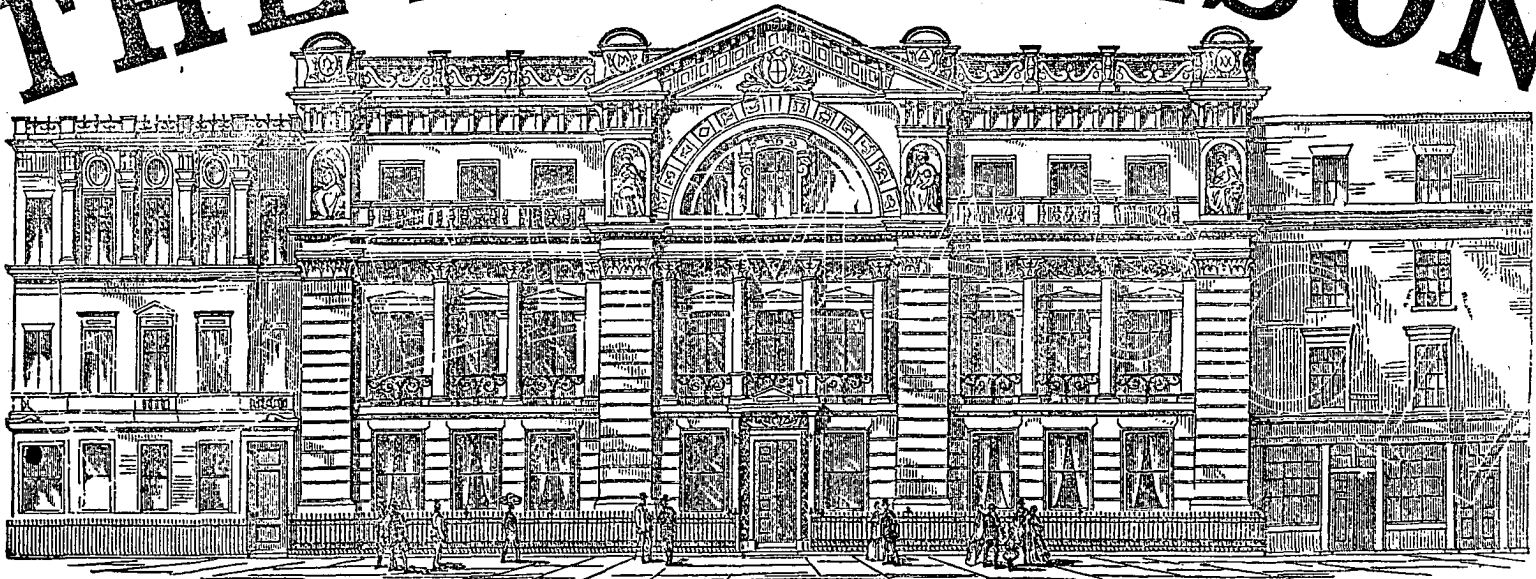


THE FREEMASON



Grand Lodge Reports are published with the sanction of the Right Honorable the EARL of ZETLAND, K.T., Most Worshipful Grand Master of England.

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SATURDAY, JULY 17, 1869.

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ROYAL ARCH MASONRY.

BY THE SON OF SALATHIEL.

(Continued.)

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With the explication of the HEBREW SEPHIROTH, as given in Basnage's "History of the Jews," we shall close our remarks on the symbolism of the Royal Arch degree, which we conceive it tends to illustrate:—

The *Sephiroth* make the most secret part of the Jewish Cabbala, and the knowledge of them is not to be purchased without a deal of pains and application. Herein consists the perfection of the contemplative divinity, which charms and ravishes those who are initiated in it" (a). We may, therefore, not improperly term them *Hebrew Mysteries*. The plural term *Sephiroth*, may be understood in a twofold acceptance: in its proper and primary sense it sig-

(a) Basnage's Hist. Jud., p. 195.

nifies *Enumerations*; but by the Cabbalists it is more generally used in the sense of *Splendours*, from a Hebrew root, signifying to shine with the purity and brightness of the sapphire stone (as the word is rendered in Exodus, chap. xxiv., v. 10). Understood in this latter sense, the expression is eminently illustrative of the meaning of the Cabbalists, since the *Sephiroth* are represented as issuing from the supreme *En Saph*, or infinite source, in the same manner as *light* issues from the *Sun*.

The whole number of the *Sephiroth* is *ten*, and they are represented in the writings of the Cabbalistic doctors by various symbols; sometimes by the figure of a tree with extended branches and at other times, by ten different circles, included one within the other, and gradually lessening to the centre.

The first *Sephirah*, who is denominated *Kether* (the Crown), *Kadmon* (the pure light), and *En Saph* (the infinite), is the Omnipotent Father of the Universe, according to that spirited exclamation in Isaiah, xxviii., 5, "In that day shall the Lord of Hosts be for a crown of glory, and for a diadem of beauty unto the residue of his people." The sword is the *Cochma* (or Wisdom) which is referred to in the Book of Wisdom, vii., 26. Wisdom (*Cochma*) is the *brightness* of the *everlasting light*, the *unspotted mirror* of the power of God, and the *image* of his goodness (b). The third is the *Binah*, or the Heavenly *intelligence*; whence the Egyptians had their *Cneph*, and Plato his *Agathos*. He is the *Holy Spirit* who inspired the Prophets, and who pervades, animates, and governs the boundless Universe. Rabbi Hagahon affirmed that there were three lights in God (c), the highest number which possess One Throne, in which sits the *Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Sabaoth*.

It is of these that Rabbi Akiba himself, as cited in the same *Jephir Jetziah* 1600 years ago, said,— "Unus est Spiritus Deorum viventium, vox, et verbum; et hic est spiritus sanctitatis. (d)

There is one Spirit of the living Gods—the Voice, the Spirit, and the Word,—and this is the *Holy Spirit*.

It is of these that Rabbi Hagahon uses terms nearly similar,— "Unus est Spiritus Deorum viventium, vox, spiritus, et verbum, quæ unum sunt."

(b) A similar passage occurs in Hebrews, chap. i., v. 3, "Who being the brightness of his glory and the express image of his person.

(c) As in Egypt, the Triangle was in succeeding ages considered as a just symbol of the "*Numen Triplex*," so it is remarkable that in the venerable Book of Zohar, the three Branches of the Hebrew letter, (schin), are asserted to be a proper emblem of the *Three Persons* that compose the *Divine Essence*. They sometimes call these three *Sephiroth* (spirits), at other times the three *Δυνάμεις* (or Powers), and at other times the *Three Lights*.

(d) *Jetziah cum notis Rittangel*, cap. i., sec. 9.—Cited by Maurice.

There is one Spirit of the living Gods, the Voice, the Spirit, and the Word, which are *One*.

And, finally, it is of these that the great Rambam, (that is, Maimonides), the most illustrious of Hebrew Rabbis, bears this solemn testimony,— "Corona summa, primordialis est Spiritus Deorum viventium, et sapientia ejus est spiritus de spiritu, et intelligentiæ aque ex spiritu. Et tametsi res horum mysteriorum distinguantur in sapientia, intelligentia, et scientia, nulla tamen inter eas distinctio quoad essentiam est, quia finis ejus annexus est, principio ejus, et principium fini ejus, et medium comprehenditur ab eis" (e). The principal *Sephirah*, the Crown, is the primordial Spirit of the living God; and wisdom, the second *Sephirah*, is from spirit to spirit, and understanding; the third *Sephirah*, is of water by the spirit; and although the things of these mysteries are distinguished by knowledge, wisdom, and science, yet strictly speaking, there is no distinction between them, forasmuch as it is *Essence*, because the end is joined to the beginning, and the beginning to the end, and the middle is comprehended by them all.

Thus we see that the ancient Jewish rabbis conceived the three first *Sephiroth* or splendours to shine with a degree of lustre peculiar and intrinsic, that they were beings eternal and intellectual, while the remaining *Sephiroth* were nothing more than the perfections and attributes of the Deity. The names of these *Sephiroth* are:

- Gedulah*, strength or severity.
- Gebulah*, mercy or magnificence.
- Tiphroth*, beauty.
- Nersah*, victory or eternity.
- Hod*, glory.
- Jesod*, the foundation.
- Malcuth*, or the kingdom.

This is the order in which they are arranged in the circular table of M. Basnage. The circle being the most perfect of figures, denotes the perfection of Deity and its attributes. That Deity, infinite in his nature, and otherwise incomprehensible to man, has chosen to manifest himself by his attributes, as the soul manifests herself by acts of wisdom and virtue. As the virtue latent in the coal is displayed by the flame which it diffuses, so is the glory of the Deity revealed by the emanations which proceed from him. To illustrate their sentiments the Jews have imagined certain conduits or canals through which the influence of the splendours are communicated and glide into each other.

(e) Rambam apud Kircher, tom. 2, p. 293. Cited by Maurice.

To be continued.

A GENERAL meeting of the Freemasons of France was held on Friday last. A majority of the bureaux had adopted a resolution to hold an extraordinary meeting in Paris on the 8th of December, as a reply of the Oeumenical Council; but the Grand Master, General Mellinet, did not allow the assembly to discuss the resolution, and he abruptly closed the sitting.

HOSPITALARIA;

OR

A SYNOPSIS OF THE HISTORY OF THE ORDER OF
Knights Hospitallers.

"God has formed
Mankind to be one mighty brotherhood;
Himself our Father, and the world our home."

The venerable and sovereign Order of Knights Hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem is the most ancient and illustrious of all the degrees of knighthood instituted for the promotion of religion, valour, and humanity.

With a view to the revival in the British dominions of an Order once so potent and revered throughout Christendom, it may not be amiss to take a rapid survey of those events which led to its formation. The general achievements of the Hospitallers occupy a wide space in the page of European history; *—during the course of seven centuries they filled the ear of empires, and will shed a long track of splendour through time.

In the beginning of the seventh century arose Mohammed, the most crafty and successful impostor that ever assailed the faith of Christ. His proscription by the magistrates of Mecca (A.D. 622) having convinced him that eloquence alone would never disseminate his doctrines with the rapidity he contemplated, he resolved that the sword should aid their propagation. Informing his disciples that his ministering angel had brought him a scimitar from heaven, with injunctions to employ it for the subjugation of his enemies, he prepared to draw it boldly with a persecutor's hand. Mecca shortly confessed the supremacy of his arms, and in the course of time he made himself master of all the neighbouring cities and strongholds. Within the space of three-and-twenty years, all Arabia submitted to his yoke, and recognised the divinity of his law.

Actuated by a fanatical zeal and quenchless thirst for blood, the successors of this arch-impostor, who assumed the title of Kalifs or Vicars of the Prophet, made their conquests, and the creed of which they gloried in being the propagators, keep pace together. Arabia subjugated, they invaded Palestine and Syria; took Jerusalem, Damascus, and Antioch; subdued Egypt, subverted the Persian monarchy, and extended their dominion over Media, Mesopotamia, and Khorassan. Even the terrors of the Lybian desert were defied by these restless warriors. The whole of Northern Africa acknowledged the invincibility of their arms; and the islands of Cyprus, Rhodes, Candia, Sicily, and Malta, were either partially desolated by their descents, or reduced to permanent bondage. In the beginning of the 8th century they carried their banner and creed beyond the Pillars of Hercules, and founded a new empire on the ruins of the Gothic Monarchy of Spain; and, but for the valour of Charles Martel, the Pyrenees themselves would have presented but a feeble barrier to their aggression.

The conquest of Jerusalem by these barbarians filled Christendom with lamentation and dismay. For nearly three centuries the Cross had remained firmly planted on its towers, protected by the Christian emperors of Byzantium, and the worshippers of the Redeemer knelt in consecrated temples built on the ruins of heathen shrines. From the time of Constantine the Great, both the Greek and Latin Christians had made Jerusalem their favourite place of pilgrimage, and emulated each other in a devout anxiety to obtain remission of their sins at their Saviour's tomb. Prior to the capture of the Holy City by the Mohammedans, the access to it had been comparatively easy; but the infidels, though they professed to reverence Christ as a prophet, scrupled not to impose a tribute on the votaries who flocked to his sepulchre; while the constant struggles between the Kalifs of Bagdad and Egypt for the sovereignty of Judea rendered the pilgrimage intimidating and dangerous. Christian zeal, however, was rather fanned than smothered by oppression and peril. A superstitious belief prevailed throughout Christendom in the tenth century that the end of the reign of Antichrist was at hand, and the Archangel was about to sound his terrible trumpet; and notwithstanding the cruel thrall to which the Holy City was subjected, crowds of pilgrims continued to visit it from all the countries of the West.

Several Kalifs granted their special protection to the pilgrims, and insured them accommodation within the walls of Jerusalem; but in the lapse of years these privileges came to be abrogated or forgotten. At length, in the middle of the eleventh century, some Italian merchants, natives of Amalfi, a rich commercial city in the kingdom of Naples, who had experienced the inhumanity of both Greeks and Arabians, undertook to provide an asylum for the Latin devotees. Commerce carried them frequently to Egypt, where, by means of presents, they obtained access to the Kalif Mostaser-billah, and won him to consent to the erection of a Latin church within the

* Vide the voluminous annals of the Order compiled by the Abbé Vertot; *The Chevalier Boisgelin's History of the Knights of Malta*; Sutherland's *Achievements of the Knights of Malta*; also Knolles, Fuller, Hackluyt, Gibbon, Savary, Poczocki, Froissart, Brydnone, Mills, Hellam, Sommi, &c.

Holy City. A chapel was accordingly built, in 1048 (Fuller), near the Holy Sepulchre, and dedicated to the Virgin under the title of St. Mary ad Latinos; and at the same time two Hospitals, or houses of reception, for pilgrims of both sexes, were erected in the same quarter, and placed under the protection of St. John the Almoner and St. Mary Magdalen. (Subsequently, when the Order became military, the Knights renounced the patronage of the Almoner, and placed themselves under the more august tutelage of St. John the Baptist.)

Several pious pilgrims, abandoning the idea of returning to their native country, devoted themselves to these establishments for the service of the destitute and sickly wanderers who were continually arriving from the West. The expenses of the Hospitals were defrayed chiefly by arms annually collected in Italy by the benevolent founders, and all Latin pilgrims were sheltered and relieved without distinction of nation or condition. Those whom robbers had plundered were re-clothed; those whom disease had debilitated were tended with skill and tenderness; and those who died were buried with Christian rites. The Hospital of the Almoner thus became the cradle of the illustrious brotherhood whose martial exploits are known throughout the world, and who, as Knights of St. John of Jerusalem, of Rhodes, and of Malta, continued to be, for upwards of seven centuries, the sword and buckler of Christendom in Paynim war.

The Latins had enjoyed the security and comfort of this humane institution nearly seventeen years, when a new enemy burst into Palestine. In 1065, the Turcomans chased the Saracens out of Jerusalem and massacred the Egyptian garrison. The barbarities inflicted on the inhabitants of the Holy City are too horrible to be told. Many were put to the sword, the Hospital of St. John was despoiled, and even the Holy Sepulchre itself would have been subjected to the foulest sacrilege had not avarice suggested its preservation. The conquerors augmented the tribute exacted from the Christian pilgrims, and those who had the good fortune to survive the perils of the pilgrimage, carried back to Europe lamentable reports of the cruelties and oppression to which Christians were exposed.

At length, Peter the Hermit, a poor ascetic, applied himself to accomplish an enterprise which the most puissant princes dared not undertake. Fortified by recommendatory letters from Simeon, the Greek patriarch of Jerusalem, and Gerard, rector of the Hospital of St. John, he threw himself at the feet of Pope Urban the Second, and adjured him to rouse the princes of the West to the deliverance of the heritage of Christ. In a short time the spirit-stirring orations of the Hermit were crowned with signal success. Europe resounded with his pious appeals—oppressions and profanations were his theme—and a flame was kindled which oceans of blood, spilt in the course of successive centuries of ferocious warfare, could scarcely extinguish. The chivalry of the West armed for the conquest of Palestine. Prince and peasant alike burned with pious impatience to hasten to the East; and whatever opinions may be entertained as to the causes which gave rise to the Crusades of a later period it cannot be doubted that the early followers of the Cross were promoted by feelings of the purest devotion to rescue from the infidel those places which had been consecrated by the Presence and Passion of the Redeemer. If the desolation of the once all-destroying Babylon—the ruined condition of Persepolis and Palmyra—the awful silence now reigning around the gigantic Pyramids of Egypt—and the decay that is gradually stealing over the beautiful temples of Greece and Rome, afford to the contemplative mind of the modern traveller many a train of profitable reflection, cold indeed must have been the philosophy that could steel the heart against the emotions produced by the Hermit, as in glowing terms he described the desolation of Judea—a land which so lately "had seen a great sight, for the glory of the Lord had risen upon it,"—and dwelt on the prostrate condition of that City which was once "the beauty of holiness and the glory of the whole earth."

Encouraged by Bohemond, Prince of Tarentum, to direct the martial energies of Europe, Urban decreed the assembly of two grand councils, one at Placentia in Italy, the other at Clermont in Auvergne. Both of these august meetings he honoured with his presence, and personally exhorted the enthusiastic multitudes who composed them to join in a league for the expulsion from Palestine of the enemies of Christ. At Clermont, where the whole chivalry of France was congregated, the assembly answered his forcible address by shouting, "God wills it! God wills it!" words which were afterwards used by the crusaders as a battle-cry on many a hard-contested field.

According to William of Malinesbury, "there was no nation so remote, no people so retired, as did not respond to the papal wishes." The Hermit, at the head of an undisciplined multitude of sixty thousand persons, led the way. The knights and their martial attendants, amounting to a hundred thousand fighting men, followed. The pilgrims able to bear arms, about six hundred thousand, closed the rear. "A more glorious army," says Fuller, "the sun never beheld."

(To be continued.)

PAPERS ON MASONRY.

By A LEVIE.

XV.—MASONRY IN AMERICA.

"What profiteth the graven image that the maker thereof hath graven it; the molten image, and a teacher of lies that the maker of his work trusteth therein, to make dumb idols." *Habakkuk*, ii. 18.

The death-bell of overstrained exertions is ringing. The nations have raged, and a vain thing has been imagined. Here in England we are face to face with a giant sorrow—one for which our little ones will rise up in judgment against us. But the terrible result may be mitigated, perhaps averted.

It is fortunate for the good sense of the middle and upper classes of this land that the fearful issue about to be tried—the universal and continual strife existing between right and wrong—may culminate in a crisis.

Elsewhere, and sadly, it has done its work. Man, whether under one form of political administration or another, is ever the same. Of this the United States, as they are called, are a signal example. Denuded of an hereditary titled class, educated by a superficial system, and stunned by an official arrogance only comprehensible to those who have seen it, the people of the Northern American continent instinctively turn to that which the short-sighted politicians who convened a meeting of the Plantations and called it Freedom, desired to eradicate—that love and respect for a lord which republicans only can realize to the fullest extent.

Thus prevented, they sought at one time for social rank in imaginary generalships and "bogus" commands. These became the laughing-stock of the world; and they must so continue. In many points the government of the States is admirable—in others, to speak in mild terms, it is somewhat indefensible.

But, really, in Freemasonry—the main issue now at the bar—the vanity of the United States' Masons is something to raise the hands at. One side of their singular views is to insist on a common indivisible country, capable (if the doctrine of Monroe were to be carried out) of co-existent continental extension; on the other, as many Grand Lodges and office-bearers as possible.

To read their Masonic literature is an amazing task for a bookworm, and while we neither can nor ought to deny that their Masonry is a matter of enthusiasm, should we close our eyes, as enlightened men, to the enormity of Republicans, who deny all titles, being so at variance with their deliberate decision as to greedily assume "anything with a handle to it" in the Craft of Equality!

The present writer means no mischief, but he observes very closely, and objects to men with high aims lowering the standard of their position. I am aware that recruiting is forbidden; and this country seeks only the real lovers of the Art, wherever it can find and protect them. I expect, if the American Masons go on as they do, that every loghouse will become a Grand Lodge. And yet in the face of State Grand Lodges, there is to be no freedom, no secession!

How a nation can be one and indivisible and yet divided as it is, seems, to say the least, singular. To maintain the doctrine of State right in a non-political institution such as Freemasonry, is a puzzle in the face of the energetic attempt of Grant and others at centralisation. Surely, even in that free country, you need not serve two masters.

I have in a former paper expressed my views as to the American Masonic Press. I adhere to them. But I protest against that feeling of knocking about rough ashlar for the purpose of talking about it afterwards as Past Grand this and Past Grand that. Theatrical exhibitions effectively got up, fill pockets and increase assumption, but they contribute less than nothing to real fame.

Some will say that these remarks are beyond my function; none can say they are beside the question. No one can, or dare to assert, that mere office-seeking is the proper thing for which so many persons have banded themselves into societies with defined objects. All they have to do in their several spheres is to be true to those objects in a commensurate proportion to their development.

No! we must not make idols of ourselves. We shall be teachers of lies innumerable, and insufferable to ourselves and our companions—and dumb idols eloquent, indeed—if we regard the empty dignity more than the end to be attained by unity and real Masonic fraternity.

CRYPTONYMUS.

KNOWLEDGE is progressive, and is the reward of the efforts made to advance Christianity and civilization. Knowledge as it relates to art, science, wants, language, etiquette, dress, &c., is imitative, and may be taught, learned, copied, and practised to the extent of all seeming refinement; but where there is such civilization without Christianity in its simple truths, there will slavery, tyranny, assassination, injustice, theft, and other signs pointing out the difference between unregenerated and Christian man.—*Edis*.

THE PALESTINE EXPLORATION FUND.
(From the "Quarterly Statement," No. 2; April 1 to June 30, 1869.)

STATEMENT OF PROGRESS.

The Second number of the Quarterly Statement of the Palestine Exploration Fund is presented to subscribers a few weeks before it is due, mainly in order that it might be ready in time for the annual meeting. It contains, besides the usual packet from Lieutenant Warren, papers from Captain Wilson, Mr. Deutsch, and others which it is hoped will not only prove interesting, but will advance our knowledge of the Holy Land.

The main features of interest in the work of the last two months are the excavation at the "Golden Gateway" and "Barclay's Gateway" at Jerusalem, the discovery in the Dome of the Rock ("Mosque of Omar"), and Mr. Deutsch's report on the marks found at the south-east angle of the Great Wall of the Haram es-Sherief. It is not the province of the Committee to draw deductions from facts. These are laid before their supporters as found, leaving it for others to make inferences from them. They cannot, however, avoid calling attention to the conclusions arrived at by the eminent Semitic scholar just named from the marks in question, which he examined on the spot, and on which he has favoured the Committee with a letter, which will be found reprinted at p. 33. The stones appear to be *in situ*, some of the marks which they exhibit are similar to those on "absolutely undoubted antique Phœnician structures in Syria," while "fantasias," "identical" with others of the marks are observed in abundance on the "old Phœnician stones" of the ruined citadel above Saida. It is greatly to be hoped that more marks will be found, and some nearer approximation to date arrived at. Lieut. Warren's tracings of those on which Mr. Deutsch has commented may be seen at the office of the Society.

The shaft at the Golden Gateway has been abandoned, owing to the danger of continuing the work. One of the chief obstacles, indeed, to the pursuance of the galleries is the way in which the shingle sometimes pours into them—not in small quantities, but in a continuous shower, which will last sometimes for days, choking up the narrow galleries, and forcing Lieutenant Warren to abandon the work, or to continue it at the risk of life.

The work which has to be done is still very great. It is hoped that permission may be obtained to pursue the tantalising discovery below the surface accidentally made by Mr. Warren at the northern edge of the platform of the Dome of the Rock with the Haram Area in December last, and to explore elsewhere within that sacred enclosure; failing this, reference to the report of the last Executive Committee will show some of the work which yet remains on the hands of the Society.

At the meeting of the General Committee, held on May 4th at the Jerusalem Chamber, the Executive Committee resigned and a new Executive Committee were elected for the ensuing year. Their report was read and adopted, the thanks of the Committee were passed to Lieutenant Warren, to Mr. G. J. Eldridge, Dr. Chaplain, and Mr. Walter Morrison, M.P., and it was resolved that an annual meeting should be held.

It has long been the desire of the Committee to open a Palestine Museum. They are now enabled, by the arrival of several large cases from Lieutenant Warren, to carry this desire into effect for a short period. At the Dudley Gallery, Egyptian Hall, will be found all the objects of interest discovered by Lieutenant Warren in his shafts, including lamps, pottery, glass, coin, weapons, tessellated pavement, sculpture, sarcophagi, and geological specimens. The tracings also of his work, and those of Captain Wilson, may also be seen there; with objects lent by Mr. MacGregor and other gentlemen. To these will shortly be added, it is hoped, the new collection of photographs and antiquities from Sinai, by the kindness of Colonel Sir Henry James, Director-General of the Ordnance Survey. The exhibition will be closed on August the 31st. Should it prove so far successful as to warrant the repetition, it is hoped to reopen it on a future occasion.

The receipts for the months April and May, with the first half of June, amount in all to £1,034 6s. 2d., including a donation of £250 from the Marquis of Bute; one of £100 from "Anonymous"; and remittances from the local societies of Clifton, Bath, Tunbridge Wells, Falmouth, Nottingham, Plymouth, and Newcastle. The receipts for the first five months of the year amount, from all sources, and including the balance at the end of 1868, to about £2,150. The Committee beg their readers most earnestly not to let the work fail for the want of funds. In providing them, at considerable expense, with this quarterly publication, the committee invite them to use it in order to make their cause known. In all parts of the world interest is now aroused in the work, nor is it possible that England, were the work more widely known, would allow it to stop. But in their efforts to make the Fund national, the Committee rely on the co-operation of their friends. If for a few years only these will lend their aid to raise each a small sum, no difficulty will be experienced. Meantime, the shafts have

to be closed for want of money to buy fresh wood, the workmen have to be reduced in numbers, and Lieutenant Warren is obliged to content himself with one or two excavations at a time. Some of the most interesting explanations—*e.g.*, that of the canals at Bir Eyub, have to be suspended; and this at a time when the most important results are being obtained, and we are apparently on the eve of solving the most interesting problems. The experience of four years has proved that to collect the small sum necessary for this work requires nothing but leaders, and that amount of activity requisite to start a local movement. Moreover, while the donations hitherto received have been chiefly of large amounts, it should not be forgotten that a good deal has been done, and that a great deal more might be done, by enlisting the interest of those who can give but little. And for these as well as for the larger subscribers, the following pages are printed. June 24, 1869.

WEST LANCASHIRE MASONIC RELIEF COMMITTEE.

We commend the following report of this excellent charity to the attention of our readers:—

Ninth Annual Report of the West Lancashire Masonic Relief Committee.

"The Committee have much pleasure in again calling the attention of the W. Masters and Brethren to the Ninth Annual Report of the Masonic Relief Committee, confident that the labours of past years will have convinced them of the satisfactory progress of this valuable institution.

"Many of the applications have come before the Committee, which, upon investigation, have proved unworthy, and consequently have been disregarded.

"The mutual interchange of Reports between Birmingham and Manchester continues, and has been of essential service to the Committee in materially furthering the relief of brethren reported deserving, and of detecting, in some cases gross imposition, and the Committee allude to this latter fact in order to urge the necessity of referring to them all applications for relief.

"The Committee again thank the Secretaries of the other Relief Committees for their kind assistance.

"The Committee being anxious to see the work of charity carried out, invite Lodges, &c., to elect those who will attend to the duties of representing Lodges and Chapters on the Committee every Friday evening.

"The Committee have been able to relieve 98 individuals, in the amount of £74 11s. 6d., some of whom have been forwarded home or to get employment, and some have received temporary relief.

"The Annual Grant is now due, and can be paid any Friday evening at six o'clock.

(On behalf of the Committee),

THOMAS MARSH, Secretary.

Committee Rooms, Masonic Temple,
Liverpool, July 2nd, 1869."

SUMMER BANQUET OF ALBION LODGE, No. 9.

On Wednesday, the 7th inst., this excellent lodge, famed for its working, held their annual summer banquet at the Crown Hotel, Broxbourne. The W.M. Bro. S. Coste occupied the chair, supported by the Past Masters T. Buller, S.W.; and Baylis, J.W. A very excellent banquet was provided, and after the usual toasts given on such occasions, Bro. Willey, P.M., proposed the health of the W.M., and alluded to the very excellent and efficient manner in which he had conducted the duties of the lodge in every respect. The W.M., in suitable terms, returned thanks. Bro Lee, P.M. and Treas., returned thanks for the Past Masters, and stated he had been a member of the lodge for thirty years, and felt a great pleasure in congratulating the W.M. on the great success attending this banquet, not only for the number present, but for the good feeling existing among the Brethren. Bro. W. Meredith, of the Constitutional Lodge, returned thanks for the visitors, who were Bros. G. Meredith (Antiquity Lodge), H. Thomas (Urban Lodge), H. Clarke (The Doric), and several others.

The Brethren returned to town early, after having passed a delightful day and evening.

KENT LIFE AND FIRE ASSOCIATION.—On Wednesday, the 7th inst., the Directors of the Kent Life and Fire Association, and numerous friends, dined at the Cliftonville Hotel, Margate. A very elegant and *recherche* banquet was served, superintended by Bro. Sidney Spencer, the excellent manager. The chair was occupied by the Marquis Camden, supported by the Mayor of Margate, Sir E. Hoare, Bart.,—Furley, Esq., the Hon. E. Plumtree, Hon. G. W. Miles, M.P., Major Wilkie, and the Mayor of Maidstone, after which the usual loyal and complimentary toasts were given and responded to. During the dinner the Promenade Band played some very excellent music. The hotel has recently had two wings added, affording sixty additional rooms, which have been furnished with excellent taste.

PIC-NIC OF OLD GLOBE LODGE, No. 200, SCARBOROUGH.

The Annual Pic-nic of this lodge took place on Tuesday, the 29th ult. The beautiful grounds of Hayburn-Wyke were, by the kind permission of the Worshipful the Major, (Bro. J. W. Woodall, P.M., P.P.G.S.W.), thrown open to the brethren and their friends for the occasion. Leaving Scarborough about 12 o'clock, the grounds were reached in the early part of the afternoon, and the enjoyment of the day at once commenced, many wandering through the grounds, and along the walks winding down the cliff to old Ocean's shore, others at once falling to cricket on the Green, while some had evidently great intention to master that most erratic steed the Bicycle, on which two of the visitors had conveyed themselves during the morning from Scarborough; but truth to tell, the position attained by most of the would-be riders, was that indicated by the level, rather than the plumb rule. Dancing in the meantime had commenced, and at 5 o'clock all sat down on the ground to partake of tea, served in splendid style by Bro. Parker, J.D., of the George Hotel. Ample justice having been done to the good things of this life (and good and plentiful they really were), dancing was resumed in good earnest. The worthy W.M., Bro. William Peacock, acted as his own Master of Cers., and to the way in which the duties of that delicate post were performed, was greatly due the enjoyment all derived from this pleasant outing. Bro. Peacock was evidently determined to make every one enjoy themselves to the utmost; indeed, he filled the office of M.C., with as much efficiency as he does that of the exalted Masonic post he has been called to fill, to say which is to award the highest praise that can be bestowed. All things human have an end, even the most enjoyable Masonic Pic-nics, and at 9 o'clock the time-honored "Sir Roger," followed by the National Anthem, brought the long-looked for day to a close.

DINNER TO BRO. GOOD (204).—The members of the Caledonian Lodge (204) and Chapter, on Monday se'nnight, gave a dinner to Bro. J. H. M. Good, at the Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester, on his leaving this country for New Zealand. The chair was occupied by Bro. John Mountain, the W.M., who, in an able speech, complimented the guest of the evening on his high character and courteous bearing, which had endeared him to the members of the lodge and made him many friends. He was sure that in the land of his adoption, the excellent qualities possessed by Bro. Good could not fail to cause him to be respected wherever he should become known. After expressing the regret of himself and brethren at so soon having to part, the W.M., in appropriate terms, presented Bro. Good with an address engrossed on vellum, accompanied with a valuable silver cup bearing an inscription suitable to the occasion. The speech of the chairman was supplemented by Brothers Afleck, Petty, Hinde, Brocklehurst, Pratt, Muirhead, and others, all expressing in the like warm terms the regard they felt for Bro. Good, and the regret they had at parting with such a valued friend.

ON Monday last an amateur performance took place at the Lyceum Theatre, Strand, in aid of a most deserving charity—the Aged Destitute. The programme commenced with the play of "The Lady of Lyons," and never, in our experience, have we seen an amateur performance better sustained. The part of Claude Melnotte was played by our respected brother, H. Lawrence, who exhibited great feeling and delivery in his rendering of the character, and he, in conjunction with Miss Carlisle, who played the part of Pauline, shared the honours of the evening, and were loudly called for at the conclusion of each act. It is to be regretted that this lady and gentleman are amateurs, otherwise they would really be an acquisition to our lyric stage. The other characters were well sustained by Messrs. Faulkner, Montague, Barnett, Druif, S. E. Phillips, &c., &c. We must also compliment Miss Ellen Cowle on the excellent manner in which she played the part of Madame Deschappelles. A concert followed supported by Mesdames Rose Hersee, Bailey, Emily Muir, Helen Muir, Phoebe Cowen, and Lawrence; Signors Caravolignì and Agretti, and Mr. Alfred Flemming. Especial thanks are due to Miss Lawrence and Miss Cohen for their excellent singing. We understood them to be the only lady amateurs. Not the least noticeable was the excellent playing of Signor Tito Mattei on the pianoforte, and Signor Risegari on the violin. We think the evening's entertainment doubly deserving of success—first, on the ground of the good purpose that prompted it, and, secondly, the excellence of the entertainment. The committee (of which Bro. Israel Abrahams, P.M. 188, was the energetic chairman) deserve great praise for their earnestness and exertions. The conductors were Signor Tito Mattei, Bro. Van Noorden (Org. 188), and Bro. Louis Emanuel.

ERRATUM.—In our report of St. John's Lodge, Leicester last week, the name of a visiting brother was incorrectly printed "Moir," instead of Moor.

HOSPITALLARIA;

OR

A SYNOPSIS OF THE HISTORY OF THE ORDER OF
Knights Hospitallers.

"God has formed
Mankind to be one mighty brotherhood;
Himself our Father, and the world our home."

The venerable and sovereign Order of Knights Hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem is the most ancient and illustrious of all the degrees of knighthood instituted for the promotion of religion, valour, and humanity.

With a view to the revival in the British dominions of an Order once so potent and revered throughout Christendom, it may not be amiss to take a rapid survey of those events which led to its formation. The general achievements of the Hospitallers occupy a wide space in the page of European history; *—during the course of seven centuries they filled the ear of empires, and will shed a long track of splendour through time.

In the beginning of the seventh century arose Mohammed, the most crafty and successful impostor that ever assailed the faith of Christ. His proscription by the magistrates of Mecca (A.D. 622) having convinced him that eloquence alone would never disseminate his doctrines with the rapidity he contemplated, he resolved that the sword should aid his propagation. Informing his disciples that his ministering angel had brought him a scimitar from heaven, with injunctions to employ it for the subjugation of his enemies, he prepared to draw it boldly with a persecutor's hand. Mecca shortly confessed the supremacy of his arms, and in the course of time he made himself master of all the neighbouring cities and strongholds. Within the space of three-and-twenty years, all Arabia submitted to his yoke, and recognised the divinity of his law.

Actuated by a fanatical zeal and quenchless thirst for blood, the successors of this arch-impostor, who assumed the title of Kalifs or Vicars of the Prophet, made their conquests, and the creed of which they gloried in being the propagators, keep pace together. Arabia subjugated, they invaded Palestine and Syria; took Jerusalem, Damascus, and Antioch; subdued Egypt, subverted the Persian monarchy, and extended their dominion over Medea, Mesopotamia, and Khorassan. Even the terrors of the Lybian desert were defied by these restless warriors. The whole of Northern Africa acknowledged the invincibility of their arms; and the islands of Cyprus, Rhodes, Candia, Sicily, and Malta, were either partially desolated by their descents, or reduced to permanent bondage. In the beginning of the 8th century they carried their banner and creed beyond the Pillars of Hercules, and founded a new empire on the ruins of the Gothic Monarchy of Spain; and, but for the valour of Charles Martel, the Pyrenees themselves would have presented but a feeble barrier to their aggression.

The conquest of Jerusalem by these barbarians filled Christendom with lamentation and dismay. For nearly three centuries the Cross had remained firmly planted on its towers, protected by the Christian emperors of Byzantium, and the worshippers of the Redeemer knelt in consecrated temples built on the ruins of heathen shrines. From the time of Constantine the Great, both the Greek and Latin Christians had made Jerusalem their favourite place of pilgrimage, and emulated each other in a devout anxiety to obtain remission of their sins at their Saviour's tomb. Prior to the capture of the Holy City by the Mohammedans, the access to it had been comparatively easy; but the infidels, though they professed to reverence Christ as a prophet, scrupled not to impose a tribute on the votaries who flocked to his sepulchre; while the constant struggles between the Kalifs of Bagdad and Egypt for the sovereignty of Judea rendered the pilgrimage intimidating and dangerous. Christian zeal, however, was rather fanned than smothered by oppression and peril. A superstitious belief prevailed throughout Christendom in the tenth century that the end of the reign of Antichrist was at hand, and the Archangel was about to sound his terrible trumpet; and notwithstanding the cruel thrall to which the Holy City was subjected, crowds of pilgrims continued to visit it from all the countries of the West.

Several Kalifs granted their special protection to the pilgrims, and insured them accommodation within the walls of Jerusalem; but in the lapse of years these privileges came to be abrogated or forgotten. At length, in the middle of the eleventh century, some Italian merchants, natives of Amalfi, a rich commercial city in the kingdom of Naples, who had experienced the inhumanity of both Greeks and Arabians, undertook to provide an asylum for the Latin devotees. Commerce carried them frequently to Egypt, where, by means of presents, they obtained access to the Kalif Monstaser-billah, and won him to consent to the erection of a Latin church within the

* Vide the voluminous annals of the Order compiled by the Abbé Vertot; the Chevalier Boisgelin's History of the Knights of Malta; Sutherland's Achievements of the Knights of Malta; also Knolles, Fuller, Hackluyt, Gibbon, Savary, Poczocke, Froissart, Brydone, Mills, Hallam, Sommi, &c.

Holy City. A chapel was accordingly built, in 1048 (Fuller), near the Holy Sepulchre, and dedicated to the Virgin under the title of St. Mary ad Latinos; and at the same time two Hospitals, or houses of reception, for pilgrims of both sexes, were erected in the same quarter, and placed under the protection of St. John the Almoner and St. Mary Magdalen. (Subsequently, when the Order became military, the Knights renounced the patronage of the Almoner, and placed themselves under the more august tutelage of St. John the Baptist.)

Several pious pilgrims, abandoning the idea of returning to their native country, devoted themselves to these establishments for the service of the destitute and sickly wanderers who were continually arriving from the West. The expenses of the Hospitals were defrayed chiefly by arms annually collected in Italy by the benevolent founders, and all Latin pilgrims were sheltered and relieved without distinction of nation or condition. Those whom robbers had plundered were re-clothed; those whom disease had debilitated were tended with skill and tenderness; and those who died were buried with Christian rites. The Hospital of the Almoner thus became the cradle of the illustrious brotherhood whose martial exploits are known throughout the world, and who, as Knights of St. John of Jerusalem, of Rhodes, and of Malta, continued to be, for upwards of seven centuries, the sword and buckler of Christendom in Paynim war.

The Latins had enjoyed the security and comfort of this humane institution nearly seventeen years, when a new enemy burst into Palestine. In 1063, the Turcomans chased the Saracens out of Jerusalem and massacred the Egyptian garrison. The barbarities inflicted on the inhabitants of the Holy City are too horrible to be told. Many were put to the sword, the Hospital of St. John was despoiled, and even the Holy Sepulchre itself would have been subjected to the foulest sacrilege had not avarice suggested its preservation. The conquerors augmented the tribute exacted from the Christian pilgrims, and those who had the good fortune to survive the perils of the pilgrimage, carried back to Europe lamentable reports of the cruelties and oppression to which Christians were exposed.

At length, Peter the Hermit, a poor ascetic, applied himself to accomplish an enterprise which the most puissant princes dared not undertake. Fortified by recommendatory letters from Simeon, the Greek patriarch of Jerusalem, and Gerard, rector of the Hospital of St. John, he threw himself at the feet of Pope Urban the Second, and adjured him to rouse the princes of the West to the deliverance of the heritage of Christ. In a short time the spirit-stirring orations of the Hermit were crowned with signal success. Europe resounded with his pious appeals—oppressions and profanations were his theme—and a flame was kindled which oceans of blood, spilt in the course of successive centuries of ferocious warfare, could scarcely extinguish. The chivalry of the West armed for the conquest of Palestine. Prince and peasant alike burned with pious impatience to hasten to the East; and whatever opinions may be entertained as to the causes which gave rise to the Crusades of a later period, it cannot be doubted that the early followers of the Cross were promoted by feelings of the purest devotion to rescue from the infidel those places which had been consecrated by the Presence and Passion of the Redeemer. If the desolation of the once all-destroying Babylon—the ruined condition of Persepolis and Palmyra—the awful silence now reigning around the gigantic Pyramids of Egypt—and the decay that is gradually stealing over the beauteous temples of Greece and Rome, afford to the contemplative mind of the modern traveller many a train of profitable reflection, could indeed must have been the philosophy that could steel the heart against the emotions produced by the Hermit, as in glowing terms he described the desolation of Judea—a land which so lately "had seen a great sight, for the glory of the Lord had risen upon it,"—and dwelt on the prostrate condition of that City which was once "the beauty of holiness and the glory of the whole earth."

Encouraged by Bohemond, Prince of Tarentum, to direct the martial energies of Europe, Urban decreed the assembly of two grand councils, one at Placentia in Italy, the other at Clermont in Auvergne. Both of these august meetings he honoured with his presence, and personally exhorted the enthusiastic multitudes who composed them to join in a league for the expulsion from Palestine of the enemies of Christ. At Clermont, where the whole chivalry of France was congregated, the assembly answered his forcible address by shouting, "God wills it! God wills it!" words which were afterwards used by the crusaders as a battle-cry on many a hard-contested field.

According to William of Malmesbury, "there was no nation so remote, no people so retired, as did not respond to the papal wishes." The Hermit, at the head of an undisciplined multitude of sixty thousand persons, led the way. The knights and their martial attendants, amounting to a hundred thousand fighting men, followed. The pilgrims able to bear arms, about six hundred thousand, closed the rear. "A more glorious army," says Fuller, "the sun never beheld."

(To be continued.)

PAPERS ON MASONRY.

By A LEWIS.

XV.—MASONRY IN AMERICA.

"What profiteth the graven image that the maker thereof hath graven it; the molten image, and a teacher of lies that the maker of his work trusteth therein, to make dumb idols." *Habakkuk, ii. 18.*

The death-bell of overstrained exertions is ringing. The nations have raged, and a vain thing has been imagined. Here in England we are face to face with a giant sorrow—one for which our little ones will rise up in judgment against us. But the terrible result may be mitigated, perhaps averted.

It is fortunate for the good sense of the middle and upper classes of this land that the fearful issue about to be tried—the universal and continual strife existing between right and wrong—may culminate in a crisis.

Elsewhere, and sadly, it has done its work. Man, whether under one form of political administration or another, is ever the same. Of this the United States, as they are called, are a signal example. Denuded of an hereditary titled class, educated by a superficial system, and stunned by an official arrogance only comprehensible to those who have seen it, the people of the Northern American continent instinctively turn to that which the short-sighted politicians who convened a meeting of the Plantations and called it Freedom, desired to eradicate—that love and respect for a lord which republicans only can realize to the fullest extent.

Thus prevented, they sought at one time for social rank in imaginary generalships and "bogus" commands. These became the laughing-stock of the world; and they must so continue. In many points the government of the States is admirable—in others, to speak in mild terms, it is somewhat indefensible.

But, really, in Freemasonry—the main issue now at the bar—the vanity of the United States' Masons is something to raise the hands at. One side of their singular views is to insist on a common indivisible country, capable (if the doctrine of Monroe were to be carried out) of co-existent continental extension; on the other, as many Grand Lodges and office-bearers as possible.

To read their Masonic literature is an amazing task for a bookworm, and while we neither can nor ought to deny that their Masonry is a matter of enthusiasm, should we close our eyes, as enlightened men, to the enormity of Republicans, who deny all titles, being so at variance with their deliberate decision as to greedily assume "anything with a handle to it" in the Craft of Equality!

The present writer means no mischief, but he observes very closely, and objects to men with high aims lowering the standard of their position. I am aware that recruiting is forbidden; and this country seeks only the real lovers of the Art, wherever it can find and protect them. I expect, if the American Masons go on as they do, that every loghouse will become a Grand Lodge. And yet in the face of State Grand Lodges, there is to be no freedom, no secession!

How a nation can be one and indivisible and yet divided as it is, seems, to say the least, singular. To maintain the doctrine of State right in a non-political institution such as Freemasonry, is a puzzle in the face of the energetic attempt of Grant and others at centralisation. Surely, even in that free country, you need not serve two masters.

I have in a former paper expressed my views as to the American Masonic Press. I adhere to them. But I protest against that feeling of knocking about rough ashlar for the purpose of talking about it afterwards as Past Grand this and Past Grand that. Theatrical exhibitions effectively got up, fill pockets and increase assumption, but they contribute less than nothing to real fame.

Some will say that these remarks are beyond my function; none can say they are beside the question. No one can, or dare to assert, that mere office-seeking is the proper thing for which so many persons have banded themselves into societies with defined objects. All they have to do in their several spheres is to be true to those objects in a commensurate proportion to their development.

No! we must not make idols of ourselves. We shall be teachers of lies innumerable, and insufferable to ourselves and our companions—and dumb idols eloquent, indeed—if we regard the empty dignity more than the end to be attained by unity and real Masonic fraternity.

CRYPTONYMUS.

KNOWLEDGE is progressive, and is the reward of the efforts made to advance Christianity and civilization. Knowledge as it relates to art, science, wants, language, etiquette, dress, &c., is imitative, and may be taught, learned, copied, and practised to the extent of all seeming refinement; but where there is such civilization without Christianity in its simple truths, there will slavery, tyranny, assassination, injustice, theft, and other signs pointing out the difference between unregenerated and Christian man.—*Ellis.*

THE PALESTINE EXPLORATION FUND.
(From the "Quarterly Statement," No. 2; April 1 to June 30, 1869.)

STATEMENT OF PROGRESS.

The Second number of the Quarterly Statement of the Palestine Exploration Fund is presented to subscribers a few weeks before it is due, mainly in order that it might be ready in time for the annual meeting. It contains, besides the usual packet from Lieutenant Warren, papers from Captain Wilson, Mr. Deutsch, and others which it is hoped will not only prove interesting, but will advance our knowledge of the Holy Land.

The main features of interest in the work of the last two months are the excavation at the "Golden Gateway" and "Barclay's Gateway" at Jerusalem, the discovery in the Dome of the Rock ("Mosque of Omar"), and Mr. Deutsch's report on the marks found at the south-east angle of the Great Wall of the Harem es-Sherief. It is not the province of the Committee to draw deductions from facts. These are laid before their supporters as found, leaving it for others to make inferences from them. They cannot, however, avoid calling attention to the conclusions arrived at by the eminent Semitic scholar just named from the marks in question, which he examined on the spot, and on which he has favoured the Committee with a letter, which will be found reprinted at p. 33. The stones appear to be *in situ*, some of the marks which they exhibit are similar to those on "absolutely undoubted antique Phœnician structures in Syria," while "fantasias," "identical" with others of the marks are observed in abundance on the "old Phœnician stones" of the ruined citadel above Saida. It is greatly to be hoped that more marks will be found, and some nearer approximation to date arrived at. Lieut. Warren's tracings of those on which Mr. Deutsch has commented may be seen at the office of the Society.

The shaft at the Golden Gateway has been abandoned, owing to the danger of continuing the work. One of the chief obstacles, indeed, to the pursuance of the galleries is the way in which the shingle sometimes pours into them—not in small quantities, but in a continuous shower, which will last sometimes for days, choking up the narrow galleries, and forcing Lieutenant Warren to abandon the work, or to continue it at the risk of life.

The work which has to be done is still very great. It is hoped that permission may be obtained to pursue the tantalising discovery below the surface accidentally made by Mr. Warren at the northern edge of the platform of the Dome of the Rock within the Haram Area in December last, and to explore elsewhere within that sacred enclosure; failing this, reference to the report of the last Executive Committee will show some of the work which yet remains on the hands of the Society.

At the meeting of the General Committee, held on May 4th at the Jerusalem Chamber, the Executive Committee resigned and a new Executive Committee were elected for the ensuing year. Their report was read and adopted, the thanks of the Committee were passed to Lieutenant Warren, to Mr. G. J. Eldridge, Dr. Chaplain, and Mr. Walter Morrison, M.P., and it was resolved that an annual meeting should be held.

It has long been the desire of the Committee to open a Palestine Museum. They are now enabled, by the arrival of several large cases from Lieutenant Warren, to carry this desire into effect for a short period. At the Dudley Gallery, Egyptian Hall, will be found all the objects of interest discovered by Lieutenant Warren in his shafts, including lamps, pottery, glass, coin, weapons, tessellated pavement, sculpture, sarcophagi, and geological specimens. The tracings also of his work, and those of Captain Wilson, may also be seen there; with objects lent by Mr. MacGregor and other gentlemen. To these will shortly be added, it is hoped, the new collection of photographs and antiquities from Sinai, by the kindness of Colonel Sir Henry James, Director-General of the Ordnance Survey. The exhibition will be closed on August the 31st. Should it prove so far successful as to warrant the repetition, it is hoped to reopen it on a future occasion.

The receipts for the months April and May, with the first half of June, amount in all to £1,084 6s. 2d., including a donation of £250 from the Marquis of Bute; one of £100 from "Anonymous"; and remittances from the local societies of Clifton, Bath, Tunbridge Wells, Falmouth, Nottingham, Plymouth, and Newcastle. The receipts for the first five months of the year amount, from all sources, and including the balance at the end of 1868, to about £2,150. The Committee beg their readers most earnestly not to let the work fail for the want of funds. In providing them, at considerable expense, with this quarterly publication, the committee invite them to use it in order to make their cause known. In all parts of the world interest is now aroused in the work, nor is it possible that England, were the work more widely known, would allow it to stop. But in their efforts to make the Fund national, the Committee rely on the co-operation of their friends. If for a few years only these will lend their aid to raise each a small sum, no difficulty will be experienced. Meantime, the shafts have

to be closed for want of money to buy fresh wood, the workmen have to be reduced in numbers, and Lieutenant Warren is obliged to content himself with one or two excavations at a time. Some of the most interesting explanations—*e.g.*, that of the canals at Bir Eyub, have to be suspended; and this at a time when the most important results are being obtained, and we are apparently on the eve of solving the most interesting problems. The experience of four years has proved that to collect the small sum necessary for this work requires nothing but leaders, and that amount of activity requisite to start a local movement. Moreover, while the donations hitherto received have been chiefly of large amounts, it should not be forgotten that a good deal has been done, and that a great deal more might be done, by enlisting the interest of those who can give but little. And for these as well as for the larger subscribers, the following pages are printed. June 24, 1869.

WEST LANCASHIRE MASONIC RELIEF COMMITTEE.

We commend the following report of this excellent charity to the attention of our readers:—

Ninth Annual Report of the West Lancashire Masonic Relief Committee.

"The Committee have much pleasure in again calling the attention of the W. Masters and Brethren to the Ninth Annual Report of the Masonic Relief Committee, confident that the labours of past years will have convinced them of the satisfactory progress of this valuable institution.

"Many of the applications have come before the Committee, which, upon investigation, have proved unworthy, and consequently have been disregarded.

"The mutual interchange of Reports between Birmingham and Manchester continues, and has been of essential service to the Committee in materially furthering the relief of brethren reported deserving, and of detecting, in some cases gross imposition, and the Committee allude to this latter fact in order to urge the necessity of referring to them all applications for relief.

"The Committee again thank the Secretaries of the other Relief Committees for their kind assistance.

"The Committee being anxious to see the work of charity carried out, invite Lodges, &c., to elect those who will attend to the duties of representing Lodges and Chapters on the Committee every Friday evening.

"The Committee have been able to relieve 98 individuals, in the amount of £74 11s. 6d., some of whom have been forwarded home or to get employment, and some have received temporary relief.

"The Annual Grant is now due, and can be paid any Friday evening at six o'clock.

(On behalf of the Committee),

THOMAS MARSH, Secretary.

"Committee Rooms, Masonic Temple, Liverpool, July 2nd, 1869."

SUMMER BANQUET OF ALBION LODGE, No. 9.

On Wednesday, the 7th inst., this excellent lodge, famed for its working, held their annual summer banquet at the Crown Hotel, Broxbourne. The W.M. Bro. S. Coste occupied the chair, supported by the Past Masters T. Buller, S.W.; and Baylis, J.W. A very excellent banquet was provided, and after the usual toasts given on such occasions, Bro. Willey, P.M., proposed the health of the W.M., and alluded to the very excellent and efficient manner in which he had conducted the duties of the lodge in every respect. The W.M., in suitable terms, returned thanks. Bro. Lee, P.M. and Treas., returned thanks for the Past Masters, and stated he had been a member of the lodge for thirty years, and felt a great pleasure in congratulating the W.M. on the great success attending this banquet, not only for the number present, but for the good feeling existing among the Brethren. Bro. W. Meredith, of the Constitutional Lodge, returned thanks for the visitors, who were Bros. G. Meredith (Antiquity Lodge), H. Thomas (Urban Lodge), H. Clarke (The Doric), and several others.

The Brethren returned to town early, after having passed a delightful day and evening.

KENT LIFE AND FIRE ASSOCIATION.—On Wednesday, the 7th inst., the Directors of the Kent Life and Fire Association, and numerous friends, dined at the Cliftonville Hotel, Margate. A very elegant and *recherche* banquet was served, superintended by Bro. Sidney Spencer, the excellent manager. The chair was occupied by the Marquis Camden, supported by the Mayor of Margate, Sir E. Hoare, Bart.,—Farley, Esq., the Hon. E. Plumtree, Hon. G. W. Miles, M.P., Major Wilkie, and the Mayor of Maidstone, after which the usual loyal and complimentary toasts were given and responded to. During the dinner the Promenade Band played some very excellent music. The hotel has recently had two wings added, affording sixty additional rooms, which have been furnished with excellent taste.

PIC-NIC OF OLD GLOBE LODGE, No. 200, SCARBOROUGH.

The Annual Pic-nic of this lodge took place on Tuesday, the 29th ult. The beautiful grounds of Hayburn-Wyke were, by the kind permission of the Worshipful the Major, (Bro. J. W. Woodall, P.M., P.P.G.S.W.), thrown open to the brethren and their friends for the occasion. Leaving Scarborough about 12 o'clock, the grounds were reached in the early part of the afternoon, and the enjoyment of the day at once commenced, many wandering through the grounds, and along the walks winding down the cliff to old Ocean's shore, others at once falling to cricket on the Green, while some had evidently great intention to master that most erratic steed the Bicycle, on which two of the visitors had conveyed themselves during the morning from Scarborough; but truth to tell, the position attained by most of the would-be riders, was that indicated by the level, rather than the plumb rule. Dancing in the meantime had commenced, and at 5 o'clock all sat down on the ground to partake of tea, served in splendid style by Bro. Parker, J.D., of the George Hotel. Ample justice having been done to the good things of this life (and good and plentiful they really were), dancing was resumed in good earnest. The worthy W.M., Bro. William Peacock, acted as his own Master of Cers., and to the way in which the duties of that delicate post were performed, was greatly due the enjoyment all derived from this pleasant outing. Bro. Peacock was evidently determined to make every one enjoy themselves to the utmost; indeed, he filled the office of M.C., with as much efficiency as he does that of the exalted Masonic post he has been called to fill, to say which is to award the highest praise that can be bestowed. All things human have an end, even the most enjoyable Masonic Pic-nics, and at 9 o'clock the time-honored "Sir Roger," followed by the National Anthem, brought the long-looked for day to a close.

DINNER TO BRO. GOOD (204).—The members of the Caledonian Lodge (204) and Chapter, on Monday se'nnight, gave a dinner to Bro. J. H. M. Good, at the Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester, on his leaving this country for New Zealand. The chair was occupied by Bro. John Mountain, the W.M., who, in an able speech, complimented the guest of the evening on his high character and courteous bearing, which had endeared him to the members of the lodge and made him many friends. He was sure that in the land of his adoption, the excellent qualities possessed by Bro. Good could not fail to cause him to be respected wherever he should become known. After expressing the regret of himself and brethren at so soon having to part, the W.M., in appropriate terms, presented Bro. Good with an address engrossed on vellum, accompanied with a valuable silver cup bearing an inscription suitable to the occasion. The speech of the chairman was supplemented by Brothers Affleck, Petty, Hinde, Brocklehurst, Pratt, Muirhead, and others, all expressing in the like warm terms the regard they felt for Bro. Good, and the regret they had at parting with such a valued friend.

On Monday last an amateur performance took place at the Lyceum Theatre, Strand, in aid of a most deserving charity—the Aged Destitute. The programme commenced with the play of "The Lady of Lyons," and never, in our experience, have we seen an amateur performance better sustained. The part of Claude Melnotte was played by our respected brother, H. Lawrence, who exhibited great feeling and delivery in his rendering of the character, and he, in conjunction with Miss Carlisle, who played the part of Pauline, shared the honours of the evening, and were loudly called for at the conclusion of each act. It is to be regretted that this lady and gentleman are amateurs, otherwise they would really be an acquisition to our lyric stage. The other characters were well sustained by Messrs. Faulkner, Montague, Barnett, Druiff, S. E. Phillips, &c., &c. We must also compliment Miss Ellen Cowle on the excellent manner in which she played the part of Madame Deschappelles. A concert followed supported by Mesdames Rose Hersee, Bailey, Emily Muir, Helen Muir, Phæbe Cowen, and Lawrence; Signors Caravoligri and Agretti, and Mr. Alfred Flemming. Especial thanks are due to Miss Lawrence and Miss Cohen for their excellent singing. We understood them to be the only lady amateurs. Not the least noticeable was the excellent playing of Signor Tito Mattei on the pianoforte, and Signor Risegari on the violin. We think the evening's entertainment doubly deserving of success—first, on the ground of the good purpose that prompted it, and, secondly, the excellence of the entertainment. The committee (of which Bro. Israel Abrahams, P.M. 188, was the energetic chairman) deserve great praise for their earnestness and exertions. The conductors were Signor Tito Mattei, Bro. Van Noorden (Org. 188), and Bro. Louis Emanuel.

ERRATUM.—In our report of St. John's Lodge, Leicester last week, the name of a visiting brother was incorrectly printed "Moir," instead of *Moor*.

Reports of Masonic Meetings.

THE CRAFT.

PROVINCIAL.

SHEFFNESS.—*Adams' Lodge, No. 158.*—The members of this lodge assembled for the dispatch of business on Tuesday night, 6th July. The lodge was opened in due and ancient form by Bro. Fleming, W.M., who was supported by the whole of the officers of the lodge. Bro. J. Downs being a candidate for the sublime degree of a Master Mason was entrusted and retired; he was afterwards readmitted, and raised to that sublime degree in an able manner by the W.M. Bro. Bridge, who was a candidate for the Fellow Craft degree, was duly passed. Among the visitors were Bros. Prescott (W.M. 706), McDonald (W.M. 1089), Pannell (Sec. 1089), and Whitton (Faucett Lodge, Seaham Harbour, 661).

LIVERPOOL.—*Mariner's Lodge, No. 249.*—The regular meeting of the above lodge was held on the 1st inst., it being the anniversary of the lodge. The lodge was opened by Bro. George de la Perrelle, W.M. The minutes of the last regular lodge, and the Lodge of Emergency were read and confirmed. Mr. John Hayes was balloted for, and declared duly elected. Bro. William J. Underwood was also declared elected as a joining member from lodge No. 1,021, "Barrow-in-Furness." The lodge was then opened in the second degree, and Bro. Philip Pinnington, W.M. elect, was presented for the benefit of installation, and subscribed to the ancient charges which were read by the Secretary. The lodge was then opened in the third degree. A Board of Installed Masters was formed, and Bro. Pinnington was installed W.M. for the ensuing year, in accordance with the ancient custom. Bro. De la Perrelle, P.M., was the installing officer, and Bros. Hamer and Mott, Past Masters, kindly rendered their assistance. The brethren were readmitted, and Bro. Pinnington was proclaimed W.M., and saluted in the several degrees by the brethren. He then proceeded to appoint and invest his officers, whose names are as follows:—Bro. Richard Tubbs, S.W.; A. Walker, J.W.; F. Goswell, S.D.; Rotheram, J.D.; Pearson, Treas.; E. Roberts, Sec.; Thomas Joseph, Inner Guard; and J. J. Rose, J. N. Pendleton, George Evans, and Edwin Hughes, Stewards. Bro. Jones, P.M., Director of Ceremonies, and Bro. Robinson, Organist. On the motion of Bro. Hamer, P.M., seconded by Bro. Jones, P.M., Bro. Ball was re-elected Tyler. Mr. John Hayes being present, was then properly proposed, admitted in due form, installed into Freemasonry, and declared himself a subscriber. Letters were read from the Prov. G.S., and the Grand Secretary, authorizing and confirming certain alterations in the bye-laws. A letter from Bro. R. Campbell was read, containing his resignation, on account of going abroad. On the motion of Bro. Walker, J.W., seconded by Bro. Rotheram, J.D., the appointment of Committee (as per resolution of the lodge, June 3rd, 1869), was deferred until the next regular meeting. Nothing more appearing for the good of the Craft, the lodge was closed in the usual solemn form. The brethren afterwards proceeded to "Roby" to enjoy the annual banquet, sumptuously prepared by Bro. Houlston, of the Stanley Arms Hotel. During the evening the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given, and heartily responded to. Several of the brethren contributed to the festivity of the evening by singing some excellent songs, &c., and a pleasing part of the proceedings was the presentation of a P.M.'s gold jewel to the immediate P.M., Bro. De la Perrelle, towards the cost of which the brethren had subscribed most readily. The jewel bears the following inscription:—"Presented to Bro. George de la Perrelle, P.M., at the expiration of his year of office as W.M., by the brethren of the Mariner's Lodge, No. 249, of Free and Accepted Masons, Liverpool, July 1st, 1869." Bro. De la Perrelle acknowledged the presentation in words full of sympathy, and expressive of good feeling towards the brethren. The meeting terminated at an early hour, and the brethren returned to their homes after greatly enjoying the annual treat.

SCARBOROUGH.—*Denison Lodge, No. 1248.*—This lodge held its regular meeting, at the Grand Hotel, on the 8th July. The following officers and brethren were present:—Bros. W. F. Rooke, J.P., P.M., P.P.G.S.W., as W.M.; W. B. Stewart, P.M.; S. H. Armitage, S.W.; J. Groves, J.W.; G. H. Walshaw, S.D.; H. W. Garnett, J.D.; J. E. Green, Sec.; H. C. Martin, P.M., I.G.; J. Verity, Tyler; V. Stewart, Breary, Mason, Taylor, Cook, Thorpe, Delamere, and Kitchen. The lodge was opened in the first degree, and the minutes were read and confirmed. The lodge was then opened in the second degree, and Bros. Taylor, Cook, and Thorpe, passed an examination and retired. The lodge was opened in the third degree, and the above-named three brethren, were separately admitted, and raised to the sublime degree of Master Masons. Bros. Rooke and Stewart, P.M.'s, performed the duties, in their

well-known effective and very impressive manner. The lodge was now worked down to the first degree, and closed with solemn prayer.

PRINCETOWN.—*Lodge of Benevolence, No. 666.*—The festival of this lodge was held on Wednesday week at Princetown, when Bro. Charles Tregillus was installed as W.M. by Bro. Chapman, P.M., P.P.G.D.C., in his usual able manner. The W.M. having invested Bros. Westlake as S.W., Alexander as J.W., Gilbert S.D., Hunt J.D., and Vincent I.G., the lodge was closed in due form. Bro. Metherell was appointed Secretary; and Bro. Andrews, Tyler. The brethren then adjourned to the Duchy Hotel, and spent a very pleasant evening under the presidency of Bro. Du Pre, P.M., P.P.G.D.C. Bro. Thynné, P.M., P.P.G.O., added much to the pleasure of the day by undertaking the musical portion of the ceremony.

IRELAND.

TRALEE LODGE, No. 379.—The 5th instant being the first Monday in the month, this lodge met as usual, Bro. Thomas Morris, W.M., in the chair. Other officers present were Wm. Hill, P.M., acting S.W.; Wm. Mason, P.M., acting J.W.; F. McCarthy, S.D.; Sealy Weekes, J.D.; J. McGillycuddy, acting I.G.; Wm. Graham, acting Sec.; De C. McGillycuddy, P.M., Treas. Colour Sergeant Chas. Gorman, 81st Regt., and Mr. Arthur S. Crisp, were balloted for and admitted. The former being in attendance was initiated into the mysteries of Masonry by Bro. D. McGillycuddy, who duly impressed on the candidate the beautiful lessons of our ancient order. Some local matters having been discussed, and a new candidate having been proposed, the lodge was closed in due form, and the brethren adjourned to refreshment. The only visitor present was Bro. Sloane, 153, Dublin.

THE ROYAL ARCH.

PROVINCIAL.

MELTON MOWBRAY.—*The De Mowbray Chapter, No. 1130.*—The second meeting of this chapter was held on Thursday, the 8th July, when Bro. Chester P. Newcombe, of the Doric Lodge, Grantham, and Bro. G. M. Ashforth, of the Rutland Lodge, 1130, were exalted to the supreme degree of the Royal Arch. Comp. Kelly, Prov. G.H., gave the lectures, Comp. Douglass acting as P.S. (for the first time) and doing his work perfectly. Several brethren were proposed as candidates for exaltation at the next meeting, in November; and the bye-laws were confirmed. Comp. Oxford, Prov. G. Warden of Northamptonshire and Secretary of the Stamford Lodge, was the only visitor present. The chapter was closed at 7 o'clock, and the companions partook of supper, after which an hour or two were spent in harmony.

MARK MASONRY.

EASTWOOD, WEST YORK.—*Prince Edward Lodge, No. 14.*—The regular meeting of this Mark Masters' Lodge, was held on the 11th inst., when there was a very large attendance of members and visitors from both Lancashire and Yorkshire. The W.M., Bro. John Barker, having opened the lodge, he resigned the gavel in favour of Bro. W. Pilling, P.M., who then advanced eight candidates to this honourable degree in Masonry. Fourteen candidates had been balloted for, but the other six did not present themselves. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to the large room for the purpose of conferring some minor degrees. The "Old Mark," was given to sixteen candidates; the "St. Lawrence," to fourteen; and the "Mark, Ark, and Link," also to fourteen.

HALIFAX, WEST YORK.—*Ferndley Lodge, No. 58.*—The regular quarterly meeting of this lodge was held on the 12th inst., when there was only a limited attendance of the officers and members. Bro. W. Cooke, P.M., P.G.S.O., in the absence of the W.M., presided. Three candidates were balloted for and unanimously accepted, but only one, Bro. T. G. Knowles, W.M. of the Derby Lodge, 1055, presented himself for advancement. There being no other business to transact, the lodge was closed in harmony.

BROTHER THE REV. RAYMOND D'A. ORPEN, M.A., has been appointed to the charge of Tralee parish, which is most gratifying to the parishioners, who remember with affection his labours in their midst previous to his removal to Limerick.

UNITED STRENGTH LODGE OF INSTRUCTION, No. 228.—The members meet for the purpose of instruction, at Bro. Geo. Garrett's, the Bull and Gate tavern, Kentish Town-road, every Wednesday evening, at 8 o'clock precisely.

TEMPLE LODGE, No. 101.—The summer banquet in connection with this Lodge took place on Tuesday last, at the Crown Hotel, Broxbourne, under the presidency of the W.M., Bro. Joseph Tanner. On this occasion the ladies were invited, which added materially to the enjoyment of the party, who, after the banquet and dessert (which was admirably served by Bro. Benningfield) amused themselves by dancing, &c., until the time for returning, and parted fully gratified with their day's pleasure.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF WEST YORKSHIRE.

The Provincial Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire held its quarterly meeting on Wednesday week, at the White Lion Hotel, Hebden Bridge, by the invitation of the Prince Frederick Lodge, 307, when there was a large attendance of brethren.

The lodge having been opened by the W.M. Bro. F. Whitaker, 448, Halifax, and officers of the Prince Frederick Lodge, the Grand Lodge officers entered the room, and in the absence of the Earl de Grey and Ripon, R.W.D.G.M. and P.G.M. of West Yorkshire, Bro. Bentley Shaw, G.S.D., W.D.P.G.M., presided, and the Grand Lodge was opened in solemn form. Amongst the officers of the Grand Lodge present were the W. the Hon. and Rev. P. Y. Savile, M.A., P.M., P.S.G.W.; E. Armitage, P.M., P.J.G.W.; Rev. J. F. A. Eyre, M.A., P.G.C.; C. Oldroyd, P.M., P.P.G.R., P.G.T.; William Savile Wood, P.M., P.G.R.; R. R. Nelson, P.M., P.G.S.; Capt. George Robinson, P.M., P.S.G.D.; G. Normanton, P.M., P.J.G.D.; S. Binns, P.M., P.G.D.C.; S. H. Stocks, P.G.A.D.C.; E. Drury, P.G.S.B.; A. Briggs, P.G.P.; T. S. Higgins, P.G.A.P.; William Elliott, P.G.S.; A. W. Ramsden, P.G.S.; C. Pratt, P.G.S.V.W.; the Rev. J. Senior, LL.D., P.G.C.; W. Rhodes, P.P.G.W.; J. Peace, P.P.G.O.; T. Perkinson, P.P.G.S. of W.

After several matters of business had been transacted, a resolution was carried unanimously "That the 500 guineas presented to the Boys' School be applied to enfranchise the offices of the P.G.W., the P.G.R., the P.G.T., and P.G.S., making those officers for the time-being vice-presidents in perpetuity."

The D.G.P.M. then called the special attention of the Grand Lodge to the present position of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, showing the necessity which existed for further contributions, in order to carry out efficiently the work of education, and to render the school available for the introduction of an additional number of boys; and strongly urged the brethren to supplement the handsome contribution of £12,000 made last year, in order to clear the school from debt.

The report of the Charity Committee having been adopted, the Grand Lodge was closed according to ancient custom.

Subsequently nearly 100 brethren sat down to an excellent banquet, at the White Horse Hotel, supplied by Brother Jackson, P.M., at which the W.D.P.G.M. presided, and was supported on his right by Bro. the Hon. and Rev. P. Y. Savile, M.A., P.G.S.W., and on his left by Bro. Ed. Armitage, P.G.J.W., and other officers of the Grand Lodge.

The CHAIRMAN gave the loyal toasts, that of the army, navy, and volunteers being responded to by Bro. Nelson, P.G.S., Bros. Jessop and Charnock, of St. James's Lodge, Halifax, 448. The Chairman proposed the M.W. Grand Master of England, the Right Hon. the Earl of Zetland, and the rest of the grand officers. Bro. Savile proposed the Right Hon. the Earl de Grey and Ripon, R.W.D.G.M. of England, and P.G.M. of West Yorkshire, to which the Chairman responded, as well as to the toast of the D.P.G.M. and the rest of the provincial grand officers. The toast of the V.W., the Provincial Grand Chaplains, and the clerical brethren, was proposed by Bro. Armitage, and responded to by Bro. the Rev. J. F. A. Eyre, P.G.C. Bro. Nelson replied to the toast of the masonic charities. The Chairman submitted the toast of the W.M.'s and P.M.'s of lodges, in which he complimented the officers and members of Prince Frederick lodge upon the hearty reception given to the Grand Lodge, Bro. F. Whitaker, W.M. of Prince Frederick lodge responded, and proposed the visiting brethren, which was responded to by Bro. Sutcliffe, of Todmorden, and others.

Other toasts were given and responded to, the proceedings being agreeably interspersed by glees, given by a selection from the members of the Hebden Bridge Choral Society, with Bro. Thomas Whitaker presiding at the piano. The proceedings closed at an early hour.

At the pleasing and interesting Festival holden at the Masonic Institution for Boys, Wood Green, on Thursday, the 1st inst., both the Military Band for the Fete and the Quadrille Bands in the Dining and School Rooms were provided by Bro. James Weaver, of the Orchestral Band Office, 45, Howland-street, Fitzroy-square, W., and all were excellent.

A SERMON will be preached to-morrow at St. Helen's Church, Bishopsgate, by V.W. the Rev. John E. Cox, P.G.C., on behalf of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, at Wood Green, there will be full Choral Service, commencing at 11 o'clock, and it is to be hoped that the appeal of the Rev. Brother will be met with a liberal response.

SUMMER FESTIVAL OF THE FIDELITY LODGE No. 3.

PRESENTATION TO BRO. DEARSLEY.

The Fidelity Lodge, No. 3, dating almost from time immemorial, held its annual summer gathering under singularly fortunate circumstances at the Crystal Palace, Sydenham, on Tuesday last. In consequence of the recent heavy rains the flowers looked beautiful, and, together with the other attractions of the palace, rendered the occasion one of peculiar pleasure and satisfaction. There were between sixty and eighty brethren present, including Bros. Cardwell, W.M.; Terry, S.W.; Eayler, J.W.; Kelk, S.D.; Squires, Sec.; Dearsley, Treas. and Father of the lodge; Potts, Tyler. The visitors included Bros. Rev. Robert J. Simpson, Past Grand Chaplain; Biggs, Past Grand Sword Bearer; John Emmens, P.M. and Past Grand Pursuivant, &c.; Bayner (P.M. 56), Howard (Lodge of Brotherly Love), Collier (W.M. 206), Quelch (P.M. 619), Henry Muzgeridge (P.M. 715, Preceptor, &c.), Young (12), Dearsley, junr., Gaywood (206), Sampson (152), Ward (754), Simms (late No. 3), Palmer (St. James 965), Hamilton (Mount Moriah 34), Avery (619) and Chas. E. Thompson, J.W., Southern Star, 1, 158 and 177.

The banquet was provided in a room overlooking the gardens and terraces, and was served under Bro. Bertram's personal superintendence. It comprised every obtainable delicacy of the season, and gave the most unqualified satisfaction; many old Masons remarking they had been to hundreds of dinners in their time, but at none of which were they better served. During the banquet, and before the cloth was removed,

The W.M. rose and said he had just received a telegraphic communication from a very worthy and esteemed brother (Bro. Arthur McNamara), who had been looking forward to this meeting for some time past, and was now unfortunately kept away through a severe accident which he sustained on Friday last. The telegram was to the following effect:—

“Castle-street, Finsbury.

“To the W.M., Fidelity Lodge,—Happy to take wine with you, old fellow. I wish you health and prosperity.”

He was quite sure that at the mere mention of his (Bro. McNamara's) name, they would all be happy to respond to his request. (Hear, hear.) He therefore proposed they should all take wine with him, as he was (although confined to his room) in all probability taking wine with them. (Bro. McNamara was toasted with much enthusiasm, and a telegram despatched informing him of the fact. From the cordiality with which his name was received, it was evident that Bro. McNamara is held in high esteem by the brethren, and great regret was expressed by the brethren at the unforeseen circumstance which had deprived them of so genial a companion.)

Grace was then said by Bro. Simpson, P.G. Chap.

The W.M. proposed the health of Her Majesty, and said it was a toast which was always looked upon with pleasure by Englishmen, and by none more so than by Freemasons. He did not know if he were to attempt to discourse for a long period, that he could say anything which they had not already heard in favour of the Queen, and as there were a great many brethren present who lived at considerable distances, he would not detain them by long speeches, but content himself by simply asking them to join with him in drinking the health of the Queen. (Cheers.)

Bro. DONALD KING sang the solo parts of the national anthem.

The W.M. said he felt quite sure the brethren would drink the next toast with the same enthusiasm they always did when at home in the Fidelity Lodge. (Hear, hear.) It was the Right Hon. the Earl of Zetland, W.M.G.M. of Masons. The name of the Earl of Zetland, in Freemasonry, was in itself a sufficient recommendation to induce them to drink the toast, but when he informed them that he had been elected for the 26th time to preside over the Craft, they would drink the toast with more than ordinary enthusiasm. Without going further into his merits, he gave them “The Right Hon. the Earl of Zetland, M.W.G.M.” (Cheers. A really good fire was given.)

Bro. Phillips (son of the celebrated Henry Phillips) sang “My Guiding Star.”

In proposing the next toast, the Chairman said they had so often heard of the good qualities of the Right Hon. the Earl of Grey and Ripon in reference to Masonry, that it would be a waste of time for him to descant upon them. He was at present one of Her Majesty's ministers, and one frequently engaged in Her Majesty's council; he, nevertheless, found time to devote to Freemasonry, for whenever there was anything important to do, or important to be said, he was always in his place. He thought the Craft ought to consider themselves extremely highly honoured in having a nobleman possessing so much ability, and so much zeal in the interests of the Craft

in the position he held in Freemasonry. (Hear, hear.) He would therefore give them “The Deputy Grand Master of Masons, the Right Hon. the Earl de Grey and Ripon, and the rest of the grand officers, past and present.” They had several illustrious officers present that day, and amongst them was Bro. Simpson, Past Grand Chaplain. He (the W.M.) had no doubt there were many brethren present who witnessed the ceremony of the inauguration of the new building at Freemasons' Hall, and they must have been, as he was, highly gratified at the oration which Bro. Simpson delivered on that occasion. He believed it not only contained historical recollections with respect to Freemasonry, but it also contained historical truths and aphorisms which they would all do well to remember. He was quite sure that address would be handed down to posterity, and read with pleasure in ages to come.

The toast was enthusiastically received.

Bro. SIMPSON, P.G. Chap., who was loudly cheered, returned thanks on behalf of the Grand Lodge of England, for the kind and handsome manner in which the toast had been received. With regard to the Earl de Grey and Ripon, he said he need but say little, for in whatever he took part, as in the Grand Lodge, he always threw his heart into his work, and therefore did it well. He believed that if a day should come when they would look for a Grand Master, there was no one they could look forward to with greater hope and promise than he. (Hear, hear.) He (Bro. Simpson) thanked the W.M., for singing him out in the presence of two brethren his seniors, (Bros. J. Emmens and Biggs.) He thanked Bro. Simms, his immediate host, for the great pleasure he had conferred upon him in inviting him to be present on that occasion, at being present at this summer meeting of the Fidelity Lodge. It did confer upon him very sincere pleasure to have been present on that occasion, and to meet so many Brother Freemasons, whom he had reason to believe stood high among their fellow-men, and as long as such a lodge as the Fidelity existed, the Grand Lodge need not want the means to recruit its strength. (Hear, hear.) He believed a meeting of the Grand Lodge of France had been called for the purpose of condemning the allocation of the Pope, and he was of opinion that the determination to come to upon that occasion, that it would be better to take no notice of it, was a wise one. While they let the Pope alone, he thought that great Potentate would have quite enough to do to mind his own business. (Hear, hear, and laughter.) He again thanked the brethren for their kindness.

The W.M., then rose and said: Brethren, I am about, on the present occasion, to depart from the usual routine which we adopt on these occasions. You are aware that this evening we are about to do honour to the Father of the Lodge, who is also the Treasurer. (Cheers.) In the first place, therefore, I will propose his health, and I am quite sure it will need no recommendation or words from me to induce you to drink it with enthusiasm, when I tell you that Bro. Dearsley is the Father of the Lodge, and that he has been a member of it for now nearly 40 years; that he has exerted himself in every possible way for the interest of the lodge, and that he has introduced more members than perhaps any other person connected with the lodge. (Hear, hear.) That he is always ready to do his duty as a Mason, as a father, as a husband—(hear, hear.)—and as a citizen; that his hand is always ready for the purposes of charity,—(hear, hear, and cheers.)—no matter whether it is connected with Freemasonry or with any other institution. I believe that there is no member of the Institution who possesses those qualities which are necessary to make a man a true mason more than our Bro. Dearsley does. I believe that in every respect he is a true Mason. He has served the interests of the lodge, he has served the interests of Freemasonry, and the community in general, and when I say that I need say no more. Without further preface, I give you the health of our Bro. Dearsley, the Father of the Lodge and the Treasurer, and at the same time, I will beg his acceptance of a very handsome testimonial. (Loud and prolonged cheering.) A testimonial which has been subscribed for by almost every member of the lodge, and which is of itself sufficient to show the esteem and respect which every member of the lodge has for him. (Hear, hear, and renewed cheers.) I am quite sure that when our Bro. Dearsley looks upon that testimonial, and reads the inscription, which he will find written upon it, he will say, “I am very pleased that I have in my endeavours to serve the interest of the lodge won the esteem and affection of every member”—(much applause)—and when his family look upon it, they will look upon it, perhaps not so much for its intrinsic value, but for the feeling which is evinced by the Lodge Fidelity for its oldest member. (Hear, hear.) Brethren, without saying more, I will give you the health, long life, and prosperity of our Bro. Dearsley, the Father and Treasurer of the lodge.

In obedience to a desire expressed by some of the members, that the inscription should be read, the W.M. read the inscription, which had been magnificently done. It was written in old English lettering

and was mounted and framed in a handsome manner. The inscription, which was accompanied by a very elegantly chased solid silver tea and coffee service, worth 100 guineas, was as follows:—Presented, with a silver tea and coffee service, to Bro. Henry Dearsley, P.M., and Treasurer of Lodge of Fidelity, No. 3, by several of the present and past members of the lodge, in testimony of his long and valuable services, and his unwearied exertions in promoting the welfare of the lodge and its members, July 13th, 1869.” The W.M. continued: Brethren, I could say a great deal more in favour of our Bro. Dearsley, but I think it would be waste of time. I will content myself by asking you to drink most cordially his good health, and begging his acceptance of the handsome testimonial you see before you.

It is almost needless to say the toast was drunk with enthusiasm, and more than usual Masonic honours paid to the recipient.

Bro. DEARSLEY's rising was the signal for another outburst of applause, and it was some minutes before he could obtain a hearing, when he did (speaking with some emotion), he said: W. Master, in rising, to respond to the toast you have kindly placed before the brethren, I assure you I do so with some diffidence, because I feel that I am not deserving of one half of the encomiums you have been pleased to pass upon me, and in the second place my inadequacy to convey to you in words, the outpourings of a grateful heart. Worshipful Sir, during the many years I have been connected with this lodge, I have made many dear friends, many of whom also have passed away from among us, and I trust I have never made an enemy. (Hear, hear.) The lodge has been pleased to place me in many positions, and among them that of wine-steward. With regard to my position as Treasurer of the lodge, I can assure you your funds shall be carefully husbanded. There is one thing I wish for, which is, that I may be spared a few years longer to enjoy the society of those who have been so kind as to give me this handsome testimonial, and when it may please the G.A.O.T.U. to call me from this sublunary abode, it shall be handed down to my children, and my children's children, to show them that upright intentions and a faithful discharge of those duties we are called upon to perform will bring about such bright results as I see before me on this most pleasurable and gratifying occasion.

The much respected brother sat down amidst loud and continued marks of approbation.

Bro. P.M. ROBINSON proposed the W.M., to which he responded in becoming terms, saying he felt it a high honour to be Master of a lodge ranking so high in the Craft, and if there had been any shortcomings on his part, it was not owing to a want of desire, but a want of ability. (Cries of No, no.)

To the toast of the P.M.'s of the lodge, Bro. Heath responded.

Bro. SIMPSON, P.G. Chaplain, said, if it would not be considered presumption, he should like to add a few words to what had been already said about Bro. Dearsley. He had not in the few words he addressed to them some time since, said anything about the testimonial, because it was not then before the brethren. It had given him most sincere pleasure to be present on this occasion, because the handsome testimonial before them had not been got up by “jobbery” or anything of that sort, but was the tribute of grateful hearts to the man who had worked so long and so worthily for his lodge. He believed he was sterling as the silver with which the articles had been made. The Rev. and worthy Bro. concluded his remarks with an apology for the digression.

The W.M. proposed “The Visitors.”

Bro. HENRY MUGGERIDGE, P.M., &c., returned thanks, and said he did so with a great deal of pleasure. It was a great treat to witness the presentation to Bro. Dearsley, whose name was not only known amongst the members of the Fidelity Lodge, but known among the whole Craft. He had done everything in his power to promote the Charities. (Hear, hear.)

Bro. EMMENS, P.M., in a complimentary speech, paid a graceful tribute to Bro. McNamara. He was sure they all regretted his absence that evening very much. Most of them knew how he had looked forward to that meeting, and could guess how disappointed he was at his unavoidable absence. He asked them to drink towards his speedy recovery; which was done with three times three. The brethren then separated.

THE ROSICRUCIANS.—A very interesting work upon those singular people, the Rosicrucians, respecting whose precise tenets there has hitherto prevailed such apparently hopeless obscurity, will be shortly published by Mr. Hotten, the well known antiquarian publisher, of Piccadilly. This work, which will appear in 8vo., will contain very numerous carefully-executed engravings, the subjects for which are drawn from almost all the museums and sites of interest in the world. Nothing authentic relative to the Rosicrucians has appeared in England since the days of Robert Flood, or Fludd (Robertus de Fluctibus), who wrote in the days of James the First. Mr. Hargrave Jennings, author of an anonymous book on the “Indian Religions,” and their occult connection with Bhuddism, is the producer of “The Rosicrucians.”

Agents.

AMERICA: Bro. J. FLETCHER BRENNAN, 114, Main street, Cincinnati, Ohio.

CANADA: Messrs. DEVRIE & SON, Ottawa.

CEYLON: Messrs. W. L. SKEENE & Co., Colombo.

CONSTANTINOPLE: Bro. J. L. HANLY, *Levant Times*

GALATA: IPSICK KAHN, Perchembé Bazar.

PARIS: M. DECHEVAUX-DUMESNIL, Rue de Harlay-du-Palais, 20, near the Pont Neuf; Editor *Le Franc-Macon*.

And all Booksellers and Newsagents in Great Britain and Ireland.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

MARRIAGE.

PORTER—BROWN.—On the 15th inst., at the May-street Presbyterian Church, Belfast, by the Rev. John S. McIntosh, Bro. John B. Porter (J.D. 106), teacher, Seaman's Friend Society Schools, to Miss Catherine Brown, both of Belfast.

DEATHS.

GAUGHAN.—Recently, at his residence, Bridge-street, Tralee, aged 33 years, Bro. Thomas Gaughan (Comp. R.A., 379), deeply regretted by the members of his lodge.

GOULTY.—On the 7th inst., at Brighton, aged 39 years, Brother Horatio Nelson Goult, architect and surveyor. [A most estimable Mason, and one whom we deeply lament.—ED. FREEMASON.]

SMITH.—On the 2nd inst., Major Henry F. Smith, of Clapham, E.C. Temple Crossing Encampment.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, JULY 17, 1869.

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SIGNS OF THE TIMES.

THE fact cannot be gainsayed. A fearless spirit of enquiry is abroad; and codes, theologies, and revelations which have hitherto passed unquestioned are now being tested with analytical minuteness in the crucible of truth. Acute thinkers and subtle logicians have brought the artillery of reason to bear upon many venerable abuses and antiquated superstitions, and the result of their labours is seen in the wonderfully improved condition of mankind in general. But it is easier to demolish than to build, and while admitting to its fullest extent the right of free thought and free opinion, let us not wantonly destroy the beautiful in our anxiety to be wiser than our forefathers.

Among other human institutions, Freemasonry offers to the serious student a problem so unique and so complicated as to challenge investigation and solution. It presents itself to the non-masonic observer in a variety of aspects, involving different and apparently irreconcilable conditions. Thus, its secrecy is a stumbling-block to those who acknowledge fully its beneficent and charitable element, their argument being that what is good ought not to be concealed.

This view arises from an utter misconception of the objects and aims of the Fraternity. Is it for a moment to be supposed that if the ceremonies of Freemasonry were to be practised in public, and its initiatory rites conferred indiscriminately upon all who chose to apply—if the good and the evil, the ignorant and the learned, were to be thus admitted without distinction—is it to be believed that the Order could then effect its noble purposes with the same facility; or, rather, would it not shatter that bond of brotherhood which now encircles the earth with the celestial girdle of love, because we desire to link together only the tried, the faithful, and the true?

No! Freemasonry glories in doing good by stealth, and works in silence and secrecy, although it is doubtless our hope and belief that, as civilization advances and knowledge increases, so will the light of Freemasonry radiate more and more, until the dream of the poet becomes merged in blissful reality—until the scattered and hostile nations are blended into one vast and glorious "federation of the world." In the meantime, we must act like the early Fathers of the Christian Church, who deferred the rite of baptism, as a rule, until the catechumen had been fully instructed in the preparatory mysteries of the faith. We invite all men of sound judgment and strict morals, and he who seeks in earnest shall find in truth. But we cannot, we will not—we dare not dispense with those initiatory observances by which we are distinguished from the body of mankind. It is not only that our ceremonies are typical of a sublime system of morality; they are also paths by which the willing mind is led by wise gradations to the contemplation of the works of Nature, and the mysterious operations of the Divine Being.

The whole plan of the creation sustains this theory of progression: the bud expands into the perfect flower, the chrysalis emerges from torpor and darkness into winged life and beauty. We place the alphabet in the hands of the child, while the more mature scholar exercises his mental faculties with syllogisms or geometrical symbols.

Thus it is in the speculative science of Freemasonry—the aspirant proceeds by regulated steps or degrees to the goal he desires to reach.

It is not to be expected, however, that a system which persistently excludes from participation in its rites, all upon whom the stamp of folly or vice is set, should be very popular, nor can we as Freemasons regret the circumstance. What we have most to fear is the relaxation of discipline in our own ranks, not the disorderly array of the foe. The admission of one improper person into the order strikes a weightier blow at its stability than all the platitudes of priests or pontiffs. Greater caution in the selection of candidates—and, we may add, in the multiplication of lodges—is essential to the future welfare of the English Craft.

The most flagrant violations of the Constitutions are being committed day by day—members are admitted without due enquiry into their character—brethren are advanced to office without the slightest qualification to perform their duties, and the want of authoritative supervision is daily and increasingly felt.

Now is the time to strike a blow at the root of the evil, for, as one result of the Prince of Wales' connection with the Craft, we may expect a greater influx of candidates—many of whom will enter out of mere curiosity, or, perhaps, influenced by more ignoble motives.

We were among the first to hail the Heir Apparent as a brother, and apart from his personal merits, we did so on the ground that the Prince is the descendant of many illustrious Masons, whose renown we hope his Royal Highness will emulate and justly inherit. The initiation of so exalted a personage also affords a complete answer to the rapid and hackneyed charge of disloyalty which some puerile minds would fain attach to the Craft; and, further, to quote the remarks of a very eminent brother, we are at all times glad to welcome distinguished men, because their names alone are a guarantee to society that the objects of the Institution are

just, lawful, and consonant with due subordination to civil government and the maintenance of order in the State.

Freemasonry fears no inquiry; she can bear unmoved the Ithuriel touch of truth, and the probe of the most sceptical metaphysician. She alone has withstood the assaults of ages, while other institutions have passed away and mightier systems have gone down quenched in the abyss of oblivion. Why? Because her great heart throbs with the heart of humanity; because she is the representative of human thought, the visible Incarnation of that immortal idea which folds within its wide embrace of peace and fraternity the world at large, without distinction of clime or creed, regarding the manifold races of the earth as the children of one common Father, and the beloved fold of one divine Shepherd.

The Druids.—Is there any similarity between the ceremonies of the ancient Druids, and those preached by a modern Society of the same name? There is a Druid's Lodge of Love and Liberality, No. 589, at Redruth, on the roll of the Grand Lodge of England, why is it so named?—SIGMA.

UNITED SOCIETY OF IRONMONGERS.—The 43rd annual festival of this Society was celebrated on Wednesday evening, at the Freemasons' Tavern, Mr. J. D. Adams in the chair, and Mr. H. Hickson in the vice-chair. About 120 gentlemen sat down to dinner, among them being Messrs. J. P. Walliker (Treasurer), Joseph Spokes Corbett, Jas. Perkins, Robt. Wilson, Griffiths Browel, James Arkell, Bainbridge, Chapman, W. E. Coles, R. Crauswick, Carr (of Sheffield), Hy. Knight, Thos. Hayes, and J. Dolamore (Secretary). Letters of apology were received from Mr. Tidd Pratt, Mr. Serjt. Tindal Atkinson, and Mr. R. W. Kennard, who were unable to attend. Before the Chairman gave the toast of the evening, the report of the past year was read, from which it appeared that the receipts during that time had been £624 14s. 0d. and the expenses £393 6s. 9d.; £87 6s. 0d. had been paid in cases of sickness; £50 in cases of death; £157 3s. for superannuation members; £72 18s. 0d. for officers' salaries; £20 18s. 9d. for new books, stationery, and postage; £4 for rent and gas; and one guinea had been returned to the widow of a man who had paid that sum, but whose membership had not been completed when he died. The balance for the year in favour of the Society was therefore £231 7s. 3d. which added to the funds already in hand, made £5085 10s. 8d. The Chairman congratulated the Society on such a favorable report, and proposed "Success to the United Society of Ironmongers." The toast was drunk, as were all the others, with great enthusiasm and the evening was passed most agreeably. The dinner supplied by Mr. Gosden was excellent and abundant, and the splendid singing of Miss Fanny Danielson, a young lady who possesses a charming voice, Mr. Kerr Gedge and Mr. Alfred Mattacks, under the direction of Mr. R. Glenn Wesley, was repeatedly encored. Mr. Thomas Spencer was toastmaster.

THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF ZETLAND, M.W.G.M. Another addition to the works of art of this country has recently been made by a Bro. who is well-known among the Order, in the shape of a beautiful bust of the Grand Master of England in full Masonic costume. The work has been executed by Bro. Morton Edwards of St. Luke's Lodge and Industry Chapter, and is to be seen at his quiet studio, 18, Hollywood-road, The Boltons, West Brompton. Freemasons who may desire to see it, and will pay a visit to Bro. Edward's studio, will find one of the best likenesses of his lordship they have ever been favoured with, and we hope before long to hear that it has been re-produced, and is in the possession, if not of every Freemason, at least of every Lodge and Chapter. It reflects the highest credit on the taste and skill of Bro. Edwards, who has not forgotten any of the minutiae which make a likeness perfect. But besides the bust of the Grand Master, Bro. Edwards is the sculptor of several other busts, among which may be mentioned some speaking likenesses of Lyndhurst, Cobden, Bright, the Lord Chief Baron, and a host of famous statesmen and lawyers, who have honoured him with sittings. The Prince of Wales is among the great men who have tried the dexterity of this rising artist, and the faithfulness with which the chisel has perpetuated His Royal Highness's face is of itself sufficient to make the fame of the modeller. The names of Behnes and Gibson, under whom Bro. Edwards studied, derive an additional lustre from the eminence of their pupil.

NOTES BY A NOVICE.

SEA-SIDE GOSSIP.

It is just one of those days when the human heart can carol like a bird; sunshine, bright and dazzling, hovers over the great metropolis, and even the grey arches of London-bridge, as we approach them, seem robed in unfamiliar glory. Yes, my dear Brother Editor, I'm off, or rather we are off—(don't be impertinent, I shan't tell you anything about the mystic "we"). But we have just stepped aboard a Westminster steam-boat by mistake, and off we go to "Paul's Wharf," when we credulously considered we were on the high road, or rather high sea, to—no matter where. Great anxiety prevails for the space of ten minutes, as the vessel for which we are really bound has her steam up and colours flying. Fortunately the captain's chronometer does not agree, apparently, with "Big Ben" of Westminster, and we are enabled to rectify the little error by a sharp run to the "Swan Pier," where we find that the exemplary porter is mounting guard over our luggage, and who upon seeing us exclaims pathetically that he has lost his morning's work. The poor fellow being reconciled to his unhappy fate by a liberal application of "palm oil," goes on his way rejoicing, and we follow his example on board a certain renowned steamer which, as usual, is christened after one of the royal family. Immediately the captain gives the word to start, which the small boy, his echo, repeats—and incontinently we find ourselves involved in the mazes of the "Pool," while occasional cries of "Stop her"—suggestive of a feminine runaway kleptomaniac—indicates forcibly that some lazy barge or other will not get out of the way. However,

"All these doubts and dangers passed,
We anchor in the port at last."

I may observe (parenthetically) that we were received with loud acclamations by the people on landing at our destination, and one youth with sandy hair was so overcome with enthusiasm at the sight of a rather plain girl on board, that in waving his cap as a symbol of joy, said cap fell into the water, and is now doubtless adorning the caudal appendage of some monster of the briny deep.

You know, dear old Editor, how severely I have suffered from indisposition (to work?) of late, and how concise I have been in my correspondence. Do not, therefore, expect much this time, but allow me to do the *otium cum dig* as well as I can.

In the first place, I must be reticent as to where I am, and for three reasons:—

Firstly, I am told you have now seven thousand subscribers.

Secondly, If I betrayed my whereabouts, six thousand nine hundred and ninety-nine of the aforesaid subscribers would infallibly come down and hunt me out.

Thirdly, I don't well know where I am.

You will remember, however, that you commissioned me to note down any Masonic facts that might come under my observation during my "grand tour." Well, I have seen one "fact" in the shape of our genial Brother "Span," whose joke about the "warm" reception he met with in our lodge must be fresh in your memory. We walked about together—that's another fact—and made sundry remarks upon architecture in general, and the prevalence of Roman noses amongst the population in particular, when suddenly a bell rang—we exchanged a hurried grip, and my "Span" was lost to view in cubits of sea-water. The next Masonic illustration appeared in the person of a portly friar—rubicund and round. Our passing conversation was sweet, but short; and he, too, vanished from my sight. With the next I was more fortunate. "Methinks I see him now," as our galley proudly sweeps the salt sea waves. Bro. Oldburne is a true high priest of Neptune, and rows almost as well as he can shoot (St. George's and ye Westminster, to wit). Verily, he resembles an athlete of the good old times, and would have been laurel-crowned in the Isthmian games of Greece; or the amphitheatrical displays of ancient Rome, when the "vox populi" shouted stentorously, "Panem et Circensii." Bro. Oldburne is also a

capital Mason, a.P.M. of two lodges—in one of which, let me remark, *en passant*, he succeeded a "Novice" in the chair—and is also a P.Z. of a fine chapter held near unto the "silvery Thames." Unfortunately, his stay here can be but brief, as such is his zeal for the Craft that he willingly foregoes the healthful breeze and refulgent skies in order to be present at his lodge, which meets this week. I am happy to be able to report that Freemasonry is highly respected in the place of my temporary sojourn; the most estimable inhabitants are members, and their lodge of instruction is admirably worked by several efficient Past Masters. Within a radius of ten miles there are as many lodges; and although I deprecate the *too* rapid spread of the Order, there is no doubt that in this locality its marked increase is a wholesome sign, and an index of the zeal and energy of the brethren.

I will just conclude this sketch with a glance at the "Sublime Order of Judges," one of the associations to which I referred in a former paper as having existed about seventy years ago. Their *modus operandi* was as follows, and merit the praise of simplicity. The victim was led into the meeting-room, with his eyes covered; he was conducted to the chair of the "Sublime Presiding Judge," who placed a tankard in his hand, and desired him to taste its contents and pronounce accordingly. If the candidate responded, "arf-and-arf" the chances were ten to one he was right, as the liquor was seldom varied; whereupon the chairman and the whole sublime assembly shouted as one man, "You're a Judge," and he was forthwith proclaimed one of the mystic fraternity. Now, Brother Editor, I know you want a change—come down here for a day or two, and I will give you an opportunity of qualifying yourself for the judicial bench in an equally summary manner. Till then, *au revoir!*

Obituary.

SIR KNIGHT MAJOR HENRY FRANCIS SMITH.

EM. COMP. OF THE TEMPLE CRESSING ENCAMPMENT.

With the most sincere regret we have to announce the decease (at the early age of 41) of this highly-esteemed Brother, whose public and private virtues endear his memory to all who had the honour of his acquaintance.

He was initiated in the Victoria Lodge, V.R., No. 822, eleven years since, in which he served all the various offices, and passed the chair of K.S.; was instrumental in establishing the Chandos Lodge of the 1st Middlesex Artillery Volunteers, in which Corps he held Her Majesty's Commission as Major. He was a R.A. Mason and S.W. of the Mallet and Chisel Lodge of Mark Masters, Emt. Com. of the Temple Cressing Encampment, Prov. Grd. Capt. of Lines, Surrey, in which office he was Inaugurated by P.E.C., Sir Knight F. W. Mitchell only last May, and better than all, a Life Governor of several Masonic Charities. His liberality was unbounded, his courtesy that of a gentleman, and his loss is deeply deplored by a vast circle of friends; and, as a very intimate friend observed to the writer, "In fact you could not possibly say more than he deserves!"

BRO. WILLIAM JERDAN.

We extract the following from the *Times* newspaper of the 13th inst. Bro. Jerdan was for many years a Member of the Grand Master's Lodge, No. 1:—

"Forty years ago there were few names better known in London society and in the world of letters than that of William Jerdan. Surviving almost all his literary contemporaries, he died on the 11th inst., at Bushey-heath, in his 88th year. A native of Kelso, and educated at Edinburgh for the Scottish law, he came to London to push his way in literature. Of his varied fortunes in this precarious profession he

has given a faithful record in his 'Autobiography,' published about 15 years ago. His genial spirit, ready wit, and abundant anecdote made him a welcome guest in other than mere literary circles. With most of the notable personages of the last 50 years he had personal acquaintance, and with some of the men of highest mark in literature and politics he was on terms of intimacy. An interesting volume of personal recollections, entitled 'Men I have Known,' appeared two years ago, inscribed to the then Chief Baron (Sir Frederick) Pollock, also a Borderer, with whom Mr. Jerdan since boyhood had maintained an unbroken friendship. It was Mr. Jerdan who, in the lobby of the old House of Commons, seized Bellingham, the assassin of Mr. Percival. At that time one of the reporters for the Press, his connexion with periodical literature continued for half a century. In recent numbers of *Fraser's Magazine* are contributions from his pen, and the last two parts of the *Gentleman's Magazine* contain an article on the celebrated Beef-Steak Club, which no other living man could have written from personal knowledge. For several years recently he has contributed to the *Leisure Hour* a series of reminiscences of distinguished men, illustrated by characteristic letters. Of the Royal Literary Fund in its early days he was a zealous advocate, and by his influence greatly aided its prosperity. His kindly help was always afforded to young aspirants in literature and art, and his memory will be cherished by many whom he helped to rise to positions of honour and independence. Late in life he received a pension of £100 a year for his long services in literature."

Original Correspondence.

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

ROYAL ARCH MASONRY.

(To the Editor of The Freemason.)

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I perceive some remarks in your columns regarding a difference of statement about the two pillars which some tradition says were set up before the flood. On looking up Halliwell's history I find it saying "There were two kinds of stones of such virtue that one would not burn, and the other would not sink; the one called *marble*, and the other *latres*. . . . Water was the chosen instrument of destruction, but the two pillars of science remained in triumphant security," &c. Jabal is given as the name of the writer of the sciences on the pillars, and Hermes, son of Shem, is said to have been "the fortunate discoverer of one of them."

The above story, of course, I treat as a mere fable. If there be anything in it at all, it suggests the query—were any of the Pyramids built before the flood and survived it? Common sense tells us that if the patriarchs were able to write on stone or brass, they did not require to set up pillars; but could have written what they desired on slabs or plates which could have been preserved in the ark. Also, the heads of Noah and his sons would serve as repositories for knowledge. However, a legend or tradition must be made up somehow.

The Chaldean story, again, is that "Xisuthrus dug up the seven Sacred Books which he had buried at Sepharvaim," after coming out of the ark. We, of course, are ready to ask—why did he not take said books into the ark with him? but we must not examine the legend too closely.

"Pillars" here I take to be a better word than "columns." These pretended Masonic traditions of ours, now, are something similar to the stories to which Paul refers in his epistle to Timothy, when he says, "Neither give heed to fables and endless genealogies, which minister questions rather than godly edifying;" or as he also says, "Refuse profane and old wives' fables."

It appears somewhat curious to me, although I dare say it is capable of explanation, that Freemasons seem to know far more about the doings of their predecessors (?) in the time of Noah or Solomon than they do regarding their proceedings during the short reign of George the First of England (1714 to 1727).

Another curious point is, that those really valuable documents which exist detailing the real doings of the Craft about and before a century and a half ago have been almost totally ignored, especially until very lately, while all sorts of notions, dreams, traditions, legends, &c., have been most industriously fabricated, promulgated, and incessantly waved before the eyes of the Fraternity. Truly, if Dominic Sampson were alive, he would come out with a most wonderfully long-drawn, "Prodigious!"

I am, yours fraternally,
LEO.

MEETING OF THE GRAND LODGE OF CORNWALL.

The annual meeting of the Grand Lodge of the Province of Cornwall, was held on Tuesday July 6, at Helston, and there was a very large attendance, about 160 brethren walking in the procession. The members assembled from all parts of Cornwall, and as Helston lies some ten miles off the rail, and the business of Grand Lodge was fixed to commence at 10 o'clock, many of the brethren had to leave their homes at a very early hour. They assembled in the large market-room below the Town Hall, where they put on their Masonic clothing, and then proceeded up-stairs into the Grand Lodge. Outside, across the street, floated a number of banners which contributed to the gaiety of the town, and as many years had elapsed since a Grand Lodge had been held in Helston, there was much interest evinced by the inhabitants and their visitors from the neighbourhood, in the out-door proceedings. The Town Hall itself was prettily and suitably fitted up.

The Grand Lodge was formed as soon as the brethren arrived from the train. The R.W. the Provincial Grand Master, Augustus Smith, Esq., presided, and conducted the business of the lodge with his accustomed ability and urbanity. He was supported on his right and left, and in the Wardens' chairs by the principal officers and brethren of the province. The Grand Lodge was opened in due form, and with the customary honours to the Grand Master.

The names of the different lodges in the province were called over, and officers and other members were present from nearly every lodge. Bro. E. T. Carlyon, the G. Sec., then read the minutes of the last meeting, which were received and adopted.

Bro. CHIRGWIN, in the temporary absence of Bro. Reginald Rogers, next read the report of the Treasurer of the Cornwall Freemasons' Annuity Fund, and expressed an earnest hope that the Fund would be still maintained, as it was a most excellent institution for the province.

The GRAND MASTER thought that the province must be much gratified by the report. In five years the province had subscribed sufficient funds for the maintenance of two annuities. As to some of the lodges not having subscribed this year, he said they could not expect all plants to flower every year. The more the report was disseminated through the province the greater results might they expect.

Bro. Wm. TWEEDY then read his report as Treasurer of the Funds of the Grand Lodge. Amongst the items expended, was one of ten guineas, which had been anticipated by the R.W., the P.G. Master, who explained that he had requested it might be given to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, as he wished the Province to be represented at that noble meeting of the Grand Lodge, when £12,000 was subscribed towards the institution. He had determined that if there was any objection to the vote, the circumstances being so exceptional, he would defray the amount himself. [We need scarcely say that the vote was confirmed with acclamation.]

Bro. Lord ELIOT said that in consequence of the large sum subscribed on the occasion, the Grand Master of Lancashire having subscribed £1,000, they had been unable to obtain the election of young Bush, but he hoped that they would be more successful next year, when the 716 votes that had been polled for him would be carried forward.

The Treasurer's account was then unanimously received and adopted.

The Petitions for Relief were then brought up. It was proposed by the Committee, that £5 be given to a needy brother, well known to the Brethren, who had returned from Australia. Bro. CHIRGWIN suggested that it should be increased to £10 to enable the brother to start in a small way of business, and the committee assenting, the proposal was immediately adopted; and the small amount of £2 was given by the committee to another distressed brother, as temporary relief, his petition not being in time to be carefully considered.

Bro. CHIRGWIN said that they had a balance in hand of about £66. Out of this sum there had been voted about £30. He moved that £20 be voted out of the remainder to the Cornwall Masonic Annuity Fund. Br. DABB seconded the motion, and it was carried unanimously.

The re-appointment of Br. Reginald Rogers, as Treasurer, and of Br. Chirgwin, as Secretary, was then moved, seconded, and unanimously carried. Bros. F. W. DABB and S. HOLLOWAY were appointed auditors.

It being now twelve o'clock, the remainder of the business of the Grand Lodge was postponed, in order that the brethren might proceed to church to hear a sermon, as is usual on these occasions. The procession was then formed in the order prescribed,

several of the lodges having their banners, and the banners of Grand Lodge also being carried on the occasion. The lodges formed in due order, the junior lodges coming first, and the Grand Officers of the Province, and from other provinces bringing up the rear. There were two bands, one heading the procession, the second near the middle, and they both played that remarkable air which has been a source of comfort and of mystery to Freemasons in all time; from whence it came and who was the clever genius that composed it are things hidden in the womb of time. Its simple strains must be a source of cynical criticism amongst outer barbarians whenever they hear it played. However, it is one of those established institutions, like others in Freemasonry, which, like the Laws of the Medes and Persians, altereth not. The different officers carried the various insignia of the Order, and the brethren appeared in their Craft and Provincial clothing. The procession wended its way up the town to St. Michael's Church, and returned after service through the streets of the lower part of the town; so that it passed through the greater part of Helston. The church was attended by a great number of visitors. The services were conducted by the Rev. Bros. Dr. Bannister, incumbent of St. Day, F. B. Paul, F. H. A. Wright, of Stythians and Perranarworthal, the preacher being the Rev. Bro. J. D. Hawkesley, P.G. chaplain, who founded his discourse on Acts viii. 26, "Sirs, ye be all brethren." The sermon was in all respects an admirable one, and in it the preacher briefly and clearly stated to his hearers some of the great moral principles which are enjoined upon all members of the Masonic fraternity.

At the close of the services a collection was made, and the amount realised was £8 9s. 4d. The brethren then re-formed in procession and returned to the Town Hall to transact the remainder of the business.

The GRAND MASTER proceeded to appoint his officers. In doing so, he observed that this was the most difficult duty that devolved upon him. Every year increased his difficulty, because of the increase of the lodges and of the flourishing state of Masonry in the province, and the increase of working Masons who became Past Masters of their lodges. He had adverted to this subject on previous occasions, and his difficulties reminded him forcibly of those which had been ascribed to another. When Pitt was a young man about 25 years of age, he went down to Cambridge. Dr. Paley was the preacher, and he said "Here is a man with two loaves and five small fishes, but what are they among so many?"—(Laughter.) That was just his position, but he would endeavour to distribute the honours of the province, as far as he could, amongst those lodges which had earned a right to them. After some further observations, the following brethren were appointed to the purple:—

John Rosecorla, P.M. (121), D.G.M.; Lord Eliot, I.P.D.G.M.; Frederick Williams (331), J.P., P.G.S.W.; James Mudge (451), P.G.J.W.; Wm. Tweedy (P.M. 331), G. Treas.; Rev. J. D. Hawkesley, G.C.; Rev. F. B. Paul, Assist. G.C.; W. T. Sobey (977), G.R.; W. J. Hughan (131), G.S.; W. F. Newman (75), G.S.D.; J. Levin (121), G.J.D.; S. Jacob (967), G.W.S.; S. Higgs (121), G.D.C.; R. Johns (131), G.A.D.C.; Lieut. Eastace (151), G.S.B.; T. Taylor, G. Org.; S. Harvey (131), G.P.; W. Rooks (1,006), G.L.G.; and Bros. Thos. Curry (75), Frank Harvey (450), Roberts (310), John Hall (699), W. H. Dunstan (75), and W. Tregay (589) were appointed Grand Stewards.

Bro. FRED WILLIAMS, J.P., proposed Bro. S. B. Trebicock of (1,006), and Bro. DR. BANNISTER seconded him, as Grand Tyler.

When appointing the G. Sec., the GRAND MASTER spoke in the highest terms of the services rendered for many years by Bro. Carlyon, as G. Sec., and Bro. J. O. Mayne, as G. Asst. Secretary. Bro. Carlyon would be succeeded by Bro. Hughan, who was eminent for his great knowledge of Masonry and for his zeal in everything connected with it. As Grand Lodge did not recognize the office of Assistant Grand Secretary, he purposed discontinuing that appointment, so as to bring their working in harmony with that of the neighbouring province of Devon.

Bros. R. Rogers, E. T. Carlyon, and W. Tweedy were re-appointed the Committee for Relief; and Bros. Edward Hawke and Thomas Solomon were appointed Auditors.

The proceeds of the sermon preached in the morning were thus allocated: 1-5th to the clergymen of the parish, 2-5ths to the National Schools, and 2-5ths to the Cornwall Masonic Annuity Fund.

Br. W. H. JENKINS proposed, in the warmest terms of eulogy, a vote of thanks to Br. Carlyon for his valuable services as secretary. Br. SOLOMON seconded the motion, including in it the name of Br. Mayne, which was cordially assented to by the proposer, and carried in the heartiest manner. Both these brethren acknowledged the compliment.

Br. the Rev. J. D. HAWKESLEY suggested that a book should be provided in which all the brethren who attended Grand Lodge should record their names. Such a work would be very interesting.

The GRAND MASTER concurred, and said it should be done.

Br. HUGHAN then called attention to a point of practice of serious importance. A person black-balled in one lodge had been afterwards admitted into another lodge. This was followed by a statement of facts as to what had happened at Falmouth and Penryn, and a committee, consisting of Bros. Carlyon, Hughan, R. Rogers, R. R. Rodd, Solomon, and Chirgwin, was appointed to investigate into the circumstances and bring up a report. The practice of the admission of improper persons into the fraternity was strongly condemned.

This finished the business of the day, and the lodge was adjourned to the Assembly Rooms, at the Angel Hotel, where the banquet was provided. It was intended to dine at three, but the business of Grand Lodge did not terminate till four o'clock, and many of the brethren had to leave at 6 to catch the Cornish train. This made the proceedings at the festival rather short and somewhat hurried. The room was elegantly decorated, and Mrs. Bennett deserves commendation for the excellent dinner that she had provided for the hungry mortals that crowded to the tables.

The R.W. the Grand Master presided, supported by the Mayor of the Borough, and a large gathering of Prov. Grand Officers and brethren. Amongst the company was a small band of good vocalists, who, between the speeches, sang a variety of Masonic songs and airs in a very creditable manner. Grace was said both before and after dinner, in Latin, by the Rev. Bro. Hawkesley. After dinner

The GRAND MASTER proposed the usual loyal toasts, which were loyally greeted, as is the manner in all Masonic gatherings. The G.M. referred with much satisfaction to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales having joined the Craft, but expressed his regret that the Prince should have felt it necessary to have entered the order through a foreign doorway. There might, however, be a good reason for this. The more he practised the principles of Masonry the more would he fit himself for the high position to which he was likely to be raised in due course by the Great Architect of the Universe. (Loud cheers.)

After the toast of "The Sovereign of the Order, the Earl of Zetland," and "The D.G.M., the Earl de Grey and Ripon, and the Grand Officers, past and present," had been proposed, and responded to by Lord ELIOT, his lordship concluded in proposing the health of the Grand Master, which was drunk with the utmost enthusiasm.

The R.W.G. MASTER, in responding to the compliment, said the meeting that day was one of very peculiar interest to him. It was now fifteen years since that he took his post in the Provincial Grand Lodge meeting, and it was at Helston that he was first elevated to the post of their D.P.G.M. From that period he had had to carry on the work of the province, and it was a matter of very great satisfaction to him that he had been able to complete a circle of the province, and during that time he had never failed to take his part in the performance of those duties which devolved upon him as a ruler of the Craft. It also afforded him much pleasure to meet friends again this day who took a part on that occasion. It was especially gratifying to meet his excellent friend, Bro. Edwards, the Mayor of Helston, who was at that distant period Mayor of Helston then as well as now. (Loud cheers.) He hardly thought that photographs existed in that day, but if they had he believed that both he and his friend would look a little older than they did when they first met here—(laughter)—but however much looks might be altered, he was assured that their hearts were equally true. The R.W. G.M. concluded by thanking his brethren for the cordial manner and fraternal feeling which they always evinced towards him. Again rising, he said he was reminded by the movement of the brethren present that they lived in a day of "hurry scurry," when they were compelled to break up pleasant meetings by the exigencies of railway travelling, but he would not allow a separation to take place without giving them another toast—that of the Provincial Officers who had favoured them with their presence, especially alluding to Bro. Borlase, who, though young in years, appeared there crowned in honours, and was the Secretary for Oxfordshire. Bro. Borlase bore a name honoured in the county, and they were glad to see him there, filling so high a position as he did in a distant county.

The toast was received with acclamation, and was responded to briefly by Bros. Latimer and Borlase, in speeches that touched upon events of the day; Bro. Borlase adverted to the excellent manner in which Craft Masonry was worked in Cornwall, as he could testify by comparison with the work of his mother lodge, the Apollo of Oxford.

Other toasts followed, but those exigencies to which the Grand Master referred, compelled rapidity of locomotion, and many of the company had to leave at the early hour of six o'clock somewhat to their regret.

The whole of the proceedings were most satisfactory.

ANNUAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PROV. GRAND LODGE OF SUFFOLK.

This year, the R.W. the P.G.M., Sir R. A. Shafto Adair, Bart., fixed the annual assembly of the Masonic body for Monday last, in the good old town of Bungay. The desire of the P.G.M. has always been to give every town in the Province, in which a Masonic Lodge is held; the honour and privilege of receiving the Provincial Grand Lodge; and so fortunate has he been in his selection up to the present time, that there is not the slightest cause on his part to regret the choice he has made. Certainly the meeting of 1869 was by no means the least enjoyable of these much-anticipated gatherings of brethren from all parts of the Province. Bungay, though a most spirited town, and one which has proved itself in every way worthy to receive the Masonic body, is somewhat difficult of access—not only from Ipswich, but from all parts of the country. But the obstacle of getting there and back the same day, was soon removed by the P.G.M., who with his usual kindness and forethought, and at considerable expense to himself, placed a special train at the disposal of the brethren. This train left Ipswich at 9.25 a.m., calling at Stowmarket and other places for the accommodation of members of the various lodges, and arrived at its destination at 11.30 a.m. Here a hearty welcome awaited the visitors, and every arrangement was made for their comfort by the members of the Waveney Lodge, mainly through the untiring exertions of Bros. E. B. Adams, M. Abel, and Burtal, W.M. of the lodge. In Earsham-street an arch was carried from the residence of Bro. E. B. Adams to the opposite side of the street, from which were suspended bannerets, banners with mottoes, and floral devices. The residence of Bro. W. Walesby was ornamented with a design exhibiting the various emblems of the Order placed upon a tessellated blue and white pavement and surrounded by an arch composed of evergreens and flowers; and at the King's Head Hotel a triumphal arch surmounted with flags, &c., and a banner bearing the word "Welcome," spanned the entrance to the Market-square, where the band of the 4th Suffolk Rifles was stationed. At the entrance to the town from Flixton; the country seat of the W.P.G.M., Sir R. A. S. Adair, Bart., several elegant floral designs and flags were displayed by Mr. Meadows and others, and in the Olland-street, Bro. John Betwright exhibited an elegant device consisting of the Adair crest and arms supported and surmounted by Masonic emblems.

At 1.30 p.m., the P.G. Lodge was opened at the Assembly Rooms, Tuns Hotel, the P.G.M. presiding, supported by Bro. Henry Thomas, acting P.S.G.W.; Bro. W. Moore, P.J.G.W. On the right of the throne were seated the D.P.G.M. Bro. the Rev. E. I. Lockwood, M.A., and Rev. R. F. Palmer, P.P.G. chaplain, Oxfordshire. There were also present the following P.G. officers:—Bro. Spencer Freeman, P.G. Treasurer; F. B. Marriott, P.G. Secretary; E. C. Tidd, P.A.G. Sec.; A. J. Barber, P.G. Organist; W. G. Ranson, P.S.G.D.; M. Abel, P.J.G.D.; F. Long, P.G.D. of Cers.; J. T. Helms, P.G.S.B.; W. Gardener, P.G. Pur.; G. S. Golding, F. Betts, and Geo. Bond, P.G. Stewards; W. Syer, P.G. Tyler. Also, Bros. N. Garrett, P.M. No. 3; C. S. Pedgriff, P.P.G. Reg.; Thomas Bayes, P.P.G.D. of Cers.; S. H. Wright, P.M. 516; J. S. Gissing, P.P.J.G.W.; C. Davy, P.M. 225; George Fenn, P.P.S.G.W.; J. A. Pettitt, 332; H. S. Scott, 1008; F. B. Strathern, P.P.J.G.W.; F. Jennings, P.D.P. G.M., Bengal; G. Holmes, P.P.G.S.B.; W. Boby, W.M., 114; W. Hayward, P.P.G.D. of Cers.; P. Whitehead, W.M., 225; W. O. Chambers, W.M., 71; Wm. Lucia, P.P.J.G.W.; J. T. Wright, P.M., 986; F. Spadding, P.M., 81; S. B. King, P.M., 376; F. R. Burtal, W.M., 929; Robert Clarke, P.M., 71; A. M. F. Morgan, P.G. Sec., Norfolk; Gardiner Stevens, P.M., 52, Norfolk; R. Kent, P.M., 93; Thomas Holland, W.M., 1,224; E. B. Adams, P.P.G.S.B.; F. R. Ward, W.M., 305; J. D. Larkin, W.M., 516; J. Marshall, P.P.G.D. of Cers., Norfolk; James Franks, P.P.G. Reg.; R. Mann, P.M., 929; G. E. Jeaffreson, Treasurer, 555; Rev. T. G. Brereton, W.M., 555; J. A. Coombe, P.P.G.C., Scientific Lodge, Cambridge; E. B. Powell, P.M., 332; Thomas Beard, P.M., 81; J. Breckles, P.P.G.S.W.; R. Capon, S.W., 555; &c. Over a hundred of the leading Brethren of the various lodges included in the Province were present.

The whole of the lodges were represented, namely:—Unity (71), Lowestoft, by the W.M.; Doric (81), Woodridge, by the I.P.M.; British Union (114), Ipswich, by the W.M.; St. Luke's (225), ditto, by the W.M.; Apollo (305), Beccles, by W.M.; Virtue and Science (332), Hadleigh, by W.M.; Perfect Friendship (376), Ipswich, by P.M.; Prudence (388), Halesworth, by W.M.; Phoenix (516), Stowmarket, by W.M.; Fidelity (555), Framlingham, by W.M.; Waveney (929), Bungay, by W.M.; Adair (936), Aldborough, by P.M.; Prince of Wales (959), Ipswich, by P.M.

Royal Edmund (1008), by P.M.; Stour Valley (1224), Sudbury, by W.M.

After the disposal of various matters connected with the Province, the P.G.M., appointed and invested the following brethren as P.G. officers for the ensuing year:—P.G.S.W. Bro. F. Jennings (Fidelity); P.G.J.W. Bro. W. Moore; P.G. Chap. (in place of the Rev. A. Tighe Gregory, resigned) Bro. the Rev. R. F. Palmer, of Clopton; P.G. Registrar, Bro. F. B. Jennings; P.G. Sec. Bro. F. B. Marriott; P.A.G. Sec., Bro. E. C. Tidd; P.G. Org., Bro. A. J. Barber; P.G.S.D., Bro. S. B. King; P.G.J.D., Bro. Parslee; P.G. Sup. of Works, Bro. Chambers; P.G.D. of Cers., Bro. F. Long; P.G.A.D. of Cers., Bro. W. Holland; P.G.S.B., Bro. W. Boby; P.G., Pur., Bro. Burtal; P.G. Tyler Bro. W. Syer.

Bro. Spencer Freeman, who has held the office of P.G. Treasurer for many years, was unanimously re-elected.

The P.G. Stewards are—Bros. Golding (516); F. Betts (516); Geo. Bond (555); Thomas Boulter (929); Roberts (929); Blunderfield (305).

The P.G. Lodge was then adjourned, and a procession of the brethren, ranged under their various banners and headed by the band of the Bungay Rifles, proceeded to the church of St. Mary, which had been most kindly granted for the occasion by the Rev. G. F. Matthews, the Rector. As the procession entered the church, where already a large and respectable congregation had assembled, Bro. Barber, the P.G. Organist, played "Rejoice greatly," &c., as a voluntary. The choir was composed of ladies and gentlemen connected with the town, and who had most kindly come forward and volunteered their services.

The prayers were read by the rector, and the lessons by the Rev. Bros. E. I. Lockwood and T. G. Brereton. Then followed the anthem, "Behold how good and joyful," &c., which was very finely rendered, the solo parts being taken by Miss Adams, daughter of a respected brother, and by Brother Walesby. We cannot speak in too high praise of the manner in which they acquitted themselves, and they richly deserve a vote of thanks from the Masonic brethren. The sermon was preached by the P.G. Chaplain, who took is text from Genesis xi. 1st and following verses. The hymn before the sermon was "O Lord, how joyful 'tis to see;" and after, "For thee, O dear, dear country," &c., both admirably sung. At the conclusion of the service a collection was made on behalf of the Masonic charities, amounting to £7 10s. The "Hallelujah Chorus," as a *finale*, was ably played by Bro. Barber, who richly deserves the thanks of the province for the manner in which the whole musical service was conducted, despite the local petty jealousies which surrounded him on all sides. The organ, which is a very fine one, was heard to perfection under the skilful hands of the worthy brother.

On the re-assembling of the Brethren in the lodge room, the P.G.M. proposed that the amount collected in Church should be handed over to the W.M. of the Waveney Lodge, Bro. Burtal, who, he was informed, intended to apply it to the purchase of Life Governorships in the Aged Freemason's Institution, and Boys' School. The proposition having met with a cordial response, was unanimously agreed to.

A vote of thanks was ordered to be recorded and conveyed to the Rev. G. F. Matthews, for so kindly granting the use of the Church; and to the members of the Volunteer bands for their services during the day.

The R.W., the P.G.M., then announced that the next P.G. Lodge would be held at Aldeburgh, on the Monday in July 1870. The business of the lodge was then formally closed.

THE BANQUET,

which was in every way worthy of the occasion, was set out in the Corn Hall, which was tastefully decorated, and formed what might be appropriately termed a most comfortable and airy dining-room. At five o'clock, between 80 and 90 brethren sat down, the P.G.M. presiding. The repast was served by Bro. J. Roper, of the King's Head Hotel, in a style which did him infinite credit, and which could not fail to give satisfaction to every one. The wines were first-class, and the dessert one of the best we ever saw at any provincial dinner. The bill of fare included a fine haunch of delicious venison sent by the P.G.M. from Flixton Park.

The after dinner proceedings were commenced by the P.G.M. giving the toasts of "The Queen and the Craft," "The Prince of Wales, the Princess, and the rest of the Royal family," which were duly honoured by the company.

Next followed "The healths of the G.M. of England, the Earl of Zetland," "The D.G.M., the Earl de Grey and Ripon," and "The officers of the G.L. of England," which were drunk with full Masonic honours.

The D.P.G.M. proposed, in appropriate terms, "The health of the P.G.M.," and in doing so alluded to the words of a song, where it says there was

"a magic charm in the touch of the rosy lips," so there was also a magic charm in the whisper of a loved name, which thrilled through the hearts of every one present as though a silver trumpet had sounded it—that was the name of Adair. (Loud applause.) Suffolk, especially, was proud of the name of its P.G.M., and they had reason to be so, for from the first moment that their P.G.M. was appointed to the position he then so ably filled, the prosperity of the Province had increased. (Cheers.) And if there had been any doubt in the minds of any one as to the thoughtfulness and consideration of their P.G.M., for those over whom he presided; it would be at once dispelled, by knowing what he had done that day for their personal convenience. (Cheers.) He need not say one word more, but propose to them with all honours the health of Sir Shafto Adair, their P.G.M. [Drunk with full Masonic honours and three times three cheers.]

Sir SHAFTO ADAIR, on rising, was met with loud bursts of cheering, which lasted for some time. He said they had been unusually kind to him in their cordial reception of the toast proposed by the D.P.G.M. What he had done for the Province he had done as well as he could do; but when he had such assistance as he had in the person of the D.P.G.M. in the discharge of the duties of his office, his task was an easy one indeed. It was most gratifying to him, not so much to see their numbers augmented, but to notice the elevation of the Masonic character of the various Lodges. (Hear, hear.) The manner in which the business of the various lodges had been conducted, also the proceedings of that day, were in every way satisfactory. They had bound him honestly to their service, by bonds which he did not think capable of strengthening, but which he found strengthened every year. (Applause.)

The P.G.M., shortly afterwards again rose, and proposed "The health of the D.P.G.M., Bro. Lockwood," to whom he paid a high compliment for the able and valuable assistance he had rendered him in the conduct of the business of the Province. There was one subject to which he must briefly allude, to show that brother's zeal in the course of Masonry, and that was the desire on his part to effect a uniformity in all their proceedings, which he regretted to say, was at the present time far from being the case. Both the Irish and Scottish differed from the English working, which created great difficulties amongst those who had been used to the mode of procedure in their English Lodges. The desire was to obtain a Board of experienced Masons, to take the whole matter into their consideration, and he hoped ultimately that desire would be effected. (Hear, hear.) He gave them in all sincerity the health of their D.P.G.M., and thanks to him for the valuable assistance he had given him in all his duties in connection with the Province. [Drank with all honours.]

The D.P.G.M., in acknowledging the compliment, said it was true that he had made a humble attempt to draw attention to the matter alluded to by their P.G.M., and it was gratifying to him to find it had been taken up by brethren eminent in the Craft. The subject of their Masonic working was an important matter, and the only remedy that he could see for the defects which at present existed was to institute a Court of Appeal, consisting of P.M.'s, who could give their attention to the matter, and probably remedy the evil under which they at the present laboured. (Applause.)

The P.G.M. next gave "The Wardens and Officers, Past and Present, of the P.G. Lodge," uniting with it the name of Bro. Fred. Jennings, the P.G.S.W. (Applause.)

Bro. JENNINGS briefly replied.

The P.G.M. proposed "The P.G. Chaplain, Bro. the Rev. R. F. Palmer, and the Clergy of the Province," and in alluding to the resignation of the P.P.G. Chaplain, Bro. the Rev. A. Tighe Gregory, passed upon that worthy and most esteemed brother a warm and well deserved eulogium for the zealous and able manner in which he had discharged the duties of his high office, and the deep interest he took in all that concerned Masonry. He (the P.G.M.) well knew that when that brother took upon himself that office, he did so with great personal inconvenience to himself, but still he always felt that where his duty called him there he faithfully and zealously performed it. (Loud applause.) He thought they might congratulate themselves, however, on having obtained the services of so excellent a brother as their present P.G. Chaplain. (Hear, hear.) The Rev. brother who had that day assisted them had a special claim to their favour for his great kindness and open-heartedness, for though not a member of their Masonic body he had kindly opened his Church for them, and kindly assisted them in the services of that day. (Applause.) This had its advantages, for all out of the Craft could not fail to have seen that the Masonic body were not so obnoxious as some would have them believe. (Applause.) He gave them, with all honours, "The Health of the P.G. Chaplain, Bro. Palmer." (Drank with all honours.)

The P.G. CHAPLAIN responded to the toast. He said though last year he was only a visitor amongst

them, still his desire was to become more closely connected with the province of Suffolk, and though that wish had been gratified, he little imagined that, so soon after his residence amongst them, so high and distinguished an honour would be conferred upon him. He had only a few weeks ago sent back the badge and jewel of the lodge he was formerly connected with, not however without some pang of feeling, for he felt that the last link of the chain which bound him to the place was broken. Only a few days after this he received from their P.G.M. his kind letter, which told him that Masonry was universal. (Applause.) Still he could not help feeling that his position was not without its difficulties, for he followed close upon a brother whose eloquence and high attainments had charmed them all, therefore his successor would not have a very easy task. And again, if he looked further back he was no better. But as some bright particular star left some radiance behind it, so he hoped that some light from his year of office might shed lustre upon his. (Applause.) His desire would always be to do his duty in that position which it had pleased their P.G.M. to place him, and the kind reception his Masonic brethren had given him would encourage him to persevere. (Applause.)

Bro. F. JENNINGS gave "The Visiting Brethren of other provinces," coupling with it the name of Bro. A. M. F. Morgan, P.G. Sec. for Norfolk, and other brethren. (Drank with applause.)

Bro. MORGAN, in reply, thanked the brethren for their warm and truly Masonic reception, and gave them a hearty invite to join the P.G. Lodge of Norfolk in August next.

The D.G.P.M. gave the "Masonic Charities," uniting with it the name of Bro. H. Thomas. (Applause.)

Bro. THOMAS, in acknowledging the toast on behalf of the Masonic Charities, somewhat startled the brethren by stating that although the debt of £10,000 upon the Boys' School, about which so much had been urged, had been paid off at the last anniversary of that charity, there still remained another liability of not less than £9,000.

The P.G.M. proposed "The W. Masters of the Province," with the name of Bro. Burtal, W.M. of the Waveney Lodge. (Drunk with all honours.)

Bro. BURTSAL, briefly replied. Next followed the healths of the "P.G. Treasurer, Bro. Spencer Freeman," and the "P.G. Secretary, Bro. F. B. Marriott," which were drunk with full Masonic honours and duly acknowledged.

"The Ladies," given by Bro. SPENCER FREEMAN and acknowledged by Bro. GOLDING on their behalf; and the Tyler's toast, by the P.G.M., brought the proceedings to a close shortly after nine o'clock.

The P.G.M. as he left the hall was loudly cheered, and all the brethren escorted him to the Railway Station, where the special was in waiting. There a crowd of many hundreds had already assembled, and, after farewells had been exchanged, and the brethren taken their places, the train moved out of the station amid the loud cheering of the brethren and the good people of Bungay. The day which was a most pleasurable one, and the meeting of 1869, will long be remembered as one of the red-letter festivals in our Masonic calendar.—*Ipswich Journal*, July 10.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS

For the Week ending July 24, 1869.

Monday, July 19.

Lodge No. 720, "Pannure," Balham Hotel, Balham.

Tuesday, July 20.

Board of General Purposes, Freemasons' Hall, at 3.
Lodge No. 435, "Salisbury," 71, Dean street, Soho.
" 704, "Camden," Lamb Hotel, Metropolitan Cattle Market.
" 857, "St. Mark's," Horns Tavern, Kennington.
Chapter 186, "Industry," Freemasons' Hall.
Metropolitan Chapter of Instruction, George Hotel, Aldermanbury at 7; Com. Brett, Preceptor.
Domestic Lodge of Instruction, Palmerston Tavern, Grosvenor-park, Cumberwell, at 7.30.

Wednesday, July 21.

General Committee of Grand Chapter, Freemasons' Hall, 3.
Lodge of Benevolence, ditto at 7 precisely.
Lodge No. 619, "Beacon," Grayhound, Dulwich.
" 1150, "Buckingham and Chandos," Freemasons' Hall.
" 1159, "Marquis of Dalhousie," Freemasons' Hall.
United Strength Lodge of Instruction, No. 228, Bull and Gate, Kentish Town-road.

Thursday, July 22.

House Committee, Girls' School, at 4.
Lodge No. 766, "Wm. Preston," Clarendon Hotel, Anerley.
" 858, "South Middlesex," Beaufort House, Fulham.

Friday, July 23.

House Committee of Boys' School.
Lodge No. 780, "Royal Alfred," Star and Garter, Kew.

Saturday, July 24.

[Nil.]

SUPREME COUNCIL, NEW YORK.

REPORT OF ILL. BRO. ALBERT G. GOODALL, GRAND REPRESENTATIVE, ON FOREIGN RELATIONS.

To the Supreme Council of Sov. Gr. Ins. Gen. of the 33rd and last degree Ancient Accepted Rite, for the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, U.S.A.

BUENOS AYRES—Continued.

Over 26,000 dollars were subscribed by the Order, and the active Committees visited, without distinction of persons, over 300 families, furnishing them with medicine, medical advice, food and clothing, and burying the dead; also, sent funds and assistance to several towns in the country where the epidemic was raging. All these sacred acts were performed, according to the rules of our Order, without show or ostentation; and, should the future historian do justice to those who performed their duty in the hour of trial during that sad period, the honour must be given to the Masonic fraternity of the city of Buenos Ayres.

Subsequent to my reception for the ratification of relations of amity, I had the honour of being the recipient of many fraternal courtesies from the Subordinate Lodges, prominent among which was Union Italiano, that I had occasion to mention so favourably in my last report. This Lodge, in their merited enthusiasm to do honour to our country and one of our lamented dead, Abraham Lincoln, whom they supposed to be a Mason, held the Lodge of Sorrow, the ceremonies of which I reported two years since, were now called upon to perform the same sad rite for three of their members that had departed this life. I participated in the ceremonies, and, at a subsequent meeting, had the pleasure of presenting the Medals of Honour to the Committee of their Lodge, for the faithful discharge of their duties of charity to the suffering during the fatal epidemic. I also have the pleasure of making special mention of the English Lodge, Star of the South, for their fraternal courtesies and hospitality so generously extended, not only to myself, but to all worthy American Brethren visiting that distant city.

The Supreme Council now have under their jurisdiction twenty-one Lodges in working order, and four that are dormant; also, four Chapters of Rose Croix. The disturbed and unfortunate condition of that broad extent of country during the past two years of war, revolution, and pestilence has tended seriously to check the rapid progress of those peaceful arts that develop a nation, and thus Masonry has not increased to the extent we should have been pleased to see it; but confiding in the pure Masonic principles that govern the present able administration of the Sup. Body, I feel confident that the Order will continue to improve and gradually, but firmly, advance and perpetuate the pure principles of Fraternity, Union, and Toleration throughout that broad and progressive Republic of the South American Continent.

I regret the painful duty of calling the special attention of the Council to the accompanying official communication, relative to the existence of a Lodge at Buenos Ayres, under the title of "Italia," established in that city last year under the authority of the Grand Orient of Masonry in Italy, located at Florence. The Sup. Con. of the Argentine Republic at once protested against this violation of long established Masonic law, but to this date they have no replies or redress from the Gr. Orient at Florence, who apparently ignore, with a self-reliant and quiet indifference, the courteous and fraternal communications addressed to them on the subject, and permit the Lodge to continue its regular labours in a foreign Jurisdiction; but the worst feature of this unlawful Masonic proceeding is the startling fact that one of the members to whom the charter was granted for the said Lodge was an expelled member from one of the city Lodges, and that the profanes rejected, or members expelled, by the Lodges under the Jurisdiction of the Sup. Con. of the Argentine Republic are admitted into this irregular Lodge of "Italia." I was also officially informed that authority had been given them to confer the Rose Croix degrees, notwithstanding that none of the members had received that degree; which, according to our interpretation of universally acknowledged Masonic law, and the ancient Constitutions, will prevent this Sup. Body from officially recognizing the said Gr. Orient at Florence until they shall have proved that they are lawfully entitled to enter into fraternal relations with the great family of Universal Brotherhood, and made satisfactory their mistake or irregular proceeding of ignoring the legitimate jurisdiction of our brethren in the River Plate.

REPUBLIC OF URUGUAY.

My second visit to Montevideo was in January last, during the hot season. Fatal cholera epidemic and general exodus of the population from the city prevented my having, at that time, any communication with the Supreme Council and Grand Orient of Uruguay; but on my return there in June, I had the pleasure of renewing the fraternal relations so amicably arranged during my visit two years previous. On the 25th of June a special meeting of

the Council was called to give me a fraternal welcome and discuss various important subjects appertaining to the general interests of the Order in that Jurisdiction; and, in obedience to previous instructions, I had the pleasure on that occasion of presenting the diploma and jewel of office to Ill. Bro. John MacColl, 33°, and active member, as the Gr. Representative and guarantee of amity from this Sup. Con. near that Gr. Body, and from the high social position occupied by that Ill. Brother, I feel confident that the most favourable results will ensue, not only for a long-continued mutual friendship, but also for the maintenance and careful administration of the laws and principles of the Order. I also delivered the Balustre from this Council relative to the union of the two Sup. Bodies in this Jurisdiction, May, 1867.

From the accompanying official document, addressed to me by the Sup. Con. and Gr. Orient of Uruguay, I beg to call special attention to the following extract, illustrating an act of disloyalty and violation of Masonic law and treaties on the part of the so-called "Grand Orient of Masonry in Italy," located at Florence:—

"Several Masons having been struck off the rolls on account of their crimes against the Lodge acting under our authority, and amongst them Ramon Joaquin Travieso, 33°, who was burnt in effigy between the pillars of all the Lodges for having ill-used the jewels and the secrets of the Order, organized a Lodge entitled 'Esperanza,' and pleaded for authorization from the Grand Orient of Italy (at Florence), which it granted without the consent of our Sovereign Power, being, as we had been, on the very best terms of friendly correspondence, and against the express tenor of Art. 39 of our Masonic Law, with which it was acquainted, having in its possession, and against the stipulations of the Concordat made and celebrated in Paris in 1855, by all the Masonic Powers in the Universe. This Gr. Orient immediately preferred its complaint, through its Gr. Rep., to that Orient, the Ill. Bro. Bartolome Odicini, of its complete disacknowledgment of Jurisdiction, and forwarded all the documents referring to the criminal conduct of these Masons which had been thus protected by the Gr. Orient of Italy. No redress had been obtained, and that Masonic authority has fully refused to do anything; in consequence of which this Gr. Orient has retired its Gr. Rep. and put an interdict on the irregular Lodge 'Esperanza,' as well as all the Italian Masons, until complete justice is obtained."

As the foregoing briefly and clearly states the substance and facts of the case, I deem any additional comments on my part unnecessary, presuming that this Supreme Body will at once pursue the proper course of endeavouring to convince the parties in Italy of their grave offence—of irregular proceedings, of violating the sacred rights of other Jurisdictions, protecting expelled members of the Order, and forcing upon the Masonic Brotherhood at large those who are unworthy to be the recipients of our mystic privileges.

For the past two years Uruguay has seriously suffered, in common with that of her sister Republic, by War, Revolution and Pestilence; and, amid such a disturbed condition of society, Masonry has made but little progress in numbers. A more stable Government and settled condition of affairs now exist, and, under the peaceful progress anticipated for the future, the Order will again continue its onward march.

During the prevalence of the cholera epidemic at Montevideo, in the months of December, January and February last, when death, panic and distress prevailed throughout the city and surrounding country, the Masonic Order again organised their *Sociedad Filantropica*, and the faithful committee gave evidence of their good deeds by contributing more to the wants of the suffering than was given from any other source, there being no physicians to attend the large majority of the sick, the Government, being paralysed by assassinations and revolution, could render no assistance during the crisis and time of need. This Society—permanently organised in 1857, during the yellow fever epidemic, and which did such noble service at that time—has also under its charge a school for orphans and poor children, and over two hundred pupils annually receive the benefit of an education, funds for the same being contributed by the Masonic fraternity.

Fourteen Lodges and eight Rose Croix Chapters are now in successful operation under the jurisdiction of the Sup. Con. and Gr. Orient of Uruguay. The only change worthy of note since my last report is the election of Ill. Bro. M. Cervantes as Sov. Gr. Com., as successor of Ill. Bro. Florentino Castellanos whose death was duly announced last year.

(To be continued.)

BELGRAVE LODGE OF INSTRUCTION, 749. — The members of this lodge have resolved to hold their meetings in future every Friday evening, all the year round, at Bro. Godfrey's, the Duke of Wellington Hotel, Spring Gardens, Charing Cross. Bro. S. H. Pulsford, P.M., 1,158 is Preceptor.