G. Francis, P.E.C.'s. The visitors were Sir Kts. J. How, P.E.C., and A. L. Bellinger, of the Croydon Encampment.

IRELAND.

DONOUGHMORE.

ON Wednesday, January 10th, the members of this Lodge assembled at H. M. in their club-house, Nelson-street, for the purpose of installing Officers for the ensuing six months ; and in the evening dined together in celebration of the festival of St. John, when over thirty of the Order attended. Visiting Brethren from several Lodges were guests. The Prov. G.M. of North Munster graced the assembly, his breast glittering with the numerous gorgeous insignia which proclaim the enthusiasm for Freemasonry that actuates the kind, benevolent, and charitable Bro. Furnell. Nothing can equal the love and harmony which pervade the festive re-unions of the Donoughmore Lodge. Composed as it is of the *élite* of this locality, it is quite becoming that an Institution such as Freemasonry should have its chosen home—an Institution which not only appreciates intellectual progress, but devotes itself to the training of the human heart, and specially to the culture of those virtues which at once cement and adorn the social circle. It is well that there is in Clonmel this temple worthy of such an Order, and the Donoughmore Lodge is very properly the rallying centre of all true Masons in this county. After the cloth was removed, and the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were propounded by the amiable W.M., Bro. Whitehead, and duly responded to, the harmonious hilarity was greatly enhanced by the versatile talent and musical ability of a very worthy Brother from the neighbourhood of a renowned little town of "military frequency."

A Masonic festival is indeed a "feast of reason," and with the Craft the "flow of soul" is proverbial. We are not, then, to be surprised at the surpassing ex-

cellence of the observance of the Masonic anniversaries by the Brethren of the Donoughmore Lodge. Freemasonry can boast among its members, past and present, the most illustrious names that reflect historic renown on all countries blessed with civilization and enlightenment. It is an Institution of most ancient growth, and is, moreover, destined to exist to the end of time, because it is based on the immutable and imperishable principles of truth, justice, and charity. Empires have decayed, and dynasties have passed away, while Freemasonry proudly overlooks the ruins of what was corruptible, and what had no inherent principle of permanency. But though old, like the virtues which it impersonates, it still wears the greenness of an immortal youth. We *here echo* the sentiments of a worthy Brother—"We rejoice that Freemasonry was introduced to Clonmel, where it was most needed, and we glory that it has now grown up to be one of the permanent establishments in our locality."

NORTH MUNSTER.

LIMERICK.—The Ancient Union Lodge, No. 13, met on Thursday, January 4th, to celebrate the festival of St. John, circumstances having prevented their doing so on the 27th December. The officers installed for the coming session were—Bro. Dr. Murphy, W.M.; W. F. Holland, S.W.; Rev. Grantly Shelton, J.W.; Bros. Cheyne and Lloyd, Deacons; and Bro. E. W. Maunsell, Treasurer and Secretary. The Lodge adjourned to half-past six for refreshment, which was provided at their new rooms, at Lynch's Hotel, Bedford-row, in a style highly creditable to that rising establishment. The newly-elected W.M., of course, presided, and nothing was wanting on his part to promote the conviviality and good-fellowship of the evening. He was supported on the right and left by the R.W., the Prov. G.M. of North Munster, Michael Furnell, 33rd, and Col. Dickson; several officers of the county and city militia were also present, some as members of the Lodge, attending as visitors. The usual patriotic and Masonic toasts were drunk, and a handsome collection made for the distressed Brethren of the Order. Friendship, harmony, and true Masonic feeling, characterised the proceedings of the evening, and the Brethren departed at an early hour, delighted with the entertainment. This ancient Lodge was never in a more healthy state, and long may it continue to shed its lustre over the Province, and to encourage every social and moral virtue.

On Tuesday, January 2, the Brethren of No. 202, Newcastle, met at high noon, in their Lodge-rooms, to celebrate the festival of St. John, and install the Officers for the ensuing half-year. Bro. M. Leahy was advanced to the chair as W.M.; Bro. D. Maunsell, S.W.; Bro. M. Morris, J.W.; Bro. Holmes, S.D.; Bro. Donovan, J.D.; Bro. John Palmer, J.G.; Bro. A. Palmer, Secretary. The Treasurer and Chaplain were requested to retain office. Lodge was then adjourned to half-past six, p.m., when the Brethren met for refreshment, and after the usual loyal and charter toasts having been received with due honours, the Brethren separated at eleven o'clock, having enjoyed a delightful re-union.

The members of the Eden Masonic Lodge met in the Lodge-rooms, on St. John's-day, the 27th December, when Bro. Wm. Glover was installed W.M.; Bro. John Bassett, S.W.; George W. Bassett, J.W.; H. Sterling, P.M., Treas.; John Bernal, P.M., Sec.; Bro. Geo. Ollis, S.D.; Frederick L. Jones, J.D.; Edward H. Goggin, J.G. In the evening they again assembled, to celebrate the festival in accordance with ancient custom. Amongst the visitors at the festive board was our R.W. Bro., the Mayor of the city. The usual loyal and charter toasts, (including our excellent P.G.M., M. Furnell, whose unavoidable absence was greatly regretted by the members), were followed by some excellently-given songs, for which the festivities of this Lodge are remarkable. The W.M. proposed the health of R.W. Bro. the Mayor, who gave a felicitous response, and proposed the health of the W.M., R. W. Glover (a demi-centenarian in Masonry). The Officers, Caterers, Visiting Brethren, and the "Distressed Mason" followed; then the usual collection; after which, with a passing recollection of our Brethren of No. 771, in the 14th regt., now in the Crimea, and our Brethren of No. 65, in the 72nd Highlanders, the Lodge separated at half-past ten, all delighted at being privileged to join these happy and fraternal unions.

INDIA.

CALCUTTA.

A QUARTERLY Communication of the District Grand Lodge of Bengal and its Territories, was held at the Freemasons' Hall, Calcutta, on Friday, the 22nd September, 1854. Present :—R. W. James Ramsay, Prov. G. M. ; John J. L. Hoff, (Past J. G. W.) D. P. G. M. & P. G. S. ; O. P. L. Watson, D. P. G. M. ; J. Chaunce, P. D. P. G. M. & P. G. T. ; H. Howe, P. S. G. W. ; W. Abercrombie, P. J. G. W. ; V. W. Rev. J. C. M. Bellew, P. G. C. ; J. M. Harris, P. P. G. R. ; W. H. Hoff, Assist. P. G. S. ; W. J. Gray, P. S. G. D. ; M. R. Crawford, P. J. G. D. ; H. Fraser, P. G. S. of W. ; J. B. Roberts (P. P. J. G. D.), P. G. D. of C. ; W. Clark (D. P. G. R.), as P. G. S. B. ; L. A. Emanuel, P. G. O. ; J. E. Clinger, P. P. G. O. ; J. Jenkins (P. G. Steward), as P. G. P. ; W. A. Cohn, C. F. Tonnere, G. T. Price, J. O'Dwyer (Acting), Prov. G. S. ; David J. Daniel, G. T. ; J. O'Dwyer, J. R. A. S. Lowe, of Lodge No. 80, Visitors. Representatives of Lodges :—W. F. P. Strong, P. M. as W. M. ; A. M. Dowleas, J. D. as S. W. ; J. Leven, J. G. as J. W., Lodge No. 80, Star in the East ; C. F. Burgett, Sec. as S. W. ; E. W. Burgett, J. D. as J. W., Lodge No. 126, Industry and Perseverance ; W. J. G. Llewellyn, P. M. as W. M. ; A. Davis, J. W., Lodge No. 265, True Friendship ; M. S. Templeton, S. W. as W. M. ; J. M. Melany, J. W., Lodge No. 279, Humility with Fortitude ; T. C. Howe, S. W. as W. M. ; W. J. Judge, P. M. ; J. S. Collins, J. W. as S. W. ; W. McDermott, S. D. as J. W., Lodge No. 282, Marine ; W. W. S. De Courcy, W. M. ; H. Gahagan, J. W. as S. W. ; J. B. Bourke, S. D. as J. W., Lodge No. 551, Courage with Humanity ; W. B. Barlas, S. D. as S. W. ; F. Hodoul, I. G. as J. W., Lodge No. 715, St. John's ; G. H. T. Tayler, S. W. as W. M. ; W. C. Hughesden, P. M. ; W. Burroughs, J. W. as S. W. ; D. Paxton, S. D. as J. W., No. 740, Kilwinning in the East.

The District G. L. was opened in due form and with prayer.

The Minutes of the Quarterly Communication held on the 24th of June last, and of the Special Meeting held on the 29th *idem*, were read and confirmed.

The Prov. G. M. announced the constitution of a Lodge at Darjeeling, called *Fidelity*, of which the first Master is Bro. A. Hervey, C. B., Col., B. A.

A letter from Bro. E. R. Gregg, Major, H. M. 96th regiment, was read, in which he "brought to the notice of the Prov. G. M. the misconduct of Serjt. J. J. Robinson, who was employed under him in the office of Brigade Major, H. M. Troops in Fort William, in having made away with over 6,000 Rupees public money, besides nearly 700 Rupees of his own private money, for which he had been tried by court-martial, convicted, and sentenced to imprisonment, after having been reduced to the rank of a Private ; and he stated, that he had heard of 'Robinson' having been recently initiated in one of the Calcutta Lodges. Bro. Gregg submitted, for the Prov. G. M.'s consideration, whether such an unworthy man should continue to be a member of the Order, admissible into any Lodge ; and he expressed a hope, that measures would be adopted to prevent his reception among Masons." The Prov. G. Sec. stated, that he had ascertained that "Robinson" was initiated in the *Marine* Lodge, No. 282, as a "Merchant," in the month of February last, but that he had resigned the Lodge on the 8th of May. The W. M. of the *Marine* Lodge explained, that at the time "Robinson" was initiated, he had had no reason to believe him to be of any other profession than that to which he was represented to belong, namely, that of a merchant. The Prov. G. M. observed, that as "Robinson" was not now a member of any Lodge, and was moreover undergoing the sentence of imprisonment, nothing more could be done in the matter than to make this record of the case for the general information of all the Lodges in this Province.

The Prov. G. M. expressed his regret that, in consequence of the want of a quorum, the G. T.'s accounts for the current quarter had not been audited, as usual, by the audit committee. As, however, it was proper that the accounts

should be published every quarter, he proposed that they be passed, as submitted by the G.T., subject to audit with the accounts of the next quarter. The proposition was seconded by the S.G.D. and assented to unanimously.

A vacancy having occurred in the number of Grand Stewards by the departure from Calcutta of W. Bro. Jevanjee Pestonjee,* the Prov. G.M. appointed W. Bro. W. S. De Courcy, Master of Lodge No. 551, to be a G.S. Bro. De Courcy was called to the Throne and invested with the clothing and jewel of his office.

The Prov. G.M. stated, that agreeably to the Warrant of the M.W. the G.M., granting permission to the Members of Lodge No. 80, Star in the East, to wear a Centenary Jewel, which had been read in the D.G.L., on the 24th June, 1848, he had lately received the Jewels and distributed them to the Members of Lodge Star in the East.

The Prov. G.M., in connection with the honour which had been conferred on the R.W. Bro. Hoff, referred to, read the following circular, which he had addressed to the Lodges throughout the Province, regarding a testimonial to that worthy Brother, in which it was proposed that the D.G.L. should join :—

“ No. 9, CHOWRINGHEE ROAD, *Calcutta*, 31st July, 1854.

“ R.W. SIR AND DEAR BROTHER,

“ With reference to the proceedings of the S.G.L., held on the 29th June, it seems to be the general wish of the Craft to mark its appreciation of the R.W. Bro. Hoff's services to Masonry, by some public testimony, which shall, in after times, commemorate the esteem in which he is held by the Brethren throughout the Province.

“ It occurs to me, that a Portrait of our worthy Bro., to be placed in the Prov. G.L., would form the most appropriate testimony that could be suggested, and that, in order to make this tribute of esteem as general as possible, the amount of individual subscription should be limited to one Rupee ; Lodges being at liberty, however, to subscribe collectively or individually, as most agreeable to them. Such a testimony on the part of the Fraternity at large, of this vast Province, would form a graceful addition to the honour already so deservedly conferred on our worthy Brother.

“ According to the amount of subscription realized, will be determined the size and style of the Portrait, which will of course represent the Bro. in full Masonic costume, as a G.W. of the U.G.L. of England.

“ I shall feel greatly obliged if you will kindly take an early opportunity of bringing the proposition before your Lodge, and favouring me with their views on the subject. The amount subscribed may be at once remitted to me direct, together with the names of subscribers, so that a list of them may be recorded in the Archives of the Prov. G.L.

“ I would further beg the favour of your communicating this proposition to any unattached Brother in your vicinity.

“ I remain, &c.,

(Signed)

“ JAMES RAMSAY, Prov. G.M.”

There being nothing further before the District Grand Lodge, it was closed with prayer and in due form.

* This worthy Brother will be recollected by many of the Brethren in England, to whom he endeared himself by his truly fraternal conduct and bearing during a lengthened visit on matters of great importance to himself and his brother.

METROPOLITAN LODGE MEETINGS FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY.

1st. Thursday.—No. 53, Strong Man Lodge, Falcon Tavern, Fetter-lane. No. 158, Lodge of Good Report, Radley's Hotel, Bridge-street, Blackfriars. No. 227, Lion and Lamb, George and Vulture Tavern, Cornhill. No. 275, Ionic, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street. No. 281, St. Andrew's, Freemasons' Tavern. No. 812, Yarborough, George Tavern, Commercial-road, East.

Chapters.—No. 2, St. James's, Freemasons' Tavern. No. 9, Moriah, Freemasons' Tavern.

2nd. Friday.—Chapters.—No. 8, British, Freemasons' Tavern. No. 324, Prince of Wales, Thatched House Tavern, St. James's-street.

3rd. Saturday.—Committee Boys' School, at 4 p.m.

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

5th. Monday.—No. 25, Robert Burns', Freemasons' Tavern. No. 82, Lodge of Unity, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street. No. 85, Royal Jubilee, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street. No. 107, St. John's, Radley's Hotel, Bridge-street, Blackfriars. No. 108, Lodge of Regularity, Freemasons' Tavern. No. 223, Lodge of Joppa, White Hart, Bishopsgate-street. No. 257, Euphrates, George and Vulture, Cornhill. No. 318, Lodge of Unions, Freemasons' Tavern.

6th. Tuesday.—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. 317, Iris, Richmond, Surrey.

7th. Wednesday.—Grand Chapter at eight o'clock precisely, p.m.

No. 233, Jerusalem, Freemasons' Tavern.

8th. Thursday.—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.

9th. Friday.—No. 183, Bedford, Freemasons' Tavern. No. 195, Lodge of Union, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street.

10th. Saturday.—No. 202, Phoenix, Freemasons' Tavern.

12th. 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. No. 269, St. Andrew's Lodge East, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street.

13th. 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.

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

14th. 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, College-street, Lambeth. No. 112, Eastern Star, Wade's Arms, Poplar. No. 156, Caledonian, George and Vulture, Cornhill. No. 172, Lodge of Justice, Royal Albert, New-cross-road, Deptford. No. 289, Pilgrim, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.

15th. Thursday.—House Committee Female School, at 2 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.

16th. 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. 257, Euphrates, George and Vulture, Cornhill.

Chapter No. 109, Moira, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street.

17th. Saturday.—No. 194, Lodge of Honour and Generosity, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street.

19th. Monday.—No. 1, Grand Masters', Freemasons' Tavern. No. 8, British, 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.

20th. Tuesday.—No. 54, Old Union, Radley's Hotel, Bridge-street, Blackfriars. No. 87, Mount Lebanon, Green Man Tavern, Tooley-street, Southwark. No. 188, Cadogan, Freemasons' Tavern. No. 229, St. Paul's, London Coffee House, Ludgate-hill.

Chapters.—No. 11, Enoch, Freemasons' Tavern. No. 49, Mount Sinai, Gun Tavern, Pimlico.

21st. Wednesday.—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.

22nd. Thursday.—General Committee Female School, Freemasons' Tavern, at 12 a.m.

No. 22, Neptune, George and Vulture, Cornhill. No. 79, Grenadiers', Freemasons' Tavern. No. 116, Shakespeare, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.

Chapter, No. 206, Domatic, Falcon, Fetter-lane.

23rd. Friday.—No. 212, Universal, Freemasons' Tavern. No. 830, Fitzroy, Head Quarters of the Royal Artillery Company, London.

Chapter No. 6, Chapter of Friendship, Thatched-house Tavern, St. James's-street.

24th. *Saturday*.—No. 215, Lodge of Unity, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street.

26th. *Monday*.—No. 4, Royal Somerset House and Inverness, Freemasons' Tavern. No. 27, Castle Lodge of Harmony, Thatched House Tavern, St. James's-street. No. 93, Pythagorean, Globe Tavern, Royal-hill, Greenwich.

27th. *Tuesday*.—Board of General Purposes, at 3 p.m.

No. 14, Tuscan, Freemasons' Tavern. No. 109, Moira, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street. No. 165, Lodge of Faith, Gun Tavern, Pimlico. 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. 7, Royal York Chapter of Perseverance, Freemasons' Tavern.

28th. *Wednesday*.—General Committee of Grand Lodge and Lodge of Benevolence, at 7 p.m. precisely.

No. 2, Lodge of Antiquity, Freemasons' Tavern. No. 40, Mount Moriah, Freemasons' Tavern. No. 745, Lodge of United Pilgrims, Horns Tavern, Kennington, Lambeth.

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, Rising Sun, Long Acre, at 8 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, 1 A, 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.
Domestic Chapter, No. 206, Falcon, Fetter-lane, Friday, at 8 p.m.

IN consequence of a successor to the late R.W. Bro. Ridley as Prov. G.M. for Oxfordshire not having been yet appointed, the usual Masonic Festivals which are generally held at Oxford during the month of February are for the present postponed.

Obituary.

BRO. MAJOR F. C. ROBB.

On the 23rd of January, at Beaulieu House, Southsea, Major Fenis Charles Robb, late of the Hon. East-India Company's service. Bro. Robb was a P.M. of the Phoenix Lodge, No. 319, a member of the Cross of Christ Encampment, and Prov. G. Commander for Hampshire.

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.

* * WE have to express our grateful thanks to our Brethren in various parts of the United Kingdom, for the encouragement they have given us to proceed in our present undertaking, and for the very flattering terms in which they have spoken of the manner in which the first number of "THE MONTHLY" has been produced. We regret that the space at our command will not permit us to give *all* the communications we have received on this head; we must therefore content ourselves with inserting a few extracts, taken at hazard from the pile of letters which cover our table.

From CAMBRIDGE, a worthy and highly influential Brother thus writes:—

"Allow me to congratulate you on the alteration in your Journal, which, I think, greatly advantageous to the Craft in general."

From KIDDERMINSTER, the following most kind and congratulatory letter merits our warmest thanks:—

"I cannot refrain from writing and offering you my congratulations on the appearance of our New Monthly Magazine. The great improvement which has taken place in making it much more the organ of the Craft than under the old *régime*, must make it very acceptable to all; I can only offer my hearty good wishes for its success, with a hope that you will persevere in excluding everything but what is purely Masonic."

From IRELAND, we have the following from a highly esteemed and most active Prov. G.M.:—

"A subscriber to the twenty-one volumes, and much pleased with the new form of Monthly just received."

From OXFORD, an influential Brother writes:—

"The Monthly is all that can be desired. It is now a thoroughly Masonic publication, and if kept so, will not only retain the position it has always held, as the organ of the Craft, but make its way into quarters where it is comparatively unknown, and be always welcome."

From BIRMINGHAM, a Brother of high repute urges the continuance of "the line we have adopted, as a sure and certain means to success."

From NEWCASTLE we have the following:—"The FREEMASONS' MONTHLY, if conducted as begun, will greatly enhance 'Masonic' interests."

A well-known metropolitan Brother, whose good opinion we highly value, praises the January Number, and especially applauds the new feature we have introduced, of a list of the times and places of meeting of the London Lodges.

Another metropolitan Brother, whose aid we much esteem, says:—

"I read with much interest your opening address, which is 'ably worked,' and highly calculated to enlist the zeal of the Craft in behalf of the undertaking over which you preside."

These extracts will, probably, suffice for the present to indicate the appreciation, in which our labours are regarded. We earnestly beg to receive similar encouragement from other quarters, inasmuch as the Brethren well know that "the hope of reward"—and what reward can be more valuable than such as we have acknowledged?—"sweetens labour."

TO THE EDITORS OF THE PRESS, who have favourably spoken of our January Number, we beg to express our sense of the obligation conferred upon us. The following are a few of the Notices which have met our eye, though, doubtless, many others have been written:—

"The FREEMASONS' MONTHLY MAGAZINE is but, in fact, a 'new series' of the *Quarterly*, at a reduced price, under the same able management. We cannot but congratulate the Brethren of the 'Mystic Tie' upon the appearance of the present Number, which augurs well for the future success of the undertaking. Its issue monthly will afford greater facilities for devoting an increased degree of attention to the Masonic intelligence. The effort here made for the edification and entertainment of 'the Craft' is such as, we doubt not, will command for the editor very extensive and hearty support on the part of those whom he so laudably endeavours to serve."—*Morning Advertiser*.

"At the request of a large number of the members of this ancient Craft, the long-recognised organ of the body, the *Freemasons' Quarterly Magazine*, has assumed the form of a MONTHLY serial, and will, henceforth, be devoted exclusively to the diffusion of purely Masonic intelligence. The Contents of the present Number may be looked upon in the light of a pledge that no effort will be spared by the editor to make the work worthy of the support of every member of this ancient and honourable Brotherhood."—*Bell's Weekly Messenger*.

"After an existence of one-and-twenty years, the *Freemasons' Quarterly Review* has ceased to maintain 'a local habitation and a name.' In lieu thereof we have issued the preliminary Number of the present publication, which will, in future, be printed Monthly. The change appears to be a politic one, inasmuch as a fresh order of things was essentially requisite in order to meet the increasing demands and intellectual tastes of the Masonic Brotherhood of the current dynasty."—*Era*.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.—We have several articles in type, intended for the first part of this number, which we have been unavoidably compelled to omit at the last moment, on account of the unusual quantity of Masonic Intelligence, which doubtless will prove more interesting to the Brethren, and which we are not inclined to displace.

POOLE.—D. T. W.—The whole transaction is certainly irregular. We do not quite comprehend the latter part of your inquiry, but if it be as we take it, nothing can be more improper than to instal W.M.s in the manner intimated. The Brethren mixed up in such proceedings had better take care not to come under the examination of the B. of G.P.

GRAVESEND.—There seems to be no positive law upon the subject (see Book of Constitutions, p. 82), but the proceeding, to which you refer is most unusual, and is never practised in any Lodge of Instruction, with which we are acquainted. Officers are usually appointed for the evening, and are changed from meeting to meeting. When the next attempt is made, resist it, and then bring the subject before the B. of G. P. for its decision.

YARBOROUGH LODGE, No. 812.—T. V.—The mistake arose simply from inadvertence, for which, having corrected it in the present number, we beg to tender our apologies to the Lodge. Thanks for the report, which will be always valuable and highly esteemed.

BIRMINGHAM.—J. R.—We congratulate you heartily. By all means use the passage if you wish to do so. You are going in a right direction, and will do infinite good to the true cause of Freemasonry; your success shows what may be done by perseverance.

REPORTS OF PROCEEDINGS OF G.L.—A M.M.—We receive more inquiries upon this than any other subject. We would suggest to our many correspondents that the Grand Secretary's Office is the proper quarter to apply to for a reason why these documents are no longer regularly issued.

COUNTRY LODGE PROCEEDINGS.—We regret that the request we tendered in our last number has not yet been sufficiently replied to, to enable us to add to the list of the London meetings at present.

TEMPLE.—“A heated Brother.” Be patient! The M.W. the G.M.'s allusion at the last G.L., to a new method of ventilation adopted at Halifax, has caused inquiry, and that method is so effectual, that in all probability it will be applied to the Temple before many months have passed.

APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS.—We tender our best thanks for the kind attention, which has been given to our request under this head, in our January number. The replies received have enabled us to make the present number more full of Masonic intelligence than was ever possible in the *Quarterly*. All we have to request, that the Brethren will continue to supply us as liberally as they have begun to do with information, and to let no interesting event pass without favouring us with a communication *at their earliest convenience*. We feel sure that we have only to intimate to our subscribers that the number of each month must be in the hands of our publishers at least THREE DAYS BEFORE THE FIRST DAY OF THE MONTH, to secure their receipt of it on that day, to induce them not to delay their contributions beyond the 20th at latest.

GIRLS' SCHOOL.—A SUBSCRIBER.—A report of the Quarterly General Court, of the 11th ult., will be found in the present number. Upon the question debated on that occasion, we wish to obtain the fullest information before giving our opinion. That an improved system of education *must* be at once gone into and maintained is imperative. A sincere friend to the Charity thus writes to us on this point :—“I am glad to be enabled to testify to the fitness of the new School-mistress for her situation ; she is devoted to the business of the School, is beloved by the children, and has gained the affection of the household. Everything progresses most satisfactorily thus far, and I have confident hopes in the future.” This is very satisfactory, for the old system was only suitable to a bygone age, and needs the most ample extension. Why cannot the Grand Chaplains, with two lay Brethren, be appointed to inspect the school *twice* every year? We will answer for one, and we are sure we may do so for the other, that they will willingly undertake this office, if they are not subjected to interference.

BOYS' SCHOOL.—P. M.—An examination will *certainly* take place before the Festival. The V.W. the Grand Chaplain, Bro. J. E. Cox, and Bro. J. Hervey, S.G.D., have promised to undertake it early in the present month, or at the beginning of March.

THE LATE BRO. G. MOORE.—We promised (p. 65) to give a report of the trial of the assassin Barthélémy, for the murder of this lamented Brother. We regret our inability to fulfil this promise, inasmuch as the trial, upon which Barthélémy was cast for execution, was for the murder of the poor man Collard, who arrested him, and not for that of Bro. Moore. Barthélémy was executed at Newgate, on Monday morning, January 22nd.

MARK DEGREE.—A R. A. MASON.—Apply to Bro. R. Spencer, 314, High Holborn, for all the particulars you require. The Mark Lodge is held under warrant from the G.C. of Scotland.

PATRIOTIC FUND.—R. A.—We have no doubt that Chapters will contribute as well as Lodges, though the amounts must not be expected to be so large. We have given a list, in the present number, of the donations of such Lodges as have reported to us. It is very incomplete at present, and can be taken as no criterion of what Masonry will do for this noble cause. We earnestly request our Brethren in the E. S. W. and N., to communicate the amounts subscribed by their respective Prov. Grand Lodges and Chapters, and private Lodges and Chapters, that we may be able to announce them to the Craft.

A YOUNG MASON IN JERSEY, C.D.H.—We know of no reason why a similar Officer should not be appointed in English Lodges. It is an important office in all foreign Lodges. The proposition, which you mention as about to be carried out, is highly commendable, and would be of infinite advantage, if generally adopted. We hope you will favour us with the particulars for publication. Such documents will be most serviceable for the promotion of the objects of the MONTHLY.

B. B. (661, CROYDON).—Will this worthy Brother, from time to time, favour us with his valuable contributions? That of the January number has “won golden opinions,” which we are anxious he should enjoy and enhance.

OXFORD.—W. P.—We deeply regret that the pressure upon our columns has prevented our giving the account of the Amateur Theatricals on behalf of the Patriotic Fund.

BATH.—B. C. V.—Your letter reaches us (Jan. 27th), too late for insertion this month, the entire Magazine being in type except this portion. It shall *certainly* appear in the March number, that it may speak for itself. If such things occurred in your presence, which you denounce, you are bound by your O.B. to bring your accusation before the B. of G. P. As to the *Masonic* spirit of your letter, we shall leave it to the judgment of the Brethren when it appears.

ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL.—At the moment of going to press, we have received the information that Bro. W. Foster White, P.M., St. Paul's Lodge, and P.J.G.D., has been solicited by many of the most influential Governors of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, to offer himself as a candidate for the vacant Treasurership, and that there is every prospect of his being elected. We shall most sincerely congratulate the Governors if this most desirable end be accomplished, for no Brother is better known in Metropolitan Masonry as following out the noble principles of BROTHERLY LOVE, RELIEF, and TRUTH. The election takes place on Wednesday, February 7th, 1855, at 12 o'clock. If any of the Fraternity should be Governors, we are convinced that out of respect to Bro. White, they will be present on this interesting occasion.

MORTON LODGE, No. 89, LERWICK.—We stop the Press just to acknowledge your communication, which shall appear in our next.

ERRATA.

We very much regret, that in the hurry of preparing the first number of the *Freemasons' Monthly Magazine*, several errors were unavoidably unnoticed. We trust our arrangements will preclude the possibility of such mistakes again occurring.

At page 11, line 14—For “the worst Lodge,” read “the next Lodge.” We beg to apologise for this blunder, which was *twice* corrected in proof, but the printer's imp, from some cause or other, would not attend to our directions. We were mortified beyond expression at such a lamentable and unwarrantable perseverance in a self-evident mistake.

At page 29, line 19—For “W. Bro. W. Foster White,” read “W. Bro. John F. White.” Each of these worthy Brethren is so well known for his truly Masonic spirit, that we trust we may be pardoned for having mistaken the one for the other in the present instance.

At page 31 (“Bank of England Lodge”) line 3—For “Bro. Stronghill,” read “Bro. Stroughill.” We have looked at the MS. from which this report was printed, and find the name written much more like the error we have fallen into, than what it really is.

At page 59—For “Newfoundland,” read “Cape of Good Hope.” This error, in some measure, rests with the Brother who supplied the MS., to which no other heading was given than “Zetland Lodge.” To our inquiry where this Lodge met, we received a reply, “Newfoundland.” We regret that we trusted to this information, without consulting the Masonic Calendar.

At page 66—For “the Grand Register,” read “the Grand Registrar.”