

THE
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MASONIC PHILOSOPHY.

ANCIENT MASONRY OF THE HINDOOS.

(Concluded from page 683.)

BESIDES that portion of the Vedas upon which the Vedanta philosophy is more particularly founded, this school also possesses its own *Soutras*, or aphorisms, upon which it places a great reliance. To these two sources of knowledge are added, ancient commentaries upon the sacred text and some didactic poems, which are looked upon in the light of inspired writings, called the *Yogavasistha* and the *Bhagavat-gita*. In the latter, we trace the system of Hindoo pantheism.

The book of *Soutras*, called *Brahma Soutras*, is attributed to *Badarayana*, the same personage as *Vyasa*, whose origin, like that of *Kapila*, is lost in the darkness of mythological tradition. Sometimes he is represented as a Brahmin, who has attained perfect beatitude, and returned to visit the earth under a human form by the express command of God, in order to correct any errors which may have crept into the text of the Vedas; sometimes, according to the *Pouranas*, he is an incarnation of *Vishnou*, to whom they attribute not only the correction of the Vedas and *Soutras*, but of the *Mahabharata* and the principal *Pouranas*.

The *Brahma Soutras* are divided into four books or parts, which are each subdivided into four chapters; and, like the first *Mimansa*, each of these chapters is again subdivided, although unequally, into sections, arguments, cases of conscience, or examples. The number of aphorisms is 555, and that of examples 191. The cases of conscience or examples are composed of five parts, similar to those of the first *Mimansa*, except that the complete development is not so rigidly exacted in the aphorisms of *Badarayana*, and sometimes the sanction

is given at once by a single *Soutra*, without any allusion to the circumstances, more or less indirect, to which the case relates. The logic is also reduced to three terms, the *nyaya*, or regular syllogism, as before stated.

The books themselves bear evidence of the most remote antiquity, and an interpretation is necessary to render them intelligible. Numerous are the commentators who have endeavoured to penetrate into their hidden sense and mystery, and their writings alone form a vast literature. The most distinguished amongst the ancients is *Baudhayana*; amongst the moderns, *Sancaraacharya*, the author of a great number of works and the founder of a very considerable sect amongst the Hindoos, whose commentary upon the *Soutras* has been enriched by the notes and interpretations of *Vachasputi Analamda* and *Ramaniya*, also the chief of a sect, which has occasioned a schism amongst the Vedanta philosophers.

The following is an analysis of the four books of the *Brahma Soutras*. The first treats of God and of the soul, of matter and of the universe. "The existing cause of this universe," it says, "endowed with all power and with all knowledge, is essentially happy. It is a being brilliant and glorious, appearing in the orb of the sun and in the human countenance. It is a celestial element from which all things proceed, and in which they are finally absorbed. It is the atmosphere in which all beings roll, and out of which they arise. It is the light which radiates the skies, which penetrates through the highest and lowest places, which traverses the earth, and which shines in man. It is the soul which in itself possesses intelligence—the soul immutable, immortal, and endowed with indestructible happiness."

The second book is devoted to controversy: it contains a refutation of certain doctrines opposed to the *Vedas*, more particularly those of the *Sankia*, of *Kapila*, and also an attempt to reconcile those passages of the *Vedas* which present apparent contradictions.

The third book treats principally of the means by which we can arrive at the knowledge requisite for effecting the deliverance of the soul and for insuring its eternal happiness.

The fourth, treats of the effects produced by this acquired knowledge when properly employed. It shows how pious meditation leads to this divine knowledge, and how this divine knowledge leads to everlasting beatitude.

Having given this historic sketch of the *Vedas* and *Soutras*, which give birth to the various Hindoo systems now in existence, and which form the keystone of their Masonic philosophy, we shall proceed to give a concise summary of the leading doctrines, which, notwithstanding their verging in some of their symbolic rites towards a spiritual pantheism, are nevertheless imbued with one great principle—a Supreme Godhead, the Great Architect of the Universe—whose only propitiation by man is a self-sacrifice of his passions and a mutual love of his fellow-creatures, more simply and forcibly expressed in our own Gospel: "He who saith that he loveth God

whom he hath not seen, and hateth his brother whom he hath seen, is a liar, and the truth is not in him." This truth—this original word pervades the whole Masonic system, however varied its mystic characters; and it will be seen that its light has never been lost through all the darkness of pagan ages.

The principal and essential dogmas of the Hindoo system are:—That there is only one God, endowed with all knowledge and with all power, who is the cause of the existence and of the preservation of this universe, as he will be the cause of its dissolution. That creation is the act of his will. That he is at once the efficacious and material cause of the world, the creator and the created, the author of beings invested with form and the form itself, the agent and the act. That at the end of all things, all things will be absorbed in him: even the spider who spins his own web from his own substance, and gathers it up anew in his own body; as well as the plants which spring up from the earth, and are afterwards blended with it.

That the Supreme Being is unique in himself and exists alone; that he has no resemblance; that he is a perfect being, without parts, eternal, infinite, ineffable, the invariable regulator of all things, the universal soul, the truth, the wisdom, the intelligence, the felicity. That all individual souls, emanating from this unique and Supreme Soul, are like innumerable sparks which shoot out from an immense fire; and that, as they proceed from the Divinity, they will return to it, for they are from the same essence. That the soul, which governs the body, although enveloped with organs, is not born and can never die, being a portion of the Divine substance, and, like it, immortal, infinite, intelligent, sensible, reasonable.

That the soul is placed under the immediate government of the Supreme Being; that its activity does not belong to its essence, as it is derived from the organs, and is only active so long as it is acted upon by them, but so soon as it is disengaged from them it returns to its Supreme Governor, where it resumes its primitive repose and felicity. That it is neither independent nor free, but destined to act according to the design anteriorly prescribed by the Divinity. That a predisposition to good or to evil—to actions ordained or prohibited—devotes the soul to virtue or to vice, and to the retribution which must inevitably follow the deeds resulting from either. Nevertheless, that God is not the author of evil; things being thus disposed from all eternity, and manifesting themselves in a succession of forms which compose an infinite series.

That the soul is shut up in the body as in an envelope, or rather in a succession of envelopes, amongst which are distinguishable those of intelligence, of mind, and of the vital faculty or principle of life. These three envelopes of the soul accompany it through all its trans-migrations.

That the grosser body, which manifests itself, is an animated substance from its birth to its death, is composed of mean elements formed from a combination of simple particles in determinate pro-

portions shaping themselves into an exterior envelope, the impure seat of nutrition and of the sensual enjoyments. That this organized form again assimilates itself to combined elements destined to alimentation, retaining the most delicate particles and rejecting the most gross. The earth becomes flesh, the water blood, and the inflammable substances marrow. These organized bodies are distributed into four classes:—1. The *vivipares*, quadrupeds, man; 2. The *ovipares*, birds; 3. The *germinipares*, trees, plants; the fourth comprises beings endowed with organization, whose origin is not clearly determined, as worms and certain vegetables. There are also five elements: ether, wind or air in motion, fire or light, water, whose attribute is fluidity, and earth, whose attribute is solidity. The faculties or vital functions are also five in number: perspiration, inspiration, pulsation or palpitation, whose seat is in the arteries and veins, expiration, and digestion.

That the soul in its association with the body undergoes five states:—1. The state of waking, in which it is active under the direction of Providence; 2. The state of dreaming, an intermediate illusion between waking and sleeping, which is nevertheless a prognostic of future events; 3. The state of profound sleep, where the soul, is as it were, *enforced* in the Divine essence until such time as it returns in its pristine character to the body which it animates; 4. The state of fainting or insensibility, an intermediate illusion between sleep and death, when the soul is temporarily separated from the body; 5. The final state of death, when the soul definitively quits its corporeal envelope.

That, subjected to transmigration, the soul visits other worlds, in order to receive the recompense of its good works or the chastisement of its faults. That the wicked fall into the pit of darkness and of punishment, whilst the virtuous ascend into the regions of the moon, there to enjoy the fruits of their good actions, and afterwards redescend to earth, there to re-animate new bodies, in which they re-enact, under the guidance of Providence, the same evil deeds and the same predispositions which animated them in their preceding life. But the wise man who succeeds in enfranchising himself from the ties of the world, which envelope the soul, as it were, in a network, ascends to the upper regions, where he arrives at the palace of Brahma, undergoes an examination, and if found perfect in true wisdom, passes to an union with the Divine essence.

In this deliverance of the soul we have all the mystic symbols of Masonic initiation—the three Degrees of the Order; viz. the complete deliverance, where perfection is accomplished and the soul is absorbed in the Divine essence, which is typical of our 3rd Degree; the imperfect deliverance, where the candidate is lifted up to heaven, there to pass his examination in the palace of Brahma before he attains the last beatitude, which corresponds to the type of our 2nd Degree; and then the first deliverance, at which we can arrive in this life, and which invests the possessor with supernatural powers, such as evoking from the tomb the shades of his ancestors,

passing by the power of his own will into other bodies, transporting himself on the moment from one place to another, however great the distance, &c.

To acquire these three degrees of deliverance, the candidate had in the course of his initiation to perform certain mystic rites, such as the sacrifice of a horse, accompanied by various religious practices, but more especially to devote long years to pious meditations upon the nature and attributes of the Deity, after which he was passed up to heaven, there to give an account of his actions before the high judges in the palace of Brahma; but the most elevated, or Master's Degree, could only be attained by his perfect knowledge of the Divine nature and of the identity of God with that which emanated from himself, with that which was created from his substance, and with that which participated in his essence.

The three principal points of initiation insisted upon were:—free birth and will—faith—good works. The efficacy of faith was the chief dogma of that branch of the Vidanta school which followed the *Bhagavat-gita*. The merit of good works was the main object of the *Pourana*, or first *Mimansa*. The *Outtara*, or second *Mimansa*, denied free will, and endeavoured to reconcile the existence of moral evil with the absolute and universal government of a wise, powerful, and benevolent Providence.

In concluding this sketch of the Hindoo system of Masonic philosophy, we must mention that the triple sign is represented by *Brahma*, the original Being or Creator; *Vishnou*, the preserver of all power and virtue; and *Siva*, the destroyer as well as renovator of all material forms. This triple consideration of the Divinity comprises the Hindoo Trinity, which they call Timousti.*

* The authorities from which this Hindoo system of Masonic philosophy has been compiled are:—"Theologia et Philosophia Indica, edit. Anquetil du Perron." Argent, 1801, 2 vols. 4to.; Specimen of the Hindoo philosophy, in "Neo-Conserv. Belgico," vol. i. and ii.; "Travaux de la Société Asiatique de Calcutta," vol. iv.; "Strabo," lib. xv.; "Porphyr. de Abstin." lib. iv.; and "An Essay upon the Philosophy of the Hindoos," by Colebrooke, in the 2nd vol. of the Transactions of the Asiatic Society, London.

MARRIAGE EXTRAORDINARY.—The following curious record of a marriage we copy from an American paper:—"April 13th, 1831, at Matilda, U.C., Mr. Israel Satan, journeyman cabinet-maker, to Miss Grace Parlor, of the above place.

"Mankind, rejoice! peace shall abound,
Since *Grace* by *Satan* has been found;
And in full proof that peace is meant,
Israel by *Grace* has pitched his tent;
No more in deserts wild he'll roam,
He's got a *Parlor* for his home."

“ THINGS NOT GENERALLY KNOWN.”*

IN the making of books, of which Solomon declares there to be no end, that author is the best economist of human life who enables his readers to gain much knowledge by a short extent of reading. The book-makers of the last century greatly encouraged authors of this class; but, in our time, since the steam-engine has been applied to printing, the great aim seems to have been to cover paper, without due regard to the worth of the information conveyed. This naturally led to over-production, and publishers and book-buyers have now discovered that it is better to reproduce a good book of a former age than to print matter which has the questionable recommendation of being “original” without novelty. Years ago, a great moralist said, though somewhat cynically, to the writers of his day, “You come too late—all is said;” which, by the way, is much more applicable to the present age than the last century, when it was enunciated.

The book above named has suggested these remarks by the great number and variety of the things or facts which it contains. It is as full of information as the tail of a lobster is full of food; or, as a wit said the other day, as a pomegranate is full of seed. And, what is better, the information here conveyed is upon subjects of inquiry and doubt, about which the mass of the people are anxious to be enlightened. In table conversation and fireside chat, how often a discussion arises as to the origin of some household word, or custom, which the disputants agree shall be settled by a book; but a multiplicity of books is bewildering, even if they are at hand, and the search is rarely thought to be worth the time it takes. Now, the little book before us is *the finder* of such matters; for, in its service, it resembles the astronomical instrument known as *the finder*, that is, a smaller telescope attached to a larger telescope, for the purpose of finding an object more readily. The “Things” are classed under some twenty heads, and it will show their complexion to name a few. Thus, in the first section we find discussed, whether the sun is inhabited? Is there danger from comets? What is the age of the world? and what will be its end. How solemn is this speculation—*the Doom of our World*:—

“What this change is to be, we dare not even conjecture; but we see in the heavens themselves some traces of destructive elements, and some indications of their power. The fragments of broken planets—the descent of meteoric stones upon our globe—the wheeling comets welding their loose materials at the solar furnace—the volcanic eruptions of our own satellite—the appearance of new stars, and the disappearance of others—are all foreshadows of that impending convulsion to which the system of the world is doomed. Thus placed on a planet which is to be burnt up, and under heavens which are to pass away; thus treading, as

* “Things not generally Known, familiarly Explained; a Book for Old and Young.” By John Timbs, author of “Curiosities of London.” Bogue.

it were, on the cemeteries, and dwelling in the mausoleums, of former worlds,—let us learn the lesson of humility and wisdom, if we have not already been taught it in the school of revelation.”

In the next section, the earth, its surface and interior are treated of. Here, among other things, we find an explanatory article upon antediluvian animals, which should be read along with the “big animals” at the Crystal Palace. The sea is the subject of the succeeding division; and here we have two conflicting evidences as to the power of oil to still angry waves: one being an experiment of pouring several gallons of oil upon a rough sea without any effect; and the other, oil upon the sea from the leakage of a whale ship calming the waves. Under the “Atmosphere,” we find this curious record of the

“*Antiquity of Lightning-Conductors.*—The art of bringing down lightning from the heavens seems to have been the only charm which the ancients possessed; and M. Salverte, in his work on the Occult Sciences, shows a probability that the ancients defended their buildings from lightning by conductors, and that the Temple of Solomon was thus protected.”

Under “Light and Sound” is this interesting instruction:—

“*To tell the Distances of Ships at Sea.*—If a gun be fired by a vessel at sea, the distance may be known by observing the number of seconds which elapse between the flash and the report. In mild weather sound travels at the rate of 1,123 feet in a second: if, therefore, the report of the gun were heard five seconds after the flash had been seen, the distance of the observer from the gun would be 5,615 feet, or rather more than a mile.”

Most persons have heard of drinking-glasses being broken by sound: here is a piece of evidence upon the subject. The late Mr. Brayley, the antiquary, was once present at a party in a house on Ludgate-hill, when Mr. Broadhurst, the tenor, by singing a high note, caused a wine-glass on the table to break, the bowl being separated from the stem.

The reader, we dare say, will remember our dispute with the United States, about the Oregon territory, some fourteen years since. Here, under geographical discovery, we learn what it cost to set the boundary-line, but the money has been well laid out:—

“This line, run in accordance with the Ashburton treaty, cost the labour of 300 men eighteen months. For 300 miles a path was cut through the forest, 30 feet wide, and cleared of all trees. At the end of every mile is a cast-iron pillar, painted white; square, four feet out of the ground; and bearing, in raised letters on its sides, the names of the commissioners who ran the line; and the date.”

“The Phenomena of Life and Death,” afford several curious instances of speculation and inquiry; but these we pass over to reach the “Animal Kingdom,” where, among other things, we learn that in the Zoological Gardens, at this moment, are two living specimens of an ox which once roamed over all the woodland districts of Central Europe, and which, in England, was contemporary with the extinct mastodon, elephant, and rhinoceros. Here are also two bundles of facts in the natural history and economy of the cat and the dog,

both bristling with curious points. We find room for a passage upon a very old acquaintance:—

“A tortoiseshell Tom cat, and a Queen Anne’s farthing, appear in popular estimation to enjoy a corresponding rarity. The coin is scarce and so is the cat; but neither is so rare as traditional tale would have us believe; and this hardly allows existence. The ‘tortoiseshell’ is one of the most noted of the varieties of the domestic cat; and its marks, resembling tortoiseshell, are ascribed to a cross-breed of black and yellow. Males are scarce; and every year specimens are offered for sale to the Zoological Society of London, as rarities worthy of a place in their fine menagerie. In the autumn of 1851, Mr. John Thurston, of Waltham-le-Willows, in Suffolk, possessed a handsomely-marked ‘tortoiseshell’ Tom, fifteen months old.”

Of the much-vexed question, whether toads can live inclosed in stone and wood, we find it stated that—

“Dr. Buckland and the Rev. E. Stanley, from a variety of experiments to determine the possibility of these reptiles existing within blocks of stone or wood, conclude that the commonly-received belief is perfectly false; notwithstanding the almost numberless instances on record, apparently well attested, of the vitality of the reptiles under the joint additional singularity of exclusion of air and privation of food.”

Under “Trees and Plants,” we are told that—

“*The Upas Tree of Java*, of the poison of which so many fabulous stories have been reported, is now growing in the Horticultural Society’s garden at Chiswick; notwithstanding the fables of Dutch travellers, perpetuated by Darwin, it may be approached with safety. It is, however, so virulent a poison, that no prudent person would handle it without proper precaution.”

Of the plant whose root so nearly resembles horse-radish, as to have recently led to the poisoning of some persons in Scotland, it is stated that the fatal root, aconite—

“Was regarded by the ancients as the most violent of all poisons: hence they fabled it to be the invention of Hecate, and sprung from the foam of Cerberus. Persons, only by smelling the full-blown flower, are said to have been seized with swooning-fits, and to have lost their sight for two or three days; and a criminal has been put to death by swallowing a dram of the aconite-root.”

“Natural Magic” yields a few choice anecdotic records; but these we pass over to get to the domestic corner of the book, where we find stores of information about marriages, Christenings, and burials. Next is the last relic of the barber-surgeon—his pole,—which was used—

“For the patient to grasp in blood-letting, a fillet or bandaging being employed for tying his arm. When the pole was not in use, the tape was tied to it, and twisted round it; and thus both were hung up as a sign. At length, instead of hanging out the actual pole used in the operation, a pole was painted with stripes round it, in imitation of the real pole and its bandages: hence the barber’s pole.

“Lord Thurlow, in his speech for postponing the further reading of the Surgeons’ Incorporation Bill, July 17, 1797, stated, that ‘by a statute still in force the barbers and surgeons were each to use a pole.’

“Barbers have in our time let blood and drawn teeth: the last we remember of this class was one Middleditch, of Great Suffolk-street, Southwark, in whose window were displayed heaps of drawn teeth.”

We quote two popular superstitions :—

“ WITCHCRAFT IN BREWING.

“ In a Scotch brewer's instructions for Scotch ale, dated 1793, we find this mystical note : ‘ I throw a little dry malt, which is left on purpose, on the top of the mash, with a handful of salt, to *keep the witches from it*, and then cover it up.’ Perhaps this practice gave rise to indifferent beer being termed ‘ water-bewitched.’ ”

“ LUCK OF HORSE-SHOES.

“ Butler, in *Hudibras*, says of his conjuror, that he could—

‘ Chase evil spirits away by dint
Of sickle, *horse-shoe*, hollow flint.’

“ Aubrey, in his *Miscellanies*, tells us that,—

“ ‘ It is a thing very common to nail horse-shoes on the thresholds of doors ; which is to hinder the power of witches that enter the house. Most of the houses of the west-end of London have the horse-shoe on the threshold. It should be a horse-shoe that one finds.’ He adds, ‘ Under the porch of Stanfield Church, in Suffolk, I saw a tile, with a horse-shoe upon it, placed there for this purpose, that one would imagine that holy water alone would have been sufficient. I am told there are many more instances.’ ”

“ In Gay's fable of ‘ The Old Woman and her Cats,’ the supposed witch complains :—

‘ Straws laid across my path retard.
The horse-shoe's nail'd, each threshold's guard.

“ In Monmouth-street, probably one of the localities alluded to by Aubrey (then a fashionable neighbourhood), many horse-shoes, nailed to the thresholds, were to be seen in 1797 ; in 1813, Sir Henry Ellis counted seventeen horse-shoes in Monmouth-street, in 1852 only eleven remained.

“ It was once thought lucky to find old iron, but more especially a horse-shoe. This notion has been current in our time, as well as the nailing of the shoes in front of the sill and *over* the doorway, in Sussex ; where, in childhood, we have more than once accounted ourselves lucky in finding a horse-shoe.

“ Nelson was of a superstitious turn, had great faith in the luck of a horse-shoe, and one was nailed to the mast of the ship *Victory*. ‘ Lucky Dr. James ’ attributed the success of his fever-powder to his finding a horse-shoe.

“ When Dr. James, then a poor apothecary, had invented the fever-powder, he was introduced to Newbery, of St. Paul's Churchyard, to vend the medicine for him. One Sunday morning, as James was on his way to Newbery's country-house at Vauxhall, in passing over Westminster-bridge, seeing a horse-shoe lying in the road, and considering it to be a sign of good luck, he carefully put the shoe into his pocket. As Newbery was a shrewd man, he became James's agent for sale of the fever-powder ; whilst the doctor ascribed all his success to the horse-shoe, which he subsequently adopted as the crest upon his carriage.’

“ The magpie is a bird of omen, and is associated with the lucky horse-shoe in the well-known public-house sign.”

The superstition, of the ill-luck of “ thirteen to dinner ” is thus exploded :—

“ If the probability be required that out of thirteen persons, of different ages, one of them, at least, shall die within a year, it will be found that the chances are about one to one that one death, at least, will occur.

“ This superstition obtains in Italy and Russia, as well as in England. Moore, in his ‘ Diary,’ vol. ii. p. 206, mentions there being thirteen at dinner one day at Madame Catalani's, when a French countess, who lived with her upstairs, was sent for to remedy the grievance. Again, Lord L. said he had dined once abroad at Count Orloff's, who did not sit down to dinner, but kept walking from chair to chair, because ‘ the Naristiken were at table, who, he knew, would rise

instantly if they perceived the number *thirteen*, which Orloff would have made by sitting down himself."

"The Calendar" contains some little-known origins of its festivals, wound up with a very interesting paper upon the use of mistletoe at Christmas. Here is an archæological domestic origin:—

"*Walls-end Coals.*—It is curious to reflect that the above name for our every-day fuel is derived from our Roman conquerors. It appears that the eastern termination of the Great Roman Wall was midway between Newcastle-upon-Tyne and the sea, at a large colliery which has produced an excellent description of household coal, therefore called *Walls-end Coal*; the high estimation of which has led to the appellation being extended to other kinds."

From "Laws and Customs" we could select some satisfactory proofs of the utility of the book in settling disputes: here is a specimen, which bears much upon the Sunday question, now fiercely agitated:—

"*Milk and Mackerel sold on Sundays.*—The sale of these articles on Sundays is legalized by Parliament. By a statute of the 13th of Car. II., carrying further than had been done under any of our sovereigns since the days of the heptarchy the prohibition of labour or business upon the Lord's day, exception is made 'for the crying or selling of milk before nine of the clock, or after four of the clock in the afternoon.' And by a law of 10 Will. III., mackerel are permitted to be sold on Sundays before or after divine service; a provision afterwards recognized by the 2nd of Geo. III. also in favour of fish-carts travelling on Sundays."

"Church and State, and Parliament," yield some useful explanations of terms, thus:—

"*Acceptance of the Chiltern Hundreds.*—A Member of the House of Commons, not in any respect disqualified, can only vacate his seat by his acceptance of the stewardship of the Chiltern Hundreds, or some other nominal office in the gift of the Chancellor of the Exchequer. The practice began about the year 1750; but the duties of the stewardship have long since ceased, and the office is but retained to serve this particular purpose. The Chiltern Hills are a range of chalk eminences, separating the counties of Bedford and Hertford, passing through the middle of Bucks from Tring in Hertfordshire to Henley in Oxfordshire. Formerly these hills were covered with thick beech-wood, and sheltered numerous robbers; to put these marauders down, and protect the inhabitants of the neighbourhood from their depredations, an officer was appointed under the Crown, called the Steward of the Chiltern Hundreds, which were Burnham, Desborough, and Stoke. The clump of noble 'Burnham beeches' remains to remind us of the old stewardship duties."

Under "Science, and its Applications to Arts and Manufactures," are several points of interest, little known. We all remember the electric eel exhibited some years since at the Adelaide Gallery: it is curious to learn that the electric property has been turned to account in the native country of the fish, on the river Old Calabar, as a cure for sick children. The fish is put into a dish containing water, and the child made to play with it; or the child is put into a tub with water, and one or more of the fish put in beside it.

A great deal of nonsense is talked of cigars and their manufacture. Here is a piece of evidence worth quoting, it is from Dr. Lyon Playfair's "Report upon the Tobacco in the Great Exhibition of 1851:—"

“The finest tobacco in the world comes from the Havannah. But there is only a limited area in Cuba in which that tobacco is produced; so that whilst the Havannah tobacco may be of excellent quality in general, the best is the produce of a very small area, and is chiefly used in the island or as presents, a very limited amount going into general consumption. Tobacco, scarcely inferior to that from Havannah, has, however, been brought from Trinidad, and the southern Russian provinces. Manufacture, on the other hand, exercises a great influence over the quality of tobacco. In Algiers, where the climate is most favourable, the cigars are not smokable, because they are badly prepared. Again, some English-made cigars are of much greater excellence than many of the cigars imported from Havannah, and paying the highest duty as manufactured tobacco; and there is no doubt whatever that it is quite practicable to make cigars in this country which shall be undistinguishable in appearance, and not very distinguishable in flavour, from any except those first-class Havannah cigars which scarcely ever come into consumption.”

Under “Money,” the most striking articles are upon the new Bank of England note, the National Debt, and the popular error as to Queen Anne’s farthing. “Art Terms” include some useful explanations: as, of ancient and modern enamel; painted and stained glass; the style of the Renaissance; and a lucid illustration headed “What is Pre-Raphaelitism?” The work winds up with a few articles upon “Language and Books;” and there is, what is indispensable in a work of this class, a full index.

We have taken some pains to travel through the well-filled pages of this little book, and can conscientiously report that the information they contain, so entitle it to the appellation of “Things not generally known,” that we have thought we should interest our readers by making a distinct article of the volume.

LINES TO A NEWLY-INITIATED BROTHER.

FROM THE DUTCH.

Solo.

Hither, brother, reach thine hand!
Welcome to our inmost shrine!
This lay and this hour are thine;
Welcome to our brother-band!

Chorus.

Honour the great Lord of all;—
Steadfast be in joy and pain;—
Bold and faithful still remain,
Whatsoever may befall.

Solo.

Modest be, but firm to do
All thy duty; and alway,
In all thou shalt think or say,
To thy word and oath be true.

Chorus.

Hands we give and heartfelt love:
Strive for *truth*, for *wisdom* strive;
So prepare thyself to live,
Where all *beauty* reigns above.

PENCILLINGS FROM THE SKETCH-BOOK OF A MADRAS OFFICER.

BY AN INFANTRY M.M.

CHAPTER III.

THE KINARE, OR STRAND OF MULL LAND—DISEMBARKATION OF
“GRIFFINS,” OR NEW-COMERS — THE CADETS’ QUARTERS, AND
CADET MESS BUTLER.

Mislike me not for my complexion,
The shadow’d livery of the burnish’d sun,
To whom I am a neighbour, and near bred.

Merchant of Venice.

I BELIEVE it is generally admitted by travellers to be a truism, that the contrast afforded to the eye of the spectator between Oriental cities when viewed from a distance, in the first instance, and the reality to which a closer inspection introduces him, is very striking; and in this particular Madras is no exception, as far as the native part of it is concerned; receiving, as it unquestionably does, a reflected grandeur, and imposing aspect, from the many handsome-looking mansions of Europeans, and large public buildings, which are seen at once in bold and prominent relief along the shore, effectually hiding the narrow dingy-looking streets of Black Town. Compared with the side-by-side houses of middling-class pretensions in the cities and towns of Old England, as well as villas in their suburbs and neighbourhood, the mansions of British residents at the presidency appear, both externally and within-doors, like the seats of our nobility and landed gentry; and these are the abodes—the garden-houses, as they are called—of the chief Government officials and merchants of Madras.

Perhaps, after landing, the effect on the mind is somewhat lessened by the reflection, that—although the buildings we see, if not very lofty, are yet of wide and spreading dimensions—the heat of the climate must render snugness impossible, and that plenty of room, much ventilation, and flat roofs are almost indispensable pre-requisites to physical enjoyment. Thus, in this style all the houses of the highest class are built, while the internal decorations and appointments depend on the wealth and taste of the occupant. Papering of the walls, as at home, has of late years, in some instances, been adopted; but usually, in lieu thereof, a very finely-grained stucco, termed *chunam*, and which, in point of finish, often vies in snowy whiteness and polish with the most beautiful marble, is used to coat them, and if, as is not unusual, to the broad verandah of the edifice, a noble vesti-

bule and pilasters are added, the entire fabric is invested with an air of ornate elegance and aristocratic pretension. As the morning advanced, and the sun shone brightly forth upon the then glaringly-white fort, custom-house, and agency-houses on the beach, the eyes became perfectly dazzled. But to return to the *John*, which has yet to send ashore her passengers and freight.

At two miles' distance, is the long surf-beaten shore of *Mull Land*. Whether in the early days of English arrivals in India those who were destined for a long period of service on the Madras side of India were distinguished from their brethren in arms of Bengal and Bombay by a peculiar gusto for Mulliga-tauni—a compound word in the Malabar language, signifying, literally, pepper-water—I am not prepared to say; nor, as we are known to have in our time produced our fair share of *fast* men and geniuses, do I understand why ours should also have borne the designation of *The Benighted Presidency*. Neither can I enter too learnedly into analogous reasons why he of the City of Palaces should be called a *Holy Ing*? (Hindustani for “Who is there?”), or the hero of our western presidency be termed a *Duck*; however, so it is: Madras men are unexceptionably Mulls; and we who were bound for Mull Land might now begin to pack and lock up all our traps for transmission ashore, for here was our allotted locality.

But it was needless for us cadets to be in too great a hurry. We were, according to the custom of the time, to wait till we were called for, having orders not to quit the vessel till a non-commissioned officer, specially appointed for the purpose, should arrive on board to receive us. Soon after dropping anchor, the booming of a gun from the ramparts of Fort St. George ushered in the day. This was succeeded by another, fired from a man-of-war in the roads, and a most interesting scene gradually unfolded itself to our view. The first object claiming attention lay betwixt us and land: tremendous and rolling waves, in three and four lines, dashed on their foaming crests with an impetuosity and regularity most majestic, till thrown high on the shore, each leisurely receded, and was lost again in the general mass of waters. To our left hand rose, in battlemented glory, Fort St. George, the Esplanade, or Hyde-park of the presidency, and many fine-looking mansions, amongst which appeared in graceful eminence the steeples of the churches. On our right was Black Town, the veritable Madras-Patnam, or native locale; from which an odour was wafted to us of not the most gratifying kind to the nasal organs. But integrally, I gazed with curiosity and pleasure on this, to me, novel sight, the capital of Southern India.

Now came off one of the “catamarans,” described in the preceding chapter, bearing a couple of natives, who brought with them an official letter from the Custom-house for the commander. Next, according to usage, an extremely smart-looking boat, which at a glance showed its title to attention, manned by six tars from the aforesaid ship of war. She carried a dashing and consequential young midddy, who, in the plenitude of naval command,

demanded, in what we thought a very pompous manner, who we were, and what we wanted? The young gentleman having received an official answer, together with a list of the passengers, re-entered his boat and returned to his ship.

Immediately a clatter might be heard below, arising from the fastening of trunks, cording of boxes, rattling of keys, and slamming to and fro of cabin-doors; the steward and his assistants, obsequiously bowing, came down for presents as a remuneration for promoting our comfort on the passage; but great as was the confusion and bustle below, it was as nothing in comparison with that on deck; for, about six o'clock, crowds of Doobashees or native agents, small bazaar merchants, and black servants, were admitted up the gangway from Musoolah boats, vessels built expressly to weather the surf. A scene, moreover, characteristic of the country we had come to, attracted general notice; perhaps it is scarcely necessary for me to observe here, that it is an invariable custom in the East, when addressing a superior, to speak in the third person; to say "you," or "thou," is only proper when applied to an inferior or equal: thus natives, having any knowledge of the English language, use the words "master," or "your honour," in speaking to Europeans; and as we came out of the cuddy we were accosted by them something after this fashion: "Your honour got good sea-cot blanket? All things master choose I buy!" Another would say, "Master, want hand-servant? I plenty good characters got, master like I show," very ludicrously suiting the action to the word by gestures in the most unapproved style of theatrical ranting; but we were not to be caught. We had been duly warned of the attempts of these gentry by our seniors on board. The characters often exhibited in this manner, though they have the appearance of being genuine, may be either direct forgeries, or probably those of gentlemen by whom the men presenting them had never been hired as servants, but had purchased them for a rupee or so from an original holder. It would be folly for any one to engage such persons as thus offer themselves, for a few hours will suffice to procure respectable servants ashore, through the agency of any gentleman's butler resident in Madras, whom the cadet may visit, or when he has arrived even at his temporary home—the cadet quarters. I recollect the first sight of these longcloth-garment and muslin-turban-wearing creatures impressed me with an idea that they looked more like old women, especially the more corpulent ones, than beings of the masculine gender. Eastern costume seems supremely ridiculous and effeminate till the eye becomes accustomed to it; but after the novelty has worn off, and a gradual insight into native habits and customs has borne down the barriers of prejudice in his mind, the European is easily reconciled to these external distinctions of dress and manner. Most of these men who visited the ship looked extremely artful, and certainly afforded us, by their self-confident, pushing behaviour, no very favourable notion of the people among whom we were about to pass a long part of our existence.

The regulation that cadets do not land by themselves is in all respects a good one; as, with a total ignorance of the country they have come to, they would, had they no dry-nurse to initiate them into its mysteries, be infallibly fleeced by the designing natives. By ten o'clock A.M., a Musoolah boat, which is constructed of large planks sewn together with rope made of the cocoanut-tree, and well pitched in the seams, the same being the only kind used for conveying passengers and baggage across the surf, which rolls in with portentous vehemence on this part of the Coromandel coast, and made very deep, for the double purpose of safety and accommodation, was seen to put off from the beach, and make towards us. Ugly and clumsy though it looked, this, a Government one, painted red, was of the best description, having an awning spread over the stern to shelter us from the burning sun. This style of boat is very seldom upset; but a ship's-gig would have no chance of withstanding the force of the waves, and imminent danger is there from an accident in these roads, owing to the number of sharks with which they are infested.

An active-looking messenger from Fort St. George, in the person of the cadet serjeant, having arrived, gave us to understand that we, the cadets, were to proceed ashore under his charge. In a few minutes, our baggage being transferred to other boats under the care of some Government servants, we bid adieu to our ship, and accompanied our military conductor, whose office it was to carry us through the usual preliminaries of visiting the town-major's and adjutant-general's offices. The Bengal cadets also were with us, to be our companions at the quarters till the *John* should proceed on her voyage to Calcutta.

The long succession of breakers on the beach, which we were now speedily approaching, is unique of its kind in the world of phenomena. The surf's cause, though Captain Basil Hall suggests its origin, it is true, seems likely to be for all time an unsolved problem, and has puzzled many a searcher in the field of science; but no buddings from the plant of philosophical inquiry have on this speculative point become better than mere blights. The months of October, November, and December are those when it is usually most powerful. The flagstaff in the fort is annually struck on the 15th of the first-named month, and hoisted again on the 25th of the last; and in the interval, should vessels choose to remain in the roadstead, the underwriters will not be answerable for damages. The signal of a gun being fired from the battery, which it behoves all commanders to obey, acts as a tocsin for vessels to put to sea without delay. Immediately our native oarsmen, ten or twelve in number, felt our proximity to the first long rolling swell, they commenced shouting out with a madman-like din, repeatedly and quickly, an invocation to the Deity,

“Allah, Allah!—Allah, Allah!—Allah, Allah!”

at the same time concentrating all their strength to pull with

redoubled speed through the breaker; and as it sped onwards, to take every possible advantage of its swift course, till gradually carried forward in its subsidence, the Musoolah boat was not unpreparedly overtaken by another. Again, the same noise, vociferation, and pulling was resorted to, till each breaker, of lesser magnitude, being passed through, and its buffetings admirably withstood, one, apparently of overwhelming strength, dashed it high and with a loud, grating noise, on the sandy beach. No time is now to be lost; the passenger must jump out, for should he delay till another spring of the surf, and be caught unawares, the concussion will most infallibly knock him off his perch, and the spray cover him from head to foot. These native sailors, with weather-beaten visages and sun-dried skins, are fond of practising a trick upon the griffin. Cunning enough to think he will imagine that all the hubbub they make is owing to the presence of real danger, having passed him safely over the first breaker, they stand up in a ludicrous attitude, and with a face expressive of an appeal to his gratitude and admiration, beseech him for a "*backsheesh*," or present; failing to obtain from him the desired *douceur*, on the approach of a succeeding swell, they will wear round the boat a little, the effect of which manœuvre, through the rebound of the wave, will probably be felt in the shape of a tolerably good sprinkling of sea-water on his person, a matter of no consequence to themselves—indeed, rather refreshing, being more than half-naked—but a considerable nuisance to the well-dressed passenger. And now we were once again on dry land, and so indeed we found it; with a scorching sun overhead and the sand hot beneath our feet, we were right glad to seek for shelter. "A very fine sunshiny day, sir, this," a youthful *militaire*, being a griffin, is reported to have said to a presidency official, as, soon after his arrival, arrayed in scarlet jacket, buttoned up close over his chest, and constantly applying his cambric to his face, which, from the effects of a thermometer standing at 95 degrees, was in a particularly liquescent state, he was seated before him, and received for answer, "Yes; and you will have an abundance of fine sunshiny days before you leave the country!" and such was our destined experience.

The *griffin* is a creature of no presidency in particular,—all India claims him for her son; his blunders, from not being acquainted with the habits of the country, and ignorance of the native languages, whether he be a mull, koey-hy, or duck, though springing from one and the same principle, are multiform, and partake of the peculiarities which each part of Hindostan holds up to his view. Nominally, his career of griffinage is a year, a month, a week, and a day; but in these days of very superior education in England, there are, I believe, fewer mistakes made by the young adventurers in the East now than in times gone by. An infinite number of ludicrous tales might be recounted of the exploits of griffins, some almost exceeding belief. Not devoid of amusement are the following:—A young gentleman, on his way to join his station some years ago, being on board a budgerow on the river Hooghly, observed what is a too

common thing to see there, the corpse of a Hindoo which had been therein deposited, instead of being interred on shore or burnt, floating past on the surface of the water, and insisted on the dandies or boatmen hauling up the defunct body, and carrying the decomposing remains to the nearest station, that it might be conveyed into the presence of an European magistrate, from a belief in his mind that the man had been murdered; and that if no notice was taken of it, the ends of justice would be defeated. The crew were disgusted and angry, at having to perform the office of undertakers, and the well-meaning youth, in addition to the ridicule to which he had exposed himself by forcing this supposed duty upon them, was mulcted in a heavy fine by the magistrate for his obstinacy, as nothing else would appease them for the damage done to their caste, and as a means of purifying their boat from the contamination of a dead body.

Another griffin, when marching up the country with his corps, thought proper one fine morning, accompanied by his horsekeeper, to have a little shooting. Being somewhat near-sighted, he could not see distinctly what appeared to him some strange wild animal, on the opposite side of a fence, at which he was about to take aim, but was instantly checked by his native attendant. Our griffin, however, not knowing Hindustani, could not fathom his meaning beyond the sign that he should not fire. On return to camp he told his companions the story, one of whom asked the horsekeeper what the animal was; he replied, "Dhobee ka guddha, saheb" (Sir, it was a washerman's donkey)! The creature having its ears back, and being in a strange position, was not recognized by the short-sighted gentleman. Of course, there was a good laugh at his expense.

Here, too, is one of a similar kind:—A young officer, when out for field-sports, fires at some birds, of the name of which he is ignorant; his horsekeeper, wishing to explain to him their worthlessness, and the waste of powder and shot, exclaims, on seeing what he is about, "Khooch nay, saheb," meaning to say, They are nothing at all, sir. However, the gentleman bags six of them, takes them to his friends, informing them he has killed six khoochnays,—they were sandlarks!

One more: usually there is no great appreciation by natives of what among Europeans will pass as *bon mots*. They seldom appear to indulge in witticisms; but this seems to be an exceptional case. A person, not belonging to the service, soon after his arrival in India, being unacquainted with more than a few words of the vernacular, whether from necessity or motives of economy, I know not, managed to secure a transit up country by a parcel-delivery van from Calcutta. The black driver proceeded much slower than his passenger liked, and he, unable to ascertain the cause, could say nothing beyond calling out repeatedly, "Juldee jao" (Go quicker). The native, probably half in consequence of the other's grumbling without sufficient reason, and partly in fun, replied, "*Chooproo jee, toom khale parcel hy*" (You have no business to [literally don't you] talk, for you are nothing but a *parcel*). And thus much, by way of digression, in regard to griffins.

Having been led into the fort, where our arrival was registered at the town-major's office, and visited that of the adjutant-general, known best among the palanquin-bearers at Madras by the title of "*Conway's Office*," from the distinguished cavalry officer of that name, many years the head of that department, we presented our certificates of admission to the service, given us in England, and were whisked away, in vehicles not unlike the old English postchaise, across the Esplanade, the roads being bordered with evergreen trees, which at this period of the year bore an abundance of fine trumpet-shaped yellow flowers. We soon reached the cadets' quarters, where we were forthwith ushered into the presence of the superintending officer, a captain in the Madras army.

The first thing we had to do was to sign our names, with what object I never understood—some one facetiously observed, it might possibly be done to show that writing had not been neglected in our education. Boards on the wall, with orders for the guidance of the cadets, were pointed out to our attention, and for the present we were left to the enjoyment of our own society, and that of some other jolly fellows who had preceded us some weeks from England. Ample leisure had we to review our past experiences, nor did we feel our position less agreeable at hearing that we were forthwith, according "to the custom of war in like cases," to receive a month's pay in advance!

The cadets' quarters, at the time I write of, were situate about a mile and a half from the fort, on the road to Poonamallee, the Queen's Regimental Depot here, as Chatham is at home: they were large, airy, and pleasant, but now were undergoing partial repair, and consequently we found, on arrival in the compound, or area on which they were built, tents pitched ready for our accommodation, so that on the first night of our being ashore in India we slept in a miniature camp. We were, however, lucky enough to have the benefit of a spacious hall in which to take meals, very desirable at this season of the year, when the great heat at Madras commences, increasing rapidly till July. The grounds round the house were several acres in extent, surrounded by a prickly pear hedge, a very common mode of defining the boundaries of Indian compounds. The word compound is derived, I believe, from the Portuguese word *campana*, signifying "a plain." Here it is applied to any space of ground belonging to a building, whether it be a garden, or simply an inclosed field. There was a neat flower-garden at the quarters, and a somewhat arid-looking lawn, but the eye found a relief from the glare of the white walls by resting on the flowering and odoriferous shrubs dotted about; and in the back-ground were clumps of the deep green-leaved mangoa, and lighter-coloured cocoanut-trees, on which the lizards love to gambol, the former presenting a thick and umbrageous shelter from the sun, and neither being at any time destitute of foliage. Many houses at Madras boast of very pretty gardens, especially the mansions of the opulent; these are beautifully kept, abounding with exotics, and all indigenous productions in the

shape of vegetables: while, also, amid the great show of flowers, the English and China roses are conspicuous from their quantities; but at distant stations, from various causes, the magnates alone, as a rule, can show ornamental ground about their dwellings. The space around a subaltern's bungalow, for instance, is usually little better than a field, inclosed by an aloe or milk hedge (the sap of the last-named bush being most pungent and blistering), with a couple of tumble-down pillars at the entrance and in front of the building, indicating thereby the spot where a gate should be—a single round or oval-shaped parterre immediately before the door, set with a rosebush or two, and perhaps a few geraniums in the last stage of horticultural vitality, bordered by the dwarf mulberry three feet in height.

Plants will grow at most stations, if due care be taken, and sufficient money be expended; but gardening in the East costs no trifling outlay. Officers are constantly liable to be moved about; juniors have little to spend upon such luxuries; and the owners of the bungalows, generally native shopkeepers in the place, as long as they have tenants, and so secure the house-rent, care little for aught beside.

I must here call my reader's attention to the portrait of a "great character" in his day,—the mess butler at the cadets' quarters. He was a perfect curiosity in himself—a capital specimen of fat and jovial Hindooism,—a black Falstaff; indeed he was generally known by the sobriquet of "*Sir John*." Witty, after his fashion, full of big looks towards his inferiors, he was roguishly accommodating in his services, uniting an odd mixture of respect and jocose freedom in his manner towards the cadets, who of course were in the habit of constituting him their butt. However, the facetious old fellow bore every stroke of pleasantry with the greatest good humour and drollery imaginable. Poor Murrainsam Naich has long since been gathered to his fathers. Many likenesses of him were taken by the amateur limners of those days, and duplicates were given him, of which he was vastly proud, carrying the same about his person in the folds of his *cummerbund*, or waistband, whence he could draw them forth, and exhibit them to each new arrival.

The evening drew on; the sun commenced its descent like a ball of fire in the western sky, and the great heat having become dissipated, we strolled out to view our locality. But a short time allowed for this, for twilight there was none; a beauteous moon rose in the heavens, tipping with silvery light the leaves of the distant coconut-trees, gently waving to the sea breeze, which had set in to cool and comfort us, and our little party returned to congregate in the hall, to discuss the merits of an Indian supper, to which all were prepared to do full justice; finishing the same with a cigar and glass of brandy (*panee*) and water. Some then tried their hands at cards; those more drowsily inclined threw themselves back in their chairs, and their legs, *à la mode Asiatique*, horizontally on the table, till Morpheus, the attendant on night here as elsewhere, called on every one to retire within the compass of the canvass walls, there to suc-

cumb to his powers. So with eager and delightful anticipations of fine holiday fun on the morrow, with a sense of placid weariness from the day's heat, and bustle of coming ashore, I was soon in a state of repose,—faculties, mental and bodily, sunk in a peaceful slumber. Does my reader inquire,—What! without mosquito-curtains? I answer yes; I had none; I wanted none; I was sufficiently fatigued, and at peace with every living thing, to be somnolent without them; and as hunger is the best sauce for appetite, so is a day's active occupation an excellent guarantee for a good night's rest; and never, let me assure him, did I sleep more soundly than on this, my first night in India.

REVIEWS OF NEW BOOKS.

[Publishers are requested to send works for review not later than the 20th of the month, addressed to the Editor of the "Freemasons' Monthly Magazine," 74-5, Great Queen-street, Lincoln's-Inn Fields.]

"*The Adopted Mason.*" J. W. Leonard, New York. This is the first number of a periodical devoted to the promulgation of Female Lodges in America and elsewhere, after the method adopted in France. It is a most able journal. Adoptive Masonry it thus defines:—"By the term *Adoptive Masonry* we imply that system of forms, ceremonies, and explanatory lectures which is communicated to certain classes of ladies, who, from their relationship by blood or marriage to Master Masons in good standing, are entitled to the respect and attention of the entire Fraternity. These ladies are said to be *adopted* into the Masonic communion, because the system of forms, ceremonies, and lectures, above referred to, enables them to express their wishes, and give satisfactory evidence of their claims in a manner that no stranger to the Masonic family can do." All the method of arranging "Constellations" or Lodges of females is given, and the periodical abounds in interesting details which we trust hereafter to quote from. The following is its appeal:—

"SISTER!—Is this the first communication ever made you upon the subject of Adoptive Masonry? Then be assured you have not been fairly dealt with. Your *husband* has concealed from you what you were all along entitled to know, that *the true Wife of the true Mason is the adopted inmate of the Masonic household*. Your *father* has been unmasonically silent towards you, for he should long since have instructed you that *the true Daughter of the true Mason is as her Father in the affections of the Masonic Brotherhood*. Your *brother* has not dealt in a brotherly spirit with you, or you would have learned long ago, that *the true Sister of the true Mason is the Sister of every true Mason, the wide world around*.

"SISTER!—Permit me now to speak for husband, father, brother, and enlighten your mind upon this interesting, this important subject. Let my leaves unfold to you one by one, the truths ancient as Masonry itself, and precious as the fine gold of Ophir. Having followed me through the delightful field, let me conduct you then into the details of a system, designed to render those ancient truths available. In the apartments of the *American Adoptive Garden* linger and examine the form, the furniture, the adornments thereof one by one, wander through its various partitions, the *Blue*, the *Orange*, the *White*, the *Green*, the *Scarlet*,—and

ponder the touching history of each bright heroine enshrined there. Is it not instructive to contemplate them! Where in the range of history have you a Jephthah's Daughter, a Ruth, an Esther, where can you find *faith* like Martha's, or *devotion* like Electa's! Our journey ended and your mind well stored with the traditions of this Adoptive Order, return with me and thoughtfully inquire, 'Why were these things so long hidden from mine eyes? If these truths are so important to my interests, why have I been deprived of them?'

"BROTHER!—You will not think me officious in thus assuming your place for a little while, and informing the mind of her whose interests you so tenderly cherish. I have no other purpose than to increase the fund of human happiness. The years we all have laboured in the field of Masonry—the long journeys made,—the sacrifices of time and labour,—the unrequited toils of the best portion of our lives, ought to be a guarantee to our Brethren that, in this great work of organizing a *National System of Adoptive Masonry*, we have no selfish aims in view. You will accept this guarantee and become a co-labourer with us in this work. It is a noble end to pursue, *to unite in one common tie the wives, daughters, and sisters of the membership of thousands of Masonic Lodges!* Does not your heart bound to the call! Join us, then, and, by the help of Him whose Symbol glows in each Masonic East, we will perform it.

"SISTER AND BROTHER!—We must not expect so great a work can be accomplished without opposition. There are so many in our ranks who know too little, and not a few who know *too much!* for a practical enterprise like this, that we shall err if we expect to advance without obstacles, or labour without opponents. We must anticipate both, and, by love, truth, industry and perseverance, we shall overcome both."

"*The Universal Masonic Library Advocate.*" Morris, Fulton County, Kentucky. This is another bi-monthly publication, devoted to the single interest of establishing a library of Masonic literature in every Lodge. A most excellent purpose, which has been so overlooked in England, not only by particular Lodges, but by the Grand Lodge, that though, to our certain knowledge, a Rev. Brother offered to take the office of Librarian to the Grand Lodge in London, and to present £50 worth of books to the general stock, receiving but a small remuneration for his time, the plan has never been acted upon, and the whole Masonic body in London have to fill up their vacant time in looking at shops and walking about the streets; because, rich as the Fraternity is, it cannot, apparently, boast a common reading-room, nor possess the literary advantages possessed even by St. Giles's or Houndsditch. Yet we can squander large sums upon officials, who only answer one letter out of ten, and drafts upon whose intelligence are never honoured before two, three, or five years. Meanwhile, the offer is still again publicly made through us. The Brother, who is of high clerical and literary position, has not rescinded his kind intention, and it remains to be seen whether there is public feeling enough in the governing body to throw off its nepotism for a while, and accept the proposal. Some Brother should really take the thing up, for our library condition is disgraceful at present, and a glance at the American publication before us shows that, as usual, our transatlantic Brethren have felt the want we complain of, and are setting about to supply it, with their characteristic energy. They have at present about 500 volumes.—"*Esquisses de la Vie Mac : Suisse.*" Pache-Luirmen. Lausanne. It is with unaffected pleasure we welcome the reception of Masonic journals from our Swiss Brethren, for which we are indebted to the kindness of Bro. John Thomas Cooke. We shall be happy to exchange periodicals, as desired, with Switzerland, whose Masonic literature, as attested by the received numbers of its Magazine, must command the attention of every Brother. The paper on the "*Philosophical History of Freemasonry*" abounds with research. The address of Bro. Goffin to the Belgian Brethren is full of nerve and sagacity, though savouring so strongly of political feeling as to have evoked the repudiation of Bro. Verhaegen, G.M. The editor of the "*Esquisses*," however, defends M. Goffin upon the plea that his remarks are warranted by the duty of Masonry to reprove the age, and the admitted corruption of the latter. Another article in favour of the Freemasonry of women is most

ably written. There is a beautiful poem, by "Sœur Louise," also to be found in its pages.—"*The Debates on the Nawab of Surat Treaty Bill.*" J. R. Taylor. London. This contains a fair estimate of the callous obfuscation and senseless injustice with which certain M.P.'s, alias mere praters, in the House of Commons, where bad manners are common enough, but honesty and genius very uncommon, endeavour to put down the voice of truth. The debate lasted four days, after which period,—a very short one, for our legislature to see light in,—“the House,” by the kind assistance of Sir Fitzroy Kelly, was at last safely delivered, after seven hours' severe labour, notwithstanding the efforts of Sir J. W. Hogg to protract the birth, and declared by a majority of nearly 200, that if a man makes a promise he ought to keep it. Who shall despair of our legislators after that?—“*Is Lord Bacon the Author of Shakspeare's Plays?*” An Inquiry by W. H. Smith, Esq. Many of our readers are perhaps not aware that some, if not all, of Shakspeare's plays have been variously attributed to Sir W. Raleigh and Lord Bacon. The present essay, at all events, supports the claim of the latter as equal to that of Sir Walter, and the observations of Mr. W. H. Smith reflect great credit on his shrewdness and indefatigable research.—“*Labour and Refreshment,*” by Bro. the Rev. T. Kingston. This admirable address we hope to place before our readers shortly, so that at present we merely acknowledge the receipt of it. We opine that they will find it full of Masonic spirit, and redolent of that feeling which should characterize the Clergyman and the Mason.—“*The Canadian Masonic Pioneer.*” Montreal. We have had the pleasure of seeing the whole of our leading article upon “Toadyism,” recently published in the “Freemasons' Magazine,” reprinted in the pages of our Canadian contemporary, but without acknowledgment. This is hardly courteous. With the exception, however, of this somewhat Yankee omission, the “Canadian Pioneer” is all that can be desired.

ANNIVERSARY OF A LODGE.

TRANSLATED BY REV. BRO. HEILBRONN.

MY Brethren, our year
Has drawn to its close ;
For the good of our Order
Let each make his vows :
And in the next year,
Let each one hold fast,
The duties and knowledge
He learn'd in the last.

With modesty, gay ;
Without licence, free ;
To the laws of our country
Good subjects are we.
’Tis in vain that his counsel
The sage Master gives,
Unless by his wisdom
We fashion our lives.

Envy and such-like
No good Mason knows,
For each word ill-spoken
Disturbs our repose.
Let hatred and malice
Flee far, far away,
That peace may abide with us
Ever and aye.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

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

SIR AND BROTHER,—From some cause we did not for several months receive the *Freemasons' Magazine*, and the numbers from February to July have only now come to hand.

The June number contains a report of the transactions of the Grand Lodge for April, and gives what I suppose we must consider as the final reply of the Grand Master to our Canadian Prov. Grand-Lodge petition; either the M.W. the Grand Master is wrongly reported, or he is most lamentably ignorant, or he wilfully misrepresents Canadian Masons. I speak boldly, but I say the truth. There appears to be a strange jumble in his mind, between those who have withdrawn from their allegiance and those who still hold on to it, the Prov. Grand Lodge *has not withdrawn* from the Grand Lodge of England, but a number of Lodges hitherto under its jurisdiction have done so, and many members of those Lodges who still adhere have adopted the sentiments of those who have withdrawn. When the Prov. Grand Lodge met in July, 1855, at Niagara Falls, the *whole body* was unanimous in considering that there was great cause of complaint against the Grand Lodge of England. And the only *want of unanimity* was, that one party held that remonstrances enough, and more than enough, had already been sent to England, and that the time had now come to separate from a Grand Lodge that did not appear to care for our allegiance; the other party, although perfectly at one with their Brethren as to the neglect experienced from the ruling body, thought we could and ought still to persevere in laying our complaints before the Grand Master and his Grand Lodge, and try still further to enlighten our English Brethren. The former party, being in a minority, withdrew from the deliberations, and took steps, since effectually carried out in conjunction with Lodges under the Scotch and Irish jurisdiction, to establish an independent Grand Lodge for Canada; while the majority, after their retirement, unanimously adopted the resolution of adherence and further remonstrance. The Grand Master characterized the desire of the Prov. Grand Lodge as preposterous, and announced his decision, "to take no notice of it." He "was now satisfied that his judgment was correct, for he had reason for knowing that a very large proportion of the Canadian Brethren desire to hold their allegiance to the United Grand Lodge of England." He might have gone a great deal further, and said with truth that the *whole* of the Canadian Brethren *desired* to hold their allegiance to the United Grand Lodge, but they cannot consent to do so unless dealt with on the square, and on the *level also*.

The M.W. the Grand Master is reported to say at the June meeting of the Grand Lodge, that he is anxious that every justice should be done the Canadian Lodges, but deprecates the hasty course taken by Canadians, and speaks of some scheme soon to be proposed, which is to give satisfaction to all the colonial Lodges; he relies also upon advice from the Prov. Grand Master of Canada East, and declares that the Lodges there had not followed the Canada West movement. If the Prov. Grand Master of Canada East knows what is taking place in his province, he must know that the movement is as popular in Canada East as in Canada West.

Although, Mr. Editor, I write thus strongly on the subject of the neglect of our Grand Lodge to redress our grievances, I am not one of those who have withdrawn from the Grand Lodge of England. I have always, and still do advocate adherence to the Grand Lodge of England, and will not give up until we shall have exhausted every method for enlightening our Brethren in England as to our position; but although many stanch friends to the Mother Grand Lodge are in this province battling in her favour, it is discouraging and fatal to our success, to see the M.W. Grand Master taking the course he has thought proper to do: he would apparently care little if every Lodge in the province were driven from its allegiance. Men are asking themselves what good does a continuance of our connection promise, and what good has it done in the past? Is not the whole of our Masonic history one continued story of neglect by our Mother Grand Lodge?

The Grand Master also displays his ignorance of the dealings of the Grand Lodge of England with the Canadian Brethren when he taunts them with having pursued a *hasty course*. A number, and a large number, of influential Brethren have seen cause to set up an independent Grand Lodge, and those who have not seen meet to join them in this course do not, on that account, the less believe that complaints are well-founded, or their cause just,—they are still willing to hope that at the eleventh hour our wants will be attended to and our petitions heard.

I will give you, Mr. Editor, a true sketch of Masonry in this province, every word of which I can support by documentary evidence; you will then see that our whole course has been neglect on the one side, and a patient hope on the other; in fact, a hoping against hope that the Grand Lodge of England would extend her fostering care over us. After reading it, how will then appear the assertion of my Lord Zetland, that the actions of our Brethren are hasty, “our desires most preposterous,” and that he will take no notice of them.

In 1792, the R.W. William Jarvis was appointed Prov. Grand Master for Canada under the Grand Lodge of England, of which his Grace the Duke of Athole was Grand Master. Soon after his appointment he granted dispensations to form Lodges in various places in the province, and subsequently confirmed those dispensations by warrants. After some time difficulties arose; the Prov. Grand Master appears to have paid but little attention to his business, made no returns to England, transcended his duty in granting warrants instead of merely giving dispensations to be afterwards confirmed by warrant from England; in fact, it would seem that he acted in such a way that the Craft was allowed to get almost completely disorganized. After his death several of the Lodges, on consultation, decided on calling a Convention of Masons, to consider what was best to be done: they met in Kingston, in August, 1817, and petitioned his Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex, then Grand Master, to take their cause into consideration, and to appoint an efficient Prov. Grand Master for Canada, recommending at the same time Bro. Roderick McKay as eminently fitted, both from station and character, to fill that office. The Convention met again, in 1819, and no notice having been taken of the petition of 1817, they entered into an association, and made an exposition of their views, adopted and sent another petition to the Grand Master or Grand Lodge, all which so fully explain their position and are at the same time so temperate, that I inclose copies. And so anxious were the Brethren to succeed in the object of their desire, that, as you will perceive, they sent a draft for £30 sterling to cover any expenses or charges by the Grand Lodge in granting them a Charter. And—*would you believe it, Mr. Editor?—from that day to this nothing has ever been heard of the £30, further than that the draft was duly presented by and paid to the Grand Secretary.* The Convention met again in 1820, 1821, and 1822, per force performing the duties of a Grand Lodge, as all their communications, remonstrances, and petitions, addressed to the Grand Master and Grand Secretary remained unanswered. I cannot refrain from sending you a copy of a long letter addressed to the Grand Secretary on the part of the Convention, by its Secretary, Bro. John Dean, and commend it to your careful perusal. In 1822, Bro. S. McGillivray was appointed Prov. Grand Master, who procured new warrants to be granted to the Canadian Lodges by the Grand Lodge of England: they were thus for the first time

acknowledged and recognized by the Mother Grand Lodge. It was hoped that for the future everything would go straight ; but, in 1828, I find the Lodge with which I am connected complaining to the Prov. Grand Lodge, that they had never received any Grand Lodge certificates for their members, although they had paid for them many years before ; and, in 1832, a memorial is sent to England to the same purport, viz. that they had never received any Grand Lodge certificates, nor had their remittances or other communications been ever acknowledged. Again, in 1844, another memorial is sent to the same effect, and requesting at least a recognition from the Grand Lodge ; and, in November of that year, no answer having been received, the Grand Secretary was again written to, with a copy of the former communication and memorial, urging, in addition, the necessity of appointing another Prov. Grand Master, Bro. McGillivray having left the province some years previous. *After fifty-three years' patient waiting, viz. in January, 1845, the first direct communication from the Grand Secretary was received, duly recognizing the Lodge.* Sir Allan N. McNabb was also, at the same time, appointed Prov. Grand Master for Canada West, and a Prov. Grand Lodge was summoned to meet in November, 1845. From this date our Lodge has regularly received our certificates, and our communications are duly answered ; but even for this tardy justice we do not credit the Grand Secretary. All our correspondence is carried on through the kindness of a Brother resident in London, who personally delivers and looks after our letters and business. We remit our Grand-Lodge fees to him, and he procures our certificates for us ; but other Lodges are not so fortunately situated as we are, and are therefore in the same position as we were in a few years ago, and never receive the slightest mark of recognition.

You have seen the petition of the Prov. Grand Lodge to the Grand Master ; you have seen also a copy of petition from fourteen private Lodges in the eastern part of Canada West, praying for a division of the jurisdiction and appointing more Prov. Grand Masters ; you have also before you the history of our long trials and struggles to be recognized by the Craft in England ; and the earnest desire of those who have not yet left their allegiance to still the dissatisfaction in the province and prevail on the Brethren to have yet a little longer patience, knowing the justice of our cause and the earnestness with which we have for so long time struggled for it ; how then does the iron enter our soul when we see him who occupies the highest place in the Craft disdainfully throw our requests to the winds, and declare that but one petition or remonstrance from the Craft in Canada had ever reached England, and of that he will take no notice. We are not bound by any tie of interest to the Grand Lodge of England. Our only tie is that of love to the ancient Lodges of our forefathers. I am afraid the word love is almost out of place, and that there is but too little love for her remaining.

Can our Brethren be accused of hastiness, when, after waiting so long to have their complaints redressed and their necessary wants attended to, they see all their endeavours for the improvement of the Craft in this province utterly scouted by the Grand Master, who disdained even to inform the Grand Lodge that there was the least spark of dissatisfaction in the Canadian Brethren ? I say, can they be blamed if they have determined that they would in future govern themselves ? I, for one, think their offence very light ; and confident am I that, unless a very great change soon takes place, most of the other Lodges will follow, for all are unanimous in requiring such a change as that we shall have some hold of our Prov. Grand Master, so that he must either attend to do his duties or make way for some one who will do so. Look back on the conduct of the three Prov. Grand Masters we have had : the first left all to his subordinates, knew nothing of his duty, allowed his name to be used to Masonically unconstitutional acts, and left the Craft in disorder and disunion at his death ; the second commenced aright, brought apparently all into harmony, and then left the province, soon to be succeeded by the same darkness he found ; the third, is our present Prov. Grand Master, Sir A. McNabb, who has been, since his appointment, too much engaged in railroads and politics to attend to Masonry ; and, however estimable he may be in private life, pays very little attention to his Prov. Grand Lodge.

This will hardly satisfy Canadians, who have learned in this country to think and act for themselves, and have little more regard for those who wear a coronet than for those who do not; they want consolidation and a proper governing body who is responsible to themselves; and, having decided that question in their own minds, will not be put off with anything less, although they may patiently wait a long time for it.

CANADIAN.

Meeting of Masonic Convention, held at Kingston, Upper Canada, 8th Feb., 1819.

(Extracts.)

WE the undersigned, delegates from the several Lodges of Free and Accepted Masons hereinafter mentioned, having met in General Grand Convention, for the purpose of taking into consideration the present state of the Craft in the Province, hereby make the following exposition of the motives which at this critical juncture actuate us.

Upon the death of our late Grand Master, the Prov. Grand Lodge of Upper Canada expired; and for several years previous, the operations of said Grand Lodge, by unforeseen difficulties, were suspended, its concerns were neglected, and Masonry was fast sinking into anarchy and confusion. The consequences of this state of things were seen by many of the members of this convention, but it was out of their power to remedy the evil. The death of our Grand Master left us a disjointed body, and from want of subordination, the subordinate Lodges which continued working, without any restraint, were rapidly declining. As is too frequently the case, where no power exists nor is exercised to enforce adherence to the genuine principles of the Order, bad members had gained admission into the Lodges, and the pure principles of Masonry were so profaned by their conduct, that worthy men stood aloof, in many instances, perhaps, thinking Masonry the cause of such conduct, or, at least, that it did not prohibit it. Irregularities in working had crept into the Lodges, from want of proper correspondence, and from having no official head to which they could apply for the lectures.

The effect of such proceedings, of which this is but a faint picture, was perceived by the Lodges, and several being sensible of our rapidly declining state, did choose delegates to meet in Grand Convention, to deliberate upon proper measures for the correction of existing evils, and said delegates did, on the 27th day of August, A.L. 5817, assemble at Kingston, and after mature deliberation, adopt the only remedy in their power, and nominated Roderick McKay, Esq., for the office of Prov. Grand Master, and immediately advised the Grand Lodge of England of the nomination, praying that our situation might be taken into consideration, and if the nomination was approved, that a warrant might be forwarded, that a Prov. Grand Lodge might be organized. To this communication no reply has been received, and to add to our misfortunes, our Grand Master elect was suddenly snatched from us by an untimely death.

We, the undersigned delegates, impressed with a deep sense of our depressed state, and fully sensible that our situation requires immediate attention, and having the prosperity of the Fraternity at heart, and being desirous that the genuine principles of Masonry may be more extensively diffused and preserved in their ancient purity, do hereby voluntarily enter into the following "Articles of Association," in order to lay a foundation for a regular organization of the Craft in this Province, ever holding ourselves amenable for our conduct to the United Grand Lodge of England, whose supremacy we acknowledge, and whose protection we court; and which ancient and honourable body we hope will listen favourably to the prayer of the petition which we forward, with a copy of the proceedings of the Convention, for their approval or disavowal:—

Articles of Association of the Masonic Convention of Upper Canada, assembled at Kingston, on the 8th day of February, A.L. 5819.

Art. 1.—That this Convention shall consist of a President, two Vice-Presidents, Moderator, Secretary, Treasurer, Grand Visitor, and Tyler, who shall be elected

annually ; and delegates from each of the several Lodges, which form the Convention, that received warrants from the late Prov. Grand Lodge, who shall be eligible to any of the offices above mentioned.

Art. 2.—The Convention shall meet annually at Kingston, on the second Monday in February, for the election of officers, and the transaction of such other business as may be necessary to be done.

Art. 3.—That the Convention assume power of granting dispensations, indorsed on the original warrant received by the respective Lodges from the late Grand Lodge, which dispensation is intended to sanction the authority of subordinate Lodges to work, who acknowledge the supremacy of this Convention, until such time as a Prov. Grand Lodge may be organized ; and also assume the power of granting dispensations generally, in such cases as may promote the general welfare of the Craft.

Art. 4.—That it shall be the duty of each Lodge, working under a dispensation from the Convention, forthwith to commence a thorough reformation in their several Lodges, by strictly scrutinizing the general conduct of each member, and suspending every immoral member, who shall be expelled, if after a suitable time he should not reform. For which purpose each Lodge shall, immediately upon receiving their dispensation, appoint a committee of three of their most respectable members, whose duty it shall be to take cognizance of un-Masonic conduct in their members, and discretionally to report the offender or offenders to the Lodge ; and upon substantiating their charges, the offender is, for the first offence, to be admonished by the presiding officer in open Lodge, and his name and the offence to be recorded on the minutes of Lodge business, to be laid before the Convention ; if reported the second time, he shall be suspended for a suitable length of time ; and if reported the third time, he shall be immediately expelled, provided the committee substantiate each of their charges.

Art. 5.—That no one of the Lodges forming this association shall, upon any pretence whatever, initiate into the 1st Degree of Masonry any person who has not been proposed by a regular Brother and member of the Lodge, and his petition received and accepted by the Brethren present, at least one regular communication previous to his being balloted for, nor unless the ballot is then unanimous.

Art. 6.—That the Master of each Lodge shall have the power of calling emergencies for passing to the 2nd Degree or raising to the 3rd Degree of any Brother made in his Lodge, by issuing summonses, expressly stating the business upon which the emergency is called, and the name of the candidate, that every Brother may have a knowledge of the application, and that such summonses be served at least three days previous to the meeting. In each degree the ballot must be unanimous ; and no other business shall be transacted at such emergency, than that expressed in such summonses.

Art. 7.—That no Lodge shall confer the three first degrees for a less sum than three guineas, and each member presenting a petition, shall deposit with the Secretary two dollars deposit-money, and shall be held responsible for the degree conferred ; and that the whole sum of each degree usually paid in any Lodge, shall be paid at the time of receiving the degree.

Art. 8.—That no Lodge, working under a dispensation from this Convention, shall admit a visitor from any Lodge in this Province which does not belong to this Convention, or join in these articles of association ; and that no Masonic information shall be given to any member or any Lodge which does not belong to or join in this Convention.

Art. 9.—That the Grand Visitor shall visit the several Lodges forming this Convention at least twice in each year, and give the Brethren proper instructions in the lectures, and establish a regular mode of working in the several Lodges, inspect their records, and inform himself of the conduct of the Lodges, and report his proceedings to the Convention at their annual meeting.

Art. 10.—That each Lodge forming, or hereafter joining, this Convention, shall be allowed to send three delegates to represent them in Convention, and in all cases when represented, shall be entitled to three votes, and no more.

Art. 11.—That any Brother who has received the degree of Past Master, and

belongs to one of the Lodges forming this Convention, shall be entitled to a seat in the Convention, but to no vote, unless a delegate from his Lodge.

Art. 12.—That each Lodge, immediately upon receiving their dispensation, shall forward to the Secretary of the Convention, a correct list of the members belonging to their several Lodges, with every expulsion or suspension ; and shall quarterly transmit to said Secretary, a list of the names of those who have been initiated, passed, or raised since their last returns, agreeably to the annexed forms. And the said Secretary shall record their names in a book ruled agreeably to the returns, and kept expressly for that purpose. The form laid down in the “Masons’ Manual” adopted.

Art. 13.—That one-third of all moneys received by the subordinate Lodges, shall be paid into the Treasury of the Convention, one-half of which is to be applied to the purpose of remunerating the Grand Visitor, and transmitted half-yearly.

Art. 14.—That the President and Vice-Presidents, or either of them, have full power to grant dispensations, for a term of time not exceeding twelve months, upon the petition of seven regular Masons.

Signed by—

Ziba M. Phillips, President.
 Samuel Shaw, } Vice-Presidents.
 John Balfour, }
 William Cothier, Moderator.
 Robert Walker, Treasurer.
 John W. Ferguson, Secretary.
 Benjamin M’Alister.
 Ziba M. Phillips, Lodge No. 3.
 John Dean, } No. 13.
 William Cothier, }

Peter Davy, Lodge No. 13.
 James Bigelow, No. 16.
 Allanson, B. Couch, }
 Jephtha Bradshaw, } No. 17.
 Simeon Ashley, }
 Joseph Pringle, No. 25.
 Ziba M. Phillips, No. 26.
 Do. Ridean Lodge.
 Bela Johnston, Prince Edward Lodge.
 Joseph G. S. Lodee, No. 19.

To his Royal Highness Prince Augustus Frederick, Duke of Sussex, Earl of Inverness in Scotland, Baron of Arklow in Ireland, Knight of the Garter, Right Worshipful Grand Master of Masons and Masonical Jurisdiction in that part of Great Britain called England, &c. &c.

The petition of the undersigned representatives of a number of respectable Lodges in the Province of Upper Canada—Humbly sheweth,

That your Royal Highness’s petitioning Brethren beg leave to approach your revered person with sentiments of the highest esteem, as the head of so ancient and honourable an Order.

That your Royal Highness’s petitioning Brethren beg leave to mention, for the information of your Royal Highness, that on the 27th day of August, 1817, a Convention was held at Kingston in the Province of Upper Canada, to take into consideration the distressed situation of the Craft, in consequence of the death of Wm. Jervis, Esq., late Prov. Grand Master. That your petitioning Brethren did address your Royal Highness on the 28th day of August, 1817, stating our situation, of which a copy is hereunto annexed, recommending Roderick McKay, Esq., for our Prov. Grand Master : from some cause unknown to your petitioners, no answer has been received to this communication ; and, unfortunately, our Grand Master Elect has been snatched from us by an untimely death.

That in consequence thereof, we beg leave to approach your Royal Highness, again praying that you will be pleased to grant a patent for the establishment of a Prov. Grand Lodge in this Province of Upper Canada, upon the same footing that it has been granted to our Sister Province of Lower Canada, provided it meets your Royal Highness’s approbation.

That your Royal Highness’s petitioners were urged from the present state of Masonry in this remote part of the world, to establish an association in this Province, for the purpose of keeping in due order the several Lodges throughout the same, of which a copy is herewith transmitted, and this association is to continue

no longer than that your Royal Highness may take our situation into consideration, and listen to the prayer of our petition, feeling a confidence that this measure will be approved, when our distressed condition is considered, and the ultimate object at which we aim is to be acknowledged and protected by the authority vested in the person of your Royal Highness.

That your petitioning Brethren beg leave to inform your Royal Highness, that this association was considered the more necessary, as from the present system of Masonry in this part of the world, it is sinking fast into a state of anarchy and confusion ; so much so, we fear, that unless the evil is speedily removed, the institution in this Province will eventually become a subject of public derision ; which your Royal Highness's petitioners most sincerely regret and deplore. And therefore your Royal Highness's petitioners beg that you will take their request into your serious consideration, and grant the same.

And your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray, &c.

Signed by—

Ziba M. Phillips, President, and
representing Lodges No. 3, No.
26, and Ridean Lodge.

John M. Balfour, } Vice-Presidents.
Samuel Shaw, }
William Cothier, Moderator.
Benjamin M'Alister, Lecturer.
John W. Ferguson, Secretary.

Robert Walker, Treasurer.
John Dean, Lodge No. 13.
Jonathan Woolverton, No. 15.
James Bigelow, No. 16.
Alanson B. Couch, No. 17.
Joseph G. Lodee, No. 19.
Joseph Pringle, No. 25.
Bela Johnston, Prince Edward.

KINGSTON (U.C.), *February*, 1819.

RIGHT WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BROTHER,—Referring you to my letter of 4th of September, 1817, I am again called upon by the delegates of the different Lodges of this Province comprising the Grand Convention, to forward to you the proceedings of their annual meeting, held on the 8th of the present month, which are herewith enclosed.

Lest any obstacle should arise out of pecuniary matters, I am directed to hand you the accompanying draft for £30 ; and should the Grand Lodge of England be pleased to attend to the petition of their Brethren in this remote corner of the globe, you will be pleased to acquaint me what further sum will be necessary (if any), and it shall be immediately remitted.

In consequence of the untimely death of Roderick McKay, our Grand Master Elect, who was unfortunately drowned a few months since, it is the wish of the Fraternity, in the event of the patent being granted, that the names of the presiding Officers of the Convention be inserted.

I am, with fraternal regard, Right Worshipful Sir, &c. &c.,

JOHN W. FERGUSON,

Secretary to the Grand Convention.

To EDWARD HARPER, Esq.

Secretary to the Grand Lodge,
Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, London.

(Copy)

BATH (U.C.), *20th November*, 1821.

RIGHT WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BROTHER,—In consequence of information received from Bro. G. B. Laughton, the bearer of my previous letter to you, I am induced once more to address you in behalf of the Convention, upon the subject of the formation of a Prov. Grand Lodge in this province.

It appears by Bro. Laughton's letter, that the reason of our petitions not being attended to, arises from the neglect of the grand officers of the former Prov. Grand Lodge, in not making proper returns to the Grand Lodge of England, and from there being no copy of the Grand Warrant granted to our late Bro. Jarvis, to be found ; in consequence of which, proof is wanted of our being a regular body of Masons.

For your satisfaction I enclose you such a copy of that instrument, as I have been able to obtain, which, from information, I believe is deficient in nothing but the titles of the R.W. grand officers, which were unfortunately omitted in copying, as, at the time it was copied, it was intended merely to satisfy the minds of such Brethren as were desirous of ascertaining what power was granted to our late Bro. Jarvis by that instrument. You will perceive this warrant was granted by the Duke of Athol, 7th March, 1792, at which time there were, I believe, two or three Grand Lodges existing in England, acting entirely independent of each other; since which an union has been effected between the said Grand Lodges, and all Masons in England are now united under the government of the "United Grand Lodge of England."

Having never received a communication from the Grand Lodge of England since the union, what information we have received upon the subject is unofficial. Yet we have reason to suppose that the Grand Lodge, under whose authority this Grand Warrant was granted, was included in the "Union," and of course that such power as was granted in that instrument will be recognized.

It appears that our late Prov. Grand Master was empowered to grant dispensations for the holding of Lodges, "and to continue in force for the space of twelve calendar months and no longer." Whether that power has been exceeded, must be left to the decision of the present Grand Lodge of England.

When the Convention was first called, we were not aware of this circumstance, or of the degree of power vested in our late Prov. Grand Master; but upon obtaining a copy of the warrant, we were convinced that whatever power was granted, died with our Grand Master, and our attention was immediately turned to the most proper means to be used for obtaining legal power to hold a Grand Lodge, and the result of our deliberations at our several meetings has been communicated to you, not doubting that our communications would be attended to, and that we should, if irregular in our proceedings, be informed of our errors and corrected; but until the receipt of Bro. Laughton's letter, we were utterly in the dark respecting the fate of our communications.

As to our Lodge continuing working under the assumed power of the Convention, we can only say, that such a course was deemed essential, as at its commencement Masonry was at an extremely low ebb, and it was deemed, from the peculiar situation of the Craft, expedient to continue working, in order to raise our Lodges to a respectable footing, not only by the admission of worthy members, but by excluding unworthy, and trusting that the Grand Lodge of England would sanction our proceedings.

And our exertions have thus far been successful, our Lodges are rapidly rising in respectability, and Masonry is beginning here to assume that rank which its pure principles merit; and this change we must attribute to the exertions of the Convention, although under such embarrassing circumstances in relation to our communications directed to you as Grand Secretary of the United Grand Lodge of England.

We have constant and regular communications with several Grand Lodges and Chapters, and, with the exception of not gaining the object of our application to the Grand Lodge of England, all our measures have the desired effect.

It may be necessary to observe, that for many years an unfortunate schism has prevailed between the Brethren of York and Niagara, the details of which I do not deem necessary to relate. I will merely state that, since some time previous to the death of our late Prov. Grand Master, this schism has continued; and I am informed that the Brethren of Niagara have pretended to hold a Grand Lodge, without any authority whatever, the Grand Warrant (which we humbly conceive gave power to our late Prov. Grand Master Jarvis only, and could not be transferred) being in possession of our late Prov. Grand Master Jarvis, or his heirs. But recently the Grand Warrant was obtained from one of his heirs, and upon getting that into their possession they have proceeded to elect grand officers, and hold a Grand Lodge, founding their authority it is presumed upon the old Grand Warrant, although I understand that subsequently they have sent a delegate to the Grand Lodge of England, for what purpose I know not. We have not the least wish to impute their proceedings to improper motives, but we must think

they have no legal power to hold a Grand Lodge under the old Grand Warrant, as we conceive the power granted in that instrument died with our late Prov. Grand Master. Lodges belonging to the Convention have been summoned to attend their communications; and we presume these Lodges not falling in with their views, is the cause of their sending a delegate to the Grand Lodge of England, for the purpose of obtaining a new Grand Warrant; and if that is their object, it is the same we have been labouring to obtain since the first calling a Convention.

This dissension is very unpleasant, but we could not conscientiously join them in holding a Grand Lodge under what we could not consider proper authority; but should the Grand Lodge of England think proper to establish a Prov. Grand Lodge in this province, we fervently hope that their measures may be such as will obviate all difficulties, and heal all differences; and we await their decision, confident that it will be dictated by wisdom, and calculated to promote the true interest of the Craft.

It is our sincere wish that the proceedings of the Convention may be fully investigated, and if any improper steps are discovered, that we may be informed. Our proceedings have been forwarded to you; and we think it of the highest importance to the welfare of the Craft in this province that our situation may be taken into consideration.

You must be sensible that our situation is extremely unpleasant, and perhaps unprecedented; we have made such representations to you, as the proper organ through which to address the M.W. Grand Master, as we deemed it our duty to do, and adopted such measures as we thought the exigencies of our case required; we have repeatedly solicited that our case might be taken into consideration, and while we are assured, by reference to the former proceedings of your ancient and honourable body, that the communications from Brethren in foreign countries have ever been promptly attended to, we have the mortification of finding that our solicitations, although we have looked for counsel and assistance as a child to its parent, have failed of procuring even a reply. Had our Masonic character been doubted, would it have been improper to have intimated it to us? If upon investigation of the subject we had been found to have been worthy, ought we not to have been gratified in having our requests, in some shape or other, acted upon, and our petitions attended to?

If any of our measures are deemed improper, we can only plead error of judgment: our intentions have been good. And here, sir, permit me to say, that, as conjecture has been our sole guide in judging of the reason of our getting no reply to our communications, we have never known on what point to touch in addressing you, and until the receipt of Bro. Laughton's letter were entirely ignorant upon the subject.

But had that information been at first communicated, we could long since have shown to you our standing. We could, if necessary, in addition to showing the authority of our late Grand Master (had that authority, or the legality of Masons made under it, been doubted), have selected from the members of the Convention respectable Masons, resident in the province, of good standing and reputation, who were made Masons under the authority of other Grand Lodges, whose authority is acknowledged by Masons in all parts of the world, and if I mistake not, many whose names are on the registry of the Grand Lodges of England, Ireland, and Scotland.

Respecting the appointment of a Prov. Grand Master, we know the prerogative is vested in the M.W. the Grand Master of England; but in exercising that prerogative, in the appointment of a Prov. Grand Master for this province, we concluded that our wishes might be complied with, and therefore in our petition of 28th August, 1817, took the liberty of nominating Roderick McKay, Esq., considering him a proper person to fill that office; and after his death, in our petition of 10th February, 1819, prayed for the establishment of a Prov. Grand Lodge upon the same footing as in Lower Canada, where, we had been informed, they elected their officers annually, by patent; and in the letter of John W. Ferguson, then Secretary of the Convention, requested that, in the event of the patent being granted, the names of the presiding officers might be inserted. And we now request that if such power can, consistently with the rules and regulations of the

United Grand Lodges of England, be granted, that power may be given us to elect our successors, subject to the approval or disapproval of the M. W. Grand Master of England; in which case we should conceive the power granted rather to the body of Masons collectively than to any individual,—still holding ourselves amenable to the authority from which we receive that power, for the proper exercise of it.

Our distance from England renders it difficult for the M. W. Grand Master of Masons in England to know who in this country would be the most suitable person to fill the important office of Prov. Grand Master. A knowledge of this induced us to recommend in our former petition such persons as we deemed suitable, and such as we considered would give general satisfaction to the Craft; and for the same reasons we now take the liberty of recommending James Fitzgibbon, Esq., for the office of Prov. Grand Master, formerly a member of the Grand Lodge of Lower Canada. We conceive him to be a very proper person for the office, and well qualified to execute the duty pertaining thereto; and from his correct moral deportment, and the high rank he holds in the esteem of the Provincial Government at York, from the zeal which he manifests in the interests of the Craft, and his general perseverance in any cause which he undertakes, we consider him peculiarly qualified to fill the office to the satisfaction of the M. W. the Grand Master of England and with honour to himself; and we think his appointment would perfectly accord with the feelings of every member of the Convention; and from his station in life and general character, no person in our knowledge is better qualified to conciliate the feelings of our Niagara Brethren. Under these impressions we hope, that in the event of our petition being granted, his name may be inserted as first Prov. Grand Master.

We believe that, generally in the appointment of Prov. Grand Masters, power has not been given to the body of Masons over which they preside, to elect their successors; but when our distance is taken into consideration, the complete disorganization of the Prov. Grand Lodge upon the death of the Prov. Grand Master, the probability of his neglecting his duty, and giving dissatisfaction to the Craft here, and the delicacy and difficulty of laying his conduct before the Grand Lodge of England,—when our present embarrassed situation is taken into consideration, in a great measure, perhaps arising from causes above hinted at, we flatter ourselves that the Grand Lodge of England will view the subject as we do, and will, in the establishment of a second Prov. Grand Lodge in this province, guard against these evils. We do not feel a desire to trespass upon established usages, or in the least to infringe upon the rights or prerogatives of the M. W. the Grand Master of England, but we conceive that many arguments might be urged to illustrate the policy of establishing such a precedent in cases similar to ours.

And now, sir, permit us, through you, to draw the attention of the Grand Lodge of England to another subject connected with the formation of a Prov. Grand Lodge here, which, although it may be an extremely delicate subject on which to touch, yet we hope it may not be deemed improper to notice. We allude to the fees required by the Grand Lodge of England from Prov. Grand Lodges. If I mistake not, 10s. 6d. sterling is required for every initiation; 2s. 6d. registry fees, and 2s. annually from each member.

Permit me, sir, to state the peculiar situation of the Brethren in this province. Emigration from the mother country is rapidly pouring in here, and we have hitherto found among the emigrants many Brethren and their families in distress in a land of strangers, and friendless could they not find the fraternal pressure of a *Brother's* hand; but this they have found, and their appeal has not been made in vain. We have relieved their necessities, and, as far as we could, consistently with our duties to ourselves and families, have administered to the relief of Brethren made under an authority whose countenance we have long been soliciting.

In proportion as we contribute to the support of the benevolent fund in England, ours will be lessened. We do not wish to be released from the payment of the above fees, but if it be consistent with the policy pursued by the United Grand Lodge of England to appoint an agent in this province, into whose hands we can pay such amounts as are destined for the benevolent fund of England, for

the sole purpose of relieving distressed Brethren emigrating from the mother country, and exhibiting credentials from their respective Grand Lodges, we should humbly conceive it as peculiarly adapted to the relative situation of the Craft in the two countries, which we must consider as branches of one common family, and should esteem it a great pleasure in thus being enabled more effectually to relieve the distresses of our European Brethren who may emigrate to this country.

Permit me, sir, to inquire of you whether our communications have ever been laid before the United Grand Lodge of England, or whether our petitions have ever been presented to the M.W. Grand Master; and also to inquire of you, to what account the amount of a draft remitted to you by Bro. J. W. Ferguson, while Secretary of the Convention (which was intended to have been applied to the purpose of defraying the expense of procuring a Grand Warrant or Patent), for £30 sterling, has been placed? The draft alluded to was dated at Kingston, 14th June, 1819, drawn by Richard Miskin on Lewis Barnaby, Cross-street, Chatham, Kent; was endorsed by Bro. Ferguson (in whose favour it was drawn) payable to your order; and on the 30th August, 1819, was paid by Richard Thompson, Esq., and the amount receipted by him.

We have now to request of you, that no time may be lost in laying our wishes before the United Grand Lodge of England, or its presiding officers, together with our former communications for final determination. By application to Bro. Laughton, all the information in his power, in illustrating our views and intentions, will be given. We think it of the utmost importance to the welfare and honour of the Craft in this country, that our case should speedily be taken into consideration, as the result of this application will probably determine our future proceedings.

The great object in view in calling the Convention was, the formation of a Prov. Grand Lodge, under the authority of the Grand Lodge of England; and we have steadily persevered in our efforts to obtain our object. Although we have been peculiarly unfortunate, yet we are sanguine in the hope, that the copy of the former Grand Warrant, now enclosed, will do away all doubt of our Masonic character, and that, in consequence, the prayer of our petition will be granted; and we hope, by adhering to the conditions of our Warrant, and strictly performing the requirements of the United Grand Lodge of England, to demonstrate the purity of our intentions, and prove that the confidence reposed in us is not misplaced.

With a thorough conviction of the purity of the principles of Masonry, and a sincere desire to extend their good effects, as far as in our power, and not to trespass upon, but to keep within the Ancient Landmarks of the Order, our efforts to place ourselves upon a firm footing have hitherto proved fruitless; yet we persevere in what we consider the path of our duty, and although it has been to us peculiarly "rugged," yet we have faith to believe, that the edifice, to lay the foundation of which we have so long been toiling, will yet be erected under the patronage of the United Grand Lodge of England; and we pray that, favoured with the blessings of the Supreme Architect of the Universe, it may never be profaned by unhallowed footsteps, and that it may prove a shelter to the distressed members of our Order, and shield them from the merciless blasts of misfortune and adversity.

I enclose you a copy of our proceedings at the last annual communication of the Convention. I think copies of all our former proceedings have been forwarded to you, and I presume have been received.

Should the expense of the Warrant exceed the £30 sterling remitted to you, upon the receipt of the Warrant it will be forwarded to you.

Bro. Laughton, I believe, returns in the spring, and will take charge of any communications you may think proper to make, or of the Warrant, if granted.

But should he not return so soon, I must earnestly beg of you to give us such information as is requested above, together with the result of our application, as soon as convenient. The most expeditious mode of conveyance is by way of New York. A great number of Brethren are anxiously awaiting the effect of our several

communications and petitions ; I am therefore confident, that in order to relieve their anxiety, you will not delay a moment in laying our case before the proper officers.—I have the honour of subscribing myself,

EDWARD HARPER, ESQ.,
Colonial Secretary of the United
Grand Lodge of England.

Right Worshipful Sir,
Yours fraternally,
(Signed) JOHN DEAN,
Secretary of Convention.

P.S.—We have written Bro. Laughton, requesting him to render you any assistance in his power in the above business. You will consider him the authorized agent of the Convention, as whatever he may do in our behalf, as to expense or other business relative to obtaining the warrant, will be acknowledged by the Convention.

(Signed) JOHN DEAN,
Secretary of Convention.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I have just had an opportunity of perusing your Magazine for April, 1856, and must say that I felt highly gratified at the amount of Masonic information contained therein. I assure you I lost no time in sending through a stationer here to subscribe to so valuable a book, and have ordered the back numbers, from January, 1856. I belong to the British Lodge, No. 419, of South Africa, and have sent you herewith a short account—"from one of our local papers"—of the inauguration of a new temple for the Lodge, which has cost upwards of £1,500, a very large sum for so small a Lodge to expend upon a Masonic temple, numbering at the time of the purchase about thirty-five members ; but am very happy to inform you that at the present time we number upwards of fifty subscribing members.

There are two Dutch Lodges at Cape Town, and two English. The other Lodge is the Hope, No. 473, but they have had no meetings for some time ; but a new Master has been nominated, and I hope ere long the "Hope" will flourish, as well as the "British," in Cape Town.

We feel greatly the want of a Prov. Grand Master at the Cape, and have sent to the Grand Lodge about it ; and have no doubt shall receive a favourable reply to our request, which is, that we may have a Prov. Grand Master, without the expense of a Prov. Grand Lodge, as the Dutch Prov. Grand Master is a Lodge in himself, to grant dispensations, &c.

The account of the inauguration I enclose, thinking it might be interesting to your readers. There is likewise a question which a friend has requested me to try and have solved, through the medium of your columns, which I likewise enclose.

The members of this Lodge are about to present a testimonial to an old and faithful Past Master, and Past Secretary of the British Chapter, Bro. John King ; and in my next to you I will send you an account of the presentation.

The celebration of the Festival of St. John the Baptist took place on the 24th June last, and the W.M. elect was regularly installed, and was pleased to appoint and invest Bros. J. S. Rowe, S.W., British Lodge ; M. T. King, J.W., W. Whitta, Treas. ; J. T. Koller, Sec. ; T. H. Harriden, S.D., E. A. Bower, J.D., James Lycett, I.G., Christian Ganget, Tyler. Trusting you will excuse the liberty I have taken in sending you this information, believe me to remain,

CAPE TOWN, CAPE OF GOOD HOPE,
July, 1856.

Yours fraternally,
THOS. F. RUSSELL,
Master British Lodge, No. 419.

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

RESPECTED SIR AND BROTHER,—Permit a Master Mason of the province of Worcestershire to ask my Prov. Grand Master three plain questions, and to

solicit from him a reply to the same in a fair straightforward manner, as becomes the head of the Craft in this district.

1st. How is it that certain Brethren of this province, constituting a Lodge, have authorised their W.M. to omit from the customary list of toasts that of the R.W. Prov. Grand Master of the province, and that they have expressed entire concurrence in the W.M.'s resolution of entirely omitting the same for the future, or, at all events, during his year of office?

2ndly. That a Brother was promoted by an extraordinary leap (and so extraordinary as to draw increased attention to the same) to a very high office in the Prov. Grand Lodge, when it is well known throughout the province, that he was NEVER ABLE to *work a Degree*, or open or close in three Degrees, without assistance?

3rdly. How often has the R.W. Prov. Grand Master visited his private Lodge on their ordinary nights since his elevation to the high, honourable, and responsible office of Prov. Grand Master?

As the real interests of Masonry in this province require an answer to these questions, and as it will best become the dignity of the Prov. Grand Master to give those answers, I trust he will acquiesce, so that we may the more readily be enabled to give him that credit for honesty and sincerity of purpose which he seems, and which he should rightly endeavour, to lay claim to.

Excuse me, respected Sir and Brother, for any error in trying to make use of you in

“POPPING THESE QUESTIONS.”

WORCESTER, Oct. 22, 1856.

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

SIR,—On the title-page of the *Freemasons' Calendar and Pocket Book*, I read the following words: “Published for the Benefit of the Charity Fund, under the sanction of the United Grand Lodge of England, and by command of the M.W. Grand Master.” Now, sir, all this is very fine and grandiloquent; but if the Grand Lodge sanction, and the M.W. the Grand Master commands, the publication of a conglomeration of errors, they will find, despite our allegiance to, and respect for them, that we will act on the principle that charity begins at home, and decline to invest even 2s. 6d. in the purchase of a publication more likely to lead us astray than to prove a faithful guide in Masonic matters. In travelling about I make it a point to put up, in each town I visit, at the house of a Brother, however humble it may be, in preference to lodging myself in a more imposing hotel, and accordingly I look out for the exhibition of some of our emblems, or consult the *Calendar* to ascertain if there be a Lodge located there. Now, sir, hear how I have fared by following the latter course: I lately paid a visit to Northampton, and on looking at page 115 of the *Calendar* for the present year, I found that there were two Lodges which met in that town. Referring, then, to the numerical arrangement, I found that the Lodge of Merit, No. 687, was to meet that very evening at the Ram Inn. To the Ram Inn I accordingly went, but found no Lodge there. Indeed, the landlord informed me that during his time in the house (about three years) he had never seen any such thing, but spoke of one having formerly been held in it, as a thing in the recollection of the oldest inhabitant. Where is this Lodge now held? I should like you to get the Grand Secretary to answer the question by putting down its *locus in quo* in the next issue of the *Calendar*.

Yours fraternally,

A COMMERCIAL TRAVELLER.

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

GRAND LODGE, Oct. 1.

A question of some interest has arisen in Grand Lodge, and which is most material to its government, as involving the power possessed by the members. As no new business can be brought forward after eleven o'clock at night, Bro. Warren, at the meeting of September, finding at half-past ten that not one third of the business could be got through, moved the adjournment of the Lodge until the 1st of October,—a motion which was unanimously carried. On the reassembling of Grand Lodge on the day named, Bro. Beadon, Bro. Havers, and other Grand officers, protested against the business being proceeded with, on the plea that the Grand Lodge had no power to adjourn; Bro. Beadon resting his argument upon the ground that there was no precedent for such a course; and Bro. Havers, on the clause in the Book of Constitutions, which says, "The Grand Master, in his absence the pro Grand Master, the Dep. Grand Master, or in his absence the Grand Wardens, may summon and hold Grand Lodges whenever the good of the Craft shall in their opinion require it." To deal with the argument of Bro. Beadon first, we confidently assert the precedent does exist. The 26th of April, 1854, was the day appointed for holding the Grand Festival, but the general Fast being fixed for that day, an adjournment became necessary. Accordingly the Brethren were called together under the authority of the Grand Master for that purpose, thereby clearly showing that the power vested in the Grand Lodge itself. Upon that occasion it was moved and seconded, "That this Grand Lodge do now adjourn until Saturday, the 29th inst., at four o'clock, then to meet for the despatch of Masonic business." The minute further goes on to say, "Upon the question being put, it was unanimously carried in the affirmative." With regard to the argument of Bro. Havers it is clear that it only applies to the calling together of Lodges of Emergency, and not to the powers of Grand Lodge when called together. The Brethren do not profess to have the power of calling Lodges of Emergency any more than the House of Commons can meet of its own will. The sovereign must call Parliament together; but when met, it has the power of adjourning from time to time for the transaction of business; and in the same manner we contend that Grand Lodge, or one convened by the proper authorities, has the same power,—the Grand Master and the Dep. Grand Master having repeatedly informed Grand Lodge that its proceedings are governed as nearly as possible in conformity with the regulations which govern the House of Commons. After a long discussion the R.W. Bro. Willett, Prov. G.M. for Dorsetshire, who presided on the occasion, decided that the Brethren had the Power of adjournment; and Bros. Beadon, Havers, the Rev. J. E. Cox, Patten, Biggs, and other Grand officers retired. The business was then proceeded with; but as it is not improbable the question will be again raised in December, it behoves every member of Grand Lodge to be early in attendance to support the deci-

sion which has been arrived at, and on the confirmation of which materially depends the future despatch of business. Without the power of adjournment any Brother may get rid of a troublesome question by speaking against time, and a case of great hardship may arise, such as indeed did occur only in June last, when a recommendation from the Board of Benevolence to grant a distressed Brother £30, could not be considered, it being past eleven o'clock before it came on in the ordinary course of business, the M.W. Grand Master having had a most important communication to make to Grand Lodge. The consequence was the Brother would either have had to wait three months longer before he could be relieved, or the Board must grant him a lower sum,—a course which we believe was adopted. A case which has once arisen may arise again, and we ought to take measures to prevent its recurrence. The power of adjournment will prevent it, and in no way interfere with the laws as laid down in the Book of Constitutions.

THE PROCEEDINGS.

THE Grand Lodge, as adjourned on the motion of Bro. Warren, met in the evening of Oct. 1, at eight o'clock. The attendance was very numerous, most unexpectedly so, considering that it was an adjourned Lodge. The chair was occupied by the R.W. Prov. G.M. for Dorsetshire, Bro. Willett, supported by Bro. Fleming, Prov. G.M. for the Isle of Wight, as D.G.M.; Bros. Phillips as G.S.W.; John Hervey as G.J.W.; Col. Burlton, Beadon, Havers, Rev. J. E. Cox, S. Tomkins, T. N. Tomkins, Patten, Biggs, Crohn, Smith, &c. &c.

CAN GRAND LODGE ADJOURN?

The R.W. the Grand Master, on rising to open the Lodge in the ordinary way, was stopped by

Bro. Beadon, who protested against the Grand Lodge being opened at all, on the ground that there never was such a thing as an adjourned Grand Lodge, that it was altogether illegal and un-Masonic, and that everything that was done that evening would be null and void. He said the constitution of Grand Lodge was that of four Quarterly Communications, and before any business could be proceeded with at any of these Quarterly Communications, it was necessary that notice should be given to the Board of Masters and other persons belonging to the Craft, and—(Loud cries of "Order, order.")

Col. Burlton, P. Prov. G.M. for Bengal: "I submit that no one has a right to speak till Grand Lodge is opened. (Hear, hear, and loud cheers.) I maintain that point—refute it who can." (Hear, hear.)

Great excitement appeared to be felt in all parts of the Lodge, and there were loud cries of "Chair, chair."

The Grand Master then rose and said, that upon consideration, and with all due deference to the worthy Brother, he thought he ought to open the Lodge. (Hear, hear.) He did trust that he would be supported while he endeavoured to do his duty as well as he could. (Hear, hear.) If, therefore, Brother Beadon had no objection, he would proceed to open. (Hear, hear.)

Bro. Beadon: "But I have the greatest objection to your opening." (Laughter, and cries of "Oh, oh!" and "Chair!")

Grand Master: "It can do no harm to open Grand Lodge and go on with the proceedings, and therefore, Brethren, I crave your assistance."

The Grand Lodge was then opened in due form.

Bro. Beadon: "Right Worshipful Sir, Having now your permission to address the Brethren, I shall proceed to do so."

The Rev. Bro. Portal: "There is no question before Grand Lodge." (Hear, hear.)

Grand Master: "He has my permission. Go on, Bro. Beadon." (Hear.)

Bro. Beadon: "Having now the permission of the Chair, I do hope that the Brethren will not interrupt me, but reserve their observations till I have concluded

mine. I should not have been here to-night, on account of indisposition, but from the fact that the Constitution of Grand Lodge and the principles of the Craft are being set at nought by the proceedings of this evening. (Oh, oh!) I hardly know what is the business before us, and I have come with no intention to take any part in the proceedings. I merely wish to protest against anything whatever being done informally. I am not a party man—never was in my life—and those who have known me in Grand Lodge will, I am sure, support me in this assertion. (Hear, hear.) I had a great deal to do with drawing up the Book of Constitutions on the last occasion, and I know that the constitution of Grand Lodge has always been, that quarterly courts should be held four times a year. This is well known to the Brethren in the provincial districts, and in the colonies. Provision is made for letting the provincial Brethren know in good time what is the business to be transacted at these meetings. The Book of Constitutions also provides, that no fresh business shall be introduced after eleven o'clock; but what is the use of making that law if you have the power of adjourning? The Grand Lodge could never have gone on as it has done, till one or two in the morning, if it had possessed the power of adjourning. But the fact is, that nobody ever thought of such a thing. On one particular occasion, Grand Lodge was put to immense inconvenience in consequence of the scrutineers for the members of the Board of General Purposes not having returned in time. They did not, in fact, return till one o'clock in the morning, as I well recollect, having the misfortune to have been one of the Wardens on the occasion. We had finished the business of Grand Lodge at eleven o'clock, but what was to be done? Nobody spoke or thought of adjourning Grand Lodge. In 1850, we actually passed a resolution in Grand Lodge and brought in a new law. I was a party to this. Bro. Dobie and others brought in this new law in order to relieve the Grand Master from the necessity of keeping his seat in Grand Lodge till he received a certain report, and to allow him to close Grand Lodge and receive the report in another room. (Hear, hear.) Again, where is the *necessity* of this power of adjournment? It has not been used, and motions have therefore dropped. It is true that an Emergency Grand Lodge might be called by the Grand Master if he thought proper to do so. This has been done where the paper has been exceedingly full: when such a Lodge was called, it was stated in the summonses what the object was, as when the Book of Constitutions had to be read through, and a Lodge of Emergency was appointed by the Grand Master for the purpose. We could not adjourn Grand Lodge even to go through the Book of Constitutions, and so a special Lodge was called by a special summons. If there was this power of adjournment, it would always have been resorted to by the Brethren, to prevent their motions from lapsing; but they always did lapse, and new notices were accordingly given. It was in the power of the Grand Master, or Deputy Grand Master to call a Lodge of Emergency in the present instance, and no doubt this would have been done, if it had been asked. Again, was there ever a Grand Lodge called by Bro. W. H. White, G. Sec., instead of by the command of the Grand Master? I contend that no Grand Lodge is lawfully called except it be called by the Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, or by some one by them duly appointed; and that, therefore, we cannot now lawfully proceed to business. I therefore call upon the presiding Grand Master to say whether anything which takes place in this Grand Lodge to-night can be held good? No doubt the questions you have met to discuss, whatever they are, are questions right and proper to be discussed; but they should either be put down for discussion at the next Quarterly Communication, or the M.W. the Grand Master should be asked to convene a special Grand Lodge for the purpose of considering them. If any notes or minutes of these proceedings be made to-night, for the purpose of being read at the next regular Grand Lodge, I shall attend there for the purpose of opposing their being read." (Hear, and a laugh.)

Bro. H. G. Warren, P.M., No. 202: "M.W. Grand Master, as it was I who moved the adjournment, perhaps you will allow me a word or two of explanation. (Hear.) In the first place, then, there is no new business to be brought forward this evening; we shall simply take up the business of the last Grand Lodge at the point at which we adjourned. (Hear, hear.) If any of the Brethren have

not had sufficient notice it is their own fault, in not being here on the last occasion. If there are only to be four Quarterly Communications, some of the Brethren will come here to speak against time, and others throw over all measures which are objectionable to them. I have no hesitation in saying that some of us feel that we are thus thrown over by long speeches and letters which are read. (Hear, hear.) There are some of us who have had motions on the paper three, six, nine, and even twelve months, dropping from time to time, and never coming on for discussion. I hold, M.W. Sir, that wherever there is a power of discussion, there is a power of adjournment. (Hear, hear.) We have not presumed to think of bringing forward new business. We are only meeting to do the business left undone at the last Grand Lodge. As for the argument of going on till twelve or one o'clock, it is not likely that we will consent to sit to that hour, and then be told that all business distasteful to the Grand Officers must be thrown over. It was because no new business could come on after eleven o'clock, that we adjourned Grand Lodge at half-past ten—(hear, hear)—so that the motions of the independent Brethren should not be entirely shelved. (Hear, hear.) We adjourned in order to go regularly through the business upon the programme. I think it would be a stultification of our own acts not to go on with the business with such a full Grand Lodge as we see now before us." (Hear, hear.)

The Rev. Bro. Portal: "This question is a matter of order. It is not advisable to enter into the merits of the case as the Brother who has just sat down has done. There is no mention of an adjournment in the Book of Constitutions. We admit that. The Grand Master has the power to call a special Grand Lodge for a special reason, to be stated in the summons. We admit that. But all this has nothing to do with the question of adjournment. The Book of Constitutions being silent, I take it the Grand Lodge has power to adjourn if necessary. (Hear, hear.) There is a rule to take no fresh business after eleven o'clock, and the R.W. Brother on your left held that it was impossible for us to adjourn for the purpose of taking that business on some future occasion. That is a conclusion which I deny. I hold that Grand Lodge has the power to adjourn, and that power will not be abused, because unless great interest is felt in a question you will not get Grand Lodge to agree to an adjournment, but the business will be allowed to stand over to the next regular Grand Lodge. The M.W. Grand Master, on the last occasion, declared Grand Lodge adjourned; the M.W. Grand Master, on the present occasion, declared the Grand Lodge to be opened in due form; I therefore now move that the business be proceeded with." (Hear, hear.)

Bro. Havers said, he had taken a deep interest in the proceedings of Grand Lodge, and he claimed to have as deep an interest in putting these little shortcomings to rights as anybody. He knew that Grand Lodge would give him credit for being perfectly independent. He was eager to set those matters right, but he would not do a greater wrong (*i. e.* by adjourning Grand Lodge), in order to accomplish that object. (Oh!) He would assure the Brethren that whatever fell from any of *them* he would listen to with the greatest care; and it would not be right to stop *him* by cries of "Oh, oh!" He had known Grand Lodge from the period of the union up to that moment; but he had never known an adjourned Grand Lodge. He would refer them to the Book of Constitutions, page 21, section x., which was as follows:—

"The Grand Master, in his absence the pro Grand Master, in his absence the Deputy Grand Master, or in his absence the Grand Wardens, may summon and hold Grand Lodges of Emergency whenever the good of the Craft shall, in their opinion, require it; the particular reason for convening such Lodge of Emergency shall be expressed in the summons, and no other business shall be entered upon at that meeting."

He was as anxious as any of them could be to go into those matters, and it was important professional business in Germany which prevented his being present upon the previous occasion, and he could only regret that some one of the numerous Brethren who were present on that previous occasion, and who must have known the

law, did not rise to inform the Brethren that they could not adjourn. (Hear, hear, and cries of "They could adjourn—that's the question!") They might have presented a memorial to the M.W. the Grand Master, and he would take upon himself to say that the prayer of that memorial, if it had been for a Grand Lodge of Emergency, would have been granted. ("Oh! oh!" cries of "Query!" and laughter.) He would not wish Grand Lodge to stultify itself, although he could tell of resolutions which had been three years upon the paper. (Hear, and loud cries of "Shame! shame!") It was a shame, and it was because he was anxious to put away that shame that he asked and entreated them not to do a wrong because they could not attain legitimate ends by illegitimate means. Whatever they did that evening would be unquestionably illegal. (Oh! oh! and cries of "It is questioned.") They would be null and void, and was it therefore worth their while to take up their time in going into a fruitless discussion? They could not without the consent of the Grand Master hold any meeting, and let him ask them had they the consent of the Grand Master for that they were then holding? (A voice: "We had the consent of the acting Grand Master, who represented the M.W. the Grand Master at our last meeting;" hear, hear.) They had not the consent of the M.W. the Grand Master himself, for he was informed that it had not even been asked. (Hear, hear.) He did entreat them to bear in mind what he said, and also the fact, that he had no object in view but to do his duty. (Cheers.) And he could assure those who were unaware of the facts of the case, that he must have been keenly sensible of what was his duty, to have attended that evening in spite of the severe domestic calamities under which he was at that moment suffering. (Hear, hear, and applause.)

A Brother, whose name we did not learn, admitted the difficulty of the position in which Grand Lodge found itself; but he thought the Brethren would fall into the greater evil of the two, if they rejected Bro. Beadon's advice, and pledged themselves to an unprecedented course of procedure, instead of asking the Grand Master to call a special Lodge. He attempted to show that if there were this power of adjournment, it would throw the power of Grand Lodge into the hands of the London members; but this idea was very generally repudiated by the Brethren.

Bro. Percy Wells, of Bath: "I consider it a perfectly constitutional act, our meeting here to-night. (Hear.) The Grand Lodge was adjourned by the then presiding Grand Master; and if that act had been illegal, he had no right to have done so. He sanctioned the illegal act, if it was illegal. It has been objected that the Brethren in the provinces could not have sufficient notice of this adjourned Grand Lodge. They *might* have had notice; and if they have not, they ought to have had it. (Hear, hear.) Something must be done with respect to this Canada question. (Hear, hear, and loud cheers.) We are determined (hear, hear, and renewed cheering); we will leave no stone unturned. (Cheers.) Most of the Brethren on my left have come from considerable distances to-day; we have come here because the last Grand Lodge was adjourned till to-day by the then presiding Grand Master. (Hear, hear.) We have come in the faith of that adjournment, and then to tell us that we are not to proceed to business, I maintain, with all respect to the Brethren who have spoken before me, and with all respect to you, R. W. Sir, that it is making fools of us. (Hear, hear.) If the Brethren in the provinces have not had notice, it is because the Grand Secretary has not done his duty. (Hear, hear.) I venerate his age, Sir, but nothing more. (Hear.) If Bro. White did his duty like the Secretary of any other public body, every Brother in the provinces would have had notice of what had taken place at Grand Lodge within a fortnight, instead of never getting it for more than three months. (Hear, hear.) This is not a mere general charge; for I can give you dates. (Hear, hear.) I respect his age, and wish he would do his duty,—nothing more. The Grand Master on the last occasion had no *right* to adjourn Grand Lodge, if he had no *power* to do so (hear); but I contend, Right Worshipful Sir, it is in Grand Lodge *itself* that rests the inherent power of making its own laws and regulating its own conduct. (Hear, hear.) It is said that no adjourned Grand Lodge has taken place since the union; but there is no reason anything should not take place simply on the ground that it is without a precedent. I am

a Past Master, Right Worshipful Sir, and I maintain that justice has not been done to the fraternity (loud cheering) ; I therefore demand of you, Right Worshipful Sir, in the name of a number of Brethren, who have attended here at great expense and inconvenience, and in the name of the whole Grand Lodge,—in the name of that justice which ought to be a leading characteristic of Freemasons, that the business of the evening be proceeded with forthwith without any further interruption." (Hear, hear.)

The motion of Bro. Portal was then seconded by some Brother whose name we did not catch.

Bro. Benson, W.M., No. 10, said, both mover and seconder were out of order. If the M.W. the Grand Master was unable to attend, there was no necessity to find fault, as the acting Grand Master was to all intents and purposes the same. (Hear.) Masonry recognized the glitter of no coronet. (Hear, hear.)

Bro. Beadon rose again, but was assailed with cries of "Spoke!" "Spoke!" so vigorously and so continuously, that he sat down.

The Grand Master said, Bro. Beadon was rising to reply. (Loud cries of "There's no motion before the Grand Lodge.")

The Rev. Bro. John Day said there was a motion before the Grand Lodge, proposed and seconded.

Great confusion ensued, and Bro. Savage contended that Bro. Beadon was in order if he spoke to the motion before the Grand Lodge.

Bro. Fleming, acting Dep. G.M., said the motion itself was out of order, and could not be made or spoken to, because no notice had been given of it.

Bro. H. G. Warren suggested that Bro. Burlton should go on with his motion. (Hear, hear, and applause.)

Bro. Best asked what motion there was at that moment before Grand Lodge? (Hear, hear.)

Bro. Binckes regretted the somewhat personal turn which the discussion had taken. He hoped there would be no more time wasted, and that the Grand Master would at once decide what business should be proceeded with. The Lodge had been declared open in due form: the acting Grand Master had recognized its legality; and let the business proceed. (Hear, hear.)

Bro. Havers attempted to speak again; but the Brethren would not hear him. He was greeted with vociferous cries of "Spoke, spoke!" and sundry observations of an angry and uncomplimentary nature, mixed up with charges of "conspiring to speak against time," &c., so as to defeat the objects for which the Grand Lodge was adjourned.

It was now nine o'clock, the acting Grand Master having permitted the whole of the hour to be wasted in discussing the legality of the Lodge, although the acting Grand Master on the previous occasion had declared it legally adjourned, and he himself had declared it "open in due form."

Bro. Savage said he had known and attended Grand Lodge twenty years. It had never adjourned; and it had been ruled that the power of adjournment did not exist. They had had "special" Grand Lodges, but never "adjourned" Grand Lodges.

Bro. the Earl of Carnarvon deprecated the waste of a whole hour in this desultory conversation, after the Lodge had been declared *open in due form* by the representative of the Grand Master, having been legally adjourned on the previous occasion by the Brother who was *then* acting for the Grand Master, although he conducted himself as a partisan rather than anything else. (Loud and angry cries of "Order, order," from the dais; loud and protracted cheering from the body of the Lodge.)

The Rev. Bro. Cox, energetically: "I do entreat the Brethren, as men and as Masons, to conduct themselves as gentlemen. (Loud cheers and laughter.) You may laugh, Brethren; and I regret to see Brethren of my own profession urging you on." (Loud cries of "Oh, oh!" "Disgraceful!" and "Unmasonic!")

Bro. the Earl of Carnarvon here rose. The Grand Master called him to order. The Brethren called loudly for him to proceed. The Grand Master said if he was not supported he should leave the chair, a statement which caused great confusion of mingled cheers, laughter, and cries of "Order, order."

The question was then pressed to a decision, and the Grand Master, after some consideration, decided that the business should go on, which gave very general satisfaction to the body of the Brethren, although it annoyed several Brethren on the dais, a number of whom left the Lodge in a body, and in a very angry mood. Considerable amusement was caused for a minute or two, as the Brethren were leaving the Lodge, by a little altercation between the Rev. Bro. Cox and the Rev. Bro. Portal, and others. The excited gesticulations and apparently vehement complainings (lost in the confusion) of the former, and the complacent smiles of the latter, were exceedingly mirth-provoking, although the noise was so great, that it was impossible to divine the cause of difference between the two reverend Brethren. Bro. Cox left, but Bro. Portal remained.

The other dissentients having left the room, order was restored.

THE COLONIAL QUESTION.

Bro. Col. Burlton resumed the business at the point at which it left off last Grand Lodge. He moved that the Report of the Colonial Committee (read at last Grand Lodge, and given verbatim in the last number of the *Freemasons' Magazine*) be received.

There was here a little ebullition of the excitement, which seemed to be but imperfectly allayed.

The Rev. Bro. Lyall said, that before the business proceeded, they ought to demand an explanation from the Grand Chaplain for his insulting conduct towards them (Bro. Portal and his friends). He ought to be called upon to make an apology. (Hear, hear, and renewed confusion.)

The Rev. Bro. Portal seconded Bro. Burlton's motion, and said: "In seconding the adoption of this report, there is only one alteration which I should wish to see made. I don't think the board should be elected at the same time as the Board of General Purposes. (Hear, hear.) Instead of September, therefore, it would be better to say—"

Grand Master: "The Brother cannot second a resolution and move an amendment upon it at the same time." (Hear, hear.)

Bro. Portal: "Well then, I shall content myself with throwing out this as a suggestion, and if any Brother moves it as an amendment, it will not be objected to. I am sorry that some of the Brethren should have withdrawn from Grand Lodge, as if the acting Grand Master were not a proper representative of the M.W. the Grand Master, when absent, which is often the case. (Hear, hear.) It is right we should be authoritatively informed what is "order," and what is not "order." (Hear, hear.) There is no use in denying the fact, that the Canadian petition was for three years unattended to. (Hear, hear, and loud cries of "Shame, shame!") The Grand Lodge, as a whole, would suffer in case the Canadians should rebel, and that will certainly be the result unless something be done. (Hear, hear.) If you carry this proposition, such a case as that of our Canadian Brethren can never occur again, as you will see what documents are sent from time to time, and will have opportunities for making motions thereon. Here we have the Canadian Lodges driven to rebellion! I maintain that the Grand Master, Grand Secretary, Grand Registrar, and whoever you like, are nothing more than our officers (hear), to carry our business (hear), the business of Grand Lodge, and not their own business. (Hear, hear.) We have a right to know what that business is, as it interests us far more than it can interest them. We recommend that this business should pass through the hands of this committee, and then you will see whether it is managed or mismanaged." (Hear, hear.)

Bro. Gole attempted to speak, but was received with impatient noises and interruption, and cries of "Question, question." He would say a few words by way of introduction. (Cries of "We have had introduction enough," and laughter.) He wished to light the calumet of peace. (Hear, hear, and laughter.) The Brother appeared to be desirous of reopening the question as to the legality of the Lodge, but the Grand Lodge would not permit him.

Bro. Percy Wells, after some discussion, rose to order, and invited the Grand

Master and the Brethren to come and see how *he* presided over his Lodge, which, he assured them, he did in a most efficient manner, combining temperance with firmness. He invited the Brethren to come and judge for themselves, amidst laughter and cheers. He asked, in conclusion, whether there was any motion before the Lodge, and if so, whether it was to be permitted to go on?

The Grand Master said, he did not know whether there was any motion before the Lodge; if there was, he had not heard it. (Laughter and cheers.)

The motion was then carried.

THE GRAND MASTER'S COMMUNICATION.

Bro. the Earl of Carnarvon said: "Right Worshipful Sir, the motion which I have now to propose, follows, as a natural consequence, that which has preceded it. My motion is, to refer the communication of the M.W. the Grand Master to the board which you have just appointed. (Hear, hear.) If the members of that board are men of experience and judgment, as we believe them to be, the matter cannot be placed in better hands. Indeed, the Brethren, really, have only two alternatives which they can adopt. You must either deal with this communication from the Grand Master now, in whatever way seems good to you, or refer it to that committee; but I believe, myself, that it would be far easier, far pleasanter to the Grand Lodge, to avoid the unsatisfactory task of dealing with the communication now, by referring it to the Colonial Board which has just been appointed. In fact, I think, it would be best to do so under any circumstances. Let it be understood by the Grand Lodge that *they* are responsible for the issue of this letter; for the Grand Master, in language too emphatic to be misunderstood—in language which I wish the Grand Lodge attentively to consider—has told us that he himself now submits his communication to us "to consider and decide." Therefore, up to this time, the Grand Master has managed the matter for himself; but, for the future, with *you* rests the responsibility. (Hear, hear.) It is cast entirely upon your shoulders (hear, hear), and I implore you not to arrive at any conclusion of which your judgment does not fully approve. I don't like to go back into the past. (Hear, hear.) The references which have already been made have excited feelings which I have regretted to see displayed, feelings of a character anything but pleasant. I shall not recapitulate the stages by which we have arrived at the present unhappy state of affairs; I have no wish to trespass on the time of the Grand Lodge, and I shall therefore shorten the matter as far as possible. In 1853, we find the first evidence of any discontent in Canada. The Canadian Lodges had a conference at Hamilton, at which they stated their grievances and complaints, in a petition which was forwarded to England; it bewailed the want of harmony in the Canadian Lodges, the irregularity of communications between England and Canada, and last, but not least, the unsatisfactory position of the Prov. Grand Master. This, in fact, was the principal complaint. They complained of the position of the Prov. Grand Master as part and parcel of the whole system of nomineeism, which they described as distasteful to them. They complained that he was holding an irresponsible position, and that they had neither a concurrent voice in the management of the affairs, nor any check upon his proceedings. (Hear.) No notice whatever was taken of this communication. They met again, and embodied their grievances in a set of resolutions. What became of those resolutions, I ask? It is sufficient to say that there was *no reply*. (Cries of "Shame!") Now Brethren, can you wonder that as time flew in a manner little reckoned of by us in England, it was counted by days and weeks in Canada? Years elapsed—three years, three long years—and yet the Canadian communication was unattended to, and even unacknowledged; and now, who can wonder that hope deferred produced its natural results? Do you wonder that such neglect ripened into bitter fruit the seeds of discontent which had been sown? (Loud cries of "No!") Only look at the consequences. It was at last, with a precipitancy which I cannot but deplore, that finding they could not obtain relief from England, some of the Canadian Lodges seceded, and perhaps they will never be reunited to those under our jurisdiction. But there are others who have remained true and faithful to their allegiance. (Cheers.) I wish, indeed, and strongly do I feel it, that I hope my

appeal may be heard across the Atlantic, when I express my unfeigned respect and sympathy for those who, despite of the disappointments which they meet with in England, despite of all the glitter and temptations of a species of independency and false ambition, have been contented to remain true to themselves, true to us, and true to the obligations of their Masonic allegiance. (Loud cheers.) There is a better way of thanking them than in mere words for their actions. It is reasonable to suppose that men who have shown such consistency and firmness, will not be persons likely to insist upon claims which are unjust and unreasonable in their nature. In 1853—I leave out minor matters for the present—they contended for the free and absolute right of electing their Prov. Grand Master. Now, I candidly admit, that on this point I could not concur with them. I think it would lead rather to alienation ; but there are many steps between taking no notice whatever of their complaints, and granting them everything they asked. (Hear.) No notice whatever was taken of them till a few months ago, when a member of the Grand Lodge, who has shown the greatest ability in these matters, I mean Bro. Portal (loud cheers), brought forward the subject by a motion in the Quarterly Communication, in which he proposed that the Canadian Lodges should elect two candidates for the Prov. Grand Master, and send them to the M.W. the Grand Master, in order that he might select one of them. The Canadian Lodges met and agreed to this in the following resolution :—“That this Grand Lodge heartily approves of the principle contained in the said intended motion, and would respectfully, but strongly, urge its adoption by the Grand Lodge of England, satisfied as they are—[mark the words]—that wide-spread dissatisfaction, resulting in disastrous consequences to the peace and prosperity of the Fraternity in Canada, will follow, should immediate action on their just complaints be longer delayed ;—that this Grand Lodge would suggest that the said resolution be modified so as to provide that the election of the Grand Master be made by this Grand Lodge, with this proviso—that if disallowed by the Grand Lodge of England within six months after it shall have taken place, it shall be void, but otherwise have full force and effect.” Such is the language of the men who have played the temperate part which I have described. I ask you, Brethren, is it the language of men wavering and uncertain in their opinions ? I fear very much the results, should we come this evening to a wrong and unsatisfactory conclusion. I entertain the greatest apprehensions as to the news which the next Canadian packet may bring us ; it may be said, you have a communication from the Grand Master, who proposes that henceforth every third year the Prov. Grand Master should send in a report, and if that report, under the auspices of the Prov. Grand Master, should be unsatisfactory, that it should then be competent to the Grand Master to depose the Prov. Grand Master. But this proposal gives no new power to the Prov. Grand Master. He can at present send his reports, not every third year, but whenever he likes. It is also, at present, in the power of the Grand Master to depose the Prov. Grand Master whenever he may think proper to do so. What improvement, therefore, I ask, would be effected by the Grand Master’s proposition ? What further independence or self-government would it confer upon the Colonies ? I answer, none. (Loud applause.) The only reception which such a proposition could meet with in Canada would be scorn and irritation. (Hear, hear.) We have heard of men slumbering while an earthquake was raging around them. Four years ago, there was a cloud significantly ominous, although, at the time, perhaps, not larger than a man’s hand. One single temperate despatch would have prevented the coming tempest. But no notice whatever was taken of it. Our officials went slumbering on from year to year. At length the storm arose which had been heralded by so many warnings ; and the Canadian Lodges burst forth into open secession. For one whole year these slumbers still continued, and no notice whatever was taken even of the secession,—no motion was brought forward ; no change of policy or principles was announced, and when independent Brethren made motions of a remedial character, they were stifled under the pretence, that an ancient landmark of the Order was attempted to be obliterated. (Hear, hear.) A Grand Lodge was attempted to be coerced by an overbearing temper and domineer. (Loud cheers.) I have said too much, perhaps. (No, no.) One word more on the broad principles which I wish to see adopted in our colonial policy ; it is the

greatest mistake in the world to confound quantity with quality. Let us never suppose that extent of dominion is any real test of power. Extent of dominion is no test of real prosperity, unless accompanied by a living spirit, breathing from the inmost centre to the utmost extremity. (Loud cheers.) The great secret of government is, that the main body shall only attempt those duties which it is competent to perform. For instance, no man in this room is more deeply impressed than I am with the necessity of maintaining the due dependence and allegiance of the Canadian Lodges to the Grand Lodge of England. I wish to see the Grand Lodge the fountain of appeal—the sole arbiter; and I wish to see all the allegiance due to the Grand Lodge preserved; but I would utterly surrender to the Prov. Grand Lodge all the minutiae of local business. (Hear, hear.) You will have to look long for a body of men who will unite those qualities which will enable them to take a broad view of questions of policy necessary here at home, and to control the thousand and one details of local administration. (Hear, hear.) What I mean to say is, maintain their allegiance, and leave the local business under their own control. Make them your friends, and do not seek to alienate them; attempt not to depose them into the condition of slaves. (Loud cheers.) There are two principles of government—compulsion and persuasion. Compulsion is idle for us to talk of, and it is irritating to them. Persuasion is a legitimate weapon; it will not break in your grasp, because it is a well-tempered blade, on which is engraven the talismanic characters of “Brotherly love, Relief, and Truth.” (Loud cheers.) There is a third course which stares one like a phantom in the face. I protest against your standing with folded arms while the stately fabric fall to pieces. (Hear, hear.) Better have an indifferent policy than none at all. (Loud cheers.) Better have any principles than be like the mastless vessel before the storm:—

“Come it slow or come it fast,
This is the fate must come at last.”

Make up your minds to it. Do not deceive yourselves. Be not satisfied with closing your eyes; look at the breakers which appear ahead, and seek not to escape your impending destiny by *ignoring* this difficulty, for you can never *shelve* it. (Loud cheers.) The sands of your hour-glass are running low; the time for deliberation has almost passed away, and the time for action has fully come. There stand the forms of the good and of the evil genius of this great Order, as it were, upon our very threshold, with the emblems of ascending prosperity, and of hopeless irremediable decay. Both are offered to you. Which will you accept? It can only be done by free speaking and free discussion. Let us do away for ever with that mistaken policy which would prevent us from discussing here those great and important topics which are nearest to our hearts, and which we so freely canvass elsewhere. (Loud applause.) I would say, it is unjust to us and to our Canadian Brethren that there should be a reserve between us and our authorities; it is ruinous to the best interests of the Craft, and, if persisted in, will be fatal to the good understanding between those who sit upon the dais and those who are in the body of the Hall. (Hear, hear.) Therefore I move, Right Worshipful Sir, that the communication of the M.W. Grand Master be referred to the Colonial Board, to consider, and report upon at our quarterly meeting in December. I move, also, that the report be printed and distributed amongst the Brethren at their entrance to the Grand Lodge, and that the Grand Lodge considers that no scheme will be satisfactory which fails to approve of the Colonial Brethren having a voice in the appointment of the Prov. Grand Master. (The noble Lord resumed his seat amidst loud applause.)

Bro. H. G. Warren, P.M., No. 202, seconded the motion and said, that he thought they would not be acting in justice towards the committee which they had just appointed, if they did not refer this matter to them; if they refused to pass the present or some similar resolution, they would stultify all their previous proceedings, and it was, therefore, with the greatest pleasure that he seconded the motion. (Loud cries of “Divide, divide!”)

The Chairman then put the motion, which was carried unanimously.

PRINTING THE PAPER OF BUSINESS.

Bro. the Earl of Carnarvon moved the following :—" That in order that Masons resident in the country may be aware of the business to be brought forward in Grand Lodge, it is expedient that the Board of Masters meet at such a time as that the paper of business may be issued with the minutes of the last Quarterly Communication. And the Board of General Purposes is requested to give effect to this resolution." He said, " After the indulgence I have just experienced at the hands of the Brethren, I cannot think of detaining you at any length again ; the necessity of accomplishing the object sought to be attained by the present motion is palpable to every man of common sense. It will remedy an injustice of long standing, and I briefly recommend it to you on two grounds ; first, it is an extension of that principle which you have yourselves adopted and appreciated ; and, second, it is fully warranted by the Book of Constitutions. I appeal to you to extend to the Provincial Brethren those advantages which you have acquired for yourselves, and which you so justly value."

Bro. Harwood seconded the motion ; and said, that an accurate account of what was going on ought to be communicated throughout the length and breadth of the Fraternity. This resolution, if properly carried out, would do much to restore that sympathy which was at present in danger of being diminished.

The Rev. Bro. Portal moved as an amendment, " That in order that Masons resident in the country may be made aware of the business of the Grand Lodge, the Board of Masters should meet on the fourth Wednesday before holding Grand Lodge, so that the Paper of Business might be issued with the Minutes."

Bro. Beach, P. Prov. G.W. for Oxford, seconded the amendment, which was put and carried with the consent of Bro. the Earl of Carnarvon.

THE CHARITY JEWEL.

Bro. Henry George Warren moved a resolution " That the Charity Jewel, now conferred on Brethren who had served as Stewards to the Girls' and Boys' School, should be so extended as to include the Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and their Widows, so that Brethren serving as Stewards at the festivals of any two of the charities should be entitled to wear the medal, and those who served the three Stewardships should be further entitled to wear a clasp on the ribbon by which the medal was suspended." He said, he thought that the Brethren served the other charities to the neglect of the Benevolent Institution, because it gave no decoration or honour which could be shown to the world. As far as he was personally concerned, he considered such matters of but little importance ; but in making this motion he felt sure that he should carry the feelings of the majority of the Brethren with him, and he hoped that he should be supported by the Grand Lodge.

Bro. Percy Wells seconded the motion.

Bro. Harvey said, this motion is to provide, that Brethren serving the office of Steward to any two of the charities shall be allowed to wear the Charity Jewel. Such a motion, I think, is pregnant with mischief to the Boys' and Girls' School. As chairman of the committee of the Boys' School, I must beg to enter my protest against it. We all know that the Girls' Charity is the pet Charity of the Craft. There is no necessity to plead the cause of that Charity, but with regard to the Boys' School, it is more difficult to obtain supporters ; and if this motion is agreed to, I do despair of that Charity being successfully carried on. I have no objection to accord a clasp to those Brethren who have served the stewardship three charities, but as for pitting one charity against another, I must say that I should regret to see such a result take place. It may not be known to the members of the Grand Lodge generally, how this Charity Jewel was appropriated to the Girls' and Boys' Schools. It is about fourteen years ago, in the year 1836 or 1837, that the Grand Stewards for the year, having a considerable surplus in hand, presented the die for this jewel, which jewel belongs exclusively to the two Charities. There are two dies : one is appropriated to the Craft at large, and the

other to these two Schools : and I do not see how they can be alienated. I have supported the Charity whose cause Bro. Warren has advocated, and I am sorry to say that that Charity is not well supported ; but I do trust that the times are mending, and that it will flourish as well as the other two. The comparatively small success of the charity I can only attribute to the fact, that the Brethren are not fully aware of the claims which it has upon their sympathy. I oppose the motion of my Bro. Warren, because I think it is inimical to the interests of the Charity which I have alluded to, and I do not think it will be beneficial to the third Charity.

A Brother, whose name we did not catch, supported the motion, on the ground that any measure of an unquestionable character ought to be sanctioned by Grand Lodge, when known to be conducive to the welfare of any of their charities.

The question was then put and carried.

STRANGERS AT THE BANQUETS.

Bro. H. G. Warren moved, "That no person other than a member of the Craft be permitted to dine with the Brethren at any Masonic festival." He said that his object was to prevent gentlemen of the Musical Profession, not being members of the Order, from dining with the Brethren, as they were liable, under such circumstances, to be mistaken for members of the Craft, and therefore, the Brethren not being on their guard, they might illegitimately become possessed of some of the Secrets of the Order. (Hear, hear.)

Bro. Binckes seconded the motion, and asked the Grand Master to decide whether it would exclude the ladies ?

Bro. Warren : Ladies are not in the habit of dining at our festivals.

Bro. Smith, G.P., thought, that if it excluded the ladies, it was decidedly objectionable.

Bro. Colonel Burlton said, that while Prov. Grand Master of Bengal, he had sat down at a Masonic festival with the Bishop of Calcutta and a number of distinguished gentlemen, including the bishop's chaplain, who were not Masons ; but they dined with them, and preached to them, and participated in their banquets. In fact, he did not see that there was anything which constituted a necessary portion of their banquets to which strangers could not be admitted.

Bro. Warren : "Bro. Burlton, whatever his experience may be in India, appears to know nothing of the state of things which exists in England."

Bro. Burlton : "I beg your pardon, Bro. Warren." (Laughter.)

Bro. Warren : "It has been laid down as a principle, that none but Masons should be present at our banquets, and, therefore, I maintain that by introducing singers, or any one else, in fact, who is not a Mason, we violate the principle which the Grand Master has laid down. If we may have singers, why may we not have other persons ? There are many of us who could bring gentlemen who would be ready enough to put down their one guinea, or even their ten guineas for our charities, who are, nevertheless, not members of our Order. Let us have it either one way or the other. Let us either confine ourselves to Brethren of the Order, or admit, indiscriminately, those whom the Brethren may think proper to invite. On one occasion, Bro. Baldwin, J.G.W., the proprietor of the *Morning Herald*, sent a gentleman attached to the parliamentary corps of that journal, in order to report the proceedings. That gentleman was not a Mason, and he was very properly, as I think, refused admission." (Loud cries of "Hear !") "But as I did the business for him, the Charity sustained no loss." (Cries of "Hear !" and laughter.)

A short discussion ensued, in which a Brother suggested, that as the strangers were not in Masonic clothing, that ought to be sufficient to put the Brethren on their guard. Some of the Brethren, however, contended, that it was not sufficient, and that no gentleman who was not a Mason should be admitted on such occasions, because there was a great probability that, in the freedom of conversation which was carried on amongst the Brethren, such strangers might become illegitimately possessed of the secrets of their Order ; and that, with reference to the ladies, the same objection could not be urged, because they were placed in the

gallery, and therefore sufficiently remote to prevent their either hearing or seeing anything which ought to be kept from them.

The question was then put and lost.

THE TEMPLE FOR A MUSIC-ROOM.

Bro. Warren moved, "That henceforth the use of the Temple be granted to the Stewards of the four Masonic festivals for a music-room at the conclusion of such festivals." He said, in bringing forward this motion, I am actuated by the pure motive of benefiting our festivals. If we are to have singing after our festivals, I think we ought to have a suitable place in which that singing can be enjoyed. Now, I am sure that no one here will contend that our present Glee-room is a proper place for music. The Glee-room at present used is totally inadequate to the purposes, serving only to remind us of the Black-hole in Calcutta; is only calculated for the accommodation of some seventy or eighty; and yet double and treble that number are often crowded into it; so that the atmosphere is indeed insupportable. If gentlemen are to bring ladies to our festivals and join them afterwards in the Glee-room, I think we ought to have some proper place to which to take them. I wish the Temple to be appropriated to these uses at the Masonic festivals, and at the Masonic festivals only. To such use of the room, I confess I can see no objection whatever.

Bro. Pettet seconded the motion.

Bro. Masson opposed it, and said, that the place had been duly consecrated to Masonry, and it had hitherto been restricted for the purposes of Masonry alone. The late Duke of Sussex had expressed himself to a similar effect. He regretted that the Grand Registrar was not there in order that he might give them some particulars of its dedication, which would confirm what he was saying.

Bro. Binckes said, that some time ago, he had occasion to investigate this subject, but he found no record of anything of the kind to which Bro. Masson had alluded. In the calendar to which they were accustomed to look as a record of the principal events in Masonry, they had a record of the dedication of the Great Hall, which was used for all sorts of purposes—(hear, hear)—and no great harm either. (Hear, hear.) But there was no record of a similar dedication of the Temple; and if, as he thought, the proposed measure would promote the prosperity of our festivals, and thereby extend the success of our Charities, he could see no objection to the motion. He trusted, therefore, that it would be allowed to be carried.

Bro. Masson said, that he wished to keep to what was right, and that if Bro. Binckes felt any disposition to continue his investigations, he could assist him and set him right on this point.

Several Brethren then bore testimony to the insufficiency of the accommodation afforded by the present Glee-room.

Bro. White, Grand Secretary, read a paper which he had found some time ago amongst the documents of our late Grand Master his Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex. It consisted, as we understood, of an address delivered on the occasion of the dedication of the Temple by our late Grand Master. It was to the following effect:—That that was no ordinary occasion which called them together for the first time to assemble in their large Temple. It was always his object to have a Temple for these purposes to which the profane might not be admitted; and in order that everything might be done with regularity. His Royal Highness went on to say, that he was of opinion that the place should be opened with such solemnity, that when the Brethren assembled therein, they should feel that they were in Grand Lodge properly dedicated, close tyled, and that nothing which was said or done could be seen or heard by the profane. (Loud cries of "Divide, divide!")

Owing to the confusion which prevailed, and the impatience of the Brethren, it was impossible to catch, verbatim, the extract which Bro. White read in a very inaudible tone.

Bro. Warren said, that if the Temple had never been used for other purposes, there would be some force in the objections which had been urged; but the fact

was, that it had been used to give children refreshments in, and he thought that where refreshments were taken, it certainly could not be a profanation to listen to singing.

The question was then put and carried.

VOTE OF THANKS TO THE CHAIR.

Bro. Binckes, in a brief speech, paid a very graceful compliment to the acting Grand Master, for the urbanity and courtesy with which he had presided during the evening. He said that he could not refrain from taking this course, although he was fully aware that it was somewhat unusual, and in fact, perhaps, unprecedented; but the truth was, that there was such a perfect contrast between the conduct of the Brother who had presided that evening, and the conduct of the Brother who had occupied the same distinguished position at the previous Grand Lodge, that he really could not refrain from stepping a little out of the usual course, to express the thanks of the Brethren to the Right Worshipful Brother in the Chair for his courtesy and conduct in presiding over them that evening. (Loud cheers from all parts of the room.)

The Grand Master then rose amidst great applause, and said, that however grateful he might be for the spontaneous and flattering manner in which the Brother who had just sat down had alluded to his services, and however pleasing might be to him the cordiality and earnestness with which the Brethren had responded to the sentiments, yet, as during an acquaintance with Grand Lodge and a careful attention to its proceedings during a course of now about thirty years, he had never known such a motion to be put, he really must, with all respect, decline to allow it to be so on the present occasion. Nevertheless, he would say again, that he was exceedingly gratified by the kindness of the observations which had been made respecting him; and he hoped, that whenever he had the honour of presiding, that he should deserve the same flattering allusions which had been made to him that evening. (Loud cheers.)

The Grand Lodge was then closed, with the usual formalities, and the Brethren separated.

ROYAL FREEMASONS' GIRLS' SCHOOL.

At a quarterly General Court, holden at Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen street, on Thursday, the 9th October, seven children were ordered to be admitted on the 23rd of that month. There being the same number of vacancies, no election was necessary. It was reported from the House Committee that the necessary repairs to the building had been completed by the original contractors without any additional expense to the Institution, and that the various alterations found requisite had been carried into effect. The Audit Committee made it matter of congratulation in their report, that while a considerably larger amount had been funded, their financial position presented a greatly improved aspect as compared with the corresponding quarter last year. The ballot for the election of a collector in the room of the late Bro. John Nicholls opened at one o'clock and closed at three, with the following result:—Bros. Henry Muggeridge, 132; Charles Payne, 46; B. R. Davies, 0. The former was declared duly elected. Notice of motion was given that a gratuity of £10 be awarded to the widow of the late collector, Bro. Nicholls. The proceedings terminated with a vote of thanks, carried by acclamation, to Bro. George Biggs, who had ably discharged the duties of chairman.

METROPOLITAN.

LODGE OF ANTIQUITY (No. 2).—At the monthly meeting of this Lodge, on the 22nd October, Bro. W. P. Scott, W.M., in the chair, Lord Eustace Brownlow Wm. Cecil, who was initiated in the Lodge of Integrity, No. 771, 14th regiment of foot in the Crimea, 24th of May last, was proposed by Bro. B. B. Cabbell, P.M., and seconded by Bro. W. P. Scott, to be a joining member, and also to be passed and raised.

LODGE OF FIDELITY (No. 3).—At the meeting of this Lodge, at the Freemasons' Tavern, on the 8th October, Bro. Shackelton, W.M., in the chair, Mr. Willam Sim was duly initiated into the Order.

ROYAL YORK LODGE (No. 7).—The first meeting for the season of this celebrated Lodge was held at the Freemasons' Tavern on Wednesday, October 15th, and must be considered in every respect a most auspicious one. The respected W.M. Bro. J. Hervey, Prov. S.G.D, presided, and most ably initiated three gentlemen into the Order. Bro. Sams having resigned the treasurership, after a lengthened tenure of office with credit to himself and satisfaction to every member of the Lodge, the Brethren proceeded to ballot for a successor, the result being that Bro. P. M. Harrison was almost unanimously elected to fill the honourable post. In returning thanks for the trust thus reposed in him, Bro. Harrison paid a well-merited compliment to the services of his predecessor, whose good qualities it would be his aim to imitate. All Masonic business being ended, the Brethren, to the number of twenty-seven, adjourned to a banquet served up in the style of excellence now so usual at "the Tavern," and passed a truly agreeable evening. The visitors were very numerous, and amongst them we noticed Bros. Bagshaw, Prov. G.M., Essex; Rev. J. E. Cox, G. Chap.; W. P. Scott, W.M. (No. 2); F. Binckes, M.M. (No. 11); Moore (No. 5), Phillips (No. 30), Watson, &c. &c., and Telford (No. 4), I.G. The latter returned thanks for the health of the Duke of Leinster, G.M., Ireland, expressing himself as in the highest degree pleased at the reception he had met with on the occasion of this his first visit to his English Brethren. Bros. Bagshaw and Cox addressed the Lodge in reply to different toasts, the latter taking the opportunity to refer to the recent dissensions in Grand Lodge, expressing his earnest hope that, however widely they may differ in opinion on questions of policy, they would ever remember that they *were Brethren*, and not forget the bond of charity which should unite them and dispose them to entertain kindly feelings one towards another. "Prosperity to the Royal York" was given as a toast by one of the visitors, who paid a just tribute to the many excellencies of the W.M., and stated his conviction that the Lodge would have a worthy successor in the person of the S.W. Bro. J. Levison, who was noted for a conscientious discharge of the duties of any office he undertook.

ALBION LODGE (No. 9).—The first meeting of the season took place at the Freemasons' Tavern on the 7th October, Bro. Woods, W.M., in the chair, when four Brethren were duly raised to the 3rd Degree.

OLD KING'S ARMS LODGE (No. 30).—Once more the "Old King's Arms" has opened its portals to receive those who are anxious to enrol themselves under its banner as members of the "Ancient and honourable Order," and to extend its hospitalities to the Brethren of other Lodges, some of whom are invariably to be found at its meetings. The session was inaugurated on Monday, the 27th October, when two gentlemen were initiated, the ceremonies being performed by Bro. W. Paas, W.M., in a manner in every way unexceptionable and greatly to the delight of a numerous body of casual visitors who attended to witness "the work." The Lodge having been closed, the Brethren adjourned to an excellent banquet, at which, under the genial sway of the W.M., unalloyed enjoyment was experienced by all. We confess to a peculiar *penchant* for "No. 30"—there

is so much kindness—such unflagging attention—so uninterrupted a flow of good humour, that stern indeed must be the nature that does not yield to the kindly influences which prevail. Where all is excellence, it would be invidious to particularise, and we can only make a grateful acknowledgment of the many happy hours we have passed with the Brethren of this most agreeable Lodge. The visitors were Bros. F. Binckes, W.M., No. 11 ; G. Barrett, P.M., No. 188, and Dericourt.

BRITANNIC LODGE (No. 38).—At the last meeting of this Lodge, Bro. Bridges, the W.M., had a very heavy *agenda* of business brought before him. He initiated Messrs. H. J. Kennard, T. W. Kennard, M. E. Wesley, W. H. Craig, and H. Johnson. He also passed Bros. Edward Harding, John Brown, F. R. M. Gosset, and raised Bro. H. Woodhouse. The Brethren, to the number of nearly fifty, afterwards adjourned to the Trafalgar, at Greenwich, to dinner.

STRONG MAN LODGE (No. 53).—This Lodge held its first meeting on Thursday, October 2, at Bro. Ireland's, Falcon Tavern, Fetter-lane, when Bro. Moss, W.M., raised Bros. Reid and Ditchman to the Sublime Degree of Master Masons ; passed Bros. Hales, Prater, and White, and initiated Mr. James and George Eyre, and James Potter. The whole of the working was ably carried out by Bro. Moss, W.M. The Lodge is now in a most flourishing condition, and bids fair to be second to none in the Craft. The business being ended, the Brethren retired to a very excellent banquet, and spent a very comfortable and harmonious evening.

GIHON LODGE (No. 57).—The first meeting of this Lodge since the recess took place on the 16th October, at the Bridge-house Hotel, Bro. Wilmott in the chair. The business consisted of two initiations, a passing, and two raisings.

LODGE OF PEACE AND HARMONY (No. 79).—At the monthly meeting of the above Lodge, held at the London Tavern, on the 23rd October, Bro. Ellwood, P.M., presiding in the absence of the W.M., Bro. Penny was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year.

GRENADIERS' LODGE (No. 79).—The first meeting of this Lodge for the season took place at the Freemasons' Tavern, on the 23rd October, Bro. Johnson, W.M., presiding, when a gentleman was most ably initiated into the Order. At the conclusion of the business about twenty of the Brethren adjourned to dinner, and the harmony of the evening was much promoted by the exertions of Bros. Lawler, Bellingham, and Spratt, the latter of whom presided at the pianoforte.

LODGE OF UNITY (No. 82).—The first meeting of this Lodge for the present season took place at the London Tavern, on the evening of the 6th ult., on which occasion one Brother was raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason, and the bye-laws of the Lodge materially re-modelled. A committee was also appointed to consider further changes, in order to meet the unanimous wish of the Brethren, who are desirous of meeting more frequently than they have hitherto done. The Brethren afterwards dined together, under the able presidency of Bro. Sleight, W.M., and seldom has any body of Masons spent a more delightful evening. Where the harmony was general and continuous, it would be invidious to particularize any of those who contributed to it. Among the visitors were Bros. Tibbetts, of Portsmouth ; Hayward, of the Regularity ; Williams, of the Phoenix, &c.

VITRUVIAN LODGE (No. 103).—This Lodge met at the White Hart Tavern, College-street, Lambeth, on Wednesday, October 8th. The W.M., Bro. Cherry, initiated a gentleman into the Order in a most able manner, and two Brethren were raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason.

TEMPLE LODGE (No. 118).—The re-assembling of the Brethren took place on Tuesday, October 7, at the Lodge-house, the Ship and Turtle Tavern, Leadenhall-street ; the W.M. being absent, P.M. Bro. Weedon presided. The passings and raisings of several Brethren took place, after which they adjourned and partook of a most sumptuous banquet, the preparation of which reflected great credit

on Bro. Painter. Bro. Wynn, P.M., presented the W.M. of the evening with a P.M. jewel, accompanying the gift by some very appropriate remarks, which were duly acknowledged by the worthy recipient. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to in true Masonic style. The health of the visiting Brothers being drunk, was responded to by Bro. Farmer, of the Pilgrim Lodge. The harmony of the evening was much enhanced by some good singing from Bros. G. Richardson, Braham, and others. Amongst the Brethren of the Lodge who were present were Bros. D. Forrester, Harry Bolen, T. Beard, Woodford, Hubble, Cutt, &c.

LODGE OF PRUDENT BRETHREN (No. 149).—The monthly meeting of this Lodge, being the first for the season, was held at the Freemasons' Tavern, on the 28th October, Bro. Morbey presiding, when Bro. Kaiser was raised to the 3rd Degree, Bro. Jones passed to the 2nd, and Mr. Parker (a gentleman learned in the law) initiated. Bro. Wills was appointed I.G. in the room of Bro. Smith, resigned; Bro. Hooper, D.C., vice Bro. Carter, resigned; and Bro. Edward Hart, Organist. Amongst the visitors we noticed Bros. John Gurton, W.M., No. 211; Myers, P.M.; Haydon, George Perren, &c.

LODGE OF FAITH (No. 165).—This Lodge assembled for the first time after the vacation at the Gun Tavern, Pimlico, on the 30th September, Bro. M'Manus, W.M., in the chair, when he initiated Mr. Warner, passed Bro. Weston, and raised Bro. Oldridge. Bro. Odell was elected W.M. for the ensuing year.

ST. JOHN'S LODGE (No. 196).—The annual meeting of this excellent Lodge was held at the Holly Bush, Hampstead, on the 14th October, when Bro. Aldrich brought his year of office to a worthy close by raising Bros. Albon, Dale, and Douglas, as M.Ms., and initiating Mr. Alfred May into the Order. This done Bro. Adams, P.M., took the chair, and installed Bro. Richard Hazard as Master for the ensuing year. The new W.M. invested his officers as follows:—Johnston, S.W. and Sec.; Cormick, J.W.; Smith, S.D.; Hart, J.D.; Pritchard, I.G.; and Holt, Tyler. The W.M. was also invested with the Treasurer's Jewel. The W.M. next proceeded to initiate Mr. William Giltro as a member of the Craft. The Brethren at the conclusion of business adjourned to dinner, and in the course of the evening Bro. P. M. Aldrich, in a very able speech presented Bro. Shury with an elegant P.M.'s Jewel, the gift of the Lodge, for the zeal and attention he had ever displayed to the interests of the Lodge, the more especially when presiding over it as W.M. Bro. Shury briefly thanked the Brethren; and various toasts having been drunk, the Brethren separated. We understand that it is in contemplation to present Bro. Aldrich with a handsome acknowledgment of his services to the Lodge during the past year—one of the most successful within its annals.

OLD CONCORD LODGE (No. 201).—About forty members of this Lodge assembled at Bro. Jackson's, Hyde Park Hotel, Oxford-street, on Monday, Sept. 29, for the purpose of presenting to Bro. Kennedy, P.M. and Treas. a testimonial. A dinner, consisting of every delicacy of the season, to which Bro. Kennedy was invited, was served by the worthy host (who is the J.W. of the Lodge) in first-rate style. The usual loyal toasts having been gone through, Bro. Nicholson, W.M., who presided on the occasion, after an appropriate address, concluded by saying: "We present you, Bro. Kennedy, with this testimonial, and may the G.A.O.T.U. preserve you and yours long to hold this token of our esteem in your children's children's remembrance." The testimonial consisted of a very elegant silver tea-service, with the Masonic emblems and a suitable engraving thereon. Bro. Kennedy addressed the Brethren in a neat and appropriate reply; and, in conclusion, "assured them that it would be his highest reward ever to enjoy the esteem and regard of the Brethren with whom he was so intimately associated." Several other toasts were given and duly responded to, and the Brethren separated highly delighted with their entertainment. Bro. G. M. Gurton, P.M., was vice-president, supported by Bros. Temple, P.M., Mancy, Hogg, &c.; the president being supported by Bros. Emmens, P.M. and Sec., G. Watson, P.M., &c. &c.—The Lodge held its first regular meeting for the season at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Tues-

day, October 6, at which there was a numerous attendance. The business of the evening consisted of initiating Mr. John Lowden, Mr. Douglas Croft, and Mr. Joseph Creech, into the mysteries of the Order ; passing Bro. Schmidt to the 2nd Degree ; and raising Bros. Henry Abbott, Waters, Griffiths, and Adams, to the Degree of Master Masons. All these Ceremonies were performed by the W.M. (Bro. Nicholson) in his usual able and efficient manner. The other Lodge business being ended, and five gentlemen proposed for initiation at the next meeting, nearly fifty of the Brethren adjourned to an extremely elegant banquet, after which all the usual toasts were given and responded to, and the evening spent in perfect harmony. The visitors at the banquet were Bros. John Gurton, Bennett, Queley, and Baker.

ST. JAMES'S UNION LODGE (No. 211).—The Brethren of this thriving Lodge met at the Freemasons' Tavern, Tuesday, October 14th. Four gentlemen were initiated into Masonry, two Brethren passed to the 2nd Degree, and one raised to the 3rd Degree, in that efficient manner for which this Lodge is so much distinguished. After closing the Lodge, the Brethren proceeded to banquet, and the evening was spent in greatest harmony, which was greatly enlivened by the excellent singing of Miss Taylor, assisted by Bro. Taylor. The visitors were Bros. Collard, No. 168 ; Gillat, No. 70 ; Roberts, No. 99 ; and two French Brethren.

UNIVERSAL LODGE (No. 212).—The first meeting for the season was held at the Freemasons' Tavern on 24th October, under presidency of Bro. T. Green, W.M., who initiated two gentlemen into the mysteries of the ancient Order, in the able and impressive manner for which he is so celebrated. Masonic business being ended, and the banquet discussed, the usual toasts followed, a separate one being appropriated to the esteemed chaplain Bro. Rev. Grice, who, in acknowledging the compliment thus paid him, stated he had the happiness to belong to other Lodges in the country district in which he resided, and that he continued his membership from having personally witnessed the great good effected by Masonry, and the beneficial results springing from its influence, to which he was at all times pleased to bear testimony. Towards the close of the evening the health of the Bro. Marcus Atwood, P.M., was proposed by the W.M., who took the opportunity of paying a well-merited tribute to that excellent Brother, expressing the deep sense of obligation entertained by every member of the Lodge for his untiring exertions to promote its prosperity, and which was never more felt than now that they were on the eve of losing him, he being about to devote his energies to a new field of labour on the Continent. With mingled feelings of pleasure and regret a bumper was pledged, and the toast received with every token of cordiality, which Bro. Atwood acknowledged in suitable terms, thanking the Brethren for their kindness, and assuring them how delighted he should be to meet them—a pleasure he hoped to enjoy twice in the year—during his visits to old England. Several songs were contributed by members of the Lodge, and the evening sped merrily along. The visitors were Bros. F. Binckes, W.M. No. 11 ; W. Paas, W.M., No. 30 ; Pennington, No. 131, Bayly, 509.

LODGE OF JOPPA (No. 223).—The regular meeting of this well-known Lodge took place on Monday, October 6th, to initiate Mr. James Langley, of Bedford-square, as also to pass and raise several duly qualified Brethren ; but this being within a particular period of the Hebrew calendar, the banquet was postponed till this evening, October 16th, for which an especial Lodge of Emergency had been summoned, as well as to initiate a young gentleman, a minor, for whom a dispensation had been granted by the M.W. Grand Master. The W.M. Bro. S. G. Risch, manifested the same care and precision in the performance of this interesting ceremony, of which we have so commendably spoken on former occasions ; and after a discussion of some length of Lodge affairs, which was amicably arranged, the Brethren retired to the Grand Hall of the Albion Tavern, where an excellent entertainment was provided, consisting of every edible in season. Grace having been chanted, and a splendid dessert, with wine, placed on table, the Worshipful Master proposed the usual Masonic toasts, with appropriate pre-

fatory remarks, and next proposed success to the "Joppa Benevolent Fund." In alluding to this subject, we would put it to every Lodge in the United Kingdom, whether the only study of Master and members should be the banquet, whether there should not be attached to every Lodge a private fund to relieve the deserving necessitous in the day of trouble,—surely it won't admit of question. Then, say we, pay a visit to the Lodge of Joppa, and there you will be told that in the year of 1850 the foundation-stone of this fund was laid, and in the year 1856, £600 are invested in the Public Securities. Bro. P. Byfus, one of the Vice-Presidents, responded, and thanked the Brethren for the support hitherto given to the fund, and urged them still further to strengthen what had been so auspiciously begun, and announced that the newly-made made Brother had subscribed £2. 2s. ; whilst other subscriptions to the amount of nearly 5 guineas had been also received. Bro. Lyons, the immediate P.M., proposed the health of the Worshipful Master, and, if we may judge from the manner in which it was received, it must have been highly gratifying to Bro. Risch, who expressed himself in suitable terms, and pledged himself to endeavour to discharge his duties to the satisfaction of the Brethren. The healths of the visitors were next given. Bro. Lord W. Lennox returned thanks on behalf of himself and Bro. visitors, and expressed the gratification he had experienced at the kindness of the Joppa Brethren, and his admiration of the Lodge "workings." Lodge business being resumed, a case of a charitable nature came under consideration, which was liberally answered, and the Brethren retired with that love and harmony only to be inspired through the Masonic medium.

FITZROY LODGE (No. 830).—This united and happy band of military Freemasons met at the head-quarters of the Honourable Artillery Company on Friday, 24th of October. The W.M. Bro. Peter Matthews, assisted by his officers, passed one Brother to the degree of a Fellow Craft, and raised one to the sublime degree of a Master Mason, in that able and correct manner which has rendered him such a distinguished member of the Order.

INSTRUCTION.

CONFIDENCE LODGE (No. 228).—On Wednesday, 1st October, the members of this flourishing Lodge of Instruction assembled at Bro. Wadeson's, Bengal Arms, Birchin-lane, City, for the purpose of working the fifteen sections, Bro. Brett as W.M. putting the questions, and the following Brethren answering them:—First Lecture—1st, Bro. Wadeson; 2nd, Bro. Lowenstark; 3rd, Bro. Brewer; 4th, Bro. Wadeson; 5th, Bro. Lowenstark; 6th, Bro. Newnham; 7th, Bro. Lowenstark. Second Lecture—1st, Bro. Panchard; 2nd, Bro. Anslow; 3rd, Bro. Newnham; 4th, Bro. Noak; 5th, Bro. Newnham. Third Lecture—1st, Bro. Jackson; 2nd, Bro. Noak; 3rd, Bro. Anslow. The sections were worked in a most efficient manner. Any Brother in search of Masonic Instruction is requested to pay this Lodge a visit. The Brethren meet every Wednesday evening at eight o'clock precisely.

PROVINCIAL.

ESSEX.

COLCHESTER.—*Angel Lodge* (No. 59).—On Tuesday, October 7, the annual festival of St. John the Baptist was celebrated at the Cups Hotel, and the attendance of Brethren, the number of the Order initiated, and the apparent interest taken in the proceedings, tended to show that Freemasonry was in a most flourishing condition at the present time. There were four candidates initiated into Masonic Mysteries—viz., Captain Douglas de l'enci and Lieutenant and Adjutant

Robert Charles Clipperton, both of the 1st Dragoons, *B.G.L.*; Quartermaster Edward Henry Drake, and Paymaster George Shuttleworth, both of the 4th Regiment of Infantry, *B.G.L.* The banquet commenced at five o'clock, and amongst the visiting Brethren present were—Bros. Robert J. Bagshaw, Prov. G.M. of Essex; Captain A. von Diebitsch, of the Hanover Lodge; Captain Maxwell, Stirling Lodge; Adjutant Heyman, Hamburgh Lodge; Paymaster Wilson, No. 384; J. Golding, W.M., No. 417; Henry Baker, W.M., No. 627; E. Haiden, W.M., No. 817; Webb, P.M., No. 627; and J. Trueman, P.M., No. 5. Of the members of the Angel Lodge there were present—T. Hall, W.M., in the chair; Bros. Forbes Ellidson, Griffin, Marson, Catling, Wiseman, Osborne, Coppin, Partridge, Dawson, Raines, Saunders, Bean, Palmer, Watson, Norman, Miller, Williams, Slaney, Drake, de Fenci, and Clipperton. After the usual toasts had been responded to, Bro. Griffin proposed “The Masonic Charities,” and stated that the Grand Master of England had observed that there would be appropriated this year in charities the following sums:—The Boys’ School, £1,000; the Girls’ School, £1,000; the Benevolent Fund, £1,000, and to the Widows’ Fund, £500. Bro. Truman, No. 5, after a few cursory remarks relative to Masonic Charities, stated that his Lodge by various means subscribed every year ten guineas to the Girls’ School, and five guineas to the Boys’ School; neither had they allowed one member of their Lodge to apply to the Benevolent Fund, and they had distributed about £10 per annum to their poor members.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

CHELTHENHAM.—On Wednesday, the 22nd of October, an event took place which has been for many years hoped for by the Masons of the province of Gloucester. Under the Grand Mastership of Henry Charles, 6th Duke of Beaufort, the Fraternity were accustomed to regular meetings. At his decease the office was conferred on, and accepted by, his son Henry, the 7th duke, who, it appears, took no active interest in the Craft, and the Grand Lodge has not until now been called together since 1833. The death of the last-named Grand Master leaving the office vacant, it has been conferred on the Hon. James Legge Dutton, the heir apparent to the barony of Sherborne. Bro. Dutton was initiated, we believe, within the last two years, in the Cotteswold Lodge, No. 562, at Cirencester, and was installed W.M. of that Lodge, in May last. Bro. Dutton, having received the appointment of Prov. Grand Master, caused the members of the Lodges in the province and resident Masons to be called together to re-open the Prov. Grand Lodge on the day named.

The Brethren met at four o'clock, in the Freemasons’ Hall, in Cheltenham, when Bro. W. F. Beadon, Prov. J.G.W., having been delegated by the M.W. the Grand Master to open the Prov. Grand Lodge, Bros. the Rev. J. E. Cox, Chap., as D. Prov. G.M.; Col. Burlton, Prov. G.J.W.; and R. J. Spiers, P.G. S.B., Prov. G.J.W.; the Rev. Southwood, Prov. G. Chap., and Prov. G. Sec. Bro. Beadon having briefly stated the object for which the Brethren were called together, the Prov. Grand Lodge was opened in form, with solemn prayer.

Bro. James Legge Dutton was then presented by Bro. Moss, P. Prov. J.G.W., one of the few remaining members of the Prov. Grand Lodge, and the warrant of appointment having been read, the R.W. Brother was installed by Bro. Beadon, proclaimed, and saluted in ancient form.* The Prov. Grand Master then appointed Bro. G. F. Newmarch his Deputy, and the warrant, constituting the appointment, having first been read, Bro. Newmarch was also duly obligated, proclaimed, and saluted.

The Prov. Grand Master then appointed and invested as his Officers the following Brethren:—W. H. Gwinnett, No. 97, Prov. G.S.W.; J. Brooke Smith, No. 307,

* Dr. Nares’ anthem, “Blessed is he that considereth the Poor and Needy,” was sung, accompanied by the organ.

Prov. G.J.W.; the Revs. T. A. Southwood and H. E. Bayly, Prov. G. Chaps.; Lord Gifford, No. 862, Prov. G. Reg.; Edward Trinder, No. 862, Prov. G. Sec.; M. Alex, No. 307, Prov. G.S.D.; T. G. Palmer, No. 97, Prov. G.J.D.; Sir Maxwell Steele, No. 862, Prov. G. Sup. Works; A. Slead, No. 97, Prov. G.S.B.; D. Fullerton and W. Slade, Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; Thomas Williams, Prov. G. Purs.; John Cooke, W. T. K. Perry Keene, Rev. J. H. Price, and George Jones, Stewards.

Bro. Jones Matthews, No. 862, was elected Treasurer, and duly invested.

The Wardens and other Officers were saluted; and the following Anthem, written for the occasion by Bro. George Douglas Thompson, of the Alfred Lodge, Oxford, set to music by Bro. J. O. Smith, of Cheltenham, was sung by four Brethren:—

“ May that Great Power we all obey
Look down and bless our work this day!
May all His strict inspection bear,
When tried by *level* and by *square*,
And may our laws our Craft increase,
To meet in love, and part in peace:”
So mote it be!

The list of the several Lodges in the province were called over, and all appeared to be represented, except the Lodge of Faith and Friendship, No. 337, at Berkeley. A code of bye-laws was read and duly passed. The Prov. Grand Lodge was then duly closed with solemn prayer, and the Brethren adjourned to the Plough Hotel, where the Banquet was prepared.

Soon after six o'clock, ninety Brethren of the province and visitors were assembled in the dining-saloon of the hotel. Present: the R.W. J. L. Dutton, Prov. G.M., in the chair, supported on his right by the V.W. Bro. G. F. Newmarch, D. Prov. G.M.; the R.W. Bro. Colonel Burlton, P. Prov. G.M., Bengal; the R.W. Bro. Rev. J. E. Cox, G. Chap.; the V.W. Bro. R. J. Spiers, D. Prov. G.M.; and the W. Bro. W. W. Hicks Beech, P. Prov. S.G.W., Oxon; the W. Bro. J. Matthews, Prov. G. Treas.; the W. Bros. Lieut. Col. W. N. Burns, and Lieut. Col. J. Kincairn Burns (sons of the Burns who walked in glory and in pride beside the mountain plough); the V.W. Bro. D.W. Nash, D. Prov. G.M., Bristol; and the Rev. Bro. Campbell, Prov. G. Chap., Wilts; on the left, by the V.W. Bro. W. F. Beadon, W.A. Gwinnett, Prov. S.G.W.; the W. and Rev. Bros. T. A. Southwood and E. H. Bayley, Prov. G. Chaps.; Sir John Hayes, Prov. G. Chap., Oxon; and George Roberts, Prov. G. Chap., Monmouth; the W. Bro. J. How, Prov. G. Dir. of Cers., Herts and Surrey; the W. Bro. Capt. Tynte, Prov. G. Reg., Monmouth, &c. The musical arrangements were under the direction of Bro. J. D. Smith, assisted by Bro. G. Douglas Thompson.

On the removal of the cloth, “Non Nobis” was sung, and the Prov. Grand Master rose, and, in brief terms, called on the Brethren to honour the toast of “The Queen and the Craft,” and afterwards that of “The W.M. the Earl of Zetland,” the first being followed by a Masonic version of the National Hymn, and the latter by a glee “To our Noble Grand Master let Bumpers be crowned.”

The Prov. Grand Master again rose, and in proposing “The Earl of Yarborough and the rest of the Grand Officers, Past and Present,” said he was very grateful for the honour done to him by the presence of some of those Grand Officers at the festival, and more especially noticed the W. Bro. the Grand Chaplain of England. After a glee, “Let Masonry her Sacred Laws expand.”

The Rev. Bro. J. E. Cox, G. Chap., acknowledged with sincere thanks the way in which the toast had been received, and said it was with great pleasure he was enabled to inform the Brethren, that after a long and very severe illness, the D. Grand Master, the Earl of Yarborough, was in much better health than he had been for very many years, and that they might now confidently look forward to his soon again being among the Craft and able to discharge those duties which before his affliction had been so satisfactorily performed. For himself he would assure them that he was highly gratified in being present at this important cere-

mony, and was pleased at seeing that Gloucestershire had a Grand Master who was a Mason at heart, and who evinced a disposition to render his province second to none in the Craft.

The Prov. Grand Master again rose and asked the Brethren there assembled, to give a kind greeting, as well as their warmest thanks, to the Worshipful Brother who had that day come down to perform the solemn ceremonial of installation, a duty for which that worthy Brother's long experience had fitted him; and as a due acknowledgment of the efficient and admirable manner in which that ceremony was discharged, he proposed the health of the "V.W. Bro. W. F. Beadon, Prov. J.G.W."

Bro. Beadon, after first thanking the Prov. Grand Master and the Brethren for the reception of his name, said, it was a matter of no slight importance in his Masonic career, that after a lapse of twenty-two years, the re-opening of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Gloucester had been intrusted to him. The duties his excellent friend Bro. Dutton had undertaken were serious and solemn, and he (Bro. Beadon) was quite satisfied they could not have been intrusted to safer hands. Bro. Dutton had evinced a sincere regard for the Order in the short period he had been in it, and in so wealthy and prosperous a province nothing but exertion was required to render Masonry as universal as in the neighbouring province of Oxford. He looked forward with aspiration and hope to a future visit to the province, and seeing that, notwithstanding long years of neglect, the spirit of Masonry was undying.

Bro. Beadon, having possession of the gavel, then proposed the health of the "R.W. Prov. G.M. Bro. Dutton." If to the Brethren that was a joyful occasion, it was at the same time a solemn one, as they were called upon as a duty to aid, assist, and support their Grand Master on every occasion. The Book of Constitutions was to be well read, and well attended to. When met in Grand Lodge they were to set examples to the Lodges in the province of good order and regularity in all proceedings. From a personal knowledge of him he was quite satisfied their new Prov. Grand Master would fill the chair worthily and well. They had but to aid and obey him, and carry out the great principles of Brotherly love, Relief, and Truth. Bro. Beadon concluded by giving the health of the "Prov. Grand Master."

The Prov. Grand Master, on rising to tender his grateful acknowledgments to all present, said, that the Masons of Gloucestershire having begun *de novo*, were possessed of an advantage—they had no old prejudices to combat, no recollections to forget; they had the Book of Constitutions for their guidance, and must endeavour to fulfil the aspirations of his worthy friend Bro. Beadon.

"The Prov. Grand Master, the Grand Masters and Deputies of Provinces present," which was responded to by the R. W. Bro. Æneas Mcdownnell, P. Prov. G.M. for Madras.

The Prov. Grand Master, in again rising, said, he could but think that he ought to be second on this occasion, as the Brother whose name he was now about to offer to their notice, was the individual to whom he and every one present was primarily indebted for the success that had attended the re-establishment of the Prov. Grand Lodge. By his exertions alone had Masonry been kept alive in Gloucestershire, and to Bro. Newmarch, his very excellent and efficient Deputy, were their thanks due. They, therefore, would one and all unite in wishing "Long Life and Health to Bro. Newmarch;" the toast was received with acclamations.

Bro. Newmarch said, he must acknowledge that he had ever done his best for the diffusion of Masonic knowledge, but he disclaimed all the praise his superior had been pleased to bestow upon him, as the members of the Craft generally had always kindly given him support. This occasion he had long looked for as a means of uniting many Masons resident in the province, and be an inducement for them to join the Lodges in the province; it but required the countenance of a Grand Lodge to make them alive to the interests of the Order. In concluding, he said, that by promoting Lodges of Instruction, and in every way in his power aiding the Brethren, his services were always at their command.

The Prov. Grand Master, in proposing the Rev. Bros. Southwood and Bayley,

remarked, he regretted not being able to give the toast with Masonic honours,—these Brethren not being entitled to them by the rank they held.*

The Rev. Bro. Southwood, after paying a just tribute to the exertions of Bro. Newmarch, by whom this consummation of the hopes and wishes of many were achieved, and whose great ability and aptitude were a bright example for all, touched on the Ceremonials of Masonry, and the impression their minds must have received in Lodge, and the benefit they must necessarily have derived therefrom. More especially, he would remark, that in all their addresses they were directed to that Sacred Volume which was the Word of the True and Living God. The floor of the Lodge on which they walked reminded them of the chequered state of existence here; they looked around and observed His Wisdom, Power, and Goodness displayed on the face of Nature. Their tools were symbols of instruction for the performance of the great duties of life. They were taught by one to knock off all rough edges, and accommodate their demeanour to every Brother; by another, to keep within due bounds by discretion; and by a third, the important lesson of duly apportioning their hours, and not wasting their time unprofitably. Hence, it must be admitted that Masonry possessed qualities that entitled the Institution to the esteem and regard of every good man, and the more especially as it was adapted to all religious beliefs. From the office he held, he felt himself entitled to allude to the nature and character of Masonry; and before he sat down, he again eulogized the efforts of Bro. Newmarch, whose suavity of manners and steadiness of purpose were beyond all praise.

Bro. Southwood's address was listened to most attentively, and loud applause followed his conclusion.

The Prov. Grand Master then gave "The Visiting Brethren," which was responded to, first by Bro. Spiers, and Bro. Moss.

The Prov. Grand Master next gave "The newly-appointed Officers," taking the opportunity of saying, that in the selection he had made, he trusted, as he believed, that by their efficient conduct an example would be set to those who were to follow them.

Bros. Gwinnett, S.W., and Brooke Smith, J.W., responded, and assured the Grand Master that no exertions on their parts should be wanting to rouse the spirit of Masonry in the Province, and hoped that the Brethren residing in Gloucestershire, who were not members of Lodges in the Province, would aid the cause by joining a Lodge.

"The Lodges of the Province" having been drunk,

The Prov. Grand Master said, all pleasant things must come to an end, and, therefore, with the wish "Happy to meet again," he called on the Tyler to give the concluding toast, "To all poor and distressed Masons;" and the meeting broke up, every Brother present being satisfied with the day's proceedings.

HAMPSHIRE.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

Thursday, the 2nd of October, welcomed the assemblage of the most numerous body of the Order the province had ever witnessed. At eleven o'clock the Grand Lodge was prepared. Present, the R.W. Bro. Admiral Sir Lucius Curtis, Bart., Prov. G.M. on the throne; the V.W. Bro. Charles Ewens Deacon, D. Prov. G.M.; the Right W. Bro. T. W. Fleming, Prov. G.M., and the V.W. Bro. Hyde Pullen, D. Prov. G.M., of the Isle of Wight; Bros. Emanuel, Prov. S.G.W.; Minchin, Prov. J.G.W.; Lord George Lennox, P. Prov. S.G.W.; the Rev. Bradshaw, Prov. G. Chap.; Alfred Heather, Prov. G. Treas.; J. R. Stebbing and T. N. Firmin, Prov. G. Secs. Bros. Abraham, Skade, Galt,

* Where the R.W. Brother learned such a rule we cannot imagine, as even the entered apprentice is very properly received with the honours, or else what would become of our equality? Moreover, both the reverend Brothers are Past Masters.

Hilds, Stening, &c., the Masters, Wardens, and members of the several Lodges in the province.

The Prov. Grand Lodge was opened in ancient form and with solemn prayer ; and the Brethren were directed to arrange themselves under their respective banners to attend divine service, the Prov. Grand Master requesting the Brethren to excuse his accompanying them, as his health did not allow of exposure to a long walk or damp.

The procession in due order moved at twelve o'clock, preceded by the excellent band of the 22nd regiment, and followed by the Lodges of the province, viz. :—Portsmouth Lodge, No. 717, Portsmouth ; Southampton Lodge, No. 555, Southampton ; Lodge of Peace and Harmony, No. 462, Romsey ; Royal Sussex Lodge, No. 428, Portsea ; Lodge of Harmony, No. 387, Fareham ; Phoenix Lodge, No. 319, Portsmouth ; Lodge of Hengist, No. 230, Christchurch ; Lodge of Unity, No. 154, Ringwood ; Royal Gloucester Lodge, No. 152, Southampton ; Lodge of Economy, No. 90, Winchester ; the Grand Lodge of the province of Hampshire ; Bros. Stening, G. Purs. ; Hilds, G. Org. ; Abraham, G. Sup. of Works ; Slade, G. Dir. of Cers. ; Galt and Martin, G. Deacons ; Stebbing and Firmin, G. Secs. ; Heather, G. Treas. ; Tibbetts, G. Reg. ; Past Grand Wardens, Lord George Lennox, and others. Visitors :—Bros. W. W. H. Beech, Prov. S.G.W., Oxon ; Wyndham Portal, W.M., No. 10 ; Powell, W.M., No. 45 ; Wood, W.M., No. 394 ; Wheeler, P.M., No. 324 ; J. J. Blake, Prov. S.G.W., and J. How, G.D.C., Surrey ; T. N. Fleming, Prov. G.M., and Hyde Pullen, D. Prov. G.M., Isle of Wight ; H. M. Emanuel, S.G.W. ; Revs. Bradshaw and Maturin, acting G. Chaps. ; Chas. Ewens Deacon, D. Prov. G.M. ; G. Tyler, Banister, a number of Past Grand Officers, attending also in their respective places.

Arrived at the sacred edifice, the Brethren took their seats in the middle aisle, which was appropriated to them, the other parts being filled by an audience chiefly of the fair sex. The morning prayers were read by the Rev. G. J. Quarmby, the incumbent ; and the lessons from Gen. i. and Corinthians xiii. appropriately selected by the Rev. Bro. Maturin. An anthem from Psalm cxxxiii., "Behold how good and pleasant a thing it is for Brethren to dwell together in unity," was sung, the Prov. Grand Organist presiding at the organ.

The Rev. Bro. Bradshaw ascended the pulpit and delivered a most energetic extemporaneous discourse, taking for his text Rom. xiv. 7, "For none of us liveth to himself." The preacher commenced by telling his hearers that, to him who attentively studied the volume of the Sacred Law, it would be apparent that all men were created for God as well as by Him ; and then proceeded : "We are here to obey His commands, and do His service, and His watchful eye is ever over us to observe the discharge of our duties in this life. We see Him in the lightning, hear Him in the tempest on the ocean, and in the still small voice of the wilderness. Whoever he may be, man is but the minister to promote the glory of God. In the busy marts of commerce, in the senate, or in the service of his country and the State, each man has onerous claims from his fellow man.

"From the time when Heaven's portals were opened, and the command went forth, 'Let there be light, and there was light,' through all creation's history, none of God's decrees strike so forcible a lesson on our ears as 'Dust thou art, and unto dust must thou return : ' this motto ought to be inscribed on the shield of every Brother, to constantly remind him of the great behests of Masonry, and to be in the constant practice of brotherly love, relief, and truth. An important characteristic of our Order is its universality, and the first verse of the chapter from which my text is taken lays down an admirable rule for us : 'Him that is weak in faith receive ye, but not to doubtful disputations.' We should expend our zeal in those things wherein we are all agreed, and not to dispute about doubtful matters. It is our duty to receive our brother, not for the purpose of exposing his weakness, but to instruct and strengthen him ; 'that there be no divisions among you, but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and the same judgment.' St. Paul further says, 'Let us therefore, as many as be perfect, be thus minded ; and if in anything ye be otherwise minded, God shall reveal even this unto you. Nevertheless, whereto we have already attained, let us walk by the same rule, let us mind the same thing.'

"In the lesson read to-day, the Apostle tells us that howsoever excellent, without charity we are nothing. Now the charity spoken of, is, that good-will to others, that love to our neighbours, that brotherly affection which the religion of Jesus commands and inspires. It is that charity which leaves each man to think for himself, so long as he acknowledges and worships the G.A.O.T.U. We are not to sit here in judgment on others, our hearts afford us enough employment, in preparing for that final court where the Great Architect will be seated, and where we must each render up his account. Now, what is more calculated to promote and cultivate this charitable feeling than the Institution under whose banners we assemble here this day,—an Institution founded on the purest principles of morality, and fitted to advance man's intellectual faculties, if acted up to the true and full sense of its teaching. The Psalmist tells us that, where Brethren dwell together in unity, 'there the Lord has promised His blessing, and life for evermore.' The anthem of this day's solemnity, the music of which still rings in our ears, reminds us of the sublime purposes for which God has designed all things; that music, whilst it is sometimes made to tend to the world's carousals, never assumes so noble a purpose as when sending up to Heaven man's praises and supplications to his Creator, stealing like water on the thirsty soul, and making man forget his sorrows in rendering up his gratitude to Heaven.

"I am conscious that there are objections started to Masonry, and the world's opinions are various. One says, 'It is an institution for subscribing to relieve the sick and solace the distressed;' this, however, is but a small portion of our Institution's purpose, as this design, however amiable, would but render it merely a sick-club. Others take it to be a convivial society. To such we say, 'Come and join us, and you will learn your error.' No society since the world began exhibits in its ceremonials instruction of a more ennobling character, or couched in language of a higher standard. Symbolic Masonry, under whatever form it may be propounded, is a Cosmopolitan Institution, and admits within its range all who bend with reverential awe to the G.A.O.T.U.: it has been well defined to be a science which extends over the whole terrestrial globe; wherever the arts flourish, there it endures also by its inherent peculiarities. It is not confined to any race; all countries, climes, and creeds recognize the Brother Mason. In a word, it is the grand and universal science, which includes all other knowledge, but having a more immediate reference to those branches which teach a knowledge of ourselves and our duty to others: and does it not in this respect resemble Christianity, which comprehends mankind in one fold, under one shepherd—embracing them in the universal scheme of unlimited redemption, promised us in that Book which is the charter of every Mason's fears and the anchor of his hope; that Book which is a messenger of reconciliation, and which tells us, while there is no proclamation of mercy to rebellious angels, the door of grace is open to every member of the human race? In every Lodge the Brother is directed to study the Volume of the Sacred Law, and enjoined to make it his guide through all the temptations that are incidental to fallen man, as the Book that teaches him how to live and how to die, and points out the duties of brotherhood, 'that no man liveth to himself,' and that of all animals man is the most dependent upon his species. The lion that roams the forest and the herd in the stall receive little or no aid from creatures of their own kind, and when the hour of decay arrives, every creature but man is cast off by its fellows and left to die. In every stage of human existence man needs his brother; the young need to be taught by the wisdom of age, and the old to be sustained by the vigour of youth,—the strong in mind require the aid of the strong in body,—the rich want the poor, the poor the rich. Thus all things show that strength consists in union; and this is apparent in the Masonic Institution, which enables us to prove that true Masonry exists in the Apostle's words, uttered 1800 years ago: 'No man liveth for himself.' My Brethren, let us prove this to the uninitiated, that Faith is our foundation; Hope, the polished pedestal raised upon it, which acknowledges God's superintending care over his creatures; and Charity, the beautiful capital crowning the system: constituting the sublimity of Faith and Hope as we have it in the records of inspiration; 'Charity believeth all things, hopeth all things,' surmounting all difficulties, turning duty to delight, and yield-

ing a tranquillity of mind which the world cannot bestow. It is Charity that renders Masonry the bond of peace and of all virtues, and when this 'corruption shall put on incorruption,' Charity alone shall be immortal, and like a blazing star in Heaven's firmament, will shed its resplendent beams through ages of eternal glory. Brethren, you are this day called upon to exercise this Masonic virtue, to aid by your benevolence the Charities of your Order, and those local charities which shelter the orphan and relieve the sick and wounded of the men who have fought their country's battles."

The Rev. Brother quoted largely a poem, entitled "The Mason's Dream," written in 1836, which appeared in the *Freemasons' Quarterly Magazine*; its aspirations have been fulfilled in the founding of the Asylum.

A collection was made after the sermon, and the Brethren returned, in the same order they had gone, to the Queen's rooms.

The Prov. Grand Lodge was resumed.

The Prov. Grand Master said he was sorry to see, that by the list presented to him, some Lodges had made no returns: he called the attention of the Masters to this matter, and hoped they would see the necessary returns were made.

The Treasurer's report showed the balance in hand to be £199. 5s. 9d.: the fund continuing to increase.

Bro. Alfred Heather was unanimously re-elected Grand Treas., and congratulated by the Prov. Grand Master on the satisfactory state of the funds.

Bro. Heather gracefully acknowledged the compliment.

Bro. Deacon, D.G.M., recommended that, in future, the Grand Treasurer should bring before the Grand Lodge the Lodges in arrear.

The Grand Master said he hoped the hint would be sufficient.

The Prov. Grand Master asked the Brethren to grant a vote of thanks to the R.W. the Prov. Grand Master of the Isle of Wight, for the visit of himself and his Officers, and also to the visiting Brethren from other provinces, which was seconded by Bro. Lord George Lennox, and carried unanimously.

The Prov. Grand Master of the Isle of Wight thanked the Brethren in the name of his province, and trusted the good feeling would ever continue.

Bro. Blake said, as Bro. Fleming had confined his acknowledgment to the Isle of Wight Brethren, he, in the name of the other visitors, desired to tender thanks for the kind greeting; the eloquent discourse they had heard from the pulpit, were there nought else, would have been sufficient recompense.

Bro. Minchin, Prov. G.W., moved that a vote of thanks be given to the Rev. Bro. Bradshaw for the noble and eloquent discourse he had delivered.

Bro. Emanuel, S.G.W., in seconding the motion, said a more truly Masonic discourse it had never been his fortune to hear.

The motion was carried unanimously, one Brother saying that the preacher's eloquence induced almost all to double the contribution they intended.

The collection was announced to be £26.

The Rev. Bro. Bradshaw said, his humble efforts, whenever called for, would always be ready to aid or serve the cause of Masonry.

The thanks of the Prov. Grand Lodge were also given to the Minister of the Chapel for his services, and also to the Rev. Bro. Maturin for his attendance.

Thanks were also voted to Bro. Col. Boileau for the use of the band of his regiment.

The Prov. Grand Master then appointed and invested as his Officers the following Brethren, viz.:—Charles Ewens Deacon, D.G.M.; Capt. Savage, S.G.W.; Wyndham Portal, J.G.W.; Rev. T. T. Haverfield, G. Chap.; Alfred Heather, G. Treas.; J. R. Stebbing and T. N. Firmin, G. Secs.; J. Rastrick, S.D.; H. Abrahams, J.D.; R. W. Ford, G. Reg.; F. Perkins, G. Sup. of Works; C. Sherry, G. Dir. of Cers.; J. Swayne, S.B.; Hilds, G. Org.; Comings, G.S.B.; Thesle, G. Purs.; Clarke, Payne, Martin, Carter, and Le Vaude, G. Stewards; Bannister, G. Tyler.

The Prov. Grand Master begged to offer his best thanks to the Past Officers for their attendance.

Bro. Stebbing, Prov. G. Sec., said he was requested by several of the Brethren

to tender thanks to Sir Lucius Curtis for his attendance, knowing his ill health, and that they all felt deeply grateful for his uniform kindness. This was carried by acclamation.

Sir Lucius said, he was greatly obliged by the confidence they reposed in him, and that he was at all times happy to be with them.

On the question being put, whether any Brother had anything to propose?

Bro. Beech said, he rose to draw the attention of this Grand Lodge to matters of deep moment to the Craft, and to cast their eyes 3,000 miles off to their Canadian Brethren, whom the contemptuous neglect of officials had caused to be estranged. Various causes of complaint had led to the present state of things, which were such that unless altered would entirely separate the Canadian Lodges from us; now about half the Lodges holding under the Grand Lodge of England were in open rebellion. The petition of the Canadian Brethren was for an alteration regarding their returns and certificates, involving pecuniary matters, and for liberty to elect their own Prov. Grand Master. Lord Zetland agreed to the first part, but rejected the latter. He concluded by moving, "That this Grand Lodge do take the petition of the Canadian Brethren into consideration for the purpose of petitioning the Grand Lodge of England to grant the concession asked for." This was seconded by Bro. Wyndham Portal.

Bro. Clarke, G. Steward, opposed the motion, as the Hampshire Brethren, he was sure, generally, were as little informed as he himself was on the case; and he moved, "No steps be taken on the subject until they were in possession of sufficient information." Where and how could they gain this information?

A Brother present answered, "Read the *Freemasons' Magazine*." "But," asked Bro. Clarke, "were both sides stated there?"

Bro. Portal replied, the case was stated most impartially.

The Prov. Grand Master thought that notice of all business to come before the Grand Lodge should be sent to the Master of every Lodge, and as this had come upon him by surprise, he was scarcely willing to put it to the Grand Lodge; but, if any Lodge would send him a requisition to hold a Prov. Grand Lodge to take the subject into consideration, he would comply with its request.

Bro. Stebbing remarked, that the grievances the Canadas complained of appeared to be universal, they arising from the studied neglect of a well-paid official, who allowed twenty-five letters from Trinidad to remain unnoticed; such persons ought to be punished for their neglect. But he, Bro. Stebbing, would never allow it to be proper that the Colonial Brethren should have the election of their Grand Masters. If they desired this, let them set up their own Grand Lodge. If such a motion as that suggested by Bro. Beech was carried, it would drive Lord Zetland from the office he holds.

The subject was then dropped, it being understood that a requisition, such as Sir Lucius alluded to, should be prepared.

The Prov. Grand Lodge was then closed in due form and with solemn prayer, at four o'clock. The Lodge-room was crowded, and we understand nearly 200 Masons were present.

The Banquet, which was promised at five o'clock, was not ready till near seven o'clock, and, although 119 Brethren were present, many went away, who, at an earlier hour, would have attended it. There was much complaint at the delay: some blamed Bro. Crofts, of the George Hotel, Portsmouth, who provided the dinner, but he excused himself by pleading the want of proper orders.

THE BANQUET

was tasty and plentiful, but of course hurried by want of due arrangement.

The Prov. Grand Master presided, the Wardens filling the chairs at the bottom of the room.

The cloth removed, and the toasts of "The Queen and the Craft," and "The Earl of Zetland" having been honoured,

Bro. Lord George Lennox rose and said, "I am allowed to propose the health of one dear to us all, our Prov. Grand Master, Sir Lucius Curtis, who, in the service of his country and in Masonry, has proved himself worthy the esteem of

every good Mason ; his hand and purse, we all know, are at the command of every Brother in need. Sir Lucius, we are indebted to you for your presence this day, and we hope you will long remain to preside over this province."

Sir Lucius said, the kind and brotherly feeling with which his name was received was but a repetition of many previous greetings, and he should think himself happy if he deserved a fourth part of the encomiums he received. During the thirteen years he had presided over the province he had endeavoured to practise impartiality. He was deeply impressed by their joyous feelings ; to live in the hearts of the Brethren was his desire. He would endeavour to discharge his duties honestly : all were liable to err ; but there was One above who knew the secrets of all hearts, who he hoped would read his sincerity. He begged the Brethren would receive his thanks in the same kind and cordial spirit as they were offered.

The Prov. Grand Master then said, he had to propose the health of the Brother who presided over them in his absence. It had been his good fortune to know Bro. Deacon for some years, and each year he became more endeared to him. As a Mason, he was almost unparalleled ; his enthusiasm for our Order no one can equal ; his practice of our principles none can excel. "Bro. Deacon, the D. Prov. G.M."

The enthusiastic cheers that followed having subsided, Bro. Deacon rose and said, "Permit me to offer my sincere and grateful thanks for the honour you have conferred on me ; the only difficulty I have is to convey, in language I could wish, the feelings of my heart for these marks of your esteem and confidence. These repeated marks of your kindness will be treasured up in the inmost recesses of my heart as long as life shall endure. On my first appointment to the office I hold many years since, I said I would not suffer Masonry to be injured by that appointment ; and each succeeding year I receive your commendations of my conduct, and a new link annually added to the chain of brotherly affection and friendly intercourse, besides that increase of private friendship that Masonry engenders. That chain can only be severed by the hand of death ; and when that day arrives, I trust it will not be forgotten that I have endeavoured to be a good and faithful Mason. Masonry embodies the great principles of truth and justice, and is an aid to the fulfilment of the great designs of the G.A.O.T.U. On some minds it may have no effect ; it is as glorious music to the deaf man, or a beautiful picture to one deprived of sight. Masonry generates that friendship that rivets man to man ; it directs us to do unto all men as they should do unto us ; and the great keystone of a Mason's arch is charity."

"The Visitors" was the next toast, and was responded to by Bros. Blake, Powell, and Wood.

The Prov. Grand Master then proposed the Prov. Grand Officers, which was acknowledged by Bro. Emanuel, Prov. G.S.W., who said the Grand Secretary would convey their united thanks in more fitting terms than he was capable of affording.

Bro. Stebbing, whose Masonic attainments are of the highest grade, said, "It was not his wish to intrude on the patience of the Brethren at so late an hour, but thus called upon, he would endeavour to impart the gratitude he and others felt for the glorious meeting of the day. He would tell them all, that if they wished to move on in Masonry, there was something more to covet than the tinsel, greater than the Grand Lodge honours, a higher principle to be sought—each must show he has done some good thing in his generation, something for Masonry. Their noble Institution had many points deserving of study ; it taught them to practise greater kindness and greater charity. It dated from the foundation of the Temple ; in their own country it rose one thousand years ago ; it had existed through all ages, all changes of men and of time ; it had survived the crush of empires, and resisted the destroying hand of time. Let them show the world how Masons loved one another ; let Masonic principles rule their hearts and govern their conduct, and they would attain the goodwill of their fellow-men, and at their last hour would have the consolation of feeling they have done their duty.

The toast of "The Newly-appointed Officers," was responded to by Bro. Savage, S.G.W.

The concluding toast, "To all Poor and Distressed Masons," being honoured, Sir Lucius Curtis left the chair.

As there was a large number of the Brethren present, Bro. Deacon, D. Prov. G.M., took the chair, and the enjoyment was prolonged.

ISLE OF MAN.

DOUGLAS.—*Royal Lodge*.—On Monday, October 6th, the members of the above Lodge held their usual monthly meeting at the house of Bro. Butterworth, Prospect Hill, Douglas, under the able presidency of Bro. Colonel Johnson, W.M. There was a full attendance of the Brethren, and a few visitors; the business of the evening consisted in raising two Brethren from the 2nd to the 3rd Degree of our Institution. The above Lodge, which holds its warrant from the Grand Lodge of Scotland, has, until within the last six months, been in abeyance since 1840; but through the instrumentality of Bro. Butterworth, was resuscitated some six months since; it now numbers upwards of twenty members, and from the promises of support and propositions for membership, bids fair to rival its most palmy days.

ISLE OF WIGHT.

VENTNOR.—*Yarborough Lodge* (No. 809).—At the meeting of this Lodge on Wednesday, October 1st, held in a private room, Bro. Hollyer, W.M., Bro. Moore was raised to the 3rd Degree by Bro. Pullen, D. Prov. G.M., Bro. Braine was elected W.M., and Bro. Raynes, Treas., for the year ensuing.

LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTERSHIP.—We have the pleasure of announcing that this important office, which became vacant in May last, by the lamented decease of the late Sir F. G. Fowke, Bart., has been conferred by the M.W. Grand Master upon that most estimable nobleman, the Earl Howe, P.D.G.M. of England, and P. Prov. G.M. for Warwickshire, greatly to the gratification of the Brethren of the ancient Craft in the province. We understand that his Lordship's installation will take place some time in the ensuing month, should his health permit; when the Brethren will go in procession to church, where a sermon will be preached by the Prov. Grand Chaplain for the benefit of the charities. We feel assured that, from the universal respect in which the new Prov. Grand Master is held by the Freemasons, not of Leicestershire only, but of all the adjoining provinces and the metropolis, we may safely predict that there will be such a gathering of the Craft, both in numbers and rank, to do him honour, as Leicester has rarely if ever seen on any previous occasion. In making this prediction we have not forgotten the imposing spectacle which took place some thirty-three years ago, when his lordship, as W.M. of St. John's Lodge, Leicester, laid the foundation-stone of St. George's church, nor of the more recent inauguration of the Duke of Rutland's statue by his immediate predecessor in the Grand Mastership of the province.

LEICESTER.—*St. John's Lodge* (No. 348).—The first meeting of this Lodge, after the summer recess, took place on the 1st of October; present, Bro. Underwood, W.M., in the chair; Bro. Kelly, D. Prov. G.M. as P.M.; and other Brethren. There was no business of importance transacted.

John of Gaunt Lodge (No. 766).—This Lodge resumed its meetings for the winter on the 18th September, Bro. Millican, W.M. in the chair. Two gentlemen were proposed as candidates for initiation into the Order. It is truly gratifying to witness the cordial harmony which exists, and the mutual interchange of visits which take place, between the members of these two sister Lodges on each occasion of their meeting.

NORFOLK.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

NORWICH.—As we briefly stated in our last, on Thursday, October 25th, a Grand Lodge was held at the Grammar School, Norwich (by the kind permission

of Rev. Dr. Vincent), for the purpose of installing the R. W. Benjamin Bond Cabbell, Esq., *M.P.*, as Prov. G.M. for the province. The Lodge was summoned to meet at half-past eleven o'clock, when upwards of 200 members attended from the different Lodges in the county, as well as many visiting Brethren. After the members had entered their names, the Lodge was opened by the W.M. Bro. Leedes Fox, No. 100, in an impressive manner, after which he briefly stated the object of the meeting. The patent of the appointment of the Prov. Grand Master from the Grand Lodge having been read, he was introduced by the R.W. R. J. Bagshawe, Esq., Prov. G.M. for Essex, followed by the past and present Provincial Officers—when he was duly installed into his office, with the usual ceremonies, by the R.W. Bro. C. P. Cooper, Prov. G.M. for Kent, assisted by his Officers; after which he proceeded to appoint his Officers for the ensuing year, viz.:—Bros. R. S. Baker, Prov. G.S.W.; P. Broadfoot, Prov. G.J.W.; Rev. G. Coleby, Prov. G. Chap.; Hon. H. Harbord, Prov. G.S.W.; T. Lound, Prov. G.R.; J. Barwell, Prov. G. Treas.; W. L. Fox, Prov. G. Sec.; S. Reeve, Prov. G.S.D.; James W. Bunn, Prov. G.J.D.; W. Amhurst Tyssen Amhurst, Prov. G.S.B.; Henry Augustus Kersey, Prov. G.D.C.; Joseph Marshall, Assist. Prov. G.D.C.; Henry Underwood, Prov. G.P.; T. Adams, Prov. G. Tyler. Stewards—Bros. C. H. Chamberlin, W. Rant Redgrave, F. J. Swatman, and James Clarke. The bye-laws for the government of the Lodge were then read by the Prov. Grand Secretary, and unanimously approved of by the members, after which a collection was made for the Norwich District Society, amounting to about £14. The Lodge was then closed for a quarter of an hour, preparatory to the members attending the Cathedral. On re-assembling, a line was formed from the school to the Cathedral, through which the Prov. Grand Master passed, followed by the R.W. Bros. C. P. Cooper, and R. J. Bagshawe, and attended by his Officers, and the members closed up the rear. The sermon was preached by the Rev. G. Coleby, B.A., Prov. G. Chap., from Galatians vi. 2, and a collection was made at the doors for the Society before-named.

In the evening about 180 of the Brethren sat down to a very elegant dinner, at the Assembly Rooms. Bro. B. B. Cabbell, *M.P.*, the newly-installed Prov. G.M., presided, and was supported on his right by Bros. Purton Cooper, *Q.C.*, Prov. G.M. for Kent; R. J. Bagshawe, Prov. G.M. for Essex; and T. Bisgood, D. Prov. G.M. for Kent; and on the left by Bros. Sir H. J. Stracey, *Bart.*, *M.P.*, the Hon. Harbord Harbord, and J. Hervey, Past G.J.D. of England, &c. &c.

The Prov. Grand Master, in giving the first toast, "The Queen," observed that her Majesty was the daughter of a Freemason, and he hoped the day was not far distant when she would also be the mother of a Freemason. (Applause.)

The toast having been duly honoured,

The Prov. Grand Master said he was sure the Brethren would receive with marked cordiality the health of the "Worshipful the Grand Master—the Earl of Zetland." (Applause.)

The next toast was to the "Better Health of the Deputy Grand Master, the Earl of Yarborough," and the "Officers of the Grand Lodge."

Bro. Hervey, whose name was coupled with the toast, responded.

The R.W. Bro. Purton Cooper, after calling upon the company to charge their glasses, said he perceived their enthusiasm anticipated the toast which he was about to propose. It was a proud thing for a stranger to the province to find himself in the position which he then occupied. He was a very old Mason—older even than their Prov. Grand Master—and he had had great experience in Masonic matters: but he had never found the honours of Masonry better performed than they had been in the Prov. Grand Lodge that day. He (Bro. Cooper) belonged to a profession which was somewhat verbose in the exercise of its functions; but he would only mention one of the numerous excellent qualities of their Bro. Cabbell,—one which was the grand principle of Masonry. When he mentioned charity, he mentioned all other virtues, and he was certain, that there did not exist in the country a man whose charity had been more sincere, and more extensive, than that of their Bro. Cabbell. He did not think he was exaggerating when he said that history had not left them a record of any man who, in his sphere of life, had exhibited more of that excellent virtue, charity, than their

Bro. Cabbell. He therefore called upon them to drink "Health, Happiness, and Long Life to him."

The toast was drunk with great applause.

The Prov. Grand Master, in returning thanks, said he had attempted to do all he could in behalf of the Order. It had been said that no one, whatever his qualifications or abilities might be, found that he had not a difficult task to perform when he was called upon to speak of himself. He would avoid that difficulty upon the present occasion; but with their permission he would say a word or two on the Order. He had spent the happiest moments of his life in the bosom of his Lodge, and he loved Freemasonry because he loved its principles. It had been the good fortune of this country, from the earliest times, to receive Freemasonry with open arms; it had been received with courtesy and respect, honoured, revered, and loved; and the exercise of its principles had given the Government a power among the nations of the world. It had also created that power of public opinion which at the present moment ruled in the cabinet and guided the Sovereign—that public opinion which, directed and controlled by a free and independent press, tended in a great measure to influence other despotic and tyrannical governments, and thus, in some measure, might be considered to give law to the world. He ascribed the greatness of England at the present moment to the free exercise of those universal principles which were the principles of their Order. He hoped he should not be considered as infringing upon the conviviality of the moment if he expressed his regret that many of the Lodges in the province assembled with small and diminished numbers. He hoped that they would awake from their slumber, and like giants refreshed, exhibit that activity and energy which the G.A.O.T.U. gave to man. No exertions should be wanting on his part. It was impossible to say how long his term of office might last, but whether it was long or short it was his anxious desire that, whenever the time arrived when he might be called upon to resign the trust which had been reposed in him, he might do so with the province untarnished, and its glories undiminished. He left the matter in the hands of the Brethren. No one could perform the duties which now devolved upon him without the support of the Brethren at large; and he hoped to receive their warm and continued exertions, that Freemasonry might be restored to its former character within the province. If they made these exertions they would not only add to their honour and benefit, but at the same time they would promote the honour and welfare of the country, for nothing was more calculated to promote the glory of God and the welfare of mankind than the free exercise of the principles of the Order. (Loud cheers.)

The "Prov. Grand Master of Essex and the other Officers."

The R.W. Bro. Bagshawe responded.

The "Present and Past Officers of the Prov. Grand Lodge of the Province of Norfolk."

Bro. Baker responded.

"Bro. Sir Henry Stracey and the Visitors."

Bro. Sir H. J. Stracey said he felt considerable pride in being called upon to respond to the toast. As far as he was concerned he felt that he was in a peculiar position, for he could not feel a visitor and a stranger at any meeting in Norwich, as it was so often his pleasurable lot to attend public meetings in the city. No one had more respect than he had for the Order of Freemasons, and it had been a subject of regret to him that instead of belonging to a distant Lodge he did not select Norfolk as the province in which he first became a member of their Ancient Order. The Prov. Secretary, however, informed him that he was now all but a member of the Harleston Lodge, and he hoped also to belong to another Lodge, which had been particularly recommended to him. In all ages certain men had advocated Utopian views—Plato, the eloquent Cicero, and our own countryman, Sir Thomas More, and the versatile Coleridge—and the Order of Freemasons had carried some of these views into reality. Allusion has been made to the proud position which he held as one of the representatives of Norfolk. He had learned, during the parliamentary experience he had had, that long speeches had not the most effect, and he believed that on the present occasion he should consult their convenience by being brief. Nevertheless, he could not but say

that he felt most strongly the honour conferred upon him, and he would merely add, that he rejoiced in those benevolent objects to which the Prov. Grand Master had alluded,—those institutions in which the widow benefited from her husband being a Mason, and in which the right hand of fellowship was held out to the husband because he happened to be a Mason. He believed that every good Mason must be a firm friend and a good man, and that wherever the cry of distress was heard, the Mason's heart was open to relieve. Might, then, their Ancient Order flourish, and might all those who joined it feel that they honoured themselves in belonging to it, and that they were carrying out the precepts and dictates of our Blessed Lord and Saviour. (Applause.)

“The Health of Bro. Purton Cooper.”

The R.W. Bro. Cooper responded.

“The Lodges of the Province,” coupling with the toast the name of Bro. Fox, the Senior Master present.

Bro. Fox responded, and, adverting to the position of Freemasonry in Norfolk, expressed his hope that many gentlemen would follow the excellent example set by Sir H. Stracey, and become members. He wished to say a few words to three classes of persons—the visitors, the old Masons, and the young Masons. To the visitors he would say, if it was true that Masonry made a man a better father, brother, or husband, would they not lend the prestige of their names, and join the Lodges? To old Masons he would say, “Give instruction and assistance to young members, and endeavour to encourage every laudable ambition on their part.” To young Masons he would say, “Show every possible respect for your seniors.” Bro. Fox stated, in the course of some further observations, that Suffolk, although the population was smaller by 100,000, had more Lodges than Norfolk. At present there were only eight Lodges in the latter county, but he hoped in a year or two there would be twenty.

The other toasts were “The Masonic Charities,” to which Bro. Heywood replied; and “The Ladies,” to which Bro. the Hon. H. Harbord made a suitable response.

The conviviality of the evening was greatly promoted by the excellent singing of several Brethren. Mr. Banks, jun., of the Freemasons' Tavern, London, officiated as toastmaster.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

TOWCESTER.—*Lodge of Fidelity* (No. 652).—The Brethren of the Lodge of Fidelity, held at the Talbot Inn, Towcester, assembled on Monday, the 13th October, for the purpose of electing the several officers for the ensuing year, when Bro. Collier, the W.M., with his usual ability, installed Bro. E. T. Watkins as W.M., who nominated Bros. S. Inns as S.W.; Tunnard, J.W.; T. Collier, S.D.; J. B. Hurfurt, J.D.; Osborne, Treas. and I.G.; and Buckingham as Sec. The Brethren afterwards sat down to an excellent banquet provided by host Bro. Tunnard, when they were joined by Bros. Worster, Higgins, Roberts, Robinson, and Brooks Gates, of the Pomfret Lodge (No. 463), who returned to Northampton highly gratified with the day's proceedings.

NORTHUMBERLAND.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—*Lodge de Lorraine* (No. 793).—At the usual meeting of this Lodge on Friday, the 17th of October, after the preliminary business, the W.M., Bro. E. D. Davis, rose, and very feelingly alluded to the great loss the Lodge as well as Masonry had sustained in the death of P.M. Bro. J. Donald. Bro. P.M. G. P. Birkenshaw then rose, and proposed, “That this Lodge feels deeply the loss it has sustained by the decease of Bro. P.M. James Donald, and that a letter of sympathy expressive of this sentiment be sent to the widow, and recorded on the minutes.” Bro. Birkenshaw said he had been initiated, passed, and raised by Bro. Donald, and had also received from that worthy Brother all the instruction that had fitted him for the office of W.M., which he had filled three years since. Bro. P.M. John Barker, in seconding the motion, also expressed his great sorrow for the loss of Bro. Donald. Bro. Barker said, he joined the Lodge at

ts foundation, and had always co-operated with Bro. Donald, and he bore testimony to the untiring labour that Bro. Donald was always ready to afford in assisting any Lodge. Bro. Barker said that he had attended the funeral, and seen his excellent Brother's remains deposited in the grave, from which he trusted he would one day arise to the Grand Lodge above, where it was hoped all good Masons would be gathered.

OXFORDSHIRE.

The Oxford Masonic meetings, up to the end of the year, are Alfred Lodge, No. 425, November 11th, December 9th, and the Festival the 27th; Apollo University Lodge, No. 460, November 26th. The next Grand Lodge Festival will take place early in May, 1857.

SOUTH WALES.

CARMARTHEN.—*St. Peter's Lodge* (No. 699).—This Lodge progresses satisfactorily under the activity of our esteemed Bro. Ribbans, who, at the last meeting, made a spirited appeal to the Brethren respecting the neglect of the Prov. Grand Lodge, which has not met in this town for more than *sixteen* years, and only *once* within that period at any other Lodge in the western division of the principality. Promises have been made so often, that the heart is sick at continuous delays. Many Brothers in the province would be proud to serve in the Prov. Grand Lodge, and very many are highly deserving of the distinction; but years roll on, and we have no Prov. Grand Lodge at all. The Masonic world in these parts is now satisfied that nothing will be done until the Magazine takes the matter up, since the remarks made in this periodical, upon neglect in other parts, have had the desired effect, and meetings are now regularly assembled. Let us hope that a meeting of the Grand Lodge for the Western Division of South Wales, will quickly be summoned at Carmarthen, so as to meet the wishes and confirm the expectations of very many expert Masons and consistent men. The work of this Lodge is principally done by Bro. Ribbans, assisted by Bro. Bowen, the barrister.

STAFFORDSHIRE.

WALSALL.—*Lodge of St. Matthew* (No. 786).—At the regular meeting of this Lodge held on Wednesday, October 1, after the usual business had been disposed of, a special solemn ceremony was observed in memory of the late Bro. James Ramsey Newsam, P.M., who died September 13. The interest and solemnity of the proceedings were considerably enhanced by the introduction of a musical service, composed by Bro. J. A. Baker, of Birmingham, who officiated at the harmonicum; the vocal portions were efficiently rendered by Bros. Pursall, W. Baker, Pendleton, and Glydon, of the Athol Lodge, No. 88. Upwards of forty Brethren were present, to whom the deceased was personally known; and the following eulogium, which was read in the course of the ceremony, was acknowledged to be a true estimate of his character as a man and as a Mason.

EULOGIUM.

James Ramsey Newsam, P.S.W., of Lodge No. 40, at Belfast, and of the Jerusalem Lodge, No. 233, in London; P.M. of the Lodge of St. Matthew, No. 786, at Walsall; Prov. J.G.W. of Stafford; Past First Principal of the Vernon Chapter, No. 786, at Walsall; G.S. of the Prov. Grand Chapter of Stafford, and a proclaimed Sovereign Prince Rose Croix. Our lately deceased and much-lamented Brother was a man, honest, kind, and virtuous, of generous disposition, sincere in his professions, truthful and just in his dealings; and, as a Mason, worthy and worshipful, zealous and active for the honour and welfare of the Craft, kind and courteous to his Brethren, careful and exact in the performance of the duties of the Lodge, whether self-imposed or required by the statutes and obligations of Masonry, and anxious to acquire, and willing to impart, all skill and knowledge needful for a Brother, an officer, or Master of a Lodge. A warm supporter of charities was he, moreover, and no

Brother of our Lodge was more highly esteemed or more deserving of that esteem than was he.

“But, O! the heavy change now thou art gone ;
Now thou art gone, and never must return ;
Thee, Brother, weeping friends, and thee, the Lodge,
With weeds bedeck'd, and sable mourning gloom'd,
In tyled recess, lament.

In the blest kingdoms of joy and love,
There entertain him all ye saints above ;
In solemn troops and sweet societies,
Who sing, and singing, in your glory move,
And wipe all tears for ever from his eyes.”

Our deceased Brother was received into Masonry in the Lodge No. 40, at Belfast, and there filled the chair of Senior Warden. On the 25th August, A.D. 1851, he was exalted to the Royal Arch in the Chapter attached to the said Lodge. On the 14th January, 1848, he joined the Jerusalem Lodge, No. 233, on the register of the Grand Lodge of England, where he attained to, and most creditably filled, the chair of Senior Warden ; he also, upon taking up his residence at Walsall, joined, the 4th February, 1851, the Lodge of St. Matthew, No. 786, there held, and was immediately recognised as a valued and esteemed member ; he further joined the Vernon Chapter, attached to the said Lodge, on the 11th June, 1852. In the Lodge he filled important offices, occupied the chair as its Master, and in the most exemplary manner promoted its prosperity, and employed and instructed his Brethren in Masonry. He was installed First Principal of the Vernon Chapter, on the 18th July, 1855, and ruled the Chapter for one year with every distinction. Likewise on the 23rd August, 1855, he was proclaimed a Sovereign Prince Rose Croix of Harodim. After a painful illness, involving for some time the contemplation of almost certain death, which he bore with the courage of a man, and the patience and resignation of a Christian, he finally departed this life on Saturday, the 13th September, 1856, at Walsall, in the county of Stafford. His remains were attended to the churchyard at Great Burr, where they rest, by sorrowing relations and by about thirty of his Brethren, who were permitted by his widow and family thus to testify their sense of respect for the deceased as a man, and also the loss which they deplored in the death of so exemplary a Brother as they deemed their departed friend to be.

Requiescat in pace,
Sempiternusque vivat in cœlis :
So mote it be.

SUSSEX.

BRIGHTON.—*Royal York Lodge* (No. 394).—A Lodge of Emergency was held at the Old Ship Hotel, on Monday, September 22nd, when Bro. Wood, W.M., raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason, Bros. Martin, Freeman, and Emery, in his usual impressive manner. On Tuesday, October 7th, this Lodge held its monthly meeting at the Old Ship Hotel, Bro. Wood, W.M., presiding. Bros. Taffte and Warren were raised to the Degree of Master Mason ; and Bros. J. Martin and Chart passed to the Degree of Fellow Craft. There were also two gentlemen proposed as joining members, and two proposed for initiation. The Lodge was afterwards closed in due form.

CHICHESTER.—*Lodge of Union* (No. 45).—The usual monthly meeting of this Lodge was held in the Lodge-room at the Council House, on Thursday, October 9th, the W.M. Bro. Jas. Powell, jun., presiding. Visiting Brethren present—Bros. Rev. William Burnett and Rev. Henry Smith. Mr. William Langford Farmer, surgeon, having been ballotted for as a candidate for initiation, was introduced, and the mysteries of the 1st Degree were imparted to him in a very impressive manner by the worthy Master of the Lodge. Bro. Alfred Kent, Portsmouth Lodge, No. 717, having been elected a joining member of No. 45,

was passed to the 2nd Degree. The Lodge closed in harmony, and at the banquet there were observable the usual good fellowship and kindly spirit distinguishable in this Lodge.

WARWICKSHIRE.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

RUGBY.—The Right Hon. the Lord Leigh, the Prov. G.M., assisted by Bro. J. W. Boughton Leigh, D. Prov. G.M., the officers, and members, held a Prov. Grand Lodge at the York Hotel, Rugby, on Tuesday, the 23rd September. The Lodge was opened in due form, when the following Brethren were appointed officers for the year, viz., Bros. Newton, Prov. G.S.W. ; Bingham, Prov. G.S.W. ; Hopkins, Prov. G.R. ; Lane, Prov. G. Chaplain ; Blenkinsop, Prov. G.S.D. ; Ross, Prov. G.J.D. ; Kettle, Prov. G. Sec. ; C. W. Elkington, Prov. G. Dir. of Cers. ; Robins, Prov. G.A. Dir. of Cers. ; Clark, Prov. G.S.W. ; Lingard, Prov. G.O. ; Overell, Prov. G.S.B. ; Bromwich, Prov. G. St. B. ; Bedford, Prov. G.P. Bro. W. Lloyd was re-elected Treas., and Bro. Hewett, Tyler. The Brethren formed procession, and proceeded to the parish church, when prayers were read by the Rev. J. Moultrie, the rector, and a forcible sermon was preached by the Rev. W. A. Hill, P.M., and P. Prov. G. Chaplain of Worcestershire, from Revelations xxii. and part of the 16th verse, "I am the root and offspring of David, and the bright and morning star." At the conclusion of the discourse a collection was made, when the handsome sum of £13. 16s. 6d. was realized, out of which £5 were presented to the rector, in aid of the Parochial School Funds, and the balance to the Local Masonic Provident Annuity and Benevolent Association. Upon the return to Lodge the sum of £62, from the *Howe Testimonial Fund* (being the contributions of the Brethren of the different Lodges in the province towards a permanent evidence of respectful esteem for Earl Howe, their late Prov. G.M.), was by unanimous vote ordered to be appropriated, in certain rateable proportions, to the principal metropolitan Masonic charities. The Brethren also resolved to form a benevolent fund connected with the province. The Brethren afterwards sat down to an excellent banquet, which was in every way well served, being also graced by venison and game from Stoneleigh, and rich fruits from the same hospitable source. The usual loyal toasts were given, when the Past Grand Master proposed the head of the Craft, Lord Zetland, G.M., than whom no man was more esteemed or universally respected. Lord Yarborough and the Grand Lodge of England was next proposed, the chairman coupling with this toast the name of Bro. Chas. W. Elkington, Prov. G.S.B., paying high compliment to that Brother, whose appointment as an officer to the Grand Lodge was considered a high compliment to the province, and a well-earned reward to the Brother receiving it. Bro. Elkington replied in a most suitable speech. Bro. the Rev. W. A. Hill, proposed the Prov. Grand Master, Lord Leigh, the Lord Lieutenant of the county, who as a nobleman, a man, and a Mason, was only known to be beloved ; a more popular appointment could not have been made by the advisers to her Majesty, in selecting Lord Leigh as Lord Lieutenant of the county, for a more respected man did not exist in Warwickshire. The chairman returned thanks in his usual sincere and hearty way, thanking the Brethren for the welcome reception of the toast, and concluded by proposing the health of Bro. J. W. Boughton Leigh, Esq., D. Prov. G.M., who in a Masonic speech returned thanks ; after which the following toasts were given : the Chaplain of the Day, with thanks for his excellent sermon, by the chairman, and responded to by Rev. W. A. Hill ; the Rugby Lodges, and thanks for their splendid arrangements, responded to by Bro. Bromwich ; the Officers, responded to by Bro. Newton, Prov. G.S.W. ; the W.M., and the Lodges of the Province, by Bro. Edward Mason, W.M., Nuncaton ; all poor and distressed Masons ; after which Bro. the Hon. C. L. Butler, proposed the Ladies, to which toast the Deputy Prov. Grand Master replied in a gallant and humorous speech. The Brethren separated about eight o'clock in mutual love and harmony, without a single incident having occurred (notwithstanding the fickleness of the weather) to mar the recollection of their pleasing re-union.

YORKSHIRE.

In our last number, we published the farewell address of Bro. Charles Lee to his Brethren, upon his retirement from the responsible Office of D. Prov. Grand Master of West Yorkshire; since then, however, the matter has assumed a new phase, produced by the extraordinary exhibition of attachment to and esteem for Bro. Charles Lee, as D. Prov. Grand Master, as will be exemplified by the sub-joined memorial from the Brethren of West Yorkshire, to the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Mexborough, R.W. Prov. G.M., which memorial, although produced in haste, bears the signatures of upwards of two hundred of the Brethren, and among them the names of some most influential Brethren in the province.

Memorial of the W. Masters, P. Masters, Officers, and Brethren of the Province of West Yorkshire, to the Right Hon. the Earl of Mexborough, R.W. Prov. G.M.:—

“We, the undersigned Masters, Past Masters, Officers of Lodges, and Brethren of the Province of West Yorkshire, having heard that our W.D. Prov. Grand Master, Bro. Charles Lee, has tendered to your lordship his resignation of the Office of D. Prov. Grand Master of this Province, do hasten, with all due respect, to represent unto your lordship, that we do deeply sympathize with our much esteemed Bro. Charles Lee, now suffering under heavy affliction; that we do entertain the highest opinion of his moral worth and upright conduct; and that we do feel the fullest confidence in his ability to fill the Office of D. Prov. Grand Master, so long as he shall be spared, with satisfaction to your lordship, and with great advantage to the Province at large. We do, therefore, respectfully assure your lordship, that if you would be pleased to continue Bro. Charles Lee in his Office of D. Prov. Grand Master, such a mark of consideration for the feelings and wishes of the Brethren would be highly appreciated by all, and we approach your lordship the more readily in this matter from a conviction, that in thus desiring the continuance of Bro. Charles Lee in his Office, we are merely giving expression to your lordship’s own feelings and wishes on the subject, your lordship having repeatedly expressed in the highest terms your satisfaction with the manner in which our worthy Brother has performed the duties of the Office which he has now so creditably filled for a space of nearly twenty years.

“We feel assured that this memorial will meet with your lordship’s favourable consideration, and we present to your lordship our hearty good wishes and fraternal regards.”

This memorial was transmitted to Bro. Charles Lee by the Right Hon. the Earl of Mexborough, Prov. G.M., accompanied by the following most pleasing and impressive note:—

“Methley Park, Oct. 10, 1856.

“MY DEAR BROTHER,—With such a memorial and such signatures, I cannot for a moment doubt but that you will kindly recall your resignation of the office of D. Prov. Grand Master. You know that it has from the first been my most earnest wish that you should do so, and I now most sincerely and in true brotherly love request you to reconsider your verdict; and I ask you to give me the satisfaction of announcing to our Brethren that you will continue to assist me in the province. Pray allow me again to have the gratification of having at my right hand so good, so competent, and in every way excellent a helpmate.

“Ever yours most truly and fraternally,

“CHARLES LEE, Esq., Leeds.”

“MEXBOROUGH, Prov. G.M.

These interesting and imperative documents have produced their due effect on the mind of our Bro. Charles Lee; his heart has yielded to their powerful influence, all his strong resolves have vanished, he bows to the will of his honoured Prov. Grand Master; and him, whose farewell address we published in our last number, we may now announce as re-instated in the high office of D. Prov. Grand Master of West Yorkshire. So deeply is he impressed with the honours and the brotherly love thus manifested towards him, that he declares he attaches a higher moral value to the foregoing memorial and its accompaniment than if the most splendid testimonial of gold or silver had been presented unto him.

DONCASTER.—*St. George's Lodge* (No. 292).—On Tuesday evening, September 26th, the Brethren of this Lodge met at the Town Hall, when Bro. George Brooke, the W.M., passed two Brethren to the 2nd Degree. In the course of the evening a highly interesting and instructive lecture on the history and principles of Freemasonry was delivered by one of the Brethren. He commenced by referring to Masonry as existing from the earlier ages, even from the creation of the world. He described the nature of the three Degrees in Masonry, and their relationship to architecture, geometry, the arts and sciences, general literature, &c. He also referred to the time when Masonry was introduced into the West by Pythagoras, about 800 years before Christ; and he went on at great length to describe the nature and principles of Masonry. The title of Knights Templar he described as a misnomer, the word being properly "night," as referring to those Masons who were night watchers at the building of Solomon's Temple. He showed Masonry to be not a mere club, met for mere worldly purposes, but a holy order, for hearing, teaching, and doing good, and for instruction in love to God and man. In conclusion, the lecturer called upon the younger Brethren to remember their initiation ceremony, and not to trample Masonry under foot by treating it in a light and frivolous manner.

ROYAL ARCH.

LONDON CHAPTERS.

ROYAL YORK CHAPTER (No. 7).—The Companions of this excellent Chapter met at the Freemasons' Tavern on the 28th October, Comp. Savage, P.Z., presided, in the unavoidable absence of Comp. Absolon, and two candidates were duly exalted.

ENOCH CHAPTER (No. 11).—This distinguished Chapter held its meeting at the Freemasons' Tavern on Tuesday, October 21. Comp. W. Young was installed First Principal, and Comp. R. Temple, Third Principal, by the veteran G. Biggs, in his usual excellent manner. After which the following Officers were inducted into their several chairs:—Comps. R. Williams, Treas.; P. Matthews, S.E.; Kennedy, S.N.; German and Paine, Stewards; and Sewel, Dir. of Cer.

OLD KING'S ARMS CHAPTER (No. 30).—The first convocation for the season was held at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Monday, October 6, when Comp. James Linton, E.Z., presided; and Bros. Nesbitt and Mariette, both belonging to the Lodge No. 30, were duly installed into the Royal Arch. The Comps. afterwards dined together, and spent a pleasant evening.

ROBERT BURNS CHAPTER (No. 25).—At a convocation of this Chapter, on the 27th October, Bros. Hillman, W.M., No. 18; Marks, P.M., No. 18, were duly exalted into the Order.

JERUSALEM CHAPTER (No. 218).—The members of this Chapter reassembled for the season on Tuesday, October 14th, at the Bridge-House Hotel, Southwark. In the absence of Comp. Thompson, M.E.Z., occasioned, we regret to say, by a severe domestic affliction, Comp. Scambler, P.Z., officiated. The work, which was ably performed, consisted of the exaltation of Bro. Robinson, No. 237. Comp. Stuart, P.Z., No. 59, was admitted a joining member.—The Companions then retired to refreshment, and passed a pleasant evening. Comp. George Biggs, P.Z., No. 169, was the only visitor present.

POLISH NATIONAL (No. 778).—The Companions of this flourishing Chapter met together at the Freemasons' Tavern, on the evening of the 23rd September, when Comp. Watson, P.Z. of the Robert Burns Chapter, in his usual able and impressive manner installed Comps. Warren as E.Z.; Michalski, H.; and Detkins, I., for the ensuing year. Comp. Johnston was inducted as N., and Webber, P.S., who appointed Comps. Boyd and Goodison his assistants. After the close

of Masonic business the Companions banqueted together, and spent a most agreeable evening, to which the harmony of Comps. Taylor, Webber, Gurton, and Michalski materially contributed. Comp. Rogers was the only visitor present.

PROVINCIAL CHAPTERS.

CARDIFF, SOUTH WALES.—*Saint John's Chapter* (No. 43.)—We are glad to find that this Chapter, which has recently been attached to the Glamorgan Lodge, No. 43, is progressing favourably. On Monday, the 6th October, 1856, the Chapter held its first meeting, after a recess during the summer months. The chairs of the three principals were filled by M.E.C. R. F. Langley, as Z., Thomas Hodge, as H., and Samuel Lowder, as J. Two active and painstaking members of the Glamorgan Lodge having been ballotted for and accepted, were duly exalted to the Sublime Degree of R.A. Masons. The ceremony was well and impressively worked by the M.E.Z., with the able assistance of the other principals and the officers of the Chapter. The arduous duties of P.S. were very efficiently performed by Comp. Joseph Johnson, P.S., assisted by Comps. James Pride, A.S., and Thomas G. South, A.S.

GATESHEAD, DURHAM.—*Chapter de Burgh* (No. 614).—This Chapter met for the installation of the Principals on the 21st of October. The Chapter being opened, Ex. Comp. E. D. Davies, Z., announced that the Ex. Comp. R. B. Ridley, the M.E.Z. elect, was suffering severe indisposition, and hence was unable to be present on that occasion, and being already a P.Z. could be installed at a future opportunity. The M.E.Z. then installed in due form Ex. Comps. R. L. Munro, H.; and F. H. Woolley, J.; and the other Officers were afterwards duly invested, viz. F. P. Jones, Treas.; W. Morrow, E.; Anthony Clapham, N.; W. E. Franklin, P.S.; Dobson and Gillespie, As. S.; Alex. Dickson, Jan. There were present on this occasion the following:—Ex. Comps. F. P. Jonn, P.Z., No. 614; John Barker, P.Z., No. 24; G. B. Birkenshaw, No. 586, and other Comps. After the ceremonies of the day the Companions partook of an excellent banquet, prepared for them by Bro. Charles Brinton, of the Black Bull, and spent an evening in a way agreeable and befitting Companions of the Royal Degree, separating at an early hour.

MAIDSTONE, KENT.—*Belvidere Chapter* (No. 741).—A consecration of a new Chapter, under this title, took place in the large assembly-room at the Star Hotel, on Wednesday the 22nd October. The proceedings were commenced at twelve o'clock, Comps. Savage, acting as Z.; Ashley (P.D. Prov. G.M.) as H.; Keddel as J.; and C. Isaacs as P.S. The new charter having been read, Comp. Savage very impressively performed the ceremony of consecration. The great body of the Companions having retired, Comps. Whitaker was installed as Z.; Pike as H., and Cruttenden as J.; the installation being performed by Comps. Savage and Keddel. There were present in the convocation of principals:—Comps. Ashley, P.Z., No. 20; Saunders, P.G., No. 20; Jones, P.Z., No. 20; Hallows, P.Z., No. 235; Boyes, E.Z., No. 149; Keddel, P.Z., No. 184; and Savage, P.Z., No. 7. The following were the other officers appointed:—Comps. Sargeant, N.; Cooke (W.M., No. 741), E; John Cruttenden, P.S.; and Pearson and Day, Assist. Soj.: Comps. F. Barrow, Campbell, E. Muruss, and C. J. Cooke, were unanimously elected joining members. No less than thirteen candidates were exalted, viz.:—Bros. Sargeant, P.M., No. 741; Cruttenden, jun., P.M., No. 741; Pearson, P.M., No. 741; Day, P.M., No. 741; Orford, J.W., No. 741; H. Smitherman, jun.; Allison; Clifford; Bartlett; Hartnap; Day, Richard, jun.; Grundy; Briggs. Thus it will be seen several of the new Companions were invested with the regalia of office immediately after their exaltation. At the conclusion of the business, a cordial vote of thanks was given to Comps. Ashley, Savage, Keddel, and C. Isaacs, for their valuable services during the day. We should be doing an injustice to the Second and Third Principals if we did not congratulate them upon the correct manner in which they delivered their charges

or the E.Z., for his valuable qualities as presiding officer of the Chapter. In the evening, between thirty and forty Companions dined together, and various toasts were drunk, one being dedicated to the success of the *Freemasons' Magazine*: Comp. H. G. Warren, Z., of No. 778, returned thanks; urged upon the Companions the necessity which existed for the taking of greater interest in the proceedings of Grand Lodge than had too long been the case, and expressed his gratitude to the Comps. and Brethren of Maidstone for the interest they had displayed and the steps they had taken to promote the success of the *Freemasons' Magazine*. Bro. Savage returned thanks for his health being drunk in acknowledgment of his services in consecrating the Chapter, and installing the Principals, and expressed the great pleasure he had at being promoted on so auspicious an occasion as the opening of the Belvedere Chapter,—he having watched with great interest the growth of the Lodge, the W.Ms. of which it had been his good fortune to instal for the last twelve years. The establishment of the Chapter is mainly due to the exertions of Comp. Cooke, the highly popular W.M. of No. 741.

THE ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED RITE.



Edwards, Foster, and Pullen. Twenty-two members of the K.H. Chapter afterwards partook of the usual banquet, at which the Illustrious G.I.G. Bro. Cox, 33rd Degree, presided.

THE Supreme Grand Council of the Ancient and Accepted Rite of the 33rd Degree, met on the 14th October, when all the members were present except the Illustrious Bro. Colonel G. Vernon, who, we regret to state, was unable to reach England in time, having been detained on the Continent by severe indisposition. The Illustrious Bro. H. C. Vernon, Prov. G.M. of Worcester, was received into the 31st Degree. A Grand Chapter of Knights, K.H., 30th Degree, was held in the afternoon, when the following candidates were admitted to that Degree in ancient and solemn form:—Bros. Montagu, W. Wentworth Bowyer, Stone,

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

STAFFORDSHIRE, NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYNE.—*Godefroi de Bouillon Encampment*.—A meeting of this Encampment was held at Stoke-upon-Trent, on Friday, the 10th Oct., when Sir Knt. Richard Stone was installed Eminent Commander for the ensuing year; and Sir Knts. George Baker and Charles Thomas Davenport were appointed 1st and 2nd Captains of Columns. The ceremony of installation was performed by P.E.C. Thomas Ward, and the Sir Knights afterwards partook of a banquet, at the Wheatsheaf Inn. A resolution was unanimously passed at the Encampment (pursuant to previous notice), to change the present days of meeting to the Friday after the first Thursday in the months of February, June, and October.

MARK MASONRY.

ST. MARK'S LODGE OF MARK MASTERS (holden under the Grand Chapter of Scotland), No. 1.—The Brethren of this Lodge met together on the evening of the 15th ult., at the Freemasons' Tavern, for the despatch of business. The R.W. Bro. Hughes, D.M. (in the unavoidable absence of Bro. Warren), occupied the chair, and was ably seconded by his assistant Officers. The business of the evening consisted of the advancement of three Brethren to the Degree of Mark Master, and the final regulation of the Bye-laws. The Brethren who were advanced were Bro. Cartwright, of the Alfred Lodge, No. 425 ; Bro. Harrison, No. 201 ; and Bro. Pocklington, of No. 339, Boston. It speaks well for the progress of the Lodge, and marks the desire of the Brethren generally to see the Mark Degree recognized by the Grand Lodge of England, to find that there are now on the roll of the Lodge, although only two months established, the names of thirty Brothers, some of whom have been advanced in the illegal assembly styling itself the Bon-Accord Lodge of Mark Masons, but who have renounced their allegiance to it and formally joined the new Lodge. There are, besides, as many as seventeen Brethren on the list for advancement next Lodge evening.

SCOTLAND.

St. John's Lodge.—The regular quarterly meeting of this Lodge was held on Tuesday the 9th September. A new member joined the Lodge. Some discussion arose with regard to the proposed new Lodge, in which the R.W.M., Bros. Arnott, Graham, Bennett, &c. took part, when it was proposed by Bro. Arnott, and seconded by Bro. Bennett, and unanimously agreed to by the rest of the brethren, that a committee should be appointed to investigate and receive all possible information regarding the new Lodge, and be able to report at next meeting. The following brethren were then appointed members of the committee, viz. Bros. S. N. Morison, R. O. Arnott, W. M'Queen, G. Graham, G. Bennett, J. Ross, and J. Donald—W. M'Queen, convenor. A vote of thanks to M.S.A. Walrond was then proposed by the R.W.M., for his handsome present to the Lodge, and heartily responded to. On Monday the 15th of September, a meeting of emergency was called for the purpose of initiating, &c., two new candidates, one of whom was a Danish captain, who was introduced by the captain that was initiated a few weeks ago.

EDINBURGH.

Defensive Band Lodge (No. 151).—On the 23rd September, being the fourth Tuesday of the month, this Lodge held its usual monthly meeting. It gives us great pleasure to record the high position which this Lodge now occupies, for whether we review it as a Lodge where the true fraternal spirit of the Craft exists, or review it in its pecuniary transactions, we are satisfied that it holds a position, under the able superintendence of Bro. Finlayson, which every Brother of the Order will regard with esteem. At the meeting to which we particularly refer, it was stated by the R.W. Master, that he along with eighteen of the Brethren had visited the Lodge Portobello, on the 18th. This visitation completed the round of visitations to the District Lodges, and he had now to thank the Brethren for the handsome manner in which they had responded to these visitations, and it must be a source of gratification to them that the Edinburgh Defensive Band Lodge had received a most hearty and fraternal welcome from them all. They were now clear of debt, and the Treasurer could boast of having a few pounds in his possession ; and he attributed the prosperity of the Lodge

to that true Masonic spirit which characterised the members at all their meetings, and in their transactions with one another. The Edinburgh Defensive Band Lodge was erected in 1782, in the regiment bearing that name. The regiment was embodied for the protection of the city in those troublesome times, and was composed of merchants and others, somewhat similar to the Gentlemen Volunteers of a later date, and up to the present time they seem to keep up the military character of the Lodge. Of late they have initiated Cornet W. R. Ross, of the Land Transport Corps; Serjeants Entwistle, Cuninghame, and Dawson, of the King's 1st Dragoon Guards; Serjeants H. Elston and E. Grey, of the 7th Dragoon Guards, and many others of the military profession.

PEEBLES.

Kilwinning Lodge.—The quarterly meeting of this Lodge was held on Friday, Sept. 26, Brother Archibald Donaldson, jun., R.W.M., presiding, who laid before the meeting a communication from the R.W.M. of the Lodge of Edinburgh, Mary's Chapel, regarding the late inundations in France, soliciting subscriptions in behalf of the suffering Brethren belonging to the Masonic Orders there. On October 1st, the Companions constituting the Royal Arch Chapter, Esk, Dalkeith, No. 42, paid an excursion visit to Peebles, headed by their M.E.G.P. James Thompson. The party, consisting of fifteen, started at 8 o'clock A.M. from the Cross Keys Inn, Dalkeith. A most delightful drive brought the excursionists shortly after 10 o'clock A.M. to the town of Peebles, where they were received in a most cordial and friendly manner by Brother Archibald Donaldson, jun., R.W. Master of the Peebles Kilwinning Lodge, and under whose kind escort the brotherhood visited various places of note in and about the vicinity of the burgh. The day, fortunately, proved remarkably fine, which enabled the party to extend their day's rambles along the sunny banks of the Tweed, and to visit the delightful and sequestered little village of Innerleithen. About 5 o'clock P.M. the Brethren returned to Peebles, where dinner was served by Mr. Noble, of the Tontine Hotel. Brother Donaldson, sen., one of the magistrates of the burgh, and also a R.A. Mason of fifty years' standing, with his son, Bro. Archibald Donaldson, honoured their Dalkeith Brethren by their company at dinner. After various loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed, and many a kindly exchange of right Masonic good feeling between the Brethren of Peebles and Dalkeith, the latter were obliged to retire at 8 o'clock P.M. in order to proceed on their journey home, which was accomplished with all safety.

ROYAL ARCH.

ARBROATH.—The Royal Arch Chapter of Freemasonry met on Tuesday, Sept. 23rd, in Mr. Charles Porter's Inn, to celebrate the feast of the autumnal Equinox, and elect their office-bearers for the ensuing year, when the following Companions were elected:—James Edward, *M.D.*, First Principal Z.; David Clarke, writer, Second Principal H.; Joseph Findley, Third Principal J.; John Adam, Scribe E.; George Barrie, Scribe N.; James Strachan, First Sojourner; William Peters, Second do.; John Taylor, Third do.; Alexander Hird, Treas.; David Langlands, Janitor. The evening was afterwards spent in true Masonic style.

DUNDEE.—*Union Royal Arch Chapter (No. 6).*—The progress of the affairs of this Chapter continues most satisfactory, and many Brethren of high standing and respectability have been exalted since our last report. In July, Ensigns Campbell, Macnamara, and Taylor, of the 93rd Highlanders, then stationed here, became Companions of the Chapter, and last month our gallant young townsman, Lieut. Fenwick, of the same regiment, took his degrees, after his return from the Crimea. On the 6th October, the Chapter had the honour of a friendly visit from Dr. G. A. Walter Arnott, the M.E. Grand Principal Z. for Scotland, who happened to be in the neighbourhood. In the kindest manner he explained and elucidated many interesting Masonic topics; and the most cordial thanks of the Chapter were deservedly awarded to him.

COLONIAL.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

British Lodge (No. 419).—On Monday, 26th March, 1856, the inauguration of the new temple of the British Lodge of Freemasons, was celebrated by a grand procession of the Craft belonging to the different Lodges of Cape Town, likewise by several distinguished members belonging to other colonial and foreign Lodges. The Deputy Provincial Grand Master of the Netherlands was also present with his Standard-bearers and Officers. The Brethren assembled at the old Lodge in St. John-street, and from thence proceeded in procession, with a band of music leading, the banners and flags of the different local lodges presenting a very imposing and novel scene. The assemblage of spectators was numerous along the line of procession to the new Lodge; in the gardens, of which the gathering of ladies was immense, to witness the marching round the grounds, the band playing in the centre. Stewards were appointed by the Lodge to attend to the comforts of the ladies present, who were bountifully regaled, and every attention paid to them. The procession having entered the temple, and the Brethren being seated, the Lodge was opened with solemn prayer, and sacred music performed, when the ceremony of consecrating the new temple was at once proceeded with. The Deputy Provincial Grand Master of the Netherlands gave a very appropriate oration, which elicited the admiration of all present; that being concluded, the Lodge was then closed, and the Brethren retired to the banqueting-room, to partake of refreshments, provided by Bro. Rennie, the Steward of the Lodge. In the evening, the Brethren, between sixty and seventy in number, assembled at the Masonic Hotel, where they partook of a sumptuous dinner provided by the host, which did him every credit. The spacious room was tastefully decorated with the flags of all nations. Several toasts were given during the evening, and Holt's band performed in their usual good style. The festivities of the evening were not closed until the 'witching hour of night.—*Cape Town Mercantile Advertiser*.

CANADA.

MONTREAL.—The Brethren of the eastern section of the province, hailing from the Grand Lodge of Canada, have been gratified by a recent visit from the M.W. the Grand Master, Bro. W. M. Wilson. That illustrious Brother arrived at Montreal, on Wednesday last, the 17th ultimo. On the following evening, a special meeting of Zetland Lodge was called to receive the Grand Master, at which the members of the other Lodges were invited to attend. The Lodge-room was much crowded on the occasion. R.W. Bro. P. D. Brown, the D.D.G.M. for the District of Montreal, presented Bro. Wilson with the following address:—

“Colonel William Mercer Wilson, Grand Master of Ancient, Free, and Accepted Masons of Canada.”

“Most Worshipful Sir and Brother,—The Masons of Montreal, in connection with Lodges under your jurisdiction, have done me the honour of intrusting to me the pleasing duty of extending to you a cordial welcome to our city and Lodges on the occasion of this your first official visit.

“We heartily congratulate you upon having been placed at the head of that body of Masons in this province, which will ever stand a monument of the zeal and honest enterprise of the many genuine Craftsmen in Canada, and at the same time consider the Fraternity exceedingly fortunate in having selected one whose official career thus far has proved him to be so eminently qualified to occupy that high and honourable position.

“The harmony and prosperity which prevail throughout the Craft under your jurisdiction, as well as the general favour with which the Grand Lodge of Canada

is regarded throughout the Masonic world, are in a great measure attributable to the zeal, the indomitable perseverance, and the truly Masonic character of your administration, and are to us sources of just pride and of great pleasure.

"On behalf of the Brethren of this city, I tender to you a most sincere and hearty welcome to our city, our Lodges, our homes, and our hearts. May you long live to confer upon the Craft the benefits of your distinguished talents and assiduous labours, and to enjoy the honours you have so justly earned.

"I have the honour to be yours fraternally,

"P. D. BROWN,

"District D. G. M.

"Montreal, Sept. 18, 1856."

To which the Grand Master replied :—

"To P. D. Brown, Esq., District Deputy Grand Master, Montreal.

"Right Worshipful Sir and Brother,—I have much pleasure in conveying through you to the Masons of Montreal my sincere thanks for the kind and fraternal welcome with which they have received me on this my first visit to their important and rapidly-improving city.

"The members of the Craft in this Province have, indeed, much reason to congratulate themselves upon the result of their unwearied efforts in the sacred cause of Masonry—that apathy and indifference (the natural consequence of insufficient and careless Masonic legislation) which for so many years has characterized the Canadian members of our mystic Fraternity, has now given place to a deep and lively interest in Masonic affairs, and has also secured the general and zealous co-operation of the Fraternity.

"The many gratifying recognitions which the Grand Lodge of Canada has already received from her sister Grand Lodges affords conclusive evidence (if such were wanting) not only that our position is correct, but that our course also has been *Masonic*. I regret, however, to remark, that there are still a number of our Brethren, who, as yet, do not unite with us in our earnest endeavours to promote what we conceive to be the interests of Masonry. I look forward, however, with pleasing anticipations to the period when the whole Craft of this noble province will be united under the broad banner of our Grand Lodge, and the only strife, or rather emulation, existing amongst us, will be—who shall best work and best agree. In order to arrive at this consummation of our ardent wishes, we must never omit to evince, both by our conversation and by our practice, that we are in reality guided by those great principles which form the very basis and bond of our union, those great cardinal virtues—*Brotherly Love—Relief and Truth*.

"For the kind and highly flattering remarks contained in your address, having special reference to my personal services, I thank you. My most anxious wish has ever been to see our Grand Lodge maintain with dignity, and discharge with efficiency, the important duties of her high position, and should my humble services contribute in the slightest degree to that great end, I will be abundantly repaid for all my exertions by the feeling that I have honestly and faithfully discharged the onerous duties intrusted to me by the Craft, and that I have by these means secured what I value most highly—the approbation of my brethren.

"May the G.A.O.T.U. bless your labours abundantly ; may your Lodges continue to flourish, your union to strengthen, and your happiness to abound.

"WM. M. WILSON,

G.M.G.L.C.

"Montreal, Sept. 18th, 1856."

The Lodge was then closed, and Bro. Wilson invited to partake of a banquet, to be given in honour of the occasion of his visit, at Bro. S. Complain's. Between fifty and sixty of the members of the Order sat down, and an exceedingly agreeable evening was spent. The R.W. the D.G.M., Bro. Bernard, occupied the chair ; Bro. Isaacson being in the West, and Bro. Morris in the South. Prince's brass band was in attendance, discoursing sweet music until a late hour.—*Canadian Masonic Pioneer*.

MALTA.

St. John and St. Paul Lodge (No. 437).—This old and influential Lodge has given instructions to Bro. R. Spencer, to prepare a silver Past Master's Jewel,

with the following inscription engraved, viz. :—"To P.M., Bro. Charles Wright, as a mark of esteem and respect, from the Lodge St. John and St. Paul, No. 437, Malta, 1856."--This jewel is now completed, and by the kind permission of Bro. Spencer, we have been favoured with a sight of the artistic arrangement of the stones round the square and problem, as well as the chaste workmanship of the silver ornaments on the blue enamel, which is admirably in keeping with the whole, and reflects the highest credit on the manufacturer; it is fitted in a handsome morocco case lined with velvet, and the name of the recipient lettered on the outside. Bro. Wright has our hearty congratulations, and we sincerely hope he will be long spared to wear this handsome memento of Lodge No. 437.

I N D I A.

BOMBAY.

The following Memorandum has been issued by Lodge of Perseverance, holding under the Grand Lodge of Scotland, to the Craft :—

The Prov. Grand Master of Western India having been pleased, through his Secretary, and by means of printed and written circulars and notices, to denounce Lodge Perseverance, No. 351, to members of the Craft and to others as a Lodge under suspension, and as considerable injury has thereby been already done to the said Lodge, it feels called upon, at this crisis, to vindicate itself before the Masonic world by circulating among the Craft copies of its appeal to the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Scotland, against certain arbitrary, unjust, and illegal resolutions passed at a meeting of Freemasons held in an unconsecrated room in the house of the Prov. Grand Master, on the 30th June, 1856, and by him improperly designated a meeting of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Western India; and to render the matter plainer, a brief explanation of the origin of the present difficulty between this Lodge and the Right Worshipful the Prov. Grand Master of Western India, is here given.

By a Convention among the various Masonic bodies in Bombay, working under the Grand Lodge and under the Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland, it was agreed, on the 30th March, 1853, to rent suitable apartments for their mutual accommodation.

Early in the past year, the Deputy Prov. Grand Master of Western India (then Worshipful Master of Lodge Perseverance, and now Prov. Grand Master of this Province), in collusion with the Master of Lodge "Rising Star," and with the Principals of the Royal Arch Chapter of Perseverance, but without reference to their respective constituents, was pleased to admit to *all* the benefits and privileges of this Convention, an English Lodge called "St. George," which the present Prov. Grand Master of Western India, when holding the Office of Deputy Prov. Grand Master, assisted in reviving, and which he has ever since supported with both his purse and influence.

The full effect and design of this arrangement became apparent and evident to the members of Lodge Perseverance in the month of January of the present year; and feeling that as Bombay was a section of the Province of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, it was not just to that Most Worshipful body to foster a Lodge independent of its jurisdiction, Lodge Perseverance, to which solely the whole of the property in the rooms taken by the Convention belonged, believing the introduction of Lodge "St. George" to be unauthorized and improper, declared such introduction to be a breach of the Convention, and, as the principal Masonic body interested in the matter, demanded, in effect, that the rooms should be given up to it.

This demand, which was by no means either unconstitutional or inequitable, aroused the ire of the Prov. Grand Master of Western India, because, unhappily for the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, which he represented in Western India, and that of the Prov. Grand Lodge over which he presides, he happened to be one of the most prominent resuscitators and supporters of the

said Lodge, "St. George," which is not only not in subjection either to the Grand Lodge of Scotland or the Prov. Grand Lodge of Western India, but actually antagonistic thereto, which it evinced by its letter to this Lodge, dated the 16th May, 1855.

Lodge Perseverance having taken this position, and repudiated the claim of Worshipful Bro. Lawford Acland, the Master of the said English Lodge, "St. George," to membership in Lodge Perseverance, in which he had not been affiliated, and thereby having ignored his right to hold the office of Deputy Prov. Grand Master, or in fact any office in the Prov. Grand Lodge of Western India, the Prov. Grand Master, on the 13th May, 1856, threatened that, unless certain resolutions passed by this Lodge in this matter were rescinded, he would "close" or "shut up" (*Anglicé* suspend) the Lodge.

Under these circumstances, the majority of its members considered it advisable to place the Lodge at once under the immediate protection of its Supreme head, the Grand Lodge of Scotland, and in doing so, entered minutely into their ground of action. A copy of their appeal was, in conformity with the Constitutions, duly served on the Prov. Grand Master, and notwithstanding such service, the "Resolutions," against which the accompanying Memorial is a faithful protest, were passed.

By command of the Worshipful Master,
BOMBAY, 28th June, 1856. J. G. LAURENCE, Secretary.

[We have received the Memorial, which is too long for publication, and the subject in dispute is sufficiently explained in the Memorandum.]

THAYETMYO.

"Since my last letter, everything Masonic has been going on well here. The most fraternal feeling prevails between our two Lodges. All the Brethren of her Majesty's 29th Regiment have been nominated, in a very flattering minute, honorary members of Lodge Astræa, and have, in their turn, presented that Lodge with a very beautiful copy of the Sacred Volume. The members of Astræa are also members, either subscribing or honorary, of the Irish Lodge. I wrote to you that a collection was made on St. John the Evangelist's day by the Brethren of No. 322, for the Irish orphans. The last mail brought an acknowledgment of the same in a very handsome letter from the governors of the charity, who seem to have been extremely surprised and pleased with the donation."—*Indian Freemasons' Friend*, for July.

AMERICA.

CONVENTION AT HARTFORD.

The Conventions of the General Grand Bodies having finished their labours, they adjourned, to meet at Chicago in 1859. Serious thoughts have arisen in the minds of many delegates as to the utility of these bodies. The question has been asked: You have met, you have adjourned—what benefit has the Craft derived from your labours? You have settled two or three questions of jurisprudence; you have made a new Constitution in the encampment. In the Chapter, you have decided that the work offered by Companion Lovell, of Massachusetts, in 1850, which was laid on the table in 1853, is not the work for the Chapters; after passing a resolution, in 1850, that, so far as the work was exemplified, it should be the standard—making confusion worse confounded. But, as a companion stated, there was imbecility in your counsels; you were afraid to take the lead, lest some States should be offended. All eyes were turned on you; men of most transcendent abilities, orators of the first class, lawyers whose names had resounded throughout the States for consummate ability; and what was the cause? They were fettered by a Constitution; the least alteration would involve three years before it could be called up for adjudication. Why, in that time, the actors might be in their graves, or their places

supplied by parties to whom the question was entire new matter ; yet they, with perhaps not so much knowledge of the case, would decide what their predecessors were judged incapable of doing. We hope the next Convention will be characterized by decision, by determining the matter at issue, should there be any to be decided, instantly, by an unanimous or two-third vote. Yet we confess we should deeply regret to see these bodies disbanded ; so many pleasant acquaintances are formed, which have ripened into friendship, characterized by esteem, and mutual regard for those amiable qualities which men so much admire and respect, even when they cannot practise them ; interchanges of mutual civilities ; comparing notes on work ; and, perhaps not the least, men whose writings and character we admire, we meet ; we clasp the hand of friendship, and that is the first and last on this earth. Therefore, while we have spoken perhaps harshly of the proceedings, yet we hope and pray for better things. We hope to see the day when the Grand Bodies shall be looked up to with the respect and veneration which is always due to wisdom and gray hairs.—*New York Masonic Messenger*.

MORTON AND PALESTINE ENCAMPMENT SOIREE.

New-York Brethren have always been famous for their hospitality. No niggardly hand is ever manifested when the parties invited are worthy of the honour ; and it is needless to say, none but the worthy are invited. The Convention of the General Grand Bodies, at Hartford, Connecticut, would necessarily bring numbers of delegates from Oregon, California, South and West. New-York city being the focus, the Knightly Order deemed this a fitting opportunity to throw open the doors of their Asylum for the reception and refreshment of the poor and weary pilgrims, and deputed a few of the humblest of the Knights, one of whom was ourself, to prepare entertainment for the warriors of the sunny South, bronzed veterans, to whom the word *Dyspepsia* was only known in the dictionary. As for ourself, we felt our unfitness. Pease on a trencher, and cold water, when nothing else offers, is our solace ; and yet envious people will say, a haunch of venison would better become our grinders. They said the same of Friar Tuck, peace to his ashes !

Ourself and the G.M., John W. Simons, for even he does not deem it degrading to his dignity to inculcate the rites of hospitality, both by precept and example, had a conference with our *confrères* of Palestine Encampment—Sir C. Cornell, the G.C. Sir Knights, Philips and Crozier. The result was exceedingly gratifying. Scarcely had it been known that a simple repast was to be prepared for the poor soldiers of the temple, when tithes and donations flowed into the buttery, so plentifully that it made our French *chef de cuisine* display such ebullitions of joy, such emotions of feeling, such rapturous expression, as could only be equalled by wrecked mariners who have fasted seventy-two long hours and see good food approaching them. It might be deemed invidious to name any, where all did their duty, but we must say the Encampments were deeply indebted to Sir Halsey Knapp, Sir D. H. Wagstaff, Sir W. Gurney, Sir Thomas R. Crocker, Sir J. F. G. Andrews, Sir H. Crozier, Sir W. Bush, Sir S. P. Tobey, Sir H. Chace, Sir C. Church, for munificent donations. In fact, the committee were compelled to decline proffers of assistance. We will only say about one hundred sat down to one of the best-furnished tables it has been our lot to see—and we have seen something more than dried pease. And there were present good appetites, and the most cordial, unaffected good humour : in fact, even the most stately unbended their dignity on this occasion : each Knight did his *devoirs*. No Saracen was attacked with more vigour and success than did our doughty warriors when they made the onslaught. Grace was offered by our Rev. Prelate, and the Malakoff was stormed, and victory crowned our banners.—Among the most prominent speakers were Sir A. O. Sullivan, of Montreal ; Sir A. T. C. Pierson, of Minnigan ; Sir J. W. Simons, Sir R. Macoy, New York ; Sir A. Niell, Texas ; Sir J. D. Green, Texas ; Sir Jas. Sorley, Texas ; Sir P. Brewer, New York ; Sir W. H. Drew, New York ; Sir D. S. Goodloe, Kentucky ; and Watson, Alabama. It is long since the halls of old Morton had such a galaxy of talent ; and long will be impressed on each visitor's mind the cordiality and hospitality of the Companions of the Knightly Order of New York.—*New York Masonic Messenger*.

SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR OCTOBER.

The month, with the exception of the accident at the Surrey Gardens and the attempted murder in Parliament-street, has been somewhat barren of news for the lovers of excitement. Her Majesty has returned to Windsor from Balmoral, and her subjects have generally quitted the seaside and returned to their homes. A large number of members of Parliament have been during the month stalling before their constituents, and giving an account of their Parliamentary stewardship. Narvaez has supplanted O'Donnell as minister in Spain, but appears to be by no means firm in the stirrups; and the English and French legations have been recalled from Naples. In America the presidential election is still engrossing the attention of the rival parties—opinions appearing now to incline to the conclusion that Buchanan will be the winner, in which case the advocates of slavery in its worst form will obtain a victory which may hereafter be most injurious to the Union.

ACCIDENTS AND OFFENCES.

On the 1st, Mrs. Hopkinson, the wife of a chemist in Broad-street, Ratcliff, was charged with attempting to destroy her life by taking a large quantity of laudanum. It appeared that her husband was generally drunk, and the business was left to the management of the wife, a young and inexperienced woman. After some strong remarks relative to such a person being left to dispense drugs, Mr. Yardley, the magistrate, discharged her. On the evening of the same day the husband ruptured a blood-vessel, which caused his death on the 6th.

William James Robson, who is charged with having forged and stolen various shares of the Crystal Palace Company to the value of 50,000*l.*, was arrested at Copenhagen on the 7th. He was brought to London and committed for trial on the simple charge of stealing eight shares.

A most frightful accident occurred in the music-hall of the Surrey Gardens on the evening of the 19th, when Mr. Spurgeon, a Baptist minister of some considerable fame, was about to preach. The hall being densely crowded, an alarm was given, which caused a cry of fire to be raised, and in their attempts at retreat, a large portion of the congregation got jammed on the staircase, and a portion of the balustrade gave way. Seven persons lost their lives, principally by suffocation or being trampled upon, and a large number were injured. We never entered the hall but once, and we then told one of the managers that if ever an alarm from any cause was given, there would be an accident, the means of egress being very deficient. Circular staircases are altogether unfitted to such buildings.

A murderous assault was committed on the evening of the 20th, the victim being Mr. Richard Cope, a shopman to Mr. Berry, a jeweller in Parliament-street, and the ruffian a ticket-of-leave man named Robert Marley. The assault was committed with a view to plunder, but a young man named Lerig passing at the time, the miscreant was foiled and attempted to escape, but was taken at the corner of the street. He gave his name as John Jenkins. Mr. Cope is not expected to recover.

COMMERCIAL.

The affairs of the Royal British Bank being now in the hands both of the Court of Chancery and the Court of Bankruptcy, there appears very little prospect of the customers obtaining a speedy settlement of their claims. Several of the depositors have sold their accounts by public auction, the prices realized being from 9*s.* to 13*s.* 6*d.* in the pound.

The London and Paris Banking Company have agreed to wind up, in consequence of disappointments in the original expectations.

The half-yearly meeting of the Royal Mail Steam-Packet Company was held on the 16th, and a dividend at the rate of 4 per cent. per annum declared. A bonus would have been also declared for the insurance fund but for the loss of the *Tay* in the Gulf of Mexico, news of which was received just before the meeting.

PROVIDENT.

The Times Fire Insurance Company having made arrangements to take up the business of the Beacon and the Athenæum Companies, a meeting was held on the 1st, at which it was resolved to increase the capital. The estimated premium income of the united companies for the present year is £50,000.

The annual meeting of the Unity General Life Assurance Association was held on the 22nd, when a report was presented, which said,—“From the 20th day of June, 1855, to the 30th day of June, 1856, the number of policies issued is 1,219, assuring £401,091, and producing in new annual premiums £13,091. 11s. 3d. Every policy having, previously to acceptance, received the utmost attention and consideration, all the assurances on the books of the association are of the best description. The directors have much pleasure in calling attention to the very satisfactory character of the business, the life losses amounting only to £5,652. 10s., and the premium to £30,075.” The report was adopted, and a dividend at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum declared.

MISCELLANEOUS.

On the 3rd, Mr. Deputy Hale was elected alderman for Coleman-street ward, in the room of Mr. Alderman Hunter, deceased.

The Rev. R. E. Trench, M.A., has been appointed dean of Westminster in the room of Dr. Buckland, deceased.

The Prince of Wales has been visiting various places in Devonshire, and has preserved his *incog.* so well, that he is described by the local papers to have attended church at two places some thirty miles apart at the same time.

Lord Ernest Vane Tempest and Cornet Birt have been dismissed the army for practical joking, and breaking their parole.

A new church, dedicated to St. Luke, was consecrated at Tiptree Heath on the 17th. The ceremony was followed by a grand luncheon at Tiptree Hall, to which Mr. Sheriff Mechi and Mrs. Mechi had invited about 150 guests.

About 3,600 of the soldiers and sailors who served in the Crimea were entertained at a grand banquet at Dublin on the 22nd, the Lord-Lieutenant and a large number of the nobility and gentry of Ireland being present. Each man was amply supplied with a pot of porter and a pint of port wine.

Obituary.

SUSAN AGNES DAWSON.

On the 17th September, at Castellamare, in Naples, after a long and painful illness, the Hon. Susan Agnes, the beloved wife of Bro. Francis D. Massey Dawson, and eldest daughter of Lord Sinclair.

MARY ANNE OLIVER.

On the 13th October, at Lincoln, in her 80th year, Mary Anne, wife of the V.W. Brother the Rev. George Oliver, D.D., the historian of Freemasonry.

BRO. EDWARD HINTON.

Died, October 11th, at his residence, Northgate, Chichester, Bro. Edward Hinton, of Lodge No. 45, aged 72 years. Our deceased Brother was a man of considerable attainments and great energy; he was for some time Secretary to the Provincial Grand Lodge of Sussex. Notwithstanding his advanced age, Bro. Hinton cheerfully filled the chair of Senior Warden during the last year, and failing health alone prompted him to decline the chair, now so ably filled by a son of one of Bro. Hinton's old associates in Masonry.

NOTICE.

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.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"P. W.," Cape of Good Hope.—A Warden appointed on the 24th of June in one year, is eligible for installation as W.M. on the following 24th of June ; it is the installation, and not the election, which governs the period necessary to be served as Warden.

"W. W."—We thank our excellent Brother for his kind attention.

"E. DUDLEY," Dudley.—Your communication has been received.

"S. B. R.," Carmarthen.—We are not aware that the reverend gentleman you allude to is a Mason. The oftener you write, the better ; we are always glad to hear from you.

A subscriber is informed the new and revised edition of the "Signs and Symbols," by the Rev. Dr. Oliver, is now in the press ; we cannot inform him the price ; it will be printed uniform with "The Golden Remains of the Early Masonic Writers," &c. &c.

"No. 674."—The account of the meeting of this Lodge, at Newcastle, was erroneously inserted under the head of Northumberland instead of Staffordshire. The Lodge, which is an excellent one, is held at Newcastle-under-Line.

It has been determined to publish a lithograph of the portrait of Bro. Thomas Ward, D. Prov. G.M. for Staffordshire, recently presented to the Sutherland Lodge of Unity, No. 674, Newcastle-under-Line, of which the Right Worshipful Brother is a Past Master ; the committee have made arrangements with Messrs. Day and Son, the lithographers, for the execution of the portrait, thereby insuring the production of a first-rate work of art. The price of each copy will be 7s. 6d.

"CURIOUS."—It is opposed to the Book of Constitutions for one Brother to hold two offices in Grand Chapter. Perhaps the learned Brother referred to can explain whether any special dispensation was granted in his case.

"S. W.," No. 694.—Is thanked ; but his communication is a little too personal for publication.

"GLASGOW."—Our usual letter has not come to hand this month.

"THE BON-ACCORD."—We have received an account of the sayings and doings at the last meeting of this body, but too late for our present number. It shall be attended to in our next.

Bro. Emmens is thanked, but his communication was unfortunately too late.

We are much obliged for the many flattering promises of increased support which we have received during the past month ; and as an earnest of our endeavour to deserve it, we think we need only refer to our present number, which contains twenty additional pages, in order to do justice to the important matter crowding upon us.