

THE
FREEMASONS'
MONTHLY MAGAZINE.

NOVEMBER 1, 1857.

THE CANADAS.

WE were enabled to announce in our last—even, we have reason to believe, before the intelligence was received at the Grand Secretary's Office—that not only had the Provincial Grand Lodge of Canada West confirmed its resolution for throwing off its allegiance to the Grand Lodge of England, but that the attempt to form a fusion with the previously constituted Grand Lodge of Canada—a body recognized by the Grand Lodge of Ireland, and many of the governing bodies of the United States—had failed; and the Provincial Grand Lodge had therefore started another Grand Lodge of Canada on its own account. We have so steadily advocated the claims of our Canadian Brethren to greater attention than they for a time received from the authorities of England, that we have no fear that our motives will be misunderstood when we express our utter condemnation of the course pursued by the Provincial Grand Lodge, in constituting themselves into a body, which can only lead to a greater disunion amongst the Freemasons of Canada and complicate still further the already entangled relations with the Grand Lodge of England. We could have hoped that when the Provincial Grand Lodge of Canada West found they could not co-operate with the Independent Grand Lodge of Canada, they would have accepted, as a basis for reunion with the mother Grand Lodge, the conciliatory propositions of the M. W. G. M., the Earl of Zetland, and returned

to their allegiance. As it is, we are led almost to the belief that there are other causes (perhaps restless ambition, in some parties, of high office) than those which have been publicly declared, for the rupture with England. As affairs now stand, it is clear that the Grand Lodge of England can acknowledge neither of the so-called Grand Lodges of Canada; the more especially as we hear that several of the Lodges in Western Canada have determined to hold no communication with them, but to stand firm by their English Charters. Should such be the case, it will be the duty of the M.W.G.M.—it will be the duty of Grand Lodge—it will be our duty—to take every possible step for the promotion of their interests and prosperity, and to draw still closer those ties by which as Masons we are bound together. In the recent defection of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Canada there is one circumstance which cannot fail to take every disinterested looker-on by surprise—to use no stronger term—we allude to the appointment of Sir Allan McNab as Grand Master, it being well known that the Masons of Canada have been in the habit of attributing to his supineness, and his want of energy and judgment, many of the difficulties and disadvantages under which they have laboured. There is another circumstance, too, as reported, though as yet it would appear to want confirmation, which we cannot pass over in silence—the installation of Sir Allan by Bro. Harington, the Prov. G.M. for Quebec, under the English Constitution. Should the report be true, it is clear that the M.W.G.M. has but one course to pursue—at once to relieve Bro. Harington from his office: for it is evident no Brother can be allowed to preside over a body of English Freemasons whilst he is aiding and abetting another body to throw off their allegiance, and place at naught the authority alike of the Grand Master and the Grand Lodge of England.

Since the above was in type, we have received a letter, by the *Arabia*, stating that Bro. Harington has voluntarily resigned his appointment, and that Sir Allan McNab is on his way to England with a view of placing the patent of appointment of himself and Bro. Harington, as well as the charters of the various Lodges which have joined the new Grand Lodge, in the hands of the M.W.G.M.

ON THE UNIVERSALITY OF THE GRAND MASONIC TRIUNITY.

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

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Freemasons' Magazine*, "P.M. and P. Prov. G.J.D." having arraigned the soundness of the Masonic views expressed in my Article "On the Number 666," in the September number, I feel compelled to offer an elucidation on the point, trusting to the justice of the Editor to permit me to be heard in my vindication. I assert that the charge is utterly unfounded. That it should be proved so is important also to the interests of the *Freemasons' Magazine*; since nothing could be more injurious to the cause of Masonry than that its periodical organ should be justly reflected on as countenancing sectarian polemics, or dogmas tending to impair the universality of Masonic science. It is equally momentous to the cause of Masonry that it should be proved to our Jewish, and other Unitarian Brethren, that no attack on their tenets was even imagined, much less made, in the article in question. On several grounds, therefore, it is desirable to obviate misconception in this matter; and I trust to be able to demonstrate that, so far from taking a limited view calculated to confine the range of Masonic extension, I have in reality done the exact reverse, by enunciating such a generalization as reduces to Masonic simplicity and universality the principles held in common by all the religions of the world.

Having been made aware, at my initiation into Freemasonry, of the universality of that noble science, which embraces within its pale the Gentile and the Jew, I should deeply regret if any word of mine gave offence to the religious feelings of a Mason of any creed. I therefore preface the explanation I am about to offer by emphatically disclaiming any intention to impugn the doctrines of our Brethren of the Jewish persuasion, or of any other class of Unitarians. This I have by no means done, either directly or by implication, in the article in question.

It is true that, on a superficial examination and unexplained, the article may have worn the appearance of a sectarian character; but I shall proceed to show that the positions which I advanced relating to the triune nature of the Deity are, one and all, held by the Jew and by the Mahometan; by the Unitarian Christian in common with the illustrious philosophers of ancient Greece; and, in a word, by every one who reasons aright respecting the general attributes of God.

Far indeed have I been from committing so grave and reprehensible an error as to lay down, in a Masonic publication, any dogma exclusively Christian respecting the *physical embodiment*, or *human*

incarnation, of the Divine Word—the Λόγος, or Θεῖος Λόγος, of Plato. Still less have I asserted the *external manifestation* of the Divine Spirit. If I had so lost sight of “the Spirit of Masonry,” I am convinced the judgment of the Editor would have refused admission to the article. On the contrary, I spoke generally, and in a philosophical spirit, of the three several and distinct aspects or points of view in which the *One and Indivisible God* may be regarded. These three aspects, characters, functions, or persons (*personæ*), are virtually, if not always expressly, assigned to the Deity by all persuasions, and by most schools of thinkers, modern as well as ancient. They form really and substantially a Sacred Masonic Triunity, recognized alike by Jew and by Gentile. How this is, I shall now briefly explain.

It is of fundamental importance, in this inquiry, to understand clearly the meaning of the word *person*; which, in relation to the Deity, is used strictly in the sense of the Latin *persona*. The usual classical meaning of *persona*, or person—literally, a *mask* used by the ancient actors—is a *part, function, or character*.* Hence, in speaking masonically of the *persons* of the Deity, the word *person* should be understood in its Latin sense of *character, capacity, or function*.

This necessary definition of the word *person* being premised, I proceed to explain what may be called the Masonic or universal view of the Divine Triunity.

There are three broadly distinguished conceptions, or points of view, under which the One God is contemplated by the human mind.

Our *first* notion of the Deity concerns His *absolute existence*. Regarded in this capacity, his attributes are independent of even the existence of man.

The *second* conception of the Deity considers Him as having an *intellectual relation* to man, by imparting to him His Divine Λόγος, *i.e.* Reason and Speech—the *Word*, or Λόγος, having both those acceptations—by which man is enabled to perceive and appreciate intellectual truth. This Λόγος or *Word* is especially used by Plato in the sense of a Divine Revelation;† and it is represented in our Lodges by the Volume of the Sacred Law. This constitutes the intellectual relation of man to the Omniscient Source of all truth that is or can be revealed to the human soul.

The *third* mode or phase in which the Deity is conceived by human intelligence is in His *moral relation* to man. This consists in His communion with, and operation on, the human heart—independently of any intellectual process—by the natural feelings of piety and adoration, by which we are brought into immediate intercourse with the Great Spirit; of love to our fellow-creatures; of aspirations after virtue; of admiration for heroism; and of

* Ex. gr. “Personam quam mihi tempus et respublica imponunt” (The office, or character, which the times and the state impose on me).—Cicero, Oratio pro Sulla, 3.

† Phædo, 78 D.

indignation against crime. It is by such feelings and passions that the Divine Being has incorporated in our nature *a particle of the Divine Spirit*, to "lead us in paths of righteousness."*

The soul of man was called by the ancient philosophers *Divinæ particula auræ*,† "a particle of the Divine breath or Spirit." This *aura Divina* corresponds literally to the "Ἅγιον Πνεῦμα (Holy Spirit) of the Old Testament. It would be a palpable mistake to imagine that the idea of "the Spirit of the Lord," "the Spirit of God," "the Holy Spirit," is one peculiarly Christian, and not perfectly familiar to the Jews. Indeed, the identical expression the "Holy Spirit" (Ἅγιον Πνεῦμα) occurs in the Septuagint version of the "Wisdom" of our great founder, King Solomon (chap. ix. 17). The sole and exclusive difference between Jews and Christians respecting these points relates, on the one hand, to the *incarnation* of the Λόγος or *Word*; and, on the other, to the *physical* or *visible manifestation* of the Πνεῦμα or Spirit. These controverted points I neither actually meddled with in the article, nor had I the least thought of doing so.

That the three points of view just specified as those under which, collectively, the mind of every Theist, of whatever denomination, alone can form a full notion of the Divine nature, are so wholly distinct from each other as even not to be necessarily co-existent, is obvious from the fact that the imagination can readily conceive the existence of the Deity in each of these capacities, independently of the other two. The triple distinction, or triunity, is therefore no vague, non-essential, gratuitous, or trifling one; but a partition inseparably involved in, and therefore indispensable to the attainment of, a distinct conception of the Divine Being. He must be conceived, first, as absolutely existent in Himself—the great "I am;" secondly, as holding intellectual—and thirdly, moral relation to the human race.

Thus it appears that the Deity is regarded in our contemplations under three several points of view; or as performing three distinct functions—assuming three distinct characters or *Persons*. Sometimes we regard the Deity solely as the Creator. When we behold His majestic works, which inspire us with ideas of grandeur and sublimity, as indications of measureless power, we do not necessarily consider Him in His relation to man. In this point of view, we regard Him merely as the Spirit who sways the tremendous powers of the Universe. We contemplate Him, in a word, only as the Almighty. He would exist the same Omnipotent if man and all his works were, by His inscrutable fiat, obliterated from the earth; if chaos came again, and "a shoreless ocean tumbled round the globe."

But when, again, we regard the infinite wisdom apparent in the creation, we are naturally led to contemplate the Divine Being as the source to man of all wisdom and of all truth. The sciences of which we obtain a limited knowledge by observation or meditation, objectively or subjectively, bring us into intellectual relation with

* Psalm xxiii. 3.

† Horace, Sat. B. ii. 2, 79.

the Omniscient, who thus reveals to us a portion of the infinite truth. This revelation, to the human mind, of moral as well as intellectual truth, is the *Word*. This "Word" enables us to appreciate beauty, harmony, and truth; and the Deity, considered in this point of view, assumes a *person*, capacity, character, or function, completely distinct from the former one.

Thirdly, the *spiritual* relation of God to man is His operation on the human soul, to influence it to act according to the laws of the Divine Creator. Under this aspect, we regard God as beneficently providing for His creatures, and as being in relation to us morally, through the medium of our feelings and passions.

Thus our ideas of the Deity are necessarily of a threefold character; and each ingredient in our complete triple notion of Him is as indispensable as the other two. Hence the equiangular triangle is, of all emblems, the fittest to represent the Deity. But it is obvious that that triangle, being one and indivisible in its totality, although triple in its equal angles, and triple in its equal sides, symbolizes attributes or functions only; and implies nothing that in the least interferes with our conception of the absolute and inseparable unity of the Godhead. In the article under examination, I took this view, and this alone—making complete logical abstraction of all sectarian interpretations or applications of the three essential principles acknowledged by all men to be inherent in the nature of the Divinity. In developing the properties and principles of the Masonic triangle, as symbolizing the three primary elements in our notion of the Deity, I advanced nothing contrary or derogatory to "the strict unity of God." I took my stand on common ground, invading the religious opinions and insulting the faith, I am happy to say, of none!

The enumeration of the triplicity of the functions here spoken of, while not interfering with the *Oneness* of the Deity, only serves to make our conception of him complete. All intelligent nature, indeed, is triune, being at once physical, intellectual, and moral. Man himself, who has been felicitously called a *microcosm*, or epitome of the world, is himself triune. His nature is intellectual, spiritual, and physical. Yet man, like the Deity, whose image he is, is one and indivisible; although the intellect and the passions animate his perishable frame.

This sacred triunity pervading all nature, characterizing the God of Nature, and extending to man himself, is no new-fangled notion. It was canvassed in subtle argumentation, by the followers of Plato, in the groves of Academus. It was reflected, or shadowed forth, among the philosophers of the Porch, in their analogous distribution of the properties of human nature into the moral, the external, and the intellectual—equivalent, the first to the passions of the soul; the second to the relation of man to physical nature; and the third to the divine faculty of reason, which,—according to their noble, but perhaps not fully practicable, theory—should exercise the sovereignty of an absolute king over the other two. The philosophy of

“three grand principles” was discussed in the peripatetic disquisitions of the Stagirite; and the truth of *the Grand Masonic Triunity* was expounded and demonstrated by Pythagoras, as part of the mysteries—moral, geometrical, and symbolic—communicated, under the vow of secrecy, to his silent disciples at their solemn and august initiation.

Amongst our ancient Brethren this Grand Triunity of God, of nature, and of man, has been held in all ages as the great bond of union which generalizes, and reduces to Masonic universality, the primary conceptions of the Deity entertained in common by all sects and nations. It links, in one and the same creed and brotherhood, devout and worthy men of all shades of religious opinions. This comprehensive and universal union constitutes the very soul and essence and beauty of Freemasonry, and binds together all the worshippers of the One God in Masonic conformity and confraternity.

These views of the compatibility of the Oneness of the Deity with the triplicity of His *personæ*, or characters, do not clash with the scruples of any sect. They are consistent with the acknowledged tenets of all religions. The Christian cannot withhold his assent to them, since, although they do not affirm what is peculiar and distinctive in his faith, they are not inconsistent with it. Still less can the Jew or the Unitarian object to them, since they virtually hold them as the *whole* truth. It follows, therefore, that our Masonic Brotherhood is not now to be asked to yield up any portion or property whatever of its ancient emblem, the equiangular and equilateral triangle; pregnant as it is with meaning, not only as an instrument of architecture, but as symbolizing the Divine essences of the Grand Architect.

The main allegation contained in the letter of our Brother “P.M. and P. Prov. G.J.D.” being thus, I trust, disproved, there remain only two or three minor points which require a word.

In the first place, I was pained to observe that he asks whether I “would have it understood that Freemasonry is a sign of the beast?” On the contrary, I expressly, by anticipation, guarded against such an imputation by suggesting a new explanation of the number 666, as used in the Book of Revelation; an interpretation diametrically opposed to so extravagant a charge. This point, however, I did not think it necessary to dwell on; but only interposed the observation, *en passant*, for the sole purpose of shielding myself from such a misunderstanding. Otherwise I would not have alluded at all to the number mentioned in the Book of Revelation; since my belief is that it is only by an accidental coincidence that it is the same with the unquestionably Masonic number indicative of the riches of the Temple. In the face of an argumentative disclaimer on my part, I scarcely had reason to expect that so damaging an imputation would be insinuated against me by a Brother P.M.

If our Brother had accorded to the article on which he sat in judgment, a less hurried perusal than he confessedly bestowed on it, he

not only would have avoided throwing out a groundless insinuation, but might have penetrated the true Masonic spirit of the article, as I have now explained its import.

There is even a third indication of the haste with which the P.M. permits himself to draw his conclusions, without taking the trouble to make himself master of the premises from which he infers them. He "cannot pause to inquire" how 6 is a "perfect number;" nor "what the author means by stating, that it is itself a triangular number, and expresses that particular equilateral triangle of which the side is three." On those particulars also I will, for his information, give a little explanation.

The Platonists, and other early Greek geometers, defined as ἀριθμοὶ τέλειοι, or *perfect numbers*, the series of numbers of which each is equal to the sum of its divisors or factors. Hence 6 is a perfect number, because $6=1+2+3$. Similarly, 28 is a perfect number, since $28=1+2+4+7+14$.

Triangular numbers are those of which the units may be disposed into the form of an equilateral triangle. Thus 3 is a triangular number, because three units form the equilateral triangle $[\cdot\cdot\cdot]$; 6 is a triangular number, because its units form "that particular equi-

lateral triangle of which the side is 3," thus $[\cdot\cdot\cdot\cdot\cdot]$. The general analytic formula for triangular numbers is $\frac{n^2+n}{2}$, n being the number of units in the side of the triangle. See Euler, "Algèbre des Nombres Figurés ou Polygones," tom. i. p. 201. A little study of that chapter, or of some other work of the same nature, would qualify the P.M. to comprehend the proposition or theorem which I have demonstrated respecting the number 666 of the Books of Kings and Chronicles; namely, that it is a Masonic emblem, typifying the *union* of the grand architectural and Masonic symbols, the equilateral triangle and the square, since 36—the geometrical base of the equilateral triangle 666, and consequently its linear representative—is the first number that is, distinctively, both an equilateral triangle and a square.

The union of these two chief emblems, the regular triangle and the square, in a single cipher or monogram, was, indeed, of momentous importance to the purposes of the great founders of Masonic science. They thereby collected and symbolized all the leading attributes of the Deity by a single generalization. The equilateral and equiangular triangle is, as I have shown, a universally true and unsectarian emblem of the Deity, in respect, first, of His absolute existence; and, secondly, of His mental and His spiritual relation to man. The square is the representative of His power, His perfection, and His justice. It is, first, the symbol of *Power*, as being the type of solidity, strength, and stability. Secondly, Aristotle, as well as Plato, uses the τετράγωνον, or square, as the synonym of *Perfection*. And, lastly, the right angle naturally suggests the idea of uprightness as well as of stability, and is the essential notion of

the emblematic scales of *Justice*, inclining neither to the right hand nor to the left.

Hence it is that Wisdom, Strength, and the Beauty of Holiness—related severally to the three fundamental characters or aspects, under which the Deity is contemplated by His intelligent creatures—are always regarded by Masons as having respectively, framed, established, and adorned the Temple of King Solomon.

THE KADIRI ORDER OF EL TASAWUF IN ARABIA.

WE claim for the institution of Freemasonry a high antiquity, but of its origin and progress we have but tradition to guide our researches into its annals; yet as a culminating point all authorities direct us to the East as the source of the mighty stream that continues, by fresh branches, to spread itself over the entire surface of the globe. Hence it is with many a matter of wonder that we have had but few, and those very vague, accounts of the actual practice of Freemasonry among the peoples of the East.

We have heard Brethren who have travelled in distant climes relate narratives of extraordinary services received by the talismanic sign of a Mason; but upon a close investigation the whole affair resolved itself into what the party "had been told." It was consequently with considerable pleasure that we found in Lieutenant Burton's "Pilgrimage to El Medinah and Mecca,"* a statement which makes it perfectly clear that there exists in that land—rendered sacred to all time by the journeyings of the Israelites, when led by our Grand Master Moses in search of the promised Canaan—an institution which, from what the Lieutenant tells us, appears to make the nearest approach to Freemasonry of any of the secret societies that are or have been in existence among the semi-barbarous tribes.

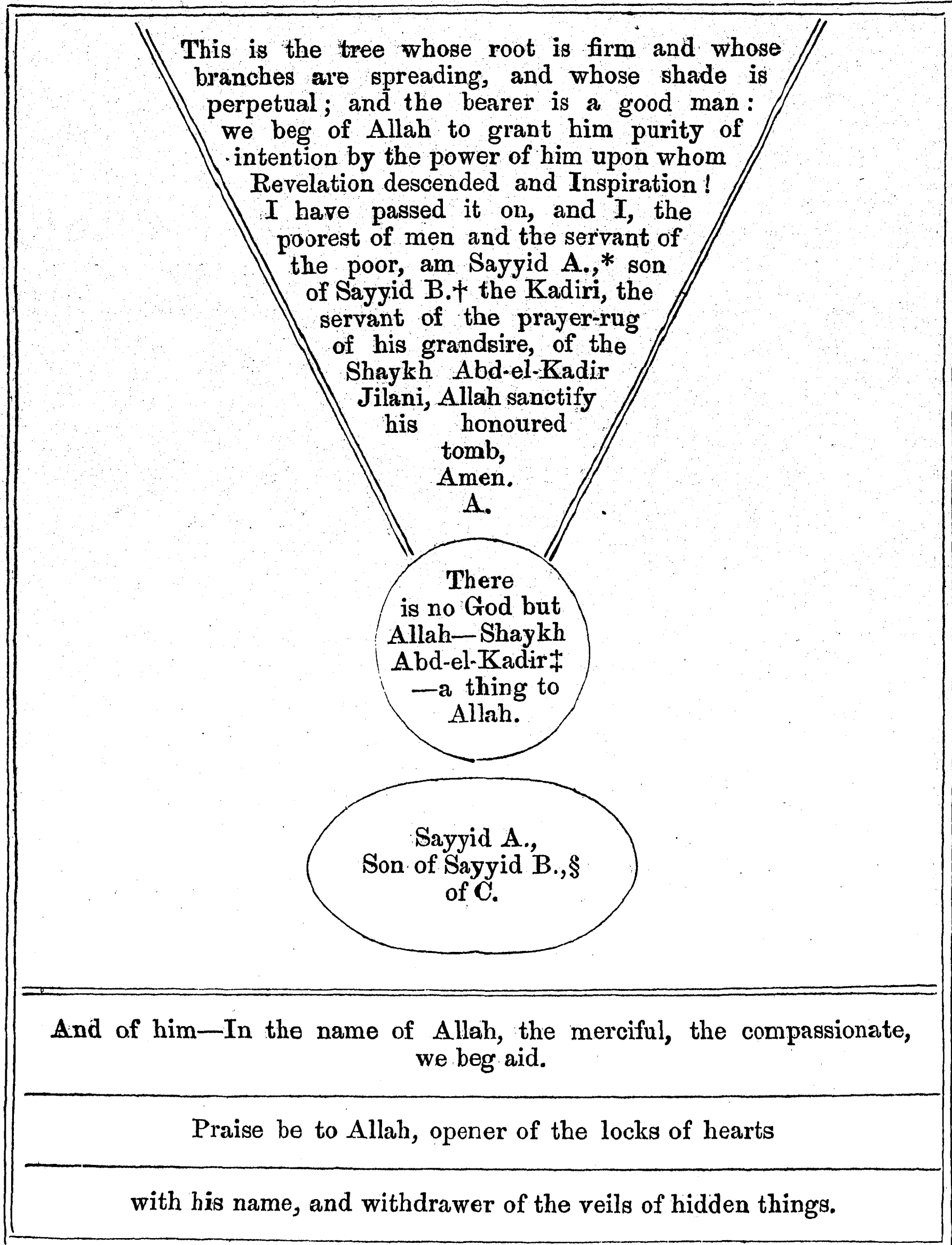
Lieut. Burton does not tell us by what means he was enabled to be admitted to the outer portal of the order. All we know is that his physiognomy being favourable to the deceit, and being proficient in many of the eastern dialects, he assumed the character of a learned Persian, but was induced afterwards to change it for another.

"After a month's hard work at Alexandria, I prepared to assume the character of a wandering Dervish, after reforming my title from Mirza to 'Shaykh' Abdullah. A reverend man, whose name I do not care to quote, some time after initiated me into his order, the Kadriyah, under the high-sounding name of Bismallah-Shah; and after a due period of probation, he graciously elevated me to the proud position of a Murshid in the mystic Craft. I was, therefore, well acquainted with the tenets and practices of these Oriental Freemasons. A Murshid is one allowed to admit Murids or Apprentices into the order."

Lieut. Burton gives us *in extenso* a specimen of what he terms,

* Two Vols., 8vo., Longman and Co.

"A Murshid's Diploma in the Kadira Order of the Mystic Craft el Tasawuf." The document he describes to be written upon slips of paper pasted together, 4 feet 5 inches long, by about 6½ inches broad. It commences thus:—



* Sádát, the plural of Sayyid, is the highest order of citizens in El Medinah.

† The names are omitted in this copy.

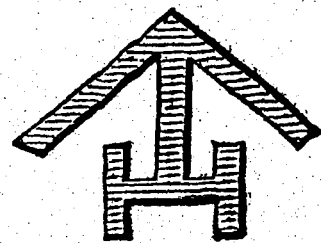
‡ Facsimile of the seal of the great Abd-el-Kadir. This seal is a sign that the owner has become a Master in the Craft. Abd-el-Kadir was a celebrated Sufi or mystic, who is by some Easterns revered as much as the Prophet.

§ This is the living Shaykh's seal, and is the only one applied to the apprentice's diploma.

It is not necessary for us to transfer the whole of the diploma to our pages; we refer the curious to Lieut. Burton's very interesting volumes, which we assure our readers convey a most life-like picture of these sacred cities of Islam hermetically sealed from the unbeliever, as they suppose; for death would follow the detection of a Christian. We may however notice, that the diploma, after a sort of genealogical tree from the first age of the world down to the present chief of the order, gives a number of princely ranks that appear to be included in the diploma, which we suppose are conferred on the party to whom it is given.

From his use of certain terms, we think it is tolerably clear that Lieut. Burton is a member of our Order, and that by means of his attainments as a Freemason, as well as his knowledge of the Eastern languages, he was enabled to obtain admittance into the Arabic institution.

Mr. Halloran, in his "Journal of a Visit to Loo Choo,"* tells us that the captain of a war junk, who came on board her Majesty's ship at Koomisang, had on his coat between his shoulders a yellow mark in this form; also one of the same kind on the back of his cap.†



It is very desirable that our Brethren in the East should communicate any information they may obtain with regard to any society at all approaching to the Masonic institution; and we hope, as the "Indian Freemasons' Journal" frequently, in a spirit of friendliness, extracts our articles, that this hint may be conveyed throughout the Lodges in the East. We think it is Col. Todd who mentions that Mr. Ellis, a Madras officer, passed into the adytum or sacred part of a Hindoo temple, by the sign of a Master Mason; and a French author some time since, in treating of the Chinese triad, asserted it was a Masonic institution. Cannot our Brethren in China give us some certain information on this point?

It is undeniable that Freemasonry has been practised in the East from the earliest times; we have our traditional history corroborated by facts. Col. Todd found many Masonic emblems on the Cyclopean walls of Mundore, probably the oldest building in the world; and Von Hammer in "Mines de l'Orient," vol. vi. p. 46, says, "We learn from Arabian historians an account of a Masonic institution of a temple or house of Solomon—the earliest authenticated historic testimony of what better answers to a Masonic institution—called the House of Wisdom, which Hakem, in the 11th century, built at Cairo, where, besides public instruction, they taught a secret doctrine." Hakem was the khaliph of Egypt; under his race, the Fatimides, learning was encouraged; and Arabian historians say the founder of the dynasty was a Jew, or of the Magian religion; they

* We were somewhat surprised by seeing the use made by the *Celestials* of two of our familiar emblems.

† Mr. Halloran, not understanding the emblem, fancied it to be a mark of the officer's rank.

also tell us that Hakem's folly induced him to become the founder of a new religion. Hakem, who by all accounts, appears to have been a cruel despot, ended his life, as most Eastern potentates, by murder.

TIDINGS FROM THE CRAFT IN THE UNITED STATES.

Prepared monthly for *The Freemasons' Monthly Magazine*. By R. W. ROB. MORRIS, of Lodgeton, Kentucky, and 335, Broadway, New York, late Editor of *The American Freemason*.

The diffusion of Masonic intelligence in the United States is by the annual publications of the various Grand Lodges, and by newspapers exclusively devoted to Masonic affairs. Of the latter there are eleven, viz. :—

QUARTERLY.—*The American Masonic Quarterly*, edited by Dr. A. G. Mackey, the celebrated Masonic historian, published by R. W. Robert Macoy, New York.

MONTHLY.—*Freemasons' Monthly Magazine*, by Charles W. Moore, of Boston, Massachusetts; *Masonic Review*, by Cornelius Moore, of Cincinnati, Ohio; *The American Freemason*, by J. F. Brennan, of Louisville, Kentucky; *The Signet and Journal*, by S. Lawrence, of Marietta, Georgia; *The Ashlar*, by Allyn Weston, of Detroit, Michigan; *The Western Freemason*, by J. R. Hartsock, of Iowa City, Iowa; *The Masonic Journal*, by Geo. W. Chace, of Haverhill, Massachusetts; *The Masonic Messenger*, by M. J. Drummond, of New York; *The Trestle Board*, by Jas. G. Clarkson, of Chicago, Illinois.

WEEKLY.—*Masonic Mirror*, by L. Hyneman, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

These are not generally patronized as they deserve, or to the extent of their actual outgoings, only three or four being supposed to pay their managers a profit.

The publication of Masonic intelligence through the instrumentality of Grand Lodges, has assumed a prominent position in the United States. Some of the Grand Lodges, as New York, Kentucky, South Carolina, Louisiana, etc., devote hundreds of pages annually of their published proceedings to details of Masonic history, jurisprudence, and philosophical disquisitions connected with this great theme. King (of New York), Morris (of Kentucky), Mackey (of South Carolina), Fellows (of Louisiana), etc., are the chairmen respectively of the "committees on foreign correspondence," to whom these duties are appropriated. The printed proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi have averaged during the last ten years 400 octavo pages annually, made up of statistical details of their own, and a well-digested body of literature, such as is named above.

There are 35 Grand Lodges in the United States, each of which is entirely independent in its own sphere (state or territory), viz.—Alabama, which has 200 lodges; Arkansas, with 64; California, 101; Connecticut, 70; Delaware, 10; District of Columbia, 10; Florida, 21; Georgia, 199; Illinois, 200; Indiana, 205; Iowa, 85; Kansas, 8; Kentucky, 310; Louisiana, 87; Maine, 78; Maryland, 29; Massachusetts, 96; Michigan, 60; Minnesota, 12; Mississippi, 189; Missouri, 152; New Hampshire, 25; New Jersey, 41; New York, 351; North Carolina, 116; Ohio, 256; Oregon, 10; Pennsylvania, 240; Rhode Island, 12;

South Carolina, 61; Tennessee, 210; Texas, 90; Vermont, 37; Virginia, 159; Wisconsin, 50. The average of membership in these lodges is about 33, which affords an aggregate of about 130,000, all Master Masons. The publications made annually by these 35 Masonic Grand bodies exceed in the aggregate 4,000 pages octavo size.

There is but one literary society, as such, under Masonic patronage in the United States. It is styled *The School of Crotona*, located at Lodgeton, Kentucky, the residence of Rob. Morris, Esq., and has been in active exercise nearly two years. Thus far its operations have been confined to exchanges of Masonic documents, and its *modus operandi* may be most readily understood by the following circular:—

“*Prodome of the School of Crotona*.—Wanted, Masonic books, pamphlets, circulars, by-laws, addresses, manuscripts, &c. &c. Also, medals, seals, etc., with impressions of the same, in quantities large as possible.

“The same number of articles, but no two similar, will be returned in exchange.

“Masonic bodies, Grand or Subordinate, print 100 extra copies of all their documents to send *The School of Crotona*.

“Individuals publishing addresses, etc., send 100 extra copies to *The School of Crotona*.

“Write on every article the name of the donor—if not, he will fail to get credit for it.

“Address *School of Crotona*, Lodgeton, Kentucky. “ROB. MORRIS, G.P.”

The success of this system has been exceedingly great; vast quantities of Masonic matter, much of it the unvalued accumulations of long periods, having found their way by this means into the hands of parties appreciating them. It comports with the original plan of this *School of Crotona* to establish a *College of Masonic Instruction*, as the only practicable means of correcting the irregularities of work and ritual which abound in this country, but this is a matter of time.

During the month of August it was announced through the Masonic press, that the publication of *The Universal Masonic Library* was completed. This is in part a collection of original works, but chiefly a compilation of the standard literature of Freemasonry, in thirty volumes octavo, of 400 pages each. The issue of such a magnificent series of works, devoted exclusively to this institution, has secured the interest of the entire Fraternity. The 30 volumes comprise 54 works, including all those of Dr. Oliver, Preston, Calcott, Hutchinson, Harris, Ashe, Morris, Lawrie, Anderson, Inwood, Percy, Mackey, De Vertot, Gourdin, Taylor, Creigh, Tucker, Allen, Brown, Morton, Arnold, Toun, and Portal. No better test of the literary zeal of the American Masons need be offered than the fact that nearly 2,000 full sets of the Library were ordered during the three years intervening between the publication of the first and the thirtieth volumes respectively. The work was projected, compiled and published by Rob. Morris, Esq.

Having thus stated a few facts as a basis for the future papers of this series, I go on to give the scanty incidents of the past non-Masonic month. The presentation of an Honorarium to Hon. and M. E. Blackstone Hubbard, at Buffalo, New York, Sept. 9th, was an event of importance to all Masons who cherish the orders of Christian Knighthood, and desire to see honour rendered to true merit. General Hubbard for the past nine years has been the Grand Master of the Knights Templar of the United States, and in that high position has given such proofs of self-devotion, large acquirements, and an intimate knowledge of

Templar Masonry, as to excite the highest degree of approbation throughout all the ranks of the Sir Knights, now numbering about 5,000. It was therefore commanded by the Grand Encampment in Session, Sept. 1856, at Hartford, Connecticut, that a testimonial in the form of a patriarchal cross of gold should be presented him by a committee appointed for the purpose. This Honorarium is the finest piece of symbolic jewelry ever made in this country, and its presentation, under the auspices of the Grand Commandery of the State of New York, and in the presence of a large concourse of ladies and gentlemen, on the occasion cited, made an event of uncommon interest in the annals of the Craft. Some statistics of the Knightly Orders in the United States will be given you in subsequent issues.

Your readers are doubtless aware that the President of the United States, James Buchanan, Esq. is a Freemason, a member and formerly Master of the Lodge at Lancaster, Pennsylvania. The Vice President, Mr. John B. Breckinridge, is likewise a member of Lodge No. 1, at Lexington, Kentucky, and late Grand Orator of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky. Many other distinguished civilians and officers in our armies are attached *socii* of this ancient Craft.

The Grand Lodges to meet in October are Ohio, Illinois, and Kentucky. Synopses of their doings will be forwarded to you.

LONDON AND MIDDLESEX ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

THE truly zealous Mason, both operative and speculative, will learn with pleasure the rapid strides this society is making, under the care of such men as the Rev. Mr. Boutell, Rev. Mr. Hugo, Mr. Taylor, and others, who are desirous of preserving, explaining, and bringing to light, the hidden treasures of science and art with which our wide-famed city and the metropolitan county abound. In the early part of the summer the society, by the permission of Lord Panmure, the R.W.D.G.M., had laid open for its inspection the inmost recesses of the Tower of London; and on that occasion visited the Great Keep, commonly called the White Tower, in which is situated the Council Chamber, where our kings, until the time of Henry VII., held their privy councils. And this favour of the R.W.D.G.M. was the more appreciated because it is nearly a century since its interior was exposed to public gaze; and the society are determined to use its best endeavours to open this curious room for the inspection of all comers; and we now thus late return our thanks to our R.W. Brother, Lord Panmure, for his favour, and to Lord de Ros, the Constable of the Tower, for his extreme affability on the occasion of the society's visit. It is not our intention, however, to speak of the Tower in this number of our journal, but we may return to it on another occasion.

On Monday, 5th of October, the members of the society, accompanied by a number of visitors, amongst whom were many ladies, visited Hampton Court Palace, where they assembled in the Great Hall; and a short lecture was delivered by the chairman of the day, the Rev. Thomas Hugo, who afterwards

conducted the party to every part of the palace where anything was to be seen worthy of notice.

The Manor of Coombe (Hampton Court) is mentioned in Domesday Book, or "*Liber Judiciarius vel Censualis Angliæ*," and its first holder was Walther de Walaric; later, in King Edward the Confessor's time (A.D. 1042 to 1066), it was held by Earl Algar, and was estimated for taxing at £40 per annum—equal to £120 of our present currency. In the year 1211, Joan, Lady Grey, relict of Sir Robert Grey, of Hampton, by her will left the entire manor and manor-house of Hampton to the Knights Hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem, whose Priory was situated in or about St. John's Square, Clerkenwell; and they appear to have enjoyed the revenues derivable therefrom until the 21st day of January, 1514, when Sir Knight Thomas Docura, the Prior of the Order in England, leased the estate on behalf of himself and the Brethren Sir Knights, to Thomas Wolsey, Archbishop of York, Primate of England, who at that time had not been elevated to the rank of cardinal. In the British Museum, amongst the Cotton MSS. is the original lease, letting it to Wolsey for a term of ninety-nine years, at a rental of £50 per annum, out of which Wolsey is allowed to deduct the sum of £4. 13s. 4d. for the exhibition or allowance to a priest to minister divine service within the chapel; and the prior is to furnish wood from the Hospitallers' estate called St. John's Wood, near Marylebone, at Wolsey's expense of carriage, to repair the weir in the Thames called Hampton Weir.

Permission is granted to Wolsey to make any alterations he may think proper, but at the expiration of the lease the whole of the property is to return to the order. But if the rent be unpaid for two whole years, then the prior and knights have the power to claim the property again. And upon these terms Wolsey became possessor of Hampton Court, where he built a palace so grand and so extensive that 3,000 persons were regaled therein by his desire and hospitality.

Of this superb mansion, on which all the talent of Europe was employed to perfect it, little now remains except the outer and inner large courts, and some smaller kitchen and office courts backing on a yard then and now called Tennis Court Lane. We may here draw attention to the extremely large and rare terra cotta alto rilievo busts of the Roman emperors which are let into the brickwork of the gate-towers. They are the reputed work of Della Robbia; but, be that as it may, they are very fine specimens of clay-work, and, what is certain, were sent as a present to the lord cardinal by Pope Leo X. for the adornment of his house.

The Great Hall, which has long been ascribed to Wolsey, was built by Henry VIII., about five or six years after the king had exchanged his palace at Sheen with the cardinal, for Hampton Court—Henry having pulled down the Hall previously built and commenced the one now existing. To assist him in his work he employed Freemasons; and the record of the expenses in the Public Record Office has rescued his Master's and Warden's names from being lost to posterity and the present members of the Craft, and, in our opinion, adds additional lustre to Masonry, and shows how skilful the Brethren were at that time. The Master's name was John Molton, and his wages were 12d. a day; the Warden's name was William Reynolds, he was paid 60d. the week; they also having fifty-six Lodge-men, at 40d. the week each.

Bro. Edward Arnolde had a special commission from the Grand Master to collect and assemble the various Brethren scattered throughout the counties of Northamptonshire, Huntingdonshire, and Bedfordshire, and to form them into a Lodge, and bring them to Hampton, to assist in building this Great Hall. Beside these Brethren, there was an Apprentices' Lodge, presided over by a Master-Carpenter, and his Warden; and a Lodge of Bricklayers, consisting of a Master, Warden, and seventy-eight Brethren. There were also other expert Master-Masons not joined to Lodges, whose names are given in full, and their special work mentioned, thus: John Ellis, of Westminster, Freemason, who was employed upon the stone-work of the great bay window; John Whighte, of Winchester, Freemason, employed upon carving flowers in stone, for the hall; John Wright, of South Mimms, Freemason, who carved the king's arms and supporters, and badges, &c., &c., also the fine lion which sits to this day so prominently on the top of the gable-end of the roof of the Hall—for the working of which he received only 16s.—and a dragon to match, at the other end of the roof, of which no trace now remains. This Hall has lately undergone a thorough repair and redecoration; and the greatest praise is due to that eminent artist in stained-glass, Mr. Willement, for his admirable skill in restoring the magnificent windows which adorn this room; they must be seen and studied to be appreciated.

From this Hall the Society of Archæologists entered the withdrawing-room, where is the fine oriel window of Bro. John Ellis, also a carved mantle-shelf of wood, stated to be Elizabethan, but pronounced by the learned in these matters to be of the time of James II. In the centre of this mantelpiece is a portrait of the lord cardinal, which the rev. chairman pronounced to be a bad copy, and we venture to back his opinion, notwithstanding the assertion of the attendant custodian. In this room are some tapestries, which the lecturer stated were the positive property of the lord cardinal; and we were informed, that in the inventory of the goods handed over by Wolsey to Henry, these identical arras are mentioned. The Hall is also hung with very fine tapestries, representing the life of Abraham. The rev. chairman called upon a Mr. Charles Bayley for a slight account of the arras, but met with no response, rather to the chagrin of the anxious members.

Passing from the Hall, the society wended their way through the Picture Gallery, and the very fine Dutch looking-glasses came next under notice. They are formed of several sheets of glass, held together by a narrow border of engraved glass, pinned to the wooden back by pins or pegs, with large coloured-glass heads. These glasses were the property of King William III., who had them sent over from the Hague to furnish his rooms. We here take the liberty of calling the attention of the officers in power to the very bad state of repair in which these splendid engraved glasses are; and if suffered to continue in their present state, they will not last long to form a memento of their wise and clever, though unpopular possessor. Passing hurriedly through the room (pictures not being the order of the day), the society came upon the Palace chapel, where attention was called to the arms and supporters carved in stone, coloured and gilt, on each side of the Chapel entrance.

That on the dexter side represents the arms of Henry VIII., supported by two angels, and his initials "H. R.;" and on the sinister side the arms of Henry VIII.,

impaled with those of Jane Seymour, the same supporters, and the initials "H. I." On entering the Chapel the appearance is tolerably good, with one exception, in which we entirely agree with Mr. Godwin, that the whitened windows ought to be removed for fine stained glass, when the Chapel would be unique. There are two roofs, an outer and inner, and the inner roof is pinned and dove-tailed to the outer roof, and is thus supported without any interior aid. Within the last two or three years, this inner roof was found to be unsafe, one of the pendants being supported by one nail alone. This discovery led to an examination of the outer roof, which was found to be very defective, and a new outer roof has been built over the inner one, without in the least disturbing it; a work requiring the greatest care, and the architect deserves the highest praise for preserving this delicately-ornamented ceiling, only two of the pendants being out of the perpendicular. There is one feature in this ceiling different to any we have yet seen, namely, the broken arches. The pendants are angels blowing trumpets, and boys with musical instruments in the centre of the squares; the king's and queen's arms, and the royal motto, running the length of the beams. The ground work of the squares is blue ornamented with gilt stars, the whole heightened with vermilion and gilt in the extreme, but exhibiting the best taste, when taken as a whole. It will have a better appearance when toned down a little by time. The pewing is by Wren, and the carving by Grinling Gibbons. The organ, which appeared to be of no great account, was under repair. Whilst this chapel was under examination, some few of the heads of the society had been into the roofs, in order to explain the nature of the building to the members.

On leaving the Chapel the society visited Wolsey's Kitchen Court, and the large buttry hatches, four in number. From this court a good view is obtained of the outside of the great oriel window in the withdrawing-room attached to the Great Hall, the work, as we before said, of Bro. John Ellis, of Westminster.

Having thus fully explored the remains of the palaces of Wolsey and Henry VIII., the society came upon the Fountain Court, with its arched gallery, displaying the science and great skill of that clever architect, Grand Master Sir Christopher Wren, to whose care the Palace of Hampton Court was entrusted by King William III.; and worthy of the trust has this celebrated Mason proved himself, by the very fine building which is now and has been the admiration of each succeeding generation. The Portrait Gallery is part of the Old Palace, but the front, of red brick and Portland stone, is Wren's. Here in the court are four vacant pedestals of stone, which formerly served for statues, the work of an Italian by name Fanelli, which have been ruthlessly torn from their original resting-place to decorate the gardens of Windsor Castle and elsewhere. This is carrying out the old proverb of "robbing Peter to pay Paul," and we hope some day, through the influence of the Commissioners of Public Works, to see them restored to their proper site. The southern side of this court, in the circular recesses over the first floor windows, is decorated with paintings to imitate stone, depicting the labours of Hercules, by a French artist, name Laguerre. The archway under the gallery, running round the four sides of the court, forms a cloister; passing through which, and under the arch gateway, leads to the principal or east front of Wren's building.

The society then proceeded to the private garden, to view the south façade, which is highly ornamented with stone trophies and stone wreaths let into the brickwork. With the exception of these wreaths there is only one other specimen of the same date in or near London—a house in Bishopgate-street. In the Conservatory under this front is a myrtle-tree, formerly the property of Queen Mary, and brought to England by King William III., the stem of which is nearly as large as a child's body. Facing this conservatory are two very curious old leaden vases, to contain flowers, which one of the members stated were purchased by Queen Anne of the celebrated Johan Van Nost, who had a lead foundry in Piccadilly, somewhere about the spot now called White Horse-street; we believe that there is only one specimen of his work remaining in London, and that is the kneeling African supporting the sun-dial, in Clement's Inn. Of course, being close to the grapery, the vine was visited, and a grand spectacle it presented with its clustering bunches of grapes in ripe luxuriance.

Leaving the private gardens, the society visited the terrace, to see the nine remarkable specimens of ironwork, the designs of Wren, but the name of the artist unknown; they are in pairs, the centre being more elaborate than the rest. The first represents the star of the order of the garter; the next, the reversed cypher of King William and Queen Mary; the next, a superb bouquet of flowers, and so on.

The society were about to proceed further, when a pitiless storm of rain caused the members to beat a retreat, and seek shelter under the arcade of trees, from whence a good view is obtained of a very beautiful stone vase, the delicate proportions of which charmed the eye, and in some measure compensated for the comparative loss of time. The society having thus abruptly brought its labours to a close, the rev. chairman informed the meeting, that the committee, while catering to the best of their ability for the improvement of the mind, had not forgotten the inward man, but had entered into an arrangement with the proprietor of the Prince of Wales Hotel to provide a good hot dinner by five o'clock, which announcement was most cordially received. The members then mustered in front of the Fore Court of Wolsey's Palace, and thence proceeded to dinner; not without pausing on the centre of Moulsey-bridge to observe the very fine view of the palace which is obtainable from that spot.

After dinner, a vote of thanks was proposed to the Rev. Mr. Hugo, for the kind and able manner in which he, as chairman, had directed the movements of the society, and for his eloquent addresses upon the various parts of the building. Votes of thanks were also proposed to those gentlemen who had addressed the meeting. The company then broke up, and returned to London by a special train.

HOURS OF REFRESHMENT.—During the hours of refreshment, a free conversation is permitted, provided it be confined within the bounds of decency; but no discussions on religion or politics can be allowed even here. Should a private dispute between two Brethren be heard, the Master will suppress it at once, and firmly; for whatever relation the members may bear towards each other in the world, here they are Brothers; and nothing can be admitted but what is strictly in character with the dictates of fraternal harmony and love.—*Book of the Lodge.*

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

MASONIC RITUALS.

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

SIR AND BROTHER,—“A Lover of Legitimate Principles” declares in your *Magazine* for October, that a ritual of Masonry, “*whether in the safe keeping of the Grand Lodge or otherwise, is illegal.*”

Fully aware that the subject cannot be fully argued in your pages, I will nevertheless venture to express my surprise that any one who has studied the *Ob.* could venture to make such an assertion.

A ritual compiled by a committee of those talented Brethren who conduct the Lodges of Instruction in London, perfectly free from illegitimacy or the apprehended departure from the “*stringent laws of the Ob.*,” would be an easy task, and such a ritual kept at the Grand Secretary's Office, for the convenience of Masters and Wardens, accessible on certain conditions, would, I think, be far more easily accomplished, and be far more serviceable, than the mode suggested by your correspondent.

Twenty years' constant employment in Masonry prompts me to combat the assertion of the “Lover of Legitimate Principles;” and if I could have the pleasure to discuss the question with him, under the genial influences of a cigar and a “cheerer” of anything but gin-and-water, I flatter myself that, with my persuasive powers, we should part Lovers of Legitimate Principles.

I am, Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

A LOVER OF LEGITIMATE PRINCIPLES, No 2.

KENT, Oct. 11th, 1857.

STATE OF MASONRY IN CANADA.

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

SIR AND BROTHER,—In the August number of your *Magazine* I observe an article headed “The Canadas,” in which regret is expressed that the Provincial Grand Lodge of Canada West had at length determined upon declaring itself an independent Grand Lodge; and also stating that, in all probability, a union had taken place between that body and the Grand Lodge of Canada. I have now to inform you, and I do so with much regret, that the contemplated union has not taken place; and I feel still more regret in announcing, that the Provincial Grand Lodge has renounced its allegiance, and declared itself an independent Grand Lodge.

In the article referred to, I also find a notice of a most *extraordinary* motion to be hereafter submitted to Grand Lodge, by Worshipful Bro. the Earl of Carnarvon, recommending an early recognition of this new Grand Lodge! I cannot for a moment imagine that the Most Worshipful the Earl of Zetland would allow such a motion to be laid before the Grand Lodge.

Your readers are aware, that in October, 1855, the representatives of forty Lodges, hailing from England and Ireland, united in the formation of "the Grand Lodge of Canada;" the address announcing this important intelligence to the various Grand Lodges contained also a succinct account of the reasons which had induced the Brethren to take this decisive step. On the formation of the Grand Lodge of Canada, many of the Lodges which had affiliated with her at once returned their Warrants, either to their Provincial Grand Master or to the respective Grand bodies from which they had emanated; the remainder of them (and these were principally, if not entirely, the Upper Canadian English Lodges) at once formally announced to their mother Grand Lodge that they had ceased to work under her Warrant; but as they still retained sentiments of respect and veneration for that august body to which they were indebted for their Masonic existence, they requested permission to be allowed to retain it, merely as an evidence of their former connection with her, and as a link in the chain of their antiquity. These Warrants were deposited with the Grand Secretary of the new Grand Lodge, and remain even now in his custody, awaiting the usual tardy action of the Grand Lodge of England in the matter. This has been most unfairly used by the Provincial Grand Lodge of Canada West, as the groundwork of a charge against the Grand Lodge of Canada; but your readers will, I think, at once admit that the charge is groundless and unfair. The Grand Lodge of Ireland promptly accorded a recognition to the new Grand Lodge; a majority of the Grand Lodges of the United States did the same, and tendered their friendly offices. The position of the Grand Lodge of Canada having been thus established beyond question, she proceeded to discharge the important duties which devolved upon her; and that these duties have been discharged with zeal and efficiency, and that great good has resulted to the Craft generally, I think none will be hardy enough to deny.

A number of Lodges, still clinging to the belief that England would yet relieve them from the difficulties under which they (in common with the Lodges now so happily united with the Grand Lodge of Canada) had so long laboured, continued to adhere to their Provincial Grand Lodges; these hopes, however, proving visionary, the Provincial Grand Lodge of Canada West appointed a committee to negotiate terms of union with the Grand Lodge of Canada. The latter body, feeling the importance of union, acceded to the request made by their Provincial Brethren, and they also appointed a committee of reconciliation. Enclosed you will receive a copy of the minutes of that committee, on perusing which you will learn why the negotiation failed—the Provincial Committee insisted, as a *sine qua non*, that the Grand Lodge of Canada should be dissolved, and its members unite with them in the formation of a new Grand Lodge, under a new name, and with a new seal! This of course could not be conceded, as such an act would have been tantamount to an admission on the part of the Grand Lodge of Canada, that she had not only improperly and unmasonically assumed a position to which she had no right, but it would have been extremely uncourteous to those Grand bodies with which she had established friendly relations. The Provincial body, although the mere creature of the Grand Master of England, having only an existence during the continuance of his will and pleasure, were yet so tenacious of *their* dignity, and so oblivious of their *first duty, the good of Masonry*, that all considerations, save a desire to grasp the baton of office and to attain high Masonic rank, were ignored by them, and they have now determined, even at the risk of perpetuating disunion and of seriously retarding the onward progress of Masonry in this Province, to assume the position of an independent Grand Lodge. Will the Grand Lodge of England aid them in their unmasonic efforts? Will that illustrious body, who have so long been regarded as the fountain-head of Masonic learning and virtue, so far violate and ignore all Masonic precedent and practice, as to aid in establishing a Grand Lodge *within the jurisdiction of an existing Grand Lodge*? I think not; but supposing for a moment that, regardless of the firebrand she was thus recklessly throwing among the Masons of Canada, utterly careless of the deep and lasting injury she was inflicting upon the cause of Masonry, and only anxious to sustain those Lodges which had retained their allegiance to her for a few months longer (and then only under a threat, which they have now

carried out, that they would throw off all allegiance unless their demands were at once complied with) than those Lodges which had united (in October, 1855) with their Irish Brethren in the formation of the Grand Lodge of Canada, as they had an undoubted right to do; suppose I say, for the sake of argument, that, regardless of all considerations and consequences, the Grand Lodge of England should recognize the new organization—I would ask, what would be the position of the new body?—for I am convinced, from the opinion expressed upon the subject by the various Grand Lodges in the United States, that none of them could so far depart from established principles as to recognize this new formation. The Grand Lodge of Canada could only regard them as a spurious and clandestine body, who have encroached on their jurisdiction and privileges, and could hold no intercourse with them.

There are now fifty-two Lodges working under Warrants from the Grand Lodge of Canada, and she has upwards of 1,500 Masons enrolled on her Register. By the way, should the Grand Lodge of England recognize this so-called Grand Lodge, it is not unreasonable to suppose that all the other Provincial Grand Lodges, of which there are five in this Province (three holding under England and two under Scotland), will at once proceed to declare their independence, relying upon a recognition from the Grand Lodge of England—thus introducing into Canada no less than *six* Grand Lodges claiming equal rights and privileges!

Were it not for the deep interest in all matters appertaining to Canadian Masonry evinced in the pages of your periodical, I would not have ventured thus to trespass upon your time and attention. Requesting an early insertion of the above,

I continue fraternally yours,
VERITAS.

P.S. I have just heard that Sir Allan McNab has been elected to the dignity of Grand Master; by this *elevation* they have succeeded in inducing that gentleman to resign his collar as a Provincial Grand Master, forgetting for the time the opprobrious epithets they had formerly heaped upon him for past neglect and inefficiency, and believing that his *rank* will have more weight in England than his *merit* in securing the new body a recognition from Grand Lodge. The new body has also already introduced a new practice into Masonry—as their Grand Master elect has been installed by Bro. Harington, one of our numerous Provincial Grand Masters. I suppose, hereafter, from this precedent, it will be correct practice for a Senior Warden to instal his Worshipful Master!

V.

CANADA, 10th September, 1857.

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

SIR AND BROTHER,—It is generally understood here that a new so-called Grand Lodge has been formed in Toronto, and it may be well for the Craft in England to know *how* it has been got up, before recognizing it in any way. Of course, I can only speak of the connection of a single Lodge with it, but I should not be at all surprised if other Lodges have been treated in a similar way by *ambitious* representatives.

A circular from the Prov. Grand Secretary was issued to the various Lodges, calling on them to send a delegate to a meeting of the Prov. Grand Lodge; and, as a *new Grand Lodge was to be established*, to send the Warrant with the delegate, and a *Dispensation* from the new Grand Master would be returned in place of it. The Prov. Grand Secretary also stated that the D. Prov. G.M. took it upon himself to say that the expenses of the delegate would be paid out of the funds of the Prov. Grand Lodge on this occasion,—thereby showing that the arrangements were all cut and dry.

St. George's Lodge, No. 895, E.R., passed a resolution sending delegates with *positive instructions that the Warrant should not be given up*; but in defiance of this, the P.M. took it upon himself to give it up; and before the W.M. (who

could not be present) knew anything about it, the Warrant was on its way to England, where probably more of this piece of sharp practice will be heard of officially.

One thing more. Who is the new Grand Master? Sir Allan Napier Macnab! of whom all the complaints for incompetency and inattention were made to your Grand Lodge by the very men who have just elected him.

Yours fraternally,

CANADA WEST, Sept. 15, 1857.

A CANADIAN MASON.

YORKSHIRE.—PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I cannot tacitly allow the remarks of our worthy and V.W. Prov. G. Sec., Bro. Stark, respecting the arrangements at the Prov. Grand banquet, held at Hull, on the 30th September, to pass, without the expression of my dissent thereto, in which I am satisfied I am joined by a large number of the Brethren who were present on that occasion.

Bro. Stark, in a circular, dated Hull, October 10th, after stating, that at "six o'clock upwards of 150 Brethren partook of an excellent banquet, and a most agreeable evening was spent," proceeds to say, "that the entire arrangements were most satisfactory, and that the W.M. and Brethren of the Minerva Lodge could not but be gratified at the admirable results which attended their arduous exertions."

To the foregoing remarks of Bro. Stark I must demur, for the following reasons: 1st. The want of punctuality, for the Brethren did not sit down until 6.45 P.M.; the consequence of which was, that many who might otherwise have reached their homes that evening were either compelled to stay in Hull all night or leave before the proceedings were half over. 2nd. The great paucity of waiters, and the utter inefficiency of the few who were there, prevented many of the Brethren, myself included, from obtaining even an apology for a dinner. 3rd, and last. The quality of the wines, which would not have been tolerated in a fourth-rate tavern, added to which a singular anomaly in the value of the wine-tickets combined to produce an effect the very reverse of satisfactory.

Should a similar line of conduct be pursued at future Prov. Grand meetings a large number of the Brethren who attend the Lodge will be driven to abstain from joining the banquet.

I have penned these remarks in no unfraternal feeling, but with a pure desire that such irregularities may by being brought into notice be avoided in the future.—Yours fraternally,

VERITAS.

MASONIC INCIDENT.

Henry D. Garrett, who was made a Mason in the Monmouth Lodge, No. 37, emigrated, a few years since, to Oregon, where he was an officer in the Lafayette Lodge, under the California jurisdiction. His health failing, he emigrated to the Sandwich Islands, where he died. Before leaving Illinois, he borrowed five hundred dollars of Jacob Garrett, his father, of Fulton county; and, on his death-bed, he deposited five hundred dollars with the Brethren of the Hawaiian Lodge, at Honolulu, with the request that the sum might be sent to his father. The Brethren there paid the expenses of his sickness and burial, put the money to use, and upon the first opportunity, forwarded a bill of exchange on the New Bedford Bank to the G. Sec. of the Grand Lodge of California. The bill was negotiated by the Hon. James Knox, without charge, and the sum of five hundred and fifty dollars was paid to Mr. Garrett. Thus, we see that, no matter where a Brother may be—whether in the east, or west, or in the far-off isles of the ocean—he is cared for in his last moments, consoled and comforted on his last lonely journey, and his dying requests scrupulously executed by his Brethren of the "mystic tie."

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

MASONIC MEMS.

The Present and Past Prov. Grand Officers of Sussex intend to celebrate the third anniversary of the reorganization of their Prov. Grand Lodge, under the auspices of Bro. Col. McQueen, the V. W. D. Prov. G. M., by a banquet, on the 17th of November, to which they have invited their respected D. Prov. G.M., in token of their fraternal regard and esteem. We understand that prior to the banquet a congratulatory address will be presented to the D. Prov. G.M. The invitation has been accepted, and we are confident a hearty welcome will be given to the gallant colonel.

We are requested to state that the Festival of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement, which was to have taken place on the 27th of November, has been postponed until Friday, the 29th of January, in order to afford the committee for Bro. S. B. Wilson's testimonial time to complete their arrangements. The committee are to make a return of the amount of subscriptions received on the 6th of December.

At the monthly meeting of the Board of Benevolence, on the 21st of October, five applicants for relief received sums amounting in the aggregate to £65.

A new Lodge is about to be constituted in Surrey, in honour of the R.W. D.G.M. The Panmure Lodge, No. 1,022, is to be held at that well-known hostelry, the Swan Tavern, Stockwell.

A charter has been granted for a new Lodge, to be held at the Pied Bull Hotel, Chester, under the title of the Independence Lodge, No. 1,023.

The first monthly allowance of 4 cwt. of coals, and an appropriate quantity of wood, was issued to each of the annuitants in the asylum on the 1st inst., and will be continued on the first Thursday in each month during the winter, out of the monies handed over by the stewards at the late festival.

The United Pilgrims Lodge of Instruction, No. 745, has been removed from the Clayton Arms, Kennington Oval, to the Manor House Tavern, Kennington. The Lodge meets every Friday evening at half-past seven o'clock.

The Manchester Lodge, No. 209, having been driven from its old quarters by the destruction—through the improving hand of Time—of the Gun Tavern, Pimlico, has fixed its quarters at Bro. Clemow's, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, where we trust the members will increase and multiply alike in numbers and Masonic talent—for respectability the Lodge cannot be exceeded.

The Percy Lodge of Instruction, No. 234, has ceased to exist in its separate form, and will meet in future in conjunction with the Manchester Lodge, at Bro. Gurton's, Old Bond-street, every Tuesday evening, under the joint title of the *Percy-Manchester* Lodge of Instruction.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

IN our number for September, we recorded the celebration of an event in every way interesting, and one attended with many agreeable associations; we mean the inauguration fête held on the 11th of August, for the purpose of dedicating the building recently purchased to the uses of this institution. We have now the pleasure of laying before our readers a brief account of a ceremony of which the fête referred to was the forerunner, and which, though conducted in a manner the most quiet and unobtrusive, and witnessed but by few, affords the first practical realization of the views so long advocated by the great majority of the friends and well-wishers of the institution, and which the liberality of the Brethren has at length enabled them to accomplish. On Thursday, 15th of August, the House Committee met at the School-house, in Lordship-lane, Tottenham, for the purpose of giving a formal reception to those boys who had been selected for admission, and of inducting the master and matron into their new charge. The children, to the number of twenty-five, arrived at the school shortly before three, accompanied by Bro. Thiselton, Secretary to the institution, and, after partaking of refreshment, were summoned to attend the committee, who, with the master and matron, had assembled to receive them. There were present Bros. J. Hervey (chairman of the institution), Hopwood, G. Cox, C. Robinson, G. Barrett, Greene, and F. Binckes, members of the committee; and Bros. E. Roberts (whose valuable professional services have been cheerfully rendered whenever required), W. Young, F. Adlard, and Newsom, with Bro. Thiselton, Secretary of the institution; Rev. Charles Woodward, Master; and Mrs. Woodward, Matron. At the request of the chairman, Bro. Hopwood addressed the boys, and in feeling and appropriate terms pointed out to them the comforts and advantages of their new home, urging them to turn to the best account the opportunity for improvement thus afforded—to be especially attentive to the instructions of the master and matron—to conduct themselves in such a manner as to become a credit to the neighbourhood and an ornament to the institution the benefits of which they enjoyed, and to emulate the example set them by their parents, so that in whatever position of life they might hereafter be placed, they might, like them, be respected and esteemed. Let them bear in mind that good conduct would ever meet with reward, while bad conduct would surely not go unpunished.

Bro. Hervey, Vice-president and Chairman said, it now became his duty to give these boys—the objects of their care and solicitude—into the charge of the master whom the committee had appointed to that office, and he had great pleasure in seeing them placed under the care of one in whom they had every confidence. He trusted the reward which the committee, their friends and subscribers, expected to reap after the exertions they had used in providing the building in which they were then assembled, would be found in the continued success and increased prosperity of the institution.

Bro. the Rev. Charles Woodward, could not undertake the responsibility thus intrusted to him, without saying a few words, in the presence of the committee, to those over whom he was to exercise authority. He was anxious to avoid anything like misunderstanding, and therefore he spoke under correction in case

he erred, availing himself of this opportunity of assuring the boys that he should look for a cheerful compliance with such regulations as might be laid down for their guidance, and a ready co-operation in whatever might be proposed for the benefit of the establishment. He should seek neither to overtax their energies, encroach upon their time, nor interfere with their amusements; but he should expect their services to be cheerfully rendered in providing for themselves and promoting their own comfort and cleanliness, so that they might be not only ornamental, but useful members of society. He would assure them that it would be his constant anxiety to carry out towards them those kind intentions which had been expressed by the committee, who had that day intrusted them to his care. Mutual congratulations were then interchanged, and the interesting proceedings brought to a close.

The Royal Masonic Institution for Boys is now an established fact, possessing a "local habitation" as well as "a name." Hitherto, from the circumstance of the boys being educated in schools contiguous to their residences, the friends of the institution have been unable to show those tangible proofs of the munificence of the Brethren which are evidenced by its sister establishment. This inequality of position is now remedied, though not so fully as could be wished, seeing that the present means at the disposal of the committee enable them to house twenty-five only out of the seventy children who are on the books. How soon this number is to be extended, remains with the Brethren to decide. We have little fear what that decision will be, when they come to make themselves fully acquainted with the benefits afforded by the new establishment. Let all those, who have not already done so, pay a visit to the school, and judge for themselves of its advantages; and having well weighed them in their minds, we shall with confidence await their verdict, which we shall seek in the amount of subscriptions announced at the festival in March next.

A Quarterly General Court was held at the offices, 16A, Great Queen-street, on Monday, 19th October, Bro. J. Hervey, Vice-president, in the chair. The business was simply of a routine character, with the exception of votes of thanks which were passed unanimously to the Revs. J. Hall, Thomas Winter, and J. E. Cox, and Miss Roberts, Organist, for their services in connection with the inauguration fête.

ROYAL FREEMASONS' GIRLS' SCHOOL.

On the 8th of October, the Quarterly Court of the governors of this excellent institution was held at the Freemasons' Tavern, Bro. Udall, P.G.S.D., in the chair.

Bro. Crew, the secretary, of the charity, having read the minutes of the last Quarterly Court, which recorded a well-deserved gratuity of £52. 10s. bestowed upon himself, in consequence of his many years of fervent and zealous service; and the enactment of a new by-law for increasing the number of inmates from 65 to 70 children:

Bro. White, P.G.S., moved that so much of the minutes as referred to the new by-law be not confirmed, as the charity had £6,000 less stock now than before the building of the new school-house at Clapham-rise, the maintenance of which

was more expensive than the old one had been; and they consequently ran the risk of having, at some future day, to again bring down the number to 65 if not lower.

Bro. Burnes seconded the proposition.

Bro. Davies said the funds of the charity were daily on the increase. They were able to fund £1,000 a year. The festival produced on an average £1,900 each year, and the cost of the additional five children, for whom there was plenty of room, would not amount to more than £100 per annum. He hoped, therefore, the law would be confirmed.

Bro. Binckes took the same view, and added that the new establishment, inasmuch as it was freehold, was less expensive than the old one, and was good value for the money taken from the funds to build it.

The minutes were then, by a large majority, confirmed. The report of the Rev. Mr. Glennie, of the Church Diocesan School Society, was then read, and gave a highly gratifying account of the progress of the children. The treasurer's report stated there was a balance of £1,135. 13s. 1d. in hand, liable to a charge of £417. 3s. 3d., to defray the tradesmen's bills for the quarter. There was also a charge of £23. 10s. 3d. on the sustentation or building fund. A legacy of £25 had been received from the executors of the late Bro. Harraday; and since January £1,000 had been added to the amount of the charity stock, raising it to £11,000. This report was adopted, and an order made for the payment of all charges, and for the investment of £500, agreeably to the recommendation of the general committee. All the candidates, seven in number, were then declared duly elected. It was in the course of the discussion remarked that no child approved of by the committee had ever failed of obtaining admission to the school, although many had been disappointed at one or more polls. The proceedings were closed with a vote of thanks to the chairman.

METROPOLITAN.

LODGE OF FIDELITY (No 3).—This Lodge resumed its meetings for the season on Wednesday, October 14, at the Freemasons' Tavern, upwards of fifty Brethren being present. The W.M., Bro. Gillespie, presided, and performed the duties of the office in admirable style. The work was unusually heavy, consisting of two initiations, viz., Messrs. H. J. Selfe and E. Bell; one passing, Bro. Jacoby; and six raisings, Bros. Smith, Neville, Garling, A. S. Jones, Glover, and Robinson. Lodge being closed in due form, the Brethren adjourned to a banquet, which consisted of all the delicacies of the season, and gave general satisfaction. The P.Ms. present were Bros. Goldsworthy, P.G.S.D., Shackelton, Grant, Low, Heath. Williams (Treasurer), Squire (Secretary), and H. Dearsley, whose attention to the comforts of the Brethren was much appreciated. A delightful evening was spent, much enhanced by the excellent singing of Miss Marian Taylor, and Bros. Lucas, Phillips, Smith, and G. F. Taylor.

ROYAL YORK LODGE OF PERSEVERANCE (No. 7).—The Masonic season may now be said to have fairly commenced, and a great portion of our space will for some months be devoted to chronicling the proceedings of the various Lodges. We have now much pleasure in noticing the first meeting of the above Lodge, which ranks deservedly high in the estimation of the Craft, and which is one of

the best-worked, best-regulated Lodges with which we are acquainted. Its present W.M., Bro. J. Levinson, treading in the footsteps of his predecessors, is enthusiastic in his love for the art, while his ability for the propagation of its tenets and principles is unquestioned. On Wednesday, 21st October, the Brethren assembled at the Freemasons' Tavern, when the W.M. initiated Mr. G. A. Daw, into our mysteries, and passed a Brother to the 2nd Degree. The Lodge has increased to such an extent in numbers and prosperity, that the Permanent Committee have unanimously recommend an advance in the amount of the various fees, and on the motion of Bro. J. Hervey, P.M. (P.G.S.D.), the report and recommendation of that body was adopted. There being no other business before the Lodge, an adjournment took place to the banquet, to which about thirty sat down, and which was served in a manner highly creditable to the proprietors of the tavern, who have already given earnest that the same excellence which last season afforded such unbounded satisfaction shall be maintained. The various toasts were proposed in neat and concise terms, well received, and adequately responded to; and amongst them that of "The Charities"—of which this Lodge collectively, and its members individually, are warm supporters—was not forgotten. The comfort of the Brethren and their guests was materially enhanced by the courteous attention of the indefatigable D. of C. Bro. F. Adlard, P.M., to whom, with the rest of the officers, the same praise as that already awarded to the W.M., for zeal and ability in the discharge of their duties, is justly due. Amongst the visitors we recognized Bros. S. B. Wilson, G.J.D.; C. E. Horsley, G. Org.; M. Levinson, W.M. No. 209; F. Binckes, P.M. No. 11; Marshall, James, Payne, King, No. 61; Garrod, No. 206; Hills, No. 955, &c. &c.

ROBERT BURNS LODGE (No. 25).—The first meeting of the season took place on Monday October 5th, when the W.M., Bro. Clements, initiated four gentlemen and passed a Brother. After the business the Brethren adjourned to refreshment, and during the evening the Brethren derived a great deal of amusement and enjoyment from the singing of Bros. C. Sloman, Mayers, and Rumans. There were several visiting Brothers present, amongst them Bros. Cutt and Beard, of No. 118. The latter, in responding to the visitors' toast, expressed his admiration of the mode in which the business of the Lodge was conducted.

EGYPTIAN LODGE (No. 29).—After a recess of four months, this Lodge resumed its Masonic labours on Thursday, October 1st, at the George and Blue Boar, Holborn, a large number of Brethren greeting the W.M., Bro. Shepherd, by their presence. The W.M. most efficiently initiated into the Order Mr. Evenden, who, at the last meeting, had been well and worthily recommended. The amount of business before the Lodge being but small, the Brethren adjourned early to banquet, which was placed upon the table in a manner highly creditable to the worthy host. Among the Brethren present were Bros. Buss, P.M., Perry, W. Rice, Willis, Eves, &c.

CONSTITUTIONAL LODGE (No. 63).—This Lodge held its first meeting after the vacation, at the Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall Street, on Thursday, the 15th October, when the W.M., Bro. G. Grumbridge, very ably initiated two gentlemen into the Order, after which the Brethren partook of a most sumptuous banquet, prepared by that excellent and worthy host Bro. Painter, and the evening passed off in social harmony.

MOUNT LEBANON LODGE (No. 87).—The regular meeting of this prosperous and numerous Lodge took place on Tuesday, 20th October, at Bro. Coulton's, Green Man Tavern, Tooley Street, Southwark. The Lodge was duly opened by Bro. E. Smith, W.M. The W.M. raised Bro. G. J. Harley of the Union of Malta Lodge, No. 588, to the Sublime Degree of a M.M.; passed Bro. W. H. Goodwin to the Degree of a Fellow-Craft, and initiated Messrs. Young and Strahn into the mysteries of Freemasonry. The whole of the ceremonies were performed in a manner which reflected great credit on the W.M. After the business was concluded about thirty of the Brethren retired to an excellent banquet, and spent a pleasant evening. The only visitor present was Bro. Nutt, S.W. of the St. Alban's Lodge, No. 32.

TEMPLE LODGE (No. 118).—The Brethren met on Tuesday, October 6th, when the W.M., Bro. Scott, initiated Mr. William Ogilvie Cameron and raised Bros. Mobbs and Allberry to the degree of M.M. After the transaction of business the Brethren adjourned, and partook of one of Bro. Painter's sumptuous banquets. There were several visiting Brethren present, including Bros. R. Jones, Drew, and Price, of the Bedford Lodge; also Bros. P. Corri and Charles Sloman, whose musical abilities added greatly to the pleasures of the evening.

ST. JOHN'S LODGE (No. 196).—On the 13th October the annual meeting of this now flourishing Lodge was held at the Holly Bush Tavern, Hampstead; on which occasion Bro. Thomas Alexander Adams, P.M., with his usual ability, installed Bro. Johnson as W.M. for the ensuing year, who invested Bros. Conach, S.W.; Smith, J.W.; Hazard (P.M.), Treas.; Aldrich (P.M.), Sec.; Hart, S.D.; Pritchard, J.D.; and Douglas, I.G. At the conclusion of the ceremony, Bro. Adams was highly complimented upon the impressive manner in which he had given the several charges by Bro. White, P.G. Sec., who stated that although he had been now more than half a century in Masonry, he had never witnessed an installation gone through with happier effect. The working of the newly-installed Master—who initiated two gentlemen into the Order—was also deservedly praised, and did honour to his Masonic instructor, who not only initiated him and admitted him to the other Degrees, but now capped his work by installing him into the chair.

The business of the Lodge having been concluded in perfect harmony, the Brethren, to the number of about forty-five, sat down to an excellent banquet, over which the newly-installed Master presided with an urbanity and courtesy worthy of imitation. Among the visitors were Bros. White, P.G. Sec.; Joseph Smith, G. Purs.; B. Steward, P.M. of the London Lodge, No. 125; Adlard, P.M. of the Royal York Lodge, No. 7; Williams, J.W. of the Phoenix Lodge, No. 202; &c. &c.

The Queen, and the Sovereign of the Craft, having been duly toasted,

The W.M. rose to propose "The Health of Lord Panmure, D.G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers, past and present;" and in doing so, expressed the satisfaction which he and the other members of the Lodge felt in seeing at their social board a Past Grand Officer whose name was known wherever Masonry existed, and was as universally respected.

Bro. White, who was most enthusiastically received, rose to reply to the compliment, and said he was deeply indebted to the W.M. for the kind and flattering manner in which he had introduced his name to the company; and to the Lodge for the equally flattering manner in which they had received it. With regard to the nobleman who at present filled the high office of D.G.M., there was no individual acquainted with his lordship, who would not agree with him (Bro. White) in saying that the Masons of England possessed an officer of high character, not surpassed in zeal for the welfare of their society, and a desire to do everything in his power to sustain the honour of his office, and to promote the dignity of the Craft. As to the humble individual before them, he was most grateful to them for the reception which they had given him. He had had the opportunity of knowing Masonry for many years, and although he had, he felt, to claim their pardon for many neglects (no, no), he could still lay his hand upon his heart and honestly say that his great desire had always been to advance the interests of the Craft (hear, hear); and he enjoyed one of the greatest rewards it was possible for a man to possess—the testimony of the respect of his brethren. He was now in his eightieth year, and for the last fifty-nine years he had had the honour of being a Mason, and during that time he must, they would all admit, have had many opportunities of witnessing the proceedings of the Craft, but throughout all that period he had been actuated by a most anxious desire to see that feeling of brotherly love, so discernible in their Lodge, flourish in the Order.

"The Initiates," "The Past Masters," and "The Visitors," having been duly toasted,

Bro. King, P.M., rose to present Bro. Aldrich, P.M., with a silver tea-service, the gift of the Brethren of the Lodge, as a slight recognition of his truly Masonic

conduct through life, and of the admirable manner in which he had discharged the duties of his year of office. He said: "Worshipful sir, Brethren and Officers of the Grand Lodge, Past Masters, Officers, and Brethren of the St. John's Lodge, I must for a few moments claim your silence, and I trust, when I have done, you will not consider your time thrown away. I ask the indulgence of your silence, not out of respect to me, but out of respect to the subject to which I have now to call your attention. I seek no conditions when presenting to your notice the conduct of Bro. Aldrich, for that conduct is stereotyped in the breast of each one of you. I ask, I repeat, no indulgence for him; but I do ask it for myself, because to the majority of you I am entirely unknown. I say, then, that if you sow broadcast the atoms of our worthy Brother's character, you will find that they will again unite themselves into the three beautiful principles upon which our Order is founded, and I shall show to you briefly, and I trust convincingly, how these three principles adorn the conduct of the Brother whose name I have already mentioned to you. I have had the satisfaction and the fraternal pleasure of knowing Bro. Aldrich for many years, or I would not now undertake a task, difficult in only one aspect—that I possess not the talent to do it justice. I have said that the Brother who is to receive this beautiful present at your hands has united in his own conduct those principles which adorn the Masonic character. I will commence with his brotherly love. If you search north, south, east, or west, you will find but one undivided opinion with regard to his character and excellent conduct as a man and as a Mason, by which he has carried out the principle of brotherly love in every way that it is possible for a Mason to do. With respect to relief, although I am aware that I tread upon the heels of many, I would have you understand that Masonry does not entirely consist of eating and drinking, but mainly consists in charity and other heaven-born essences. Not only do we afford comfort to ourselves and Brethren, but we never forget the needy Brother whom in the hour of distress it is our pleasure to relieve. It is one of those glorious characteristics which attach to him, that in respect to relief, Bro. Aldrich has never been found wanting. In page after page of the *Freemasons' Magazine*, we find him inculcating this principle, and asking your advice how best to secure the comforts of the aged Freemasons and their widows. If his whole Masonic career rested but upon this, you would accord to him the claim of having lived a life of benevolence. In one passage of a recent letter in the *Magazine*, alluding to the miserable pittance which each of the inmates of the asylum at Croydon receives (£20 a year, without coals or candles), he tells you when you meet at your festive board, to remember with how small a sacrifice of your own creature comforts you may be able to secure a supply of coals during the winter to those unfortunate Brethren, and to the widows of those who once belonged to our Order. I will ask you, does not that one suggestion bear the mark of its origin, and show that it springs from a benevolent heart? (Hear, hear). Relief is then a virtue which he has almost made his own; may it ever abide with him, and whenever he may be summoned to the Grand Lodge above, may it still crown his grave. (Hear, hear.) I now come to speak of his truth, but it is unnecessary for me to dwell upon it, for his truthful character is fully known to you all, and appreciated by you. He has been during his whole life a tried man, and he has done his utmost to promote the welfare of his fellow-creatures. Thus you see how the elements of the Masonic character, thrown broadcast, unite in Bro. Aldrich. I shall now speak of his services to the St. John's Lodge, No. 196. Before Bro. Aldrich joined us, we had in this Lodge the atoms of a good social body, but somehow they did not conglomerate. We felt that something was wanting; but we found in him when he came among us, a ready and good adjutant, and he has made the Lodge a sound and an efficient one. Look to the gathering before you, for it is a sign that what I state is not incorrect. (Hear, hear.) Ever since he came amongst us, he has been, both in the time of our gloom as in that of our sunshine, labouring and striving for the good of the Lodge, and I am happy to add that victory has crowned his efforts, for a more flourishing Lodge than this does not at the present moment exist. Hence it is that I have this evening to ask him to accept from us a memorial of our fraternal regards. It was well considered what should be the form of that memorial, and it was thought that the silver tea-service

before me would be the most pleasing tribute we could offer to a domesticated man, like Bro. Aldrich. (Hear, hear.) This has been supposed, and taken for granted, for we could not conceive that any testimonial could be more acceptable to one who had done so much to promote the domestic comforts of others—and that it would be the more acceptable as the goodwill offering of his Brethren, for, with the exception of £5, nothing has been taken from the Lodge funds for the purchase of so large a testimonial. Bro. Aldrich, I have now to ask you to accept this pleasing testimonial of the regard of your Brethren. I hope it will adorn your homestead for many years of your career in life. I trust that when in after years you view this testimonial, you will bear in your remembrance the bright moments of your association with the Brethren of this Lodge. I do feel that these observations are indeed very imperfect, but I do trust that the last wave of your Masonic hand will commit the memorial of our respect and regard for you to those whom you will leave to inherit the rich legacy of your Masonic virtues. (Great applause.)

Bro. Aldrich, who appeared greatly overcome by emotion, replied, and said: "W.M., Bro. Past Masters, and Brethren,—Permit me to express to you my deep sense of gratitude for the distinguished honour you have conferred upon me this evening, by presenting me with this handsome testimonial, in token of your approval of my conduct during my year of office as W.M. of this Lodge, and as an approval of the interest I have taken, and the humble exertions I have made, for the good of the Craft generally, and of the Benevolent Institution in particular. Little did I think, when I joined this Lodge, in 1851, that such high honour awaited me, nor could I have thought such honour possible. In speaking of my conduct as your W.M., let me say that I discharged my duties to the best of my ability, and that the interest of the Lodge was my only aim. I was greatly assisted by the advice and assistance of the Past Masters, and at all times I received the hearty co-operation of the members. That my efforts have been successful I think this highly respectable assembly of Brethren fully testifies—and here allow me to congratulate the Lodge, for I am gratified myself, on the honour that Bro. W. H. White, P.G. Sec., has conferred upon us by his presence this evening; this is the first time that worthy and highly esteemed Brother has visited us—may it not be the last!—for wherever that exalted Brother visits, an additional lustre is added to the assemblage. As to the Benevolent Institution, I certainly have felt a lively interest in its behalf, and have exerted my humble abilities in extending its usefulness; and if Brethren generally would only lend a helping hand in this great and good work every poor Brother and every widow would speedily be admitted to its benefits, when the remaining portion of their days would be spent in comparative comfort, but without which I am afraid many and manifold will be their privations. To the subscribers to this splendid tea-service I tender my hearty thanks, and I feel myself under deep obligations to our esteemed friend and Bro. Dr. King, P.M.; the sentiments with which he has presented this testimonial will never be effaced from my memory. I trust the spectacle of this evening will not be lost on our Brethren who are young in Freemasonry, and I would remind them that the like honour is within their attainment, but awaits their proficiency in the principles and ceremonies of the several Degrees of the Order to which they have the honour to belong. Brethren, I have no child of my own to whom I can bequeath this memento of your regard, but there is a Lewis, who is near and dear to me, to whom doubtless I shall transmit it, and, with the blessing of the Great Architect of the Universe, I trust the brightness of this testimonial will not be tarnished with dishonour. I trust the Almighty Architect will be pleased to bless you and me with many years of health and happiness, and that when he shall be pleased to summon us from this sub-lunary abode we may ascend to the Grand Lodge above, where the world's Great Architect lives and reigns for ever.

The teapot bore the following inscription:—

“Presented to Bro. Samuel Aldrich, P.M., by the members of the Saint John's Lodge, No. 196, on his retirement from the chair, in token of his distinguished services and ability in conducting the affairs of the Lodge during his year of office;

likewise for the zeal he has at all times evinced to promote the welfare of the Craft in general.—Hampstead, October 13, 1857.”

A variety of appropriate toasts were drunk, and brought the evening to a happy close.

LODGE OF TEMPERANCE (No. 198).—The members of this Lodge met for the first time this season on Thursday the 15th October, at the Plough Tavern, Plough Bridge, Rotherhithe. Bro. G. Bolton, the W.M., passed Bro. Percy to the 2nd Degree in a manner highly creditable to the Lodge, after which two gentlemen were proposed for initiation. The Brethren then adjourned and partook of a most substantial banquet, which reflected great credit on Bro. Holman. The health of the visitors being drunk, was responded to by Bro. Weeks, No. 43 of the United States; the other visitors were Bros. Lonny, No. 190, United States, and Simmons, W.M. of No. 805.

CAVEAC LODGE (No. 205).—This excellent Lodge held a meeting on Wednesday October 14th, at Bro. Rackstraw's, the Star and Garter, Kew Bridge, Bro. Salmon, W.M., presiding. Bro. Rouse was raised to the degree of a M.M., in a very able manner, by the W.M. The Lodge being closed, the Brethren adjourned to a banquet, supplied in Bro. Rackstraw's usual style of liberality.

DOMATIC LODGE (No. 206).—The first meeting for the season of this numerous and influential Lodge, took place on the 11th October at the Falcon Tavern, Fetter Lane, when Bro. Garratt, W.M., ably initiated one gentleman (Mr. Tabernacle) into the mysteries of the Order, and passed two Brethren—Macintosh and Wilmott—to the Degree of Fellow-Craft. On the conclusion of the Masonic business about forty Brethren sat down to a banquet, served in Bro. Ireland's best style. Among the visitors were Bro. Hestar, of Gravesend, and Bro. Dietrich of Lodge La Tolerance, who became a joining member.

MANCHESTER LODGE (No. 209).—This Lodge having been obliged to remove, in consequence of the Gun Tavern being pulled down for the improvement of the palace, assembled for the first time on Thursday, the 15th October, at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street. The ceremonies of initiation and passing were ably worked by the W.M., Bro. M. Levinson, whose zeal for the ritual seems on the increase, whilst his example has the very desirable effect on the officers and members of causing them to endeavour to emulate his working. The Lodge adjourned to refreshment, which was admirably served by the worthy host, Bro. Clemow, to the entire satisfaction of every one present. Among the visitors we noticed Bros. Shepherd, W.M. No. 29; Blackburn, W.M. No. 169; Nicholson, P.M. No. 201; Bryon, Sanderson, Clemow, &c. After passing a very pleasant evening, the Brethren retired at an early hour.

ST. JAMES'S UNION LODGE (No. 211).—This Lodge met for the first time this season, on Tuesday, October 13, at the Freemasons' Tavern, and the assemblage was a numerous one, presided over by the W.M., Bro. John Gurton, who was ably assisted by Bros. Crofton and Shiel, the S. and J. Wardens. Four gentlemen were initiated into the Order, Messrs. W. H. Pardow, T. Y. Gooderson, G. Gill, and S. Jeffs. Other Degrees were conferred upon Bros. Klopp and Boyle. The whole of the ceremonies were performed by the W.M. with his usual excellence, and after Lodge business the Brethren retired to the banqueting-room, where a sumptuous entertainment awaited them. After the removal of the cloth, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were drunk, and then the healths of “The Visitors” were proposed, the W.M. drawing attention to the honour done to the Lodge by the presence of such distinguished members of the Order. Bro. Laurie had done much for the promulgation of Freemasonry, having succeeded in obtaining a charter from the Grand Lodge of England, to open a Lodge in Turkey—No. 988—of which he was the immediate P.M.; and was now in England upon matters intimately connected with the Turkish Lodge. The chairman also remarked upon the presence of Bros. Herbert, Fellowes, and Tuck, of 437, Malta—an island which had produced some of the best Masons in the Craft. The toast was gracefully acknowledged by the Brethren, and several other toasts followed, and the Lodge

separated. Some good music was given during the evening by Bros. Edward Hart, J. Gurton, Taylor, Charles Hart, and Miss Ada Taylor.—Bro. Laurie, the visitor from Constantinople, gave five guineas to the benevolent fund of the Lodge, and Bro. Gill, one of the initiates, gave ten guineas as a life subscription to the Girls' School.

LODGE OF CONFIDENCE (No. 228).—This well-known and excellent Lodge commenced its present season most auspiciously on the 11th October, under the hospitable roof of Bro. Clemow, at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, when the W.M., Bro. Jackson, with great ability initiated Mr. Clayton and Mr. Oliver into the mysteries of Freemasonry; passed Bros. Butcher and Strahan to the 2nd Degree, and raised Bros. Meikle and Marchant as Master Masons. At the conclusion of the Masonic business the Brethren supped together, their creature comforts being most liberally provided for by Bro. Clemow.

LODGE OF ISRAEL (No. 247).—The members of the above Lodge met on Tuesday, 13th October; Bro. H. A. Isaacs, P.M., in the chair. At the conclusion of the Masonic business, which consisted of two initiations, and several passings and raisings, the Brethren sat down to a most sumptuous banquet, served up in Bro. Seyd's best manner. The cloth having been removed and the usual loyal and Masonic toasts proposed and responded to, Bro. H. A. Isaacs rose and said:—“Brethren, I do assure you most sincerely that since I have had the honour of presiding over you, no toast I have introduced has afforded me so much pride and pleasure as the one I am about to bring under your notice, ‘The Health of our distinguished visitor, Bro. Gaylor, Grand Scribe E. of the Grand Chapter of Scotland.’ Brethren, there is an old adage, ‘As the tree may be known by its fruits, so may a man be judged by his actions,’ which, if true (and who can doubt it), proves that we have in the person of our visitor, a true man, a perfect Mason; and I cannot sufficiently express the pleasure his visit to our Lodge affords me, or the high estimation in which I hold him. A few months back some Brethren, feeling a desire to propagate the Mark Master's Degree, requested me to apply to Scotland for a Warrant. I made the application, through Bro. Gaylor, one day before the meeting of the Grand Chapter. Accidentally falling across our Bro. Warren the following day, and telling him what I had done, I felt disappointed beyond measure to learn from him that although the petition was in form, there was no chance of our receiving a Charter until the next quarterly meeting, as I had failed to accompany it with the necessary funds. On arriving home, imagine my surprise at finding a letter from our Bro. Gaylor—to whom I was at that time a perfect stranger,—acknowledging the receipt of the petition, and informing me that, as the Grand Chapter had decided upon acceding to my request, he had himself advanced the necessary funds, rather than we should be annoyed by the matter standing over for three months. Brethren, I ask you whether this act was not particularly kind, and peculiarly Masonic? It certainly impressed me with the truth of that sentiment that I have so frequently repeated in your presence, that ‘the term Brother, among Masons, is something more than a name.’” The toast having been responded to with extraordinary enthusiasm, Bro. Gaylor, who seemed deeply affected by the reception he had met with, returned thanks, in feeling and eloquent terms, for the honour that had been conferred upon him. In the little matter mentioned by Bro. Isaacs he had only done that which it was the duty of every good Mason to do, “relieve a Brother from a difficulty as quickly as possible;” and had the little service he had rendered the members of the Arnott Lodge cost him a thousandfold more trouble, he should have felt himself more than repaid by the kind reception he had met at the hands of Bro. Isaacs and his Brethren of the Craft in old England. Bro. Gaylor then adverted to the Mark Degree, and explained the circumstances which led to the Grand Chapter of Scotland issuing Warrants for Mark Master Lodges in England. At the conclusion of his address the worthy Brother was rewarded by many hearty cheers from the members of the Lodge of Israel. Bro. Isaacs then introduced “The Health of the W.M., Bro. Joseph Isaacs,” than whom (although his brother by family ties, as well as those of Masonry), he felt bound to say, a more worthy man, or a better Mason, did not exist; and he felt happy to inform

the members of the Lodge, as he was sure they would be pleased to hear, that at the next regular meeting they would have the advantage to be presided over by their respected W.M.—a circumstance upon which, he was proud to say, they might congratulate themselves. The harmony of the evening was greatly enhanced by the very excellent singing of the W.M., Bros. M. Abrahams, H. Mendoza, J. Sturch, Solomons, &c. &c. ; and the Brethren separated at an early hour, after passing a most delightful and truly Masonic evening.

LODGE OF UNITED STRENGTH (No. 276).—This Lodge held its first regular meeting at Bro. B. Foster's, Jerusalem Tavern, St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell, on Tuesday October 13th. The W.M., Bro. Lugg, occupied his seat, and Bro. B. G. Hodgkinson was raised to the sublime degree of a M.M. The first two sections of the first lecture were worked, and, some financial arrangements having been made, the Brethren retired to the ancient hall of the Knights of St. John, which has been embellished by Bro. Foster with great taste and judgment, and there partook of a banquet admirably and liberally served.

FITZROY LODGE (No. 830).—The members of this military Lodge met at their head-quarters, Artillery Ground, Finsbury, on Friday, October 23rd, Bro. Peter Matthews, P.M., in the absence of the W.M., Bro. Woolloston, took the chair, and passed a Brother to the Degree of Fellow-Craft. The Lodge was visited by Bro. White, the veteran P.G.Sec. ; Bro. Michinner, No. 227, and Bro. Lennard, No. 343, who expressed themselves highly delighted with the working of the Lodge, and the excellent specimen they had experienced of soldiers' fare and hospitality.

PANMURE LODGE (No. 1,017).—The Consecration of this Lodge took place on Saturday the 17th October, at the Pembury Tavern, Lower Clapton. The ceremonial commenced at 3.30, when there were present Bros. Rev. John Edmund Cox, M.A., G.Chap. ; Wm. Gray Clarke, G.Sec. ; John Havers, P.G.S.D. ; J. B. King, P.G.J.D. ; George Biggs, P.G.S.B. ; Henry Muggeridge, P.M. No. 227, &c. ; J. Ashwell, W.M. No. 22 ; McIntyre and Stewart, P.Ms. No. 125 ; T. Bohn, W.M. No. 995 ; Sacqui, P.M. No. 247 ; Adams and Mobbs, No. 215 ; Buss, Girman, and several other Brethren. The ceremonial of consecration was performed by Bro. John Havers, assisted by Bros. Cox and King ; Bro. Sacqui aiding the solemnity by his excellent performance on the seraphine. Bro. Havers then installed as first Master of the Lodge Bro. Henry Muggeridge, who appointed as his officers Bro. Jacob Michael, S.W. ; Samuel George Myers, J.W. ; Alexander Richardson, Sec. ; Edwin Fox, S.D. ; Robert Clarke, J.D. ; George Webb, I.G. The first business of the newly constructed Lodge was the initiation of the worthy host of the Pembury Tavern, Mr. J. R. Abbot. All business being ended, the Lodge was duly closed in peace, harmony, and Brotherly love. Between 6 and 7 o'clock most of the Brethren who were present in Lodge assembled at banquet, under the presidency of the W.M. Due honour having been paid to a very capital dinner, and the cloth being removed, the W.M. rose, and in a few words gave "The Queen and the Craft ;" to this followed in due course "The M.W.G.M. the Earl of Zetland ;" next "Lord Panmure, and the rest of the Grand Officers, Past and Present." In proposing this toast Bro. Muggeridge alluded to the high estimation in which the D.G.M. was held by the founders of the Lodge, who had given, with his Lordship's sanction, his name to No. 1,017. This toast was neatly replied to by the G. Sec. Bro. J. B. King then proposed what might be considered the toast of the evening ; he referred to the great and valuable services of Bro. Muggeridge as a preceptor, and of the extensive benefit the Craft derived from the able way in which he conducted the Stability Lodge of Instruction. But few words were needed to produce a hearty welcome to "The Health of the W.M. of No. 1,017." Bro. Muggeridge replied, and acknowledged the kind encouragement which his efforts at all times received from the Brethren. The W.M. then proposed "The Health of Bro. Havers," whose Masonic attainments they had that day another opportunity of witnessing ; the ceremonial of consecration was performed by that distinguished Brother in a way that well deserved the encomiums that all had passed upon it. (Cheers.) Bro. Havers gracefully acknowledged the W.M.'s observations, and the warm re-

ception with which the Brethren had received the toast. The W.M. next proposed "The Visitors," to which Bro. Bohn responded; "The newly initiated Bro. Abbot, their worthy host;" and the universal toast, "To all Poor and Distressed Masons," concluded a most satisfactory opening of the new Lodge.

INSTRUCTION.

CONFIDENCE LODGE (No. 228).—The Brethren of this Lodge met at Bro. Wadson's, Bengal Tavern, Birchin Lane, at 7 p.m., the 14th October, to work the fifteen sections. Bro. Brett presided as W.M., and put the questions with his usual ability. The sections were worked in a most impressive manner by the following Brethren:—First Lecture—1st, Bro. Haydon; 2nd, Bro. Barnett; 3rd, Bro. Baker; 4th, Bro. Russen; 5th, Bro. Anslow; 6th, Bro. Haydon; 7th, Bro. Anslow. Second Lecture—1st, Bro. Brewer; 2nd, Bro. Anslow; 3rd, Bro. Newnham; 4th, Bro. Newnham; 5th, Bro. Haydon. Third Lecture—1st, Bro. Moss; 2nd, Bro. Newnham; 3rd, Bro. Anslow. Several Brethren were present as visitors, all of whom having expressed themselves much gratified, and offered themselves as joining members, they were regularly proposed and unanimously elected. Bro. Brett proposed and Bro. Jackson seconded, that one guinea should be given from the Lodge Fund to the Indian Relief Fund; this was carried unanimously. It was also proposed and carried that a subscription for the same fund should be opened, and remain open one month. £1. 11s. was immediately collected, which, with the guinea voted from the Fund, has been paid in to the Lord Mayor as the first instalment. The W.M., Bro. Brett, gave notice that at the next Lodge meeting, on the 21st October, he should move that the Lodge do adjourn from November 11th to November 25th, in order to give the Brethren an opportunity of paying a fraternal visit on the 18th November to the Domestic Lodge of Instruction, held at Bro. Ireland's, Queen Elizabeth, King's Row, Walworth Road, which also meets on Wednesday evenings. From the favourable manner in which this notice was received, we have no doubt it will be carried into effect, and a strong muster of the Brethren may be expected. The Lodge then adjourned.

PROVINCIAL.

BEDFORDSHIRE.

BEDFORD.—*Stuart Lodge* (No. 787).—The first meeting of the Lodge for this season was held at the Lodge rooms, George Hotel, on Wednesday, September 30, and was numerously attended. A Brother was raised to the 3rd Degree, the ceremony being very ably performed by the W.M., Bro. Dr. Prior, who was well supported by his Officers in the various duties they had to perform. After the labours of the evening were over about twenty of the Brethren partook of refreshment, and spent a very pleasant evening. The Lodge was honoured by the presence of two visitors—Bros. James Pearse, J.D. Lodge of Antiquity, No. 2, and Rittson, St. John's, No. 409.

BERKSHIRE.

NEWBURY.—*Loyal Berkshire Lodge of Hope* (No. 839).—The Brethren of this Lodge, with several visitors, assembled on the 2nd October, at the Three Tuns Hotel, under the presidency of Bro. H. E. Astley, W.M.; Bros. E. S. Cossens, S.W.; W. H. Cave, J.W.; Ryott, S.D.; Deller, J.D.; Pinniger, I.G.; Thomas, O.G.; and H. Burse, P.M. On this occasion Mr. J. Dredge was duly initiated in the 1st Degree of Masonry; and Bro. W. D. Taylor was unanimously approved as a joining member. Bro. the Earl of Carnarvon, W.M. No. 10, eloquently addressed the Lodge at considerable length, on several important matters con-

nected with the Craft; and urged the principal officers to a more frequent attendance in Grand Lodge, that the interests of the Order might be properly supported.

Bro. the Rev. G. R. Portal, P.M. Nos. 10 and 460, P. Prov. S.G.W., Oxon, Member of the Board of General Purposes, and Colonial Board, fully stated the proceedings of Grand Lodge on matters connected with the Canadian Lodges, and on other matters interesting to Lodges in general.

The addresses in open Lodge were received with the most marked attention, and made a deep impression upon the Brethren assembled.

After closing the Lodge in due form, the Brethren retired to refreshment, and partook of an elegant banquet; during which the important subjects in the addresses were fully discussed, and the usual loyal and complimentary toasts were given and received with Masonic fire.

Bro. Lang, P.M., in an able speech, proposed the health of Bro. Astley, the present W.M., who responded thereto in an eloquent address to the Brethren, on the growing prospects of the Lodge.

The W.M. proposed the health of Bro. Cossens, S.W., and paid him very high compliments upon the zeal and assiduity he had displayed in his office of Secretary, which have mainly assisted to bring this once lethargic Lodge into its present vigorous but careful operation. Bro. Cossens, in a lengthened address, expressed his thankfulness for the high encomiums the W.M. had been pleased to pay him, and incited the Brethren generally to a more constant attendance to their duties, as by that means alone had he been able to fill the important offices the W.M. had entrusted to his care; assuring them that the highest offices in Freemasonry were open to all able and willing workmen, and that so long as the Lodge continued to be worked with the hearty good wishes the Brethren so unanimously had expressed, so long would this Lodge in particular flourish.

The W.M., in proposing the health of Bro. Cave, J.W., thanked him and the other officers, for the willingness and ready support they had given him in the discharge of the arduous and responsible office he had the honour to fill. Bro. Cave, in a neat response, expressed the satisfaction of every member of the Lodge, at the growing prosperity which the Lodge was attaining under the presidency of the present W.M.

On the toast of the evening (the health of the newly-initiated Brother) being given, Bro. Dredge fully expressed his thankfulness for being permitted to join a Freemasons' Lodge, and hoped that he might soon be able to comprehend and put into practice the many excellent qualities exercised by Freemasons generally.

The poor and distressed Masons were not forgotten. The Brethren shortly afterwards retired, much pleased at the events of the evening.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

AYLESBURY.—*Buckingham Lodge* (No. 861).—At the usual meeting of the members, held at the Royal White Hart Hotel, Bro. F. S. Irvine, W.M., three joining members were admitted. We are pleased to hear that this the only Lodge in the county is thus progressing. When does the Prov. G.M. intend to call the Masons of his united Province of Berks and Bucks together? There was no return to the recent order of Grand Lodge calling for an account of the Provincial meetings.

CESHIRE.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

The Provincial Grand Lodge for this county was held at Staleybridge, on Thursday, September 24. Considerable interest was manifested by the Fraternity throughout the district, especially as Field Marshal Lord Viscount Combermere expressed his determination to attend the meeting, and preside over the proceedings; and adequate preparations were made to receive him and the Prov. Grand Lodge. Lord and Lady Combermere were the guests of H. Harrison, Esq., and the Brethren were delighted to find his lordship enjoying good health. St. Paul's Church and Schools had been placed at the disposal of the Fraternity by the kindness of the Rev. J. Hoare. The Brethren assembled about 10 A.M., in the school,

for Lodge business. The R.W. Prov. G.M. occupied the throne; the V.W. Bro. Cruttenden, Prov. G. Reg., acted as D. Prov. G.M.; Bro. Moss, as Prov. G.S.W.; Bro. Willoughby, as Prov. G.J.W.

The R.W. Prov. G.M. called the attention of the Brethren to the fearful state of India, the sad massacres and horrid murders perpetrated, and the fact that many of the Fraternity had fallen, with their wives and families, stating his wish to follow in the steps of the D.G.M., Lord Panmure, by heading a subscription list with £50, and hoping each Lodge in the Province would take the subject into their serious consideration at their next meeting, and subscribe as large a sum as they were able.

His lordship then re-appointed his Officers, and proposed for re-election Bro. Bland, as Prov. G. Treas., observing that he and all the Lodges were much indebted to Bro. Bland for his valuable services.

Bro. Cruttenden seconded the motion, which was carried.

The Brethren then formed in procession, and proceeded to St. Paul's Church, with the usual regalia, where the V.W. Prov. G. Chap., assisted by the Rev. J. Floyd, read the prayers and lessons; afterwards the Prov. G. Chap. preached a sermon, taking for his text, "Love the Brotherhood, fear God, and honour the king." He most eloquently and beautifully descanted upon each division of his text, which was listened to with marked attention and edification. After the sermon a collection was made for the Fund of Benevolence. The musical part of the church service was conducted in Bro. Twiss's able style, the choir consisting of Bros. Grayson, Maxon, H. Heap, and Thos. Heap, with Master Thomas George Timms, of the Congleton Choral Society.

On the return of the Craft from church, they assembled for the banquet in the Town Hall, which was prettily decorated, seats being reserved for Lady Combermere and the ladies. The R.W. Prov. G.M. presided, supported on the right by Bros. Cruttenden, acting D. Prov. G.M.; Lord Howard, Prov. G.D.; V.W. J. Bland, Prov. G. Treas.; Bully, Prov. G.D.; and Moss, P. Prov. G.W. for East Gloucestershire. On the left by the V.W. Bro. Rev. — Tanner, Prov. G. Chap.; Bros. Griffiths, Prov. G. Sec.; Smith, P. Prov. G. Reg.; Mason, Prov. G.S.W. for Derbyshire; and Willoughby, acting Prov. G.J.W.

After the dinner "Non Nobis Domine" was sung by the musical Brethren. Bro. Timms delighting the Craft with his pleasing and masterly singing.

Lord Combermere then gave "The Queen and the Craft," "The Prince Consort," "The Prince of Wales," "The Army and Navy," "The Earl of Zetland," "The Earl of Mexborough," "Sir W. W. Wynne," "Bro. Finchett Maddox," "Bro. G. C. Antrobus," each toast having its appropriate glee or song.

Bro. the Rev. W. Tanner, then proposed "The Health of Lord Viscount Combermere," observing that his lordship's untiring energy, his love for the Craft, and the great interest he always took in Freemasonry, endeared him to them; he complimented his lordship on his hale good health, and believed he looked younger than he did ten years ago, and he hoped he might be spared to them as their Prov. G.M. for years to come, and thanked him for his presence. This was succeeded by a song (composed for the occasion by Bro. Cornelius Goddard), containing the following verse:—

"Again 'tis the pride of Cheshire Masons to meet,
In festive re-union all Brethren to greet;
And all join in one mind, to receive with a cheer,
Our Provincial Grand Master with hail! Combermere."

Lord Combermere said, it gave him infinite pleasure to be present at the meeting, and he thanked Bro. Tanner for the kind remarks he had made, and the Brethren for the enthusiastic and hearty manner with which they had received the toast. Last year something like the gout had kept him from Egremont—but he was happy he had so good and excellent a Brother for his substitute as Bro. Cruttenden, who, he understood, conducted the business of the day, to the satisfaction of every one. He congratulated the Lodges on their prosperity, but urged upon them, in selecting members, to exercise the greatest caution in their admission. He again adverted to the sad scenes of India and the monster Nena Sahib, who

had declared openly his participation in the murder of 1,000 Christians, some of whom were personally known to him (Lord Combermere); and hoped the Lodges would respond, and forward to Lord Panmure as much as they possibly could, for the relief of the sufferers and their friends—whether Masons or not; and he should be proud if the Province of Chester, as a Prov. Grand Lodge, were the first to move in the matter. His services were at all times at the disposal of the Craft, and the duties connected with his high office should be carried out as energetically as heretofore, even if he were conveyed to the Prov. Grand Lodge on a litter. He would leave them to conceive what his Masonic feelings were, and thanked them again for the cordial and ardent way in which the toast of his health had been received.

“The Health of Lady Combermere, and the Ladies,” was proposed in very complimentary language, and interesting and eloquent speeches were delivered by Bros. Cruttenden, the Rev. — Tanner, and Horatio Lloyd.

CHESTER.—*Cestrian Lodge* (No. 615).—This Lodge held its monthly meeting at the Lodge-rooms, Royal Hotel, Chester, on Wednesday, the 14th October. The Lodge was opened for business at three o'clock P.M., by the W.M., Bro. Weaver, when Bro. S. Smith was passed to the Degree of Fellow Craft, and received an impressive charge from Bro. Willoughby, P.M.; after which the suggestions of the R.W. Prov. G.M., Field Marshal Viscount Combermere, relative to subscribing to the India Relief Fund, were taken into consideration, as requested by his lordship at Staleybridge.

The Secretary (Bro. S. Brown) then informed the Lodge that a private meeting of the Brethren of the Cestrian Lodge had taken place, in order to be prepared with a resolution to be brought before the Lodge at the regular meeting, so that no time should be lost in getting in subscriptions. The Secretary then read the following minute of the meeting:—

“At a meeting of the Brethren of the Cestrian Lodge, No. 615, Royal Hotel, October 9th, 1857: present—Bro. Charles Dutton, P.M., in the chair; Bros. Waters, Palin, Jno. Jones, Henry, Pigot, Brushfield, Tibbits, and S. Brown, Sec., it was unanimously resolved:—That the sum of £15 be recommended to be given from the funds of the Cestrian Lodge, in aid of the Fund for the Relief of the Sufferers in India, agreeably to the earnest wish and recommendation of the R.W. Prov. G.M., Field Marshal the Viscount Combermere, in Provincial Grand Lodge at Staleybridge.

“And it was further resolved:—That circulars be sent to those Brethren who would wish to add their individual subscription to the £15 to be given by the Lodge. It is therefore respectfully requested that you will please to signify to me before the meeting of the Lodge, on Wednesday next, what amount you may feel disposed to subscribe.”

It was then unanimously resolved that the recommendation of the meeting be adopted, and that the sum of £15 be given to the Relief Fund for the Sufferers in India from this Lodge. The Brethren present (in addition to what they had subscribed before in different parts of the city) immediately put down the following sums opposite their names:—Bros. Weaver, M.W., £1. 1s.; P. Eaton (Mayor of Chester), £2. 2s.; W. Palin, £2. 2s.; Waters, M.D., £2. 2s.; Aldersey, £2. 2s.; Fouss, £2. 2s.; Henry, £2. 2s.; Davenport (fourth payment), £1. 1s.; Tibbits, £1. 1s.; John Jones, £1. 1s.; Platt, £1. 1s.; H. W. Jones, £1. 1s.; McGregor (Royal Hotel), £1. 1s.; Smith, £1. 1s.; Pigott, £1. 1s. Many others of this Lodge are likely to send contributions. Bro. Waters proposed the following resolution, which was carried, namely—

“That the contributions of the Cestrian Lodge to the India Relief Fund be handed to the secretary and treasurer for that fund in Chester, and that a written specification of the amount so handed over be forwarded to the proper Officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Cheshire.”

The amount collected from this Lodge, £32. 17s., and what is expected when all the Lodges of the Province have contributed, in addition to the £50 given by the Prov. G.M. and Officers of the Prov. Grand Lodge, will make a large sum, which will be highly gratifying to the justly popular veteran field marshal.

The Brethren were called from labour and retired to a banquet got up by Bro. McGregor in excellent style,—after which the Lodge was closed in form and solemn prayer.

The Warrant for constituting the new Lodge has been signed by the M.W.G.M. of England, and the Brethren will hold their meetings at the house of Bro. H. Thomas, Pied Bull Inn. The title of the new Lodge will be the Lodge of Independence, No. 1,023, as registered in the books of the Grand Lodge. The name is the same as the one originally held at the house during Hartley's time.

HYDE.—*Lodge of Industry* (No. 465).—This Lodge held its usual monthly meeting on Thursday, the 1st of October, at the Norfolk Arms Hotel, when Mr. Mark Stafford and Mr. James Jackson were initiated into the Order in a very efficient manner by Bro. Thomas Wood, S.W., in the absence of the W.M., Bro. James Wilson, who afterwards initiated, assisted by Bro. Samuel P. Leather, Mr. Joseph Sidley, in his usual effective manner. A Lodge of Instruction has just been opened in connection with this Lodge, under the superintendence of Bros. Wood and Leather, which is very well attended; and from the fact of their having been added sixteen new members to the Lodge during the year, and the general desire for knowledge, there appears no doubt of this becoming a very good working Lodge.

DERBYSHIRE.

DERBY.—*Tyrian Lodge* (No. 315).—On Tuesday, September 29, at the monthly meeting of the above Lodge, Bro. Councillor J. Gamble was installed into the chair of the Lodge, according to ancient custom, by Bro. Samuel Henschley, P.M. After he was installed, he received the homage and salutations of the Brethren present. He was then pleased to appoint the following as his Officers:—Bros. John Swain, S.W.; W. Giles, J.W.; Rev. Gervase Wright, Chap.; Hall, Sec.; Lieut. Manfull, S.D.; J. German, J.D.; J. Coulson, I.G.; Lowe, Dir. of Cer. Bro. Wilder, P.M., was unanimously re-elected Treasurer of the Lodge. Votes of thanks were unanimously accorded to the late W.M., Bro. S. Collinson, for his great exertions in the cause of Masonry during the past year, and also to Bro. S. Wilder, Treasurer. We were glad to notice a goodly number of visiting Brethren, amongst whom were Bros. Gothard, Sherwin, Thompson, Nichols, and Goodger, from the Abbey Lodge, Burton-on-Trent; and H. Carson, from the Royal Sussex Lodge, No. 446.

DEVONSHIRE.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

The Provincial Meeting for Devon took place at Totnes, on Wednesday, 21st October, 1857. The R.W. Rev. John Huyshe, D. Prov. G.M., in the absence, through infirmity and illness of the R.W. Prov. G.M., the Earl of Fortescue, presided. Bros. W. H. Evens (Prov. G.S.D.) as Prov. G.S.W., Capt. W.H. Jervis being absent through illness; Capt. G. H. Woods, Prov. G.J.W.; W. H. Evens, Prov. G.S.D.; M. Schlesinger, Prov. G.J.D.; W. Denis Moore, Prov. G. Sec.; R. D. Gould, Prov. G. Treas.; A. Jones, Prov. G. Reg.; J. Thomas, Prov. G. Supt. of Works; C. J. Laidman, Prov. G. Dir. of Cer.; John Killingley, Prov. G. Asst. Dir. of Cer.; B. Dickes, Prov. G. Sword-Bearer; J. Edwards, Prov. G. Org.; J. Cooke, R.N., P. Prov. G.J.D.; P. E. Rowe, Prov. G. Dir. of Cer.; Capt. Russell, P. Prov. G.J.D.; with a considerable number of Past Provincial Grand Officers of this and other Provinces. A number of members of the Craft from various parts of the county were also in attendance, including the Rev. Bros. W. S. Sloane Evans, J. Butterfield, George Knowling, H. Bowden, T. Herbert, P. Prov. Grand Chaplain for Worcestershire, and others.

The Lodge was opened in the new Lodge-room, near the bridge, a convenient and nicely-furnished room, the arrangements, furniture, and fittings of which do credit to the liberality, skill, and Masonic taste of the W.M. and Brethren of the newly-instituted Lodge, Pleiades, No. 1,012.

The Prov. G. Sec. read the usual returns from the Lodges in the Province.

These returns were complete, and show that the interests of the Craft are extending in every part of the Province.

The following officers were appointed for the ensuing year :—

By Patent.—The Right Hon. Hugh, Earl Fortescue, *K.G.*, Prov. G.M. ; the Rev. John Huyshe, *A.M.*, D. Prov. G.M.

By Appointment and Election.—Rev. J. Butterfield, Prov. G. Chap. ; Capt. Jervis, *R.N.*, Prov. G.S.W. ; the Hon. A. Bampfylde, Prov. G.J.W. ; W. R. Phillips, Prov. G. Treas. ; C. Laidman, Prov. G. Reg. ; D. Moore, Prov. G. Sec. ; W. W. James, Prov. G.S.D. ; J. C. Willcocks, Prov. G.J.D. ; W. Damant, Prov. G. Supt. of Works ; G. W. Turner, Prov. G. Dir. of Cer. ; J. Galliford, Prov. G. Asst. Dir. of Cir. ; Capt. Trower, Prov. G. Sword-Bearer ; W. Melliush, Prov. G. Org. ; J. J. Clase, Prov. G. Purs. ; John Ash, Capt. Davey, Dr. Brent, W. L. Channing, John Gambell, and R. R. Rodd, Prov. G. Stewards.

Conditional relief was voted to the widow of a Brother of the Budleigh, Salterton Lodge, who had recently been assisted by the Board of Benevolence. Ten pounds each were also voted to the Royal Masonic Institution for Decayed Masons, to the Girls', and the Boys' Schools.

Bro. W. Denis Moore called the attention of Prov. Grand Lodge to the fact that all Prov. G. Officers, except the Prov. G. Purs., Prov. G. Stewards, and Prov. G. Tyler, were entitled to Past rank.

The Rev. D. Prov. G.M. agreed with the Prov. G. Sec.'s reading of the Constitutions and By-laws, and confirmed his remarks as to the Past rank of Prov. G. Officers.

This concluded the business of the Prov. Grand Lodge.

TOTNES.—*Pleiades Lodge* (No. 1,012).—The Lodge Pleiades, at Totnes, has held several meetings by dispensation ; at which a large number, about twenty persons, have been either initiated or proposed as candidates, including a clergyman, and many of the leading professional men and tradesmen of the town and neighbourhood. It was now duly consecrated and formally opened by the D. Prov. G.M., the Rev. J. Huyshe, assisted by the Office-bearers named above as filling the chairs during the Prov. Grand Lodge business. The ceremony was performed with proper solemnity, and evidently produced considerable effect on the Brethren present. The newly-instituted G. Chap., the Rev. J. Butterfield, did the duties pertaining to his office.

The following was sung, led by Bro. Edwards, P. Prov. G. Organist, during the consecration :—

ANTHEM.

To heaven's High Architect all praise,
All praise, all gratitude, be given !
Who deign'd the human soul to raise
By mystic secrets sprung from Heaven.
Sound aloud Jehovah's praise ;
To Him the dome, the altar, raise !

CHANT.

Glory be to God on high, and on earth
Peace and good will towards men ;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen.

The W.M. of the new Lodge is Bro. H. Bridges, of Bridgewater, a worthy Brother, well-known and highly esteemed for his zeal and ability as a Freemason, both in the Grand Lodge of England, in several Provincial Lodges, in the metropolis, and the country. Bro. Bridges, although not merely a P.M. of several Lodges, and of Provincial honours, on hearing that his services would be of advantage to the Craft, in taking the position of W.M. of the new Lodge at Totnes, for the first year—at once, in the true spirit of brotherly love and relief, although resident in another Province—at Bridgewater—a distance of some fifty or more miles, consented to take that office ; and has readily come down to attend

every Lodge. Bro. Bridges was, of course, duly and properly complimented on his zeal for Masonry, and success in this new Lodge at Totnes; and also on his working of the Lodge.

The S.W. of the Lodge is Bro. W. A. Daykin, of Bradredge; and the J.W., Bro. T. Hunt Edmonds.

After the business of the Lodge a large party, about 130, sat down to a splendid banquet, prepared by Bro. Heath of the Seven Stars Hotel, at the Mayoralty House, which had been fitted up in an exceedingly chaste and appropriate manner for the occasion; Bro. the Rev. J. Huyshe presiding. The Senior Warden's chair being filled by W. H. Evens, P. Prov. G.S.D. Grace was said by the Rev. W. S. Sloane Evans.

On the removal of the cloth, "The Queen and the Craft," was given by the chairman, and drunk with the greatest enthusiasm, the entire company singing the National Anthem.

"The Navy and Army," responded to by Captain Edwards, R.N., and Colonel Randolph.

Bro. W. Denis Moore, who is captain and adjutant of the South Devon Volunteer Corps, called attention to the importance of the volunteer corps, in the possible event of the withdrawal from England of most of the regular troops.

A variety of other toasts succeeded, and the company retired, after spending a most delightful evening; kindness of heart and good fellowship towards all men—the characteristics of Masonry—being the ruling star of the assembly.

STONEHOUSE.—*Lodge of Sincerity* (No. 224).—At the last two meetings of this Lodge the W.M., Bro. William Hunt, assisted by his S.W. and J.W., Bros. James Gilbard and R. Robinson Rodd, initiated the Rev. Douglas John Boulflower, M.A., chaplain of H.M.'s ship *Valorous*; and raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason the Rev. George Knowling, M.A., incumbent of St. Paul's, Stonehouse. Bro. John Cree Hancock, P.M., delivered the charges to the newly-initiated and newly-elevated Brothers. At the last meeting of the Lodge, the returns for the year were submitted by the Secretary, showing its present members to be forty-five.

DURHAM.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

The Grand Lodge of the province was held this year at South Shields, under the auspices of St. Hilda's Lodge, No. 292. After the meeting of the Fund Committee, nearly 200 Brethren connected with the various Lodges assembled at the Central Hall, which was tastefully prepared for their reception. The Lodges having been carefully arranged, the Prov. Grand Officers entered, Bro. Henry Fenwick, *M.P.*, D. Prov. G.M. and G.J.W. of England, presided in the absence of J. Fawcett, Esq., Prov. G.M., who had to leave town that morning owing to a family bereavement; on the dais, besides others, we noticed Bro. Sir Hedworth Williamson, Bart., of Whithaven. The Lodge having been opened, the Fund Committee's report and the Treasurer's accounts were respectively read and adopted. The roll of Lodges was called, when the reports of the various representatives showed that the state of Masonry in the province was highly satisfactory. The D. Prov. G.M. then appointed the Prov. Grand Officers for 1857-8 as follows:—Bros. J. Tashach (P. M. St. Hilda's, No. 292), Prov. S.G.W.; R. A. Johnson, (W.M. of Palatine, No. 114), Prov. J.G.W.; Rev. R. Milner, Prov. G. Chap.; J. Dodds, Prov. G. Reg.; W. H. Crookes, Prov. G. Sec.; W. E. Franklin, Prov. G.S.D.; W. Charlton (W.M. Phoenix, No. 111); G. A. Middlemiss, Prov. G. Supt. of Works; A. Davis, Prov. G.D.C.; M. Redshaw, (St. Hilda's, No. 292), Prov. G. Org.; E. Evans (Fawcett, No. 959), Prov. G. Sword-Bearer; H. Hewison (W.M. St. Hilda's, No. 292), Prov. G.P.; W. H. Laws, Prov. G. Tyler; Hanson, No. 114; Glaholm, No. 111; J. J. Oliver, No. 292; Best, No. 749; Gilles, No. 614; Armstrong, No. 774, Grand Stewards. The Lodge having been closed, the Brethren, about ninety in number, adjourned to the Golden Lion, to dinner, which was served up in Bro. Carman's usual elegant manner. The chair was taken by Bro. Henry Fenwick, *M.P.*, D. Prov. G.M.

and G.J.W., having on his right Bro. J. Tashach, P. M., Prov. G.S.W., and on his left Bro. Stoker, P. Prov. G.S.W. The D. Prov. G.M. gave in succession a variety of loyal and Masonic toasts. The vice-chairs were occupied by Bros. R. A. Johnson, Prov. G.J.W. and J. Happer, P. Prov. G.J.D. The intervals between the toasts were enlivened by some excellent singing. The arrangements in this department of the proceedings were confided to Bros. M. Redshaw, Prov. G. Org.; J. J. Oliver, Grand Steward; J. N. Buckland, and T. Stockdale, and received, as they well merited, the approbation of the Brethren, and an especial toast from the D. Prov. G.M. The company separated about eight o'clock, highly delighted with the arrangements, which reflected great credit upon all concerned, this being one of the most satisfactory meetings held in the province.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—*St. Hilda's Lodge* (No. 292).—The W.M., Wardens, and Brethren, have voted the sum of twenty guineas to the fund now raising for the relief of the sufferers in India; in addition to this sum, further subscriptions have been received from individual Brethren. The total sum already amounts to £35. At the last regular meeting of the Lodge, the sum of two guineas was voted for the relief of the widow of a deceased Brother. The Lodge was honoured by a visit from Bros. Duke, W.M. of Lodge Peace and Harmony, No. 235, Dover; Haunsell, Loyalty Lodge, No. 299, Guernsey; the W.M., Wardens, and other Brethren of St. George's Lodge, No. 624, North Shields. After the business of the Lodge had been transacted, the Brethren adjourned to refreshment, when the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given, and duly responded to. The pleasures of the evening were essentially improved by the vocal abilities of Bros. Tulloch, P.M.; Oliver, Kelly, Snowdon, &c.; Bro. M. Redshaw presiding at the harmonium with his usual taste and judgment. The Lodge continues very prosperous, and the good working calls for essential mention.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

CHELTENHAM.—*Foundation Lodge* (No. 97).—During a brief sojourn at the "Queen of Watering Places," an opportunity offered, of which we gladly availed ourselves, for the renewal of a visit to this excellent Lodge, within the portals of which, on the occasion of our first appearance, we had experienced so much enjoyment, and encountered so hospitable a reception. A year has nearly elapsed since the occasion referred to, in which period of time events of the greatest importance have transpired, affording materials to the future compiler of Britain's annals for chapters unsurpassed in momentous interest by any that have as yet found places in her history. Agitated and distracted, however, as may have been the great world without—disturbed as may have been the usual even current of Masonic affairs—the twelvemonth's record of the Foundation Lodge is one of peaceful progress, and continued prosperity. The old members remain true to their allegiance, and the names of men of good report, true, and trusty, are from time to time added to its roll. The W.M., Bro. P. G. Palmer, presided at the usual monthly meeting on Wednesday, 23rd August, and ably and efficiently performed the ceremony of raising a Brother to the Sublime Degree of M.M.; the traditional history being given very perfectly and impressively by the immediate P.M., Bro. W. H. Gwinnett. In a former notice we have mentioned in terms of strong approbation the style and character of the building, fittings, and furniture, which render the Masonic temple in this place so admirably adapted for giving full effect to our beautiful ceremonies. We advert to the subject again solely for the purpose of contrasting with it the miserable accommodation afforded in the metropolis, and of urging the speedy adoption of some plan to remedy so crying an inconvenience, and to wipe away so great a reproach. We must not omit mention of a circumstance unparalleled in our Masonic experience, which proves the existence amongst our country Brethren of every requisite for the accomplishment of laborious duties—viz., that Bro. Palmer, the W.M. of this Lodge, was called upon very recently to preside at a meeting of the new Lodge at Stroud—the Sherborne—and performed the whole of the three ceremonies, the candidates for the various Degrees numbering no less than twenty. All Masonic business being concluded, the Brethren adjourned to banquet. The W.M., during both

labour and refreshment, was supported by the D.G.M. of the Province, Bro. G. F. Newmarch, who by his efficiency in the performance of his duties has amply justified the choice of the Prov. G.M., and who, from his Masonic attainments and social qualities, is at all times a welcome guest. The visitors were Bros. F. Binckes, P.M. No. 11; A. Shine, Sec. No. 307, &c. On the following Tuesday a Lodge of Emergency was held, for the purpose of initiating Lieut. J. H. Thomas, *R.N.*

HAMPSHIRE.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

The annual meeting of the Brethren of this well-ordered province assembled, to the number of about 150, in the grand jury room of the County Hall, in the city of Winchester, on the morning of Monday, the 12th of October; and the Prov. Grand Lodge was opened before eleven o'clock. Present:—Bros. Admiral Sir Lucius Curtis, Bart., R.W. Prov. G.M.; Charles Ewens Deacon, V.W. D. Prov. G.M.; Wyndham Portal, Prov. G.S.W.; H. Emanuel, as Prov. G.J.W.; Alfred Heather, Prov. G. Treas.; J. R. Stebbing and T. N. Firmin, Prov. G. Secs.; and other officers. The Lodge having been opened in due form, after a prayer from the Rev. Bro. G. R. Portal, acting Prov. G. Chap., the rolls of the Lodges in the province were called over, and visiting Brethren duly vouched for. The R.W. Bro. Thomas Willis Fleming, Prov. G.M. of the Isle of Wight, was welcomed and saluted with honours. Bro. Stebbing read a letter from the R.W. Bro. Lord Panmure, D.G.M., regretting that his intention of being present on the occasion was frustrated by the necessity of his presence in London, waiting the arrival of the telegraphic information from India.

The Masters of the several Lodges in the province presented their minute-books and accounts.

The report of the Committee of Benevolence was then read; also a notice of the death of Bro. Capt. Savage, Prov. G.S.W. was recorded preparatory to a motion on the subject.

Bro. Stebbing, Prov. G. Secretary, moved, and Bro. Nash, P.M., seconded, a vote of thanks to the county magistrates for the use of the County Hall on that day.

Bro. Wyndham Portal, Prov. G.S.W., moved, and Bro. H. Emanuel, Prov. G.J.W., seconded, a vote of thanks to Lord Visct. Eversley, for the attendance of the band of the Hampshire Yeomanry.

Bro. Deacon, the D. Prov. G.M., referring to Lord Panmure's letter, said that he was desirous the Masons of Hampshire—in acknowledging their high appreciation of his lordship's intended visit, and looking at the great advantages the society derives from the encouragement given to it by a nobleman holding so high a position—the Grand Lodge of Hampshire—should record his lordship's letter on their minutes; which proposal, being seconded by Bro. W. Portal, was carried unanimously.

The Prov. G.M. then directed the Brethren to form in procession for attending divine service.

The procession proceeded from the County Hall, down the main street of the city, which was crowded with spectators, every window being filled with gazers, chiefly of the fair sex. Seldom does the ancient city of Winchester present so lively and attractive an aspect. Arriving at the church of St. Maurice—the first stone of which edifice was laid in due Masonic form by the Prov. G.M., Sir Lucius Curtis, some few years ago,—the Brethren separated right and left, making a passage for the Prov. G.M., his officers, and Brethren, according to seniority in rank. The sacred edifice, not being very extensive, was pretty well filled by the Brethren.

The church is a modern structure, in the early Gothic style, with pews of dark oak. Around the lower beam of the gallery run texts of scripture, in old English character, gilt. The edifice is altogether singularly simple and elegant.

Prayers were very impressively read by the Rev. William Carus, canon of Win-

chester, and incumbent of St. Maurice. The choral service was most efficiently performed under the direction of Bro. Snary, a member of the choir of the minster, we believe. Boyce's anthem, "I have surely built Thee an house to dwell in," was most effective.

The Rev. Bro. George Raymond Portal, P. Prov. G.S.W., Oxon, who undertook the duties of Prov. Grand Chaplain, at the request of the Prov. G.M. (Bro. Haverfield, the Prov. G. Chap., being unable to attend), ascended the pulpit, and delivered, in his accustomed energetic manner, a discourse from St. Matthew, xxii. 35-40 :—"Then one of them, which was a lawyer, asked Him a question, tempting Him, and saying, Master, which is the great commandment in the law? Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind: this is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."

The Rev. Brother said :—"Amid all the wide fields which both art and nature open out for our investigation, nothing, perhaps, affords a more varied subject for observation, than does the difference which exists in the characters of men. We cannot fail to have noticed it ourselves. And as this is true of those larger classes of good and bad, into which men may be roughly divided, so it is no less true if we look into the different vices and virtues which are the prevailing habit of the individuals of which they are composed. Every man has his favourite vice—what Scripture calls his besetting sin,—as most men have their favourite virtues. The man who most prides himself upon his honesty, will not unfrequently be sordid and ungenerous; while the liberal-hearted and open-handed are often the slaves of their own passions and evil inclinations. Nothing is more common than to see men set up some one virtue as their guiding star, of which they never lose sight; while they seem to think little of falling away in other directions from the straight path. It is wonderful how inconsistent we all are in this respect—how impossible it is to make a man's excellence upon one point any sure ground of confidence that he will not be found wanting in another. And so we have associations of persons who are pledged to total abstinence from intoxicating drinks—doubtless a most excellent resolve, but hardly more important than total abstinence from lying or dishonesty. Now our blessed Lord, in the passage before us, shows us how to avoid this danger, to which we are so prone, of exalting certain virtues or vices at the expense of the rest. He shows us the foundation upon which our superstructure of conduct must be built up, if it is ever to be perfect in all its parts and honourable to the builder. Though the lawyer, whose question drew forth the answer before us, hoped to entrap our Lord into an unguarded reply, it might have been asked by many a one honestly desirous of framing his conduct aright—who felt that to keep all the commandments of God was a hard task, and accordingly was anxious to know which he should first aim at obeying, so as to please God the most. Our Lord, in reply, gives us the key to the observance, not of one commandment, but of all. The whole of the requirements contained in Holy Scripture are comprised, He says, in this—the love of God, and the love of our neighbour. Now this, my Brethren, may seem to be a very small and easy matter; and we may scarcely be able to understand, at first sight, how it is that, if we fulfil these two, we fulfil all God's commandments; and yet so it is. The perfect love of God involves the entire submission of our whole will and heart to Him; and that we think of nothing so perseveringly—long for nothing so constantly—as how to please Him. We no longer know what it is to have a will or wish of our own. All we think of is, what would He have us do? And so as regards our neighbour; it is clear that if, in place of thinking first and chiefly of ourselves and our own interests, we think chiefly, in all our dealings with others, of how we can do them good—how we would wish them to act towards us under similar circumstances, there will be no room or opportunity for the breach of any of those commandments which concern our conduct towards our fellow-man. Now, then, my Brethren, having seen what is the perfect standard which God requires us to set before ourselves, as distinguished from the partial and imperfect one which most men are so apt to adopt, let us each one ask our own conscience how far have we acted up to this; and let us see how

far we are under a special obligation to do so, over and above our neighbours, on account of our having voluntarily undertaken the duties and responsibilities of Freemasonry. I am anxious that we should clearly understand this, in order that we may, by God's grace, be enabled to exert ourselves so as to become more and more, as each year rolls on, not only more consistent Christians, but true and worthy members of our great Society. Let us look to it, lest through our own neglect and insincerity, we should help to raise up a charge of hollowness and unreality against our Order. We cannot, if we would, evade an examination of our duties, and of their fulfilment by each one of us. We ought not, if we could. We ought not, because if a great and solemn obligation is laid upon us to be more than ordinarily zealous for the glory of God, and the welfare of our fellow-men, heavy will be our punishment if we fail in our duty. We cannot, because we have taken good care that our light shall not be hid under a bushel. Whatever else may be chargeable against us, it cannot, at any rate, be said that we are ashamed of our existence, and would hide ourselves from the face of day. We have on this occasion, as on many others, taken every pains to proclaim ourselves to this ancient city. We have come here to God's house, publicly, openly, almost ostentatiously. We have invited every inhabitant of this place to ask the question, 'Who are these men? What is this Society which claims for itself so prominent a position?' Let us then, my Brethren, both for their sakes and our own, spend a few minutes in recalling to our recollection both what we profess and what we are bound to perform. What is Freemasonry? It is a system of morality, of which the great truths are veiled in allegory, and, after the example set us in the Old Testament, are illustrated by symbols. Time will not, as so many of you here well know, permit me to enumerate, much less to enlarge upon, one-tenth part of the great moral truths which our Order enforces upon us, and I shall, therefore, confine myself to an examination of our teaching upon the two great branches of duty which are laid before us in our text. For the information of those who are not of our number, it will be as well to state that the maxims I am now about to quote stand at the very threshold of our instructions. They are the alphabet of Freemasonry—the first lesson which she impresses upon her children. She tells us she would first recommend to our most serious contemplation the volume of the Sacred Law, charging us to consider it as the unerring standard of truth and justice, and to regulate our actions by the Divine precepts it contains, as therein we shall be taught the important duties we owe to God, to our neighbour, and to ourselves. To God, by never mentioning His name but with that awe and reverence which are due from the creature to his Creator, by imploring His aid on all our lawful undertakings, and by looking up to Him in every emergency for comfort and support. As Masons, then, you are bound to set God always before you, to stand out from the crowd by which you are surrounded, as men who remember always that their Creator's eye is upon them—that all their works have to be done to His honour. Is there any undertaking which has for its object the glory of God, the spread of the knowledge of his Holy name—we, of all men, ought to be foremost in its promotion. It has been objected against us that our basis is too broad—that by admitting within our pale all men, of all creeds and sects, we are making light of the Gospel, and placing it on a par with natural religion. Such charges, as we all know, are without foundation. We say to all men, as our Lord said, 'To love God and our neighbour is the great end of our being—come and let us join together to do this. Whatever teaching the volume of the Sacred Law conveys to you, that obey and follow; we interfere not with your creed; you may build what superstructure you please, only let this be our common starting point, to love and serve our Creator, and benefit His creatures.' It is, perhaps, a question whether we might not with wisdom return to the ancient plan of allowing the ritual of each private Lodge to bear more distinctly the impress of its members' faith. From the days of St. Alban, till within the present century, in Christian Lodges Christianity was openly professed; in Hebrew and Mahomedan Lodges it was of course excluded; nor could this course have been justly deemed a ground of offence by any. I am certain, however, that those who find most fault with our comprehensiveness, would themselves, if they were in earnest, act precisely as we have done. Sup-

posing a Christian missionary to be preaching to an assembly of degraded and immoral heathens, would he say, 'If you will not believe all the articles of the Christian faith, you may as well go on displeasing God by your vices, and injuring your neighbour by your fraud and violence?' Would he not rather say, 'Nature itself—that is, the light which God has given to every one of His creatures—teaches you to recognize a Supreme Being, and to live honestly with those around you; and not, like natural brute beasts, to give yourselves over to lust, and drunkenness, and rapine.' Such would, I think, be the language of any man who was not a fool. Such certainly was the language of St. Paul. Such is ours. Recollect then, my Brethren, once more, that we are bound as Masons to act up to our belief in God, and to the obedience which we acknowledge to be due to His revealed word. So much, then, for the first branch of our duty—that which we owe to the Great Architect of the Universe and of those mysterious bodies which our souls inhabit for the short space of this life. And what does Masonry teach us of our duty to our neighbour? She tells us that we are to be loyal and faithful subjects; that we are to render to all men every kind office that justice or mercy may require, to relieve their necessities and soothe their afflictions, and do unto them in all things as in similar cases we could wish that they should do unto us. I know not what words can be more impressive than these. How have we acted up to them? Are we distinguished for honesty and uprightness in our dealings, for kindness and consideration for our inferiors? If not, it is our own fault, and in so far as this is the case, we are unworthy members of our Order. We ought, my Brethren to take the lead in every scheme for the benefit of our fellows. Are the sick to be cared for, the naked to be clothed, the ignorant to be instructed—we ought to come forward to the rescue. Lastly, as regards our own selves, I must pray you to think upon what we are taught. We are urged to practice such a prudent and well-regulated course of discipline as may best conduce to the preservation of our corporeal and mental faculties in their fullest energy, thereby enabling us to employ those talents wherewith God has blessed us, as well to His glory as the welfare of our fellow-creatures. Let us see, then, my Brethren, that we do not mistake the shadow for the substance—that the teachings of our Order be not forgotten, while the symbolism in which it is veiled is carefully treasured and faithfully remembered. Let it be our pride to practise in our lives what we profess with our lips to admire. If we are ever to maintain our position as we ought, we must be careful that no one is admitted to our Order who is not likely to enter fully into its requirements; and let us, moreover, be no less careful to maintain due discipline, by the removal from amongst ourselves of any who may by their evil lives bring discredit upon us, and set a bad, in place of a good, example to those who are without. I have attempted, my Brethren, to show you that, as regards our conduct in this world, the requirements of our holy religion and the tenets of our Order are identical. I would again beg you to bear in mind that we are under an additional obligation, beyond others, to live religious and Christian lives—to be honest and just in all our dealings. Either our enrolment in this ancient and venerable Association will help us to recollect and perform our duty to God and man, or it will convict us of grievous insincerity, and an unworthy, not to say irreverent, trifling with solemn things. May God grant us grace to perform our allotted task while it is yet day, and before the night cometh, when no man can work; that so passing safely under His protection through the valley of the shadow of death, we may finally arise from the tomb of transgression to shine as the stars for evermore."

At the conclusion of the service a collection was made, and £12. 10s. realized in aid of the Masonic charities.

The Brethren then returned to the County Hall, the crowds of spectators having considerably increased. The Prov. G.M. having resumed the throne, the business of the province was proceeded with.

The Report of the Benevolent Committee, which recommended that £5 should be awarded to one distressed Brother, and £10 to another, was, on the motion of Bro. Stebbing, confirmed by the Prov. Grand Lodge.

Bro. Stebbing then moved a resolution that the Prov. Grand Lodge should tender to the widow of Bro. Capt. Savage, Prov. G.S.W., its sympathy for the

loss of that excellent Mason, whose heart and hand were ever open to the promotion of every good work. This resolution, being warmly seconded by Bro. Wyndham Portal, was carried unanimously.

Bro. Stebbing said, the next resolution he had to submit to the Prov. Grand Lodge might perhaps surprise many, but it was a fact that the worthy Brother, who had been ever so ready to assist others—not duly considering the uncertainty of human life—not seeing how brief might be his own tenure of existence—had failed to make provision for his offspring. There was a young family to educate, and to assist in that good work a committee had been formed, and that body proposed that the Prov. Grand Lodge for the next ten years should annually contribute the sum of £10 for that object; he (Bro. Stebbing), in accordance with that recommendation, moved that the sum named be granted.

Bro. Deacon, D. Prov. G.M., in rising to second the motion said, the Brethren must understand the Fraternity did not limit its bounty to the vote before them. The Masons of Hampshire were now raising a subscription for the purpose of putting the widow and family in some position of comfort. Bro. Lord George Lennox had undertaken the office of treasurer of the fund.

Bro. Castell, W.M. of No. 717, as the member of a sister Lodge, could not allow the opportunity to pass without testifying his most cordial approbation of the proposed subscription, as well as the vote before them. It was to be regretted that Bro. Capt. Savage had been thus cut off when in receipt of a good income, without making provision for his family. He was sure, so highly as Bro. Savage was esteemed, that every Mason in Hampshire would lend his aid to the good work. The resolution was carried unanimously.

Bro. Stebbing next read the Report of the Committee on the testimonial to Bro. T. Thomas Slade, P.M. No. 152, on his retirement from the office of Grand Treasurer of the Province. It stated that Bro. Slade's forty years' service in Masonry well deserved this acknowledgement from the Masons of Hampshire, irrespective of his claims for his fourteen years' faithful discharge of the duties of Treasurer: his Masonic attainments were very great; he was ever ready to impart knowledge, and had always done so without fee or reward. The Committee recommended, and he (Bro. Stebbing) then moved, that the Prov. Grand Lodge contribute the sum of £10 to that testimonial. Several Brethren rising simultaneously to second the motion, it was carried by acclamation.

Sir Lucius Curtis, the Prov. G.M., in presenting the Testimonial—a purse holding 100 guineas—added his meed of praise for Bro. Slade's energy in the duties of his office, and the excellent management of the funds; and in the kindest terms assured him that by attendance at his lectures he (the Prov. G.M.) knew more of Masonry than he had previously: and he gave Bro. Slade the right hand of fellowship, with the assurance that no act of his life afforded him (Sir Lucius) greater pleasure than putting that testimony of the esteem of the Masons of Hampshire—every one of whom he believed had contributed to it—into his hands.

Bro. Slade said he never felt himself placed in greater difficulty; he was really unable to find words commensurate with their kindness, or this testimony of the Brethren's esteem. He assured them that all his efforts in Masonry had been with no selfish design. He had but the one object in view, to advance the cause of Freemasonry in the Province, and he was rewarded by seeing his labours had met with such abundant success. He tendered his most grateful thanks to all; and, if he might mention one individual, to Bro. Stebbing he feared he could never feel sufficiently grateful.

The resignation of the office of Prov. G. Chap. (which he had held for a considerable period) by Bro. Rev. T. T. Haverfield was read; the Rev. Brother's increased age prevented his attendance.

Bro. Dr. Clark moved a vote of thanks to the Rev. Bro. Haverfield, for his past services, which, being seconded by Bro. Emanuel, J.W., was carried unanimously.

Bro. Stebbing next moved "that the thanks of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Hampshire be tendered to the Rev. Canon Carus, for his kindness in allowing the Brethren the use of his church, and also for his attendance and reading the ser-

vice of the day ;" which motion was seconded by Bro. Emanuel, and carried with one consent

Bro. the Rev. Dr. Woolley moved "that the thanks of the Prov. Grand Lodge be given to the Rev. Bro. George Raymond Portal, for the very eloquent sermon he had that day delivered ;" this motion was also warmly seconded by Bro. Emanuel, and after a few words from the Prov. G.M., carried unanimously.

The Rev. Bro. Portal, in acknowledgment, said he was ever ready to assist in the cause of the Order, and it afforded him much pleasure to take an active part in that his native county.

Bro. Edwin Galt moved "that the thanks of the Prov. Lodge of Hampshire be presented to the R.W. Bro. Thomas Willis Fleming, the V.W. Bro. Dr. Harcourt, and the other Visitors, for their presence on that occasion." This being seconded by Bro. J. J. Galt, was carried unanimously.

The R.W. Bro. Fleming, in acknowledgment for the kind reception of his name, said, that next to standing well in his own province, it was most gratifying to be held in such high honour by others.

The V.W. Bro. Dr. Harcourt said he was happy to see so glorious a meeting and such munificence displayed through their benevolent fund. He assured the Brethren he should carry to his Brethren in Surrey a recommendation to emulate the same liberal spirit.

An abstract of the Treasurer's account was read, which showed the total amount of the funds on that day to be £211. 12s. 9d.

Bro. Stebbing, after proposing a vote of thanks to their Treasurer, Bro. Alfred Heather, followed it up by moving his re-election, which Bro. Castell seconded, and it was, with a few words of commendation from the Prov. G.M., carried unanimously.

Bro. Heather said he had a double debt of gratitude to discharge ; first, to thank them for the kind way in which his past services had been mentioned ; and secondly, for the continuance of their confidence.

Bro. Stebbing rose and said, that after holding the office of Grand Secretary for nineteen years, he must beg leave to decline the re-appointment ; the position of the Grand Lodge was most satisfactory, and as the duties of the office now interfered with his avocations, and his excellent friend Bro. Firmin could well fulfil all the duties, he had the less hesitation in resigning the office he had been so long intrusted with. At the same time he assured the Grand Master and Brethren, that should Bro. Firmin at any time require his assistance, he should most readily afford it.

The R.W. Prov. G.M. said it was with extreme regret that he accepted Bro. Stebbing's resignation, as he was sensible that he should lose his right hand. Bro. Stebbing had so well attended to the business of the province for nineteen years, and had filled the responsible office so entirely to his satisfaction, that he could not avoid repeating he regretted Bro. Stebbing's resolve.

Bro. Lord Geo. Lennox, P.S.G.W., said : "Although we lose him in the actual responsibility of the office, we all hope he will still continue to lend his aid whenever it may be needed." His lordship concluded by proposing a vote of thanks to Bro. Stebbing, for his past arduous services.

Bro. Wyndham Portal, S.G.W., said, however much the Brethren might regret Bro. Stebbing's relinquishment of office, far be it from them to overwork a willing horse ; they must, at his wish, relieve him from his harness. They must each and all rally around their G.M.. and by individual and united assiduity, prevent him from fully realizing the loss he must necessarily sustain by the retirement of Bro. Stebbing. The vote of thanks having been put from the chair, was passed with acclamations.

Bro. Stebbing in reply, said he could scarcely trust himself to say in a few words all he could wish in acknowledgment of their kindness, as the time was short and he feared their dinner would be spoiled. However, he would say, that should Bro. Firmin through any unexpected cause require his aid, he should be ready, to use Bro. Portal's figurative language, to again put on the harness of office.

The Prov. G.M. then called on the Officers to deliver up their collars and

jewels of office. He then appointed and invested the following Officers for the year ensuing:—Bros. the Earl of Carnarvon, No. 90, G.S.W.; Dr. John Owen, No. 717, G.J.W.; Rev. Geo. Raymond Portal, No. 90, and Rev. Dr. J. Woolley, No. 717, G. Chaplains; Thomas Slade, No. 428, G. Reg.; Thomas N. Firmin, No. 152, G. Sec.; John Thomas Enright, No. 152, G.S.D.; Henry Castell, No. 717, G.J.D.; J. Travers, No. 150, G. Sup. Works; Charles Sherry, No. 90, and Efford, No. 995, G.D. Cers.; J. H. Paffard, No. 248, G. Sword-bearer; Churchill, G. Org.; Hasleham, G. Standard-bearer; John Lisle, No. 90, G. Purs.; G. Lungley, No. 152, Grylls and Smith, No. 462, James, No. 717, Challis and Lamb, No. 995, G. Stewards; E. Bannister, No. 428, and Geo. Lockyer, No. 152, G. Tylers. Bro. Alfred Heather was also invested as G. Treas.

The Grand Lodge was duly closed, and adjourned to St. John's Hall, where was provided by Bro. Sherry of the Black Swan, a most plentiful

BANQUET.

The R.W. Prov. G.M., Admiral Sir Lucius Curtis, presided; and among those present were the V.W. Bro. Charles Ewens Deacon, D. Prov. G.M.; Bros. the Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, and Dr. John Owen, the Grand Wardens; the R.W. Bro. Thomas Willis Fleming, the Prov. G.M., and the V.W. Bro. Hyde Pullen, the D. Prov. G.M. of the Isle of Wight; the V.W. Bro. Dr. George Harcourt, D. Prov. G.M. of Surrey; the Worshipful Bros. Wyndham Portal, Lord George Lennox, Dr. Clark, H. Emmanuel, and other P. Prov. G. Wardens; Bro. Lieut.-Col. Norcutt; the V.W. Bros. Revs. G. R. Portal and Dr. Woolley, Prov. G. Chaps.; Bro. Blenkin, Prov. G.S.W. Surrey; Bros. Slade and Heather, Past and Present G. Treas.; Bro. Stebbing, P.G. Sec.; Bros. E. and J. Galt, and Abrahams, Prov. G.Ds.; Bros. Dr. Packman, J. Cleland, &c. One hundred and thirty Brethren altogether sat down, and we believe every one of the newly-appointed Officers was present. The table was elegantly decked with plate, and on a round table in the centre of the Hall was elevated the very beautiful testimonial presented to Bro. W. W. H. Beach, M.P. for North Hampshire, and the founder of the Oakley Lodge, by the Freemasons of Oxford.

The banqueting room of St. John's House, as it is called, is the hall of the house of the Knights Hospitallers, which establishment, at the spoliation of the conventual houses by Henry VIII., was with its revenues converted into a hospital for aged and infirm persons; a building of modern date on the opposite side of the road preserves the ancient foundation, adapted more to modern requirements. The Hall is a noble room, and is now, being the property of the Corporation, used as a concert and ball-room, and for public meetings.

At the conclusion of the dinner,

The Prov. G.M., Admiral Sir Lucius Curtis, rose and desired the Brethren to give a loyal reception to the first toast—"The Queen and the Craft."

The National Anthem was sung by Bro. Sherry, whose voice told admirably in the noble room; it was chorused most enthusiastically.

The Prov. G.M. in due course gave "The M.W.G.M., the Earl of Zetland;" and this was followed by "The R.W.D.G.M., Lord Panmure," who, but for public affairs at this eventful time, would have had the pleasure of making himself known to the Masons of Hampshire; with his lordship's name he would unite "The rest of the Grand Officers."

Bro. Lord George Lennox, as a P.G.W., briefly acknowledged the toast, and said although he was a P.G. Officer of England, he still esteemed it a high honour to be a Member of the Grand Lodge of Hampshire.

The Rev. Bro. Geo. R. Portal, rose and said he had the honour of proposing a toast committed to him, which duty he would do his best to discharge. The Rev. Brother, in allusion to India, said there were doubtless many thousands of their Brethren scattered over the world, who needed the sympathies of those at home; and many who would be desirous of returning to their native land when their work was done. He therefore asked the Brethren to join him in the sentiment of the Craft—"To all poor and distressed Masons," &c.

The Prov. G.M. next gave their "Distinguished Visitors, Bro. Fleming, Prov.

G.M. of the Isle of Wight, and his Deputy Bro. Hyde Pullen; also Bro. Harcourt, the D. Prov. G.M. of Surrey."

Bro. Fleming said, the thanks of himself and those united with him were due, and were tendered in return for the kind reception. For himself, he was happy in again having an opportunity of spending a very pleasant day in Hampshire, where Master and Lodge agree so well together. He should have been glad if Lord Panmure had been present to see a Grand Lodge in such good order; he would have seen duty and business carried on with unanimity, a slight contrast to what passed in the Metropolis. It afforded him (Bro. Fleming) much pleasure to see his worthy friend and Brother still filling the high office of presiding over the Masons of Hampshire, with a perseverance and assiduity that did honour to him. There was an additional gratification in witnessing the presentation of the testimonial to Bro. Slade, a Mason whom he so highly esteemed.

Bro. Dr. Harcourt said, it afforded himself and his Brethren from Surrey great gratification to be present and witness the proceedings of the day. It would be a stimulus to the exertions of the Brethren of his own province, to learn from him the true Masonic spirit with which the Grand Lodge of Hampshire was governed and presided over by a veteran in every way fitted to rule.

Bro. Wyndham Portal, who on rising was most heartily cheered, said, the R.W.G.M. had entrusted him with the gavel for a brief period, and he would use it for a purpose they would most heartily welcome. They had attended the summons of their G.M., and he asked them to prove by their enthusiastic reception of the toast "The Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Admiral Sir Lucius Curtis," how much gratification his presence afforded them. Having himself retired from office, he could assure the newly-appointed officers they would find, in intimate association, their Grand Master's ever-ready kindness. He would further say that in the united Grand Lodge their G.M. weighed well every matter that came before him, and the Masons of England had the benefit of his sound judgment. The enthusiastic cheers that followed having subsided,

The gallant Admiral rose and said, that having had for so many years and so often the pleasure of acknowledging the kindness of the Brethren in this way, he really could find nothing new to say to them, but he sincerely thanked them for the way in which his name had been received. In making allusion to one appointment he had that day made, to the office of Senior Warden, he was sure every member of the Grand Lodge of Hampshire would feel, equally with himself, it was an act of great condescension of the noble earl to accept the appointment at his hands.

The Prov. G.M. then said, the next toast he had to propose was one with which he should connect the name of a Brother who had seen service in the Crimea. He was pleased to see present an old friend and soldier, whose regiment was conspicuous at Alma and Inkerman, and also in the pits before the Redan. With this allusion to Bro. Colonel Norcutt, he gave welcome to that gallant officer and the other Brethren of the military and naval services present, in the toast "The Army and Navy."

Bro. Col. S. Norcutt appropriately replied.

The Prov. G.M. next proposed the health of his most excellent friend and invaluable Deputy, "Bro. Deacon."

Bro. Deacon, on rising, was received with the usual hearty bursts of enthusiasm which always greet his presence in Hampshire. He expressed his grateful thanks to the Prov. G.M. for his unabated confidence, and to the Brethren for their kind greeting. He trusted he should ever sustain their good opinion; his best efforts had been given to support the high prestige of the Institution, believing as he did that it annihilated all political enmity, whilst it also softened private jealousies. By obedience to the laws of the Order, and by showing kindness to our fellow-men, the Fraternity should prove what Masonry was. He assured the Brethren that his best endeavours would ever be given to support and maintain all those ancient landmarks which were so essential to the well-being of the Order.

The Prov. G.M. said the next toast required a bumper, as it included a nobleman who had that day done him the honour to accept office at his hands. In

a few words he gave the health of his noble friend, "Bro. the Earl of Carnarvon, S.G.W., and the rest of the Grand Officers."

Bro. the Earl of Carnarvon said, that in general he was a bold man who answered for himself—a bolder one still who undertook that duty for others: thus in Masonry, as in common life, high office carried high responsibility; probably the duties of the several officers might not be very different, and if not all alike in capacity, they were in zeal and fidelity equal in their work. Late as the hour was, and waning as were their lights, he would detain them but for a few words as regarded himself. The honours of the Prov. Grand Lodge afforded him double pleasure—first from having received them at the hands of his gallant friend and veteran in the Order, and next for the association with the Brethren of his own Province; and he would further say, to adopt figurative language fitted for the case, that sailing in the same boat of which Sir Lucius held the helm it was most certain the Craft would be guided aright. He revered Freemasonry for the universal spirit of Brotherhood it engendered—wherever the seas rolled the Mason found hospitality. He was also sure our other national institutions were not neglected by Masons. By the many familiar faces he saw around him, he was assured that the bonds of fellowship woven by county friendships were strengthened by the institution. He could wish that Masons of the Provinces took more interest in the proceedings of the Grand Lodge; he thought it was unsatisfactory that the Lodges in the Provinces did not so actively enter into the spirit of Masonry as their Brethren in the metropolis. There was no spot in England so well fitted to inspire a Mason's enthusiasm as their ancient city, which contained so many memorials of past times, the works of their ancestors—the city, he might say, of William of Wykeham. In conclusion, the noble Brother said, that he and his colleagues would direct their best efforts to the promotion of the interests of Freemasonry in general, but in Hampshire more particularly.

The Prov. G.M., with a few kind words, next gave, "Bro. Wyndham Portal, and the rest of the Past Grand Officers."

Bro. Wyndham Portal, P. Prov. G.S.W., said, that having retired from office in the Province, he and others would be better enabled to attend to their duties in the united Grand Lodge, and thus endeavour to prevent a continuance of the abuses of which they had all heard so much. Guided and aided by his noble friends, he hoped that when they met at Basingstoke next year they would be able to give a better account of the prospects of Masonry.

The Prov. G.M., after a brief eulogy on the sermon they had heard, next gave, "The Prov. G. Chaps., Bros. Dr. Woolley and G. R. Portal."

The Rev. Bro. Dr. Woolley said, he was desired by his worthy Brother and colleague to express their united thanks for that token of esteem. They had heard from Bro. Portal an able and eloquent *exposé* of the great duties of Masonry; those precepts from the first hour that he heard them had ever been impressed upon his heart. It was often asked of him, how can you, or any member of the Christian Church, be a member of such an association as Freemasonry? As a minister, he held, and must hold, those dogmas which they received, and he certainly did not consider Masonry was antagonistic to them; he must ever consider it a great advantage that there was one society, like Freemasonry, where all could meet, without distinction of creed, in support of the three great Masonic principles of brotherly love, relief, and truth. Brethren ought to be careful to nip in the bud every species of rivalry, or aught that militated against the great principles of the Order, and bear in mind the beautiful words of the 133rd Psalm. The Rev. Brother concluded with a tribute of sympathy for the late Bro. Savage, whom he knew well, and had many opportunities of seeing engaged in works of charity and kindness.

Bro. Stebbing, P. Prov. G. Sec., at the desire of the Prov. G.M., rose and proposed the health of an old and distinguished Mason who had done great service in handing down to posterity those genuine tenets of Freemasonry which he had learned from Peter Gilkes; and who, after forty-two years' service, was still useful and energetic, and looked as young as ever. That day the Masons of Hampshire had done themselves immortal honour in acknowledging those services by a handsome testimonial. Bro. Stebbing then diverged from his subject,

by urging on the Brethren the support of the charities. There was nothing so glorious as charity; it was the oil that calmed the troubled waters of life; 'twas like the gentle dew from heaven that makes green the desert. He could not but think of the many thousands that were squandered on dress and dinners; but how many could say that they expended five pounds a year in charity! Bro. Stebbing concluded by proposing "Health and many years of happiness to Bro. Slade."

Bro. Slade, in a brief and feeling reply, expressed his gratitude for the kind reception of his name.

The Prov. G.M. then, acknowledging the great assistance he had received for so many years from Bro. Stebbing, proposed his health.

Bro. Stebbing said, he rose with a very grateful heart to thank his superior for the kind manner in which he had introduced his name. Their Prov. G.M. was in an elevated position of society, whilst he (Bro. Stebbing) was a hewer of wood and drawer of water, always ready to obey the commands of their kind Grand Master; and those services he should be ready again to afford if required. He was quite satisfied that in Bro. Firmin they had an officer equally zealous and efficient. Since he first entered upon the office of Secretary there had been great accession of strength, both in Lodges and their members; and under the mild and gentle rule of Sir Lucius, aided as it had been by that excellent and energetic Mason, his effective deputy, Bro. Deacon (cheers), Freemasonry had prospered in Hampshire. The teaching and principles of Masonry—promulgated as they were by such large meetings as the one of that day, by making known its wide-spreading charities and its Fund of Benevolence—had done much good in Hampshire. By fulfilling all its precepts, and by practising all the great duties of life which it enforced, men would be enabled to see that Freemasonry was something more than a name, and prove to the world that it had done something to promote the happiness of mankind.

Bro. J. Galt very prettily and practically proposed "The Ladies." And now as the evening was wearing late, the Prov. G.M. left the chair.

Bro. Snary contributed to the pleasures of the evening by a few songs.

ISLE OF WIGHT.

VENTNOR.—*Yarborough Lodge* (No. 809).—The usual meeting of this Lodge was held on Wednesday, the 7th of October, Bro. J. Briant, W.M., when some routine business was transacted. The Brethren, before they separated, collected the sum of seven guineas in aid of the Indian Relief Fund.

KENT.

ERITH.—*St. John and St. Paul Lodge* (No. 898).—The first regular meeting of this Lodge (and the last for the season) took place on Saturday, the 3rd October, at the Pier Hotel, when Bro. Luis Artus, the W.M. elect, P.M. of the Mount Moriah Lodge, No. 40, and Sec. to the Emulation Lodge of Improvement, No. 318, was regularly installed in the chair, by Bro. Charles Purton Cooper, Q.C., R.W. Prov. G.M., assisted by Bro. Stephen Barton Wilson, J.G.D. of England, the immediate P.M. of this Lodge.

Bro. Wilson, on being invested with the insignia of his office, said: "W.M., it is customary among Freemasons to invest every officer in the Lodge with a particular Jewel, which designates the situation he holds, and symbolizes the peculiar duties of his office. I have had the honour on many previous occasions, in different Lodges, of being placed in the distinguished position I now hold in this Lodge; it may therefore be fairly supposed that I am conversant with the duties which necessarily devolve on every P.M. in the Craft; and in order to show to the R.W. Prov. G.M. that I fully understand the importance of my position, I will, with your permission, make a few observations on the Jewel with which you have just been pleased to invest me." The W. Brother then proceeded to explain the 47th Proposition in the first book of "Euclid's Elements of Geometry," which he dilated on, showing its various properties, and its high importance to the science;

also its application and peculiar appropriateness to distinguish the P.Ms. of the Order.

After which the Brethren who were not eligible to be present at this portion of the ceremony were admitted, and the ceremony, which was most impressively performed, concluded.

The W.M. then appointed his officers as follows:—Bros. Samuel W. Daukes, G. Supt. of Works, S.W. ; B. de Cuadra, J.W. and Treas. ; S. B. Wilson, jun., Hon. Sec. ; M. Pitarc, S.D. ; J. Jimenez, J.D. ; F. Gaston, I.G. ; and W. Longstaff, Tyler. In the course of the meeting the By-laws were read, and obtained the unqualified approbation of the R. W. Prov. G.M., who signified his approval by signing them in open Lodge. This having been done, the Lodge was closed in due form. Amongst the visitors were Bros. C. Purton Cooper, Prov. G.M. ; W. Watson, Prov. G.S.B. ; W. Pearson, P. Prov. J.D. ; and F. Logan, P. Prov. G. Reg. for Jersey.

A sumptuous banquet completed the interesting events of the meeting. The chair was of course filled by Bro. Artus, W.M. The healths of her Majesty, the M.W.G.M., and the R.W.D.G.M. having been duly honoured, the W.M. called upon Bro. Wilson to propose the next toast.

Bro. Wilson, on rising, said: "Brethren, it gives me very great pleasure to respond to the command of the W.M., because it affords me an opportunity of proposing to you the health of Bro. Charles Purton Cooper, the R.W. Prov. G.M., who has honoured us by his attendance on the present occasion. I have had opportunities of visiting many different Provinces, and closely observing the manner in which the business in those Provinces is conducted, and have no hesitation in asserting that there are very few, comprising an equal number of Lodges, that can vie with the Province of Kent. This I consider to be entirely owing to the merits of our Prov. G.M., whose personal superintendence of the general business of his Province, whose well-known zeal in behalf of our charities, and whose courtesy and kindness on all occasions, entitle him to our highest praise. It is therefore, W.M. and Brethren, with the greatest pleasure, I now propose 'The Health of Bro. Charles Purton Cooper, R.W. Prov. G.M.,' thanking him for the honour of his attendance on this occasion."

The toast having been drunk with the greatest enthusiasm,

Bro. Cooper rose to return thanks, and said that he was much pleased with the reception he had met with, and felt highly gratified by the very flattering manner in which his health had been proposed by Bro. Wilson, and received by the Brethren. To receive praise from one who was praised by everybody was indeed something to be proud of. With regard to his personal attention to the business of the Province, he had always considered it to be his bounden duty, unless unavoidably prevented, to act for himself—although he had a Deputy, and one who would prove himself fully competent to his situation if called upon to act. It was his (Bro. Cooper's) anxious desire that the greatest unanimity should exist in every Lodge throughout his Province, and that they should in a great measure govern themselves, so far as related to the selection of those from amongst their number whom they considered eligible for preferment in the Prov. Grand Lodge. Their recommendations when sent to him he would lay before his council, and on receiving their opinion, judge for himself, and then act as occasion might require ; and he assured them, that if at any time he did anything which they conceived to be wrong, it would be from an error of the head, not of the heart. He again thanked the W.M., Bro. Wilson, and the Brethren, for the kindness shown him, wishing them many years of unalloyed happiness, and that the Lodge might flourish through many generations.

Several other toasts were then given, and a concluding glass "To all Poor and Distressed Masons" finished the proceedings.

This being a summer Lodge, the next regular meeting will take place on the Saturday nearest the full moon in May, 1858.

GRAVESEND.—*Lodge of Freedom* (No. 91).—This Lodge met on the evening of the 19th October, when the W.M., Bro. William Hills, proceeded to pass Bro. Daines to the 2nd Degree, and to raise Bro. Froud to the 3rd Degree.

The work was performed in a very efficient manner by the W.M. There was a goodly muster of the Brethren, and after other business had been transacted, they voted £5 from the funds of the Lodge in aid of the fund for the sufferers in India. At the conclusion of the business, the Brethren proceeded to an excellent banquet provided by the host, Bro. Wates, and a very pleasant and convivial evening was spent.

MAIDSTONE.—*Belvidere Lodge*, No. 741).—The usual monthly meeting of this Lodge was held on Tuesday, the 13th October, at the Star Hotel, Maidstone. The Lodge was opened by Bro. Cooke, P.M., and Bro. Farrar having been passed, and Bro. Langford raised, Bro. Orford, S.W., proposed a vote of five guineas “from the W.M. and Brethren of the Belvidere Lodge to the Maidstone subscription towards the India Fund.” Bro. Cruttenden, senior P.M., seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously—an example which, for the credit of Masonry, it is hoped other Lodges in the Province will follow. The Lodge was then closed with the usual solemnities.

LANCASHIRE.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE—WESTERN DIVISION.

ON Tuesday, the 20th of October, the annual meeting of the above Grand Lodge was held at the Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool, for the transaction of the annual business of the province, the installation of the R.W.D. Prov. G.M. Sir Thomas Hesketh, Bart., of Rufford Hall; and to hold a Court of Governors of the West Lancashire Masonic Institution for the Education and Advancement of Children of Distressed Freemasons. After the preliminary business of the Grand Lodge was transacted, the imposing ceremony of Installation, according to ancient usages, of the R.W.D. Prov. G.M. Sir Thomas Hesketh, Bart., was performed in form and solemn order, by Bro. Le Gendre Nicholas Starkie, R.W.D. Prov. G.M., assisted by his Wardens and Officers,—Bros. Thos. Littledale, G.S.W.; James Billinge, G.J.W.; Joshua Walmesley, G. Treas.; Hugh R. Edwards, G. Reg.; Thomas Wylie, G. Sec.; Samuel Yates Hess, S.G.D.; James Hamer, G.D.C.; John Molyneux, G. Organist; Horatio Gambell, G.P.; James Eckersley, G.S.B.; Henry Ward Collins, P.J.G.W.; H. R. Edwards, P.J.G.D.; H. Seymour Alpass, G. Steward; Isaac Atherton, G.S.; Richard Wearing, G.S.; Peter Maddox, G.S.; William Allender, G.S.; and by the P.Ms. and the W.Ms. and Officers of the Lodges of the province. The proceedings of the last Grand Lodge having been read by the Grand Secretary, in which reference was made to the death of the late R.W.D. Prov. G.M., the Rev. Gilmour Robinson, and a suitable tribute of respect having been entered therein, as well as a suitable testimony of respect having been recorded respecting the deaths of Bros. Jos. Perrin and Arthur Henderson, Prov. G. Reg.; Bro. Allender drew the attention of the Lodge to the funds for the erection of the proposed Masonic Hall, the land for which, he said, had been purchased in Hope-street for the sum of £1,600, towards which sum already £970 had been collected. As yet the exact sum collected by Lodge No. 35 had not been returned, but he had no doubt it would amount to a very considerable sum. Lodge No. 245, had contributed £228; No. 263, £27; No. 294, £66; No. 310, £281; No. 308, £236; No. 865, £6. Various other contributions, as well as two subscriptions from ladies of £25 each, were also announced. The speaker urged the claims of the proposed hall on the Brethren, and concluded by moving for the sum of fifty guineas from the Prov. Grand Lodge funds, which was accordingly unanimously agreed to.

The Lodge afterwards resolved itself into a Court of Governors of the West Lancashire Educational Institution for the Education and Advancement of Children of Distressed Masons, when the report of the institution was read by the Secretary, Bro. Gambell. The report embodied the proceedings of the various courts which had been held during the year, wherein a number of the children of distressed Masons had been recommended to the funds of the institution. The following were brought forward to be placed on the funds, and were unanimously accepted:—Lawrence Almond, son of the late Bro. Almond, of No. 845, Ormskirk, proposed by Bro. Ladmore, W.M.; Robert Mackenzie, son of the late

Anthony Mackenzie, of No. 263 ; and Edward and John S. Fairclough, sons of Bro. Thomas Fairclough, of No. 711, Ashton. The Court proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing year. Bro. Brabner was elected treasurer ; Bro. Gambell, secretary ; Bro. Collins, legal adviser ; and Bro. Jeffreys, medical officer ; after which the general committee was appointed. Bros. Sir Thomas Hesketh, Bart. ; Gilbert Greenall, M.P. ; William Moss, and James Billinge were added to the list of trustees of the institution. Bro. Walmsley moved that the By-law No. 37, which orders that no applicant shall be admitted to the benefits of the institution unless the father shall have been a subscribing member for at least three years to some Lodge or Lodges within the western division of the county of Lancaster, be altered, and the words "and also a subscriber for three years to the institution" be added. Bro. Pinkiss, seconded by Bro. Alpass, moved, as an amendment, that only "one year a subscriber shall entitle a member's children to the benefits of the institution." Considerable discussion ensued and the motion was ultimately carried. After disposing of some of the funds of the institution on mortgage, the proceedings terminated, and the Lodge was closed in form and harmony.

THE BANQUET.

About half-past four, upwards of ninety Brethren sat down to a sumptuous banquet, served up in Bro. Radley's best style. At the close of which the musical Brethren sang *Non nobis Domine*.

Bro. Le Gendre Nicholas Starkie, the R.W.G.M., took the chair ; on the right and left of whom were the Prov. Grand Officers. Bro. Thomas Littledale, Prov. G.S.W., occupied the S.W. chair, and Bro. James Billinge, the J.W. chair.

The Chairman said, the first and best toast of every Englishman was "The Queen." (Cheers.)

The Chairman said, it was always a pleasure to toast the health of the Prince Consort, who was so dear to our queen and country. He had exhibited eminent qualities, and had also shown a great taste for the arts and sciences, of which he had always been a foremost patron. He would give "The Prince Consort." (Applause.)

The Chairman said, he now brought a toast to their notice which would always have the regard of every worthy Mason, a nobleman who would always be respected by every Mason who knew him—"The Earl of Zetland, the Grand Master of England." Drunk with Masonic honours.

The Chairman : "As you have done great just to the last toast, you must never forget the Brother I have now the honour to propose, one who has done so much for his country during the hour of trial and difficulty, and made his name honoured by every Mason by his zeal and ability—"The Right Hon. Lord Panmure, K.T., D.G.M.'" (Enthusiastic cheering.)

Bro. Sir Thomas Hesketh, Bart., said the pleasing duty devolved on him of proposing the next toast. It was—"The Health of Bro. Le Gendre Nicholas Starkie, R.W. G.M. of the Province," who on all occasions had shown a lively interest in the Order during the last thirty years. Not a word that he could say that day would induce them to drink his health with more enthusiasm than he well merited for his fidelity and zeal in the cause. (Loud applause.)

The R.W. Prov. G.M. said, any language from him could scarcely convey to them what he felt at the manner in which his name had been received. He could assure them he did not consider himself competent to perform the duties of Master as he ought to do, but it gave him pleasure in having appointed so efficient a deputy as was that day installed. The manner, too, in which the Officers of the Prov. Grand Lodge had always assisted him in his various duties gave him great pleasure, for which he returned his sincere thanks. He wished them all prosperity in the Order, and in life, not forgetting their "ain firesides." (Cheers.) He had now a mournful duty to perform, in proposing, in silence, the memory of a late Brother who had always the interest of the Order at heart and never was found wanting. He drew their attention to the memory of the late R.W.D. Prov. G.M. for West Lancashire, the Rev. Gilmour Robinson.

The R.W. Prov. G.M. next remarked, he did not believe there was any one in

the county more fitted for the office of D.G.M. than the Brother whose health he had now the pleasure of proposing—the gentleman who had that day been elected to the high and honourable position of D.G.M.—one who had come forward so heroically for the defence of his Queen and country, and with whose name he would give the army and navy. (Drunk enthusiastically.)

Bro. Sir Thomas Hesketh, Bart. : “I assure you, Brethren, I never experienced anything more gratifying in my life than the manner in which my health has been proposed by the Prov. G.M. and the Brethren present. With respect to the army and navy, I do regret there is not some person present who has taken a more active part than I have done in the maintenance of the great name of our country. But I do feel proud to belong in any way to that army which has been the admiration not only of this country but the world, for the manner in which it has valiantly discharged its duty during privation and the inclemency of the weather, as well as the hardships it has had to undergo during our contest in the East. As regards the adjunct to the force, he would say the contingent in this town was equal to any in her Majesty’s service. (Applause.)

The R.W. Prov. G.M. said, he had now to solicit their attention to an institution intimately associated with the Order. He had the pleasure of proposing “The West Lancashire Masonic Institution for the Education and Advancement of Children of Distressed Masons,” — one of the noblest institutions in connection with Masonry. They had always heard a great deal about education, but education was of little avail without charity. With this toast he would propose “The Health of Brother Gambell, the Secretary.” (Applause.)

Bro. H. Gambell thanked the R.W.G.M. and Brethren for proposing his health with the toast. The funds of the institution, he said, had gone on increasing till now, when they had in hand the sum of £2,900. First, two children had been proposed to the funds of the institution, afterwards three children, and there were that day four children recommended to its charity, whilst their funds would enable them to educate six more. If all the Brethren of the province were to subscribe, nine more could be added to the number. He hoped the Brethren would double their subscriptions for the future, as the amount was only 5s. per annum.

The Chairman said, he had great pleasure in proposing the health of a nobleman who was held in the highest respect. He alluded to the Earl of Combermere, R.W. Prov. G.M. for Cheshire, as well as Bro. Stephen Blair, R.W. Prov. G.M. for East Lancashire.

The R.W.G.M. gave the V.W. Prov. G. Wardens, Prov. G. Chap., Prov. G. Treas., and the other Grand Officers.

The G. Prov. S.W. had always great pleasure in holding a position in a Lodge ; but he regretted that the office he then filled was not occupied by his worthy and noble Brother Lord Skelmersdale, who ought to have held it.

After several other complimentary official toasts had been given and heartily responded to, the Chairman gave “A speedy Relief to all Poor and Distressed Masons.”

The proceedings were closed in due form and harmony shortly after nine o’clock.

BOLTON.—*St. John’s Lodge* (No. 268).—The monthly meeting of this Lodge was held on Wednesday, the 21st of October, at six o’clock in the evening, at the Commercial Hotel, Bolton, Bro. John Mitchell, W.M., presiding. The attendance was very numerous, many visitors also being present, amongst whom we observed Brcs. J. Aspinwall, J.W. No. 44, and Prov. G. Org. for East Lancashire ; W. H. Wright, Dir. of Cer. No. 44, and P.M. No. 170 ; T. Dawson, Sec. No. 44, and S.W. No. 436 ; Dr. Livy, No. 44 ; James Baythorp, W.M. 170 ; Thomas Eage, S.W. No. 170 ; Thomas Heaton, J.W. No. 170 ; John Bromley, W.M. No. 436, and Thomas Beswick, No. 436. The minutes of the proceedings of the last regular meeting having been confirmed, the Lodge passed to the 2nd Degree, when Bros. Yates and Platt underwent an examination as to their proficiency in the science, which proving satisfactory, Bro. John Thorpe, P.M., by desire of the W.M. proceeded to raise Bro. Charles Yates to the Degree of Master Mason in his

usual efficient and impressive manner. The W.M. then resumed his chair, and to the great satisfaction of those who had not previously had the opportunity of hearing him, conferred the Degree of Master Mason upon Bro. Henry Platt, younger son of the late respected Treasurer of the Lodge. Mr. William Flitcroft who was balloted for and approved at the last regular meeting, was initiated in the 1st Degree. The Brethren in Bolton having conceived the idea of purchasing or erecting premises suitable for a Masonic Hall, in the Borough, and it having been deemed desirable to introduce the subject to the members assembled in open Lodge, the W.M. explained the proceedings of the committee up to the present time, after which it was resolved "That the W.M., Wardens, and Officers form a canvassing committee to ascertain the opinions of the Brethren of the Lodge on the proposal for the erection of a Masonic Hall. The Lodge was closed in due form at ten o'clock. Refreshments having been provided, and ample justice done thereto, the W.M. proceeded to give the usual loyal and Masonic toasts. In reply to "The R.W. Albert H. Royds, D. Prov. G.M. for East Lancashire, and the Prov. Grand Officers," Bro. J. Aspinwall, Prov. G. Org., thanked the Brethren for the compliment, and passed a high eulogium on the W.M. and Officers of the Lodge for the efficient and satisfactory manner in which they performed their respective duties. "The Visiting Brethren" was proposed by Bro. Hughes, S.W., who alluded to the visit of the W.M. and Wardens of Antiquity, No. 170, and hoped that the fraternal feeling they had exhibited, would be reciprocated by the members of this Lodge. The toast was warmly received. Bro. Bagthorp, W.M. No. 170, responded in a brief but emphatic speech, thanking the Brethren for their courtesy, complimenting them on their efficiency, and desiring a return of their visit at the earliest opportunity. Bro. Entwisle, J.W. proposed "Our newly-initiated Brother," prefacing the toast with a few trite and appropriate observations. Bro. Flitcroft having responded in a short but felicitous speech, the W.M. gave the last toast, "To all Poor and Distressed Masons," and the Brethren separated.

LANCASTER.—*Lodge of Fortitude* (No. 350).—This flourishing Lodge held its monthly meeting on Wednesday evening, October 14, at the Assembly-rooms. About forty of the Brethren were present, and two gentlemen were initiated into Masonry. The ceremonies were performed by the W.M., Bro. William Wearing, in a correct and impressive manner; and the usual Lodge business having been transacted, the Lodge was duly closed with the usual solemnities. From the spirited manner with which this Lodge is conducted, we doubt not but that it will continue to maintain its present popularity.

LIVERPOOL.—*Ancient Union Lodge* (No. 245).—At the regular meeting of this Lodge, held at the Royal Hotel, Dale-street, in September last, three Brethren were raised to the Sublime Degree of M.M. Several charitable bequests were afterwards voted, the most particular of which were a vote of 20s. a month to the Tyler for his very efficient services during a long course of years; £5. 5s. as a donation towards the fund now forming in Liverpool, for the purpose of presenting Bro. Gambell, Prov. J.G.D. for West Lancashire, with a testimonial, in acknowledgment of his invaluable services rendered to Masonry in this province; and last, though not least, £20. 10s. to be placed in the hands of the W.M., Bro. Wearing, to be forwarded by him towards the relief of our suffering Brethren in India and their widows and orphans in this country. In concluding this short report, we trust that so good an example will be followed by every Lodge in the country.

Lodge of Harmony (No. 267).—This Lodge met, according to ancient custom, on Monday, the 5th of October, at the Wellington Hotel, Garston. The W.M., Bro. C. J. Banister, and the Officers, being present, the Lodge was opened at 5.30 P.M. The minutes of the last Lodge meeting being read and confirmed, the ballot was taken for Mr. George Howarth, and, being unanimous, he was initiated into the mysteries of the Order by the W.M. Bros. E. Fleetwood and Pierpont having expressed a wish to be made M.Ms. that evening, to enable them to be present at the Provincial Grand Lodge on the 20th, the W.M. raised them

to that Sublime Degree in a most solemn and impressive manner, explaining the Working Tools, and giving the lecture on the Tracing-board. The ordinary business of the Lodge being concluded, it was closed in due form. The visitors and Brethren then assembled in the supper-room, and did ample justice to the provision of the worthy host, Bro. Woods, and separated in perfect harmony.

LEICESTERSHIRE.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

The annual meeting of this Prov. Grand Lodge was held in the Lodge-room of the John of Gaunt Lodge, No. 766, Masonic Hall, Three Crowns Hotel, Leicester, on Thursday, the 1st of October, under the presidency of the R.W. Prov. G.M., Earl Howe, *G.C.H.*, P.D.G.M. Among the Brethren present were, Earl Howe, Prov. G.M.; W. Kelly, D. Prov. G.M.; Crawford, Prov. G.S.W.; Buck, Prov. G.J.W.; Rev. W. J. Edlin, *M.A.*, Prov. G. Chap.; Jos. Underwood (Mayor of Leicester), Prov. G. Treas.; C. Morris, W.M. No. 348, Prov. G. Reg.; Goodyer, Prov. G. Sec.; H. Gill, Prov. G.S.D.; W. Millican, Prov. G. Supt. of Works; Weare, Prov. G. Dir. of Cer.; J. Willis Goodwin, Prov. G. Sword-bearer; Geo. Bankart, W.M. No. 766, Prov. G. Purs.; G. F. Lloyd, J. B. Haxby, and H. E. Emberlin, Prov. G. Stewards; W. Hardy, W. J. Windram, E. Clepham, T. Cooper, and W. Williamson, P. Prov. G.Ws.; J. H. Stallard, *M.D.*, W. N. Reeve, J. Law, T. Shephard, R. Brewin, jun., J. R. Gray, W. S. Bithrey, T. Herbert, A. Cummings, J. D. Bromhead, T. C. Browne, J. Henry, J. Beattie, J. Leveaux, Rev. T. Ratcliffe, Serjt.-majors Harran and Phillips, &c. &c.

The John of Gaunt Lodge was opened for the reception of the Prov. Grand Master and the Grand Officers, at three o'clock, when, the Provincial Grand Lodge having entered in procession, Grand Lodge was opened in due form, and with solemn prayer.

The reports from the Lodges having been received, the Prov. G. Treasurer's accounts passed, and other routine business transacted, the Prov. G.M. made the following new appointments—the other officers being re-appointed for another year,—and invested the Brethren present, viz.: Bros. George Bankart, W.M. No. 766, Prov. G.S.D.; W. Weare, S.W. No. 348, Prov. G.J.D.; J. W. Goodwin, Prov. G. Dir. of Cer.; W. N. Reeve, Assist. Dir. of Cer.; Thomas Henry Pares (The Oaks), Prov. G. Standard-bearer; H. Gill, Prov. G. Org.; H. E. Emberlin, Prov. G. Purs.; and G. F. Lloyd, J. B. Haxby, George Shaw, *M.D.*, W. Cummings, and R. Brewin, jun., Prov. G. Stewards,—the sixth collar being reserved for Sir A. G. Hazlerigg, Bart., who was prevented being present by his absence in Scotland.

The Prov. G.M. was also pleased to confer the rank of a P. Prov. G. Supt. of Works on Bro. John Beattie.

The propriety of holding a Masonic ball in January next, was spoken of, as, by uniting the Brethren of the town and country, it would enable them to assist some deserving charity, and at the same time form an agreeable *réunion* for their fair sisters. The Prov. G. Officers were appointed a Committee to consider the proposal, and to make the necessary arrangements should it be adopted.

The Prov. G.M. announced that he had been applied to by Sir Geo. Beaumont, Bart., of Colerorton, relative to the proposed formation of a new Lodge in that neighbourhood, and which he trusted might ere long be successfully established, and thus replace the Ivanhoe Lodge formerly existing at Ashby-de-la-Zouch. His lordship also expressed an earnest hope that means would be taken by the resident Brethren for reviving the dormant Lodge at Loughborough; and for the establishment of Lodges at Market Harborough, Lutterworth, and other market-towns in the province.

The next Quarterly Communication having been fixed to take place at the St. John's Lodge, No. 348, in January next, the Prov. Grand Lodge was closed in due form, and with solemn prayer.

The Prov. G.M. having requested the W.M. of the John of Gaunt Lodge to take the chair, the business of that Lodge was resumed.

Bro. Beattie presented to the Lodge a beautifully executed photographic portrait, coloured in oil, of the noble and excellent Prov. G.M., and received a very cordial vote of thanks for the handsome present.

Bro. Millican, P.M., on behalf of the committee, presented a three-quarter length, life-size, portrait in oil of Bro. W. Kelly, D. Prov. G.M., the first Master of the Lodge; stating, at the same time, that it emanated from the surplus funds of the last ball.

Bro. Kelly expressed his sense of the honour conferred upon him by the Brethren in placing his portrait on the walls of their Lodge-room, by the side of that of their late excellent and lamented Prov. G.M., Sir F. G. Fowke, Bart., than whom few better men or Masons ever existed, and to whose instructions he was proud to owe the greater portion of his Masonic knowledge; and, as a slight token of his gratitude, he presented the Brethren with a fine old engraving of John of Gaunt, the patron of the Lodge.

A grand banquet was served up at five o'clock, attended by above fifty Brethren.

Earl Howe was again in the chair; and proposed the usual toasts, with much feeling. "The Army and Navy," received from his lordship that eulogium which their heroism in India so justly deserves. "But a short time ago," said his lordship, "we were congratulating ourselves on the termination of the war with Russia, and anticipating the blessing of a long peace. It shows what poor short-sighted beings we are, for a more terrible one has never afflicted us. Never has British valour more conspicuously shown itself than it did in the brave little band commanded by General Havelock, which is now reduced very much by battle and disease; and I do hope that better days for the soldier will soon come." The noble earl then briefly adverted to the interest which he personally felt in the war, having, as he said, three sons engaged in it.

"The Bishops and Clergy," was responded to by the Rev. W. J. Edlin.

The health of the mayor of the borough was responded to by his worship in his usual hearty manner, and the health of the president met the greatest enthusiasm.

The dinner was excellent, and reflected great credit on the worthy host and hostess. Two fine haunches of venison, and the dessert, were the gift of Earl Howe.

LINCOLNSHIRE.

BOSTON.—*Lodge of Harmony* (No. 339).—At the monthly communication of this Lodge, holden on the 8th October, Mr. Haines Rowell was initiated into the mysteries of Freemasonry by Bro. Pocklington, the W.M. Five pounds were also unanimously voted towards the local subscription in aid of the Indian Relief Fund, and £1 for relieving the necessities of a stranger Brother belonging to a distant Lodge, who, from infirmity, was entirely dependent upon the exertions of his daughter to keep him from the Union. A subscription was also started by Brethren individually, to raise a fund to be paid to Grand Lodge in case an appeal to the Lodges generally should be made by it in aid of the Indian Relief Fund; if not, to be added to the Local Fund; and £7 was announced to have been volunteered for that purpose.

INAUGURAL BANQUET OF THE LINDSEY LODGE.

LOUTH.—In our last issue we noticed the re-establishment of this Lodge (No. 1,014), which, through circumstances already explained, had for many years lain dormant. It is unnecessary, therefore, to recapitulate, or even hint at those circumstances. Be it enough to say now, that all the unfortuitous elements which stood in the way of the re-formation of a Lodge in the town of Louth, have been swept away; and that the new branch of the ancient tree bids fair to bear alike, in due season, leaf and fruit. We, therefore, proceed to describe the inaugural banquet of the new Lodge, which took place on the 9th of October.

Amongst those present were several Brethren from the Lodge of Harmony, Boston, and the Shakspeare Lodge, Spilsby.

The Lodge was opened in due form in the spacious room of the Public Buildings, which, though for many years devoted to public purposes, has at length become the peaceful arena for the transaction of the high and dignified business of Freemasonry.

A large assemblage of the Fraternity gathered around the W.M., the Rev. B. J. Wood (rector of Ruckland, near Louth); and amongst a variety of other Masonic business, Bro. Ingoldsby was raised to the Degree of M.M., by the W.M., assisted by Bro. Pocklington (Boston). It is needless to say that the ceremony was ably performed, at the hands of two such experienced members of the Craft.

Lodge business being concluded, and the Lodge duly closed, the Brethren repaired to Mrs. Mitchell's (widow of our late respected Bro. R. Mitchell), where a most sumptuous banquet was spread, materially enhanced by a profuse display of a variety of game from the preserves of the Right Hon. the Earl of Yarborough, P.D.G.M. of England, and Prov. G.M. of Lincolnshire.

The W.M. presided, surrounded by the numerous assemblage of whom we have spoken. The cloth having been drawn,

The W.M. proposed "The Queen and the Craft." He said their Order was usually honoured by some member of the royal family belonging to it; and although it was impossible, from her Majesty's sex, that she could be a Mason, yet her Majesty, as the daughter and the niece of a Freemason, was so intimately connected with the Fraternity, that he trusted that, at some future period, when they had arrived at the "mature age" enjoined by the Craft, some of her sons might be enrolled amongst them. (Loud cheers.)

The W.M. next gave "The Prince Consort, the Prince of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family." (Cheers.)

The W.M. then gave "The Army and Navy;" speaking in terms eulogistic of their ever having been found ready at their country's call to nobly fight her battles, and to stand by her in every emergency. And he, in common with the country at large, had not the slightest doubt that in this their hour of severest trial in India they would, under such noble and gallant men as Havelock, Nicholson, and Neill, add fresh lustre to their name, and renewed honour to their laurels, in dealing out that retribution to the sepoys who had so basely revolted, and who had, more basely still, committed atrocities which had caused a universal shudder through the civilized world. All honour, then, to the brave and gallant twin services, whose "deeds of note" were never more heartily acknowledged by any class of men in the kingdom, than they were by the Masonic Craft. (Enthusiastic cheering.)

The W.M. next gave "The M.W.G.M., the Earl of Zetland." He needed scarcely advert to the good qualities of this esteemed nobleman at the head of the Craft. He would, therefore, leave the toast in their hands, well convinced that they would do that justice to it which it so eminently merited.

This was followed by "The R.W.D.G.M., Lord Panmure,"—than whom a truer Mason did not live; and who had evinced a warm and zealous interest in all that belonged to the well-being and advancement of Freemasonry.

The W.M. then proposed "The health of the R.W.P.D.G.M. of England and Prov. G.M. of Lincolnshire, the Earl of Yarborough." (Loud cheers.) He said it would indeed be superfluous for him (the W.M.), in an assembly of Lincolnshire Freemasons, or, indeed, in any gathering of the Fraternity in the country, to dwell at any length upon the estimable qualities and virtues of the noble lord, whether as a Mason or as a man. In his capacity as a Mason, all who were acquainted with his lordship were aware of the lively interest he had ever felt in the prosperity and advancement of Freemasonry generally throughout the kingdom; but more especially for its welfare and progress in that province. All, too, were not less aware of, and all who had ever come into contact with him would cheerfully acknowledge, the urbanity and zeal which characterized and distinguished the discharge of the manifold duties of his elevated office. Ever ready at the call of Masonic duty, his lordship had always been in the van in the onward march of the Craft; and long might he remain, as he so long had been, a distinguished ornament and a firm support to the Order. He (the

W.M.) could not, in justice to the noble lord, although in an assemblage of the Brethren of that Order, refrain from uttering a passing encomium on his lordship's private character. In private life he might safely say that his lordship was beloved and respected by all who knew him—by all whose fortune it had been to be in any way associated with him; but the most so by those who had had the largest personal experience of his character. In every position he held in life—whether as a Mason, as a landlord, as a friend, or as a public character—his lordship had won the admiration, respect, and esteem of all. (Cheers.) As a Mason, he had zealously performed his duty to the Craft and its innumerable Brethren; as a landlord, he was noted for his kindness and liberality; as a friend, he was distinguished for his generosity and warm-heartedness; and as a public character, he had held “the even tenor of his way,” admired by his supporters, and respected even by his opponents. He (the W.M.) sincerely trusted his lordship might long be spared to continue his life of usefulness, and more especially to preside over the affairs of the Craft in the province of Lincolnshire. Deeply as they all regretted the noble lord's long indisposition—and which alone had prevented him from being present amongst them on that occasion,—it was some consolation to know that his lordship's health was improving. Might that improvement continue to completion, and might his lordship long live! was his, as he knew it to be their, warm and earnest prayer. He (the W.M.) called upon them to drink with all the honours, “The health of the Earl of Yarborough, G.M. of the province, and Lord-Lieutenant of the county of Lincoln.” (Cheers.)

The Secretary of the Lindsey Lodge, Bro. Nell, then read a letter which had been received by him from Lord Yarborough, in reply to the invitation sent to his lordship, requesting his presence at their inauguration festival. In this letter his lordship expressed his extreme regret that the state of his health prevented him from being amongst them; and his earnest wishes for the success and prosperity of the Lodge. He had had much pleasure in directing a supply of game to be forwarded for the banquet; and would also be happy to be enrolled in the Lodge as an honorary member. (Loud cheers.)

“The health of the Rev. J. Nairne, of Lincoln, D. Prov. G.M. of the Province, and of the other Prov. G. Officers,” followed, and was received with much cheering.

Bro. Titus Rainey, of the Shakspeare Lodge, Spilsby, responded at some length.

Bro. Pocklington, W.M. of the Lodge of Harmony, Boston, then rose, and proposed “The Lindsey Lodge,” whose establishment in the town of Louth they were met that day to celebrate. He viewed with the greatest satisfaction the revival of Masonry in Louth—one of the largest and most important towns in the county of Lincoln; and from the spirit which animated the members of the new Lodge he ventured to predict for it a bright and prosperous career. As a Mason of some experience, both in the Lodge with which he had the honour and pleasure of being connected, and with reference to other Lodges in the Province, he would venture to give the Brethren of the infant Lodge a few hints, which he trusted would not only be deemed opportune, but which he further trusted might be of service to them. Let them ever bear in mind, then, that one of the main principles on which their noble Order was based was charity; and that it was ever their bounden duty, as he doubted not it would be their pleasure, fully to carry out that principle—that holy “bond of peace.” He would warmly and earnestly impress upon them the value of their energetic and unceasing attention to this holy duty. He would also advise them strictly to keep the Lodge-funds untouched by any claims or demands for refreshment. Let the Brethren partake of such moderate refreshment as was desirable, and each defray the necessary cost thereof from his own pocket, so that the funds might be available for the exercise of that noble virtue to which he had seriously and earnestly directed their attention. Let it not be said, “See how these Masons eat, and drink, and enjoy themselves;” but, rather, “See how these Masons relieve the poor and the distressed.” He would also urge upon them the great importance of Lodges of Instruction, which they would find in the highest degree beneficial for the proper working of

the business of the Lodge. With these remarks he would conclude by calling upon them to drink the healths of the W.M. and Brethren of the Lindsey Lodge, with hearty good wishes for its welfare. (The toast was received with right hearty Masonic honours.)

Bro. the Rev. B. J. Wood, the W.M. of the Lindsey Lodge, responded, thanking Bro. Pocklington for the kind manner in which he had proposed the toast, and for the valuable and appropriate remarks with which he had accompanied it. He fully concurred in those remarks, and he believed it was the firm and determined intention of those belonging to the Lodge to act in the spirit, and upon the advice, suggested. He felt assured, that if they kept those noble principles which had been laid down in active operation, the Lodge would ere long be one of the most flourishing and distinguished in the Province. He thanked them all sincerely for the warm manner in which they had received the toast, and had much pleasure in proposing "The W.M. and Brethren of the Shakspeare Lodge, Spilsby." (Loud cheers.)

Bro. Fred. Rainey responded, expressing the satisfaction which the Brethren of the Shakspeare Lodge would ever feel in welcoming any of the members of the Lindsey Lodge who might at any time honour them with a visit.

The W.M. then paid a like compliment to "The W.M. and Brethren of the Lodge of Harmony, Boston," which was received with loud cheers, and other manifestations of approval.

Bro. Pocklington replied, thanking the Brethren for the cordial manner in which the mention of their names had been received; adding, that as the Freemasons had been so well and hospitably received on the occasion of the festival attending the laying of the foundation-stone of the Louth Town Hall, in 1853, he thought it was only right that they should mark their sense of the courtesy with which they were received by affording their Brethren in return whatever assistance was in their power. (Cheers.)

Bro. Fred. Rainey proposed the health of their vice-chairman, Bro. Ingoldsby. (Cheers.)

Bro. Ingoldsby returned thanks, expressive of his wishes for the successful progress of the Lodge. (Cheers.)

The W.M. then gave "The Mayor and Corporation of Louth." (Cheers.)

Bro. Alderman Trought responded on behalf of the corporation. When he had the honour of being mayor, in 1853, he had also had the honour of entertaining a number of the Freemasons on the occasion of laying the foundation-stone of their new Town Hall. Although not then one of the Fraternity, he had resolved that whenever an opportunity arrived of his joining a Lodge in Louth he would seek to be a member of the Craft. He was happy in having had an opportunity of doing so, and he believed his name was the first proposed in the Lindsey Lodge as a candidate for the honours and mysteries of Masonry. Although yet but an "Apprentice," he had seen sufficient of the Craft, and of the workings of the science, to enable him to appreciate its beauties, and to admire the distinguished principles on which it was founded; and he trusted that as he advanced higher and higher in the Masonic scale he should be the better able to promote, so far as lay in his power, the prosperity of the Craft generally, and especially of the Lodge established in their own town. (Loud applause.)

The W.M. then proposed "The Masonic Press," especially that portion of it denominated the *Freemasons' Magazine*—a work which laboured zealously in their cause, and which deserved the support of every Brother of the Craft. He would connect with this, with much pleasure, thanks to the writer of the late notice in that Magazine of the re-establishment of the Lindsey Lodge, who, although not now resident amongst them, was a Brother of many years' standing in the Order, and who by his notices in question in the *Freemasons' Magazine*, the *Era*, and the *Sunday Times* (the latter newspapers devoting a portion of their columns to Freemasonry), had shown the interest he felt in the progress of Masonry in his native town. (Cheers.)

Bro. Alderman Trought then proposed "The Health of Bro. Blakelock," the

oldest Mason amongst them, and who was a member of the late Lodge in Louth. (Cheers.)

Bro. Blakelock (an old and respected tradesman of many years' standing in Louth), in responding, said that it was now nearly forty years since he was initiated into the Craft, and as he grew older he could honestly say that his devotion to it increased. It was indeed a proud day for him, who had watched all the vicissitudes which Masonry had undergone in the town of Louth, and who was reluctantly compelled to fear that its sun had set therein, to witness such a splendid revival as the present, which he believed, as he hoped, would be permanent. (Loud cheers.)

Bro. Simons then gave "The Ladies," to which

Bro. Rinder humorously responded.

Several other toasts followed—the last being "To all Poor and Distressed Masons," which, like all its predecessors, was received with enthusiasm.

The Brethren separated, after a most delightful and harmonious meeting, which will long be cherished with pleasure in the recollection of every one present.

SOUTH WALES.

CARMARTHEN.—*St. Peter's Lodge* (No. 699).—On the 5th of August last a Lodge of Emergency was called, for the purpose of raising Bro. Erle to the Sublime Degree of M.M., when the ceremony was very ably performed by the W.M. and Bro W. H. Cole; and the worthy Bro. then took his leave of the Brethren, and left England the same week for Australia. The next regular Lodge was held on the 18th of September, when there was a good attendance of the Brethren. Bro. Owen Bowen (of the St. Alban's and Polish Lodges), was duly admitted a subscribing member, and a gentleman proposed for initiation. The motion as to a Lodge of Instruction was also again brought forward, when Bros. W. G. J. Thomas (W.M.), Ben. Jones (P.M.), and W. H. Cole were unanimously requested by the Lodge to conduct it, and the requisite authority given them for that purpose. This motion excited the greatest gratification among the Brethren, as it has long been the wish of the younger Brethren of the Lodge to have an opportunity of obtaining that knowledge of Masonry which is so necessary, not only for the correct working of the Lodge, but also for a proper appreciation of the beauties of our Order. Unfortunately, in this district this knowledge has hitherto been systematically kept from the Brethren, by a Brother who lately conducted the working department of this Lodge, but who has just left it; and as the Lodge is now in more enlightened hands, the Brethren hail the establishment of a Lodge of Instruction as a return from "darkness into light." There is also a unanimity and cordiality amongst the members which it is pleasant to see, and consequently the Lodge is not only more correctly and efficiently conducted, but is, if we may use the expression, more "Masonic" than it has ever yet been. The first Lodge of Instruction was held on the 5th of October, and it is intended to continue the meetings on the first Monday in every month. Bro. W. G. S. Thomas (W.M.) presided, and conducted the Lodge in a very efficient manner; and the Brethren present acknowledged that they had obtained more *real* knowledge of Masonry in this one meeting than they had ever done before. On the 16th of October the regular monthly meeting of the Lodge was held, for the purpose of nominating the W.M. for the ensuing year. Bro. D. E. Lewis proposed, and Bro. William Davies seconded, the present S.W. (Bro. J. Thirlwall) as a fit and proper person for the office, and the Brethren were unanimous in their wish to see that Brother in the chair. Bro. Thirlwall thanked the Lodge for the honour it had done him, and stated that he would always serve the Brethren in every way he could; but inasmuch as he feared the S.W. for the year 1856 might feel himself aggrieved if he were again passed over on this occasion, he (Bro. Thirlwall) would propose him as W.M. for the ensuing year, and then leave the matter in the hands of the Brethren. Bro. James Bowen was then proposed by Bro. Thirlwall, but in consequence of that Brother having virtually withdrawn from the Lodge, and not having attended its meetings once during the past year, there was no one to second the proposition, and it was therefore lost. Bro. Thirlwall is conse-

quently the only Brother proposed as W.M., and we congratulate our Carmarthen Brethren upon the choice they have made, as we are sure, from all we have heard, that it could not have fallen upon a more worthy Brother, or upon one more likely to do honour to their choice. At the same time, we cannot avoid paying our tribute of respect to the present W.M., for the excellent manner in which he has conducted his Lodge during the past year—more particularly in the face of the numerous difficulties he has had to surmount—and we have no doubt the Brethren will unite with us in wishing him “the highest Masonic honours, and a long life to enjoy them.” The election will take place in November, but the installation will not take place until December, when a very numerous attendance of the Brethren is expected. The next Lodge of Instruction is fixed for to-morrow (the 2nd of Nov.), when it is to be conducted by Bro. W. H. Cole.

LLANDILO.—*St. Teilo Lodge* (No. 996).—This Lodge met on the 27th of August last, when Bros. Tracey and Hughes were passed to the 2nd Degree by Bro. W. H. Cole, in his usual able manner. Two Brethren were then proposed for initiation, and the Lodge adjourned. On the 8th of October a meeting of the Lodge was held, when Bro. W. H. Cole presided, in the absence of the W.M., and initiated Mr. J. Prytherch and Mr. Thomas Evans into the mysteries of the Order. Bro. Cole also passed Bros. Williams, Harries, and Thomas to the 2nd Degree, and the Brethren expressed themselves highly pleased with the solemn and impressive manner in which Bro. Cole had gone through the whole of the arduous ceremonies. A gentleman was proposed as a candidate for initiation at the next Lodge, and the Brethren adjourned.

LLANELLY.—*Prince of Wales' Lodge* (No. 969).—This Lodge is still progressing, and will, we are convinced, some day attain a most important position. The regular monthly meeting was held on the 1st September, when M. A. F. Tate was initiated, and Bros. Lloyd and Bytheway passed, by Bro. F. D. Michael (P.M. No. 288), with his usual correctness and solemnity. Indeed, it is most surprising to observe how beautifully this worthy Brother still goes through our ceremonies, when we consider that he has been nearly fifty years a Mason, and must consequently be far advanced in years. He is an example that many of our younger Brethren will do well to follow. Bro. W. H. Cole, of Carmarthen Lodge, also initiated Mr. Lewis Lewis, and raised Bro. Walters to the Sublime Degree of M.M. with his usual ability and care. After the proposition of two candidates for initiation, the Lodge was closed. On the 6th October a Lodge was again held, when Mr. Rees Jones was initiated into Masonry by Bro. Michael, and Bro. Lewis passed to the 2nd Degree by Bro. W. H. Cole, who also raised Bro. Bytheway to the Sublime Degree of M.M. This Lodge is increasing so rapidly, that it is usually found impossible to go through all the business set down in the summons for the evening, and on this occasion two Brothers were obliged to wait until the next Lodge before taking their Degrees. A Lodge of Emergency was however called for the 22nd October, when it was proposed to bring up the arrears of business as far as possible. There is one circumstance we must not forget to call the attention of our Llanelly Brethren to, and that is the immediate and urgent necessity of providing a proper and commodious Lodge-room, with the requisite furniture and regalia, as at present the Lodge-room is so inconveniently small, and the regalia so scanty, that the ceremony loses much of that effect which it is so necessary to produce upon a candidate. No doubt this Lodge is too young to be able to provide that gorgeous regalia which some Lodges possess; but still, with the numerous and highly respectable Brethren who now belong to it, it would be very easy to remedy the defects we have pointed out. We hope the Brethren will take the hint in that spirit of Brotherly love in which we offer it.

PEMBROKE DOCK.—*Loyal Welsh Lodge* (No. 525).—This Lodge met for the first time this season, on Tuesday, the 6th October, in the new Lodge-room, at the Victoria Hotel,—a spacious apartment, seventy-two feet long, by twenty-one feet wide, and fifteen feet high, with a commodious antechamber—additions made to his establishment, at a very considerable expense, by the spirited land-

lord, Bro. Jenkins. On this occasion a portion of the new furniture was brought in for inspection, consisting of three very handsome pedestals, the work of Bro. Warlow, and which obtained for him universal approbation. Indeed, both to him as the executor, and to Bro. Bennett as the designer, credit alike is to be accorded. After the important ceremonies of passing, raising, &c., had been most efficiently conducted by Bro. Hutchings, the Brethren sat down to celebrate the event over a cheerful glass, when, amongst others present, were—Bro. Gillies, W.M., supported on the right by that veteran and indefatigable Mason, Bro. Thomas, P.G.D.C., and senior P.M. of the Lodge; Bros. Harris, S.W.; and Warlow, J.W.; Jenkins, Husband, Levi, Hutchings, Bennett, Cargill, Rollings, J. Thomas, Child, Cork, Chappel, &c., and Bro. Bull, of Portsmouth, who was unanimously admitted a member of the Lodge (on ballot) during the evening. Bro. Dr. Thomas had the honour of first returning thanks in the new Lodge, and Bro. Bennett that of the first song. Too much credit cannot be accorded to Bro. Jenkins for the excellent accommodation he has provided for the Lodge; and it is to be hoped the success that will attend his efforts may be such as will handsomely reward him for his praiseworthy endeavours.

Over this capacious and elegant Lodge-room is a suite of apartments, the northern of which commands views east, west, and north, not to be surpassed in the principality. Not only is the dockyard spread out before it, and a splendid bird's-eye view of the South Wales Railway Station at Nayland, sketches of the far-famed Cleddan, &c., but a luxuriant vale stretching far to the east, with Carew Castle a conspicuous object in the distance; and to the westward, the broad expanse of Milford, with its numerous vessels of the mercantile navy, either seeking shelter from violent gales, or a roadstead in unfavourable winds. These rooms are already being sought after with avidity by travelling families, their fame having gone abroad with each retiring guest; and by next season fortunate will be he who can insure their occupation.

The Loyal Welsh Lodge, of which Bro. Thomas was the first W.M., was established in the year 1824, and has with varied fortunes continued its *monthly* meetings ever since, and of late has been attended with the greatest success; and now that such a splendid Lodge-room has been accorded it, there is no doubt of its flourishing with redoubled splendour, and its reception of the Provincial Grand Lodge next spring will be such as to render its name of note in the annals of Masonry.

STAFFORDSHIRE.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—*St. Peter's Lodge* (No. 607).—The monthly meeting of this Lodge was holden at the Lodge-room, Star and Garter, on Friday, September 4. The W.M. having opened the Lodge in the 3rd Degree, requested Worshipful Bro. Lewis, P.M. No. 769, to take the chair and perform the ceremony. During the evening the W.M. called the attention of the Brethren to the indigent circumstances in which the widow and children of Bro. Meyrick had been left by his untimely decease; he was glad to hear a subscription was being raised for their benefit. Amongst those who had already contributed liberally were many Masons, and he did not doubt but that others, when they became acquainted with the merits of the case, would also contribute their mite. The W.M. proposed a Brother as a joining member. No other proposition being made, the Lodge was closed in due form.

The members of this Lodge assembled as usual on the first Thursday in October. After reading the summons confirming the minutes of the last meeting, Bro. Shipton, at the request of the W.M., gave the lecture on the Second Tracing-board, in a way that reflected much credit on himself, and elicited the thanks of the W.M. and Brethren present.

Lodge of Honour (No. 769).—The members of this Lodge met at the Lodge-room, on Friday, Sept. 11. There being no particular business to transact, the Lodge was merely opened and closed in the 1st Degree. Bro. Lewis, P.M., proposed two Brethren as joining members of the Lodge.

SUSSEX.

BRIGHTON.—*Royal Clarence Lodge* (No. 338).—This Lodge held its usual monthly meeting on October 16th. Viscount Pevensey, M.P. for East Sussex, who was proposed at the last meeting as a candidate for initiation, was balloted for and unanimously approved. Bro. Porter was passed to the degree of F.C., and Mr. Chittenden initiated into Freemasonry by Bro. Stuckey, W.M., in a most able style. Amongst the visitors were Bro. Masterman, W.M. of the Enoch Lodge, and Bro. Martin of No. 394. Three gentlemen were proposed for initiation. A letter was read from Bro. Robert Furner, P.M., requesting the members of this his mother Lodge to accept from him, as a token of his friendship, a portrait of George IV., when Prince Regent, as M.W.G.M., to be placed in the Lodge-room. A vote of thanks was passed to Bro. R. Furner for his valuable gift. The portrait, which is life-size, is copied from the original which was painted by the late Bro. Edmund Scott, who was a most worthy and indefatigable member and P.M. of this Lodge; the Prince Regent honoured him with the appointment of portrait painter to his royal highness. Two grandsons of the late Bro. E. Scott are now officers of this Lodge, viz., Bro. John Scott, the artist, and Bro. E. E. Scott, architect.

Royal York Lodge (No. 394).—On Tuesday, the 6th of October, the monthly meeting of this Lodge was held at the Old Ship Hotel. Bro. John Bacon, W.M., Prov. G.J.W., presiding. Visitors:—Bros. Capt. Mountain, of the Enniskillens; Robson, of the Bombay Lodge of Perseverance, No. 346; Dr. Bryce, of No. 338; and P. A. How, of London. The Lodge having been opened, a ballot took place for Bro. Fabian, No. 657, as a joining Brother; a ballot also took place for Mr. Goodchild, of Shoreham,—both were elected, and Mr. Goodchild, being in attendance, was duly initiated into the mysteries of ancient Freemasonry. The W.M. next proceeded to raise Bros. Bonner and Crowhursts to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason. A Brother was proposed as joining member, and a gentleman for election, on the next meeting. On the 15th of October, a Lodge of Emergency was held, Bro. John Bacon, W.M., Prov. G.J.W., in the chair. Visitor:—Bro. Gavin Pocock, Prov. G. Secretary. Bros. Curtis and Purvis were passed to the Degree of Fellow Craft; after which the W.M. then proceeded to raise Bros. Henry Martin and Marchant to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason, the ceremony being ably performed. The Lodge was closed in due form. The evening of 16th October we may safely say was calculated to give the ladies a treat, it having been fixed to patronize a Brother Mason, one who at all times is respected by the Craft in general. The W.M., Officers, and Brethren of the Royal York Lodge had determined to have a bespeak at the Theatre Royal; and right glad were we to find it so well carried out. Bro. H. Nye Chart that evening brought the whole of his talented company before the well-filled house, for we feel assured it was one of the largest assemblies he has had this season. We were much delighted with the manner the pieces were put upon the stage, and at the way in which they were performed. By the kindness of Colonel Streete, of the Enniskillen Dragoons, the band of the regiment was in attendance, and contributed much to the amusements of the evening. This is the first occasion, for many years, upon which anything of the kind has taken place in Brighton, and we trust it will not be the last, for we feel satisfied it must have afforded a great deal of gratification to the fair sex, to have witnessed and had the pleasure of participating in so pleasant an evening. Great thanks are due to Bro. H. Nye Chart for the excellent arrangements and for the exertions he made to please all parties.

CHICHESTER.—*Lodge of Union* (No. 45).—The usual monthly meeting of this Lodge was held in the Lodge-room on Thursday evening, 1st October, when there was a very full attendance of the members of the Lodge. Bro. Geo. Gambling, P.M. No. 45, having taken the chair, called upon the Brethren to assist Bro. G. Smith, S.W., in opening the Lodge. The minutes of the last Lodge were read and confirmed, and Bro. R. Wilkins, having, as an Entered Apprentice, given proofs of

of his proficiency, was passed to the degree of Fellow Craft. The ceremony was admirably performed by the S.W., who undertook the duty at the special request of the W.M., previous to his leaving England for Naples for the benefit of his health. The Lodge being closed to the 1st Degree, and the business on the *agenda* exhausted, Bro. G. Molesworth, J.W., apologized for intruding on the Lodge a matter not mentioned in the notice, but as the subject was one uppermost in the hearts and minds of Englishmen, he doubted not the reception it would meet with among Masons. He referred to the dreadful sufferings of our fellow countrymen and their relatives in India. Widely spread as Freemasonry was, it was impossible that among the many who now stood, or might be, "poor and penniless," there must be numerous connections of Brethren, and Brethren themselves. This fact he deemed brought the subscription now raised for the relief of the sufferers in India within the sphere of Lodge contribution; and, regretting that the very heavy expenses incurred during the year had so reduced the Lodge fund as to render it imprudent to give a very large amount, he had much pleasure in proposing that a sum of two guineas should be paid, in the name of the Lodge, to the subscription inaugurated by the worthy mayor of the city. Bro. Cotell seconded the proposition, which was cordially and unanimously agreed to. The Brethren were gratified to learn from Bro. Powell, P.M., that his son, the W.M., had derived much benefit from his visit to the Mediterranean. The Lodge closed in harmony.

LEWES.—*South Saxon Lodge* (No. 390).—In consequence of Her Majesty having appointed Wednesday, the 7th of October, as a public day of Prayer to the Almighty for imploring His blessing and assistance on our arms, for the restoration of tranquillity in India, a Lodge of Emergency was held on Thursday the 8th, for the purpose of installing Bro. Pocock, P.M., No. 338, the W.M. elect. Bro. Col. McQueen, the V.W. Dep. Prov. G.M., was present with several of his Prov. Officers, also the W.M. of No. 338, and Bros. Smithers, Dixon, John Scott, Taylor, &c., of No. 338, also Bro. Masterman, W.M. of No. 11. The ceremony of Installation was performed by Bro. W. Verrall, P.G. Treas., in his usual excellent manner; after the appointment of officers the Lodge was closed. About thirty of the Brethren partook of an excellent dinner, provided by Bro. Wingham, at the Crown Inn.

WORCESTERSHIRE.

DUDLEY.—*Harmonic Lodge* (No. 313).—On Tuesday, the 1st ult., the Rev. T. W. Herbert, M.A., W.M., opened his Lodge at the Freemasons' Tavern, Stone-street, Dudley, and went through the 1st and 3rd Degrees, by raising Bros. Lacy and Smith, and initiating Bros. A. Shedden and T. Morris. It is worthy of remark, that these two candidates are the sons of two of the oldest P.Ms. of the Lodge, both of whom rendered it good service. Two candidates for initiation having been duly proposed, and other routine business transacted, Lodge was closed, and the Brethren adjourned to banquet, when harmony reigned supreme.

Royal Standard Lodge (No. 730).—This Lodge met on the 10th, at the Hotel, Dudley, when Bro. M. Dennison (P.M. 313, and P. Prov. G. Reg.), W.M., raised Bro. Bradley to the Sublime Degree of W.M. Bro. C. J. Vigne, P. Prov. G.S.W. of Somerset, was then balloted for as an honorary member, after which the Lodge was closed in due form.

Vernon Lodge (No. 819).—At the meeting of this Lodge on the 21st, Bro. G. H. Deely (P.M. 838, and P. Prov. G.D.C.), W.M., presiding, Bros. A. O. Christie, of Peckham, and Bro. E. A. Stringer, of Dudley, were passed to the 2nd Degree, and a candidate initiated to the mysteries and privileges of the 1st. A candidate was proposed for initiation, and the V.W. Bro. J. B. Shuttleworth, Grand Lodge Representative at Switzerland, was balloted for, and unanimously elected an honorary member. An addition to the by-laws having been proposed, and a resolution passed to hold the customary Masonic ball in the early part of the next year, Lodge was closed in due form.

KIDDERMINSTER.—*Lodge of Hope and Charity* (No. 523).—The usual monthly meeting took place at the Lodge rooms, Black Horse Hotel and Freemasons' Tavern, on the 3rd Oct., under the presidency of Bro. James Fitzgerald, W.M. The business consisted of an initiation, a passing, and raising,—the whole of the ceremonies being most excellently performed by the W.M., calling forth a unanimous vote of thanks from the Brethren. The Lodge, which, for some time, has been in a weakly state, has, under the auspices of its respected W.M., made great advancement in Masonic knowledge; and its increasing numerical strength augurs well for the probability of many pleasant *réunions* of the Brethren, in the course of the ensuing winter. The meeting was well attended; and, after the business was disposed of the Brethren spent a most harmonious and happy evening.

MASONIC BALL.—At the last meeting of the Vernon Lodge, No. 819, it was resolved that this ball should be held early next year; that the W.M. Wardens and Secretary form the committee from that Lodge, and that the other Lodges in the town be requested to co-operate, and appoint each a committee to act with that of the Vernon Lodge. With good arrangements and strict economy we hope to see a large surplus for the charities of the town.

YORKSHIRE.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE—NORTH AND EAST RIDINGS.

A Provincial Grand Lodge was held by special appointment, in the Minerva Lodge, at Hull, on Wednesday, the 30th September. There were present:—R.W. Bro. George Marwood, D. Prov. G.M., as Prov. G.M., on the Throne; R.W. Bro. Alexander Dobie, Prov. G.M. for Surrey, and G. Reg. of England; R.W. and Right Hon. Bro. Lord Londesborough, Prov. S.G.W.; R.W. Bros. Robert Farrar, Prov. J.G.W.; John P. Bell, *M.D.*, P. Prov. J.G.W.; John L. Seaton, P. Prov. J.G.W.; Joseph Dobson, P. Prov. J.G.W. V.W. Bros. Rev. William Hutchinson, *M.A.*, Prov. G. Chap.; Joseph Coltman Smith, Prov. G. Reg.; Richard W. Hollon, Prov. G. Treas.; Jeremiah Stark, Prov. G. Sec. W. Bros. William Croft, Prov. S.G.D.; Thomas Feetam, Thomas Turnbull, and Frederick W. Hudson, P. Prov. S.G.Ds.; Thomas M. Weddall, Prov. J.G.D.; Anthony Bannister and William Banks Hay, P. Prov. J.G.Ds.; F. Atkinson, Prov. G. Supt. of Works; W. Plows and J. Knaggs, P. Prov. G. Supt. of Works; John Dale, Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; J. Stevenson, P. Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; Arthur O. Arden, Prov. G. Sword Bearer; Thomas Hewson and Robert Stamford, P. Prov. G. Sword Bearers; Thomas Baker, Prov. G. Standard Bearer; Robert J. Chaffer and Charles Wells, P. Prov. G. Standard Bearers; Harry Deval, Prov. G. Org.; George J. Skelton, P. Prov. G. Org.; John Booker, Prov. G. Pursvt.; William Cookson, Prov. G. Tyler; J. T. Spurr (No. 236), H. W. Thomas (No. 828), Thomas Cutting (No. 827), Robert Brown (No. 913), Charles Fox (No. 920), and Samuel King (No. 958), Prov. G. Stewards.

The Prov. Grand Lodge was opened in due form, and with solemn prayer. The Minutes of the last Prov. Grand Lodge were read and confirmed.

The Prov. G. Treasurer's accounts having been audited by the W.Ms. of the two senior Lodges in the Province, and found correct, were read over, and unanimously approved of.

The following motion, proposed by the R.W.D.G.M., was unanimously agreed to:—

“That a donation of ten guineas be made from the funds of this Prov. Grand Lodge to each of the following Masonic charities:—The Royal Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons, the Royal Benevolent Institution for Freemasons' Widows, the Royal Freemasons' Charity for Female Children, the Royal Masonic Institution for Educating, &c., the Sons of Freemasons. In all forty guineas.”

The following notice of motion was given by R.W. Bro. John P. Bell, *M.D.*, P. Prov. G.J.W.:

I hereby give notice, that at the next meeting of this Prov. Grand Lodge, it is my intention to move—“That the annual subscription, now paid out of the funds of the Prov. Grand Lodge, be *increased* from one guinea to two guineas to

each of the following Masonic charities, namely—the Girls' School, the Boys' School, the Royal Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons, and the Royal Benevolent Institution for Freemasons' Widows."

The following notice of motion was given by V.W. Bro. Hollon, the Prov. G. Treas. :—

"That ten guineas be subscribed to the Girls' School in addition to the ten guineas already given."

The R.W. Prov. G.M. then appointed the following Officers (with the exception of the V.W. Bro. Hollon, who was unanimously re-elected to the office of Prov. G. Treas. by the Prov. Grand Lodge) :—R.W. Bros. the Right Hon. Lord Londesborough, Prov. S.G.W. ; Simeon Mosely, Prov. J.G.W. V.W. Bros. Rev. William Hutchinson, *M.A.*, Prov. G. Chap. ; Richard Welch Hollon, Prov. G. Treas. ; Joseph Coltman Smith, Prov. G. Reg. ; Jeremiah Stark, Prov. G. Sec. W. Bros. Edward W. Pritchett, Prov. S.G.D. ; Henry C. Metcalf, Prov. J.G.D. ; H. Thompson, Prov. G. Supt. of Works ; Edward Corner, Prov. G. Dir. of Cers. ; Legay Brereton, Prov. G. Standard Bearer ; Harry Deval, Prov. G. Org. Bros. John Booker, Prov. G. Pursvt. ; William Cookson, Prov. G. Tyler.

The Prov. G. Stewards, one from each of the following Lodges, to be named by the W.M., namely—Humber Lodge, No. 65 ; Lennox Lodge, No. 144 ; Old Globe Lodge, No. 236 ; Union Lodge, No. 287 ; Lion Lodge, No. 391 ; the Cleveland Lodge, No. 795. The names to be transmitted to the Prov. G. Sec. for the approval of the M.W.G.M.

The R.W.D. Prov. G.M. gave notice that the next Prov. Grand Lodge would be held in the Lion Lodge, Whitby, when he hoped to have the pleasure of meeting a numerous assemblage of the Brethren.

The R.W.D. Prov. G.M. then addressed the Brethren at some length. After apologizing for the absence of the R.W. the Prov. G.M., caused by circumstances of an important nature, he congratulated the Brethren on the continued increase of Freemasonry in the Province, and stated that there had been an accession of more than 100 members since the last meeting of this Prov. Grand Lodge. He most confidently trusted that in the selection of those Brethren, the Lodges had duly remembered the very excellent advice they had received from the R.W. Prov. G.M. at the last meeting, viz. : to admit only such candidates as would prove themselves worthy members, and an honour to the Craft. And the R.W.D. Prov. G.M. strongly impressed upon all present the necessity of strictly following the same course. The R.W.D. Prov. G.M. expressed his satisfaction and pleasure at seeing such a numerous assemblage of Brethren on the present occasion, and likewise at the punctual attendance of all the Officers of the Prov. Grand Lodge. It was, moreover, highly satisfactory to find that every Lodge in the Province was duly represented at this meeting. No complaint of any kind, he was happy to say, had been made to the R.W. Prov. G.M. respecting any member in this Province. The utmost regularity and harmony appeared to prevail amongst all the Lodges : he trusted that there would be a continuance of the same good feeling, and that the genuine principles of Masonry would be strictly carried out.

The Prov. Grand Lodge was then closed with due form and solemn prayer.

At six o'clock upwards of 150 Brethren partook of an excellent banquet, in the public rooms, which were elegantly decorated for the occasion, under the direction and with the usual good taste of Bro. George Parker. A most agreeable evening was spent, and the pleasure of the Brethren was greatly enhanced by some excellent music, under the able superintendence of Bro. Skelton, P. Prov. G. Organist.

HUDDERSFIELD.—*Lodge of Truth* (No. 763).—The last meeting of this numerous Lodge was held at their Hall in Fitzwilliam Street, on Friday, October 2nd, the esteemed W.M., Bro. Walter Matthewson, in the chair, on which occasion Bro. Hirst was passed to the Degree of F.C., and the tracing board in the 2nd Degree explained. At the suggestion of the W.M. a collection was made on behalf of the Indian Sufferers Relief Fund, which amounted, with subsequent additions from absent members, to the sum of £10 10s., many of the Brethren having already subscribed to the general fund of the town, which has now reached nearly

£2,000. As a mark of respect and regard for Bro. P.M. Wm. Kilner (the first Master of this Lodge), the members have determined to have his portrait painted in oil colours for the Lodge. The requisite funds (about £25) having been collected by voluntary contribution, the commission has been entrusted to Bro. P.M. Howell, in whose well known ability the Brethren can place the utmost confidence.

MIDDLESBRO.—*North York Lodge* (No. 876).—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held on Friday September 25th, and opened in the three degrees. The W.M., Bro. J. P. Hornung, presided, and with the assistance of his officers, raised Bro. James Ingram to the Sublime Degree of a M.M. An explanation of the Tracing Board was given by P.M. Bro. Atkinson, and the working tools were presented by P.M. Bro. Richardson. The Lodge being closed to the 1st degree, P.M. Bro. Atkinson was deputed by the W.M. to present a testimonial consisting of a P. Prov. G.D. Jewel to Bro. P.M. Richardson, P. Prov. S.G.D. of the North and East Ridings of Yorkshire, as a token of the esteem in which he was held by the Brethren, and likewise as a mark of gratitude for the valuable services rendered by him in the formation and thorough establishment of this Lodge. Bro. Atkinson accompanied the presentation with a very eloquent and appropriate address, to which Bro. Richardson responded in a most feeling manner, and expressed his high sense of the compliment paid him, and congratulated the Brethren on the prosperous state of the Lodge, the foundation of which he had assisted in laying. Two gentlemen were proposed as candidates for initiation, and the Lodge was closed in due form.

ROYAL ARCH.

METROPOLITAN CHAPTERS.

ENOCH CHAPTER (No. 11).—This Chapter met at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Tuesday, October 20th. Comp. Young was inducted in the chair of Z. for the second year; Comp. Temple was installed as H., and Comp. Kenedey as J; Comp. Peter Matthews was invested as E.; George Gurton as N; Lewis Solomon, P.S., who appointed Comp. Sewell 1st Assistant, and Comp. Ruel 2nd Assistant. The Chapter was visited by Comp. George Biggs, P.G.S.B., who performed the ceremony of installation.

ROBERT BURNS' CHAPTER (No. 25).—A meeting of this influential Chapter was held at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Monday, 26th of October; Comps. Kirby, 1st Principal; Allen, 2nd Principal; Watson, 3rd Principal. After the interesting ceremony of exalting a Brother into the mysteries of the Holy Royal Arch, Comp. Kirby, in a neat and appropriate address, presented a richly ornamented P.Z. Jewel to Comp. E. Robinson, the immediate Past 1st Principal, voted to him by the Chapter for his efficient services rendered while acting as 1st Principal. Comp. Robinson gratefully acknowledged the compliment paid to him. Amongst the Past Principals we noticed the veteran Comp. Tombleson, the father of the Chapter, Comps. Watson, Newton, and Blackburn.

MOUNT SION CHAPTER (No. 169).—The first convocation of the season was held at Radley's Hotel, in New Bridge Street, Blackfriars, on Monday, the 26th of October. In the absence of Comp. C. W. Steel, M.E.Z., Comp. Henry Muggeridge presided as Z.; Comps. J. How as H.; J. Johnstone as J.; Breitling, P.Z., acting as P.S. Robert Clark, J.D. of the Panmure Lodge, was exalted into this Supreme Degree. Some Companions' names were proposed for joining, and other business gone through. There was a good attendance of officers and members, and Comps. P. Matthews, P.G.D.C., and Michael, of the Chapter of Prudence were visitors. Between eight and nine, all business ended, the Companions adjourned to banquet, and in course of the evening Comp. Elliot, the

Senior P.Z. of the Chapter, congratulated the members on the advantages they possessed in the Past Principals, who, in cases of the unavoidable absence of the actual officers, were able, as they had witnessed that evening, to fill any office, and that so efficiently.

DOMATIC CHAPTER (No. 206).—This Chapter held its first convocation for the season, at the Masonic Hall, Fetter-lane, on Thursday, October 22, when there was a good attendance of Companions, Comp. Adams, M.E.Z., presiding, supported by all his Officers. Bro. P. Walmisley (son of Sir Joshua Walmisley) was exalted, the ceremony being most interestingly and impressively performed by the M.E.Z.; Thompson, H.; Selig, J.; and Odell, P.S.

JERUSALEM CHAPTER (No. 218).—A Convocation of this Chapter was held at Dick's Hotel, Fleet-street, on Tuesday, Oct. 13. Comp. Sheen, M.E.Z., presided. At an Emergency Meeting in June, four Brethren were exalted to the R.A., and on this the first meeting of the regular Masonic season three others presented themselves for exaltation. Comp. Alex. Levy, who had been hitherto prevented attending for that purpose by illness, was installed as Second Principal, by the M.E.Z., in his usual earnest and impressive manner. Bros. Guy (Industry, No. 219), Dr. Goldsbro' (Jordan, No. 237), and Oder (Three Globe Lodge, Berlin), were then exalted to this Sublime Degree, the ceremony being exceedingly well performed by the M.E.Z. and the rest of the officers. The Comps. then adjourned to banquet, which was served up in a manner highly creditable to "mine host," Bro. Quelch, and his estimable partner.

JOPPA CHAPTER (No. 223).—The Companions of this flourishing Chapter, held their first quarterly meeting at Bro. Seyd's Hotel, Finsbury-square, on Monday, 12th October, when Bro. McDowell, a member of the Lodge of Israel, was exalted to the Degree of R.A., by Comps. Goring, as M.E.Z.; Somers, H.; H. A. Isaacs, J.—the last-named Companion performing the duties of Second Principal also; and Ladd, as Principal Sojourner. The Chapter was visited by Comp. W. Gaylor, Grand Scribe E. of Scotland, who, in very feeling terms, returned thanks for the flattering manner in which he had been received. At the conclusion of the ceremony the Companions sat down to a most excellent banquet, at which the M.E.Z., Bro. A. J. Jones, presided, and certainly did all in his power to enhance the comfort of the Companions and visitors of the Chapter.

CHAPTER OF HOPE (No. 248).—The Companions of this flourishing Chapter met at Comp. Moore's, Globe Tavern, Royal Hill, Greenwich, on the 14th of October, under the direction of Comp. Leigh, M.E.Z.; Hutchings, H.; Archer as J., in the absence of Comp. Penny. The Chapter was duly opened and closed, there being no exaltations or other business. The Companions afterwards retired to banquet, and spent a very comfortable and harmonious evening. The only visitor was Comp. Archer, P.Z. In last month's Magazine it was stated that the Chapter of Hope would in future meet on the second Tuesday of the month, whereas it should have been the second WEDNESDAY. The next meeting of the Chapter will take place on the 11th of November instant.

POLISH NATIONAL CHAPTER (No. 778).—This Chapter held a convocation, on Thursday, October 22, at the Freemasons' Tavern. Comp. Michalski presided, as M.E.Z., assisted by Comps. W. Watson and Lemanski, as H. and J.; Boyd, as P.S.; and Blackburn, S.E. An Emergency meeting was proposed for the fourth Thursday in the ensuing month, as several Brothers were proposed for exaltation. Among them, Bros. Crofton, S.W. No. 211; Erwood, No. 169, and Herbert Fellowes Tuck, No. 437, Malta.

PROVINCIAL CHAPTERS.

BATH.—*Royal Sussex* (No. 61).—This Chapter, which has lately been resuscitated by the exertions of M.E. Comp. Tunstall, M.D., held its first meeting for

the winter season on Wednesday, October 14. The M.E. Comp. Tunstall presided as Z. ; the M.E. Comp. Peach (P.Z. No. 48) as J. ; and the M.E. Comp. Capt. John Evans (P.Z. No. 48 and M.E.Z. No. 528) as H. The office of P.S. found an able representative in the M.E. Comp. Temple, P.Z. No. 48. In addition to the above there were present—Steele, P.Z. No. 48 ; White, P.Z. No. 48 ; Wolfe, P.Z. No. 61 ; Whitney, P.H. No. 61 ; Ameny, P.H. No. 343 ; Wilton, No. 48, and others. Four Brethren of the Lodge No. 61, were exalted, viz. Charles Wellington Oliver, Horatio James, Richard Dyer Commans, and Charles F. Marshall. At the conclusion of the ceremony various business was transacted, and all expressed themselves delighted with the manner in which the work had been conducted.

CARMARTHEN.—*Martin Chapter* (No. 699).—This Chapter has not met for some time, and we are afraid it is being neglected, for the want of members fully competent to work it. Cannot our Carmarthen Companions work diligently together, and raise the *Chapter* to that degree of eminence which the *Lodge* is attaining ? We hope on the next occasion to have to report a full meeting.

DURHAM.—*Chapter de Burgh* (No. 614).—A convocation of this Chapter was holden at the Grey Horse Inn, Gateshead-on-Tyne, on Thursday, 22nd October, when Comp. F. P. Jonn, P.Z., duly installed the under-mentioned Companions, who were elected to fill the various offices at a previous convocation, viz. :—Comps. H. L. Monro, Z. ; F. H. Woolley, H. ; Wm. Morrow, J. ; A. Clapham, P.S. ; F. P. Jonn, Treas. ; and A. Dickson, Janitor, were installed and invested by the M.E.Z. The other Officers appointed were not present, viz., Comps. J. Dobson, E. ; J. Gossage, N. A Brother was balloted for as a candidate for exaltation and unanimously elected, but, not being present, the ceremony did not take place, and after a notice of motion for the next regular convocation was given by M.E. Comp. F. H. Woolley, H., the Chapter was duly closed. The Companions then sat down to a comfortable dinner, and the usual toasts having been given, retired at an early hour.

HUDDERSFIELD.—*Chapter of Perseverance* (No. 342).—The regular meeting of this Chapter was held at the Masonic Hall, South Parade, on Thursday, Oct. 15. The Chapter was opened and the minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed. Bros. Richard Barker, William Brook, and Thomas Pearson Crosland, J.P. were balloted for and unanimously elected. The M.E. Comp. W. Widdop was installed to the 2nd chair. Bros. Barker and Brook were, after the necessary preliminaries, duly exalted to the Supreme Degree by the M.E.Z., Comp. T. Wigney ; Comp. Peace, P.Z., presiding at the organ. Bro. George Noble Nelson, of the Lodge of Truth, and Warden of the Holme Valley Lodge, was proposed for exaltation by the Principal Sojourner, Comp. J. R. Dore. Amongst the visiting Companions present we noticed M.E. Comp. Nelson, Prov. G.S.E., and several Officers and Companions of the Chapter of Prosperity. The next meeting of this Chapter will be held on the 19th of November.

SWANSEA.—*Swansea Chapter* (No. 288).—A meeting of this Chapter was held on Monday the 19th October, when Bro. W. H. Cole, of Carmarthen, and Bro. E. Morris, of Swansea Lodge, were exalted most ably and solemnly by Comp. T. C. Michael, P.Z., assisted by Comps. Bowen and Lloyd. The Chapter was very fully attended, and the ceremony conducted with that care and attention for which our Swansea Companions are so famous.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—*St. Peter's Chapter* (No. 607).—The Companions of this Chapter held their quarterly meeting at the Star and Garter, on Monday, 21st Sept., when a very respectable number of the Companions assembled. After going through the usual preliminaries of opening, and confirming the minutes of last meeting, Bro. Stanway, who was balloted for at the previous meeting, as a candidate for exaltation, was introduced in due form, and the climax of this Sublime Degree was conferred with all solemnity. Comp. H. James presided, in the absence of the M.E.Z., and conducted the whole ceremony in so able a manner as to elicit much applause and a unanimous vote of thanks from the Com-

panions. One Brother and one Companion were proposed on the circular convening the meeting, one for exaltation, the other to join; both were unanimously accepted. During the evening two other joining Companions were proposed; so that it will be seen the Chapter is rapidly increasing in numbers. A letter was read from the Prov. Grand Superintendent, stating his inability to attend, and the communication was ordered to be entered on the minutes.

THE ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED RITE.



THE Supreme Council of the Ancient and Accepted Rite for England and Wales and the Dependencies of the British Crown held their autumnal session at their Grand East, London, on Tuesday, the 13th October. At this meeting a warrant was granted to Ill. Bro. Charles Goolden, Sov. P.R.S., who is about to proceed to Scinde, to hold Chapters of Rose Croix of the 18th Degree in the presidency of Bombay, in the East Indies. A donation of twenty guineas was voted to the Asylum for Aged Freemasons. A Consistory of Princes of the Royal Secret, 32nd Degree, was afterwards formed, and Bro. H. C. Vernon, Prov. G. M. for Worcestershire was duly admitted. A Sov.

Tribunal of G. Insp. Inquis. Com. 31st Degree was afterwards held, and Bro. Hyde Pullen was admitted according to the ancient usages of the Order.

A meeting of Sov. Chapter G. Elect Knights K.H. was held at the Freemasons' Tavern, on the 13th October. The Most Ill. President of the Council, Bro. J. A. D. Cox, 33rd Degree, ably assisted by Ill. Bro. G. B. Cole, S.G.I.G., 33rd Degree, performed the ceremonies of the Degree in a most perfect and impressive manner. The following gentlemen were admitted into the Order:—Capt. H. Clerk, *R.A.*; Capt. G. H. Eddy, Prov. Batt., Colchester; Frederick Slight; John Barker, Newcastle; J. R. Parr Shilter, of Nottingham; R. J. Shuttleworth, of Berne, Switzerland; W. Mansfield, of Dudley. Capt. N. G. Philips, of the 47th regt., who had taken earlier Degrees of the Ancient and Accepted Rite, under the Supreme Grand Council of Ireland, also received the Degree, at the request of several members of the Supreme Grand Council of Ireland, and by special dispensation from the Sovereign Grand Commander. The banquet which followed was numerously attended by the Companions of the Order, amongst whom we observed the Sov. Gr. Com., Dr. Leeson; Col. Verner, Prov. G.M. Staffordshire; Capt. Bowyer, Prov. G.M. Oxford; C. J. Vigne, G. B. Cole—all of the 33rd Degree; H. C. Vernon, Prov. G.M. Worcestershire; Dr. Goolden, and Charles Goolden, 32nd Degree; Dr. Kent, Prov. G.M. Australia, 31st Degree. The Most Ill. President of the Council presided, and the meeting was conducted with that courtesy and feeling which is so characteristic of the meetings of the High Degrees.

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

DORSET.—On Friday, the 16th of October, the Provincial Grand Commander of Dorset, Sir Knt. Charles John Vigne, held his Grand Conclave at Weymouth, which was well attended. Among other business £5 from the funds of the Provincial Grand Conclave, and £3 from those of the All Souls' Encampment, were voted, and handed to the V.E. Prov. G.C., to be forwarded to the Grand Chancellor of the Order towards the Indian Relief Fund.

DUDLEY.—*The Richard de Vernon Encampment.*—The second meeting of this Encampment was held on the 9th October. Several Comps. were on the list for installation, but one only was present, the others being prevented attending through illness or pressing engagements. The ceremony on this occasion, as at the previous meeting, was performed by the E.C. Sir Knight Thos. James, with that ability which has ever characterized him in whatever he has undertaken in Masonry. The V.E. Prov. Grand Commander for Staffordshire, was present, and complimented the officers on being able, at this early stage, so efficiently to discharge the duties of their respective offices. Two guineas were voted from the Alms Fund, for the relief of the widow and children of the late Sir Knight Meyrick; and five pounds from the General Fund, for the relief of the sufferers in India.

SOMERSETSHIRE.—The Provincial Grand Conclave of Somersetshire was held on Tuesday, October 20th, at Giles', Castle Hotel, Taunton. The V.E. Prov. G.C., Randolph, presided, and was ably supported by the Sir Knights of the Province, in addition to whom there were present as visitors the V.E. Prov. G.C. of Dorset, Sir Knt. Vigne, and his Deputy. After the appointment of Prov. G. Officers and other business, the Sir Knights voted a donation to the fund for the sufferers in India, and adjourned to the banquet.

MARK MASONRY.

UNDER WARRANTS FROM THE GRAND CHAPTER OF SCOTLAND.

METROPOLITAN.

ST. MARK'S LODGE (No. 1).—On the evening of the 14th ult., the Brethren of this flourishing Lodge, which may well claim the credit of reviving Mark Masonry in England, met at the Freemasons' Tavern, for the installation of Bro. Hughes, as R.W.M. for the ensuing twelve months. Never was there a fuller attendance, and among those present it was gratifying to notice not only Bro. Gaylor, G.S.E. of the Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland, from which body St. Mark's Lodge holds its warrant, and Bro. Thompson, of No. 1 Chapter, Edinburgh, but also many Brethren who had been advanced to this beautiful Degree in other Mark Lodges springing directly from No. 1. The presence of Bro. Gaylor was especially gratifying, as it is to his knowledge and experience of the working of the Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland, we this side of the Tweed have to attribute, in a great degree, the successful establishment of the Degree in this country. Bro. Hughes, having taken the chair in virtue of his election, proceeded in a style of impressiveness which may challenge the working of any other Lodge in the Craft, to advance four Brethren to the Mark Degree, and was throughout most ably and efficiently seconded by his Officers. At the conclusion of the ceremony, which was rendered

still more solemn by the peals of sacred music with which it was accompanied from a powerful harmonium, ably presided over by the excellent Organist of the Lodge, Bro. Hart, the R. W. M., proceeded to invest his Officers for the ensuing year, appointing Bro. Sharman, D. M. ; Bro. T. A. Adams, S. W. ; Bro. Harrison, J. W. ; Bro. Williams, M. O. ; Bro. Norman, S. O. ; Bro. Guest, J. O. ; Bro. Rev. F. Owen, Chaplain ; Bro. John Mott Thearle, Sec. ; Bro. Blackburn, Reg. of Marks ; Bro. Warren, Treas. ; Bro. Hart, Org. : Bro. Symmonds, S. D. ; Bro. Arlis, Steward ; Bro. Pringle, J. Steward ; Bro. Walters, T. K. ; and Bro. Crawley, Tyler.

Upon the conclusion of Masonic business, the Brethren sat down to an elegant banquet, and the usual Masonic toasts having been duly disposed of, the R. W. M. called on the Brethren to fill a bumper to "The health of Bro. Gaylor." He could not include his name in the toast of the Visitors, for even if he did not happen to be (on account of the eminent services which he had rendered to Bro. Warren, Bro. Sharman, and to himself (Bro. Hughes), in founding the present Lodge) an honorary member of their body, they would still give him such a welcome among them, that he should, so to say, find himself perfectly at home. (Cheers.) The R. W., with this preface, detailed the exertions which Bro. Gaylor had made for the advancement of Mark Masonry in this country, and called upon the Brethren to drink his health, an invitation which they most enthusiastically responded to.

Bro. Gaylor, in replying to the compliment, said, that his old and valued friend, the R. W. M., had alluded to the manner in which he, in his capacity of Grand Scribe E., conducted the correspondence of the Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland, but he would in reply to that say, that he only endeavoured to do his duty, and he should feel a pleasure in opening a correspondence with any of the English Brethren who, hailing from the St. Mark's Lodge, or any one of the sister Lodges, wished to still more popularize the Mark Degree, by establishing new Lodges in other and convenient districts. The Mark Degree was not one which the Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland wished to obtrude upon the Masons of England, for they only came forward on the invitation of the English Brethren themselves to supply a want which was felt in Masonry, where only Blue and Red or the Craft and Royal Arch Degrees were recognized. If he was not detaining them too long, he would briefly advert to some of the circumstances connected with the present state of Masonry. In Scotland no Brother was admitted to the Degree of a Royal Arch Mason who had not passed the chair in a Craft Lodge, and, therefore, when Royal Arch Masons from England who had been exalted without having been installed, presented themselves at Scotch Chapters, they could not be admitted as visitors. To get rid of that inconvenience, the Supreme Grand Chapter about ten years ago resolved to issue warrants, authorizing Lodges to give the Chair Degree to Master Masons who were anxious to become Royal Arch Masons. It was soon found, however, that this method of conferring the Chair Degree by brevet, gave rise to great inconvenience, inasmuch as those Brethren whom they had so admitted to the Chair Degree, claimed to rank in England as Past Masters. Finding that they had committed an error, the Supreme Grand Chapter recalled those warrants, of which they had happily issued only three. He mentioned this to show the indisposition of the Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland to trench in the least upon the province of the Supreme Masonic bodies in England. As the Mark Degree, however, was not one recognized by them, the Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland came to the resolution to issue warrants for the practice of that Degree, confident that in doing so they would not come into conflict with either the Grand Lodge or the Grand Chapter of England ; and they were prepared to take back those warrants, should either of those Supreme bodies recognize the Degree. (Hear, hear.) It was to him gratifying to find that the wishes and intentions of the body he represented were so fully understood and appreciated, and he had only to repeat his willingness to help to his utmost all Brethren anxious for the formation of other Mark Master Lodges. (Hear, hear.)

Bro. Gaylor afterwards favoured the Brethren with a Scotch song, thus adding to the harmony of the evening as he had to the instruction of the Brethren. We hope soon to reckon the Gaylor Lodge on the list of Mark Lodges in this country.

THISTLE LODGE (No. 3).—The supplementary meeting for the election of officers for the ensuing year, as fixed by the terms of the Charter or Warrant to be held on the Tuesday immediately following the autumnal equinox, took place at Dick's Hotel, Fleet-street, on Tuesday, Sept. 29, Bro. Adams, R.W.M., presiding. Bro. Gustav Adolph Oder, of the Three Globe Lodge, Berlin, was advanced to the Degree of Mark Master. The Brethren then proceeded to the election of officers, as follows:—Bros. Sheen, R.W.M.; Cotterell, Dep. M.; Binckes, S.W.; Lipmann, J.W.; Stacy, M.O.; Punchand, S.O.; Figg, J.O.; Suter, Treas.; Carpenter, Sec.; Guy, Reg. M.; Hart, Org.; Queeley, Steward; Fernandez, C.; Smith, S.D.; Cottebrune, J.D.; De la Chaumette, T.K.; Longstaff, Tyler.

ARNOTT LODGE, MARK MASTERS (No. 4).—At a meeting of the above Lodge at Seyd's Hotel, on Tuesday, 29th September, 1857, Bro. Henry A. Isaacs was unanimously re-elected R.W.M. for the ensuing year. The Wardens, Bros. Alex. Levy and J. M. Isaacs, were also unanimously re-elected. Bro. Ladd, M.O., as S.W. *pro tem.*, in communicating the result of the election to Bro. H. A. Isaacs, complimented him in flattering terms upon the zeal and ability he had displayed in forming the Lodge, and so completely mastering the difficulties of a new Degree. On the termination of the business, the Brethren, about thirty in number, partook of a most *recherché* banquet, served up with Bro. Seyd's usual excellence.

PROVINCIAL.

BIRKENHEAD.—*Joppa Lodge* (No. 5).—This Lodge of Mark Masons held its third meeting at the Angel Hotel, on 29th September, in accordance with their Warrant. After the advancement of ten Brethren to the Degree, the election of W.M., and appointment of officers for the ensuing year, took place. Bro. William Bulley, Prov. G.J.D. for Cheshire, was duly elected R.W.M.; Bro. Moss, Prov. G.J.W. for Gloucestershire and Cheshire, was unanimously chosen Treas. The R.W.M. then appointed the following officers:—Bros. Platt (R.W.M. No. 782) S.W.; C. N. Marshall (S.W. No. 782) J.W.; H. Bulley (J.W. No. 782) M.O.; Wilson (No. 701) S.O. and Sec.; T. Platt (No. 782) J.O.; Morrison (No. 368) C.; and Anderson (Sec. Nos. 782 and 245) S.D. and Reg.

Considering the time is so short since this Lodge received its Warrant—only three months,—its progress has been *marked* with the greatest success, having advanced no less than twenty-six Brethren; and the working of the Lodge amounts *almost* to perfection, from the R.W.M. down to the Deacons; and from what we have seen, we doubt not that ere long it will resign the palm to no other, either as regards unanimity of purpose or interests for the prosperity of this beautiful, though, we regret to add, unrecognized Degree; and we trust that Grand Lodge will find the necessity, before many years have passed, of sanctioning it, as the more it is seen the more must it be admired.

After the closing of the Lodge the Brethren adjourned for the purpose of enjoying a peaceful cup of that beverage which, to use a somewhat hackneyed phrase, "cheers, but not inebriates;" and separated at an early hour, having passed a most agreeable evening.

BOLTON, LANCASHIRE.—*St John's Lodge* (No. 2).—The annual meeting of this flourishing Lodge, for the election of R.W.M., and the appointment and investiture of Officers, was held at the Commercial Hotel, Bolton, on Tuesday, the 29th of September, at seven o'clock in the evening, when there was a very full attendance of the Brethren. Bro. G. P. Brockbank, R.W.M., having taken the chair, the Lodge was opened in due form, when, in consequence of indisposition, the R.W.M. desired the Lodge at once to proceed to the election of his successor, so that the business of the evening could be effectively performed, and concluded by proposing Bro. Thomas Entwisle, S.W., for the office, which, upon being seconded by the J.W., Bro. John Mitchell, was unanimously carried.

Bro. Entwisle having assumed the chair, the Brethren proceeded to ballot for

several candidates for admission, and Bro. Henry Anthony Bennett, of Manchester, Prov. G.D. Cheshire, being the only one in attendance, was advanced to the Degree of Mark Master in a very able manner, the new R.W.M. acquitting himself with great credit.

The appointment of Officers was then proceeded with, and the following Brethren were regularly invested with the Collar and Jewel of office, viz:—Bros. John Mitchell, W.D.M.; Wm. Bawden, S.W.; Thos. Forster, J.W.; Jas. Fitznewton, Treas.; Thos. Dawson, Reg.; Thos. Morris, Sec.; Peter Charlton, M.O.; Josh. Howarth, S.O.; John Bromley, J.O.; Thos. Beswick, S.D.; Robt. Dean, J.D.; J. S. Scowcroft, I.G.; Ellis Greenhalgh, Wm. Naisby, Stewards; Wm. Dawson, Tyler.

The Brethren then adjourned to refreshment, and after a most agreeable evening, separated at an early hour, various Masonic toasts having been duly honoured.

BRISTOL.—*Canynges Lodge* (No. 7).—Since the first meeting, recorded in our last number, two Lodges of Emergency have been held, for the purpose of advancing Brethren to this Degree; and such is the “pressure from without,” in consequence of the general wish to become associated with this well-organized Lodge, that it will be necessary to hold frequent meetings to clear off the numbers already accepted by the ballot, and the still larger proportion of names to be proposed. It is also a matter worthy of particular comment, that several Brethren who had previously been introduced to this Degree in an irregular manner, have now embraced the opportunity afforded them, of being *legalized* by a regular advancement in the Canynges Lodge, to the rightful position of Mark Masters. Amongst them we would more particularly allude to Bros. Samuel Bryant and Joseph John Evans, whose names have something more than “a local habitation.”

On Thursday, the 22nd October, the Brethren again met in the Freemasons' Hall, and the chair was taken by the R.W.M., Bro. Wm. Harris, at 7 P.M.; when the minutes of the first meeting, and the two subsequent Lodges of Emergency, having been read and confirmed, the Brethren proceeded to ballot for the election of Treasurer, when the unanimous choice of the Lodge having fallen on Bro. Joseph John Evans, that Brother, in returning thanks for the honour conferred upon him, assured the Brethren that his best services would be ready on all occasions in which they might be useful or beneficial to the Lodge. The ballot was then taken for fifteen Brethren, who were declared duly accepted, and seven of the number being in attendance they were advanced by the R.W.M., in a most impressive manner, to the Mark Master's Degree.

The R.W.M. then announced that he had conferred offices on the following Brethren:—Samuel Bryant, M.O.; T. H. Prichard, S.O.; Thos. Bell, J.O.; E. M. Harwood, Reg. Marks; John Bartlett, S.D.; Chas. McMillan, J.D.; James Sheat, T.K.; and expressed his belief that, from the well-known standing and Masonic acquirements of the Brethren whom he had appointed Office-bearers that evening, the future harmony and prosperity of the Lodge would be secured. Some further business having been transacted, the Lodge was closed in due form, at a quarter past 9 P.M.

In addition to the satisfaction warmly expressed by the Brethren newly-advanced, with the interesting character of the ceremony through which they had passed, as well as for the able working by which it was accompanied, the Brethren were much gratified by the really splendid appearance of the Lodge paraphernalia, which, it is only fair to mention, had been manufactured by Bro. Mott Thearle, of Fleet-street, and which reflects the greatest credit on his taste and judgment.

LIVERPOOL.—*Liverpool Lodge* (No. 8).—A Charter of Constitution was granted on the 17th of June last, to establish Mark Masonry in Liverpool, under the title of the Liverpool Lodge of Mark Masters, in favour of Comps. Benjamin Towndrow, Thomas Yeatman, and Joseph Clark Carver, all members of the Glasgow Lodge of Mark Masters. The first meeting was therefore held in Liverpool, on Wednesday, the 14th October, for the purpose of constituting this new Lodge, installing the office-bearers, and admitting new members. The Companions

to whom the Supreme Grand Chapter committed the government of the Lodge were fortunate in securing the services of their Illus. Bro. Donald Campbell, Sov. P.R.S. 32nd Degree, Knt. Com. of the Temple, &c. &c., to assist them in their ceremonial.

The Lodge having been opened, the following Brethren were balloted for, and admitted in due and ancient form:—William Carr, M.M. of Lodge No. 701; William Croft, M.M. of Lodge No. 701; James Hamer, P.M., Z. of Chapter of Harmony, Garston, Prov. G. Purs. of the Western Division of Lancashire; John Wright, P.M. of Lodge No. 294; Henry Hayes, M.M.; John Conway, M.M.; William Henry Grimmer, M.M.; James A. Sharpe, M.M.; William Jones, M.M. of Lodge No. 845.

After which the Brethren proceeded to the election of assistant Office-bearers, to enable those appointed by the supreme body to complete the full working of this beautiful Degree, and who were afterwards installed into office by Bro. Campbell, who acted on the occasion as R.W.M. The Office-bearers for the year will therefore be as follows:—Comps. Benjamin Towndrow, R.W.M.; Thomas Yeatman, S.W.; Joseph Clark Carver, J.W.; Bros. John Wright, Treas.; William Jones, Sec.; Comp. J. Hamer, S.D.; Bros. William Croft, J.D.; Wm. Carr, I.G.

The Lodge was honoured by the presence of Fra. John Lawrie of Glasgow, Sov. P.R.C. 18th Degree.

At the close of the business, the whole of the Brethren were invited to the residence of the R.W.M. at Everton, where they sat down to an elegant and sumptuous banquet and amid glees, songs, toasts, and sentiments enjoyed themselves in a manner peculiar only to those who are entitled to the felicity of partaking in the delights of the mystic tie, and each wended his way home earnestly wishing for another reunion of a like nature; the proceedings having been closed with the happy, simple, yet effective toast of "Happy to meet, sorry to part, and happy to meet again."

The success which has attended the opening of this new Lodge to practice the beautiful and ancient Order of Mark Masonry, which, although in a flourishing condition in Scotland and Ireland, has not until lately been *regularly* practised in England, and the manifest desire evinced by the Companions originally appointed by the S.G.R.A.C. of Scotland, as well as those who were newly admitted, augurs well for the prosperity of the Order, and this Lodge in particular.

This Lodge was established for the purpose of preserving the Order in its ancient, simple, and pure state; and, according to the ceremony strictly enjoined by the supreme body.

SCOTLAND.

EDINBURGH.

Lodge of Edinburgh (Mary's Chapel—No. 1).—This Lodge held its first monthly meeting for the season, on Tuesday, the 13th October, R.W.M., Bro. MacCowan, M.D., in the chair, assisted by Bros. Mann and Law, as S.W. and J.W. Three candidates having been duly recommended and approved, were initiated into the Craft. After business, upwards of fifty Brethren partook of a sumptuous supper, prepared by Bro. Kennedy, Ship Hotel, East Register-street. Deputations were present from the St. Clair Lodge, No. 349, headed by Bro. Crichton, R.W.M.; and from the Canongate Kilwinning Lodge, No. 2, headed by Bro. Ziervogel, J.W.; and after a pleasant evening the Lodge was closed at high twelve.

A special meeting of the Lodge having been called on the 17th October, Rev. Bro. Croft Worgan Daw, M.A., Prov. G. Sec., Cumberland, was affiliated a full member of the Lodge.

Lodge of Journeymen (No. 8).—This Lodge held their monthly meeting on the 15th October, R.W.M. Bro. Hunter presiding. The Brethren of this ancient Lodge having unanimously resolved to elect Bro. Dr. MacCowan, R.W.M. No. 1, an honorary member of the Lodge, in consideration of the services he had rendered to the Craft, and especially to this Lodge, the R.W.M. called Bro. MacCowan to the altar, and, stating that this honour had very seldom been conferred, in fact only half a dozen times during the one hundred and fifty years the Lodge had been in existence, proceeded to administer the oath "*de fidele*," and declared him a full member of the Lodge. After an eloquent discourse from P.M. Bro. Kerr, on the connection of the Mark Degree with St. John's Masonry, and the similarity of the marks found in Herculam, Melrose Abbey, Roslin Chapel, &c., which were corroborated by Bro. C. W. Dew, Prov. G. Sec. for Cumberland, the Lodge was closed in ample form.

PRESENTATION OF A MASONIC JEWEL TO BRO. WALTER MEIKLEJOHN.—On Monday, the 31st August, the Lodge Defensive Band, No. 151, assembled in their Lodge-room, for the purpose of presenting a handsome fine gold Jewel to Bro. Meiklejohn, P. Treas. of the Lodge Hope, Kurrachee, No. 350. The R.W.M., Bro. Finlayson, presided, assisted by Bros. William Gullan, S.W. ; George Anderson, J.W. ; Clark and Matheson, S. and J.D's. ; Gregory, Sec. ; and the rest of the Office-bearers and numerous Brethren. Deputations were present from the Lodge of Edinburgh Mary's Chapel, No. 1, headed by Bro. James Thallon ; Lodge Canongate Kilwinning, No. 2, headed by Deputy Master, Bro. Dr. McVitie, S.P.R.S. 32nd Degree ; Lodge St. David's, No. 36 ; also numerous visiting Brethren, among whom we noticed Bro. Alex. James Stewart, G. Clerk, and Bro. Mitchell, S.W., of Lodge St. Stephen's. The Lodge being opened in due form, the R.W.M. rose and addressed the meeting, assuring them that he felt deeply gratified for the high honour imposed upon him by the Brethren of Lodge Hope, Kurrachee, in requesting him to present to Bro. Meiklejohn, in the Edinburgh Defensive Band, a testimonial of their high esteem for one that had performed his duties faithfully ; moreover, it was further evidence of the universal character of Freemasonry, that Brethren of far-off lands could entrust such an important duty to a stranger,—relying, no doubt, on the true and faithful principles of our Order. In presenting the Jewel to Bro. Meiklejohn he expressed the great pleasure he had in performing the pleasant office and more particularly as he had had an opportunity of judging of that Brother's character since he had been introduced to him. He had at all times found him a true Mason at heart, a gentleman in manners, kind and courteous to all with whom he came in contact. "So deeply did we appreciate his nobleness of soul that with one voice he has been affiliated in our Lodge ; I fear the burden of this task exceeds my powers of doing it justice, but the burden of the task does not exceed the pleasure—the high honour I feel in the performance of such a pleasant duty. I have therefore, Bro. Meiklejohn, in the name of the Lodge Hope, Kurrachee, to present you with this Jewel, which does credit alike to Bro. Law the maker, and to the givers. You are here reminded that, while Treasurer, you have conducted yourself with such uprightness of conduct, that the Plumb accompanies the Key, significant of the temptations of your office, but rectitude as the surest path to honour and esteem among the Brethren. I have, therefore to invest you with this Jewel, and trust that the G.A.O.T.U. will guide and protect you to wear it ; that it shall be an heir-loom in your family, prompting to honest deeds and great actions."

The Jewel was then placed round his neck, suspended from a handsome gold-lace mounted collar, amid the cheers and approbation of the Brethren. After the excitement had somewhat subsided, Bro. Meiklejohn replied, in somewhat of the following terms :—

"Right Worshipful Master, Worshipful Wardens, and very worthy Brethren, I rise to return my sincere and heartfelt thanks for the great honour you have just conferred upon me. Believe me, Brethren, that I feel so far overcome that I can scarcely find words to express all I feel. That I, a Brother coming from a distant Lodge in a far-off land, should be received into the body of a Lodge so ancient and so highly esteemed as the Edinburgh Defensive Band, is in itself an honour

sufficient to feel proud of; but that you should also, in so flattering a manner, present to me a Jewel from my Brethren of Lodge Hope, Kurrachee, I esteem as the greatest honour you could bestow upon me. You have heard, Brethren, the R.W.M. say that Masonry is universal; I can confirm that statement; having been a Mason from my youth up, travelling during that time to almost every corner of the known world, and visiting Lodges and Brethren in all parts of the globe, I have ever had the right hand of fellowship held out to me. Believe me, Brethren, it is only those of our Craft who travel to distant lands who can fully appreciate that fraternal grasp which levels all distinctions, and makes us instinctively feel that in that grasp we hold a sure pledge of fidelity. In the Lodge Hope, of Kurrachee, we have many Scotch Brethren, who, when assembled together on any festive occasion, sing the songs of Scotia's native bard, not forgetting to join hands to "Auld Lang Syne," till every heart is full with the memory of by-gone days, and every Brother looks anxiously home to dear auld Scotland—her hills and her mountains. Nothing will afford me greater pleasure than to report to them the heartfelt applause you have given to their handsome testimonial, an honour which they will hold conferred upon themselves through me. And I assure you, Brethren, that a body of Masons more gentlemanly in manners, or kind-hearted, than the Lodge Hope, of Kurrachee, does not exist. The R.W.M. of that Lodge is one of my oldest and sincerest friends, and, I assure you, a better Mason never ruled a Lodge. Permit me, with these few heartfelt remarks, again to thank you for the high honour I have received, and to express a hope, that should God spare me to return to Scotland again, the Defensive Band Lodge will receive my first visit."

After speeches from Bro. McClumphy (father of the R.W.M. of Lodge Hope, Kurrachee), from the Grand Clerk, and other Brethren, the Lodge was closed.

The Jewel was manufactured by Bro. John Law, Masonic jeweller, Edinburgh, and bore the following inscription:—

"Presented to Bro. Walter Meiklejohn, by the R.W. Master, Wardens, and Brethren of Lodge Hope, Kurrachee, No. 350, in testimony of the eminent zeal, ability, and integrity with which he conducted the duties of Treasurer for nearly five years, and as a token of their sincere esteem and respect for him as a man and as a Mason. Kurrachee, 4th May 1857."

LINLITHGOWSHIRE.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

On Friday, the 18th of September, the Prov. Grand Lodge held a meeting at Bathgate for the purpose of laying the foundation-stone of the Bathgate Corn Exchange. In the absence from indisposition of the Prov. G.M., R.W. Bro. the Hon. Robert Sandilands, Master of Torphichen, the Prov. Grand Lodge was presided over by R.W. Bro. Sir Alexander Gibson Maitland, of Clifton Hall, Bart., Prov. G.M. of Stirlingshire. The Grand Lodge was opened in the Bathgate Academy at 12 o'clock, thereafter the Brethren formed in procession accompanied by five bands, and proceeded to the church, where an excellent discourse was delivered by the Prov. G. Chap., Rev. Bro. Byers. The Brethren, again forming line, marched to the ground where the stone was to be laid. A large concourse of people were here assembled on and around the platforms. The Rev. Chaplain having offered up prayer, the R.W. Prov. G.M., assisted by R.W. Bro. Hunt, of Pittencrieff, Sub G.M., and the Senior and Junior Wardens, laid the stone according to due and ancient form. After the ceremony was over, the Prov. G.M. addressed the members of the Corn Exchange Committee and the Brethren, complimenting the gentlemen of the committee on their having succeeded in obtaining for Bathgate a building wherein to hold their meetings; and after expatiating largely on the agricultural interests of this country, wound up his speech by some remarks on the war in India. How deeply grateful, he said, may we feel, in this our native land, that a kind Providence has willed that we should be spared the bloodshed and murders which have been committed in India. Wives slain before the eyes of their husbands, children butchered in cold blood, and the most inhuman massacres carried on which have ever been recorded in history. How

thankful ought we to be to an Almighty Providence, that instead of war in our beloved country, we are presided over by a Queen who has the interests of her people at heart, and by a government who do everything in their power to promote the liberal arts and sciences, and maintain for the people the blessing of peace. But to return to the war in India: I sincerely trust that no peace party in Parliament will be formed to stay the avenging hand of justice, till the originators of this cruel war shall have received such punishment as is due to such bloodthirsty and relentless murderers. The Chairman of Bathgate Corn Exchange Committee thanked the Prov. G.M. for having so kindly come forward to lay the foundation-stone, and after a few remarks upon the prosperity of Bathgate, thanked the Prov. Grand Lodge and Brethren for their attendance. The procession again formed in inverted order, and walked back to the Bathgate Academy, when the Grand Lodge was again formed, and the Prov. G.M. complimented the Brethren on the very orderly manner in which the proceedings had been conducted. R.W. Bro. Finlayson of the Edinburgh Defensive Band, after a very eloquent address to the Brethren, moved a vote of thanks to the Prov. G.M. for the very able and satisfactory manner in which he had performed the duties of his office, which was unanimously carried. The Prov. G.M. in a few words thanked the Brethren. The Prov. Grand Lodge was then closed. We may remark that great credit is due to Bros. Ferguson Prov. Grand Marshal, and Bryce, Grand Tyler, for their exertions during the day.

IRELAND.

GRAND LODGE.

On Thursday, 1st of October, the Grand Lodge of Ireland accepted and ratified the appointment of the Most Illustrious R.W. Bro. M. Furnell, Deputy Lieutenant, Prov. G.M. of North Munster, and Sovereign Grand Inspector General 33rd Degree, as the representative of the M.W.G.M., Colonel William M. Wilson, and of the R.W. Grand Lodge of Canada; and further, the Grand Lodge of Ireland did elect and constitute the R.W. Bro. Kivas Tully, Civil Engineer, of Toronto, to be the representative of said Grand Lodge to the R.W. the Grand Lodge of Canada, and did further confer on the said Bro. Kivas Tully the rank and dignity of P.G.S.W., with the order for interchange of patents, regalia, &c.

From the status, zeal, and intelligence of these Brethren, such appointments augur well for Freemasonry; for where is not the name of Bro. Furnell well known, as being for a series of years identified with the best interests of the Order universal; and Bro. Tully, an eminent engineer at Toronto, has for years been identified with the Craft there as a Prov. Grand Officer, and now is a District Grand Master, under the constitution of the Grand Lodge of Canada.

COLONIAL.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

FESTIVAL OF ST. JOHN.—Wednesday (24th June) being the festival of St. John, was celebrated with all due observance by the various Lodges of the Masonic body in Sydney. The ordinary assemblages of members of the Craft took place according to pristine usages at high twelve.

It is not our desire, on this occasion, to enter into the subject of what is called "Masonry." We say "what is called" in no disrespect, but because we believe

few understand the true meaning of the term, as applied to the society we speak of. The principles of that society are, we believe, acted up to very closely in Australia, and all the results of these principles which leak out to the public are fraught with good and philanthropy. It is not to be wondered, then, that the "Masons" of Sydney should choose to celebrate their annual festival by a ball—a ball which, while inviting the Brethren of the Craft to assemble together, excluded none, and combined in the social festivity it afforded, not only the Craft, but the members and friends of the families of its members.

The preparations for the ball were on an extensive scale. The Prince of Wales's Theatre was engaged, and the pit, having been boarded over, furnished, together with the stage, an extensive ball-room. In the centre, suspended from the gallery, was the proud union jack of old England, with the tricolor of France on the right and the stars and stripes of our American brothers on the left; and the flags and banners of other nations were also conspicuously displayed, entwined with festoons of evergreens and flowers. The Masonic emblems were tastefully delineated in evergreen leaves.

In the supper-room, over the president's chair, the emblems of the Royal Arch were woven in bush-flowers. The whole of the arrangements were very complete, and on the assemblage of the company the scene was most brilliant. Including invited guests, about 500 persons attended.

Amongst the company we noticed the following members of the Executive Government:—the Hon. S. A. Donaldson, the Hon. John Hay, and the Hon. Edward Wise, Solicitor General; also A. T. Holroyd, Esq., M.L.A.; J. B. Dalley, Esq., M.L.A.; the Rev. Dr. Woolley; the Right Worshipful the Mayor; the D. Prov. G.M., Mr. J. Williams; several members of the bar, &c. &c. The Governor-General's absence from Sydney precluded his attendance on the occasion.

The company began to assemble about eight o'clock, and at nine dancing commenced.

At twelve o'clock the supper-room was thrown open, and in due time the D. Prov. G.M. requested that all glasses might be filled, and various appropriate toasts were drunk.—*Sydney Morning Herald of 17th July.*

I N D I A.

BENGAL.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

The Prov. Grand Lodge of Bengal met on the 25th July, R.W. Bro. Hoff presiding. A letter was read from the Prov. G.M., Col. Ramsay, written the day he landed in England, also a minute which he had left previous to his departure, authorizing his Deputy to make appointments in his absence. In pursuance of that authority, R.W. Bro. Roberts was appointed Prov. G.J.W., in the room of R.W. Bro. Llewelyn, whose resignation of the office had been received after the last communication, and W. Bros. T. Jones and H. M. Weathrall were appointed, in succession, G. Dir. of Cers. and Assist. Dir. of Cers., and W. Bros. Ledlie and R. T. Callan appointed Prov. G. Stewards.

On account of the disturbed state of the North West Provinces, the usual information regarding the state of the Lodges there, could not be communicated.

The report of the committee, to whom the revision of the Prov. Grand Lodge By-laws had been intrusted, was read, but the consideration of it was postponed.

W. Bro. Wray's propositions, regarding the fund for the banquets given at the communications, formed the subject of another report, the consideration of which also was deferred till the By-laws should be taken up. The committee, on the

subject, suggested that the Grand Officers' subscriptions, at Rs. 8 per quarter, should be appropriated to provide for the banquets, with a contribution at the same rate from the Lodges for the Brethren who attended as their representatives in the Prov. Grand Lodge. It was asked why that proposed contribution should not be also levied for P.Ms.; but it was explained that they attended the Prov. Grand Lodge in their own right, and not merely as representatives of Lodges. Another question mooted was, whether the representatives of Lodges could or could not, without a special authority from their constituents, agree to such a contribution as that contemplated. It was tacitly agreed that the representatives of Lodges should ascertain the feeling of the respective Lodges.

On the motion of W. Bro. Tonnerre, it was resolved that Rs. 500 be paid, out of the General Fund, to the Fund for the relief of the families of the soldiers of the European forces who may be killed in action or die whilst actively employed in field service.

CALCUTTA.

Lodge of True Friendship (No. 265).—The 7th of April was a red-letter day with the members of this Lodge, who met and presented their immediate P.M., R.W. Bro. J. G. Llewelyn, on the eve of his departure for England, with a cup bearing the following inscription:—

“Presented to Right Worshipful Brother J. G. Llewelyn, by the Brethren of Lodge of True Friendship, No. 265, as a token of fraternal regard, and in acknowledgment of his services to the Lodge, which he successfully ruled during the years 1855 and 1856.”

The testimonial, of the value Rs. 800, is a silver claret ewer and salver of unique and chaste design.

R.W. Bro. Llewelyn has eminently merited this solid expression of regard; and if he realize but a tithe of the good wishes expressed and felt for him by the social forty or so of his Brethren, who, pledging him in the loving cup, bid him “God speed,” he will have little to regret.—*Indian Freemasons' Friend.*

WEST INDIES.

BERMUDA.

Somers Island Lodge (No. 220).—On Friday, the 14th August, the Brethren of this Lodge assembled at their Lodge-room in St. George's, for the purpose of installing the officers elected on the 24th June last. This imposing ceremony having been performed, the R.W. Prov. G.M., Bro. Joseph Stuart Hunter, M.D., presented the W.M. with a Masonic Jewel (manufactured by Bro. R. Spencer, London), and in doing so, he addressed the W.M. as follows:—

“Worshipful Master,—The very pleasing office having devolved on me, at the solicitation of the Brethren of Lodge No. 220, to present you with this neat and valuable Jewel as a mark of their esteem and respect, it affords me great satisfaction to do so, as I feel assured you will wear it with honour to yourself and to the credit of the Craft. In the name of the Brethren I request your acceptance of it.”

The Secretary then read the inscription:—

“Presented by the Brethren of the Bermuda or Somers Island Lodge, No. 220, Reg. Grand Lodge of Ireland, to the W.M., Bro. Arthur Keene, Esq., as a token of their sincere respect and esteem.—St. George's, Bermuda, 24th July, A.L. 5857.

The W.M. replied—“Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master, Worshipful and Worthy Past Masters, and Brethren, I receive this lasting token of your

respect and esteem with reciprocal feelings, and beg to assure you, that the important duties which you have confided to me as Master of the Lodge shall have my most zealous attention, for its advancement and interest; and should the Great Architect of the Universe permit me to return to my native country, this Jewel shall proclaim to the Brethren in that far-distant land, that the Brethren of the Bermuda or Somers Island Lodge maintain the same spirit of liberality and generosity for which Masons throughout every age and clime have been so justly celebrated. Brethren, I thank you for the unexpected honour thus conferred on me."

The W.M. then presented the Lodge with a folio Bible, and remarked on the many different interpretations which men give of the Holy Scriptures, causing so many sects and parties in religion, each and all advancing very strong arguments in favour of the doctrines which they promulgate, yet, notwithstanding these differences, when they assemble round the altar of Masonry, all agree in the Masonic interpretation of the Scriptures, and the valuable doctrines which they teach.

The business of the Lodge being ended, the Brethren retired to their refreshment-rooms, where an excellent supper was provided by the W.M., and the remainder of the evening was spent in mirth and harmony.

ST. KITTS.

Mount Olive Lodge.—We hear from Bro. Wilson, the Proxy M. from this Lodge to the Grand Lodge of Scotland, that the ill state of health of Bro. Abbott, the W.M. of this Lodge, having compelled him to seek its restoration in the salubrious air of America, he resigned his office; and on the 20th July, the Brethren unanimously elected Bro. Jos. K. Wattley to the office; Bro. Edward Geo. Rawlins was appointed Sec. Since the election of Bro. Wattley he has initiated two candidates into the Order, and passed and raised a Brother to the 2nd and 3rd Degrees. Bro. Wattley has adopted the ceremony of England in his workings.

TRINIDAD.

PORT OF SPAIN.—*Lodge of United Brothers* (No. 251).—We are happy to record one of the most distinct and distinguishing honours ever paid a Brother Mason, and which reflects the highest credit on those Brethren who, at a time when affliction visited an esteemed Brother, presented to him so graceful a token of their high esteem, and their confidence in his honour and truth.

The testimonial and expression of brotherly affection sprang out of the following cause:—A person (who has fled) employed in the Colonial Bank, at Trinidad, of which our Bro. J. A. Tench was manager, took advantage of the confidence reposed in him, and embezzled moneys to a large amount.

The directors of the bank, unable to get hold of the culprit, and determined in their vexation to punish some one, fixed upon Bro. Tench, and dismissed him from a situation he had held for upwards of twenty years; thus ignoring not only the benefits he had conferred upon them by his exertions, but casting such a reflection upon his character as would have ruined, mentally, bodily, and pecuniarily, some men.

As soon as the dismissal became known, a meeting of the chief inhabitants of the island took place, and testified to the high confidence they had in Bro. Tench. Their names, two in a line, fill a column of that excellent paper the *Trinidad Sentinel*.

Then followed a meeting of the Lodge of which Bro. J. A. Tench is a most distinguished member; when they not only presented him with the following address, but also with a purse containing £50 sterling.

Before concluding this introduction to the address, we would express our surprise that another bank is not established in Trinidad. Why permit a monopoly—and why not, now that the whole community have expressed such confidence in Bro. Tench, start one? To repeat the opinions expressed in the

leading article of the *Trinidad Sentinel*, "Mr. Tench is in every respect the man for the head of such an undertaking, his intimate knowledge and minute acquaintance with the banking business and with the whole community eminently fit him for such a responsible post."

To the Worshipful Brother John Alexander Tench, &c. &c. &c.

WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BROTHER,—The Office-bearers, members, and honorary members of the Lodge of United Brothers, No. 251 upon the registry of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, approach you with the most fraternal feelings of regard for your person.

They are persuaded, Worshipful Sir and Brother, no one knows better than yourself, as a ruler in the ancient and honourable Fraternity, that "Man is born unto sorrow as the sparks fly upward," and how uncertain is everything in this transitory world.

Knowing, as they necessarily do, your intrinsic merit, not only as a member of the Craft, but as a man, they had fondly hoped the possession of those virtues which adorn the man and the Mason, would have protected you from the misfortune that has fallen upon you now, when you are approaching to the evening of your days.

The assurance is one of consolation to your Brethren that you possess, in a high degree those truly Masonic virtues, Fortitude and Patience.

When the Craft consider you as an innocent man suffering most unjustly for crimes committed by others, it is their bounden duty to offer you, in accordance with the principles of our noble institution, the fullest expression of their deep sympathy and the unabated esteem and regard they do now, and hope ever to entertain for you.

In requesting your acceptance of a purse for the purchase of some trifling article of domestic use, your Brethren would impress upon you that they do so not only as a token of regard for you as the Master of the Lodge of United Brothers, but as a grateful acknowledgment, on their part, of the urbanity which it is their pleasing duty to say, characterizes your Mastership.

Your Brethren invoke the blessing of the Grand Architect of the Universe upon you and your family; they pray Him to strengthen your Faith, enliven your Hope in His promises, fill you with that Charity which extends beyond the grave; and to receive you into His bosom when you shall be summoned by the Supreme Grand Master to sit in the Grand Lodge above, where they trust to meet you when they too shall leave this earthly tabernacle and be translated to that "undiscovered country, from whose bourne no traveller returns."

Done in Lodge, this 6th day of August, 1857.

By order,

(Signed) KENNETH CLARKE, Sec.

A true copy,

KENNETH CLARKE, Sec. L.U.B., No. 251.

Trinidad, 2nd September, 1857.

To Bro. Kenneth Clarke, Sec. Lodge of United Brethren, No. 251.

MY DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Keenly to have felt the mortification of being dismissed from a situation which I had attained after twenty years' employment and undiminished zeal in their service, by the directors of the Colonial Bank, was but a natural emotion which any one placed in the same circumstances would have felt as acutely as myself.

I scarcely know, however, whether the pain inflicted by the sudden, unexpected, and I may conscientiously add, most undeserved dismissal from the situation I held, is greater than the pleasure I derive from the testimonies which I have received, that my innocence of all complicity in any fraudulent transaction is so universally acknowledged.

More particularly consoling to me is the manifestation of the affection and esteem manifested by my [beloved] Brethren of the Lodge United Brethren, No. 251,

as exhibited in their kind address conveyed to me through you, and the handsome testimonial with which it was accompanied.

I seek in vain to discover how my humble and feeble efforts in conducting the Lodge as Master for some time should have merited so munificent a return, and such emphatic encomium; I can only attribute them to the spontaneous feeling which rises in the well-regulated mind against apparent injustice, and the determination of my Brethren to evince they are not unmindful of the precept delivered to them on their initiation—"That that which in a profane is a rare quality is in a Mason the fulfilment of his duty."

I am truly grateful for the fraternal sympathy exhibited by them, and most devoutly do I reciprocate your own sentiment, that in the Great Lodge above, where the Almighty Architect of the Universe presides in honour and glory—our probations and trials in this life passed—we may all meet around His heavenly throne, be duly accepted and admitted to the spiritual temple, exemplifying the *true* meaning of—

"Behold, how good and joyful a thing it is for Brethren to dwell together in unity!

"It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down unto the beard—even unto Aaron's beard—and went down to the skirts of his clothing.

"Like the dew of Hermon which fell upon the hill of Sion.

"For there the Lord promised His blessing and life for evermore."

So mote it be! With my grateful thanks to the beloved Brotherhood, I subscribe myself, my dear Sir and Brother, with great sincerity,

Yours fraternally,

(Signed) JNO. A. TENCH.

A true copy.

KENNETH CLARKE, Sec. L.U.B., No. 251.

SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR OCTOBER.

THE COURT.

The court continued to reside at Balmoral until the 14th October, the Queen and the junior members of the royal family amusing themselves climbing Scotch hills, while the Prince Consort and Prince Alfred, passed the time in field sports, especially in deer-stalking. On the day already mentioned, the Queen, the Prince Consort, the Princess Royal, and Prince Arthur honoured the Earl of Aberdeen with a visit at Haddo House, and, having remained there that night, started the next morning for Edinburgh, where the royal travellers sojourned for that night, occupying the state apartments in Holyrood Palace. The next morning they left the Scotch capital and arrived at Windsor that evening, where they have been since residing.

On the 19th, the Prince of Wales returned from his continental tour and joined his royal parents at Windsor Castle, having during his journey visited most places of either historical or picturesque interest on the Rhine, and climbed some of the highest peaks of the Alps.

The British aristocracy during the last month, sustained a severe loss in the demise of our late noble Brother the Earl Fitzwilliam, who might well be regarded as the *beau idéal* of an English gentleman. Another peer of great notoriety, who had been at one time ambitious of joining our Order, but who, on account of the irregularities of his private life, was refused initiation, was also last month called to his account. We allude to the late Earl Fitzhardinge, better known as Col. Berkeley.

FOREIGN.

The foreign events for the past month have been neither few nor unimportant. We had in the first place an interview at Stuttgart between the Emperor of the French and the Russian Czar, which was followed by another imperial meeting between the latter potentate and the Emperor of Austria: the progress of history will develop the schemes of government agreed upon at those Conferences, but as yet no person, except the parties concerned, is aware of what took place. The King of Prussia has been seriously indisposed, and it was feared that he would not recover from the attack. He is now, however, much better. The Swedish and Norwegian Parliament have consented, during the illness of their King, to a regency in the person of the crown prince. In Spain, there has been a regular break up of the Narvaez ministry, but he is still the foremost character in Spanish politics. The Divans of both Moldavia and Wallachia have declared themselves in favour of a fusion, whereby the two provinces would become a compact state under a western prince, but still in suzerainty to the Porte. This news has created great excitement at Constantinople, and in consequence thereof there has been a change of administration in the cabinet of the Sultan. From Italy we learn that the Piedmontese Government has forsaken the liberal policy which it laid down for itself after the battle of Novara, and has given up to the King of Naples certain refugees who took shelter from his tyrannies in the territories of Sardinia. The news from America is, in a commercial sense, of the worst possible character. The reign of universal bankruptcy seems to have set in on the other side of the Atlantic.

THE WAR.

The mutiny in India, although it has not been as yet crushed, has at all events reached its turning point, and the stormy waves of revolt are now fast subsiding. The country has liberally come forward to aid the Government in putting down the insurrection. Recruiting was never so brisk as it is at the present moment, and even people of small means are striving with each other in contributing to the fund for the relief of the sufferers. Delhi fell into the hands of the English on the 20th of September, though not without heavy loss, there being 600 men and 40 officers killed or wounded. General Havelock's troops having been reinforced, Lucknow was expected to be relieved in a few days.

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

Mr. Phelps, one of the greatest sticklers we have for the legitimate drama, has revived Shakspeare's play of "Love's Labour's Lost" at Sadler's Wells.

At the Surrey, Mr. Creswick has put upon the boards an entirely new piece of an historical character connected with some events in the reign of the British Blue Beard, Henry VIII.

At the Haymarket, Mrs. Centlivre's comedy "The Wonder" has been revived to give Mr. Charles Sedley an opportunity of playing the part of *Don Felix*.

On the 12th, Mr. Charles Kean re-opened the Princess's with a revival of the "Tempest." The theatre has been newly decorated, and placed in perfect harmony with the magnificent scenic displays for which it has become notorious under the judicious management of Mr. Kean and his gifted and accomplished lady. We believe we may say that in every effort he has yet made in the direction of scenic effect he has been ably seconded by our esteemed Bro. Cole.

At the Lyceum, Mr. Harrison and Miss Pyne continue to cater for the delight of the public, in producing one after the other the best operas of English composition.

At the Adelphi, T. P. Cook has continued to play all his old parts with a renewed air of juvenility.

At the Olympic, a new piece from the pen of Mr. A. C. Troughton has been produced with decided success. It is entitled "Leading Strings," and is an adaptation from the French. Mr. Robson is undertaking a provincial tour, leaving the management of his little theatre in the hands of a deputy, and it gives us much pleasure to learn that Mr. Wigan is recovering from the severe indisposition which compelled him to throw up the Olympic reins. But what has become of our worthy Bro. Sam. Emery?

JUDICIAL.

The Sheffield magistrates fined the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire Railway Company the sum of £5 and costs, for using an engine which did not consume its own smoke.

On the 24th of September, James Booth was, at Aberdeen, found guilty of the murder of his wife, and sentenced to be executed, which sentence was carried into effect on the 21st ult.

On the 10th ult., Mr. Baron Channell, sitting in chambers, refused to issue a *habeas corpus* to bring before a coroner a prisoner committed by a justice of peace on the charge of murder, although the coroner was then holding his inquest upon the murdered person.

On the 13th, Mr. Jardine, at the Bow-street police-office, condemned as obscene a large number of books and engravings seized by the police in their razzia upon Holywell-street.

On the 19th, the captain of a trading vessel was committed from the quarter sessions at Boston, for eighteen months, with hard labour, for cruelty to a pauper apprentice.

On the 21st, two boys were tried at the Middlesex sessions, for firing a loaded gun at one of the Eastern Counties Company's trains, but were acquitted of the charge, the occurrence having been accidental.—On the same day, the Judge of the Westminster County Court decided that the manager of a theatre is liable to damages, should he not in proper time restore to the author a dramatic piece submitted for his perusal. A Mr. Fonblanque was the plaintiff, and Mr. Buckstone, of the Haymarket, the defendant in the suit.

On the 22nd, a young man named Hill, was found guilty of attempted fraud, at the Reading sessions, and sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment, with hard labour.

MISCELLANEOUS.

During the last month meetings have been held throughout the country, in aid of the fund for the relief of the sufferers by the Indian mutiny.—The Agricultural Associations have been all holding their annual meetings, and have so given the county members an opportunity of expressing their opinions upon public matters.

On the 3rd, the Horse Guards issued a general order, reducing the standard for recruits to 5 feet 5 inches for the cavalry, and to 5 feet 4 inches for the infantry.

The 7th was observed as a day of general humiliation in all parts of the United Kingdom, in deprecation of the Divine wrath for the misgovernment of India. Since Nineveh humbled itself at the preaching of Jonah, a more touching sight has not occurred in the history of any country.

On the 9th, Earl Granville distributed the national medals for drawing among the art-students of the United Kingdom, in the Town Hall, Manchester.

On the 12th, a meeting of the National Association for the Promotion of Social Science, took place in the Town Hall, Birmingham, under the presidency of Lord

Brougham. There were also present Lord John Russell, Lord Stanley, Lord Hatheton, Sir J. Pakington, Sir Fitzroy Kelly, Sir B. Brodie, Mr. Tom Taylor, and several other gentlemen of distinction in politics and letters.—On the same day, the Middlesex Archæological Association held its annual meeting at Hampton Court Palace, and investigated the antiquities of that locality.

On the 14th, a public statue in honour of the poet Moore, was with great splendour inaugurated at Dublin.

On the 16th, the Art Treasures Exhibition at Manchester was closed, but not without a row which would have disgraced the least refined assembly that could be got together at Patagonia.

On the 19th, the monster gun, made from designs by Lord Palmerston, was tried with the most unequivocal success in Plumstead marshes.—On the same day, Mr. William J. Fox was without opposition once more returned for Oldham.

On the 20th, a court-martial assembled at Chatham for the trial of a lieutenant of the engineers, named Yule, on the charge of shirking his duty and telling lies to excuse his playing the truant. The trial lasted several days, but the finding of the court has not as yet been made known.—On the same day, the annual oyster feast took place at Colchester. The mayor presided, and there was a capital attendance of *natives*.

On the 21st, the Duke of Cambridge laid at Sheffield the first stone of a monument to the men of that town who fell during the war in the Crimea.

On the 22nd, Lord Macaulay was elected High Steward of Cambridge, in the room of the late Earl Fitzwilliam.—On the same day, there was a meeting of the cab-drivers of the metropolis for the purpose of taking measures to put down cab-driving on Sundays.

ACCIDENTS AND OFFENCES.

During the last month, crime in England seems to have reached to a height it never before attained. We have not now, it is true, to speak of such commercial offences as those of Sir John Dean Paul, of Robson, and of Redpath; but the offences against life and person which we have to chronicle, exceed in number and atrocity any it has hitherto been our painful duty to record. The accidents, too, have been numerous, and destructive of both life and property.

On the 24th of September, a plate-layer on the London and Blackwall Railway was struck by the buffer of an engine, and killed.

On the 25th, a boat upset on the river Ribble, near Lytham, by which five persons lost their lives.—On the same day, a pointsman belonging to the London and North-Western Company, fell from the steps of a carriage upon the line, and the train passed over his legs.—On the same day, at Dunmanway, Ireland, a boy who was hanging behind a showman's waggon, fell under the vehicle, and was killed.

On the 26th, a man fell down the shaft of a well, fifty feet deep, in Hanbury's brewery, and was killed.—On the same day, a gentleman named Howard, residing at Colnbrook, near Windsor, had his hand shattered by the accidental explosion of a pistol.—On the same day, William Bryan, a jockey, was committed by the Monmouth magistrates for trial at the ensuing assizes, upon the charge of having set fire to a stall in which Mr. Evans's horse "Van Eyck" was stabled, with the intention of injuring the horse.—On the same day, at the Ordsal station, near Salford, a woman, in stepping out the train while yet in motion, fell, and fractured her leg; she afterwards died of the injury.

On the 28th, an explosion of fire-damp took place at Springbank, in consequence of a trap-door having been left open. Several persons were more or less injured by the explosion, but fortunately no life was lost.

On the 30th, two houses fell in Bartlett's Buildings, Holborn, burying several men in the ruins; they were, however, dug out alive, although greatly injured.—On the same day, at Manchester, a drunken besom-maker cut the throat of

his wife in the open street, and then attempted to commit suicide.—On the same day, a farmer named Henderson was shot in his bed while asleep, at Bramhall, near Manchester. His own son has been committed to Chester Gaol charged with the murder.

On the 1st of October, a railway porter at the Derby Station, while buckling some trucks, fell upon the line, and was killed by the train passing over him.—On the same day, a woman was found murdered at Frome, and as her husband has absconded, there can be little doubt he put an end to her.—On the same day, a woman at Shepton Mallett nearly murdered her husband by stabbing him in the head with a dinner-knife.

On the 2nd, the establishment of Messrs. Routledge, the well-known publishers, was nearly consumed.—On the same day a man committed suicide at Burrell's Hotel, London Bridge, a letter written by him and lying by the corpse directed it to be anatomically examined, as he had suffered from some internal complaint.—On the same day, a sailor fell from the rigging of a ship in the Commercial Docks, and received such injuries that he has since died of them.—On the same day, another sailor was killed at Limehouse Road, by a block and sheaves falling upon his head.

On the 4th, at Frome, a clergyman while preaching was shot in the face with a discharge of blood from a gun, fired by an idle fellow passing the church. The reverend gentleman was greatly stunned.

On the 6th, a mason was killed at the Bricklayers' Arms Station by the falling of the sheers, one of the legs of which struck him on the head, and smashed it against the wall.—On the same day, at Woolwich, the captain of a military transport while getting on board was precipitated twenty feet, and fractured his skull against a cross beam.

On the 7th, a woman, on account on account of a love quarrel, drowned herself in the Regent's Canal.—On the same day, a man deliberately walked in front of a train at Ponder's End Station, and was, as a matter of course, mutilated and killed.

On the 7th, 8th, and 9th, it blew a hurricane in the Channel and German Ocean, strewing the coast with wrecks.

On the 8th, a woman at Preston, in consequence of ill-treatment she received from her husband, threw herself and infant child into the canal at Preston. They were taken out in a state of great exhaustion.

On the 9th, the boiler of one of the South Western Company's engines exploded at Basingstoke, killing both the driver and the stoker.—On the same day, a man named Miller, on being joked by a married couple named Brerder, at Warleigh, in Somersetshire, with respect to the murder of the woman Pugsley at Leigh Woods, rushed upon them with a knife, and killed them, and then attempted to commit suicide.—On the 9th too, the butler of a gentleman residing at 5, Hinde-street, Manchester-square, hanged himself in the kitchen of that house.—On the same day, a carpenter, at Ball's Pond, had a quarrel with a drunken wife, and cut her throat with a razor.—On the morning of the day, two boys passing in a boat by Waterloo Bridge, discovered upon one of the abutments a carpet-bag, containing some of the mutilated and pickled bones of a man, supposed to have been murdered either in a brothel or by foreign refugees. The whole thing is, however, still wrapt in mystery, and continues to fill the public mind with horror.

On the 10th, a large quantity of agricultural produce was consumed at Charlton on Otmoor, near Bicester, in consequence of children being allowed to play with lucifer matches in a barn where there was loose straw.—On the 10th, too, the dead body of a young woman, who is supposed to have committed suicide, was picked up in the Regent's Canal, near Haggerstone.—On the same day, a collision took place between two passenger trains upon the Woolwich branch of the Eastern Counties line, by which several persons were more or less injured.

On the 11th, a party of men were surprised in the tunnel at Potter's Bar on the Great Northern Railway by two trains, one on each line, when, sad to relate, three out of the number were killed.

On the 12th, in consequence of the friction of the wheels, one of the carriages of a train on the Great Western line took fire between Maidenhead and Paddington. The passengers, owing to a want of communication with the guard, narrowly escaped with their lives.—On the same day, at Dover, a man attempted to cut the throat of his wife, but failing in that, he, to avoid punishment, endeavoured to commit suicide, but was arrested before he could do so.

On the 14th, the body of a female, supposed to be murdered from the fact of their being two incised wounds in her throat, was discovered in the Regent's Canal, Bethnal Green.—On the same day, a bricklayer was killed by falling with a scaffold while repairing a house at Gloucester Road, Kensington.—On the same day, a slater met with a similar accident from the steeple of North Leech Church.—On the same day, the most fearful accident which has occurred upon a railway since the introduction of them into this country happened upon the South Wales line, near Pyle, the down train and the up train having met each other at full speed upon the same rails. Several persons were killed and scarcely any one of the passengers escaped uninjured.—On that night, a man was drowned while attempting to desert in a jolly-boat from the *Bellerophon*, in Portsmouth harbour.—On the same day, too, the son of Sir Henry Lawrence was accidentally drowned at Keswick.

On the 15th, a gentleman was drowned at Foulness Island, he having in the dark mistaken the path and driven his horse into deep water.—On the same day, at Leeds, a gunner belonging to the Horse Artillery was killed by falling under the wheels of his gun-carriage.—On the same day, Mr. Wm. Pigott, inspector of bridges on the Great Northern Railway, was, while in the discharge of his duties, overtaken by a train and killed.

On the 17th, a fire broke out in the premises of a soap chandler in Whitecross-street, by which the whole factory and stock in trade were destroyed.—On the same day, a man named Paterson was killed in a street row at Hamilton.—On the same evening, a waiter in the Punch Tavern, Fleet-street, garotted himself.—The same evening, a distressed Spitalfields weaver drowned himself in Sir John Duckett's Canal.—On the 17th, too, a young woman committed suicide by precipitating herself from a window 57 feet high, in the Victoria-road, Pimlico.—On the same day, Major Barfoot was killed at Southampton, in endeavouring to escape from his carriage with which the horses had run away.—On the same day, a porter in the employment of the Midland Railway Company was killed near the Sileby Station, by striking against the stone work of a bridge, under which the train, on the top of which he was cording luggage, was passing.

On the 20th, a passenger-train on the Stour Valley line, came into collision at Dudley Port Station, with some ballast-waggons, which were being shunted. Some of the passengers were greatly injured.

On the 21st, the Lancashire and Yorkshire train came into collision with an unattached engine, near Manchester. Several of the passengers were severely injured.

On the 22nd, in consequence of the heavy rain of the preceding day, the river Lea overflowed its banks, flooding the entire of the low ground between Stratford and North Woolwich.—On the same day, a collision took place between a goods and a ballast train, on the Manchester and Preston branch of the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway, by which several of the waggons were destroyed. The driver and stoker of the goods-train leaped off and so escaped being killed. The guard of the ballast-train was much hurt.

On the 24th, Big Ben, the monster bell intended for the clock tower of the Houses of Parliament, was cracked by the blow of the hammer.

NOTICE.

THE EDITOR requests that ALL COMMUNICATIONS may be sent to him, at 74-5, Great Queen-street, Lincoln's-Inn-fields, London, W.C., by the 20th of each month, AT LATEST, to insure their insertion.

THE "FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE AND MASONIC MIRROR."—The Brethren are respectfully informed, that the Volume for 1856, in a handsomely embossed symbolic cover, is now ready, price 13s. 6d. Covers may be had at the office, price 1s. ; or the Brethren may have their Numbers bound for 1s. 6d.

 TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"THE FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE."—Brethren having JANUARY numbers on hand which they do not require, may receive the current number, or the full price for them, at the office, Red Lion Court, Fleet-street.

Correspondents are requested to address their communications direct to the Office, and not to the private house of any Brother.

"THE INDIAN FREEMASONS' FRIEND."—Our contemporary is afraid that the *Freemasons' Magazine* has been placed under a censorship, which will prevent the Editor expressing his opinions when opposed to those of the Grand Officers. We believe the *Magazine* itself to be a sufficient answer to such fears, and our Indian contemporary may rest assured that we shall never submit to any dictation or censorship which will involve a point of principle, or affect the interests of the Craft.

"THE FREEMASONS' MONTHLY MONITOR," published at St. John's, New Brunswick, has come to hand.

"KILWINNING."—We should say that a Prov. Grand Lodge could not receive a representative from the Grand Lodge of Scotland, and most assuredly that body would not delegate a representative to any but a Grand Lodge of equal power with itself. No. 2 Lodge, Ireland, meets at Freemasons' Hall, Dublin.

"BRO. HUGH L. WILSON" is thanked. His communications are at all times acceptable.

"BRO. THE REV. DR. MARGILOUTH."—The lectures of our respected deceased Brother shall have our best attention.

A correspondent writes, "Will you inform me in your next the reason why the certificates are not sent from the Grand Lodge earlier? I was initiated, passed, and raised, as well as several other Brethren, in 1856, the last ceremony taking place in April, and none of us have yet received our certificates. I have several

times asked for them in open Lodge, and can get no account of them." We presume that the officials of the Lodge itself are to blame, and that the annual returns and payments have not been made to Grand Lodge. Our experience is that certificates are returned in from seven to fourteen days after the making of the returns.

In our report of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Worcestershire, in last month's *Magazine*, it is stated—"Bro. Done, No. 349, G. Purs., re-appointed, but absent; Bro. Fitzgerald, however, received the appointment later in the evening; J. Fitzgerald, P.M. No. 523, Prov. G. Purs." It should have been, "Bro. Done, No. 349, Prov. G. Org., re-appointed, though absent; Bro. Fitzgerald, P.M. No. 523, G. Purs., re-appointed," as both appointments were made in open Lodge. It is true that Bro. Fitzgerald officiated as G. Org. in the course of the evening (but no alteration was made in the appointments), which probably led our correspondent into the error.

"A DISTRESSED EXILE."—We would advise you to make an appeal to the Board of Benevolence, accompanied with the necessary evidence of your being a Freemason.

INDIA.—As, doubtless, during the unfortunate mutiny prevailing in India, many of the Brethren have lost their lives in the discharge of their duties, we shall feel obliged to any of our friends who can furnish us with information regarding them.

The continuation of "The Ancient and Accepted Rite," *Reviews of New Books, &c. &c.*, are unavoidably postponed.

THE INDIAN MUTINY.—It will be seen by our reports that many liberal subscriptions have been made, from various Lodges, to the Fund for the Relief of the Sufferers by this unfortunate event. We will endeavour to give a detailed list in our next.

The "AMERICAN MASONIC JOURNAL," just come to hand, has fallen into error in stating that the D.G.M. gave notice of motion for recognising the Grand Lodge of Canada. It was the W. Bro. the Earl of Carnarvon (who does not as yet hold Grand Office) that gave the notice of motion—which, however, we should think, will not under present circumstances be persevered in.

TURKEY.—In our last number, under the head "Turkey," at page 846, is mentioned the "Turkish Star of Five Points," instead of which, it should have been "Seven Points," as in fact represented in our lithographic illustration of the Jewels recently manufactured by Bro. R. Spencer.