

THE  
MASONIC MIRROR;

A Journal of Freemasonry,

DEVOTED TO THE PROCEEDINGS AT

MASONIC LODGES,

THE

WELFARE OF THE ORDER,

THE

INTERESTS OF ITS CHARITIES,

LITERATURE AND NEWS.



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## PREFACE.

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IN closing our Volume, we have to thank our friends for the support we have received—and though we have thought it advisable to unite our interests with those of the MONTHLY MAGAZINE, we trust we shall still continue to receive their countenance and patronage. We are aware, that in the past, there have been many shortcomings, owing to the difficulty of organising a correspondence throughout the kingdom; but we trust in the future, we shall be enabled to amend them, and that in the “FREEMASONS’ MAGAZINE AND MASONIC MIRROR,” we shall have it in our power to present to our readers, the most perfect record of Masonic proceedings ever published.

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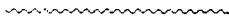
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THE  
MASONIC MIRROR:

FOR

NOVEMBER, 1854.

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OUR ADDRESS TO THE BRETHREN.

IN claiming the patronage of the Masonic Order for a new periodical meant to be devoted to their interests, it may be desirable that its proprietors should explain the character and pretensions of the publication, and the purpose it is intended to serve. This we shall endeavour to do in as few words as possible.

We have observed that it has been long a subject of regret amongst the brethren of the square and compass, that they have no literary organ conducted on such a principle as to admit of its doing greater justice to masonic intelligence than it were reasonable to expect from weekly newspapers, whose mission is for the most part political, and whose columns are overloaded with miscellaneous matter. It is manifest that the interests of the craft would be materially promoted by the establishment of such a periodical, nor is there less necessity for it now than at any former period; the only attempt that has as yet been made to supply the desideratum being by the publication of a serial, issued at such remote intervals as to deprive its intelligence of the flavour of novelty, and to impart to its editorial writing a character rather of historic record than of contemporaneous comment. We have as little desire as occasion to call in question the necessity for a quarterly journal of Freemasonry, or to disparage the services of such a periodical; our purpose will have been sufficiently attained, if we shall have made out a case for a monthly organ. Anxious to live in the most friendly communion with all our contemporaries, and animated, we trust, with genuine feelings of fraternal sympathy, we disclaim the idea of assuming a position of antagonism towards any one. It is not the glove of defiance, but the hand of good fellowship that we offer to all as allies, not rivals—for such is the spirit of the age, and the genius of our order. We invade no man's right, we remove no man's land-mark.

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We merely step in to fill up a vacuum which, unfilled, is a source of weakness, but which we hope to occupy in a manner to benefit the cause of Masonry.

The "Masonic Mirror" will be conducted with the judgment and circumspection so essential for such a publication, so that whilst it will contain all that is requisite for the enlightenment of the Brethren, with regard to the position and proceedings of the various Lodges in Freemasonry, nothing will appear which can in any way tend to profane the sanctity of the masonic mystery, or to reveal to the gaze of the uninitiated what Burns happily describes as

"That hieroglyphic bright  
Which none but craftsmen ever saw."

With a view to render our journal a welcome visitor in the families of the Brethren, we propose to combine amusement with the business of the order, by the insertion, in the literary columns of the "Mirror," of original and selected tales, &c., of a purely moral tendency.

The news department will present a complete epitome of all the important events, and Meetings of Scientific, Charitable, and Provident Institutions, throughout the month; thereby constituting the "Masonic Mirror" a valuable work of reference for all classes of society—each Volume comprising an Annual Register of events, to which an ample Index will be supplied, unsurpassed for its usefulness and readiness of reference.

Full reports of Masonic Charities, Presentations, and other meetings, will be regularly published in our columns, and, as these occasions have not merely the interest of sentiment to recommend them, but are of great practical importance to the cause of Freemasonry, we earnestly solicit the co-operation of Masters, Secretaries, and other members of the various Lodges, in enabling us to insure to them the fullest and most accurate publicity. We shall feel much obliged therefore to all officers and authorities of Lodges who may favour us with authentic notices of meetings. The strictest attention shall at all times be paid to such communications, and in cases where we receive intimation that the presence of a professional reporter at a meeting is deemed desirable, such a gentleman, being himself a properly qualified brother, shall attend from our office.

The "Masonic Mirror" will be conducted by Brethren well known in the order, and while no expense will be spared to render it one of the most useful and at the same time interesting works ever offered to the Craft, we have fixed its price at so low a sum, as to render it easy of access to all classes of the community. Nor is it intended to make any advance on this charge, in the event of extreme pressure of matter rendering it necessary that we should publish extra numbers.

It remains that we should say a word as to the time and form of our appearance. January is the most obvious, and in many respects, the most convenient month in which to commence a new serial, but October is generally regarded as the beginning of the Masonic year, and being a month whose transactions are especially deserving of being recorded, we

have thought it more judicious to cast our horoscope on the first of November. Our readers need not apprehend any inconvenience in the matter of binding, from this arrangement, for as a general rule our volumes will end with December; and though our first volume will contain fourteen numbers, each of the others will be comprised in twelve. It had been our original intention to publish our journal in the shape of a covered pamphlet, but urgent communications from country Brethren, induced us to alter this plan; and the requirements of the Post Office, which forbid a separate cover and compel publication on one sheet only, have obliged us, if we would not forfeit the postal privilege, to adopt our present form, and to limit the weight of the paper on which the "Mirror" is printed. Our readers, however, may rely upon it, that we will not allow them to suffer by these regulations. They shall have to the full as much, if not more, value for their money, than we could have given them had the journal come out in the shape of a pamphlet. We pledge ourselves to give in each number, at least forty-eight pages of readable matter, altogether irrespective of the advertisements, which will be so arranged and numbered, as not to interfere with the general body of the publication, from which they may be cut away to permit the binding of the "Mirror," in one continuous volume, at the close of the year.

It is scarcely necessary to add, that there shall be no taint of sectarianism on the pages of the "Masonic Mirror." Our mission being love, not hatred,—union, not discord,—religious rancour and party acrimony shall alike be relegated from our columns. Inspired with this purpose and animated with these feelings, we know not how better to conclude our address, than in the melodious language of the great poet, whose name we have already mentioned—a poet of whose glory assuredly no class of his countrymen has greater reason to be proud than they who were bound with him in the mystic tye of Masonry.

" May freedom, harmony, and love,  
 Unite you in the *grand design*,  
 Beneath th' Omniscient eye above,  
 The glorious *architect* divine!  
 That you may keep th' *unerring line*,  
 Still rising by the *plummet's law*,  
 Till *order* bright completely shine  
 Shall be our prayer for one and a' "

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## MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

### THE AGED FREEMASONS' ASYLUM.

It gives us sincere pleasure to be enabled to announce that the Asylum at Croydon, in connexion with the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for aged Freemasons and their widows, is now nearly completed, and that it will be capable of accommodating thirty-four inmates, not above half that number being at present within its walls. We are the more gratified to record the rapid approach to completion of the building, because it now



presents a very handsome appearance, and does honour to the craft, whilst in its unfinished state it had a most cold and forbidding aspect. Though the building is so nearly completed, some time must necessarily elapse before it can be furnished and inhabited. The rapid completion of the building is mainly due to the energy and exertion of Br. Geo. Barrett, and as there is a debt upon it of about 300*l.*, we trust the brethren throughout the various lodges will second that energy by using their utmost exertions to pay it off. A very small donation from each lodge would not only liquidate the debt, but form a sufficient fund to keep it in constant repair. We hope the next thing Br. Barrett and the Committee of Management will direct their attention to, will be the means of extending the influence and usefulness of the Institution, which appears hitherto to have been much neglected by the brethren, principally, we believe, in consequence of its having been brought so very little under their notice. The number of male annuitants at the present moment is fifty-two, and of widows thirteen; whilst at the last election there still remained twenty-five brethren and seven widows on the list of candidates who could not obtain admission. We are sure that these facts only require to be extensively known to insure a greatly increased support being given to the Institution. And we hope to live to see the day when the Masonic body will be enabled to boast of the Benevolent Institution as they do of the girls' school, that every approved candidate is sure of obtaining admission within a reasonable time.

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#### LONDON LODGES.

**ALBION LODGE (No. 9).**—The members of this lodge met for the first time this season, on the 3rd of October, the W.M. Br. Mc Cullock presiding, when he duly raised a qualified Brother to the Third Degree in Freemasonry.

**GLOBE LODGE (No. 23).**—An emergency meeting of this lodge was held at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Thursday, the 19th of October, when Br. Hewlett, the W.M., passed two brothers to the Second Degree.

**ROBERT BURNS LODGE (No. 25).**—The first meeting of the season of the members of this lodge was held at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Monday, the 2nd of October, when four gentlemen were duly initiated into the Order by Br. P. M. Goring. At the conclusion of the business, the brethren celebrated their re-assembling by a supper, over which the W.M., Br. Patterson, who was prevented being present in the early part of the evening, most ably presided; and in the course of the evening, Br. Watson, in returning thanks for the health of the P.M.'s, took occasion to refer to the great increase which had taken place in the number of Chapters, and the consequent increase in the number of Arch-masons since this lodge applied for and obtained a charter from the Grand Chapter, such a charter not having been previously granted for nearly thirty years.

**EGYPTIAN LODGE (No. 29).**—This lodge resumed its meetings for the season on the 5th of October, at the George and Blue Boar, Holborn, when Br. P.M. Goring, in the absence of the W.M., Br. Roughton, who was prevented attending by indisposition, most ably passed and raised two duly qualified brothers to their respective degrees.

**OLD KINGS ARMS LODGE (No. 30).**—At the first monthly meeting of this lodge, for the season, on Monday, October 23, Br. Burnidge, W. M., presiding, a gentleman who had been regularly proposed and seconded, was initiated into the order.

**VITRUVIAN LODGE (No. 103.)**—This Lodge held its first meeting for the season,

at the White Hart, College Street, Lambeth, on Wednesday, September 13th, Brother Crosby, well assisted by his officers, passed two Brethren in a most efficient manner; after which, about thirty Brethren sat down to an excellent supper, and spent the evening in the greatest harmony.

**ST. LUKE'S LODGE (No. 168).**—The anniversary meeting of this lodge was held at the Builders' Arms, Russell-street, Chelsea, on Monday, the 2nd of October. The lodge having been opened in due form, the immediate P.M., Br. Killick, proceeded to instal Br. Handover as his successor, in the chair—the ceremony being performed in a highly impressive manner. The new W.M. was pleased to appoint Brs. Tyrrell, S.W.; Taylor, J.W.; Collard, S.D.; and Kirk, J.D. The various officers having been appointed, the W.M., in the name of the lodge, proceeded to present a very elegant P.M. jewel to Br. Killick, and in doing so, took occasion to refer to the many services Br. Killick had rendered the lodge during the two years he had been W.M., trusting he should have the benefit of his advice and instruction during his year of office as W.M. Br. Killick, in returning thanks, expressed his grateful thanks for the handsome jewel presented to him that night, which he trusted would ever be regarded as a heirloom in his family. He wished to impress upon his brethren, that he looked upon the jewel as a reward for his exertions, and trusted that other brethren would, by their assiduity and attention to their offices, eventually have the same gratifying mark of favour bestowed upon them. After voting sums of money from their relief fund to two deserving applicants having a claim upon the lodge, the brethren adjourned to a banquet, both members and visitors, of whom there were a large number present, being well pleased with the ceremony and business of the evening.

**ST. JOHN'S LODGE, HAMPSTEAD (No. 196).**—This excellent lodge closed its season at the Hollybush Tavern, Hampstead, on Tuesday, the 10th of October, when Br. T. A. Adams, P.M., installed Br. Thompson into the chair, as Master for the ensuing year, in a most impressive manner. At the conclusion of the ceremony, the new W.M. appointed Br. S. Aldrich, S.W.; Br. Hazard, J.W.; Br. Johnson, S.D.; Br. Wesson, J.D.; and Br. Whittett, J.G. Br. Holt was then appointed the Tyler of the lodge, in the room of Br. Dalton, deceased. At the conclusion of the Masonic business, the brethren adjourned to a very elegant banquet, and a most pleasant evening was passed by both members and visitors, amongst whom we observed Br. Smith, P.M., 206; Br. Kirby, P.M., 169; Br. Potter, P.M., &c., &c.

**OLD CONCORD LODGE (No. 201).**—This lodge met at the Freemasons' Tavern, on the 3rd ult., when Br. Kennedy, W.M., very ably initiated a candidate for Masonic Secrets into the Order. Some alterations were then made in the bye laws, with the view of forming a benevolent fund, attached to the lodge—and the lodge broke up in the most perfect harmony.

**DOMATIC LODGE (No. 206).**—The brethren of this lodge assembled for the first time this season on Monday, the 11th September, in Br. Ireland's handsome new Masonic Hall, Falcon Tavern, Fetter-lane, the W.M. Br. Harvey presiding. The business consisted of an initiation, two passings, and a raising, the whole of which ceremonies were admirably performed. This being the commencement of the season, the brethren sat down to a very elegant supper; and the W.M. being unfortunately compelled by a domestic affliction to leave early, the chair was admirably filled by P.M. Jos. Smith, who, in the course of the evening, pointed out Br. T. A. Adams (P.M. of 196) the present J.W., who was initiated in the lodge as, no doubt, its destined Master for 1855. The second meeting of the season took place on Monday, October 9, when the W.M. passed, and raised, two brothers to their respective degrees.

**UNIVERSAL LODGE (No. 212).**—This lodge held its usual monthly meeting on the 27th October, Br. Patrick, W. M., presiding, when a candidate for the mysteries and privileges of Freemasonry, was duly initiated into the order.

**LODGE OF JOPPA (No. 225).**—This lodge met for the first time this season at the White Hart, Bishopsgate-street, on Monday, October 9th, when three candidates were initiated into the order and six brethren raised to the third degree, the ceremonies of initiation and raising being performed by the W.M. Br. Jones in a manner highly creditable to the lodge and the craft. At the conclusion of business, the

brethren adjourned from labour to refreshment. In the course of the evening, Br. Canstatt returned thanks for the toast of "Prosperity to the Benevolent Fund," and exhorted the brethren not to relax in their exertions to make this fund worthy any institution in the country. It had been unfortunately proved that some of the recipients of various charities had been in early life as well positioned as any brother present, and had largely subscribed to the very charities they afterwards were compelled to receive assistance from. They had upwards of £400 in hand, which had been raised by the spontaneous donations of brethren. It was intended, not only to assist the distressed and decayed member, but also the widow and orphan, and it even extended to a marriage portion for a Mason's daughter, should such be required. Each of the initiates gave a donation to the Benevolent Fund, and the brethren separated at an early hour, after spending a most delightful evening.

**LODGE OF UNITED STRENGTH (No. 276).**—The first meeting of this lodge since the vacation, was held at Br. Rackstraw's, the Gun Tavern, Pimlico, on the 10th ult. Br. P. M. Cooper, in the unavoidable absence of the W. M. Br. A. Tilt, presided, and in a very impressive manner, passed one brother and raised another to their respective degrees. At the close of the masonic business, the brethren adjourned to a very elegant banquet; at the close of which, a variety of masonic toasts were ably proposed and responded to. On the health of the visitors being given, Br. William Watson (one of the respected proprietors of the Freemasons' Tavern) returned thanks, and expressed the great pleasure he felt in being present at a meeting of so highly a respectable and well-managed a lodge as the United Strength, and urged the young members to profit by the excellent example set them by their respected P. M.'s, if they wished to obtain proficiency and honours in the craft. After spending a truly pleasant evening, the lodge separated.

**LODGE OF UNITED PILGRIMS (No. 745).**—The first meeting, for the season, of this lodge, was held at the Horns Tavern, Kennington, on Wednesday, October 25, when Br. Stroud, W. M., very ably initiated a gentleman as a Freemason. There were upwards of twenty brethren present.

#### THE ROYAL ARCH.

**ROYAL YORK CHAPTER OF PERSEVERANCE (No. 7).**—A convocation of this chapter was holden at the Freemasons' Tavern, on the 24th October, Comp. Hervey, M.E.Z., presiding, when four qualified brethren were duly exalted in the Royal Arch. Amongst the visitors were Comp. Henriquez, of the Sussex Chapter, Kingston, Jamaica, and Comp. W. Edwards, of the Chapter of Phthagoras, Cambridge.

**ENOCH CHAPTER, No. 11.**—This prosperous Chapter held its second anniversary meeting at the Freemason's Tavern, on Tuesday, October 7th., when Companion Biggs, in a most able and impressive manner, installed Companions Williams, Z., Simpson, H., Young, J. A Brother was then exalted to the sublime degree of a Royal Arch Mason, in that impressive manner for which this Chapter is so justly celebrated. At the conclusion of the masonic business, the Companions sat down to an excellent dinner, provided by Messrs. Watson, Coggan, and Banks, with their usual good taste. The evening was spent in the greatest harmony, to which Brother Crew, accompanied by Brother Taylor, greatly contributed.

**ROYAL UNION CHAPTER, UXBRIDGE. (No. 536).**—This chapter held a convocation at the White Horse Hotel, Uxbridge, on the 21st October, when the following Comps. were severally installed as principals for the ensuing year: Benham, Z.; Adrian, H.; Shoppee, J. The various ceremonies were performed by Comp. Watson, P.Z., No. 23.

**POLISH NATURAL CHAPTER (No. 778).**—The sixth anniversary convocation of this chapter, which obtained its charter in 1848, was held at the Freemasons' Tavern, on the 26th October, the business of the evening being the installation of the principals. The first and second principals elect—Comp. Lord Dudley Stuart, who is ill abroad, and Comp. J. W. Adams—being unavoidably absent, the only installation was that of Comp. H. G. Warren as J. The ceremony was very impressively performed by Comp. Watson, P.Z., assisted by Comps. Blackburn, P.Z., Sigrist,

P.Z., and Jos. Smith, P.Z. The Comps. subsequently supped together, in celebration of the anniversary, and a special toast was drunk to the better health of Comp. Lord Dudley Stuart, that nobleman being a great favourite amongst the members of the chapter.

## PROVINCIAL LODGES.

### CUMBERLAND.

(From our own Reporter.)

THE Right Hon. Sir Jas. Graham, G.C.B., the Prov.-Grand Master, having appointed W. T. Greaves, Esq., of Penrith, P.M. of L. 184, and of L. 424, to the office of D.P.G.M. for this province, a large and influential assemblage of the brethren met in Pr. Grand Lodge on Wednesday, the 11th October, at the Crown and Mitre Hotel, in Carlisle. Br. Jos. Iredale, P. Prov. G.M., having declined the duty, Br. Dr. Wickham, P. M., opened the Prov. Grand Lodge, and ably performed the ceremony of installation. The usual business of the Prov. Grand Lodge having been gone through, Br. Greaves proceeded to appoint the Prov. Grand Officers for the ensuing year, as undermentioned. Br. J. Pearson, of L. 409, the senr. P.M. present, and almost the founder of his lodge, having, with a truly masonic feeling, waived the privilege offered to him in the first instance, in favour of a younger brother, the D.P.G.M. appointed as S.G.W.: Br. J. Wickham, M.D.; J.G.W.: T. Roper, W.M. of L. 409; G. Chaplains: Rev. Beilby Porteus, Vicar of Edendell, and Rev. S. Butler, Vicar of Penrith; G. Registr.: G. G. Mounsey, Esq., Carlisle; G. Sec.: R. G. Hindson, Esq., Penrith; S.G.D.: R. B. Willis, Esq., Elderbeck Lodge; J.G.D.: Br. T. Robinson, Longtown; S. of Works: J. Harvey, Esq., Sandgate Hall; G. Dr. Ceremon.: T. Robinson, Esq., Robinson House; Assistant D. of Ceremon.: Br. — Wigton; P. G. Organist: Br. S. Rowland, Penrith; P. G. Sword Bearer: Br. J. Teather, Keswick; P. G. Tyler: Br. J. Squire, Penrith. The Brethren then proceeded to exercise their privilege, and unanimously elected as their P. G. Treasurer, M. Rimington, Esq., of Tyne-field House. Br. Greaves announced his wish that the W. M. and brethren of six of the lodges would recommend to him each one brother from their respective lodges, to serve the office of P. G. Steward, so that from this list the higher offices might hereafter be filled up as vacancies occurred. For this purpose he deferred making these appointments until after their next lodge meetings.

The minutes of the last Prov. G. L., held at Longtown, in March, and which alluded to some unfortunate differences which have prevailed in the province, and which it was agreed should henceforth be buried in oblivion, were then confirmed. Br. Armstrong, the late P. G. Sec., complained of the communications of the province not having been acknowledged by the Sec. of the Grand Lodge of England, and moved a resolution to the effect that such conduct was "unmasonic."\*—This resolution, however, was withdrawn, on an understanding that the newly appointed P. G. Sec. (Br. Hindson) should write for an explanation.

All business being ended, the Brethren adjourned to a very elegant dinner, provided in the large room of the hotel, the D. P. G. M. presiding.

After the removal of the cloth, the D. P. G. M. proceeded to give the usual loyal and masonic toasts, which were drunk with all the honours.

The D. P. G. M. had great pleasure in proposing the health of a gentleman too well known in Cumberland, indeed he might say throughout England and the whole of Europe, to need any eulogium from him. He alluded to the Rt. Hon. Sir J. Graham, P. G. M. who was proud of the position he held in the province (cheers).

Br. Holland, P. G. Treasurer of the North and East Ridings of Yorkshire, had great pleasure in being allowed the honour of proposing a toast to so influential a body of the Brethren. He was highly delighted to observe the spirit of fraternal union and harmony which prevailed amongst them that day. Whilst the feelings existed

\* It is but fair to state, that on inquiry, we are assured the communications have been acknowledged.

amongst them, their order must flourish, and he trusted they would be always found in their various lodges. He was happy to know that the lodges of the province were in a flourishing condition, and he trusted that under the superintendence of their new D. G. M., with whose talents and zeal he was well acquainted, that they would go on prospering in a still more marked degree (Cheers). He begged to propose the health of the M. W. D. G. M. for Cumberland, Br. Greaves.

The D. P. G. M. rose with considerable pride and pleasure to return thanks for the honour conferred upon him, and he did so with the utmost sincerity. He felt proud in presiding over so influential a body of the masons of Cumberland, and the kind reception he had that day met with from all parties would urge him forward to use his best endeavours to promote the interests of the order. He was sure that no man who joined the order of Freemasons, and saw the good they did, would wish to withdraw from it. By it the aged mason was relieved—the widow protected from want—and orphan boys and girls educated, clothed, and boarded. Whilst charity was their ground-work, they were always happy to meet one another at the social board, and he had never yet met with a man, who having once joined the order, had expressed a wish to withdraw from it. He again thanked them for the honour conferred upon him, and he trusted that next year they would be enabled to congratulate one another on the increased and increasing prosperity of the province (Cheers).

The D. P. G. M. then gave the health of the P. G. officers, from whose zeal in the discharge of the duties of their office, founded upon their character as good and efficient masons, he expected much benefit to arise to the province, and coupled with the toast the name of G. S. W., Br. Dr. Wickham (Cheers).

Br. Dr. Wickham thanked the W. D. G. M. for the manner in which the toast had been proposed, and the Brethren for the enthusiastic reception they had given it. He could assure them that no exertions would be wanted on his part, and he believed he might state the same of the whole of his colleagues, to promote the prosperity of the province, and, as far as in them lay, of the order generally.

Br. Sherrington, P. M., called on them as a mark of respect to the P. P. G. M., to drink the health of Br. Iredale, than whom no officer past or present could bring more zeal or talent to bear in support of his office. Br. Iredale had been for a period of twenty years a member of the Union Lodge, and during the whole of that lengthened period had not missed one meeting (Cheers). If Br. Iredale had not always agreed upon all points with the brethren present, he was sure they would all acknowledge his zeal and ability, and the conscientious spirit by which he was at all times actuated (Cheers).

The D. P. G. M. said, before giving the honours to the last toast, he must also be allowed to bear his testimony to the zeal and ability which the late D. G. M. had exhibited, and express his regret that he was not present at their festive board.

The honours were then given with great spirit.

Br. Armstrong, P. P. G. Sec., had a toast to propose which he was sure could never be omitted by a meeting of Freemasons, than whom there was no body of men more sensible of the kindly influences of home—he gave them the ladies (Cheers).

The health of the visitors, which was acknowledged by Br. Holland, P. G. T. of Yorkshire, and Br. Warren, P. M. 202, was then given, and the company separated shortly before six o'clock, many of the brethren having to return home by train.

### CHESHIRE.

ON Friday, the 29th of September, the Provincial Grand Lodge of Cheshire assembled at the Royal Hotel, Chester, for the purpose of transacting the usual business of the province, the R.W.P.G.M., Lord Viscount Combermere presiding. The following were invested as Grand Officers for the ensuing year:—Gibbs Crawford Antrobus, Esq., V.W.P.G.S.W.; Hon. Major Cotton, M.P. V.W.P.G.J.W.; Rev. John W. N. Tanner, V.W.P.G.C.; James Bland, V.W.P.G.T.; Wm. Courtenay Cruttenden, V.W.P.G.R.; Edw. H. Griffiths, F.W.P.G.S.; Charles Dutton, W.P.G.S.D.; Edward Samuelson, W.P.G.J.D.; Henry Holbrook, W.P.G.S. of W.; Walker Butterworth, W.P.G.S.B.; James Siddall, W.P.G.D. of C.; J. Twiss,

W.P.G.O.; Brs. John Hitchen, Prichard, Henry Nicholson, Dickson, and Rowlands, W.P.G. Stewards.

At four o'clock the brethren sat down to a banquet in the Assembly Room. The room was decorated with the masonic and other banners. The chair was occupied by the Noble P.G.M. Lord Combermere.

The musical performance was under the direction of Br. Twiss, W.P.G., Organist. On the removal of the cloth, the R.W.P.G.M. gave the health of "Her Majesty," which was drunk with great enthusiasm, and followed by God Save the Queen, masonic version.

Other loyal and Masonic toasts having been drunk,

Br. G. C. Antrobus, in proposing the health of Lord Combermere, said, whetlier they looked at him as a commander in the army, as a landlord, as the head of a family, or as P.G.M., they always found him a leading star for admiration. "The health of Lord Combermere" was drunk with masonic honours.

Lord Combermere on rising to respond was greeted with renewed cheers. He was really at a loss to know how to express his gratitude to his excellent brother and friend for the very flattering manner in which he had proposed his health, and he had to thank the brethren present for the very handsome, warm, fraternal, and friendly manner in which they had received it. They must be aware that having so often to address them on the same subject, it was very difficult to introduce any thing new, but there was one subject he might always name, and that was the pleasure they all experienced in being enabled to have these opportunities of assembling together, and to have the opportunity, he trusted, of congratulating themselves on being better men than they were at the last meeting, and therefore better masons. Amidst all the conflicting interests which now disturb the world, their noble art, based as it was upon eternal principles, stood then undisturbed. It was gratifying to him to find that masonry was flourishing, not only in Cheshire, but as he (Lord Combermere) learned from the G.M. of England, throughout the world. His Lordship, after again thanking the brethren, proposed the health of "Sir Watkin W. Wynn," P.G.M. of Shropshire and North Wales, and expressed a confident anticipation that under the auspices of that hon. bart., masonry would flourish in that province.

His Lordship then gave the healths of the "Earl of Ellesmere and Le Gendre Nicholas Starkie," the Provisional Grand Masters of Lancashire, which were drunk with masonic honours.

The Noble Lord then said he had the honour of presenting to Br. Brown a purse containing twenty sovereigns, and a masonic jewel, the contribution of the brethren of the Cestrian Lodge, for the valuable services he had afforded that lodge as Treasurer and Secretary during the last twenty years. He could say that as P.G.M., he had the honour and pleasure of attending the Cestrian Lodge on many occasions, and had always found Br. Brown a good and excellent man and freemason, and an ornament to the craft. It therefore gave him great pleasure in conveying to him the good wishes of his brethren, as manifested in the substantial gift he had the honour of handing to Br. Brown.

The health of Br. Brown was drunk with masonic honours.

Lord Combermere, in a complimentary address, invested (at the request of the M. and brethren of the Cestrian, 615), Br. Brown with an elegant gold chain and medal, at the same time presenting the worthy Secretary with a purse of gold.

Br. Brown begged to thank his Lordship for the very flattering compliment just paid him by the R. W. Provincial Grand Master, and with some emotion said that the W. M. and his brethren of the Cestrian had laid him under a deep debt of gratitude for this munificent mark of their approbation of his humble services as their honorary treasurer and secretary for the last twenty years. When intrusted with their confidence on the first night of meeting in lodge, by being appointed their treasurer and secretary, he was quite sensible of the trust reposed in him, and he contemplated with great pleasure that from that moment he could say (what few others could besides him); that upon no one occasion had he ever been absent. In season and out of season he had had the real interests of his lodge at heart, and with feelings of pleasure he

flattered himself that his humble endeavours had given satisfaction, as proved by the voluntary present from his brethren just conferred upon him by the R. W. P. G. M., Visct. Combermere, and begged to assure them that the impression of their fraternal regards would be nearest his heart to the latest period of his existence, and would stimulate him to continue his best exertions for the Cestrian and the cause of Masonry in general. During the delivery of his speech, Brother Brown informed the brethren, that besides contributing to other charities during the year the Cestrian Lodge, 615, had contributed to the following Masonic Institutions:—To the School for Orphan Females, £50; to the School for Orphan Boys of Masons, £10; to the Freemasons' Widows' Fund, £5; to the Institutions for Aged Freemasons, £5; total, £30.

The following is a copy of the inscription on the jewel:—

“Presented to  
BROTHER S. BROWN,  
By the Brethren of the Cestrian Lodge,  
for his  
Services as Secretary and Treasurer  
during the last 20 Years,  
Sept. '29, 1854.”

His Lordship then gave the health of “Brother Finchett-Maddock,” D.P.G.M., to whose zeal and ability as a mason, and constant attendance to his duties, he (Lord Combermere) felt under considerable obligations. To this circumstance was mainly owing the success of masonry in the province, and he expressed his deep regret that the state of Mr. Maddock's health did not permit him to be present on the occasion.

Br. Thomas Finchett-Maddock returned thanks on behalf of his father, who, he said, desired him to convey his kind regards to his brethren, and to say that he regretted his state of health did not permit him to be present; but he hoped and trusted that ere long it would be so far restored as to enable him again to visit them.

Br. S. Moss, V.W.P.P.J.G.W., of Gloucestershire, after paying a compliment to the Marquis of Downshire as a good landlord, a kind husband, and an excellent mason, proposed his health as P.G.M. of Berkshire.

Lord Combermere returned thanks. He believed his lordship was a popular and good landlord both on his English and Irish estates, and he knew him to be a good mason.

A variety of other appropriate toasts were drunk, and the company separated about nine o'clock.

#### DURHAM.

On Tuesday the 19th September, the R. W. P. G. M. for the Province of Durham (Br. John Fawcett, Esq.), held his Annual Provincial Lodge in the Borough Hall, Stockton-upon-Tees, where he was honoured with the attendance of a very large number of the Brethren from the several lodges belonging to his Province. After the usual routine of business had been transacted, the following officers were appointed: P. D. G. Master, H. Fenwick, Esq.; P. S. G. W. Rev. James Milner; P. J. G. W. John Saville, Esq.; P. G. Chaplain, Rev. J. Simpson; P. G. Treasurer, Br. Reynolds; P. G. R. Br. Husdill; P. G. Secretary, Br. Crossby; P. G. D's. Brs. Hodgson and Ditchburn; P. G. S. W. Br. Gales; P. G. D. C. Br. Hammerbon; P. G. S. B., Br. J. Thompson; P. G. O., Br. J. Smith; P. G. P., Br. Douglas; P. G. T., Br. Laws.

Several large sums of money, were voted to the different Masonic Charities, and the R. W. P. G. M. informed the Brethren, that he had received an intimation from his Br. R. W. P. G. M. for Northumberland (Rev. E. C. Ogle), that the foundation stone of the Schools promoted by the Vicar of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, on a scale of great magnitude, would be laid by him in a short time, and that the presence of the Brethren of this Province was requested at the ceremony. After the Lodge was closed the Brethren dined together at Br. Palphramand's, Black Lion Hotel, and an evening of rare conviviality was spent. The Brethren proceeded home by special train, kindly put on the line by the Stockton and Durham Railway Company.

## LANCASHIRE.

MARINERS' LODGE (No. 310).—The monthly meeting of this excellent lodge of free and accepted Masons was held at their new lodge-room, Hauck's-buildings, No. 42, Duke-street, Liverpool, on Thursday, October 5th. The business of the lodge was opened by Br. James Hamer, P.M., who, with his accustomed efficiency, initiated several candidates into the order; after which the installation of Br. Samuel Lewis Caffé, as W.M. for the ensuing year, was proceeded with by Br. Hamer, with the assistance of several officers of P.G.L., who had most kindly tendered their services at this interesting and important ceremony of the lodge; and the newly-installed W.M. appointed Br. D. Myers, S.W., and Br. J. Ashton, J.W., and all the other officers for the ensuing year. Business being closed, an elegant banquet succeeded. The chair was taken by the W.M., who was supported on the right and left by the P.G. officers and P. masters of the lodge; and at the commencement of the banquet, "Praise the Lord" was sung in admirable style. On the removal of the cloth, *Non nobis* was sung, and the usual loyal and patriotic toasts were drunk with great enthusiasm. Br. James Hamer, P.M., rose, and claimed the support of the brothers to do justice to the toast he was about to propose. He regretted that he was incompetent to do justice to the individual whose health they were about to drink; it could not possibly arise from the want of cordial feeling: he had known him for several years, and he believed they could coincide with him in the opinion, that for honesty and strict integrity, they could not do otherwise than admire him as a man and Mason. He requested the brothers to charge their glasses, and join him in drinking the health of Br. S. L. Caffé, their W.M. Br. S. L. Caffé, on rising to return thanks, was received with much cheering; on its subsiding, he proceeded to remark that his sincere and heartfelt thanks were due to the brethren for the high honour they had that day been pleased to confer on him. He was sensible of the kindness which had prompted them to select him for the important office of W.M. for the ensuing year; and although he was aware of the great responsibility he had incurred by his installation to the chair of the lodge, yet he hoped the same would be lessened by their affording him that much valued assistance which they had so liberally bestowed on his predecessors in that office. He should, therefore, in safety calculate on their continued exertions and assistance to enable him to carry out the noble example exhibited by his predecessors; and he could not withhold his praise for their zeal, as they retired from office, in leaving the funds in a prosperous condition, which would allow them to serve the holy cause of charity, and to continue to dispense relief to the widow and orphan, or to those who by misfortune are reduced to become recipients of Masonic bounty. Various other toasts were given and responded to, especially Br. Caffé's, W.M., proposal of the name of Br. Hamer, P.M., upon whom he passed a very high encomium for his long and valuable services in connexion with past offices of the lodge. The lodge was closed at the hour prescribed, and the brethren separated, expressing their gratification with the whole proceedings.

## MONMOUTHSHIRE.

THE Provincial Grand Lodge of Monmouthshire, held its anniversary meeting on the 19th ult., at the King's Head, Newport.

The business of the day commenced with the opening of the Silurian Lodge 693, in the Masonic Hall.

The P.G.L. was then opened in form at the King's Head, by the R.W. Br. Rolls, D.P.G.M., who, in the absence of Br. Col. Tynte, P.G.M., occupied the chair.

After the accounts had been audited and the minutes of the last lodge confirmed, the R.W. the D.P.G.M. nominated as his officers for the ensuing year the following brethren, namely:—Br. Lyne, S.G.W., Br. Capt. Tynte, J.G.W., Br. the Rev. Jno. Roberts, G.C., Br. J. Nicholas, G. Treasurer, Br. Pearce King, G.S.D., Br. Works, G.J.D., Br. Childcot, D.C., Br. West, Assistant D.C., Br. Wells (Pursuivant), Br. Groves, Organist, and Br. Fienburg, Tyler.



A splendidly embossed testimonial on vellum was then, in the name of the P.G.L., presented by the R.W.M. to Br. Crook, who has long and energetically laboured to promote the prosperity of the craft in the province.

The office of Grand Organist has been in abeyance since the revival of the Grand Lodge of Monmouth, but it is gratifying to find it now actively filled by so distinguished a musician as Br. Groves.

At the conclusion of the immediate business of the Grand Lodge, its members proceeded to the Masonic Hall, where the Silurian Lodge was sitting. Arrangements were then made for the procession to the Town Hall, on the following programme:—

Band of the Monmouthshire Militia.  
Brethren of the Silurian Lodge, two and two.  
Brethren of the Monmouth Lodge, two and two.  
The Provincial Grand Lodge.  
The P.G. Chaplain and the Chaplain of 693.  
The G.W.  
The D.P.G.M.

The brethren having arrived at the Town Hall, divine service was performed; Br. Sidebottom, P.G.D.C., of Oxford, and Chaplain of 693, officiating in the reading-desk, and Br. Roberts, P.G.C., in the pulpit.

On their return, the lodge was called off in due form, and the brethren sat down to a banquet served at the King's Head Hotel, the D.G.M. presiding, when a very pleasant evening was passed.

#### NORTHUMBERLAND.

ST. PETER'S LODGE (No. 706).—A meeting of this was lodge, held at the Hope and Anchor Inn, Catterick's-buildings, near Byker, Newcastle-on-Tyne, on Monday evening, the 9th October. At the conclusion of the business of the Lodge, on the Brethren retiring to refreshment, a motion was made by the W. M. that a subscription be entered into in aid of the sufferers by the late awful conflagration in Newcastle and Gateshead, and the Brethren subscribed the sum of 4l. 10s. 6d.

#### SOMERSETSHIRE.

THE GRAND LODGE.—Br. William Stradling, of Chilton Villa, a Deputy-Lieutenant of the county of Somerset, has resigned the Grand Treasurership of the Province. He has been succeeded by the election by acclamation of Br. Eales White to that important office. The Provincial Grand Lodge have passed a vote of thanks to Br. Stradling. Br. A. P. Browne was appointed Provincial Grand Secretary at the same time.

LODGE OF UNANIMITY AND SINCERITY (No. 327), TAUNTON.—This important lodge has commenced its season of meetings most brilliantly. On the last lodge night, the R.W. the P.G.M., with Mrs. Major Browne, Capt. Trevor, and other officers of the West Somerset Yeomanry Cavalry, were amongst the visitors. Four gentlemen were admitted into the mysteries and privileges of Freemasonry, and the son of the esteemed W.M. (Hon. Major Napier), took an advancing step in the order. The W.M. was ably assisted in the arduous duties of the evening by Br. P.M. Abrahams.

BATH.—The brethren of this city have presented a magnificent gold snuff-box to Br. Temple, in testimony of esteem for his services as a Mason. We are delighted to record this, and we cannot refrain from expressing a fervent hope that other brethren, whose admitted usefulness for 20 and 30 years have been so conspicuous, will have similar acknowledgments of their long-tried and unwearied services.—ED. M. M.

The testimonial bore the following inscription:—

“PRESENTED BY SEVERAL BRETHREN TO  
BROTHER GEORGE MATTHEW TEMPLE,

*P.P.G.S.W. Somerset,  
P.M. Royal Cumberland Lodge, No. 48, and  
P.M. Lodge of Rectitude, No. 420, also  
Past M.E.Z. Royal Cumberland Chapter,*

AS AN

AFFECTIONATE MEMORIAL AND GRATEFUL ACKNOWLEDGMENT  
OF MASONIC MERIT AND PRIVATE WORTH.

*Bath, August 21, 1854.”*

THE MASONIC CHARITIES.—The Provincial Grand Lodge of Somerset have become annual subscribers to nearly the whole of the Masonic charities.

SUFFOLK.

ON the 25th ult., in honour to the flourishing lodge—the Phoenix—Stowmarket, the annual meeting of the Grand Lodge of Suffolk, was held in that town, and was attended by a large concourse of the brethren. The R.W., the P.G.M. Sir E. Gooch, Bart., M.P., presided. After the conclusion of the formal business of the lodge, the brethren attended Divine Service in the Parish Church, and listened to an eloquent and edifying sermon preached by Br. the Rev. G. Murgage, P.G.C., in aid of the National and British Schools of the town. The following gentlemen were appointed Grand Officers of the province for the ensuing year, by the R.W., P.G.M. Br. Sir Ed. Gooch, M.P.:—R. Martin, Esq., D.P.G.M.; L. Hatton, Esq., P.G.S.W.; F. B. Stratheon, Esq., P.G.J.W.; Rev. G. Murgage, P.G.C.; T. Jones, Esq., (Mayor of Sudbury), P.G. Treasurer. The banquet, which was held at the Corn Exchange, was attended by about eighty members of the craft, among whom were Capt. Gooch, R.N., P.P.G.S.W.; Rev. W. French, P.P.G.C.; Rev. F. W. Freeman, P.P.G.S.W.; P. Allez, Esq., P.P.G.S.W.; Br. Forbes, P.P.G.J.D. of the Essex Provincial Grand Lodge; Br. Fox, of the Norfolk Lodge (100); Br. Ballard, of (29), London; and Br. Baling, of lodge (59), Colchester. There were also present representatives from every lodge in the province. The courteous and dignified conduct of Br. Sir Ed. Gooch, was the theme of general praise; and it is, we understand, the intention of the brethren of the province to present him with a testimonial, in acknowledgement of his services as P.G.M., and his munificent support of Freemasonry generally.

WORCESTERSHIRE.

LODGE OF STABILITY (No. 824).—At the usual monthly meeting of this lodge held at Br. Brooks's, Talbot Hotel, Stourbridge, the brethren presented Br. Joseph Aston, W.M., with a beautiful gold pin and set of shirt studs, as a trifling memento of their esteem and respect, and in consideration of his indefatigable exertions in the cause of Masonry, but more especially towards the Lodge of Stability, over which he has presided as W. M. for two years. A full muster of the brethren added greatly to the happy event, and, after Lodge business, upwards of twenty sat down to an excellent banquet, provided by Br. Brooks. The usual toasts were given, and a very happy evening was spent with true masonic feeling.

SOUTH WALES.

ST. PETER'S LODGE (No. 698.) Carmarthen.—Upwards of eleven years' Brother Ribbans has been working in this Lodge—not in a useless or merely amusing manner, but in a way to do honour to the Society, and good to the charities connected with Free Masonry. Brother Ribbans's aim now seems to be to establish the senior warden of this lodge a governor of the Boys' School, and we believe it is his earnest desire to fill up the triangle, by bringing in the junior warden a governor of the Old Man's Asylum. Let every Lodge employ its funds thus, and in ten years time the Masonic Charities would be the richest specimen of Free Philanthropy in this or any other country.

## SCOTLAND.

**BANFF.**—The members of the St. John's Lodge held their first meeting of the season, on the 23rd October. Br. Jas. Mason, W.M., occupied the chair, and, in his usual masterly style, initiated Mr. Alex. Bairn's father into the mysteries of the craft.

## THE COLONIES.

**CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.**—On Thursday, August 3rd., a grand ball was given at the Masonic Hotel, Cape Town, Cape of Good Hope, by the Brethren of the British Lodge (No. 419.), and the Goede Tronw Lodge (which is not on the official list in the calendar); the Brethren appeared in full masonic costume. A tastefully laid out supper was provided, and after ample justice had been done to the profusion of good things set before them, the Brethren adjourned to a splendidly decorated suite of rooms, adorned with the flags of all nations, interspersed with masonic banners, emblems, and divers devices. Terpsichorean amusements then commenced, and were, to use a hackneyed but expressive phrase, "kept up to a late," or rather till an early "hour." Mr. Holt's excellent band was in attendance, and performed its part in an admirable manner. A more agreeable evening has rarely been passed by the brethren in that locality, and we are informed that so gratified were they with the entire proceedings, that a similar entertainment is speedily to be got up, in order that those who delight to "trip the light fantastic toe," may again indulge in their favourite pastime; to bring the Brethren, and the fair portion of their families, into pruternal communion, and thus promote that sociality and good feeling which distinguish your ancient and honorable fraternity.

**AUSTRALIA.**—**PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.**—On the 17th June, the various lodges of freemasons met at high twelve, at the Masonic Hall, Adelaide, to celebrate the festival of St. John the Baptist, upwards of seventy being present. The Provincial Grand Lodge was opened in due form by brother G. S. Kingston, M.L.C. Acting Provincial Grand Master, and the various private lodges afterwards went through their routine business. At about six o'clock the officers and brothers adjourned to the assembly-room of the Napoleon Bonaparte, where a sumptuous banquet was provided by the host, Brother Ramsay. The chair was occupied by the Acting Provincial Grand Master, supported on the right by Brothers Dr. Kent, Deputy Prov. G. M.; Joseph, Bagot, M.L.C., and Henry, Prov. G. Stewards; and on his left by Brothers Alderman Lazar, Prov. G. Director of Ceremonies; Gleeson, J.D.; Haire, Prov. G. Pursuivant; Lomax, Prov. G. Steward; Dodgson, P.M.; Lambert, and Gosse. Brothers Wicksteed, Prov. J. G. Deacon, and Moore, Prov. G. Steward, acted as croupiers. The cloth having been drawn, the usual masonic toasts were honoured, interspersed and enlivened by songs and music. At half-past eleven, "Burns's Farewell" announced that the Sabbath day was approaching, and the knock from the chairman's gavel was followed by instant separation. The universal feeling was, that so pleasant a meeting had never before been held by the craft, in South Australia.

**CELEBRATION OF ST. JOHN'S FESTIVAL, AT ADELAIDE.**—On the evening of the 22nd June, the Brethren of the Lodge of Unity, and those of the Adelaide St. John's Lodge, met at Brother John Smith's, Port Adelaide, to celebrate the Festival of St. John. About fifty-three Brethren set down to supper. The usual masonic toasts were proposed and duly honoured. At 12 o'clock the Acting-Worshipful Master, Brother P. M. French, left the chair, and the Brethren retired, having spent a most agreeable masonic evening.

**NEW MASONIC HALL, AT ADELAIDE.**—A meeting of the shareholders of the "Masonic Hall Association," took place on Monday evening, June 5, at the lodge-room, North-terrace. The meeting was called to adopt a Deed of Settlement, to elect directors, trustees, and auditors. The chairman, Mr. J. Lazar, explained the nature of the business, and the position in which matters stood. He also congratulated the shareholders upon the success of the undertaking. A ballot for the officers then took place, the result of which was the return of the following gentlemen:—*Directors*, J. Lazar, Esq., R. McClure, Esq., E. Mitchell, Esq., F. Haire, Esq., and A. Abraham,

Esq. *Trustees*, L. Joseph, Esq., Dr. Gosse, J. S. Henry, Esq., C. S. Porle, Esq., and B. Nathan, Esq. *Auditors*, Messrs. Ball and Woods. There is a neat cottage attached to the hall, which is intended for the residence of Brother J. Wing, the tyler, who on this occasion was presented with a very handsome silver watch. About eighty brethren were present, and the evening was spent most agreeably.

NEW FREEMASONS HALL, AT HOBART TOWN.—A new masonic hall is also to be erected in this place, Brother William Champion having kindly given a very eligible site. The result is, that a company is in process of formation, with 5000*l.* capital, in 10*l.* shares, to erect a hall; these shares are to be held by and transferrable to those only who are true and faithful brothers amongst us. One pound is to be paid down, and the remainder is reserved in equal instalments by promissory notes, payable at three, six, nine, and twelve months, respectively, bearing date July 1, 1854. Brothers G. Stevenson, M. Kennett, and W. G. Hardy, are respectively treasurer, secretary, and solicitor. A provisional committee has been appointed, consisting of twelve brethren, and two hundred and sixty-four shares have already been taken. As soon as four hundred shares are taken, it is intended to hold a general meeting of shareholders for the election of officers, and the formal inauguration of the company.

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#### ROYAL FREEMASONS GIRLS' SCHOOL.

On the 12th ult., the usual Quarterly Court of the Governors' of the Girls' School, was held at the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen Street, for the election of children, and for the transaction of general business.

Brother Mills occupied the chair.

Brother Crewe, the Secretary, read the minutes of the previous Quarterly Court, and of the several sittings of the House Committee, which had taken place during the three months intervening. From these records, it appeared, that the Grand Lodge has this year subscribed 350*l.* to the funds of the Institution. All the children with the exception of 12, spent the last vacation with their relatives and friends, and returned to the school in good health. One child unfortunately fell a victim to the late pestilence, notwithstanding the most attentive care of the medical officers and of the school-mistress. The conduct of Dr. Moore, M.D., Honorary Physician, the same gentleman who some time since filled the office of G. S. D., was beyond all praise. During the time that the child's illness continued, he attended her at Wandsworth, several times each day, and supplied her with wine and other necessaries from his own establishment. The House Committee fully recognising such an active exercise of the highest virtue that can adorn a mason, had placed on record the expression of their unanimous thanks to Brother Moore. Brother Howell, surgeon to the Institution, was also indefatigable in his exertions, and was in constant attendance on the child, while the care bestowed on the youthful sufferer, by Miss Jarwood, was characterised by all that fond attention which she has for so many years exercised towards the children placed under her care; and the relatives of the child, in most affecting terms expressed their gratitude for the careful and affectionate manner with which she had been treated.

The committee had defeated an attempt made by the churchwardens to subject the Institution to an annual charge of 4*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* for church rates, and received a letter from Brother Phillip Hardwicke, their architect, certifying, that the works at the School House had been completed to his satisfaction.

These minutes were, on the motion of Brother Symonds, confirmed by the Court.

The Treasurer was then authorised to pay 393*l.* 5*s.* 8*d.*, the expenses of the Institution for the quarter.

Brother Crewe then announced that there were six vacancies on the school, and that there were only five approved candidates: on which it was moved, that the five children so approved should be admitted without a poll. This was at once agreed to.

Brother Symonds next brought before the court, the case of a child who had been elected at the poll, which took place in April last, but who, on account of the extreme delicacy of her constitution was refused the necessary medical certificate to

qualify her admission. She had since been residing at Margate, and was now greatly improved in health as testified by letters from medical men resident in that town, addressed to Brother Patten. Under these circumstances, he thought that the unfilled vacancy should be kept open for her, subject to her obtaining a certificate of good health from the medical officers of the charity; and he had great pleasure in moving a resolution to that effect.

Brother Barrett seconded the proposition.

The Chairman thought that the child's illness did not nullify her election, but that she had a right to the first vacancy which might arise after her complete recovery.

There being some doubt on this point, the motion was put from the chair and unanimously agreed to.

The proceedings then terminated, with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

At a meeting of the General Committee on Thursday last, over which Br. Beadon presided, Miss Jarwood was appointed Matron, *pro tem.*, in the place of the late Mrs. Crooks.

BOARD OF BENEVOLENCE.—At the monthly meeting of the Board of Benevolence, held at Freemasons' Hall, on Thursday, Oct. 26, nine applicants were relieved with various sums amounting in the aggregate to 85*l.* 1*s.*

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## BROTHERLY LOVE.

BY ALEX. HENRY GIRVEN, AUTHOR OF "REGINALD SELWYN," &c.

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### CHAPTER I.—PASSION AND DEFORMITY.

THE sun was sinking behind a range of vine-covered hills which formed the western boundary of an ancient and picturesque town in the south of France. It was the early part of autumn, and the foliage was beginning to assume those varied tints, which lend such diversity and beauty to woodland scenery, which in this locality abounded for miles in the direction of the receding orb. The scene upon which the eye of the spectator reposed, was one of those which a painter would have selected for his canvass, or which would have kindled into enthusiasm a mind possessing a particle of imagination.

A deep silence reigned around, and only one human form gave evidence of animated existence. It was that of a young man, who paced up and down the banks of a river that issued from an acclivity at some distance, and which pursued its course in graceful windings, until it reached the town, when its further progress ceased to be visible.

The person whom we have introduced, seemed entirely heedless of the surrounding objects, though the sun was then tinting every peak of the upland with glowing loveliness, and the water was rosy with its departing brilliancy, while in every direction there was some point of beauty that wooed the vision. He continued to walk up and down with his arms folded and his eyes fixed on the ground, apparently lost in abstraction. Occasionally he would direct his glance towards the town, as if he expected some one to approach thence, but, no one appearing, he would resume his walk with the same abstracted air.

It may be as well to supply the reader with some information respecting the town near which this opening scene of the narrative is laid, as well as

the pedestrian in question, which will render the interview that is about to take place, more intelligible.

It is to the imperishable honour of France, that her sons bend with enthusiasm and reverence at the shrine of genius, and that they preserve with fidelity and sentiments of affection and gratitude the remembrance of those who have shed a lustre on their native land, whether as poets, philosophers, historians, artists, or statesman. When their recognition of intellectual worth is tardy or inefficient, it arises from those unfortunate political circumstances which too frequently have rendered their nation a theatre of ambition and strife, instead of a temple for the worship of what is beautiful in science, art, and literature.

The town in question was not deficient in this laudable attribute of the national character, being amongst the foremost to do homage to such of their countrymen as had distinguished themselves by the brilliancy of their genius. It was the birth-place of one of those intellectual meteors, and annually the inhabitants assembled to commemorate his fame, and to offer to his memory a tribute of gratitude for the celebrity he had conferred on his native place.

These were not the days of Athenæums or Mechanics Institutes, or hebdomadal re-unions for the purpose of literary recreation, or the cultivation of intellectual pursuits, and this anniversary was hailed with pleasure by the inhabitants, as furnishing a means of gratifying that craving for mental pabulum which exists in every civilised community. The mode in which this anniversary was celebrated, was congenial to the character of the people, for on such occasions a prize was given to one of the younger inhabitants who had succeeded in delivering the best address on some literary or scientific subject, which might be selected by the chief magistrate and other influential inhabitants who had formed themselves into a committee for that purpose. The effect of this practice was not only to offer up a grateful expression of popular feeling to departed worth, but also to stimulate the young men of the neighbourhood into a competition, where success or distinction could only be obtained by study and superiority in mental qualifications. But not only were the juvenile inhabitants induced to engage in this intellectual contest from the honours attending success, for love lent its powerful incentive, and many a youthful candidate was tempted to engage in the strife, from which, without such a motive as to excel in the eyes of his mistress, the study requisite would have deterred. Thus in many cases, indolence or the love of pleasure incident to youth, was surmounted, and many who would have frittered away their time in frivolity or in inaction, were lured into exertion and to that mental activity which in after life exercised a most salutary influence on their characters.

But, notwithstanding, the beneficial results of these anniversary competitions on the youthful mind of the district, still they were not exempt from the imperfections attendant on all human institutions, and, as faithful chroniclers, we are compelled to state that they were frequently productive of disagreeable consequences. As the dispositions engaged in the rivalry were various, defeat was not always attended with resignation

or sustained without resentment, nor was success always accompanied with moderation.

Brotherly feeling was frequently interrupted, friendship and attachments that seemed too strong for even transient estrangement were impaired, and in some cases entirely destroyed. Indeed, on some occasions, serious feuds ensued and the vanquished would resort to more material weapons than could be found in the armories of logic or eloquence. But despite of the bitterness that these periodical contentions sometimes engendered, their general effect was beneficial and their advent was always hailed with pleasure by both old and young, as supplying a rational diversity of the monotonous existence of a provincial town, into which the gaities of the metropolis at that period had not penetrated.

The day on which our tale opens was the eve of one of these anniversaries, which was regarded with more than usual interest by the inhabitants, for Napoleon had already given indications of that lust for conquest which threatened to involve the whole continent in the horrors of a protracted war. Conscription was proceeding in the surrounding vicinities at a rapid pace, and none of the young men could promise himself that he would again be present at another competition, for the proverbial uncertainty of individual life was increased by the impending dangers of conflict in which he might be engaged, which the restless ambition of one mortal threatened, and which were shortly afterwards so fearfully realised.

Amongst those who had eagerly engaged in these contests, was Simon Le Trouve, the solitary pedestrian to whom we have introduced our readers. Nothing was known of his parentage, for he had been left in a basket at the door of the chief magistrate, some twenty-four years before, with a request in writing that this functionary would take charge of him, and the writer stated that ample funds for his support and education would be supplied.

As the worthy magistrate was an amiable man, and as the promise of the writer was fulfilled, he adopted the child, and previous to his demise bequeathed it, with the property, to his successor, who undertook and discharged the trust. He was liberally educated, and on attaining his majority, his personal property, amounting to a rather large sum, was duly delivered to him.

Nature had been very ungracious towards the foundling in personal attributes, and had fashioned his features and form in a mode that rendered him more like some rude parody of humanity than an individual of the *genus homo*. His head was unusually small and sunk between his shoulders, while every feature was distorted, and the general expression of his countenance rendered more hideous by a swarthiness of complexion and thick bristly hair that overspread his face. His figure was colossal but a malformation of the spine made him stoop, and imparted a singularly disagreeable appearance of his frame. His disposition was moody and saturnine.

Notwithstanding these defects, there were some with whom Simon was a favourite. The reason of this was supposed to arise from pity for his

personal defects, which it was kindly suggested might account for the moroseness he displayed in his general intercourse with society, while it was further stated that he had on some occasions given revelations of a better and more generous spirit than his usual deportment exhibited. But there was another ground for recommending him to favour. The circumstance of his deformity of feature and figure, had the effect of estranging him at an early period of life from association with those of his own years, for with the thoughtlessness of youth, they ridiculed his personal defects until they drove him in the bitterness of mortified pride, into solitude, to commune with his own gloomy thoughts, and to brood over that deformity which he deemed entirely excluded him from the sympathy of his kind. This state of isolation, however, was favourable to the development of his mental faculties, which he strengthened by study and reflection. But here also, nature had been scant in dispensing her benefits, for he appeared to be deficient in the rarest, best gift of genius, a vivid imagination.

He could reason with closeness and with logical acumen on the subtlest and most complex subjects—he could disrobe fallacy of its meretricious drapery—he could wind through the maze of ingenuity with unwavering determination and fidelity to the point at issue. But when the invention that could enable him to shed new and various lights on his subject, and the warmth of fancy that could render analysis attractive, were required, he signally failed. He was critical, not creative.

Perhaps it is erroneous to attribute this mental constitution to nature, for, as will shortly be seen, he cherished a warmth of affection and a depth of sensibility for one object in creation, which were strangely at variance with the want of imagination displayed in his public exhibitions or his intercourse with society. His language also in her presence was different from his common phraseology, and instead of being precise and prosaic would rise into sublimity and poetry. It might be, that his unprepossessing face and form suggested to him a conformity between his mind and his exterior, and as the one was repulsive, he endeavoured to render the other cold and unfeeling.

Simon continued his walk to and fro for about an hour, when he perceived a form approaching from the direction of the town, and the auditor might have heard his heart throbbing in the silence. A few minutes and the young girl, for it was the form of a female, stood before him.

She appeared about seventeen or eighteen years of age, that period when incipient womanhood commences to develop itself on the unfolding form, and to trace on the countenance intellect and sensibility in their maturity of thought and feeling, where previously little else than a sense of physical existence was visible. Every look revealed the soul within, and this more than even her face, which was faultless and feminine, or her graceful figure, prepossessed the beholder in her favour.

Simon took her hand, and looking into her face with an expression in which hope, doubt, and deep affection, were blended, said.

“I almost feared, *Ida*, you would not come—it is past the hour we agreed to meet.”



"I was unexpectedly detained by the arrival of my cousin, who has come to spend a few days with us. You know Alfred Beaufrere?" she replied.

"Yes," said Simon, and a dark cloud flitted across his coarse and swarthy features. "I don't forget how he won the medal from me at school, and, what even then my boyish spirit prized more, your congratulation."

"For shame, Simon, to retain the remembrance of that trivial incident. Don't you recollect that you both shook hands, here, by the very margin of this stream, and that you promised to me that you would never feel towards each other anything but brotherly love?"

"Well, we will not talk about anything disagreeable now. I am wearied with preparing my address for to-morrow, though I understand I am to have no competitor. But were it otherwise, here at least, I have little doubt of obtaining the prize—that prize which I would consider as futile as that moonbeam on the water, except—"

"Except what, Simon?" she asked, as the young man paused.

"That it may render me agreeable in your eyes—tempt you to overlook this deformity of feature from which your sex turns with loathing—make you see only the light of intellect kindled within this uncouth shrine—make you regard with tenderness one who loves you with that passion which only some outcast from common sympathy like myself can feel, when he twines his heart around one human thing."

He sank on his knees, and, pressing her hand to his brow, burst into a violent flood of tears.

His emotion extended itself to the young girl, in whose eyes glistened tears, but repressing her feelings she said,

"Simon, Simon, I beseech you to calm yourself. Surely you know how deeply I am interested in your welfare. There is nothing I would not do to serve you. I respect your intellect, and I know your nature is noble, though you suffer a morbid sensibility to—"

"To make me feel that I am an object that can never inspire affection," he exclaimed with vehemence as she faltered,—*"that the words of love should never be uttered by lips that seemed formed only to hiss forth the accents of hate."*

He became too agitated to proceed for some minutes, and Ida remained silent, for experience had taught her the futility of attempting to remonstrate with him during these ebullitions of feeling. At length he resumed in a milder tone,

"I can scarcely aspire to your love, Ida. The beautiful should wed with the beautiful. I should seek to mate only with some distorted image of humanity like myself. There would be a sympathy between us—there would be an identity of feeling arising from mutual deformity—no union of beauty and the beast, ha, ha!"

A wild, mocking, bitter laugh followed these words, and rang through the solitude, as if it burst from the lips of a fiend.

"I will not speak to you, Simon, while you continue in this mood. If you required my presence merely to vent your morbid feelings, I regret

that I should have relinquished the duties of hospitality towards our relative and guest."

"And I suppose," said Simon, resuming his asperity, "that he is handsome—gifted with all the charms of comely youth. I do remember that he was a fair, symmetrical boy. His spring gave promise of a bright maturity of form and feature. His eyes were soft, and blue, and dreamy, just that description young maidens so much admire. He was our local Adonis, and I the Satyr. Ha, and he had a fluent tongue, and used to write sonnets made up of moonlight and stars, and rife with the soft images bred by reveries beside the murmuring stream, and, in the depths of the forest, musical with feathered minstrelsy, and fragrant with fresh flowers springing beneath his feet—while I have fed my soul on the cataract's roar, and the dark ravine, and the rude and stunted shrubs that sprang from its hoary fissures, and the hoarse croak of the raven, for these were a type of me, loveless, misshapen, rugged, and repulsive."

"For shame, I repeat, Simon, to indulge in such gloomy thoughts—think of your intellect."

"And what is the value of that intellect?" he exclaimed with bitterness; "what is its value, except to contrast with my physical deformity, and to fill my mind with images of beauty that one reflection of my coarse features and ungainly form makes me crush in their birth, from their dissimilarity to my loathed exterior? What is the value of that intellect—can it win me love?"

"I am sure, Simon, there are those who do love, and will always love you while you retain your reputation for superior intellect."

"Bless you for these words, *Ida*," he exclaimed, his manner suddenly altering. "I will retain here at least that reputation, and your words revive the hope that was dying in my soul, that even you, whom I love so ardently, who are so lovely in person and mind, whose voice is like some wild melody that finds an echo in my heart, where all beside is discord, whose presence alone can brighten the dark void of my existence, that even you may love the rude being whom you alone have saved from misanthropy."

What reply this impassioned speech might have elicited, it is impossible to say, for the young girl seemed deeply affected by the devotion of her rude suitor, but as she was about to answer, the sound of a clock issuing from the town was audible in the stillness of the evening. It caused her to start, and having taken a hurried adieu of Simon, she returned with a quick step in the direction by which she had approached. Simon gazed after her receding form till it was no longer visible, and then, with a sigh, followed the path by which she had departed.

## CHAPTER II.—THE DEFEAT.

The next morning, at an early hour, a number of the inhabitants had assembled in a church in one of the suburbs of the town, where the ceremony of competing for the prize was to take place. This edifice was selected as being one of the most spacious in the vicinity, and containing

a monument to the memory of the deceased philosopher, in commemoration of whom this festival, for as such it was regarded, was instituted.

The aisle and galleries presented as lively an *ensemble* as gay dresses, animated countenances, and that *abandon* of manner for which on such occasions our mercurial neighbours are remarkable, could realise. The building itself was not deficient in attractive features, for it was a venerable Gothic pile, and it was richly decorated with carving, while the walls were hung round with exquisite paintings, after the fashion of Roman Catholic places of worship. The hand of genius had there traced in glowing lineaments, various episodes of scriptural history, and portrayed in vivid hues the form of the Virgin and the Magdalen, or various saints or martyrs who had spread the gospel abroad, or who had sealed the sincerity of their faith by the sacrifice of their lives at the gibbet or the stake. Nor were floral decorations wanting, for the pillars and galleries were wreathed with the shrubs of the season, which relieved the sombre character of the structure and the subjects which adorned it, and also imparted a freshness and fragrance to the whole scene. To the severe taste of Protestant Reformers, the edifice would have been more agreeable for the purposes of sacred worship, without its adornment, but its general appearance harmonised admirably with the object to which, on this occasion, it was devoted.

The mayor and some of the other magistrates of the town occupied a temporary platform at one side of the church, and immediately opposite, a rostrum was erected for the candidates.

The proceedings were opened by a venerable ecclesiastic, in a brief and earnest address, in which he implored the divine blessing on all assembled; and prayed that the competition might not create unpleasant feelings, or interrupt those sentiments of brotherly love which christians under all circumstances were commanded to cherish.

The mayor then stated the object of those who had instituted the annual assemblage, and then called on all who were desirous of competing, to come forward. A silence of some minutes followed, when Simon ascended the rostrum amid the acclamations of the multitude; for though, as we have already stated, he was not generally a favourite, still his ability was recognised.

His address was of that grave and cold description which is suited rather to the meridian of a university than to a popular assembly. The theme selected, was one which was not then as effète as it has now become, namely, the useful as compared with the beautiful. He contended that the former only should be studied by an intelligent being, and in his definition of what constituted utility, altogether excluded the pleasures of imagination. His address, in those days, and in certain coteries, would be considered of a very practical character, for it was void of all metaphor, fancy, or fervour, but full of dry deduction, and hard and ponderous erudition. However, it possessed solidity, and showed, notwithstanding its materialist tone, that the speaker was well-informed and clever. Though some of the younger auditors would have preferred a more animated address, still they joined in the general applause which greeted Simon.

when he descended from the rostrum, and which sent a flush of gratified pride across his sallow countenance.

An interval of some minutes elapsed after the cheers had subsided, and the mayor announced, that if no other candidate appeared, the prize must be awarded to Simon. A movement was then visible at the extremity of the building, and a young man announced that he was ready to compete for the prize. The crowd immediately divided, and the youthful candidate having reached the rostrum, ascended it, and bowed gracefully to the magistrates and the multitude around. A murmur of approbation ran through the assemblage, excited by the prepossessing appearance of the stranger, and the pleasure of witnessing a contest for the prize.

Perhaps a more striking contrast to Simon could not be presented than the new-comer. He was tall, slight, but admirably proportioned; his configuration indicating grace and agility. His features were strikingly handsome, and his complexion was almost femininely fair. A mass of light auburn hair, which was thrown back from a lofty brow, floated in curls down his shoulders, and his dark blue, lustrous eyes beamed with intelligence. Such were the principal facial and personal traits of Alfred Beaufreere, for it was he who now stood forward to contend with his former associate and rival.

To complete the picture, we may state, that he was attired in a light blue suit, which set off his fair complexion and eyes, and his collar was thrown open, revealing a throat and neck symmetrically moulded, and rivalling the marble in whiteness.

In reply to a question from the mayor, he announced his name, which was received with renewed applause, for the remembrance of the beautiful and gifted youth, who had left his native place some years previously, was not forgotten by many of those present, though few at first recognised him in the form that then stood before them in the maturity of manhood.

There were two who did not share in the feeling which the appearance of Alfred Beaufreere excited. These were Simon and Ida St. Claire, the young lady to whom the reader has already been introduced, and who would have endeavoured to dissuade her cousin from engaging in a contest with Simon, had she been aware of his intention. Simon felt instinctively that the prize of which he was so sure, and to obtain which he had spent many an hour in preparing his address, was about to be ravished from his grasp, and that he was to be hurled from that intellectual supremacy which he had so long enjoyed in his native place. It was with difficulty he could repress the groan that sprang to his lips, while an icy shudder crept through his frame, and he trembled as if stricken with palsy. But he knew that he stood in the presence of many who would gloat over his agony, and that consideration enabled him to stifle any indication of emotion. He withdrew into a recess in the wall behind the rostrum, and, folding his arms, awaited the address of his unexpected rival. He was tempted to turn his eyes towards Ida, who was seated in the gallery opposite, but he dared not trust himself. Had he done so, he would have seen there revealed the depth of a love which in the hour of his trial fully developed itself. He would have read in her pale cheek and glisten-

ing eye and quivering lip, and her look of sympathy, how fondly his uncouth image was shrined in the affections of that young and lovely maiden, who would have made any sacrifice to secure his happiness.

Alfred commenced his address amid profound silence. His voice was clear, sonorous and musical. He had not uttered a half a dozen sentences before it was evident that he was endued with rare eloquence. He asserted, that he fully concurred in the proposition enunciated by the preceding speaker, that nothing was beautiful that was not useful, but he denied the justice of the limitations assigned to utility. He maintained that whatever produced an agreeable emotion in the mind, was intrinsically useful, whether excited by the fragrance of a flower, the warbling of a bird, the meandering of a rivulet, or the twinkling of a star. He demonstrated the fallacy of regarding as useful what had reference to the requirements of material existence, or to the gratification of the animal senses, inasmuch as man was a compound being, made up of soul and body, both of which craved for food, which, if not supplied, would leave the human being imperfect in its enjoyments. He enlisted the local scenery and the objects by which the assembly were immediately surrounded, in behalf of his arguments. He illustrated his views by reference to the beautiful objects in the vicinity; the vine clad hills, amid which the sun sunk with such magnificence, tinting every acclivity with floods of radiance; the winding stream that mirrored back the glories of the skies, day and night, whose banks were fringed with flowers, and whose murmuring fell softly on the ear, like the voice of some spirit uttering its musical plaint in a language that seemed intelligible to some subtle sense or faculty with which the human mind was stored. He then adverted to the pleasures of the imagination in general, and the enjoyment to be derived from the works of the poet and the artist. He asked them to look around the sacred edifice where they were assembled, and gaze for one instant on the works of the painter which adorned its walls. Could they, he inquired, behold those monuments of genius into which the artist had infused his own conceptions of beauty and sensibility, which portrayed so vividly some of the chief episodes in the life of the Redeemer; and those followers, whose fidelity neither suffering nor death could destroy, without having a more lively conception of the sacred subjects which they depicted and animated, and made more vivid objects of sense and affection?

It is not our business to criticise the merits of this florid and impassioned address. It is sufficient to state that it was most effective; and when the young orator concluded, one simultaneous shout of applause burst from the multitude over whose imagination he had flung that spell which eloquence rarely fails to exercise in a popular assembly.

Upon the ears of Simon that applause fell like drops of molten lead, but no look or gesture revealed his feelings to the general scrutiny that was directed towards him, as if to read the sentiments which this display of incontestible excellence excited in his bosom.

No other candidate appearing the mayor consulted with his brother magistrates, and then desired Alfred to stand forward. The latter having complied, the worthy magistrate announced that he had been unanimously

awarded the prize. A faint cry broke from one of the galleries, followed by an exclamation that a woman had fainted. It was Ida St. Claire, who was borne from the church in a state of insensibility.

This incident had the effect of curtailing the ceremony, which was terminated by presenting to Alfred Beaufre the prize, with which he retired. The crowd shortly afterwards departed, only one person remaining behind. It was Simon, who seemed unconscious of the occurrence which had taken place, and continued leaning against the wall with folded arms and statue-like appearance.

Poor fellow! he had sustained the severest shock it had been his fate to endure in the course of his existence. The hope he had cherished was shattered, that intellect on which he had prided himself was eclipsed, and he felt that sense of humiliation which an aspiring intellect endures when brought into contact with superior intelligence. A sinking sensation crept over him, and then he became like one who had been stunned, heedless of all around, but conscious of suffering. In this state he continued for some hours, without even noticing that twilight was darkening the church. He was suddenly aroused by some object rushing by him, and raising his eyes, he beheld a spectacle that rooted him to the spot in terror and amazement.

### CHAPTER III.—THE MANIAC OF THE MOUNT.

It was not until two days after the events detailed in the preceding chapter, that Ida St. Claire was sufficiently recovered from the shock which her feelings had sustained by the defeat of her lover, to collect her scattered thoughts. Her mind first reverted to Simon, for whose situation she felt deeply distressed. She well knew with what a crushing weight his defeat must have fallen on his dark spirit, and, to use a popular and expressive figure, her heart bled for the sense of humiliation and mortified vanity, under which he must be labouring.

Her love for Simon was deep and sincere. It grew out of a sentiment of pity for his deformity, which rendered him an object of ridicule and aversion in the eyes of the young maidens of the neighbourhood, and, fostered by daily association and the warmth of his attachment to her, it gradually deepened into as pure and fervid a passion as ever animated the breast of young womanhood. The contempt which his uncouth appearance excited, the derision with which her companions treated her affection for him, which was apparent to all, only tended to bind her more strongly to him, and to rivet her affection more closely. But she was not blind to his defects. She perceived clearly that he was wayward and misanthropic; but she could not bring herself to believe that one who loved her so ardently, and who exhibited so much sensibility in her presence, was radically bad in disposition. She ascribed his faults to the morbid feelings which his personal misfortune engendered, and in this very circumstance she found an additional ground for commiseration. Vanity whispered to her that she might possess sufficient influence over his

affections to mould him to her will, and, by the gentleness of her own character, smoothen the asperity of his. Besides, as we have previously mentioned, he had outpoured all his softer nature to her, and she could perceive a better and kindlier feeling struggling in his bosom, which the fostering of affection might develope in its maturity. How far love might have assisted her in these deductions we will not pretend to determine.

But notwithstanding this lenity to his defects, Ida could not conceal from herself the fact that, her lover was fearfully vindictive. The tenacity with which he remembered the most trifling slight, and his fierce denunciations of those from whom he sustained it, which even her presence would not always repress, filled her with apprehension. She had been brought up in a school of strict piety. Her father, a Lutheran minister, had suffered severely from the enmity of an early period, and endured persecution for an adherence to the creed of his convictions. But all that he had sustained was unable to weaken his sentiments of brotherly love for the whole human race, and when he lay on his death-bed, though reduced to the greatest extremity by the perfidy of his former friend, and the bigotry of those who persecuted him for his creed, in his last appeal to heaven there was mingled a prayer for the forgiveness of those who had turned his days to bitterness, and brought him to an untimely grave. The impression which her father's precepts and death-bed had left on Ida's mind, was indelible, and her every endeavour was directed to the cultivation of an unbounded love for the human race. If resentment arose in her mind, it was only a transient denizen, and was soon replaced by forgiveness for the object which had excited it.

The want of a similarity of character in this respect was, perhaps, the only reason that prevented Ida answering in explicit terms the affection she felt for Simon, for she trembled at uniting her destiny to one who could feel violent or permanent resentment to a fellow-being. But her love whispered that the origin of this unamiable trait in her lover might be traced to his deformity, and that she would be the means of eradicating it from nature.

The anxiety which Ida felt for her lover, at this crisis, was heightened by the want of any person in whom she could confide. Her mother, who was of rather a puritanical turn, and whose views were more worldly than those of her departed spouse, regarded the attachment of her daughter, for Simon, as little short of insanity; and seldom omitted an opportunity of evincing her disapprobation of it to Ida. To her, therefore, the young girl could not apply for consolation or advice. Maiden modesty prevented her confiding in Alfred her solicitude, and, besides, she felt a hectic of resentment for the mortification he had occasioned her lover. From the young girls of her acquaintance she shrunk, in anything that related to Simon, for their ill suppressed sneer at his name wounded her to the heart.

Another day wore on, and Simon was not heard of. It was his practise to call daily to inquire after her health or to converse with her, and the

depth of his love was manifest in this, because Mrs. St. Claire scarcely endeavoured to conceal her aversion towards him. There were only two circumstances that prevented her openly insulting him, the first was that Ida, though gentle and submissive on other points, exhibited a determination in reference to Simon, which astonished her; and the second was, that it was reputed that Simon was possessed of considerable personal property. This latter circumstance would not of itself have been sufficient to have surmounted her aversion to him, but as she and her daughter were in a state of only moderate means, it was not without some weight. Indeed, as the good lady began to ponder on this point, she began to give her daughter credit for more good sense than she at first suspected in her "infatuated attachment," as she was accustomed to express herself, and arrived at the conclusion that it was his money which accounted for Ida's strange predilection for Simon.

The reader is not to consider that Mrs. St. Claire, was so deficient in perspicacity in her deduction with reference to Ida. She merely fell into a common error, which is of daily occurrence with the most sensible, namely, judging of others by themselves.

In the emergency in which she was placed, a thought suddenly occurred to Ida; it was no other than to visit a strange being, whose place of abode and eccentricities had acquired for him the designation of the Maniac of the Mount.

We must revert, for a short time, to Simon Le Trouve, whom we left in the church, under mingled feelings of fear and surprise, that for the instant suspended the bitterness of spirit produced by his recent humiliation.

The object which he beheld was one, which, seen in the uncertain light, might well excite these emotions. It was the form of a man worn almost to a skeleton, the pallor of whose features gave him a corpse-like appearance, but whose eyes emitted a wild and unearthly lustre, and whose hair, which was perfectly white, fell in long matted locks down his shoulders. He was attired in a loose gown that descended to his feet, and which was confined at the waist by a piece of cord. There was no vestige of any other garment discernible.

The apparition appeared not to notice Simon, sweeping by him with a shadowy motion, and a noiseless tread which awoke no echo in the deserted aisle. When he reached the extreme end of the edifice, he prostrated himself before a small mural monument, which had apparently been erected for some years, and burying his face in his hands, remained in that attitude without sound or gesture.

For sometime Simon was unable to collect his mental faculties, and a conviction that he was in the presence of a being of the other world became impressed on his imagination. He would have accosted the apparition in some form of appeal, such as he had heard prescribed by the superstitious in addressing the spirits of the departed, but his memory failed him, his powers of utterance were suspended, and a cold clammy perspiration burst from his pores. What effect a continuance of this state might have had on the young man's reason it is difficult to say, but he was soon relieved from his apprehension of



being in the presence of a supernatural being, for the object of his terror burst forth in a rhapsody which satisfied Simon that he was a creature of flesh and blood, though, seemingly, deprived of reason,

*(To be continued.)*

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## THE HEIR OF BENDERSLEIGH;

OR,

### THE FREEMASON'S PROMISE.

*(A Tale for a Summer's Day or a Winter's Night).*

BY BROTHER C. J. COLLINS.

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#### CHAPTER I.—INTRODUCES ALL THE CHARACTERS NECESSARY FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE PLOT.

IN the north-west of England a mighty river rolls from the Irish sea, and constitutes the means of wealth of a vast trading port, in which great fleets of merchantmen from every country where commerce has a home, pours out the stores which have been accumulated in distant lands, to reward the industry of those whose toil has raised the country in which we live and thrive to the highest point of the renown and bustle of the World. Upon that river's bosom a hundred ships ride easily, waiting for admission to the crowded docks which line the right-hand shore, and mask the noble town that spreads beyond them. On either shore high massive piers are raised, to curb the fury of the rushing tide, as riding on the western gale it comes in all its strength towards the shore, and spends its anger in a misty shower. On, past the town, the river sweeps, expanding in its inland progress. The great edifices which have been raised to store the wealth that distant climates yield, are left behind; the towering steeples of the distant town are shadowy in the west; but still the rushing tide rolls on, and forms a great extent of water, appearing, as it widens, like an inland sea. On still it rolls, and ship and tower, and various fashioned steeples are all lost behind the green of nature's loveliness; and the green fields of earth, and the azure blue of heaven, mingle in the distance with the sparkling waves, as they break upon the sandy shore, and again roll back to gain fresh power. From either shore, so wide the river has become, the other side looks shadowy to the view, and hill, and dale, and forest glade, and waving fields of the long summer grass are blended into one.

It is a summer's day, and the bright noon-tide sun shines down upon the bosom of the mighty river, now smooth and motionless as a burnished plate. The full spring-tide has risen to its height, and hides the sand that marks the boundary of the fertile earth. The opposite shore seems almost buried by the water's bright expanse. It is a day of loveliness and beauty. From every bough the feathered warblers of the grove are pouring forth their native melody, and untrammelled nature seems to revel in her glad-

ness. The air is pregnant with the perfume of sweet flowers; the budding hawthorn and the blossom of the honeysuckle, the early summer rose, the woodbine and the sweetbriar, all pour out their treasures on the stilly air, and make enchanting nature doubly lovely to the enraptured eye. From the rising shore where now we stand, a bright and glowing scene spreads out before the view, bounded by the uneven line which marks the distant mountains on the horizon's verge.

Near to the spot which we have just described, a cottage lately stood, commanding in its front a view of the bright river and the fertile land beyond: and on its other side, the distant mountains of North Wales, and the bright verdant undulating land between. The little cottage had its lower storey ornamented by close trellis-work, into which were twined the woodbine and the rose. The entrance was in the middle, being supported by two bay windows, which reached down to the ground and opened into the front garden, which was variegated by a thousand different flowers, in thick profusion. Beyond this little garden there was a grass plot which looked like verdant velvet, stretching right down to the water's edge, and at the time of high tide, being level with it. It was a lovely spot, and Nature might have chosen it for her throne. Within, the elegance of art contrasted with, and was set off by, the horticultural glories which shone outside, and pressed, in their profusion, against the windows of the little house.

There were five inmates of this fairy dwelling, well suited to the spot in which they lived. These inmates consisted of a mother and two daughters—one a widow, and the other blooming in the freshness of nineteen, with all the luxurious loveliness which perfect womanhood at such an age displays. The other two of the quintette, were a male and female servant, who, at the very moment of which we write, are engaged in the well whitewashed kitchen, whose walls were crowded with clean wooden shelves, which, in turn, were laden with all those articles which the proper mode of keeping house requires, in packing two extensive hampers with various substantial edibles in the shape of a ham, a tongue, two or three couples of fowl, several dishes with paste coverings, sundry bottles, in different sizes; knives, forks, spoons, glasses, and various other things and substances which good people provide when they have the desire and the means of taking care of themselves.

"Well, this will be something like a pic-nic," said the female servant, as she pressed down a large pound cake into an unoccupied corner of the largest basket.

"Ah," said her fellow-labourer, "if this is what you calls a pick-lick, it's just the lick I likes."

"Pick-lick!" exclaimed Rachel, who prided herself upon her grammatical accuracy, "pick-lick! How often am I to tell you of them ungrammatical expressions? Pic-nic, it is."

"Why, it stands to sense that it's pick-lick," replied Jacob, as he brushed his forehead, after the exertion of fastening down the lid of one of the baskets; "What's all them things for but to pick and lick?"

This cogent argument seemed to stagger Rachel in her grammatical

firmness; but before she had time to reply to it the kitchen door was thrown open, and her two young mistresses entered the apartment, both attired in walking costume.

"Well, Rachel," said the widow, who was usually addressed as Mrs. William Chasey, or more frequently only as Mrs. William; "well, Rachel, are these things prepared? we shall have the folks here presently."

"Yes, Mrs. William," replied Rachel, "the pigeon-pies, and the tarts, and the wine, and the mince pies, and all them things, is in this basket; and the ham, and the tongue, and the chickens, is in that there basket of Jacob's."

"Very good," said Mrs. William Chasey, approvingly. "Now then, lay the cloth for luncheon, in the dining-room, for I suppose we shall want something before we start."

"It's already done, Mrs. William," replied Rachel.

"Here they are," joyously exclaimed the younger lady, looking out of the kitchen window, down a long and profusely stocked garden which was bounded at the bottom by one of those green lanes which poets love to prattle of. "Here they are—here's Mr. Grainger and Mrs. Puffler Smirke, leading the way; open the door Jacob."

Jacob opened a side door which led round into the back garden, and waited the arrival of the guests, who had been telegraphed from the kitchen window. Presently they came up to the porch which ornamented the door, and Mrs. William Chasey and her sister Harriet ran out to meet them, and to shake hands with them by twos at a time.

Frequent were the declarations as to the glorious day the party had been favoured with, and many the congratulations which were expressed, as the little party crowded into the little house, which now presented a striking contrast to its usual silent serenity.

And a snug little party it was that had assembled there. There was Mr. Grainger, by profession a solicitor, and reputed to be very rich; but the only peculiarity about whose appearance, at least peculiarity in these days, was, that he wore small clothes instead of trousers. Then there was Mrs. Puffler Smirke, decidedly the lioness of the party, and dressed accordingly. She was reputed to be on intimate terms with the editor of the leading newspaper of the neighbouring town, through the instrumentality of which publication, she weekly poured forth heart-stirring lines, which appeared under the head of "Poetry," and formed the leading feature of the "Bottle Pool Trident," the lines being subscribed, "Maria Puffler S—," which everybody of course knew meant Mrs. Puffler Smirke. This lady wore the usual light blue spectacles, which she invariably took off when she wished to look at anything minutely. Of course she was to be the enchantress of the pic-nic party, and surrounded by the glow of a well puffed out amber satin dress, it was expected that every ruffled leaf and every trampled flower would call forth a burst of poesy, only too rich to be remembered. Then there was Mr. Puffler Smirke, a nobody, and for ever lost behind the shadow of his wife. Equal in dignity with Mrs. Puffler Smirke, was the young Mr. Augustus Raker, who was the heir to a large but dilapidated house and a

fine estate; whose father from the young man's childhood had held some high appointment in the East Indies, from which invigorating regions the youth had been sent in his infancy, and had never seen his father since. Barely twenty years of age, he had the appearance of a man of upwards of thirty. On his lip he wore a thick moustache, slightly tinged with red, and his attire was that of the last fashion which had come from Bond-Street to the Provinces. Another gentleman was of the party, about his own age, but looking younger, modestly attired, but with that bearing which attests the gentleman, and for which there is no counterfeit. This was Mr. Henry Elliotson, an articled clerk to Mr. Grainger, in whose office he had been brought up from a mere child.

Beside these, there were a maiden lady of an uncertain age. Two poor relations of Mrs. Chasey's, like train-bearers to the rest, and who had been invited; the one because he could play the accordion, and the other because he "made such blunders," and "would be so very droll."

"But where's Mrs. Marshall?" enquired Mr. Grainger, when the party had seated themselves at the luncheon table.

"Oh, mamma will be down presently," replied Harriet, "but she will not be able to join us to day, as she is rather poorly; besides which she is afraid of leaving the house to the boy."

"Not go!" cried Mr. Grainger, "then I don't go."

"La! Mr. Grainger," exclaimed the ladies all at once.

"Oh, he wants to creep up Mrs. Marshall's sleeve," said the blundering cousin, intending to say something funny, and in the belief he had done so, laughing; but only for an instant, as Mr. Grainger himself did not relish the joke, consequently, he being rich, nobody else did; while Mr. Augustus Raker whispered to Harriet, next whom he sat, that in his opinion, the gent that had just spoken was what the fast men in London called "a flat;" and then he laughed and ogled Mrs. Puffler Smirke, as much as to say, you should have heard that; at which Mrs. Puffler Smirke practically illustrated her last name, and seemed to say, "ah, I can see what's going on," for she knew that Mr. Raker was an heir, and these great minded people though they write about and against "vanities," as they call them, nevertheless relish them mightily.

"Yes, as Mrs. Marshall remains at home, you must have your excursion without me, and you will enjoy it all the better I dare say," said Mr. Grainger.

Mr. Grainger had various reasons for remaining behind. First, he was fond of the country, and where could he see it in its eloquent silence to greater advantage than from Mrs. Marshall's cottage. Then he loved seclusion, and it struck him that perhaps he might be a restraint upon the enjoyment of the party, all so very much younger than himself; and finally, he had some matters to talk over with Mrs. Marshall herself; so his mind was made up, perhaps, beforehand.

A great many inducements were offered to Mr. Grainger, with the view of securing his company at the pic-nic, but that gentleman was firm in his determination; and he good-humouredly, but decidedly, met the arguments urged with a refusal.

The luncheon was rapidly dispatched, and the little party rose to enter upon the out-door enjoyments of the day.

"Ah! Mrs. Marshall," exclaimed Mr. Grainger, as a middle aged lady entered the room, "come at last. I thought you did not intend to show yourself to the young folks before they departed for the day. A set of madcaps they are."

"Mr. Grainger!" exclaimed Mrs. Puffer Smirke, loftily.

"Come, come," said Mrs. William Chasey, "the day is wearing."

Thus admonished, the assembled party, after having one and all shaken hands with Mrs. Marshall, the hostess of the little cottage, Mr. Grainger excepted, scampered down the garden into the lane at the bottom, where there was a kind of omnibus with three horses attached, waiting to carry the party to a distant hill, which commanded a view of as lovely a country as can be found within the limits of our island home.

Mr. Grainger and Mrs. Marshall walked to the bottom of the garden to see the little party off, and as soon as they were all seated, the two cousins on the outside of course, the vehicle drove smartly down the lane, and was soon lost behind the green hedges which beautifully fringed the scene. An hour's ride over pleasant hill and fertile valley, and by homely farmsteads and great mansions and vast wooded parks, brought the little party to the foot of the hill which they intended should be the scene of the pic-nic of that day.

## CHAPTER II.—THE PIC-NIC.

Jacob and Rachel, who of course accompanied the party, unloaded the precious freight which the omnibus contained, and without which pic-nics would be nothing; and assisted by the coachman's cad, they carried them up the hill to a spot pointed out, with directions there to wait until the party, having taken their rambles, should be inclined for dinner on the green.

The summit of the hill, which should more properly be termed a mountain, was the first object which the party sought.

Mr. Raker advanced to offer Harriet his arm, but before he could do so, Mr. Elliotson had obtained the prize. Mr. Raker smiled at the young lady, but as he passed on, he honoured the gentleman upon whose arm she leant, with a scowl, which evinced but little feeling in harmony with the object of the party on the hill.

Mr. Raker, however, found a ready companion in Mrs. Puffer Smirke, who, with the sweetest smile that a poetess in green spectacles could give, took the proffered arm of the young heir.

There were many causes operating in Mr. Raker's mind, which induced him to look with anything but favour on Henry Elliotson. In the first place, Mr. Raker felt the proud position of independency in which he was placed, and, as he thought, he stood upon a high pedestal from which he could look down with scorn upon one who was but a dependent clerk. In the next place, Harriet was possessed of that beauty, which even in a

young libertine and a man of full-puffed up conceit, could produce a soft emotion; and lastly, another and a poorer man had been preferred to himself.

Arrived at the top of the hill, the party wandered in various directions, as their fancies led them. Mrs. Puffler Smirke gazed in a rapt attitude at the beauties of the scene before her, and with awful solemnity made a note of a great idea which suddenly had made itself manifest in her great mind. She made the note, and having done so, put on her spectacles again, having for the moment taken them off to see her pencil better.

Harriet and Henry Elliotson wandered down the hill, on the other side, and seemed delighted with each other. They had often met—had often walked together in the lanes which ran about the neighbourhood of Harriet's home. They had felt delighted in these rambles, but they had never discovered exactly in what their delight consisted. Of love they had never spoken, except when it had reference to others; but now the scene was changed—the opportunity was indeed most apt, and everything seemed propitious for a lover to unfold his mind to her on whom his heart was bent.

The two young fugitives from the pic-nic party, felt their situation, and wandered on in silence for some time. But at length that silence was broken, although the conversation only flowed in whispers, as though they feared that in the solitude of the beautiful scene over which they wandered, even the sound of their own voices might detract from the great bliss which they enjoyed. On they wandered, over the perfumed heath, and down by hedge rows at the foot of the hill, and still they whispered, and the honied words they uttered were almost lost upon the silent air.

Oh, how rapturous is the first declaration of a young love that is successful in its object.

Still they wandered on, and still they seemed enchanted, not with what they saw, but with the aspiration which both poured forth, each delighting each.

And on they would have wandered, had they not been startled by a merry laugh which came from some revellers behind a hedge.

“Why, here they are, at last;” exclaimed Mrs. William Chasey, “where have you been?—we have waited for you for half an hour.”

Thus admonished, the two lovers—for such they had become—turned through a little gap in the hedge, and there they found a white table-cloth spread out, with all the substantials from the hampers arranged thereon, awaiting destruction.

A gentle blush suffused the cheeks of Harriet, as she took her seat upon a camp-stool which the gallantry of some of the gentlemen had provided. She felt that she blushed, and therefore she declared that it was very warm, and threw her bonnet off, releasing her long dark ringlets, which flowed down upon her bosom and made her look more beautiful than ever. And, oh, how beautiful she was.

The rattle of the knives and forks has commenced, and the little party are doing justice to the pic-nic which has been provided for their enjoy-

ment. The merry laugh grows louder and more general. Every heart is light, and in the midst of the gay joyous scene, Mr. Raker seems to forget his pride and his conceit; and Mrs. Puffler Smirke steps down to a level with more ordinary mortals. The joke goes gaily round, and toasts are proposed, and healths drunk, and all are merry in themselves.

"Let's have a dance," cries Mrs. William Chasey. "Ah, let's have a dance," exclaimed one of the cousins, jumping up, but in the effort, slipping backwards into one of the great dishes which contained the pie.

Loud was the laughter at the cousin's mishap, rendered still louder when the unfortunate cousin, turning round, displayed the marks which the greasy ingredients of the pie had left upon his nether garments.

"Well, let's have the dance, then," said Mr. Raker.

And so the couples were arranged—the accordion, which had already done duty on the hill, was brought out, and the dance commenced, and was kept up on the green turf with spirit and with glee. The stately quadrille soon gave way to the more rattling and more homely country dance—bonnets and coats were thrown off, and unalloyed enjoyment seemed to revel upon that sylvan scene. Mrs. Puffler Smirke threw off her spectacles, and enjoyed the sport, dancing with Mr. Raker, whom she seemed determined not to leave. At length they became tired, and the party was divided. One set danced while the other rested, in order to prolong the gay delight.

"Now, Jacob," said Rachel, "hand the wine about;" and she gave him a tray on which had been arranged stout glasses, for the revellers.

"Must I give it to them as is a doncing?" inquired Jacob.

"Them as is a doncing! No!" replied Rachel, mimicking her fellow-servant—"why don't you say dencing," whispered she into Jacob's ear.

"Give us the tray," said Jacob, rather contemptuously, and he hurried off to hand the refreshments round; but, unluckily, as he was passing the dancers, Mr. Raker caught Jacob's toe, and threw him, tray and all, right on to the player of the accordion; and both, accompanied by the tray and the glasses, rolled over in the grass.

This of course put a general stop to the dancing, and as soon as the unfortunates had been raised, a shout of laughter rang through the air.

Jacob, scratching his head, looked down upon the spot where he had been tripped up, and gazed at it as though there were some mystery hidden there, which he fain would fathom.

Suddenly it was discovered that it was growing late, and therefore all haste was made to clear the things away and prepare for home. The gay party strolled along the side of the hill towards the little public-house, where their conveyance had been left, while Jacob and Rachel brought up the rear, with the remains of the day's feast.

Arrived at the little hostelry, the horses were soon attached to the carriage in the yard. The driver, who appeared to have been in a little pic-nicing too, solemnly adjusted the harness upon the leader's neck, and then gathering the reins in his left hand, between his fore finger and thumb, and with the whip in his right hand, he brought the vehicle round to the front of the house with a dash.

With some little difficulty the party were stowed in their proper places, and away the carriage rolled, rumbling over the dust.

Now, it appeared that during the absence of the party on the hill, one of the horses had been sent back and exchanged for another, but not as it will presently appear, a better one. Immediately after leaving the house of public call, the road formed a rather sharp ascent, and at the bottom of this declivity the new horse suddenly stopped, and refused to move forward or to allow his companions to do so.

Reader, did you ever ride behind what in stable phraseology is called a "jibbing" horse? If you have, you will readily understand the situation in which our little party were placed. They were blessed in their return home with "a jibber," and a jibber too of great determination and vigour, though it was of the backward sort. The majority of the party did not know what a jibber was, therefore, they looked with some alarm at the sudden stop that had occurred. A jibber, is a horse that is determined when in harness, to draw the wrong way; that is, when it is required that he should pull forward, he invariably backs with might and main, straining the collar on his neck in such a manner as to lead an inexperienced beholder into the belief that the animal is imbued with a desire to pull his own head off. This was the situation in which the pic-nickers were placed. The coachman, animated, doubtless, by what is sometimes called "a drop too much," lashed the rebellious animal with his whip, with right good will; but the more he lashed, the more the jibber strained backwards from the collar and the pole. Tired with the exercise of castigation, the coachman tried a little eloquence, and attempted to coax the animal before him, but with the like result. The jibber seemed to look on kindness with greater contempt than he did coercion, for he bent back his ears close upon his head, and assumed a look which seemed to say, "It's no go, a jibber I am, and a jibber I'll be." Then the coachman bellowed and lashed again, "Hurroo—ye brute;" he cried "Whish," as he lashed the whip again, "Ah—hoo—ya—a-a-h," he cried, and jerked the rein with an energy that bent the jibber's head upon his breast.

"What *is* the matter?" shrieked the ladies; from the interior of the carriage.

"I'll jump out;" exclaimed Mrs. Puffer Smirke, as the back of the carriage approached in rather alarming and close proximity to the hedge at the side of the road.

"Sit where you be mum," cried the coachman, and then he lashed away again; "Hurroo, ah—booh, ye devil!" he cried again, and the other horses wondering no doubt what their neighbour was about, and hearing the whip without feeling it, began themselves to be a little excited.

"Blest if the others aint a going at it now," cried the coachman, beginning to lose his temper.

"Oh, lord!" exclaimed the maiden lady, "We shall all be killed. I hope it is not your fault, Mr. Muffer," continued she, addressing the unlucky cousin who was sitting on the box.

"Me! Miss Tiffin?" replied that individual, "Why should you think it is me. I should be very glad to be out of it!" And the tone of voice in which he spoke, certainly gave good evidence of his sincerity.



Just at this juncture the stable boy from the Inn came up, and announced his presence thus:—addressing the coachman,

“What’s oop, dick?”

“Oh!” replied the driver, “Here’s this blessed fifty shillin ’un again;” alluding, we presume, to the price which concluded the bargain and sale when last the animal referred to was the object of a transfer and ownership. “Lay hold of his head and kick him, Sam,” continued the coachman, in a malicious tone.

“If there is any cruelty practised here I’ll report it,” cried Mrs. Puffer Smirke, in great agitation.

“Cruelty to a jibber, Mum!” responded the coachman, in a tone which implied the impossibility of the thing.

Having kicked the jibber to his heart’s content, the boy went to the leader’s head, and dragged him first to one side of the road and then to the other, amidst the screams of the ladies, the laughter of the gentlemen, and the great confusion of all; until at last there was a sudden dash, and the jibber started off at a furious pace, as though he was determined now that he did start, that they should see what he could do.

“Hurroo—hoa—o!” cried the coachman, and he lashed away at the jibber again.

Up the hill the horses dashed, amidst clouds of dust, the jibber tearing away as though he was determined to make up for his late conduct, either by going home at a furious rate, or throwing the party behind him over the first convenient precipice. On he dashed like a mad-thing, the coachman whipping away at the animal, in order, as he himself expressed it, “to cut it out of him,” meaning we presume that the process of excision should be applied to the horse’s jibbing propensities.

“Hurroo—hoa—o!” shrieked the coachman, and whish, went the whip again upon the jibber’s back.

“Will ye remember who’s behind ye?” rejoined the driver, addressing himself to the unhappy quadruped; “will ye remember who’s behind ye?”

If he did not, he certainly was the dullest horse that ever ran in the “glorious old coaches.”

At length, the jibber fairly spent, sobered down into a more reasonable pace; and the vehicle, the strength of its motive power being slackened, went gently over the road without exhibiting any of those jumping, and to the inmates, not very agreeable propensities which had before so remarkably distinguished its progress.

By this time the sun had already dipped into the horizon, and yet the pic-nic party were several miles from home. As this fact was impressed upon the attention of the general party by the frequent declaration of several of the ladies, one of the cousins volunteered to direct the party by a nearer road home, by which a very considerable saving of distance would be effected.

The proposal was instantly adopted, and in a short time the party arrived at a branch road, up which the coachman was directed to drive, and in turning the corner, the jibber of course went through his performances again, though with far less impetuosity than he had exhibited in the earlier part of the journey; having, no doubt, a lively recollection of

the energetic treatment with which he had been visited in coming up the hill. After two or three plunges backwards, and driving the back of the carriage crash through the hedge, to the manifest horror of all concerned, he consented to canter down the cross road, and all went smoothly for a considerable distance, in travelling which, the little party recovered their equanimity and their good humour, which were only alloyed by the prospect of the darkening night. All of a sudden the vehicle was brought to a stand still, and before any of the party could enquire what was the cause of this further stoppage, they were considerably alarmed by the prophetic exclamation of the coachman, who cried out,

“Well, here *is* a go!”

“What’s the matter now?” enquired Mr. Augustus Raker, with considerable irritation.

“Why, we *are* in a fix now, Sir, that’s what it is;” replied the coachman.

This information being considered anything but satisfactory, Mr. Raker, Henry Elliotson, and the other gentlemen got out of the carriage to ascertain the cause of the stoppage, and on advancing to the horses’ heads, they there discovered what the coachman had very graphically described as, “a fix.”

Just at this particular spot, the road ran across a bridge, which carried it over a small stream; and this bridge, whether from old age, which was very probable, or whether from some more summary cause, it did not then appear, had fallen in at the middle arch, and against the side of the road had been raised a most satisfactory notice to all travellers going upon that road, to the following laconic and conclusive effect:—“Notice! this road is stopped, by order of the Trustees.”

“Well, now, this is really outrageously provoking,” cried Mr. Raker.

“It is rather laughable,” replied Henry Elliotson.

Mr. Raker merely turned up his nose, as much at the speaker as at the observation; and then re-joined the ladies.

“It’s my belief,” muttered the coachmen, “that them trustees does it a purpose. Here’s a broken knee’d oss, a blind mar, and a jibber, and I’ve got to turn ’em in a lane six feet by four. Dash him.”

This last rather emphatic exclamation had reference to the unfortunate jibber, and was accompanied by a cut of the whip, which made the horse exhibit a kind of involuntary polka step.

There was a long consultation held at the back of the vehicle, as to the position in which the party was placed, which was brought to a conclusion by the coachman suggesting that “summut must be done, as it was getting precious dark.”

Thus admonished, the party decided upon walking the remainder of the distance, across the fields, being urged the stronger thereto by the discovery of the fact, that the cottage was only about half-a-mile off. The coachman, therefore, was left to extricate himself from the situation which he had so graphically described, as he best could. The good humour of the gay party was soon restored, and the alarm they had experienced vanished, as they skipped along the perfumed fields, now shining delightfully in the soft light of a bright harvest-moon, which rose above the eastern horizon with a flood of silver light, without a cloud to hide its

glories. The little house was soon reached, and there the party found Mrs. Marshall and Mr. Grainger at the door, rather anxiously waiting their arrival.

"Where *have* you all been?" inquired Mrs. Marshall, as the picnic party crowded into the house.

"Oh, such adventures, Ma," exclaimed Harriet, "and hair-breadth escapes and situations, which, the danger over, will be a mine of wealth to Mrs. Puffer Smirke."

"Really, Harriet, there are times when the most sublime situations are lost in the wonderful sensation of fear. So remarkable is the instinct of self preservation, which alike is felt by the savage mind, and the exalted man—or woman—a-hem—of genius. So strange it is; so vast, so wise, ah, as unfathomable as yon silver moon that sheds its silent brilliancy upon this sylvan scene."

This was the dreamy and rather alliterative mode in which Mrs. Puffer Smirke described the faculty which some of her own friends whisperingly said she herself remarkably possessed, of taking good care of number one.

The table had been spread for the refreshment of the rather jaded party, before they arrived, and so they quickly set themselves to the refreshing task before them. The incidents of the day were all recounted and described for the amusement and the wonder of Mr. Grainger and his hostess, and in this the time passed merrily on.

Great was Mrs. Puffer Smirke's eloquence when she described the dangers of the hill upon which the jibber first exhibited his exhilarating performances, and withering was her denunciation of all trustees of roads who broke down bridges and then stuck up notices to say that the roads across them were stopped; for she argued poetically, and with very considerable show of reason and research, that, if a bridge was broken down—in the very middle too—it was of no use sticking up a notice by the side of the bridge, to say that there was no road over it. And from the bridge again they jumped to the merry adventure of Jacob, and the wine, and the accordion, and the terror of Jacob, and the dilapidation of the player; and round and round the joke and laughter went, until the night waxed late and the moon was high in the meridian of night.

And thus they were amusing each other, and being amused, when Mr. Grainger beckoned Mr. Augustus Raker to the window, near which he stood.

"Since you have been out to-day," said he, in an under tone, "a letter, that arrived this morning, has been brought to me. It is from the East Indies. You see it bears a black edging," said he, with gravity, exhibiting a yellow-looking letter with a black band across it.

"You don't mean to say that the old chap's popped off?" exclaimed Mr. Raker, in something approaching to a gleeful tone, produced, doubtless, by emotion.

Mr. Grainger looked at the young man beside him with an expression of countenance which bespoke anything but satisfaction with the conduct of the person to whom he had addressed himself. But only for an instant was his countenance ruffled.

"Your father is no more, Mr. Raker," said Mr. Grainger, "and his will has, it seems, been forwarded to me, and it now lies at my office

with his other papers relating to his property. In a few days, if your convenience will permit, I shall be ready to go over them with you."

"Bless my soul!" said Mr. Raker; "well, I've long expected it."

"We had better take our leave here," said Mr. Grainger.

"Yes—of course—certainly," replied Mr. Raker. And the old man and the young heir turned, and joined the party in the room.

As it was conventional, Mr. Raker put on a sorrowful air, and, like most actors, played his part in violation of the rules of nature. Already had the news been whispered round, and sympathy was expressed by the assembled guests, and that solemn, unnatural—because unfeigned—constrained and awkward exhibition of a sudden depression of spirits in those who have just been gay, took place in the bearing of Mrs. Puffer Smirke, the old maid, and one of the cousins; and those individuals, prominently displaying the dismals, of course inoculated the whole party. Mrs. William Chasey, therefore, wisely originated a move, and the male portion of the party took leave (the ladies having arranged to stay all night), and sought their several homes as best they could, not, however, before Harriet Marshall and Henry Elliotson had found the means of renewing those expressions of devotion with which that day had for the first time made them both acquainted.

*(To be continued.)*

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## CURRENT LITERATURE.

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### "THE PRUDENT MAN."\*

UNDER this attractive title, a little book has been issued by Mr. William Bridges, the Secretary of the Mitre Life Office, which is deserving of very careful and general perusal. The author is already favourably known to the public by his various works, and the mere mention of his name in connection with such a heading, will suggest the topic discussed in the volume before us. It is a popular sketch of the great subject of assurance, and is calculated both to interest and instruct those vast multitudes who have neither the means nor the leisure required for the consultation of larger and more elaborate works. The author first addresses himself to the discussion of "The Extension of the Life Assurance Principle to sundry National and Social purposes." This is a valuable chapter, setting forth briefly, but yet forcibly, most of the more potent reasons why every man, whatever his present position, should feel it his duty to avail himself of the multifarious advantages presented by the wondrous development of the assurance principle, called forth by the intellectual energy of the present age. The subject is applied to some of the various classes of society specifically, and the references to the duty of military men in this respect have a touching and mournful significance at the present moment. In fact, the recent conflagrations at Memel and Newcastle, in addition to the havoc of war and pestilence in the East, have, by the vast destruction of life and property thereby occasioned, read a solemn and awful lesson to those who have not yet devoted themselves to the thoughtful consideration of this most momentous question. Enough is said in this brief chapter to convince the most sceptical that the official calculations of the respectable offices are based upon facts which admit of no dispute—which may in all cases be infallibly relied on—and this information, if candidly reflected on, will go far to remove from many minds the remaining obstacles to that step which all are called upon to take as a solemn act of duty to themselves and connections. The next topic is the application of life assurance to the industrial classes; and here the author, while justly deprecating

\* The Prudent Man, or how to acquire land, and bequeath money, by means of co-operation, by William Bridges. London: Bulliere, Regent-street.

the tax upon assurance itself, as unworthy of the legislation of the 19th century, expresses an opinion in favour of an insurance tax, on a graduated scale, which, he thinks—and not without some show of reason—would be more willingly paid than most of the present taxes; and would, at the same time, confer upon society the great advantages of doing away, in the next generation, with nine-tenths of the “genteel pauperism” which will otherwise necessarily exist. The next topic is “Life assurance and the acquisition of property,” which the author dismisses summarily, referring to his plan of “Freehold assurance,” promulgated some years ago, by which he hopes that by and by—in the “good time which has been so long coming”—to settle the vexed question of tenant right; for, as every pound the tenant paid under this system would go reproductively to constitute him owner of the land he cultivates, the tenant would gradually merge into the landlord. The produce of the land is divided between the investor and the borrower, until the investment is replaced with profit; and the right of the borrower and the security of the lender increases daily. This point is further developed in the remainder of the treatise, and a chapter is devoted to an explanation of the system of benefit, emigration, and colonization societies, put forth by Mr. Scratchley, the eminent actuary. The present moment is peculiarly fitted for the development of such a scheme, inasmuch as the colonial governments are making large remittances to the home authorities for the purpose of encouraging emigration. The scheme, in substance, appears to be that the principle of the benefit building societies is to be applied to a species of joint-stock association for emigration purposes. “Intending emigrants join a benefit society as investors, and perform the conditions attached to that position. After they have acquired sufficient standing, they become, by rotation or by ballot, eligible to be sent out as colonists; that is to say, land and other requisites are supplied to them on selected spots of a value exceeding the money they have paid, credit being given for a term of years (or for the whole of life, if with a policy of assurance) for the excess in the value of the property handed over to them, for which, however, they execute a legal mortgage to the society. It is obvious that, by such a system, not only the bare land is given to the colonist, but material improvements in its condition can be effected by the society, in wholesale quantities, at a moderate cost, which, when subdivided, will produce a handsome profit. As regards the investors, or those who remain at home, no better security could be desired; for it would consist of land daily improving in value, once the colonist has taken possession, and from being a subscription society, the managers at all times will have the power of extending or curtailing, or putting an end to its operations. The plans of each society would embrace on the one hand, a safe mode of investing the periodical savings of small capitalists at home, at the high colonial rate of interest, on the security of lands necessarily increasing in value; and, on the other hand (besides supplying labour to the colony, by literally encouraging emigration), of gradually establishing a clan of colonial yeomanry, who shall hold and cultivate their own lands in fee simple.” For the further details of this plan, which is developed in the treatise before us, with great ability, we must refer our readers to the book itself, where they will also find an excellent chapter of advice to assurance agents, and a full and complete system of rules and regulations drawn up for a “Benefit Emigration and Land Society,” by Arthur Scratchley, Esq., M.A., the well-known actuary.

We regret that our limited space, and the multifarious demands upon it, forbid any further expatiation on so important and profitable a theme; and, in conclusion, we have only to say, that most cordially and unreservedly do we commend “The Prudent Man” to the thoughtful consideration of “The prudent Brethren” of the craft.

#### DICK DIMINY.\*

This is a sporting novel of great interest, in which the author very clearly illustrates the moral, that on the Turf as in the general affairs of life, “Honesty is the best policy.” The work shows the author to be a man of considerable observation, well versed in the mysteries of the stable, and the tricks of the Turf. It is not, however, only to the sporting reader that Dick Diminy will prove interesting, but the general

\* *Life and Adventures of Dick Diminy.* By C. J. Collins, Esq. London: Collins and Ponsford,

reader who takes up the book will not lay it down until he has turned over the last leaf. The characters of Dick Diminy, Bob Chinnery, and St. Ledger Bolt, Esq., are very graphically drawn, as are also those of a more gentle nature, of whom we will only introduce to our reader, Lady Agnes Leeson, leaving them to make acquaintance with the rest of the *dramatis personæ* in the pages of the work itself.

#### THE TEETH.\*

ALTHOUGH Dental Surgery has made very great progress of late years, much still remains to be done in the way of further enlightenment before the general public will have even that superficial acquaintance with this great and important subject, which is necessary to enable them to instruct their children in those rudimental facts and principles which will show them how to mitigate, if not avoid, those sufferings which their parents, through neglect, have undergone. The work before us will be read with pleasure by the profession, while the technicalities are not too numerous for the general reader.

#### MENTAL DISORDERS.†

OF Dr. Maddox as a medical writer, nothing need be said in such pages as these. We may content ourselves with observing, that we do not accord with the sentiments expressed in some parts of this volume. They often differ from the notions commonly received. There is, nevertheless, much in this volume that is so ably written, so accurately stated, and so popularly displayed, that all classes of readers will be entertained and informed by the perusal of its pages.

#### TINTERN ABBEY.‡

WE strongly recommend this short poem to our readers, as a beautiful specimen of Messrs. Binns and Goodwin's work—and as an earnest of what may be expected from the pen of the author, many of whose works have been most favourably received by the public.

#### JOHN HOWARD.§

JOHN HOWARD was a man in whose amiable and excellent character shone forth many of those virtues which is one of the highest aims of the craft to inculcate. It is quite impossible to peruse the volume before us without acquiring such an admiration for the subject of the Memoir as cannot fail to have a beneficial effect upon the reader's own character. It is a curious fact that, although the book went the round of the trade, and was for some time refused even as a gift, it has reached its third edition, in the course of a year, from the date of its issue. The present edition is issued in a cheap form, and has been thoroughly re-cast and re-written. We cordially commend the volume to the attention of all those who are not already acquainted with it.

#### TURKEY.||

THESE volumes are replete with interest. Sir James Porter was one of those clear-headed men of whom it is sometimes said that they are "the architects of their own fortunes"; he, nevertheless, owed much to fortuitous circumstances and personal friendships. During his extended residence in the East, he acquired a vast amount of valuable information respecting the general condition of the Ottoman Empire, which these volumes present in a popular and interesting manner. The continuation up to the present day, and the memorial, are very creditably executed by Sir George Larpent. The latter portion of the work will be read with interest, even by those who may have perused the major part of what has been issued on the subject. Did space permit, it were an easy task, by the presentation of two or three extracts, to give such an idea of the general contents of these volumes as would send our readers to the perusal of their pages with a very high degree of expectation; and, in such anticipation, it is but justice to say they would not be disappointed.

\* The Odontologist; or How to Preserve the Teeth; Cure the Tooth-ache; Regulate Dentition, from Infancy to Age. By J. Paterson-Clark, M.A., Dentist to H.R.H. Prince Albert, &c. London: John Churchill.

† Practical Observations on Mental and Nervous Disorders. By Dr. Maddock. London: Bulliere.

‡ A poem by J. B. Ribbins, Esq., published by A. Hall & Co.

§ John Howard: a Memoir. By Hepworth Dixon. Jackson and Walford.

|| Turkey: its History and Progress, from the Journals and Correspondence of Sir James Porter, Fifteen Years Ambassador at Constantinople. Continued to the Present Time, with a Memorial of Sir James Porter, by his Grandson, Sir George Larpent, Bart. 2 vols. London: Hurst and Blackett.

## SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR OCTOBER.

## THE WAR.

In the early part of the month it was strongly reported that Sebastopol had fallen. It proved, however, that all that had been accomplished was the carrying, on the 20th of September, by the Allied Armies, of the fortified position of the Russians, estimated to have been defended by from 40,000 to 50,000 men, on the heights of the Alma. The action lasted about two hours and a half. The loss of the English in killed and wounded has been officially stated at 99 officers and 1884 men, and that of the French 65 officers and 1260 men. The Russian loss is estimated to have exceeded 8000.

After the battle of Alma, the Allies proceeded to turn the scene of operations to the south of Sebastopol, establishing their position, supported by the *Agamemnon* and other vessels of war, in the port at Balaklava, on 28th September. From this day until the 17th October, the Allies were engaged in making preparations for the bombardment of Sebastopol. On that day, the bombardment is said to have commenced, and to have continued up to the 21st, some of the forts having been silenced, but no authentic details have yet been received.

Marshal St. Arnaud, the Commander of the French troops, died of disease and fatigue on the 24th of September. He was succeeded in his command by General Canrobert. A pension of £4000 a year has been granted by the Emperor, to his widow.

The greater portion of the Baltic Fleet is expected almost immediately to return home for the winter.

## ACCIDENTS AND OFFENCES.

On the 3rd, William Steinfeld, a German, was convicted at the Middlesex Sessions, of having stolen Prussian and Austrian bank-notes to the value of £50, and a gold watch, the property of *Adèle Rudergauski*, a young Hungarian girl, whom he had induced to live with him under the pretence of making her his wife. The prisoner was sentenced to nine months' imprisonment, with hard labour.

On the 4th, a destructive fire broke out at Memel, in some large warehouses stored with flax and hemp, and rapidly extended until the Theatre, several Churches, the Exchange, and other principal buildings were destroyed. The loss is estimated at about £250,000.

On the evening of the 5th, an immense fire occurred at Gateshead, and afterwards communicated across the river to Newcastle, by which property to the extent of upwards of £200,000 is estimated to have been destroyed. We regret to add that 33 persons were killed and an immense number wounded. The cause of the fire has not been discovered.

On the 11th, the iron ship, *Ajax*, from London to Plymouth and back, struck on a reef of rocks to the westward of the Mewstone, which lies on the eastern shore outside Plymouth Sound. The *Ajax* had on board between 200 and 300 persons, the whole of whom were fortunately saved, principally through the assistance promptly rendered by the *Confiance*.

On the 12th, the *Cleopatra*, mail-steamer, arrived at Liverpool from Quebec, and reported the loss of the United States mail-steamer, *Arctic*, owing to a collision with the *Vesta*, with the sacrifice of upwards of 350 lives, on the 27th September, about 50 miles from Cape Race, during the prevalence of a dense fog, being out from Liverpool only six days. Of the number on board—185 first and 75 second class passengers and 130 crew—only 45 were saved—14 passengers and 31 of the crew.

On Sunday, the 15th, a most daring robbery was committed at the shop of Mr. Baumgart, watchmaker and jeweller, Regent-street. Mr. Baumgart only occupied the lower part of the premises, the remainder being used as a lodging-house. On the

Friday evening, a well-dressed man, who represented himself as having just arrived by railway, hired the first floor, and on the Sunday, assisted by two men whom he brought home with him, he effected the robbery, by cutting a hole through the flooring of his own apartments and ceiling of the shop, through which a man could easily descend, and pack up the contents of the shop at leisure. The loss is estimated at £500.

On the 25th, a large fire occurred at Manchester, by which various warehouses were destroyed, the estimated loss amounting to between £18,000 and £20,000.

On the 26th, the premises of Messrs. Babington and Co., wadding manufacturers, Spital-street, Spitalfields, were entirely destroyed by fire, caused, it is believed, by the friction of some of the machinery driven by steam power.

#### COURTS MARTIAL.

On the 10th, a Court Martial was held on board the Victory, flag ship, at Portsmouth, to try Lieut. Knight, on charges arising out of his having permitted two improper women to accompany him on board the Dauntless, and supplying them with immoderate quantities of wine and spirits; one of the said women having subsequently died from injuries, supposed to have been received by her whilst in a state of intoxication. The Lieutenant was sentenced to be placed at the bottom of the list of first Lieutenants of Royal Marines, whereby he will lose the benefit of 11 years' service.

On the 11th, Courts Martial were also held upon Lieut. Elphinstone and Lieut. Jarvis, arising out of the same transaction, when the former officer was admonished for having allowed the women to remain on board, and the latter was acquitted.

On the 17th, Courts Martial were held on Capt. McClure, Capt. Kellitt, Commander Richards, Sir Edward Belcher, and other officers of H. M. Ships, Investigator, Resolute, and Assistance, for the abandonment of their vessels, in the Arctic Seas. The whole of the officers were acquitted, it being clearly shown that Sir Ed. Belcher had full power entrusted to him; and, that he had acted, as he thought, most desirable, for the safety of the officers and men engaged in the expedition. Their swords were consequently returned to them.

#### PROVIDENT.

Three eminent actuaries, Messrs. Peter Hardy, Jenkins Jones, and Geo. Farrance, having made an inquiry into the affairs of the Professional Life Assurance Office, have reported, that it has a surplus of £23,000 applicable to a division between the assured and the proprietors, in accordance with the plan of the Institution. Upon the recommendation of the actuaries, however, it has been determined, not to make any division until the next quinquennial period of estimating the profits.

On the 11th, Sir John Key, Bart., Chamberlain of the City of London, was elected a Director of the Mutual Life Assurance Society, by a majority of 183 over his opponent, Mr. Battcock.

On the 12th, at a meeting of the Metropolitan Life Assurance Society, it was resolved to grant to Mr. Heathfield, late superintendent of the Institution, a retiring pension of £600 per annum.

On the 19th, the Second Annual Meeting of the Lancashire Assurance Company, was held at Manchester. The report stated, that the Directors had written off the sum of £1,006 4s. 4d. from the preliminary expenses accounts. The total life income had been £9,969 13s. 9d., of which the new premiums for the past year were £4,280 16s. 6d., the total policies being 626, of which 285, assuring £155,524, formed the new business of last year. In the fire department the increase of premiums was nearly 40 per cent., and they now amounted to £29,407 14s. 7d., whilst the increase in duty amounted to £15,809 10s. 6d.

#### BENEVOLENT.

A Royal Commission has been appointed to raise a Patriotic Fund by voluntary subscription, for the relief of the families of those who may be killed or wounded in



the war in the east. In the meantime the Central Association have put forth a balance sheet, showing that they have already received upwards of £80,000 for the aid of the wives and families, widows and orphans of the soldiers engaged on active service; and notwithstanding the large amount of relief that they have already afforded, a balance of upwards of £65,000 remains in hand. Benefits at the Polytechnic Institution and the Crystal Palace, have been held in aid of the funds of this and kindred societies. The Unity Fire Assurance Association have determined to aid the cause, by giving the services of their numerous agents throughout the country in collecting subscriptions.

The Cambridge Asylum directors have also put forward an appeal for increased support, to enable them to furnish 18 additional apartments and purchase more land for the extension of the Institution, which has this distinguishing feature, that whilst other funds propose to afford temporary aid to the soldier's widow, this is the only society that secures to her a permanent home.

On the 5th, the half yearly meeting of the Royal Dispensary for diseases of the ear was held, when a report was presented by Mr. Harvey the surgeon, stating that the number of cases admitted on the books, during the last six months, were upwards of 700, consisting of diseases of the throat, in connection with deafness, rheumatic affections of the head, noises in the ear, &c. This Institution has now been in active operation for 38 years, during which period there had been admitted on the books 31,400 cases of various conditions of deafness amongst the poorer classes.

The executor of Miss Augusta Mary Short, has paid the residue of her property, £72, into the hands of the bankers of the Metropolitan Benefit Societies' Asylum, for the use of that Institution.

The managers of the London Orphan Asylum have passed a resolution, recommending to the General Court the free and immediate admission of six children of commissioned and non-commissioned officers of her Majesty's army (who have fallen in the present war) into the Institution.

At the meeting of the Governors of the Caledonian Asylum, on the 23rd, it was resolved at once to admit to the benefits of the Institution, 25 children—orphans of Scottish soldiers, sailors, or marines who may have fallen during the present war. It was also determined on the motion of Lord Kinnaird, to admit to the same benefits 100 more of the same class of children, whose fathers may have fallen or become disabled—on the presentation of other parties—they paying £52 10s. for each presentation, which is one half the ordinary charge; the boys, in both cases, to be retained until the age of 14, and the girls to that of 15 years.

The Governors of the British Beneficent Institution, elected on the 23rd, three additional pensioners on its funds, thus increasing the number of ladies partaking of its benefits to 34.

A special meeting of the subscribers to the Asylum for Idiots was held on the 26th. The report for 1854 stated that 242 pupils were in the Institutions at Highgate and Essex-Hall, near Colchester, and that the entire family consisted of 303 persons, which would be increased by the election of that day to 318. There were now in the male department persons engaged in the occupation of gardeners, matmakers, tailors, shoemakers, netters, plaiters, carpenters, and basketmakers. In the dumb classes, composed of about 60 children, nearly 30 were now beginning to speak. In the female department, there had been similar improvement, and classes had been formed for drilling, singing, knitting, bonnet-making, &c. Legacies have been left to the Society, during the year, amounting to £2,210; but the sum of £10,000 was still required to complete the asylum at Redhill, in Surrey. The statement of receipts and expenditure showed that the subscriptions, &c., during the past year had amounted to £9,478 5s. 4., and the expenditure to £8,909 9s. 8d.—leaving a balance in the hand of the treasurer of £568 15s. 8d.

On Tuesday, the 17th October, Mr. Tredwell for a second time entertained the children in the schools of that most excellent Institution, the Royal Society of Saint Anne's Asylum, at Brixton, in the grounds attached to his residence, Leigham Court, Streatham, the grounds being tastefully decorated for the occasion. At two o'clock

the children, to the number of about 250 were formed into procession at the Asylum, and, headed by a band of music and the members of the committee, proceeded in procession to the residence of Mr. Tredwell; many of the boys carrying flags and banners, which added considerably to the gaiety of the scene. At half-past four, the whole company assembled in a large temporary building, which was brilliantly illuminated, and decorated with banners, flowers, and evergreens—where an abundant supply of refreshments, as well for the visitors as the children, was provided by the generous host, and the evening was spent in innocent games, songs, speeches, and recitations. The grace before and after tea was chanted by the children with such sweetness and harmony, and their songs were sung with such musical correctness, as to elicit a warm approval from the visitors. Towards the close of the evening the tables were furnished with huge bowls of smoking negus, and when the multitude of cups were well filled, Mr. Barnard (one of the committee) proposed the health of Mr. and Mrs. Tredwell, which was most heartily responded to by all present. The Rev. Walter Field, chaplain to the society, then addressed the children in a very impressive manner, and concluded by thanking Mr. and Mrs. Tredwell in the name of the committee and the society, for their condescension and liberality, and called upon the children to give three hearty cheers for their munificent entertainers, which was most cordially responded to. The band then played the national anthem, and the company broke up; each of the children, on departing, receiving a small present as a memento of the day. This entertainment being only for the children in the Brixton establishment, the members of the committee determined to give a somewhat similar treat to those in the town school. Accordingly on the following Monday, these children to the number of about 60, were taken to the Crystal Palace by railway. After spending an hour or two in viewing the wonders of the Palace, the children were gathered together in the grand saloon, and a substantial and elegant dinner, provided under the direction of Mr. Horne, was set before them. Having asked for a blessing on the feast, the children showed how well they could appreciate the good things of life, and concluded by singing one or two appropriate hymns and the national anthem. After an hour or two more spent in viewing the Palace, the children were again gathered together, and returned to town shortly before five o'clock; having first attracted considerable attention by singing the National Anthem on the platform, whilst waiting the arrival of the train. It will at all times afford us the utmost pleasure to record such pleasing instances of the interest taken in the welfare of their pupils, by the managers and friends of this and similar institutions; and knowing the value of the Royal Saint Anne's Asylum, we can conscientiously recommend it to support.

On the morning of the 26th, a very destructive fire broke out in some large warehouses, known as Mullenneux's, at Lancelots Hey, near Liverpool. The warehouses were filled with cotton and other inflammable matters, and the fire was not subdued until very late at night, and again broke out on the following day. The estimated damage done to the premises, stock, and adjoining property (of which a considerable quantity is destroyed), is from 200,000*l.* to 300,000*l.* It is stated that the fire occurred through some men engaged in sampling turpentine in the cellars of the warehouses, using a naked candle—the snuff from which accidentally fell into the turpentine and ignited it.

#### MISCELLANIES.

Sunday, 1st of October, was observed throughout the country as a day of thanksgiving for the late abundant harvest.

The medical session for 1854-5 commenced on the 2nd.

On the 3rd, a new People's Park at Macclesfield was inaugurated, with great *eclat*. The park is sixteen acres in extent, beautifully laid out, and has been principally paid for by private subscription.

On the 6th, a grand banquet was given at Glasgow to the Earl of Eglintoun, as the president of the National Association for the Vindication of Scottish Rights.

On the 8th, a whale, weighing upwards of two tons, was caught in the Severn, near Newnham, in Gloucestershire. A similar capture was made about thirty years since.

On the 10th, the Earl of Aberdeen was entertained at a grand dinner in the Town Hall, Aberdeen, on occasion of the inauguration of his lordship's portrait, which has been placed therein by the authorities of the city.

On the 11th, the steam-ship *Brazilliera*, arrived at Liverpool, from Rio de Janeiro, with a cargo valued at about 50,000*l.*, consisting chiefly of gold and diamonds.

On the 11th, the new stamp duties on bills of exchange came into operation, the duty for bills not exceeding 5*l.*, being only 1*d.*

On the 12th, at a meeting of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, a dividend for the half year of 2*l.* per share, free of income-tax, was declared.

On the 13th, her Majesty, with her royal consort and the senior members of her family, paid a visit to Hull, on her return from the Highlands.

On the 17th, the clipper ship, *Guiding Star*, arrived from Australia, with a cargo of gold and specie valued at 204,444*l.*

On the 18th, Parliament was further prorogued to the 16th of November.

On the 22nd, intelligence was received at the Admiralty, from Dr. Rae, who has been engaged in completing the survey of the coast of Boothia, that he had learnt from a party of Esquimaux, that the remains of about forty persons, supposed to be the unfortunate Sir John Franklin and his crew, had been discovered near the Great Fish River, having evidently met with their death from exposure to the weather and famine. Dr. Rae purchased from the Esquimaux a number of articles, said to have been found near the place where the white men perished, which must evidently have belonged to Sir John and his party.

On the 22nd, the *Lightning*, arrived at Liverpool from Australia, with 40,000 ounces of gold on board.

On the 24th, a new Athenæum, containing a lecture-room, reading-room, libraries, &c., was inaugurated at Bristol. Lord John Russell, the Bishop of Gloucester, Earl Ducie, the Attorney-General, Sir Robert Peel, Bart., M.P., and other distinguished individuals, taking part in the ceremony.

The Government have it in contemplation to erect a new General Post Office on the site of the late Compter prison. Messrs. Morrison and Co., the Manchester warehousemen, of Fore-street, have offered to purchase a lease of the building at St. Martin's-le-Grand, for the purposes of their enormous trade.

Messrs. Cooke and Sons and Co., St. Paul's-churchyard, are about to erect another monster warehouse in the same locality, the proportions of which are to exceed considerably those of the present building. The foundations will have to be dug thirty feet, it having been ascertained that the earth's surface in this neighbourhood is artificial to that depth.

## PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

THE ST. JAMES'S THEATRE opened under the management of Mrs. Seymour, on the 2nd, with a new Drama entitled "The King's Rival," and a farce called "My Friend the Major," both of which were successful. The only new candidate for histrionic honors on the London boards was Mr. J. L. Toole, the son of the late toast-master who made a successful hit in eccentric comedy.

DRURY LANE THEATRE opened for a short and merry season of seven nights, on the 2nd. Mr. G. V. Brooke, who is about to depart for Australia, and Mr. Wright, the comedian, being the bright particular stars. M. Jullien resumed his bâton as leader of the ever popular promenade concerts, for the first time since his return from America, on the 30th, and was of course most rapturously received by a crowded audience.

On the 7th, the Marylebone Theatre was opened by Mr. William Wallack, for the performance of the higher class of drama. The inaugural play was "As you like it."

THE PRINCESS'S THEATRE was re-opened for the season on the 9th, with a new Drama by Mr. Douglas Jerrold, entitled "A Heart of Gold," together with a short comedy from the pen of a gentleman named Troughton.

On the evening of the 14th, Mr. Phelps revived Shakespeare's play of "Pericles, Prince of Tyre," at Sadlers Wells Theatre. The play as written would not bear acting, at all events on the modern stage, but Mr. Phelps has so well performed his duty as managerial editor, and converted it into so exquisite a spectacle, that there is no doubt it will ensure what it deserves, a long and prosperous run. The principal characters were artistically rendered by Mr. Phelps, and Miss Edith Heraud, who promises to become a great acquisition to the talented company which Mr. Phelps has so well brought together.

Mr. Wigan has re-opened the Olympic Theatre, with his Company greatly strengthened—and is nightly drawing crowded houses. A new bagatelle, entitled "a Blighted Being," was produced on the 16th, with complete success—the eccentricities of Mr. Robson keeping the audience in a constant roar of laughter. A new Drama called the "Trustee," was produced on the 23rd, with very moderate success.

Mr. Morris Barnett having completed a short starring engagement at the Adelphi, during which he enacted "Mon. Jaques," and his other favourite French characters with great eclat—a new Drama, entitled a "Summer Storm," was produced on the 19th, the life of which is likely to be almost as evanescent as summer storms generally are.

At ASTLEYS, a grand military spectacle entitled "The Battle of the Alma," was produced on the 23rd. Being magnificently mounted, well acted, and filled with a sufficient allowance of patriotic allusions, it met with complete success. Indeed, no similar spectacle—equally good—has been produced since the far-famed "Battle of Waterloo," which gained for this Theatre such well merited prosperity.

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## OBITUARY.

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**BR. H. STUART, M. P.**—We are sure there is no brother in the order, whose loss will be more deeply felt and regretted, than that of Br. Stuart, M. P. for Bedford, which took place suddenly, on Wednesday last. Br. Stuart, who was a P. G. W. of England, having served the office in the year just past, 1853-4—a member of the Lodge of Antiquity—and of the Stuart Lodge, Bedford—named in honor of himself—attended his Masonic duties at the latter lodge, in apparent good health, on Wednesday evening last. On returning home, he was about to alight from his carriage, when he was seized with a convulsive fit, which terminated his existence within ten minutes of his being carried into the house. The late lamented Brother, who was born in 1804, was grandson of the third Earl of Bute, being the second son of the late Archbishop Stuart, of Armagh, and Sophia grand daughter of the celebrated Wm. Penn. The present Prov. G. M. for Hertfordshire, Br. Wm. Stuart, is a brother of the deceased.

**BR. FRANCIS WATTS.**—The craft and all who had the pleasure of his acquaintance, have sustained a severe loss by the death of our esteemed Br. Watts, the respected P. M. of St. Mary's Lodge, No. 76, in which he was initiated in the year 1841, continuing a member until the time of his decease. Br. Watts was also a member of the Frederick Lodge of Unity, No. 661, Croydon, and a P. G. of the Chapter attached thereto. Br. Watts' health was never since we first had the honour of becoming acquainted with him, very strong, but the immediate cause of his death, which took place on the 12th of September, at his seat, Richmond, Surrey, was that fell pestilence—the cholera. Br. Watts was long the manager of the London Gazette—a gentleman at arms—a magistrate—a Director of the City of London Assurance Office—and, irrespective of the masonic charities in which he always evinced a most lively interest, a liberal supporter of the Royal St. Ann's Society, and other valuable beneficent institutions. In short, Br. Watts was a true christian—a most worthy mason—and a firm friend. The St. Mary's Lodge, in order to show the respect in which they held our esteemed brother whilst living, held an emergency lodge on the 5th October, at which Br. Skelton, W. M., presided, when a resolution of condolence with the widow and family of the deceased, at their irreparable loss, was unanimously come to.

**BR. CAPT. HERBERT.**—Amongst those brave men who have fallen in the East, not from

the sword but the ravages of disease, produced by over anxiety in the discharge of his military duties, we have to record the name of Br. Capt. Herbert, who was initiated into masonry, in the Lodge of Unanimity and Sincerity, Taunton, by Br. Eales White G. Treasurer, and P. G. W. of the province of Somerset. A better soldier or a more disinterested friend probably never yielded sword.

**BR. JOHN DALTON.**—We regret to announce the death of this brother, who was most extensively known and respected throughout the craft. His death took place on the 4th of October, the very day on which he completed his 83rd year. Br. Dalton was initiated in the Lodge of Nine Muses (then No. 421), in July, 1818; joined the Universal Lodge No. 212, in December, 1828; and was exalted in the British Chapter, No. 8, in December, 1829. He was a life subscriber to the Masonic Asylum, and an annual subscriber to the Benevolent Annuity Fund. Br. John Dalton was for a considerable time in the service of the Hon. East India Company, from which, for nearly twenty years, he has been in the enjoyment of a small pension. The remains of Br. Dalton were interred at Abney Park Cemetery.

**MRS. FRANCES CROOKS.**—We have the painful duty of recording the death of this lady, who was so well known to all who have ever taken an interest in the welfare of the Freemasons' Girls School, as its respected Matron. Mrs. Crooks, at the time of her death, had been connected with the school upwards of 52 years, having been elected sub-Matron in 1802, and Matron, on the death of Mrs. Lufkin, in 1807. Although Mrs. Crooks had for some time been in delicate health, she was of late supposed to have rallied to a considerable extent, and her death was, therefore, somewhat unexpected, her last illness being only of a few hours duration. Mrs. Crooks, who was 78 years of age, died on Sunday, the 15th October, and on the following Thursday her remains were interred in Norwood Cemetery; the funeral being attended by the members of the House Committee, many of the brethren who knew and appreciated her, and the children of that school over which she had so long presided, with all, if not more than, a mother's care. Although the school was established as long since as 1788, it has, as yet, had but two matrons; and Miss Jarwood, who succeeds Mrs. Crooks, in the office until the next Quarterly Court in January, when there can be little doubt the appointment will be confirmed, has been in the establishment upwards of 25 years.

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## TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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*We have to offer our apologies to our advertising friends for omitting several of their favours which arrived too late for insertion in our present number, as the regulations of the Post-office forbid us increasing our size, and good faith to our subscribers equally forbid our entrenching on the space which we are pledged at all times to allot to the general contents of the "Masonic Mirror."*

**J. H., HARTLEPOOL.**—*We cannot recommend the work mentioned. If correct, the brother, if such he be, must have violated his obligation; and if incorrect, it is an imposition on the public.*

**C. J., JENSEY.**—*On good cause shown, the Supreme Grand Chapter will grant charters for chapters in connection with regularly authorised lodges. Several have been granted of late years.*

*The Universal Lodge of Instruction will meet at Br. Ireland's, Fetter-lane, for the first time this season on the evening of the 7th instant.*

*There are two excellent chapters of instruction for Archmasonry, in London—the Robert Burns, which meets at Br. Sheens, Sussex Stairs, Upper St. Martin's-lane, every Wednesday evening, and the Domestic, which meets at Br. Ireland's, Fetter-lane, every Friday evening. To our Comps. in the West, we recommend the former; to our Comps. in the East, the latter; and to those in the North and South both.*

*A testimonial from the members of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement, is to be presented to our respected Br. John Hervey, on the 30th instant. The lodge principally owes its prosperity to the exertions of Br. Hervey, and he well deserves the compliment.*

*We perceive that a testimonial is also about to be presented to Br. T. A. Adams from the members of the various lodges of instruction to which he belongs. Where is there one in London to which he does not belong? and what younger brother visiting them has not profited by his instruction? The subscription-list, which is already rapidly filling, will close on the 29th instant. The members of the St. John's Lodge, Hampstead, of which Br. Adams is a P.M., is also about to present him with a separate testimonial on their own account.*