

THE MASONIC CHARITIES.

WE last week published an elaborate report from Bros. Symonds and Lyall, upon the inquiries they have made with the view of ascertaining how best the claims of the Freemasons' Schools could be constantly brought under the attention of the country Lodges, and thereby ensure a more combined and better support to those institutions from the provinces than they have hitherto obtained. We are convinced that there is no want of true Masonic charity amongst our country Brethren; and if they have hitherto not supported the charities to the extent that could be desired, it has been principally owing to the want of some organization by which they could be as efficiently kept before them as they are before the London Brethren, and because what is everybody's business is nobody's. In London the annual festivals—the constant appeals to Brethren to serve as stewards—the by-laws which exist in some of the red apron Lodges, that prior to being elected a Grand Steward a Brother must have served the stewardship of one or more of the charities—the constant visiting of Lodges by the secretaries or other influential advocates of the charities—and the emulation which exists amongst the Stewards to present good lists of subscriptions at the festivals—all tend to keep the matter before the eyes of the Brethren, and conduce to their being the heaviest supporters of the institutions. In the country all this is wanting, and the question now is—what organization is the most likely to conduce to the desired end, that of obtaining the greatest possible amount of support from the country brethren for the charities, so as to develop their resources to the fullest extent. And here we may be allowed to express our decided opinion, that whatever arrangements are entered into, they should be made to include the whole of the four charities; for the Royal Benevolent Institution having two distinct funds, the one for the relief of aged Masous,

and the other for their widows, we may fairly look upon it as two distinct charities.

It appears that after giving due weight to the various suggestions from the provinces, the committee have arrived at the determination of recommending the following plan for adoption by the subscribers to the two schools:—

“That each province be requested to form a committee, to be called ‘The Provincial Committee of the Province of——— for promoting the interests of the Masonic Schools’ (or, if the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution should wish to be included, ‘of the four Masonic Charities’).

“That such committee do consist of a member of each Lodge in the province, to be annually elected or re-elected by the Lodge, on the night of installation of Worshipful Master.

“That each Lodge be requested to transmit to the Secretary of each school (or charity) the name, title, and address of the Brother so appointed.

“That the R.W. Prov. Grand Master, and Deputy Prov. Grand Master, be requested to take the office of president and vice-president of such committee.

“That the said Provincial Committee be requested to hold a general meeting at least once a year, and to present to the Prov. Grand Lodge a report, showing the results of the labours of its members, individually and collectively.”

We confess that we are less inclined to believe that the above scheme will be found so advantageous in working as the first suggestion of the committee for the appointment of local secretaries: as though, in some cases, the members of the provincial committee will, should the scheme be carried out, doubtless work energetically and efficiently, we are afraid that when the novelty of their position has worn off the majority of them will drop into apathy and listlessness, and by continually deferring until to-morrow that which should be done to-day, make but a sorry show at the conclusion of their year of office. We can well understand such a scheme producing a feeling of generous rivalry between two such provinces as East and West Lancashire, or East and West Yorkshire, as to which should do the most towards supporting the charities; but in those provinces where there are but two or three Lodges, or where there is little communication with other provinces, we do not look for any results by which the charities will be materially benefited.

Brother Crew, the indefatigable secretary of the Girls School, has shadowed forth a scheme of his own, of which in the main we highly approve, believing that it will rather aid than prove antagonistic to the scheme of the committee. Brother Crew proposes—

“That each Lodge be recommended to establish a charity fund.

“That each initiate shall pay the sum of 10s. on the day of his initiation, to the said fund.

“That each member shall pay to the said fund 5s. per annum.

“That upon members taking office, the following fines shall be subscribed to the same fund—One shilling Inner Guard ; two shillings Junior Deacon ; four shillings Senior Deacon ; six shillings Junior Warden ; eight shillings Senior Warden ; ten shillings Worshipful Master ; or such other sums as each Lodge might think most convenient ; but out of this sum each Lodge shall subscribe to the public Masonic charities such a sum as shall entitle them to vote at all elections.”

This scheme, however, we look upon as requiring considerable modification ; thus, instead of charging the initiates with any sum for the charity fund it should be taken out of the initiation fee, and the subscription to the Lodge should be made to include that to the fund, thus, as far as possible, avoiding confusion in accounts and too numerous demands on the members. The fees of honour on taking office, we highly approve of, but their amount must be left to the decision of the different Lodges, for where 10s. would in one case be found a somewhat onerous payment, £10 would in another, be regarded as the lightest of bagatelles.

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## OUR ARCHITECTURAL CHAPTER.

It may be useful during the present discussion to give some information on buildings devoted to Craft purposes ; we have accordingly compiled the following list, which though imperfect, shows the desire of members of the Craft to adhere to their own names and institutions.

The following are called Freemasons' Halls :—

Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, London ; built 1775. This is by no means one of the oldest halls.

Freemasons' Hall, Barnstaple. No. 312 meets here.

Freemasons' Hall, Corpus Christi-place, Boston. No. 339 meets here.

Freemasons' Hall, Bristol. Nos. 81, 120, 221, 408, 886, 986, and several Royal Arch Chapters meet here. We believe it is an old hall.

Freemasons' Hall, Salem-street, Bradford, York. No. 874 meets here.

Freemasons' Hall, of the Londersborough Lodge, No. 1,036 ; built in 1858 (see *Freemasons' Magazine*). This is a Craft building.

Freemasons' Hall, Calcutta. Several Lodges meet here. This is a Craft building.

Freemasons' Hall, Brixham. No. 309 meets here.

Freemasons' Hall, Church-street, Cardiff. No. 43 meets here.

Freemasons' Hall, Dublin.

Freemasons' Hall, Cheltenham. Nos. 97 and 307 meet here.

Freemasons' Hall, Dorchester. No. 605 meets here.

- Freemasons' Hall, Durham. No. 146 meets here.
- Freemasons' Hall, Gloucester. No. 724 meets here.
- Freemasons' Hall, Hamilton, Bermuda. No. 271 meets here.
- Freemasons' Hall, Hartlepool.
- Freemasons' Hall, Osborne-street, Hull. No. 65 meets here.
- Freemasons' Hall, Jersey, in Grove-place. No. 302 meets here.
- Freemasons' Hall, Jersey, in Museum-street. Nos. 306, 722, and 860, meet here.
- Freemasons' Hall, Kettering. No. 666 meets here.
- Freemasons' Hall, Park Cross-street, Leeds. No. 364 meets here.
- Freemasons' Hall, Leicester, begun in 1858. This is a Craft building.
- Freemasons' Hall, Lewes. No. 390 meets here.
- Freemasons' Hall, or the New Temple, Liverpool; begun in 1857. For description, see *Freemasons' Magazine*, Nos. 181, 245, 263, and 294, meets here. This is a Craft building.
- Freemasons' Hall, Madras. No. 94 meets here. This is a Craft building.
- Freemasons' Hall, New Malton. No. 958 meets here.
- Freemasons' Hall, Monmouth. No. 671 meets here.
- Freemasons' Hall, South Molton. No. 610 meets here.
- Freemasons' Hall, Newcastle. No. 793 meets here.
- Freemasons' Hall, St. George's-square, Portsea. No. 428 meets here.
- Freemasons' Hall, Salisbury. No. 855 meets here.
- Freemasons' Hall, Southampton. Nos. 152 and 555 meet here. We believe this is part of an hotel in High-street.
- Freemasons' Hall, York-street, Sydney. Nos. 814, 941, and 942 meet here. A new hall for the Craft was begun in 1858.
- Freemasons' Hall, Torquay, built in 1857. No. 411, meets here. This is a Craft building. This was built by Mr. E. Appleton, and was exhibited at the Architectural Exhibition, 1837-8. It is a small building with window dressings of coloured brick.
- Freemasons' Hall, Wakefield. No. 727 meets here.
- Freemasons' Hall, Watford. No. 580 meets here.
- The places called Masonic Halls, include the following:—
- The New Masonic Hall, Corridor, Bath. No. 61 meets here, and we believe No. 68.
- Masonic Hall, Bradford, York. No. 379 meets here. We do not know whether this is the same as that described as the Freemasons' Hall.
- Masonic Hall, Adelaide, South Australia. Nos. 613, 743, 853, and 975 meet here.
- Masonic Hall, North Adelaide, was begun in 1858. (See *Freemasons' Magazine*.)
- Masonic Hall, Newhall-street, Birmingham. This belongs to the Howe Lodge, No. 857, and is described in the last volume of the *Freemasons' Magazine*, p. 67. Besides No. 857, Nos. 696 and 1046 meet here.
- Masonic Hall, Christchurch, Hants. No. 230 meets here.

- Masonic Hall, Dewsbury. No. 251 meets here.
- Masonic Hall, D'Urban, Natal, begun in 1858 for No. 1040.
- Masonic Hall, Edinburgh. The foundation stone was laid in 1858, with remarkable ceremonial. (See *Freemasons' Magazine*).
- Masonic Hall, Fore-street-hill, Exeter. Nos. 46 and 129 meet here.
- Masonic Hall, Court-place, Guernsey. Nos. 92, 197, 299, and 329 meet here.
- Masonic Hall, Halifax, Nova Scotia.
- Masonic Hall, Heckmondwike. This belongs to the Amphibious Lodge, No. 322, and was built in 1849. (See *Freemasons' Magazine*, last vol., p. 823).
- Masonic Hall, Huddersfield. Nos. 342 and 763 meet here.
- Masonic Hall, Kidderminster. No. 523 meets here.
- Masonic Hall, Kingston, Canada. This was rebuilt in 1858. (See *Freemasons' Magazine*, p. 804).
- Masonic Hall, Kurrachee, India. This was built in 1857. (See *Freemasons Magazine*, last vol., p. 1013).
- Masonic Hall, Lincoln, belonging to the William Lodge, No. 374. It was built in 1841, when Bro. Dr. Oliver delivered the inaugural address.
- Masonic Hall of the New Forest Lodge, No. 401, at Leamington.
- Masonic Hall, Nelson, New Zealand; built in 1858.
- Masonic Hall, Newport, Isle of Wight. No. 176 meets here.
- Masonic Hall, Newport, South Wales. No. 693 meets here. It was built in 1858. (See *Freemasons Magazine*, last volume, p. 1100).
- Masonic Hall, Oxford. Nos. 425 and 460 meet here.
- Masonic Hall, Union-road, Plymouth. Nos. 83 and 185 meet here.
- Masonic Hall, Poole.
- Masonic Hall, Reading. No. 591 meets here.
- Masonic Hall, John-street, Ryde. Nos. 204 and 999 meet here.
- Masonic Hall, Scarborough, belonging to the Old Globe Lodge and Chapter, No. 236.
- Masonic Hall, Mile Town, Sheerness. No. 184 meets here.
- Masonic Hall, Singapore. No. 248 meets here. This is a Craft building (see *Freemasons' Magazine*, p. 1013).
- Masonic Hall, Toronto, Canada (West).
- Masonic Hall, Weymouth. No. 199 meets here.
- Masonic Hall, Whitby; built in 1858.
- Masonic Hall, Broad-street, Worcester, St. Wulstan's Chapter. No. 349 meets here. It is, we believe, a part of the Bell Hotel.
- Masonic Hall, Blake-street, York. No. 287 meets here.
- Other Masonic places of meeting are—
- The Masonic Lodge Rooms, Cross-street, Manchester. Nos. 189 and 246 meet here.
- The Masonic Rooms, Rochdale. No. 375 meets here.
- The Masonic Rooms, Totnes.

The Lodge Room of No. 1029, at Collingwood, Melbourne, Australia; built 1857 (see *Freemasons' Magazine*, 1857, p. 715).

Lodge of Cawnpore, destroyed by the rebels in 1857, and rebuilt 1858

Of taverns and hotels we have but a scanty list—

Freemasons' Tavern, London. Thirty-eight Lodges and eight Chapters meet here.

Freemasons' Tavern, Canterbury.

Freemasons' Tavern, Dudley.

Freemasons' Tavern, Gravesend; so named in 1858.

Freemasons' Tavern, Manchester. No. 399 meets here.

Freemasons' Tavern, Sydney.

Freemasons' Tavern, Woolwich. Nos. 13 and 1008 meet here.

Freemasons' Hotel, Portsea.

Freemasons' Arms, Burslem. No. 115 meets here.

Freemasons' Arms, Great Howard-street, Bristol. No. 864 meets here.

Masonic Hotel, Cape Town.

Masonic Hotel, Auckland, New Zealand.

The list of Freemasons' Halls and Masonic Halls here given is in number seventy-five. Many of these are only taverns so called, but on the other hand a large number of colonial Lodges which have separate buildings are not included, making the number of Masonic Halls and district Lodge rooms far above a hundred. This again is exclusive of such places under the Scotch and Irish constitutions.

We have shown quite enough to illustrate the desire of the members to have Masonic Halls, if only in name; and we may observe that the first care of every colonial Mason is to have a distinct Lodge building. Our impression is that there are very likely one hundred Lodge buildings in the colonies. Every colonial and foreign Mason who comes to London, expresses his annoyance and disgust at finding the Lodges and Chapters without local habitations, and meeting in taverns. At one first-rate tavern he will find the chambermaids and barmaids drawn up regularly on Lodge nights to join at the procession of members passing from the Lodge room to the banquet room; in another he finds a side board of wine glasses left to complete the fittings for a serious ceremonial, and he notices many unseemly things, which the London Brethren, being accustomed to, submit to—do not think of grumbling about. He attires himself in a passage or corridor, and is prepared for the accommodation which is eked out to him. He is not afterwards surprised to find that there is no preparation room available and that no preparation is undergone, and would not be surprised if he were told the coal cellar or the wash-house were allotted for such purpose. There is, however, a prospect of something better, and we hope we shall soon be redeemed from the reproaches of our colonial, American, and French Brethren, and reply to their boasting, by showing our own temple.

The list we have given above is very imperfect, and we shall be obliged to correspondents for corrections and additions.

## MASONIC STATISTICS.

BY HYDE CLARKE, D.C.L.

The statistics of Masonry are necessarily, to a great extent, conjectural and vague, for the subject has not as yet been studied and investigated, but as it is one of interest, and on which numerous facts can be collected to show the importance of Masonry at various periods, we shall give a few notes.

Under the Grand Lodge of England, there were in

|            |            |
|------------|------------|
| 1857 ..... | 952 Lodges |
| 1858 ..... | 945 „      |

Decrease .....

7

Of Royal Arch Chapters, under that jurisdiction, there were in

|            |             |
|------------|-------------|
| 1857 ..... | 311 Lodges. |
| 1858 ..... | 317 „       |

Increase .....

6

The number of provinces is 58.

Of the Lodges, there were, as follows:—

|                                     | In 1857 | In 1858 |
|-------------------------------------|---------|---------|
| * English .....                     | 622     | 642     |
| Channel Islands .....               | 80      | 10      |
| COLONIAL—Europe .....               | 8       | 8       |
| „ India, Ceylon, Singapore, &c..... | 63      | 61      |
| „ China.....                        | 1       | 1       |
| „ Africa.....                       | 12      | 14      |
| „ West Indies .....                 | 36      | 35      |
| „ North America.....                | 133     | 92      |
| „ Central America .....             | 1       | 1       |
| „ Australia and New Zealand .....   | 45      | 58      |
| „ Military.....                     | 9       | 10      |
| FOREIGN.—Europe .....               | 4       | 4       |
| „ China and Sumatra .....           | 3       | 3       |
| „ South America .....               | 5       | 6       |
| * ENGLISH and Military .....        | 641     | 662     |
| Colonial and Foreign .....          | 320     | 293     |

These statistics deserve some examination, because the fluctuations arise chiefly from changes in the Colonial jurisdiction.

The number of new Lodges added was in—

|            |     |
|------------|-----|
| 1857 ..... | 29* |
| 1858 ..... | 39† |

The Lodges of India were materially affected by the revolt in 1857 and 1858 in those two years the number of Australian Lodges increased.

The great change is by the secession of the Canadian Lodges. On these the loss was in 1858, forty-one Lodges, and there will be a still further diminution. The total loss was 46 Lodges.

The English Lodges show a large net increase, attesting the progress of Masonry:

Up to the end of 1858, the total number of lapsed Lodges, secessions and erasures was 121, of which it will be seen a large portion took place in 1858.

\* These figures are doubtful.

† Exclusive of nine after the publication of the calendar.

The total number of initiations under the Grand Lodge of England in 1858 was about 3980, and in 1857, 4030, but this includes colonial initiations. The initiations for England are most likely about 3500 yearly.

The initiations in twelve Lodges in Edinburgh alone, in 1858, were about 720, *Masonry being more freely communicated in Scotland.*

The number of Masons in England, subscribing and non-subscribing, is most likely about 150,000; in Scotland, 100,000; and in Ireland, under 50,000.

England, besides the English initiates, receives a large body of Scotch initiates, some Irish, some colonial of the other Grand Lodges, many Germans, and some other foreigners.

The number of Masons of the high degrees in England is possibly as follows:— 33°, nine; 32°, twelve; 31°, twenty; 30°, thirty; Rose Croix, 300; Knights of the East and West, 6; Elect, 20; Scotch Master, 20; Royal Arch, 10,000; Mark Master, 5000; Past Master (4°), 10,000.

The Royal Arch, Mark Masters' and Past Masters' numbers cannot be correctly given, as many hold the three degrees. The total is most likely under 20,000.

The 32nd, 31st, and 30th degrees are administered by the Supreme Council; the Rose Croix has a distinct Chapter, but under the jurisdiction of the Supreme Council; of the three lower degrees, very few of the members are registered by the Supreme Council, or recognized by the sister Grand Lodges, but are under the several constitutions of the Royal Arch and Mark Masters.

The number of Rose Croix admitted in 1858 was 85.

The Rite of the Brazen Serpent has votaries among returned Indian officers.

The members of the Strict Observance belong to two jurisdictions, the English jurisdiction, and that of the German Lodges. The members are few.

The Illuminati consist of those under the English Grand Master, and some Italians and Germans.

There are a few votaries of the Swedish system.

The following estimate of Masons in the world is to a considerable extent conjectural, but rather under than over the mark.

|                                                    |           |
|----------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| England, &c.....                                   | 300,000   |
| France .....                                       | 250,000   |
| Holland, Germany, Scandinavia, and Switzerland ... | 250,000   |
| Austria and Southern Europe.....                   | 20,000    |
| Africa .....                                       | 5,000     |
| India and Asia .....                               | 10,000    |
| Australia .....                                    | 5,000     |
| Canada and English North America .....             | 20,000    |
| United States .....                                | 250,000   |
| West Indies.....                                   | 5,000     |
| South America .....                                | 5,000     |
| Say .....                                          | 1,200,000 |

There cannot be much doubt there are now a million of Masons in the world.

The number about twenty years ago was probably from 300,000 to 400,000 less, as a great increase has taken place of late years in England, the United States, and most other countries.

The following statistics from an authentic source, are derived from the latest information contained in the proceedings of the various Masonic Grand Lodges of the United States:—

|                             | Lodges. | Members. |
|-----------------------------|---------|----------|
| Alabama, .....              | 217     | 7,228    |
| Arkansas, .....             | 103     | 1,929    |
| California, .....           | 118     | 4,474    |
| North Carolina.....         | 107     | 5,010    |
| South Carolina.....         | 66      | *3,100   |
| District of Columbia, ..... | 11      | 639      |
| Connecticut, .....          | 55      | 4,784    |

\* Estimated

|                      | Lodges. | Members. |
|----------------------|---------|----------|
| Delaware, .....      | 10      | 452      |
| Florida, .....       | 38      | 1,234    |
| Georgia, .....       | 221     | 12,027   |
| Illinois, .....      | 243     | 8,526    |
| Indiana, .....       | 240     | 8,594    |
| Iowa, .....          | 108     | 3,178    |
| Kansas, .....        | 6       | 170      |
| Kentucky, .....      | 290     | 9,979    |
| Louisiana, .....     | 103     | 3,979    |
| Maine, .....         | 83      | 3,391    |
| Massachusetts, ..... | 96      | *3,800   |
| Maryland, .....      | 33      | 1,626    |
| Michigan, .....      | 105     | *5,000   |
| Minnesota, .....     | 24      | 805      |
| Mississippi, .....   | 205     | 7,300    |
| Missouri, .....      | 126     | 4,903    |
| Nebraska, .....      | 3       | *100     |
| New Hampshire, ..... | 37      | 1,731    |
| New Jersey, .....    | 49      | 2,204    |
| New York, .....      | 409     | 30,000   |
| Ohio, .....          | 213     | 10,913   |
| Oregon, .....        | 15      | 490      |
| Pennsylvania, .....  | 156     | 11,428   |
| Rhode Island, .....  | 16      | 1,048    |
| Tennessee, .....     | 174     | 7,750    |
| Texas, .....         | 212     | 6,451    |
| Vermont, .....       | 44      | 2,064    |
| Virginia, .....      | 126     | 4,614    |
| Wisconsin, .....     | 100     | 2,907    |
| Total.....           | 4,202   | 183,833  |

The following is a list of some Masonic jurisdictions :—

- Great Britain :—Grand Lodge of England, in London.
- ” Supreme Council of the 33°, ditto.
- ” Grand Lodge of Scotland, in Edinburgh.
- ” Supreme Council of the 33°, ditto.
- ” Grand Lodge of Ireland, and Supreme Council of the 33°, in Dublin.

- France :—Grand Orient of France, at Paris.
- ” Supreme Council of the 33°, ditto.

Holland :—Groot Oost of the Netherlands.

Prussia :—Grand Lodge of Berlin.

Hamburgh :—Grand Lodge.

Hanover :—Grand Lodge.

Switzerland :—Grand Lodge.

Sweden :—Grand Lodge.

Portugal :—Grand Lodge.

Turkey :—A Grand Lodge of Turkey, at Smyrna, of doubtful constitution.

Canada :—Grand Lodge of Canada.

United States :—Grand Lodges in each State, as above.

In most of these States is likewise a supreme tribunal for the 33 degrees, to govern the higher degrees.

The numbers given of colonial Lodges do not represent the total number of Lodges; as in all the colonies there are Lodges under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodges of Scotland and Ireland. In South Africa are many Lodges under the Groot Oost of the Netherlands, and in the Mauritius and elsewhere, some under the Grand Orient of France.

\* Estimated.

## Selections

FROM POETRY OF THE SEVENTEENTH CENTURY.

### AGAINST THE FEAR OF DEATH.

BY SIR ROBERT HOWARD.

SINCE all must certainly to death resign,  
 Why should we make it dreadful, or repine?  
 How vain is fear where nothing can prevent  
 The loss which he that loses can't lament  
 The fear of death is by our folly brought—  
 We fly the acquaintance of it in a thought;  
 From something into nothing is a change  
 Grown terrible by making it so strange.  
 We always should remember death is sure—  
 What grows familiar most, we best endure:  
 For life and death succeed like night and day,  
 And neither gives increase, nor brings decay.  
 No more or less by what takes birth or dies,  
 And the same mass the teeming world supplies.  
 From death we rose to life; 'tis but the same,  
 Through life again to pass from whence we came.  
 With shame we see our passions can prevail  
 Where reason, certainty, and virtue fail.  
 Honour, that empty name, can death despise;  
 Scorn'd love to death as to a refuge flies,  
 And sorrow waits for death with longing eyes.  
 Hope triumphs o'er the thought of death and fate  
 Cheats fools, and flatters the unfortunate.

Perhaps, deceived by lust-supplying wealth,  
 Now enjoyed pleasures, and a present health,  
 We fear to lose what a small time must waste,  
 'Till life itself grows the disease at last:  
 Begging for life, we beg for more decay,  
 And to be long a dying only pray.

No just and temperate thought can tell us why  
 We should fear death, or grieve for them that die;  
 The time we leave behind is ours no more,  
 Nor our concern, than time that was before;  
 'Twere a fond sight, if those that stay behind  
 For the same passage, waiting for the wind  
 To drive them to their port, should on the shore  
 Lamenting stand for those that went before.  
 We all must pass thro' death's dead sea of night,  
 To reach the haven of eternal light.

## TO THE RETURNING SUN.

BY THE SAME.

Welcome, thou glorious spring of light and heat !  
 Where hast thou made thy long retreat—  
 What lands thy warmer beams possess—  
 What happy Indian worlds thy fruitful presence blest ?  
 Where deep in the dark bosom of the ground  
 Thy wondrous operation's found ?  
 Even there thy beams the earth refine,  
 And mix, and stamp thy lustre through the dazzling mine.  
 Since thy retreat so far from our cold isle,  
 She never wore a lovely smile ;  
 No joy her withered brow adorned  
 In dark unlovely days, and in long nights she mourned.  
 The poor dejected beasts hung down their heads,  
 And trembled on their naked beds ;  
 No footsteps of green life remain,  
 But dying fields, and woods and a bare bleak plain.  
 The drooping birds were silent in the groves,  
 They quite forgot their songs and loves ;  
 Their feeble mates sat sullen by,  
 We thought the feathered world resolved their kind should die.  
 But see ! the land revives at thy approach ;  
 She blooms and quickens at thy touch ;  
 Her kindled atoms life receive,  
 The meadows, and the groves, begin to stir and live.  
 Mixed with thy beams the southern breezes blow,  
 And help the sprouting births below.  
 The infant flowers in haste appear,  
 And gratefully return perfumes to the kind air.  
 The trees, and fields, again look fresh and gay,  
 The birds begin their softer play—  
 Thou hast their life, nay more, their love, restored—  
 Their late and early hymns praise thee, their welcome lord.  
 The spreading fire glides through the plains and woods,  
 It even pierces the cold floods :  
 The duller brutes feel the soft flame,  
 The fishes leap for joy, and wanton in the stream.

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HUMAN KNOWLEDGE.—Man being the servant and interpreter of nature, can do and understand so much, and so much only, as he has observed in fact or in thought of the course of nature : beyond this he neither knows anything nor can do anything.—*Novum Organum*.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

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

### THE GRAND LODGE PROPERTY.

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

SIR AND BROTHER.—I have read with considerable pleasure the circular from the Board of General Purposes which appeared in the *Freemasons' Magazine* of last week, and which I presume will, in due course, be brought under the consideration of every Lodge in the kingdom.

I do not now purpose to enter into any lengthened review of the document before us, but merely to give my own impressions upon the questions put before the Craft, with a view of eliciting, through your pages, the opinions of other Brethren, and thereby leading to the arrival at satisfactory conclusions by the different Lodges prior to the day by which they are requested to communicate on the subject with the Board of General Purposes.

Now, Sir and Brother, with regard to the first question:—"Are a library, reading, and refreshment rooms requisite, and would they be acceptable to the Craft generally?" To this I believe there can be but one answer throughout the Craft, and that in the affirmative—for whether a Brother be resident in the metropolis or in the provinces he must be interested in having a good library of reference connected with the Order, and in being enabled to obtain proper refreshments at reasonable rates when attending it, or on his visits to Grand Lodge.

To the second question:—"If it be found practicable, will it be desirable to devote the necessary property solely and exclusively to Masonic uses?" I would also answer in the affirmative—believing that were we to do so, we should considerably raise the character of Freemasonry in the eyes of the public, and lead to our institution being regarded with the greatest favour by the higher and more intellectual classes of society.

The third question is certainly one of great importance, and one which I feel may be handled with great dexterity to show that there should be no alteration in the present system by those who have an interest in supporting things as they are, or who regard all changes as dangerous. This question is—"Are the Craft prepared to submit to some diminution of their annual income for the purpose of keeping such property sacred to Masonry?" Individually, I would reply that even if we were to sacrifice the whole £800 a year rent, which we now receive, in a few years we should be the gainers by the increased impetus which it would give to our institution—and by the bringing within its portals the highest and most gifted of the land. But here I may be answered that this is mere theory, and that

I have no facts before me with which to support my argument. Let that be admitted—and I will not therefore rely upon it; but I believe I can show almost to demonstration that no loss, if not a large positive gain, would ensue.

In the first place we now receive from our tenants, on an average, £800 a year, and I suppose I shall not be far out, if I take the rates and taxes at £200 a year more, making a total of £1000 per annum, which we have to make good.

To do this I have to look to various sources, for I would have a well appointed library, museum, and light refreshment room, open to all Freemasons without any charge whatever; a subscription coffee and reading room for those who choose to avail themselves of it; and handsomely furnished lodge and banqueting rooms, for the use of which a small rent should be charged to the Lodges availing themselves of them.

These charges should be regulated at from 10s. 6d. to £1 11s. 6d. per evening, according to the accommodation required; and if I strike the average at £1 1s., which I am sure no Lodge will object to pay, and presuming that only the same number of Lodges and Chapters continue to hold their meetings in our own buildings as at present meet at the Tavern, I shall find the following result:—

|                                                |          |      |
|------------------------------------------------|----------|------|
| Thirty-eight Lodges six times a-year . . . . . | £239     | 8 0  |
| Eight Chapters . . . . .                       | 33       | 12 0 |
|                                                | £273 0 0 |      |

Here, Sir, I have a sum of £273 per annum to begin with, and I am sure that no Lodge will grudge to pay from £3 3s. to £10 10s. a-year for the greater care which can be taken of their furniture and property than can be the case in a tavern where other business is conducted, or for the use of furniture which they do not possess; whilst they will be relieved from the implied obligation of having refreshments, even when they do not require it, which too many of them at present feel.

Then again we have a Masonic expenditure at the present moment for refreshments of £5000 a year. Now, I imagine I shall not be considered as exaggerating the likelihood of its productiveness if I presume £20 a week, or £1000 a year, more would be expended in a properly appointed coffee room—the want of which has long been felt and acknowledged by all who have attended the various committees or elections of the Order, the boards of Stewards, or Grand Lodge. This gives us £6000 a year which might be let by tender to a Brother in the Craft (giving the present tenants the option, if they should desire, of taking it), and which I consider I am taking a very low estimate when I place it at 5 per cent., or £300 a year, making, with the sums above mentioned, £573, leaving me still about £430 to provide, and which, I believe, will be more than repaid from the subscriptions to the coffee room, which I propose to place at £1 1s. per annum for London Masons, and 10s. 6d. for those in the country. Now, I find from your pages, that there are rather more than 130 Lodges in the Metropolitan districts, out of which I believe at least, three members in each (the principal officers merely, who have business at Grand Lodge and in the committees, to say nothing of the Past Masters) would be found to subscribe their £1 1s., which, in round numbers, would produce rather more than £500 a year. Then there are upwards of 500 Provincial Lodges, and allowing we only get one member from each, we should obtain a further sum of upwards of £250, making the general result as follows:—

|                                               |        |
|-----------------------------------------------|--------|
| Rent from Lodges and Chapters . . . . .       | £273   |
| "    for Kitchens . . . . .                   | 333    |
| London Subscriptions to Coffee-room . . . . . | 500    |
| Country      "      "      "      " . . . . . | 250    |
|                                               | £1,323 |

as against £1000 now received, leaving a larger margin for reduction in the charges, or for errors in my calculation of the success which would attend the proposed alteration—whilst it must be borne in mind that I have not taken credit for the amounts which will be saved to Grand Lodge in consequence of the cessation of the payments they have now to make for the use of the hall and committee-rooms when required, or for the increased accommodation which we shall be enabled to give to our officers and charities by concentrating them under one roof belonging to the Freemasons themselves. Neither have I dealt with our other property, but have confined myself to that portion alluded to in the Report of the Board of General Purposes—the Hall, the present Tavern, and the Grand Secretary's offices. I am aware that the members of various Lodges at a distance will give us little or no support to our coffee-room, but I have only averaged them at one member each. At the same time, to Lodges at a distance of more than—say 80 or 100 miles from London, I would give the opportunity of enfranchising the whole of their members to the use of the coffee-room, when in town, for one annual payment—say to Lodges of not more than twenty members, £2 2s. per annum, and beyond that number, £3 3s. But these are matters of detail for settlement hereafter, and are only thrown out as suggestions for the consideration of the Brethren, and to elicit the opinions of others.

To the fourth question:—"If it should be found desirable hereafter that an annual subscription (which would necessarily be of very small amount) should be required to entitle Brethren to the use of separate reading and refreshment rooms, what support would it probably receive from your Lodge or the members thereof?" I must of course leave to the various Lodges to frame their own answers, though I believe I have indicated above sufficient to assist them in doing so: and I have now therefore only to go to the last question—"If it can be shown that a considerable outlay for the purpose of giving increased accommodation to the Craft, and at the same time very much extending the tavern would be productive of an adequate return, would such a proceeding be expedient and desirable?"—and here I must be allowed to give a decided answer that we should have nothing whatever to do with any general tavern scheme, but leave the trade open to those Brethren of the Craft and other members of society to whom it more legitimately belongs. Moreover, in the face of the fact that our present tavern has proved so unprofitable to the tenants that within the last four years we have had to reduce the rent from £1,100 to £800 a year, or something like forty per cent., it does appear to me somewhat monstrous to suppose that by incurring some £20,000 or £30,000 expenditure for a larger tavern we shall ever be enabled to reap an adequate return for our outlay.

I shall now close for the present, feeling that I have already occupied too large a portion of your space, but will, with your permission, return to the subject when I have elicited the opinions of other of your numerous correspondents.

I remain, Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

UNTT.

London, Jan. 17th, 1859.

## THE PROVINCE OF SOMERSET.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I should feel obliged, by your giving insertion in your next number to a few remarks, in answer to the strictures of your two correspondents, "P.M.," and "Another P.M.," on the recent appointment of Bro. Babbage as Grand Secretary of this province. The ostensible objections of those Brethren are based on two grounds, viz., Bro. Babbage's inexperience, and the alleged small number of Brethren who attended the Prov. Grand Lodge when the appointment was ratified. I will deal with the latter allegation first. Now, although this seems a very plausible objection at first sight, it is in reality most puerile and absurd. The appointment of Prov. Grand Secretary is not elective: it is the unquestionable prerogative of the Prov. Grand Master to confer the office on whomsoever he pleases; and it signifies nothing whether there were few or many at the Prov. Grand Lodge, as the deliberations of that body could not contravene the Prov. Grand Master's authority, or interfere in the remotest degree with its exercise. The reason for a Prov. Grand Lodge being summoned at all must be obvious to every one, viz., the Prov. Grand Master's desire to promulgate, in the most direct manner, the change which had taken place in his province. As a Grand Officer myself (and other Grand Officers share my feelings), I am grateful to the Prov. Grand Master for not officially calling upon me to take a long journey to a remote part of the province, at a needless sacrifice of time and expense. There were abundance of qualified Brethren in the immediate neighbourhood to form a Grand Lodge to enable the Prov. Grand Master to perform simply a ministerial act.

As regards the appointment itself, and the objection urged against the choice of the Prov. Grand Master—the duties of Prov. Grand Secretary are very onerous, and the qualifications needed in such an officer are general rather than special. Business-like habits, firmness, courteous manners, and such mental faculties as may enable him to deal with all subjects that come within the scope of his duties with decision, energy, and judgment, are in my estimation, elements far more important in the position of a Prov. Grand Secretary, than the wearisome ability to repeat volumes of incoherent verbiage which some possess, and regard as a compensation for the absence of every cardinal Masonic virtue. It might perhaps be too much to say, that Bro. Babbage, who is comparatively an untried man, does possess all the qualities to which I have referred; but if the concurrent opinions of the most eminent Masons in the province be worth anything, he is likely to become an efficient and highly popular Grand Officer. Nothing that has been advanced by your correspondents, at least, can justify an opposite conclusion. Vague generalities and unsupported assertions, whilst they fail to effect the pretended purpose of the writers, lead to the irresistible conclusion that they are employed as a miserable pretext for a covert attack on our venerable Prov. Grand Master, and with the view again to stir up those elements of disunion and ill feeling which have only recently subsided. Defeated faction never sleeps; it is ever vigilant, ever on the watch to renew its efforts when there seems a chance of success. The province of Somerset will now, as on a former occasion, know how to deal with these malcontents; and if the excellent Prov. Grand Master—who now administers its affairs with so much fidelity, judgment, and firmness, combined with

never failing kindness and conciliation—be assailed, there are not ten Masons in the province who will not unite to support and defend him.

“Another P.M.” is as ignorant of the feeling in the province of Somerset as he is alien in spirit to the great majority of the members, and therefore is utterly unable to form a correct opinion on the subject in question, or any other affecting the good of the Order.

I confess it gives me much pleasure to know that Bro. Babbage is not one of those Masonic pharisees, which “Another P.M.” denominates “Masonic stars;” the term is suspicious—it is ever associated in my mind with self conceit and quackery. We had an orb of this magnitude, for some time in this province—may we never have another! The provincial hemisphere was too circumscribed for such a planet. An astronomical revolution conveyed it to an antipodean hemisphere—where may it long coruscate with resplendent lustre.

“Zunmerzet” may do strange things, and so long as “Another P.M.” dwells in it strange things will “never cease in the land.” It is “strange” to find a Brother, who contemplates with unctuous pleasure the proposed task of dishing up *à la Russe*, in your columns, the small remnants of scandal which a wicked world preserves or invents to gratify a morbid appetite.

The province of Somerset will condemn the Prov. Grand Master's appointment when it is found to be inimical to the interests of the Order—until then all good men and true will give Bro. Babbage a full, fair, and generous trial.

I am, Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,  
Bath, Jan. 17th, 1859.

A BATH P.M.

[We can assure “A Bath P.M.” that he altogether mistakes and misunderstands the man if he supposes that the writer of the letter signed “Another Past Master” is capable of dishing up for the *Freemasons' Magazine* or any publication small remnants of scandal “to gratify a morbid appetite,” even if we would publish them. We have the honour of the personal acquaintance of “Another Past Master,” and can vouch that a better working Mason, a more charitable man, or a Brother better versed in the constitutions of the Order, is scarcely to be found; and it is strange indeed to us if with such qualifications he is “ignorant of the feelings of the province of Somerset,” or “alien in spirit to the great majority of the members.” We shall not lend ourselves to any “covert attack” on the venerable Prov. Grand Master, yet we cannot think that a Mason of scarcely twelve months' standing is the most fitting to fill so important an office as that of Prov. Grand Secretary; as we hold that officer ought not only to have a good general knowledge of the working of Masonry, but be thoroughly conversant with the Book of Constitutions in all its bearings, so as to give any advice that may be required of him, to different Lodges, with a weight which will ensure attention to his ruling. He should also have such a general knowledge of the practice and members of the different Lodges as will enable him to assist the Prov. Grand Master in the selection of his officers with the utmost impartiality, and thereby avoid cliquism and undue influence being brought to bear upon a Brother who from his position must necessarily to a considerable extent have to act upon the advice of others. We however have no wish to quarrel with Brother Babbage; but whilst we

shall be happy to unite with the Brethren of Somersetshire in giving him "a full, fair, and generous trial," he must not be astonished if we should upon some questions take the liberty of criticising the manner in which he may discharge his duties, should we feel it necessary to do so; though he may rest assured that we shall never exercise that power excepting in the most friendly and brotherly spirit, and with the view only of endeavouring to enhance the prosperity of the province with which he has the honour to be connected. If we have spoken more of our second correspondent on the subject than of the first, it is only because we are more intimately acquainted with him; though we have every reason to believe that the one was equally independent and trustworthy in his information with the other.—*Ed.*]

### COUNTRY LODGE ACCOMMODATION.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Such of your readers as are resident in the provinces will readily acknowledge a generally ardent desire amongst the Brethren of their Lodges to remove their meetings from the tavern in which they too often take place, to a hall or temple devoted exclusively to Masonic purposes. But as a large section of your subscribers reside in London, where many of the objections to tavern meetings do not hold good, it may be as well to enumerate a few of them.

First, and foremost—the scandal undoubtedly entailed on the Craft. How many a young man, living perhaps in a town of six to 10,000 inhabitants—where every one knows the contents of his neighbour's larder, and the way in which he holds his razor—is deterred from joining our ranks by a knowledge of the social glass and pipe which almost inevitably follow the labours of the monthly Lodge if held at a tavern, and which, over the maternal tea and toast, is construed into one of the horrid and demoralizing effects of Freemasonry. This may appear a frivolous objection to many; but a young man's fair name is much more assailable and a much more constant source of solicitude in such a town than in a large city.

Secondly.—The expense; banquets—"social glass and pipe," aforesaid—and often an exorbitant rental.

Thirdly; and this most serious—the bad adaptation of a market or assembly room to Masonic purposes, and the damage done to ornaments, furniture, and jewels, by continual moving and insufficient stowage.

Fourthly.—The feeling of dependence and obligation incurred to non-Masonic innkeepers in many instances, and the direct and indirect disadvantages thereof.

These are a few only, and perhaps not the most serious objections specially applicable to meetings held in provincial hotels.

It has occurred in a crude way to the writer, that where flourishing Prov. Grand Lodges exist they might, with convenience to themselves and advantage to the Craft, impart a life-giving impetus to small, struggling, but earnest Lodges, by assisting them (under proper security) to a home of their own; giving them the chance, by long rentals, of purchasing it, or making it a permanent source of income to their own treasury. £300 or £400 would

in many small towns buy a site and erect a temple amply sufficing for the Masonic requirements of the neighbourhood for, at any rate, several generations; and although out of the reach of the Lodge itself, such a sum might be available for a *good* investment by Prov. Grand Lodges, and the portion of the purchase money subscribed by the Lodge itself would be a guarantee for the regularity of the annual payment. Work would also be thus found for Prov. Grand Superintendents of Works.

I myself am member of a Lodge which suffers from all the disadvantages enumerated above, and many others. There is also a Chapter whose meetings are held under the same depressing shadow.

If this communication answer the end only of drawing additional attention to this crying evil, I am sure you will be indulgent enough to pardon its somewhat hasty composition and excuse its intrusion on your columns.

Yours faithfully and fraternally,

22nd January, 1859.

J. O. F.

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## UNIVERSALITY OF FREEMASONRY.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—It is a positive pleasure, after some of the letters which have appeared respecting Freemasonry and Christianity, to read the letter of the "Prov. Grand Chaplain," written as it is in the language and spirit of a gentleman and a Mason. It is the more to be regretted that the Chaplain appears to be somewhat misinformed on some points connected with the controversy, as well as on some others; and I shall therefore crave a few lines of your valuable space, in order to put these points fairly before him, trusting to do so in the same spirit he has himself shown.

It must be recollected, in the first place, that my first letter was a reply to a letter of "Sit Lux." This correspondent had disputed the claims of Freemasonry to universality on various grounds. It might almost appear to those who read the "Prov. G. Chaplain's" letter, as if my principal answer to these grounds had been that I had not read Bishop Pearson's work on the creed. I certainly mentioned this fact, but in quite an incidental manner; my main argument being as to the necessarily Christian character of Freemasonry—an inquiry how such an assertion could be reconciled to the answer in our lectures to the question, What is Freemasonry?—an inquiry of which as yet no notice has been taken. I had occasion also to refer to an accusation of sectarianism, and of an attempt to bring the Articles of the Church of England into Lodge—this the "Prov. G. Chaplain" calls ridiculous. I am not, however, responsible for the ridicule. If the Chaplain will turn to vol. i., for 1858, p. 548, he will find in the second paragraph these words, "And according to the belief of our Protestant brethren since the Reformation, our doctrines are commensurate with those contained in the Book of Common Prayer used in the Anglican Church, etc." The intention of this passage must evidently be that Freemasonry is Christian by its agreement with the doctrines contained in the Book of Common Prayer. I also had occasion to notice the union of 1813, and certain alterations then made in the lectures, and for this I am blamed, because I limit Freemasonry to the last fifty years. May I for one moment meet this reproach by asking where was the Christianity of Freemasonry at the building of the second temple—

or of the first? It is not I that limit Freemasonry, but those who insist upon its Christian character.

May I say a word or two more for myself and my views, which have been, I think, misunderstood by the "Provincial Grand Chaplain." He seems to assume that Unitarians are not Christians. They are Christians, for they acknowledge Christ as the Messiah; they have chapels of their own, where of course they do not refuse to attend, in those chapels Christ, and Christ crucified, is preached; and when they are prevented from worshipping in their own churches, they join in the worship in other churches, rather than not worship at all. Those therefore who are universalists (at least I speak for myself) do not claim universalism for Freemasonry on this ground, but on a far higher and wider one.

May I say also that my short note some weeks back was not a published defiance. It is not intended for anything of the sort. It may rather be called a protest—a protest against ill disguised sneers at my own genuine convictions (as in "W. H.'s" letter) on the one hand, and against such utterly unfounded misstatements as appears in the letter of "A Masonic Tyro" on the other. I must at the same time acknowledge that I have not been myself entirely free from the blame of imparting into this discussion extraneous matter. I hope, if so, a simple acknowledgment may be sufficient, and the point may be confined within its due limits for the future.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

Jan. 13, 1859.

A. UNIVERSALIST.

P.S.—I may perhaps be further allowed to say that my non-acquaintance with "Pearson on the Creed" is merely matter of accident, but I have, I trust, studied the Scriptures before professing any belief, as I hold that every man must make his creed for himself, and not receive it at second hand. But I should be sorry to think I had commenced such a study, with a "determination not to be convinced," however I might feel inclined to believe that Bishop Pearson commenced his exposition with his mind made up; and that I am always open, on conviction, to alter my views. If I have not read Pearson's book, however, I have probably read all the arguments in it in some other form, and I am certainly not convinced yet. However, it shall no longer be matter of reproach to me that I have not read "one of the best works on the creed ever published;" I shall at any rate read it at as early an opportunity as possible.

[This correspondence must stop here, as we cannot allow the *Magazine* to become an arena for theological controversy—the one subject, which of all others is the most likely to breed dissension in the Craft; as it constantly does in the outer world.—Ed.]

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## MASONRY IN TASMANIA.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I forward you an extract from the *Hobart Town Courier* of the 23rd October, 1853, and a copy of a letter from the Tasmanian Operative Lodge, No. 345, I. C., relative to the sudden death of Bro. J. Smith, surgeon, who was initiated in Adam's Lodge, No. 181, Sheerness.

The circumstances attending Bro. Smith's death were very distressing, and the conduct of the Brethren in Hobart Town on the truly melancholy occasion was such as to call for the warmest gratitude from all who knew Bro. Smith. I therefore ask a place in your columns for the extract and the copy of the letter, that one proof more may be given to the world at large of the excellent and beneficial effects of our ancient and honourable institution, and to record this instance of brotherly love to the honour of the Brethren of the Tasmanian Operative Lodge.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours faithfully and fraternally,

J. S. KEDDELL,

P. Prov. S.G.W., Kent; P.Z. & P.M., No. 184,

*Sheerness, Jan. 20, 1859.*

[From the *Hobart Town Courier*.]

The efforts made by the Freemasons of Hobart Town, to discover the unfortunate Dr. Smith, who was lost on Mount Wellington, have been suitably acknowledged by the Lodge at Sheerness, Kent, to which Dr. Smith belonged, as we find by the following letters:—

“ To the Editor of the *Hobart Town Daily Courier*.

“ *Freemasons' Hall, Lاونceston, 16th, Oct. 1858.*

“ Dear Sir and Brother,—I herewith enclose a letter to hand to-day from the W.M. and Brethren of Adam's Lodge, No. 184, Sheerness, acknowledging the Masonic duty nobly rendered by the Brethren of No. 345, to our late Brother, J. Smith. I have also received a letter from the same Lodge, acknowledging receipt of the certificate transmitted to me, in which the exertions and the report of No. 345 are eulogised in very high terms, though not more than you merit. I am, dear Sir and Brother, fraternally yours—R. K. EWING, Prov. G.M.

“ *Sheerness, June 17th, 1858.*

“ Worshipful Master and Brethren,—I am requested by the W.M. and Brethren of Adam's Lodge, No. 184, to offer you our cordial and grateful thanks for the very great kindness you have shown on the melancholy circumstances attending our late Brother, John Smith. Language fails to enable us to express our admiration of your truly noble and fraternal conduct; the remembrance of it will never be effaced from our memories; it will be recorded in the minute book of our Lodge as an instance to the rising generation in Masonry of what has been done by the Brethren in Tasmania, and to incite them to “go and do likewise.” I need scarcely say that Bro. Smith's surviving parent, as well as his relatives here, fully and deeply appreciate your Masonic kindness. I remain, Worshipful Master and Brethren, faithfully and fraternally yours,—J. S. KEDDELL, Surgeon, P. Prov. G.S.W., Kent; P.M. and P.Z., No. 184.

“ The W.M. and Brethren, Tasmanian Lodge, No. 345 (I.C.)

[Copy.]

*Tasmanian Operative Lodge, No. 345, I.C.  
Hobart Town, Tasmania, 12th Nov., 1858.*

Dear Sir and Brother,—In the name of our Worshipful Master, Officers and Brethren, I am directed to acknowledge the receipt, through the Prov. Grand Master of Tasmania, of your letter of 17th June last, per mail steam ship *Queen*.

If any thing were wanting to add to the testimonies we have already received, that our Masonic conduct has met with the approval of our Brethren, and deeply gratifying as has been the knowledge to us of such approval—that gratification has been consummated to the highest degree by the terms in which you have been pleased to give expression to the sentiments entertained by your Lodge.

We thank you again and again for your appreciation of our having done what we still simply deem our duty. Our reward—the highest, the proudest, we could

over hope for in return—is contained in your communication above acknowledged, enhanced as it is by the assurance that the bereaved parent and relatives have been enabled to derive some consolation from the knowledge that the one we all so deeply mourn, though distant from them, was not uncared for.

Accept our united thanks and heartfelt regard, and believe me to remain,

For the W.M., Officers, and Brethren,

Yours most respectfully and fraternally,

Bro. J. S. Koddell,

WILLIAM BALES, Secretary.

P. Prov. G.S.W., Kent, P.M. and P.Z., 184.

### ASK, AND YE SHALL RECEIVE.

BY ROB MORRIS.

Ask and ye shall receive ;  
 Seek, ye shall surely find ;  
 Knock, and ye shall no resistance meet  
 If ye come with ready mind,  
 For all that ask, and ask aright,  
 Are welcome to our Lodge to-night.

Lay down the bow and spear :  
 Resign the sword and shield :  
 Forget the arts of warfare here,  
 The arts of peace to wield,  
 For all that seek, and seek aright,  
 Are welcome to our Lodge to-night.

Bring hither thoughts of peace ;  
 Bring hither words of love :  
 Diffuse the pure and holy joy  
 That cometh from above,  
 For all that knock, and knock aright,  
 Are welcome to our Lodge to-night.

Ask help of Him that's high :  
 Seek grace of him that's true :  
 Knock patiently, the hand is nigh,  
 Will open unto you,  
 For all that ask, seek, knock aright,  
 Are welcome to our Lodge to-night.

[The above is extracted from the "Voice of Masonry," a new broad sheet, issued under the auspices of the well known Bro. Rob Morris, of Louisville, Kentucky. It appears to have been commenced with spirit, and we heartily wish it success.

—Ed.]

GEOLOGISTS' ASSOCIATION.—The number of members is now one hundred and seventy. Bro. Hyde Clarke has been invited to become a vice president of the association, and has undertaken to deliver an address at St. Martin's Hall, on Tuesday evening the 8th of February, at seven o'clock, on the organization of a geological survey by the members of the association.

## THE MASONIC MIRROR.

### MASONIC MEMS.

THE annual festival of the Royal Benevolent Institution for Aged Masons and their widows will take place to-day, Bro. Wyndham Portal, J.G.W., presiding. Upwards of two hundred Brethren are expected to attend.

A GRAND full dress ball, in aid of the Masonic charities, is to take place at the Royal Hotel, Birmingham, on the 15th February.

### METROPOLITAN.

#### APPOINTMENTS.

*Wednesday, January 26th.*—Lodges, Antiquity (2), Freemasons' Tavern; Mount Moriah (40), ditto; Prosperity (78), White Hart Tavern, Bishopsgate Street; United Pilgrims' (748), Manor House, Walworth; Prince Frederick William (1058), Knights of St. John, St. John's Wood. Festival of the Royal Benevolent Institution for Aged Masons and their Widows.

*Thursday, 27th.*—Lodges, Neptune (22), Radley's Hotel; Peace and Harmony (72), London Tavern; Grenadiers (79), Freemasons' Tavern; Shakspeare (116), Albion Tavern. *Chapters.*—St. Alban's (32), London Coffee House; Domestic (206), Falcon Tavern; Friendship (248), Ship and Turtle; Polish (778), Freemasons' Tavern.

*Friday, 28th.*—Lodges, Universal (212), Freemasons' Tavern; Fitzroy (830), Royal Artillery Company; High Cross (1056), Railway Tavern, Tottenham.

*Monday, 31st.*—Lodge, Pythagorean (33), Globe Tavern, Greenwich.

*Tuesday, February 1st.*—Lodges, Albion (9), Freemasons' Tavern; Old Dundee (18), London Tavern; Temple (118), Ship and Turtle; Old Concord (201), Freemasons' Tavern; Euphrates (257), White Hart, Bishopsgate Street; Stability (264), Green Dragon, Bishopsgate Street; La Tolerance (874), Freemasons' Tavern. *Mark.*—*Tuesday, 1st.*—Florence Nightingale (S. C.), Freemasons' Tavern, Woolwich, at 6. Colonial Board, at 3.

*Wednesday, 2nd.*—GRAND CHAPTER, at 8.—Lodges, Westminster and Keystone (10), Freemasons' Tavern; Florence Nightingale (1068), Freemasons' Tavern, Woolwich.

*Thursday, 3rd.*—Lodges, Strong Man (53), Falcon Tavern, Fetter Lane; Good Report (158), Radley's Hotel; Lion and Lamb (227), Bridge House Hotel; Ionic (275), Ship and Turtle; St. Andrew's (281), Freemasons' Tavern; Yarborough (812), George Tavern, Commercial Road East. *Crystal Palace* (1044), *Crystal Palace*, Sydenham. *Chapters.*—*St. James* (2), *Freemasons' Tavern*; Moriah (9), Thatched House. *Encampment.*—Mount Carmel, London Tavern.

*Friday, 4th.*—*Chapters*, British (8), Freemasons' Tavern; Prince of Wales (324), Thatched House.

*Saturday, 5th.*—Lodges, London (125), Freemasons' Tavern; St. Thomas's (166), ditto. Committee Boys School, at 4.

[The appointments of Lodges of Instruction will appear in the last number of each month.]

GRAND STEWARDS' LODGE.—There was a meeting of the members of this Lodge at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Wednesday the 19th inst., Bro. Johnson, W.M., presiding, supported by a more than usually numerous attendance of the

members. Bro. Hewlett, S.W., was elected Master for the ensuing year, and Bro. Johnson, P.M., Treasurer. The circular from the Board of General Purposes, relative to the property of the Craft, having been brought under notice, it was resolved to take it into consideration at the next meeting.

ROYAL SOMERSET HOUSE AND INVERNESS (No. 4).—The meeting of this Lodge was held at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Monday last, Jan. 24th, Bro. J. A. D. Cox, W.M., presiding. Two candidates, Mr. Hickee and Mr. Bianci, were initiated into the Order; and Bro. Fred. Slight, P.M., invested as Treasurer, he having been elected to that office at the previous meeting. It was also resolved that the Lodge should regularly subscribe for two copies of the *Freemasons' Magazine*. About twenty of the Brethren afterwards dined together, the harmony of the evening being much enhanced by the exertions of Bro. Bianci at the pianoforte, and Bro. Montemerli.

ROYAL YORK LODGE OF PERSEVERANCE (No. 7).—The annual meeting of the members of this most excellent Lodge was held at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Wednesday, the 19th inst. Bro. Collins, W.M., presided, supported by a large body of the Brethren, including a number of visitors, amongst whom we observed, Bro. W. P. Scott, S.G.D.; Bro. Kennedy, G. Steward; Bro. Crew, secretary to the Girls School; Bro. Thiselton, secretary to the Boys School; Bros. Binckes, P.M.; Young, P.M.; J. Gurton, P.M.; Collard, P.M.; Stacey, Franks, Redpath, &c., &c. Bro. Raggi Mario having been passed to the second degree, and Bro. Pindar raised to the third, Bro. Jno. Hervey, P.M., proceeded to instal Bro. Richard Jenkins as W.M. for the ensuing year. The new W.M. was pleased to appoint Bros. T. Bohn, S.W.; G. Roberts, J.W.; Jno. Hervey, P.M., Sec.; C. A. Murton, S.D.; I. Field, J.D.; E. Bicknell, I.G.; and Fredk. Adlard, P.M., as Dir. of Cers., he having already fulfilled the duties of the office for a period of fourteen years, to the great satisfaction of the Brethren and the advantage of the Lodge. Bro. Harrison, P.M., was re-invested as Treasurer. At the conclusion of the business the Brethren adjourned to banquet, and spent a most pleasant evening. Bro. Binckes returned thanks for the toast of the visitors, and Bros. Crew and Thiselton for the charities. The W.M. proposed the health of the immediate P.M., Bro. Collins, to whom he paid a well deserved tribute of praise for the manner in which he had discharged the duties of the chair during the past year. Bro. Collins briefly acknowledged the compliment, and assured the Lodge that it would always give him the greatest pleasure to endeavour to promote its interests to the utmost of his power. Bro. Hopwood, J.G.W., returned thanks for the P.Ms., of which this Lodge has a considerable roll, and in the name of the Lodge presented an elegant jewel and a magnificent timepiece to Bro. Harrison, P.M. and Treasurer, as a mark of the appreciation by the Lodge of his valuable services during the many years he has held his responsible position. Bro. Harrison briefly and feelingly acknowledged the compliment, and a variety of other toasts having been drunk the Brethren separated.

GLOBE LODGE (No. 23).—This Lodge met at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Thursday, the 20th inst.; Bro. W. Watson, P.M., presided as W.M., supported by Bros. Haig, W.M. elect, as S.W.; Collins J.W.; Bros. Hewlett, Bennett, Blackburn, Brandon, Humphrey, and Watkins. P.Ms. Mr. W. H. Watkins and Mr. E. Clunn were initiated into the mysteries of the Order; Bro. Watson then proceeded to instal Bro. James Richard Haig, who was pleased to appoint as his officers Bro. H. H. Collins, S.W.; J. A. Adams, P.M., of Nos. 196 and 206, J.W.; W. Blackburn, P.M., Sec.; F. J. Hill, S.D.; R. M. Smith, J.D.; J. H. Nappi, I.G., and H. E. Thompson, D.C. Amongst the visitors we observed Bros. Friend, No. 9; Anslow, No. 165; Smith, No. 196; Sidney, No. 218, and Winter, No. 234. The Lodge being called from labour to refreshment, thirty-three Brethren sat down to a most excellent banquet. After the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, which were ably responded to, Bro. Winter returning thanks for the visitors, the proceedings were brought to a happy close. The pleasures of the evening were much enhanced by the excellent singing of Bros. Haines, Tedder, Holmes, and Winter.

ST. GEORGE'S LODGE (No. 64).—The installation meeting of this excellent Lodge, took place on Wednesday, Jan. 19th, at the Globe Tavern, Greenwich. Bro. Robinson was duly installed W.M., the ceremony being admirably performed by

Bro. Nutt, P.M., No. 32. Bro. Robinson having been installed, proceeded with the appointment of officers as follows:—Bro. Edington, S.W.; Bro. Collington, J.W.; Bro. Greatrex, S.D.; Bro. Dent, J.D.; Bro. Mountion, I.G.; Bro. Ryder, Treas.; and Bro. Figwright, Sec. The other business consisted of Bro. G.M. Greatrex being raised to the degree of M.M. The Brethren then adjourned to refreshment, which was followed by the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, and a delightful evening resulted.

LODGE OF JUSTICE (No. 172).—A meeting of this Lodge was held on Wednesday, the 12th inst., at the Royal Albert, New Cross Road, Deptford, Bro. P. M. Bolton, W.M.; Bro. Durrant, S.W.; Bro. Whitaker, J.W. After the confirmation of the minutes of the previous Lodge, Bro. Henry Roberts, of the Crystal Palace Lodge, No. 1,044, was passed to the degree of F.C. There were also present Bros. Thompson, Oliver, and Hendford, of the above named Lodge, No. 1044. All business being disposed of, the Brethren adjourned to refreshment, and spent a pleasant evening.

LODGE OF SINCERITY (No. 203).—The installation meeting of this numerous and well conducted Lodge took place on Wednesday last, at the Cheshire Cheese Tavern, Crutched-friars. At the hour named in the summons, a large number of brethren were present, including the W.M., Bro. Fentiman, several P.M.s, and the officers. A ballot was taken for the admission of two candidates to the privileges of Freemasonry—viz., Mr. W. Oman, jun., son of the respected Treasurer of the Lodge, and Mr. Pendlebury, jun.—which being found favourable, they were initiated into the mysteries of the Order, the ceremony being well performed by the retiring Master, who then resigned his seat to Bro. Potts, P.M., and introduced Bro. Knibbs, W.M. elect, who was duly installed into the Chair, and proclaimed as W.M. for the present year. The usual addresses were given by Bro. Potts with a fervour and impressiveness seldom equalled, for which he received high encomiums from all present. The new Master appointed his officers as follows:—Bros. Thompson, S.W.; Bulmer, J.W.; Blechfeldt, J.D.; Geo. Spencer, J.D.; Candler, I.G. Bros. Oman and Potts were re-invested as Treasurer and Secretary; and Bro. Johnson unanimously re-elected Tyler. Lodge business being ended, the Brethren retired to refreshments, served in excellent style by the worthy host, Bro. Wright. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts being given and responded to, Bro. Fentiman, the immediate P.M., proposed the health of the W.M., wishing him a happy year of office; he felt assured that the Lodge never was in better hands than those of Bro. Knibbs, and would call upon the Brethren to give him a cordial greeting. The Master returned thanks for the honour vouchsafed him in being entrusted with the interests of the Lodge of Sincerity. The duties of W.M. were somewhat onerous; but, with the assistance of such excellent P.M.s., he hoped for a satisfactory year of office. What man had done was possible to be done again; therefore, he would assure the Brethren that nothing should be wanting on his part to promote the interests of the Lodge, and he trusted that the confidence now placed in him would not be forfeited by any want of zeal, or effort to carry out the duties of his office. Several other toasts followed in due course, including the Visitors, Bros. Hampton, Laws, Esse, Pendlebury, &c. Before the conclusion of the evening, Bro. Terry drew the attention of the Brethren to the approaching biennial festival of the Royal Benevolent Institution, at which the newly appointed S.W., Bro. Thompson, intended acting for this Lodge as steward. No. 203 had never been behindhand in supporting the charities of the Order; and he presumed and hoped that a large number of the Brethren would support this Lodge on the 25th. They all knew that this was a pet charity of his (Bro. Terry). He had been tolerably pressing upon them for their subscriptions; and now he would urge as large an attendance as really convenient on the interesting occasion referred to. Bro. Fentiman then rose and said, that prior to the Tyler's toast; he would propose, in consideration of the great and arduous exertions of their Secretary, in performing many duties to the advantage of the Lodge, that a yearly gratuity should be granted to him, as some slight recompense for the time devoted to their service. Bro. Hawley seconded the motion, the further arrangements being postponed till next meeting. The Tyler's toast was then given, and the

Brethren separated, after enjoying a delightful evening. The P.Ms. present were Bros. Oman, Terry, Brewer, Morris, Hicks, Rawley, and Potts.

LODGE OF FRIENDSHIP (No. 248).—This distinguished Lodge held the installation meeting at the London Tavern, on Thursday, the 13th inst., a numerous body of the Brethren greeting the occasion by their presence. Bro. John Allen opened the Lodge, and called upon the Secretary to read the minutes of the previous meeting, which being confirmed, a gentleman was balloted for, accepted, and admitted into Freemasonry; after which, Bro. Rumsey, P.M., raised Bro. Taylor to the sublime degree of M.M. These matters ended, Bro. Potts was called to the chair, and with excellent taste, initiated Bro. Frampton, *M.D.*, into the chair. The new Master having been proclaimed, and saluted in the several degrees, proceeded with the appointment of officers, which were as follows:—Bro. Carpenter, S.W.; Bro. Braithwaite, J.W.; Bro. Stokes, S.D.; Bro. Hervey, J.D.; Bro. Potter, I.G. All business being ended, the Brethren adjourned to refreshment, which was admirably served; a happy evening resulting in the “feast of reason and flow of soul.” Among the visitors were Bros. Harvey, Potts, Holland, Wright, and several others, who expressed their high gratification at the admirable working of the Lodge.

BANK OF ENGLAND LODGE (No. 329).—The anniversary meeting of this Lodge was held at Radley’s Hotel, Bridge-street, Blackfriars, on Thursday, the 13th inst., when Bro. Arthur M. Moore was installed into the chair of W.M., by Bro. Whitmore, one of the oldest Past Masters of the Lodge. The officers appointed, were, Bros. O’Donovan, as S.W.; Kell, J.W.; Wright, Treas.; Chance, Sec.; Alexander Webber, S.D.; Giro Pinsuti, J.D., and Abrahams, I.G. Several visitors were present on the occasion, and at the banquet, the utmost amount of harmony and fraternal feeling prevailed. This Lodge, it will be remembered, numbered amongst its members the late Bro. Crucefix, who for many years evinced the deepest interest in its prosperity, and under whose guidance and care it became most useful and influential in the Craft. To the support and co-operation which Bro. Crucefix uniformly received from every member of this Lodge, may be attributed much of the success which attended his exertions in originating and ultimately founding the Asylum for Aged Masons and their Widows, and we believe we are correct in stating that this Lodge has contributed more largely to the funds of that excellent charity than any other Lodge in the Craft. It is due to the Brethren of this Lodge, and more especially to the Past Masters, to say that they still cherish the warmest feelings of respect for the memory of the late Bro. Crucefix, and that the independent principles which characterized the Masonic career of that distinguished Brother, are those to which they are firmly attached; at the same time, no Lodge in the Craft is more punctilious in the observance of every Masonic obligation, or more ready to pay a manly respect and deference to constituted authority.

UNITED PILGRIMS’ LODGE (No. 745).—A meeting of this Lodge was held at the Manor House, Walworth, on Wednesday, the 19th inst., instead of to-day, the 26th, which has been appointed for the festival of the Royal Institution for Aged Masons and their Widows. Bro. Thomas presided as W.M.; Bro. Deane, S.W.; and Bro. Battley as J.W. After the Lodge business had been disposed of, the Brethren adjourned for refreshment. The cloth having been drawn, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to. The W.M. proposed “The health of the P.Ms.,” for which Bros. Haward and Farmer returned thanks. Bro. Farmer said he had the permission of the W.M. for a short time to use his gavel, to give him an opportunity of proposing “The Masonic Charities,” coupling with the toast the name of Bro. Thomas, their W.M., which was drunk with the greatest cordiality. Bro. Thomas, P.M., and W.M., *pro tem.*, said their worthy P.M., Bro. Farmer, had been kind enough to couple his name with their Masonic charities, for which he thanked him—he would do all he could, not only for these institutions, but for Freemasonry generally. Still charity was the first and greatest of their principles, and he had great pleasure in having the opportunity of standing steward for the second time at the coming festival. He had wished to act as steward for the other charities, but the Aged Masons’ Institution was very much in want of funds; he hoped ere long that the funds for this

very valuable institution would soon be so far augmented as to enable them to provide for the long list of candidates. The last festival was a good specimen of what might be done, as upwards of £1,750 were collected, and this time he hoped there would be equally as good a collection. Having alluded to a Brother who had been a candidate for five years, he repeated that it gave him great pleasure to be named with the charities, and thanked the Brethren for the honour conferred upon him. Bro. Farmer said there were ten new candidates this year, so that at the next election there must necessarily be a large number unsuccessful. Several of the Brethren became subscribers to the institution; and the Tyler's toast brought a truly happy meeting to a close.

PRESTON LODGE (No. 1068).—The consecration of this new Lodge, the last we believe at present on the roll, took place at the Star and Garter Hotel, Putney, on Saturday last, the 22nd instant. The ceremony was ably performed by Bro. John Hervey, P.G.D., assisted by Bro. the Rev. J. E. Cox, P.G. Chap.; Bros. Archer, P. G. Steward; Robinson, P. G. Steward; Nutt, P. G. Steward, &c., &c. There were a large number of the brethren present, amongst whom we observed Bro. Simms, Grand Steward; Bro. Smith, Grand Purs.; Bros. Watson, P.M.; Baster, P.M.; Green, P.M.; Buss, P.M.; Figg, P.M.; Hammett, P.M.; Masterman, P.M., &c., &c. The musical portion of the ceremony was conducted by Bro. Matthew Cooke, assisted by Bros. Donald King, P.M., and Thomas Young. The music performed was the ode "By Masons' Art;" the anthem, 133rd Psalm; the responses; and during the processions Bro. Cooke played—march "Zauberflöte," Mozart; march, "Occasional Oratorio," Handel; "Wedding March," Mendelssohn; and on the last of the salutations Bros. Young, King, and Cooke took their places in the procession, singing "How merrily we live," with good effect. The oration was delivered by Bro. the Rev. J. E. Cox, P. G. Chaplain, who, in the course of his observations, said that of the three great principles of masonry, viz: brotherly love, relief, and truth, he should confine himself to the former, in addressing the Lodge, and although it might be somewhat out of the usual course, he could not help adverting to circumstances which had become notorious—he alluded to the want of brotherly love, which had characterised some of the late proceedings in Grand Lodge. He did not intend to impugn the motives of those who might have thought it their duty to take the course they had done, for he believed that the opposition was imagined by those who formed it to be a duty, and however misguided he might consider their course to be, he believed they were carrying out that which was their settled opinion and not from factious motives. Still he must say those ideas were, in his opinion, totally unfounded on facts and thoroughly erroneous, and this brought him to the peculiar matter on which he had to address the Lodge, viz. brotherly love. He had adverted to the dissensions in Grand Lodge, because he feared they would weaken the principle of brotherly love, and he also desired to hold out a warning to a Lodge at its foundation, to show to the members present that where bitter hostility, even in a good cause, was allowed to creep in, there one of the three grand principles was in great danger of being totally lost sight of. He trusted that the brethren of the Preston Lodge would hold firm to the principle of brotherly love, that if they differed on any subject it should only be as to how much the one could exceed the other in the exercise of this important duty. After alluding to the other portions of their duties, the reverend brother concluded by reminding the brethren that charity and brotherly love meant something more than Masons generally admitted. They thought if they put their hands into their pockets to help the needy they had done their duty; now there is no doubt that they had done a part, and a very material part of their duty in so doing, but he must be allowed to remind them that brotherly love and charity were synonymous, that charity was not only almsgiving, but that sympathy for a brother's wants, that mild construction of his faults and failings, which in the language of the holy scripture was said to "suffer much." At the conclusion of the ceremony of consecration, Bro. Hervey proceeded to the ceremony of installing the new W.M., Bro. Owen Bowen, who was presented by Bro. Nutt, P.M., No. 32. Bro. Cole, P.M., having been invested as S.W. and Treasurer, and Bro. Whiteman as J.W., Bros. Blake, Osborne, C. Robinson, Cox,

and Bowes, were elected as joining members, after which the other officers were appointed, viz.:—Bro. Ockerby, Sec.; Osborne, S.D.; Blake, J.D., and Bowes, I.G. The next business was the initiation into the Order of Messrs. Christie, Hutchins, Richardson, and Heath, who had been duly proposed and elected, the ceremony being performed by the S.W. Bro. Coles. Bro. Jno. Hervey having been elected an honorary member of the Lodge, in acknowledgment of his services at the consecration and installation, votes of thanks were given to the W.M. for the presentation of an elegant pair of silver loving cups to Bro. Osborne for the pedestals, and Bro. Cole for the volume of the sacred law. The Lodge was magnificently appointed, and everything went off to the general satisfaction of the Brethren present. At the close of the business the Brethren adjourned to a very elegant banquet, which had but one fault—it was spread over a too lengthened period, so that it was past nine o'clock before the cloth was removed. A variety of toasts were proposed and appropriately responded to—"Prosperity to the Preston Lodge," and "Success to the *Freemasons' Magazine*," being amongst the number. In the course of the evening a variety of glees, &c., were performed by Bros. Cooke, King, and Young, and elicited the warm applause of the Brethren. Bro. Young's beautiful rendering of "And doth not a meeting like this," being especially admired. Bro. Elton Williams, who was present as a visitor, also contributed to the harmony of the evening.

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#### INSTRUCTION.

ROBERT BURNS LODGE (No. 25).—A meeting took place on Friday, the 14th inst., at Bro. Adams's, Union Tavern, Air-street, Piccadilly, and was as usual largely attended. Bro. Riley acted as W.M.; Bro. Greatrex, S.W.; and Bro. Daintree, J.W.; assisted by Bros. W. Watson, P.M. No. 23; T. Adams, P.M. No. 206; Newton, P.M. No. 23; Tyrrell, W.M. No. 1,006; Farmer, W.M. No. 25, &c. The first ceremony and other business having been admirably gone through, Bro. Watson proposed that as the Lodge had eight pounds in hand from the contributions of members, it should be dispensed as follows:—5*l.* to the Widows' Fund of the Royal Benevolent Institution, and 3*l.* for the Aged Masons' Fund. The resolution was warmly applauded and acceded to. Bro. Watson said that it gave him great pleasure to attend Lodges of instruction, not only for the purpose of affording the assistance so essential to the advancement of young aspirants for Masonic fame, but because their trifling subscriptions materially assisted the charities connected with their Order. He was pleased to find that the Robert Burns Lodge of Instruction had given during a short period, twenty pounds to the Widows' Fund, and eighteen to the Old Man's Asylum. It was truly gratifying to know that, while they were learning the beautiful ritual of the Craft, they were helping the aged and decayed.

CRYSTAL PALACE LODGE (No. 1,044).—A meeting of this Lodge was held on Monday, the 17th inst., at the City Arms, West-square, when the fifteen sections were most ably worked, the questions being put by Bro. Watson. The following were the officers:—Bros. Anslow, S.W.; Handford, J.W.; Hood, S.D.; Palmer, J.D.; Bantley, I.G. The sections were worked as under:—First lecture—first section, Bro. Handford; second, Bro. Bantley; third, Bro. H. Thompson; fourth, Bro. Bertram; fifth, Bro. H. T. Thompson; sixth, Bro. Jackson; seventh, Bro. Brett. Second lecture—first section, Bro. Hill; second, Bro. Arnold; third, Bro. J. R. Warren; fourth, Bro. Anslow; fifth, Bro. Clothier. Third lecture—first section, Bro. Oliver; second, Bro. Thomas; third, Bro. Watson. The following Brethren were elected members:—Drummond, No. 1,055; Attwood, No. 70; Bems, No. 25; Maugham, No. 461; Thomas, No. 745; Jackson, No. 228; and Jacobs, No. 745. A vote of thanks was accorded to Bro. Watson, for the able manner in which he presided.

## PROVINCIAL.

## BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

AYLESBURY.—*Buckingham Lodge* (No. 861).—At a Lodge held on Monday, January the 17th, at the Royal White Hart Hotel, Bro. J. How as W.M., Mr. Willoughby James Beauchamp was initiated; Bro. Henry Astley Paston Cooper passed to the second degree, and Bro. John Williams raised to the degree of M.M. A ballot was taken for the admission of the Rev. Richard Spoonley, who was unable to attend, and also for Bro. J. M. Thearle, P.M. No. 82, as a joining member. The W.M., *pro tem.*, proposed Bro. Baker, as a joining member. Bro. Shugar, W.M., No. 742, who was present, very kindly undertook the duties of S.W., until the arrival of Bro. Hooper. Bro. Bullock, of No. 707, was also a visitor. The Brethren afterwards dined together. Although some of the original members have seceded, the introduction of others is bringing up the strength of the Lodge to a desired respectability in numbers.

## BRISTOL.

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodges*.—Tuesday, February 1st, Beaufort (120), Freemasons' Hall, at 7; Wednesday, 2nd, Mohr (408), ditto, at 7; Friday, 4th. *Instruction*.—Ditto, at 7½. *Chapter*.—Thursday, 3rd, Hospitality (221), ditto, at 7.

## CHESHIRE.

APPOINTMENTS.—*Chapters*.—Wednesday, February 2nd, Fidelity (701), Angel Inn, Birkenhead, at 6; Saturday, 5th, Industry (465), Norfolk Arms, Hyde, at 3.

## DEVONSHIRE.

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodges*.—Tuesday, February 1st, St. John's (83), Masonic Hall, Plymouth, at 7; Wednesday, 2nd, Brunswick (185), ditto, at 7; Perseverance (190), London Hotel, Sidmouth, at 7.

## DORSETSHIRE.

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodges*.—Wednesday, February 2nd, Amity (160), Masonic Hall, Poole, at 7; Faith and Unanimity (605), Freemasons' Hall, Dorchester, at 6; Thursday, 3rd, Unity (542), Town Hall, Wareham, at 7.

WAREHAM.—*Lodge of Unity* (No. 542).—On the 2nd December last Bro. Wm. Phippard was elected W.M., and the festival of St. John was kept on the 29th December last Bro. the Rev. T. Pearce, D.Prov.G.M., presiding, when the following appointments were made:—Bro. H. Hatherly, P.M.; Panton, S.W.; C. Yearsley, J.W.; Rev. J. U. Cooke, Chaplain; Groves, Organist; C. Filliter, Sec.; J. S. Drew, S.D.; P. H. Tapp, J.D.; Jones and Poynter, Stewards; Barfoot, D.C.; H. W. Charrington, I.G. Bro. Cust was re-elected Treasurer, and Frampton, Org. The Brethren afterwards dined together at the Black Bear Hotel.

## DURHAM.

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodges*.—Tuesday, February 1st, Marquis of Crawby (146), Freemasons' Hall, Durham, at 7; Thursday, 3rd, Tees (749), Black Lion, Stockton, at 7; St. Helen's (774), Masonic Hall, Hartlepool, at 7½.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—*Tees Lodge* (No. 749).—The usual meeting of this Lodge took place on Thursday the 6th of January, at the Lodge Room, Mason's Court, under the presidency of the W.M. Bro. John Shelley, who most ably initiated two candidates into the mysteries of Freemasonry. Bro. the Rev. James Milner, P.M., No. 749, P. Prov. G. Chaplain of Durham, and Chaplain of the Tees Lodge, then assumed the chair, and Bro. Shelley presented the W.M. elect, Bro. W. Best, for installation, which ceremony was performed in that clear and impressive manner for which Bro. Milner is distinguished. The W.M., having invested Bro. Shelley

as P.M., appointed and invested, as his officers for the year, Bros. Thos. Nelson, S.W.; Wm. Nelson, J.W.; the Rev. Jas. Milner, Chaplain; Wm. Graham, jun., Treas.; John G. Thompson, Sec.; A. C. Knowles, S.D.; Henry G. Faber, J.D.; James P. Jewson, Organist; Thos. H. Close, I.G.; John Maddison and J. E. E. Hunton, Stewards, and Webster Cuthbert, Tyler. The introduction of music during the ceremony rendered it doubly impressive, and Bro. Jewson deserves the warmest thanks of the Brethren for the skill and ability displayed by him on this and former similar occasions. At the conclusion of the ceremony a gentleman was proposed for initiation into the Craft. The Lodge was then closed in ancient form, and the Brethren adjourned to the Black Lion Hotel, for the purpose of celebrating the festival of St. John the Evangelist, when a very pleasant evening was spent. Amongst the visitors were Bro. Henry Thompson, P.M., No. 876, P. Prov. G. Supt. of Works, North York; Bro. John Shields Peacock, W.M., No. 876; Bro. Preston, No. 1036; Bros. Wrightson, and Turner, No. 128, &c., &c.

HARTLEPOOL.—*St. Helen's Lodge* (No. 774).—On Thursday last, the 20th inst., a regular Lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, when a fair number of Brethren attended. Four visiting Brothers were admitted, but three others were refused admittance by Bros. Moore and Hammarbom, P.Ms. These three Brethren were all Scotch Masons, one of whom could only produce a private Lodge certificate, the other two had no certificate at all. One of these uncertificated Brethren had a great deal to say about the unmasonic conduct of Bro. Hammarbom in refusing to admit him, and threatened to report the matter to head quarters, which Bro. Hammarbom requested him to be sure not to omit, as it would give him (Bro. H.) much satisfaction. The unsuccessful candidate, after having used some more impertinent expressions, then retired, grumbling. The other two Brethren took the matter in good part. The Lodge being opened, Bro. Moore, in the absence of the W.M., presiding, Bro. Hammarbom read *in extenso* the communication from the Board of General Purposes, after which he gave notice that at the next regular Lodge he would move a series of propositions favourable to the views of the Board. Meanwhile the matter was referred to the Lodge committee, to be reported upon next Lodge night. Bro. Hammarbom then proposed that one copy of the *Freemasons' Magazine and Mirror*, which is now published with consent of the M.W.G.M., be subscribed for by the Lodge, for the use of the W.M., Officers and Brethren, at the same time recommending the Brethren to become individual subscribers also. This proposition being duly seconded, was carried unanimously. The Lodge was then opened to the second degree, and Bro. E. W. Neilson, master mariner of St. John's Lodge, No. 971, Liverpool, was passed to the degree of F.C. The Lodge being closed down to the first degree, the Brethren were called to refreshment, and on their return to labour, Bro. Hammarbom made a forcible appeal to them in behalf of the fund for Aged and Decayed Freemasons and their Widows, offering to receive subscriptions, and transmit them to the Assistant Grand Secretary, for the purpose of receiving voting papers. Eight Brethren gave him their subscriptions of 5s. each, there and then. Several promised to pay theirs in the course of a few days, and it was understood that the matter would be brought forward again next Lodge night. No further business being before the Lodge, it was closed in due form with solemn prayer.

#### GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodges*.—Tuesday, February 1st, Sherborne (1004), George Hotel, Stroud, at 5½; Wednesday, 2nd, Royal Union (307), Freemasons' Hall, Cheltenham, at 6.

#### HAMPSHIRE.

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodges*.—Thursday, February 1st, Panmure (1025), Royal Hotel, Aldersbott, at 6. *Chapter*.—Wednesday, 2nd, Southampton (553), Freemasons' Hall, Southampton, at 7; Thursday, 3rd, Royal Gloucester (152), ditto, at 7.

#### ISLE OF WIGHT.

APPOINTMENT.—*Lodge*.—Wednesday, February 2nd, Yarborough (809), High Street, Ventnor, at 7.

## KENT.

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodges*.—Tuesday, February 1st, Adam's (184), Masonic Hall, Sheerness, at 6; Wednesday, 2nd, Royal Naval (621), Royal Hotel, Ramsgate, at 7; Invicta (1011), George Hotel, Ashford, at 8; Thursday, 3rd, United Industrious (34), Freemasons' Tavern, Canterbury, at 8; Friday, 4th, Union (149), King's Head, Margate, at 7.

## LANCASHIRE (EAST).

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodges*.—Thursday, February 3rd, Affability (399), Cross Street, Manchester, at 6½; Friday, 4th, Anchor and Hope (44), Swan Hotel, Bolton, at 6.

BURY.—*Prince Edwin's Lodge* (No. 150).—On Wednesday evening, Jan. 19th, the monthly meeting of the above flourishing Lodge was held at Bro. Alfred Wood's, the Bridge Inn, Bolton-street, when the Lodge was opened in the first degree by Bro. Keever's, the newly installed W.M. The principal business consisted in proposing a medical gentleman, much respected in the town, as a candidate; and in passing the minutes of the former meeting. From the latter we learn that the following is the list of officers for the Lodge during the current year:—Bros. John S. Keever's, W.M.; H. R. Harris, S.W.; John S. Waite, J.W.; Thomas Ramsbottom, Sec.; James Wood, Treas.; W. Hopkinson, S.D.; J. Briggs, J.D.; R. Brooke, I.G.; and John Smith, Tyler. The Lodge being duly closed, the Brethren were called from labour to refreshment, when the following toasts were given:—"The Queen;" "The Earl of Zetland, G.M. of England;" "Lord Panmure, D.G.M. of England;" "Stephen Blair, Esq., Prov. G.M. for East Lancashire;" "Albert Royds, Esq., D. Prov. G.M.;" "The Visiting Brothers, coupled with the health of Bro. George M. Tweddell." Bro. Geo. M. Tweddell, of No. 50, thanked the Brethren present for their kind reception, and for the enthusiastic manner with which the musical Masonic honours had been given in respect to so humble an individual as himself, although but one short twelvemonth only had elapsed since his initiation in the tyled recesses of a Lodge. The more he saw of Masonry, the more he loved it: and he had determined to attend the working of both his own and neighbouring Lodges as frequently as possible, as the best mode of becoming fully acquainted with the Craft. In every Lodge that he had yet visited, he found a hearty welcome, and he would, as often as convenient, avail himself of the kind invitation they had given him to frequently visit them. Confined to no sect in religion, to no party in politics, to no country or clime, Freemasonry could not fail to improve every man who attended to its beautiful ritual; though bad men occasionally crept into the Order, they might remain evil in spite of Freemasonry, but would never be made so by it. He considered it to be the bounden duty of every Mason to prove, by his well regulated conduct in life, that Freemasonry is something more than a mere convivial club. They were not at liberty to ask even those whom they wished to be Masons, to enter the Craft, but they could all recommend it by the purity of their lives, and by showing on all occasions their attachment to it. Several excellent Masonic songs were sung by Bros. Keever's, Carlton, Ramsbottom, Alfred Wood, James Wood, Dawson, and Mather; and, on the worthy host informing his Brethren that in the morning he intended to enter the holy bonds of wedlock, the health of the host and intended hostess was given, and every Brother present expressed his warm wishes for their future happiness. Although disappointed, through the unavoidable absence of Bro. Baldwin, P.M., from whom a lecture had been expected, the evening was spent in that spirit of brotherly love which ought ever to animate Freemasons.

## LANCASHIRE (WEST).

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodges*.—Tuesday, February 1st, Alliance (965), Stanley Arms, Roby, at 4½; Wednesday, 2nd, St. John's (971), Caledonian Hotel, Liverpool, at 6½; Ellesmere (1032), Red Lion, Chorley, at 6; Thursday, 3rd, Mariners (310), Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 6; Friday, 4th, *Instruction*.—Ditto. —*Chapter*.—Tuesday, 1st, St. John (245), Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 6.

LIVERPOOL.—*Derby Lodge* (No. 1,060).—The installation of Bro. Wm. Wade as W.M. of this Lodge, which meets at the Derby Arms Hotel, Bootle, took place on Monday last. The ceremony was ably conducted by Bro. Bulley, Prov. G.S.D. of

Cheshire, assisted by Bro. Green, and others. After the business of the Lodge was disposed of the Brethren dined together. After dinner the W.M. gave the usual loyal toasts, which were drunk with enthusiasm. The W.M. said it at all times afforded him great pleasure to give the toast of "the health of the M.W.G.M. the Earl of Zetland," who had for the last fourteen years so ably presided over the Craft, and was beloved and respected by every good and faithful Brother. The W.M. afterwards proposed the healths of "the R.W.D.G.M., Lord Pamure," "the Prov.G.M., Bro. Le Gendre N. Starkie," and "Sir Thos. G. Hesketh, Bart., D.Prov. G.M." In giving the health of Field Marshal Lord Viscount Combermere, as Prov. G.M. of Cheshire, the W.M. said, he could speak of the excellent manner in which he had presided over that province for the last nineteen years; with his name was joined that of Bro. Bulley, Prov.G.S.D. of Cheshire. Bro. Bulley returned thanks on behalf of his lordship, and spoke in high terms of the manner in which he conducted the affairs of the province, and of the interest he always evinced in the Order. Bro. Green then said, that a year ago they had the pleasure of installing their present W.M., and it was certainly gratifying to find that he had again been unanimously elected to the chair. Under his able superintendence the Lodge had prospered; its working also could not be surpassed. He therefore proposed the health of their W.M. The toast having been warmly accepted, the W.M. returned thanks in suitable terms, after which he proposed "the healths of Bro. Green, the Officers of the Lodge, and the Visiting Brethren." The Lodge was closed in perfect harmony shortly before ten o'clock, to afford time for the Liverpool Brethren to return to town. This is the third consecutive year that Bro. Wade has been installed Master—first as W.M. of No. 707, and twice in No. 1060. Though a young man, it is due to him to state, he is considered one of the ablest Masons in this province; he must necessarily have laboured hard to achieve so high a position.

## LEICESTERSHIRE.

APPOINTMENT.—*Lodge*.—Wednesday, February 2nd, St. John's (348), Bell Hotel, Leicester, at 7.

LEICESTER.—*John of Gault Lodge* (No. 766).—The monthly meeting of this Lodge was held at the Three Crowns, on Thursday evening, the 20th inst., present Bros. W. Kelly, D. Prov. G.M.; E. Clephan, W.M.; Willey, S.W.; Paul, J.W.; Brewin, J.D.; Shephard, Sec.; Bankart, P.M.; Millican, P.M.; Kinton, P.M.; Davis; and Bros. Windram, W.M., Morris, Eberlin, and several members of St. John's Lodge, No. 348. The Brethren of St. John's, according to summons, opened a Lodge for the purpose of proposing a resolution relative to the new Masonic hall. After the closing of St. John's Lodge, the W.M. of John of Gault's opened Lodge, and the Brethren passed a similar resolution to that proposed by the Brethren of St. John's, which was to enable them to borrow a small sum of money to make up the deficiency for the erection of the new Masonic hall in Leicester. The W.M. reported that the building of the hall might now be considered as all arranged, and would be commenced almost immediately. The Lodge passed a resolution, appointing the W.M. and Bro. Bankart, P.M. to act as Trustees, in conjunction with the Provincial and Deputy Provincial Grand Masters, and two Brethren to be appointed by the St. John's Lodge. Bro. Brett was then raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason.

## NORTHUMBERLAND.

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodges*.—Tuesday, February 1st, Northumberland (985), Central Exchange, Newcastle, at 7; St. David's (554), Salmon Inn, Berwick, at 7; Thursday, 3rd, Newcastle (24), Freemasons' Hall, Newcastle, at 7.

## OXFORDSHIRE.

APPOINTMENTS.—*Chapter*.—Thursday, February 3rd, Alfred (425), Masonic Hall, Oxford, at 7. *Encampment*—Thursday, 3rd, Cœur de Lion, Masonic Hall, Oxford.

## SHROPSHIRE.

APPOINTMENT.—*Lodge*.—Friday, February 4th, St. John's (875), Bull's Head, Wellington, at 4.

## SOMERSETSHIRE.

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodges*.—Thursday, February 3rd, Royal Cumberland (48), Masonic Hall Bath, at 8; Benevolent (653), Town Hall, Wells, at 7.

## STAFFORDSHIRE.

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodges*.—Thursday, February 3rd, St. Peter's (807), Star and Garter, Wolverhampton, at 7; Portland (920), Town Hall, Stoke-upon-Trent, at 7.

## SUFFOLK.

APPOINTMENT.—*Lodge*.—Wednesday, February 2nd, Doric (96), Private Room, Woodbridge, at 7.

## SUSSEX.

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodges*.—Tuesday, February 1st, Royal York (394), Old Ship, Brighton; Wednesday, 2nd, South Saxon (390), Freemasons' Hall, Lewes; Thursday, 3rd, Union (45) Council Chamber, Chichester. *Chapter*.—Friday, 4th, Lennox Chapter (338), Old Ship, Brighton.

BRIGHTON.—*Royal Clarence Lodge* (No. 338).—The annual installation meeting of this Lodge was held at the Old Ship Hotel, on Friday, 21st January—nearly sixty Brethren were present. Amongst the visitors were Bro. J. Bacon, Prov. G.S.W. and W.M. of 1034; Bros. Meymott, No. 14, P.Prov.G.D.C. Surrey; H. G. Warren, P.G.S.; J. C. Burrows, 394; Ambrosioni, S.W.; Martin, J.W.; V. Freeman, J.D. of No. 1034; H. Bridges, &c. There were also several of the present and Past Prov. Grand Officers of Sussex, and about twelve of the Past Masters of this Lodge. Bro. Geo. Lowdell, W.M., opened the Lodge. The minutes read and confirmed, the Treasurer's account was approved and entered on the minutes. During the last year the sum of £71 8s. 6d. had been given in charitable contributions, there was a balance in hand of £146 12s. 8d. The Lodge was opened in the second degree; the W.M. thanked his officers for their efficient services during the year and then requested Bro. Gavin E. Pocock, P.M., Prov.G.Sec., to proceed with the ceremony of installation, which he performed with great impressiveness. Bro. John H. Scott, W.M. elect, being presented by Bro. Langtry, P.M., was installed and proclaimed in the several degrees. The following are the Officers for 1859:—Bros. Geo. Lowdell, P.M.; Geo. Tatham, S.W.; J. Dixon, J. W.; T. Tayler, Chaplain; J. Cordy, Treas.; John Fabian, Sec.; Wilhelm Kuhe, Organist; J. McGee, D.C.; Geo. Folkard, S.D.; E. E. Scott, J.D.; C. Folkard, I.G.; Rogers, Bright, and Smithers, Stewards. The annual charitable contributions were then voted, and a donation of £5 to the widow of a deceased Brother. At the conclusion of the business the Brethren adjourned to a very elegant banquet, over which the W.M. presided with great good taste, being supported by the visitors on his right, and on his left by a number of past and present Prov. G. Officers, amongst whom we observed—Bros. Verrall, Prov. G. Treas.; Pouch, Prov. G. Sec.; Ed. Scott, Prov. G. Sup. Works; Cordy, P. Prov. G.W.; Furner, P. Prov. G.W.; Wilkinson, P. Prov. G.D.; Slight, Prov. G. Warden, &c., &c. "The Queen, and the Craft," "the M.W.G.M.," "the D.G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers," and "the Duke of Richmond, R.W. Prov. G.M.," having been toasted, "The D. Prov. G.M., Capt. Dalbiac," was drunk, and acknowledged by Bro. Bacon, Prov. S.G.W., who expressed his regret at the unavoidable absence of the D. Prov. G.M. Bro. Furner, P.M. and P. Prov. G.W., said, that he had a toast to propose which he was sure would be acceptable, it being "the health of their W.M., Bro. Scott," who by his excellent qualities had endeared himself to the Brethren of this Lodge. But irrespective of his own qualification for the office, Bro. Scott might be said almost to have an hereditary claim on the chair of the Lodge, his grandfather having been the Acting Master during the period that the late Duke of Richmond filled the chair. Then his uncle, Charles Scott, was known as an excellent Mason, not only in

Brighton but throughout the country; indeed, he stood *par excellence* as a working Mason. He had attended many London Lodges, and had never seen the work better performed than by Bro. Charles Scott. The father of their present W.M. was also an excellent Mason, who had filled the chair of their Lodge alike to its advantage and his own honour. Bro. Wm. Scott was for nearly fifty years a member of their Lodge, and it had been proposed to celebrate his jubilee, when it pleased the G.A.O.T.U. to call him away a few weeks before the time. He had alluded to these facts to show what were the antecedents of their W.M., who he was happy to see following in the footsteps of his father and grandfather, and who he knew enjoyed the respect and love of the Brethren. He begged then to drink to the good health of their W.M. The toast having been drunk the W.M. said—“Brethren, I am indeed very much obliged to you for the kind welcome you have given me on this occasion, particularly to Bro. Turner, for the touching allusion he has made to my ancestors. It is at all times very gratifying to receive the congratulations and the assurance of good will and respect from any large body of men, but other feelings beyond those of mere personal ambition have stimulated me in my desire to fill this chair. I believe that we are all anxious to tread in the footsteps of those whom we have known to love, or whom we have been taught to reverence, especially when those footsteps have trod the pathway of honour and virtue; and when I repeat what Bro. Turner has told you, that not only my grandfather, but my father and my uncle have severally filled this chair, with honour to themselves, and with credit to the Lodge, you will understand some of the feelings which have induced me to aspire to this office. You will acquit me of vanity when I say that it is a source of very great gratification to me to stand here as W.M. of the Royal Clarence Lodge. Brethren, I begin my year of office very hopefully, although, for reasons which I endeavoured to explain in December, I believe that this and the next few succeeding years will be of considerable moment to the interests of this Lodge in determining its future position. I then pointed out to you that we were at the present time differently circumstanced to any former period of our history; that whereas Freemasonry in Sussex had for years been labouring under difficulty, depression, and gloom, now a bright season of prosperity was opening out before it, that whereas we, as a Lodge, had hitherto stood comparatively alone in our excellence, we were now surrounded by Lodges of equal zeal, equal intelligence, and sharers of equal advantages to ourselves. The very fact that we have for so many years maintained a high character in the Craft, is one which, though redounding with credit to ourselves, may nevertheless prove a serious obstacle to future progress; it may induce us to slumber on in a state of fancied superiority, to rest satisfied with the reputation we have gained, forgetful how far that reputation may be hazarded by want of energy and determination; for societies—if they would maintain their usefulness and standing—must ever be on the alert, ever awake to a consciousness of what is going on around them. It is very natural for an individual, after years of honourable toil, to look forward to a short season of tranquillity and ease, before he passes away from this busy world for ever; but societies can never afford to cease from their labours; and if, as the old members drop off—these old members, who by their vigour and their wisdom have gained for their society the reputation it enjoys—there be no younger brethren to step into their places and guide the state of affairs with the same energy and discretion, that society, instead of enjoying honourable repose, will sink into a state of decay, a position all the more humiliating, because the result not of disastrous circumstances over which it had no control—not of difficulties with which it was impossible to contend—but of the indolence, the sloth, the apathy of its members. But, brethren, do not think that I am picturing the future of my Lodge; much as we have reason to be grateful to those who have gone before, we have equal cause to rejoice that there are still amongst us brethren who devote their time, their talents, and their solicitude, to the well being of the Lodge—brethren who, whether it be a season of prosperity or gloom, are big with advantage or disaster, are determined to prove to the Lodges of Sussex—to the Masons of Brighton—to the Craft in general—that as far as the Clarence Lodge is concerned, the sun is always at its meridian. Before sitting down, I should like to offer two pieces of advice—we may indulge in

speculation as to the future, or in recollection of the past, but unless we apply ourselves to those simple duties which lie immediately before us, our theories and our sentiments will be equally vain. Let us then, first of all, endeavour to cultivate that brotherly love, which is one of the grand principles upon which Freemasonry rests. The jesting, censorious world, may well deride Freemasonry if it sees those who, above all others, should dwell together in unity and love, living, if not at open variance and strife, at least in the indulgence of bitter and uncharitable feelings towards one another. Let us be careful that no such imputation can be cast upon our Lodge; let us each, as far as in us lies, promote the well-being of the other, and let us all merge our own personal Masonic interests in the general good of the Order. The next advice I have to offer, is about as dry as the last was old and common-place, it is—read your Book of Constitutions—make yourselves thoroughly acquainted with its contents. Very few are the emergencies which can arise for which it does not provide, whilst very many are the misunderstandings, aye, even heart-burnings, which it may prevent. By so doing you will, moreover, be acting up more faithfully to the injunction you received when you were admitted into Masonry—that you were to make a daily progress in Masonic knowledge, and to study well the Book of Constitutions, as from it you would learn the duties which you owe to the Craft in general. Brethren, I thank you for the kind, the cordial, the generous welcome which you have given me to-day.” The next toast was the health of the officers, which was acknowledged by the Inner Guard. The W.M. next proposed the health of the visitors, assuring them that nothing could give the Brethren of the Clarence Lodge greater pleasure than to see them at their festive board. He coupled the toast with the name of Bro. Warren, a gentleman well known to them as connected with the *Freemasons' Magazine*—a publication of great usefulness to the Craft in giving them faithful and impartial reports of the proceedings in Grand Lodge, and making them acquainted with the proceedings of the Craft not only in this country but in the colonies—and he cordially recommended the *Magazine* to the support of the Brethren. Bro. Warren returned thanks on behalf of himself and Brother visitors who, he was sure, had been highly gratified, not only by the meeting of the Lodge, but with the other interesting proceedings of the evening. He thanked the Brighton brethren for the support they had accorded to the *Freemasons' Magazine*, but as it was not yet a commercial success he appealed to them to endeavour to extend a knowledge of it amongst the Brethren, and increase its supporters, whose confidence it would always be the earnest endeavour of the managers to maintain and support. Bro. Lowdell, P.M., P. Prov. G. W. proposed the health of Bro. Cordy, the Treasurer of the Lodge, to whom they were greatly indebted for many years of exertion for the interest of the Lodge. Bro. Cordy, P. Prov. G. W. returned thanks for the kindness expressed towards him, and congratulated the brethren on the continued prosperity of the Lodge. He believed that no Lodge stood in a better position than the Clarence, and trusting that he might long have the opportunity of serving them, he hoped he should always be enabled to show as good an account as he had that day. The W.M. then said:—“Brethren, I now call upon you to drink the health of the Past Masters, and I do so with very cordial satisfaction, because I believe that there is no body of men in the Lodge more worthy of our good will and respect. In proposing their health I can but reiterate what almost every Master who has preceded me has told you, that as you rise in the Lodge, and take a more active part in its affairs you will be the better able to appreciate what the P.M.s have done—what they do—and what they are willing to do for the good of the Lodge. It is now many years since some of them occupied the chair, and I hope I do them no injustice when I say that if called upon suddenly to undertake its duties, perhaps but few of them would be able to work our ceremonies with perfect accuracy. But important as it is that our work should be done properly and effectively, it is by no means the only thing necessary for the well being of the Lodge, for after all, our ceremonies are but the adjuncts of Freemasonry, they are not Freemasonry itself, and it would be quite possible for a brother to be thoroughly conversant with the ritual of the craft, and nevertheless incompetent to form a sound judgment upon those graver matters, which from time to time come before us, or even to guide the affairs of

a Lodge with discretion. And therefore it is well for every Lodge that while the conduct of its working can be entrusted to the junior members, there are those who from knowledge gained by experience are well able to render the W.M. very great assistance in the discharge of his duties, and well qualified to give valuable advice to the Brethren generally upon every question which may arise; and it would be as unreasonable to look upon the P.Ms. of a Lodge as useless, or lest entitled to respect, because they could not with verbal accuracy work our ceremonies and deliver our lectures, as it would be for the mariner to distrust the weatherbeaten experienced pilot, because forsooth he might not be able to box the compass with the rapidity of a stripling fresh from some naval school. I have no intention of claiming for the P.M.s an exclusive right of deciding on all occasions what may or may not be the proper course for a Lodge to adopt—neither have they any wish to arrogate this prerogative to themselves—but brethren, we must remember that the P.Ms. of a Lodge do not owe their position to any chance, favour, or preferment—they rise from the ranks, and by their own exertions and deserts gain the exalted position they hold; and that, therefore, a weight must of necessity attach itself to their opinion, which does not belong to the opinion of the less experienced of the Brethren; nor let us forget that while an honourable mind will at all times spurn dictation, a generous one is ever ready to listen to advice." Bro. Lowdell, as the youngest P.M., acknowledged the toast, assuring the Brethren that if he was not quite so perfect in all his working as he could wish, nothing would give him greater pleasure at any time than to do anything in his power to promote the interests of the Lodge. A variety of other toasts followed, including the health of Bro. Pocock, Prov. G., Sec., the installing Master; and the Brethren separated, well pleased with the proceedings of the evening.

CHICHESTER.—*Lodge of Union* (No. 45).—The installation of Bro. Georg Molesworth, the W.M. elect of this Lodge, took place on the 30th ultimo, before a board of regularly installed Masters. The W.M. appointed and invested the following Brethren as his officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. George Smith, P.M.; C. Goodeve, S.W.; R. Elliott, J.W.; C. S. Jones, Treas.; W. H. Cottell, Sec.; G. Collins, S.D.; G. Holmes, J.D.; R. Smith and F. St. Quentin Bond, Stewards; C. Adams, I.G.; T. Benford, Tyler. Mr. T. A. Kirkman, son of our esteemed Bro. Kirkman, P.M. No. 45, having been unanimously accepted a candidate for Freemasonry, the W.M. performed the ceremony of initiation and closed the Lodge. A goodly number of Brethren assembled at the banquet provided by Bro. Purchase, the game and venison being liberally presented by Bro. His Grace the Duke of Richmond, Prov. G.M., and a subscribing member of No. 45. The W.M. presided, supported by Bros. the Rev. W. Watkins, Prov. G. Chaplain; J. Powell, jun., P.M., No. 45, Installing Master; Joseph Kirkinan, G. Gambling, K. Pescott, G. Smith, P.Ms. No. 45; W. R. Wood, P.M. Nos. 76 and 394, G. Sec. and Prov. S.G.D.; Reuben Cherriman, P.M. No. 394; S. Ridley, No. 1034, Prov. G. Sec.; Joseph Ogburn, P.M. No. 428, P. Prov. J.G.W. for Hants; Thomas Slade, P.M. No. 428, P. Prov. Grand Reg. for Hants; W. R. Ford, the worshipful mayor of Portsmouth, W.M. No. 319. A very pleasant evening was spent, and not an useless one we hope, certainly the speech of our Worshipful Brother, the mayor of Portsmouth, was in a tone and spirit calculated to make a lasting impression on his hearers. Bro. Wood's eloquent observations on the various charities of the Order, and his energetic appeal in behalf of the Royal Benevolent Fund, will not, we think, be readily forgotten by those who heard and possess the power to help. Bro. Cherriman delighted the company with some excellent songs, and was in this department most efficiently aided by Bros. Goodeve, R. Smith, Wood, Holmes, &c., &c. The Brethren, mindful of the old adage, "early to bed, &c.," separated at an early hour, in hope of a speedy return of so fraternal a gathering. The usual monthly meeting of the Lodge being unavoidably postponed until Friday, January 14th, on that evening the W.M. Bro. G. Molesworth presided and initiated two gentlemen into the Order. Bro. Smetham was also passed to the second degree. A petition from a distressed Brother was read by the W.M., and the recommendation signed by a majority of the Brethren present. The next Lodge will be held on Thursday, February 3rd, at seven.

## WALES (WEST.)

APPOINTMENT.—*Lodge*.—Tuesday, February 1st, Prince of Wales (969), Thomas's Arms, Llaueily, at 7.

## WILTSHIRE.

TROWBRIDGE.—*Lodge of Concord* (No. 915).—This Lodge met at an earlier hour than usual on the day of meeting, Tuesday, the 18th instant, at the Town Hall, when the installation of Bro. H. C. Levander took place with all the honours. The ceremony was performed by Bro. E. Roberts, P.S.G.W. of the province, the father of the Lodge, in the presence of a goodly number of the members, and of Bro. Oliver, and other distinguished visitors. The W.M. appointed Bros. G. Plimmer, and J. Allen, his Wardens. The addresses to the W.M., Wardens and Brethren, were effectively delivered by the installing Master, and on the Lodge being closed, the Brethren sat down to an elegant entertainment, at Bro. Mandry's, the George Hotel. The Masters and Wardens of this province are, we hear, summoned to meet at Chippenham, on the 28th, in reference to the charities.

## WORCESTERSHIRE.

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodges*.—Tuesday, February 1st, Harmonic (313), Freemasons' Tavern Dudley, at 6½; Wednesday, 2nd, Worcester (349), Bell Hotel, Worcester, at 6½.

DUDLEY.—*Royal Standard Lodge* (No. 730).—The Brethren of this Lodge met on the 11th inst., at the Dudley Arms Hotel, Dudley, when Lodge was opened by the V.W. Bro. W. Howells (Prov. G. Sec.) W.M., assisted by his officers. There were no initiations. The report of the relieving officer appointed by this Lodge, and No. 313, was read, and the accounts passed. Lodge being closed, the Brethren adjourned to banquet. Among the visitors present, we noticed Bro. F. Empson, P.M., Nos. 51 and 786, and P. Prov. G.S.W. for Warwickshire.

DUDLEY.—*The Vernon Lodge* (No. 819).—The monthly meeting of this Lodge was held at the Old Town Hall, Dudley, on Wednesday, the 19th inst. Lodge was opened punctually at seven, by the W.M., Bro. E. Hollier (mayor of Dudley, P.M., No. 313, and P. Prov. G.D.C.), assisted by his officers. A gentleman was balloted for as a candidate for initiation, but not attending until late, through a misunderstanding, the ceremony was not proceeded with. A notice of motion by Bro. T. Wright, Steward (and Prov. G. Steward), to the effect that two guineas annually should be given to each of the Masonic charities, was brought forward,—the resolutions being proposed (in the absence of Bro. Wright) by the V.W. Bro. the Rev. E. A. Gwynne, Chaplain (P.M. 435 and Prov. G. Chaplain for Staffordshire), and seconded by Bro. G. H. Deeley, P.M. (and P. Prov. G. Sup. of W). After some appropriate remarks by the W.M., the resolution was unanimously passed, and the Secretary requested to notify the same to the secretaries of the several charities. We are happy to hear that the speakers advocated the claims of the Masonic charities earnestly, and with a proper Masonic spirit. Bro. the Rev. E. A. Gwynne, P.M. said that he should bring the matter before the Brethren of his mother Lodge at its next meeting, when, we hope, his praiseworthy effort will be crowned with success.

## YORKSHIRE (NORTH AND EAST).

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodges*.—Tuesday, February 1st, Camolodunn (958), Freemasons' Hall, New Malton, at 7; Thursday, 3rd, Constitutional (371), Assembly Rooms, Beverley, at 8; Friday, 4th, St. Germain (827), The Crescent, Selby, at 7.

## YORKSHIRE (WEST).

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodges*.—Friday, February 4th, Alfred (384), Griffin Hotel, Leeds, at 7. *Instruction*.—Ditto, at 8. *Chapter*.—Thursday, 3rd, Sincerity (374), Freemasons' Hall, Bradford, at 8.

## ROYAL ARCH.

### METROPOLITAN CHAPTER.

YARBOROUGH CHAPTER (No. 812).—The annual convocation of this Chapter was held on Wednesday, Jan. 19th, at the George Hotel, Commercial Road East. Comps. George Biggs, M.E.Z.; A. H. Bettger, H.; James Kindred, J. The minutes of the preceding Chapter, which confirmed the election of officers for the year ensuing, were read and passed; the report of the audit committee, which showed the steady progress of the Chapter, was adopted; as was also a resolution for the presentation of a testimonial to the M.E. Comp. Biggs, in recognition of his valuable services, and a mark of the esteem of the Companions. Bro. William John Curry, of Lodge No. 112, was exalted into the degree, Comp. How, of No. 169, discharging the duty of P. Soj. The newly elected Principals were installed by Comp. Biggs, P.G.D.C., in the presence of Comps. T. E. Davis, W. W. Davis, Williams, Wynne, How, and Purdy, P.Zs. The following Comps. were installed:—C. H. Bettger, Z.; James Kindred, H.; Robert Taylor, J.; and the following were invested with the jewels of office:—John Purdy, E.; Alfred Day, N.; William Mobbs, P.S.; E. U. Gardner and W. J. Crisp, A.S.; Wynne, Treas.; T. J. Ruddleton, D.C.; Wilson, St. B. Vasey and Adams, Stewards; Speight, Tyler. The beautiful and imposing ceremonial of installation of the Principals was performed by Comp. Biggs, who was never more impressive in his delivery, and it was gratifying to the Companions present to see him in such excellent health and spirits. The Companions, at the close of the business, adjourned to a banquet, which gave the highest satisfaction.

### PROVINCIAL CHAPTER.

DUDLEY.—*Harmonic Chapter* (No. 313).—The quarterly meeting of the above Chapter was celebrated on Tuesday, Jan. 18th, when a goodly muster of the Companions attended the interesting ceremony of exalting Bro. Frolcroft, of Lodge No. 313, to the rank of a Royal Arch Mason. The M.E.Z., Comp. Bristow, assisted by Comp. Deeley, H.; Comp. Cooper, J.; Comp. Morris, P. Soj.; and other Companions, performed the ceremony in a manner truly solemn and characteristic of that excellent Masonic working which invariably marks the proceedings of this Chapter. Three propositions were made for exaltation at the next meeting in April. After which Comp. Masefield, P.Z., installed Comp. Deeley, as Z.; Comp. Cooper, as H.; and Comp. Morris, as J., for the ensuing year; Comp. Dennison, P.Z., very obligingly agreeing to accept the office of P. Soj., in the absence of any Companion being eligible for that important appointment. The Treasurer, Comp. Dennison, P.Z., rendered a current statement of the funds of the Chapter, which were in a very satisfactory condition; and after the Chapter was closed by the new officers the Companions dined together. Well merited praise was bestowed upon the P.Z., Comp. Bristow, and Comp. Morris, J., for their very efficient working, more especially to Comp. Morris, for his lengthened and eminent career in both Craft and Arch Masonry. After the usual toasts of the evening, interspersed with some excellent harmony from Comps. Clark, Cooper, and Bristow, the Brethren closed their evening's reunion with that cordiality so befitting the name of the Harmonic Chapter, No. 313. We noticed Comps. Dr. Davidson, and Philip Baker, P.Z. of Chapter No. 62, present as visitors.

## KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

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### METROPOLITAN ENCAMPMENT.

**KEMEYS TYNTE ENCAMPMENT.**—At an Encampment held on Friday, January 21st, at Bro. De Grey's, Freemasons' Tavern, Woolwich, Sir Knight Peter Laird, E.C.; Sir Knight Dr. H. J. Hinxman, Prov. G.C.; Sir Knight Major Henry Clarke, First Capt.; Sir Knight Lieut. Alderson, Second Capt.; Sir Knight Shuttleworth, as Prelate, and others present—Companions W. F. P. Dodson and John Hopkins of the Union of Waterloo Chapter, No. 13, were installed. The V.E. Prov. G.C. addressed the Knights present on the necessity of greater practice in the ceremonials than their meetings allowed, and suggested the formation of an Encampment of instruction. After a brief discussion a preliminary meeting was arranged. Sir Knight Major Du Cane, of the Royal Kent Encampment, was a visitor on the occasion.

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## SCOTLAND.

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### PROVINCIAL.

**ROTHES.**—*St. John's Lodge.*—The members of this Lodge elected their officers on the 7th inst. There was a procession of the Craft in the morning, and a ball in the evening. The office-bearers for the year are:—Bros. Archibald Simpson, W.M.; P. Grant, Deputy Master; Jas. Simpson, S.W.; John Laing, J.W.; A. McKinnon, Treas.; William Simpson, Sec.; Rev. Jas. Riach, Chaplain; William Graham, jun., Clerk; Peter Riach, Standard Bearer; Jas. Cumming, Sword Bearer; Jas. Graham, first Steward; Jno. Riach, second Steward; Jas. Fraser, Tyler; and Jas. Gordon, Officer.

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## COLONIAL.

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### CANADA WEST.

**LONDON.**—*St. George's Lodge.*—A regular meeting of this Lodge was held also on the 27th of December, St. John's day, when the following Brethren were installed by the R.W. Bro. Thompson Wilson, D. Prov. G.M.; Bro. John K. Brown, P.M., and Bro. Thos. Francis, P.M., as officers for the ensuing Masonic year, viz.:—W. Bro. H. D. Morehouse, W.M.; Bro. Thos. Mackie, S.W.; Bro. T. Mahan, J.W.; Bro. H. C. Hughes, Treas.; Bro. E. Pieler, Sec.; Bro. S. Thornton, S.D.; Bro. E. W. Griffith, J.D.; Bro. G. Burdett, I.G.; Bro. James Heron, Tyler; Bro. J. C. Clarke, Master of Ceremonies; Bros. F. Westlake and Stacey Welsh, Stewards. After the ceremonies of installation, W. Bro. Morehouse, on the part of the Brethren of St. George's Lodge, presented Bro. J. K. Brown, P.M., with a beautiful Past Master's jewel, splendidly engraved, and with a suitable inscription, as a slight token of their appreciation of his services during the past two years, for which he returned his acknowledgments in a neat and appropriate speech, after which the Lodge closed in harmony.

*Kilwinning Lodge* (No. 32).—The following are the names of the officers for the year 1859:—F. W. Thomas, W.M.; John Harrison, S.W.; J. H. Flock, J.W.; R. Lewis, S.D.; J. Wylie, J.D.; T. H. Buckley, Treas.; T. R. Westcott, Sec.; W. Noble, I.G.; T. F. McMullen, Tyler; W. G. Chambers, C. L. Davis, Dirs. of Cers.; W. C. L. Gill, and T. Bulwer, Stewards.

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SINGAPORE.

LODGE OF FIDELITY (No. 1042).—The progress of Masonry in this settlement since 1845, when Lodge Zetland in the East was set on foot, mainly through the zeal and indefatigable exertions of R.W. Bro. J. Colson Smith, has been so great that grounds, in the opinion of many Brethren, existed for establishing another Lodge, without detriment to No. 748. Application accordingly having been made to the M.W. the Grand Master, a warrant was received in due course from England, constituting a second Craft Lodge at Singapore, under the title of the Lodge of Fidelity, No. 1042, and nominating (in accordance with the wish of the Brethren) the R.W. Bro. J. Colson Smith, Prov. S.G. Warden for the Eastern Archipelago, as its first Master. Thursday evening, August 5th, 1853, having been fixed for Bro. Smith's installation, upwards of fifty Brethren assembled at their handsome hall, on the Esplanade, to take a part in the interesting ceremony; which was ably conducted by V.W. Bro. R. Taylor, Prov. G. Reg. for the Eastern Archipelago, and the present Master of Lodge Zetland in the East. The Brother nominated in the warrant of constitution having left the settlement, (R.W. Bro. the Rev. T. C. Smith, *M.A.* P. Prov. G. Chaplain, and P. Prov. J.G.W. of Bengal), the D. Prov. G.M. of the Eastern Archipelago, undertook that office at the wish of the Brethren. The officers of the Lodge, who were duly invested after the R.W. Master's installation, are R.W. and Rev. Bros. Smyth, S.W.; Paul Lessler, J.W.; G. A. Remé, Sec.; F. H. Gottlieb, Treas. (since resigned, and Bro. D. Rodger, elected in his place); J. B. Leicester, S.D.; F. Henderson, J.D.; Atwell Coxon, I.G.; C. Perrean, Tyler. The Rev. Bro. J. J. Every, *B.A.*, Chaplain of *H.M.S. Zisk*, has been subsequently appointed and invested as Chaplain, after receiving his second and third degrees in the Lodge. The above named ceremonies having been concluded, a ballot was taken for the admission into Masonry of four gentlemen. This proving unanimously in favour of the applicants, they were all initiated in ancient form, the customary charge and lecture on the tracing board being ably given to the newly admitted Brethren by the Senior Warden. The Brethren then adjourned to their spacious and handsome dining hall, where the evening's proceedings were closed with a banquet, at which the true spirit of Masonic harmony and social enjoyment, combined with due temperance, was fully maintained. The Lodge of Fidelity, since its establishment as described, has proved so prosperous, that meetings frequently twice in the week have been absolutely requisite for satisfactorily performing the amount of work which has attended its proceedings. May it still continue to diffuse extensively the principles of our ancient and noble order—principles so long and so eminently displayed by its present respected and excellent Master; and so beautifully illustrated by the admirable lectures delivered by its present gifted Senior Warden, whose appointment to the Chaplaincy of the station has been a very fortunate event for the new Lodge, and for the success and position of the Craft in the straits of Malacca and the Eastern Archipelago.

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MALTA.

VALETTA.—*Lodge of St. John and St. Paul* (No. 437).—This Lodge, which is the senior and most flourishing in the island, met on the 27th December, to celebrate the festival of St. John, and also to install the Worshipful Master elect, Bro. the Most Noble the Marquis of St. George. The ceremony of inducting the noble Brother into the chair of K.S. was efficiently performed, and the Worshipful Master

proceeded to the appointment and investment of his officers as follows (Bro. Captain Robert Boyle, *R.A.*, being the immediate P.M.) :—Bros. W. B. V. Farrar (Paymaster, *R.N.*), S.W. ; J. R. C. Deak (Lieut., *R.E.*), J.W. ; P. H. Delamere (Lieut., 21st Reg.), S.D. ; O. J. Llewellyn (Surgeon, *R.N.*), J.D. ; B. Douglas, P.M., Sec. ; Bruce (Captain 21st Reg.), Dir. of Cers. ; E. J. Cox (Lieut., 3rd Reg.), I.G. Bro. Douglass was elected Treasurer, and Bro. Mattock, Tyler. All business being concluded, the Lodge was closed in due form and in perfect harmony, and the Brethren afterwards dined at the Malta Union Club, of which most of them are members. The banquet concluded, and the loyal and Masonic toasts duly honoured the party then assisted at the ball given in the Exchange by the merchants of Malta to H.R.H. the Prince Alfred. The Marquis has commenced his year of office as Master with energy, and, in consequence of the large number of candidates, it has been determined to hold the meetings of the Lodge twice a month instead of once as usual. On Monday, the 3rd inst. (the first regular Lodge), the W.M. passed two Brethren to the second degree and initiated five gentlemen, the two former being a captain in the army and a merchant of Malta ; the latter, four lieutenants in the navy and a military officer. For the ensuing meeting, there is notice given of a raising and three initiations, besides several propositions for joining. We must congratulate the Brethren of the St. John and St. Paul's Lodge on the increase in the number of their members, and trust they will go on and prosper. That they will do so there can be little doubt, so long as they are ruled over by a Brother who shows so much interest in his Masonic duties as their present noble Master.

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## FRANCE.

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*L'Indépendance Belge*, of 21st December, 1858, says :—“The Masonic Lodge of St. Jean de Thémis de l'Orient, at Caen, gave, on the 13th, a grand performance in the church for the benefit of the poor. The *soirée* was most brilliant. Every place was taken, although for some days past the missionaries had been thundering against theatres and Masonic Lodges. The Neustrian singers (perhaps the first choral society established in the department) executed the septuor in the *Huguenots*, in a remarkably brilliant manner.”

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## MASONIC FESTIVITIES.

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### OLD CONCORD LODGE BALL.

THE annual ball of this influential Lodge was held on Thursday, January the 20th, at the Queen's Concert Rooms, Hanover Square, under the presidency of Bro. Maney, W.M., and the following Stewards :—Bro. E. J. Kennedy, P.M. ; J. Jackson, P.M. ; W. Nicholson, P.M. ; Swainston, Bladon, Waters, G. Watson, Arnell, Perkins, Abbott, Corben, and Bro. Emmens, P.M., Hon. Sec. Nearly two hundred ladies and gentlemen were present, and dancing commenced soon after nine o'clock to the music of Bro. Bradley's band, Bro. Frampton being the M.C. The company sat down to supper soon after twelve o'clock. After supper, Bro. Maney, President, proposed “The Queen,” which was well responded to. Bro. Emmens, P.M., and Hon. Sec., addressed the company, thanking them for their

continued patronage, and concluded by proposing "The President." Bro. Maney briefly returned thanks, and proposed "The Ladies." Dancing was then resumed, and kept up till a late hour. The surplus funds derived from the ball are devoted to the Masonic charities. The whole arrangements gave general satisfaction.

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#### BRO. GEORGE GENGE'S CONCERT AND BALL.

The annual concert and ball given by this highly respected and talented brother, took place in Freemasons' Hall on Tuesday, the 11th inst., when there were upwards of five hundred ladies and gentlemen present. The concert included the names of a large number of male and female artists, whose musical talents are well known to, and appreciated by, the public. There were several part songs and duets, beautifully performed; and a solo on the grand piano-forte, "Home, sweet Home," arranged by Thalberg, was exquisitely given by Mr. J. G. Callcott, who is worthy of the name he bears. A solo on the violin, by Viotti Collins, elicited warm applause. Bro. Genge met with a most enthusiastic reception, and was encored in everything he sang. The concert ended, the chairs disappeared as if by magic, and the votaries of Terpsichore commenced to trip it on the light fantastic toe, and dancing was kept up with great spirit until cock-crow. We have rarely seen a greater variety or more exquisite dresses than were present on this occasion. We look upon Bro. Genge's as one of the best public balls of the season.

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#### THE LATE BRO. THOMAS FEETAM.

We last week briefly recorded in our obituary the name of Bro. Thomas Feetam, Past Master of the Humber Lodge, Hull, No. 65, who died at the age which his Lodge numbers. In England few men have exerted themselves more earnestly in the cause of Masonry than Bro. Feetam, and none have excelled him in zeal and in the success which has attended his labours in the locality where his efforts have been signally recognised. In the East Riding of Yorkshire, more particularly the Brethren have regarded him as the father of a Lodge which has not only given tone to the province, but has assisted in the development and creation of many others. As it may prove interesting to our readers to know something of the Masonic career of our departed brother, we have pleasure in inserting the following sketch:—Bro. Thomas Feetam, P.M., was initiated in the Minerva Lodge, No. 311, on the 22nd day of November 1815, and continued a member nine years, joined the Humber Lodge on the 3rd of November 1824, was elected Junior Warden on the 12th of June 1825, Senior Warden on the 21st of June 1826, and in the June of the following year Worshipful Master, and Treasurer on the 30th of May 1831. He was appointed Prov. S.G.D. on the 22nd of October 1835, and re-appointed for the years 1836 and 1837 to the same provincial office. The foundation stone of the present Humber Lodge was laid on the 7th of May 1827, and the part which Bro. Feetam took, then as one of the founders, and since in connection with the Lodge, has indissolubly identified him with its progress and financial prosperity. Prior to the year 1827 the meetings of the Brethren were held at taverns, and in referring to this fact we cannot place before our readers a more correct epitome of the condition of the Lodge than in an extract from the preface to a little work published by request of the Lodge, containing a history of the Humber Lodge warrant, as delivered in two lectures to the brethren in the year 1854 by the then Master, and present Prov. G. Reg., Bro. J.

Collman Smith, who, in dedicating it to the founders, thus writes:—"Thus as the following history will disclose, from the granting of the warrant in 1756, to the year 1827 (when the present Masonic hall was erected), during that period the lodge was held at taverns; at intervals it either lost its vitality, or its meetings terminated in dissension; whilst subsequently to that period, and after a variety of differences had been healed, down to the present day, a course of almost unprecedented prosperity had marked its onward career. Not only is there a most substantial Masonic hall, second perhaps to none in the provinces, free from debt, and possessing most elegant and costly furniture and Masonic paraphernalia, but, by a judicious management, there is accumulated at this time a sum, derived from the *quarterages* (which are smaller than most lodges), closely verging upon £2000, and, independently of this benevolent fund, there is annually dispensed from a contingent fund about £40 in casual and other relief." Of the founders but two now survive, and in speaking of the one of whose invaluable services the lodge has just been deprived, the historian of the warrant says.—"Shortly after his initiation into Masonry, he set himself to work, and made himself acquainted with all the concerns of the Lodge, thoroughly mastering its affairs, when, seeing that it required more influential support than it then possessed, or than he was capable of giving it, he studiously himself declined office, preferring that the chairs of the Lodge should be filled by men at that time occupying leading stations in the town, thus securing for it a stability which he conceived at that time it wanted." There can be no doubt but that to the very close application and clear judgment of Bro. Feetam, the Lodge is indebted for its admirable code of by-laws, which were ratified by the Right Worshipful Deputy Prov. Grand Master, Bro. Robert M. Beverley, on the 31st July, 1828. During his life no brother was held in greater esteem for his practically Masonic character than Bro. Feetam, and none ever listened to more attentively whenever his opinion was required. As a token of his devotion to the Craft, a handsome silver tea service was presented to him by the brethren in the year 1843, with the following inscription:—"Presented to P.M. Bro. Feetam, P. Prov. G.S.D., one of the founders of the Humber Lodge, No. 65,\* by his Masonic Brethren, 4th April, 1843, A. L., 5843, in testimony of their high regard for his Masonic and private worth, and as a grateful tribute to one whose energy and diligence the Humber Lodge mainly owes its distinguished position."

We understand that the Humber Lodge intends to mark its sense of Bro. Feetam's long and devoted attachment to its interests by erecting an obelisk or some monument in the cemetery to his memory, and a tablet or other lasting landmark in the Lodge he served so well. The Humber Chapter and Lodge have both voted addresses of sympathy to his bereaved family; and with the one which will be engrossed on vellum, and signed by the members of the Lodge and presented to his daughters, we can best close this brief notice, since it contains the description of the man by those who knew him best:—"The members of the Humber Lodge, having learned, with feelings of the most unfeigned regret, of the death of their highly valued and esteemed Brother, P.M. Thomas Feetam, hasten to condole with his bereaved family, and to assure them how deeply they sympathise with them in the great loss they have sustained. In the death of their lamented Brother, the members of the Lodge feel that they have lost one of the pillars of Freemasonry in Hull, as to him much of the efficiency and prosperity of the Lodge may justly be attributed; and as one of its founders and zealous and indefatigable officers, the Brethren feel that too earnest a tribute cannot be paid to his memory, and they therefore desire most cordially to bear witness to the high integrity and honour that ever characterised his conduct. Their departed friend and Brother had endeared himself to them by the admirable and sterling qualities he possessed, which made him not only an honour to the craft, but revered and respected by all who knew him. Combined with a rare integrity, uprightness, and sense of justice, he had a most tender and compassionate heart, ever ready to attend to the sorrows of the distressed, and, as far as lay in his power, to supply the wants of the needy."

\* Qy. "Hall"—the founding of the Lodge took place in 1756,

## THE WEEK.

HER Majesty will open Parliament in person; the Queen and the Prince Consort propose leaving Windsor on the 2nd proximo, for Buckingham Palace. The Queen and the royal children continue all well, and take outdoor exercise daily. The Prince has been shooting in the Home Park. The Duchess of Kent has been very unwell at Frogmore, but has recovered. Her Majesty's god-daughter, the Princess Victoria of Coorg, was confirmed at Kew church by the Queen's order.—It is asserted that an alliance offensive and defensive had been concluded between France and Sardinia. Notwithstanding the announcement in a leading contemporary that all chances of war are at an end, there is no change whatever in the situation. Preparations on a grand scale are going on. Several regiments have received orders to hold themselves in readiness for Rome, and not a reliable word has been uttered to allay the panic. The rumour circulates again of the probable accession of M. de Persigny to office, as minister of foreign affairs. As it indicates a pacific policy, and, consequently, the maintenance of the alliance with England, it is well received. The French emperor, it is said, will demand of the Corps Législatif a dotation of 1,200,000 fr. for the Prince Napoleon, and, moreover, a pension of 150,000 fr. for the young princess in case of the death of her husband. The Emperor has received a letter announcing the death of the Archduchess Marie Anne (aunt of the Emperor of Austria). The Emperor Napoleon has gone into mourning.

—The relations of France and Austria are said to have become more friendly. The reports from Italy are less exciting. Austria has halted in the Tyrol the *corps d'armée* which was to have entered Lombardy, and the generals in command of her forces in Italy express their ability to maintain order without reinforcements. The vexatious policy of France has excited such indignation in Germany that the inhabitants of the great fatherland are in imminent danger of forgetting the *Concordat*, and of uniting with Austria in opposing the aggressions of the Emperor Napoleon. During the last few days the public of Vienna has eagerly seized every opportunity of giving tokens of its sympathy and loyalty. The troops at Milan and Venice ardently hope there will be a foreign war; the Austrian officers would greatly like to measure swords with the French. To use their own words, "there are old notches to be ground out."—At Turin on Thursday Prince Napoleon held a review of 1,000 veterans of the "Grande Armée." The veterans and the people shouted, "Viva il Ré!" "Viva il Imperatore!" "Viva l'alleanza!" "Viva Italia!" The correspondent of the *Times* at Turin gives a very different account of the reception of Prince Napoleon to that we have received from the French journals. He says:—"The reception given to his imperial highness was, as I am assured by various persons who found themselves on different parts of the route he took from the railway terminus to the palace, extremely cold. The truth is, that the projected marriage is here exceedingly unpopular, especially with the higher classes. The Princess Clotilde, I was told, is looked upon as a victim immolated to political considerations." On Sunday, after mass in the cathedral, General Niel, in the name of the Emperor of the French, demanded from the King of Sardinia the hand of the Princess Clotilde in marriage with Prince Napoleon. All the great officers and dignitaries of the state were present. In the evening a gala representation took place in the theatre. The king, Prince Napoleon, and the whole of the royal family were present. A despatch received in London yesterday informs us that the marriage will be celebrated next Sunday.

—Mr. Gladstone has summoned the Ionian Parliament for the 25th inst., and will open it as Lord High Commissioner extraordinary. It is hoped that a majority of the deputies will be found to take a common sense view of affairs.—The Spanish government has sent an agent into England to purchase twenty-four steamers of

small tonnage for the Philippine Islands. The government contemplates making various important reforms in the administration of the island of Cuba. The weather is very severe at Madrid. The cold was so great that a coachman had been frozen to death on his box, and three washerwomen had been taken up senseless on the banks of the Manzanares.—The King of Naples has been seriously ill; there was even a report that he was dead, but, according to a telegram received from Naples, dated Thursday last, his health had improved. On his recovery, he is expected to leave Lecce (where he is now staying) for Naples. In the meantime the Crown Princess is still at Vienna. As the King of Naples has refused to let the Russians have the port of Brindisi as a coaling station, they are now trying to obtain Barletta, Bari, or Trani. The eighty-nine political prisoners whose sentences have been commuted by the King of Naples to banishment will be dispatched to the United States. Poerio, who is an invalid, has refused the royal pardon, because, in his opinion, it is equivalent to transportation. A feature of this week has been the distribution of a vast variety of decorations amongst the king's friends. There are liberals perverted into royalists, there are spies in abundance, and commissaries of police noted for acts more or less unworthy. These are the men whom royalty has chosen to rally round the throne on the occasion of the marriage of the heir apparent. Worth, learning, literature, and art are comparatively neglected; what need has Naples of them?—The Count de Hatzfeldt, Prussian ambassador at Paris, is dead. It is rumoured that the Prussian government intends creating a number of new peers. The aim of the measure would be to counterbalance the conservative majority in the upper house.—On Sunday all the Bavarian ministers tendered their resignation, which however was not accepted by the king.—An outcry for immediate armaments is beginning to be raised in Denmark. The alliance popular in that kingdom is, of course, that of France. The price they expect to be paid is the full possession of the Duchies.—On Monday the election of a Hospodar for Moldavia took place, and Cousa, an advocate for the union of both principalities, was elected, and assumed the reins of government. Moldavia has lost one of her most eminent men, M. Demetrius Ralletti, formerly minister of instruction and public worship. M. Ralletti has left his fortune to the founding hospital at Jassy.—It is said that the Austrians will declare a state of siege in the States of the Church. In the *salons* of the cardinals and the Roman aristocracy, France and its government are torn to pieces, and Austria is looked for as a Messiah. As is well known, the Pope is accustomed on Christmas-eve to bless a sword and a pot, and to send them to the monarch who has best deserved them. This year, the chosen of his holiness is Francis Joseph of Austria. In consequence of the treaty of Tien-sin, the court of Rome is occupied in reorganising the various bishoprics in China. That empire is to receive a new ecclesiastical distribution and also several new bishops.—The *Gazette de St. Petersbourg* dwells with acrimony on Austrian oppression in Lombardy. It contains the following remarkable passage, which may be taken as an indication of what attitude Russia would be likely to assume in the event of a struggle:—"It is usually said that the chief motive of the Italians in their bitter opposition towards the Austrian government is a hope of regaining their independence. Well, supposing it is, who could possibly object to it?"—From Turkey we learn that the weather in Roumelia has improved; the heavy rains have ceased, and the *Maritza* has begun to return to its bed. The government is repairing the damage caused by the inundations. Bosnia is tranquil. The *Kaimakan* of Jeddah is discovered to have been the principal instigator of the sanguinary catastrophe at that place. The guilty parties will be conveyed to Constantinople to take their trial. A contribution of three millions of francs has been levied on the town, to be used as reparation to the families of the victims of its fanatical inhabitants. Private letters announce that the disturbances in the provinces surrounding Bagdad become more serious. Mehemet Bey will not return to Paris as ambassador.—A despatch from Washington mentions the threatened resignation of some of the members of the cabinet. A large body of desperate men have taken the field in Southern Kansas and are committing outrages and murders. A volunteer corps has been called out by the Governor of Missouri to oppose them. The Comanche Indians have declared war against the whites, and are opposing the passage of the overland

route to California. Trade in San Francisco is dull. One who signs himself "A Conspirator" writes in the New York journals as follows:—"An attempt will soon be made to revolutionize Cuba. The revolutionary party in Cuba are thoroughly organized, with abundance of men and money to accomplish the undertaking. They only wait the signal to rise and declare their independence.—Late intelligence from Buenos Ayres announces that an attempt at revolution had been made sixty miles from that city. The affair was settled with but little bloodshed, and the leader was condemned to be shot.—The overland mail arrived on Thursday. The newspapers add little or nothing to the telegraphic summary. A great meeting had been held in Bombay, to adopt measures for the establishment of a museum and gardens in that city, in honour of the assumption by the Queen of the direct sovereignty of India. Several native gentlemen took a prominent part in the meeting, and one of them, Dr. Bhawoo Dajee, delivered a speech of considerable eloquence. The Queen's proclamation was referred to in terms of admiration and hope. Lord Elphinstone, it was stated, had been requested to prolong his period of office for another year. The Begum of Oude has issued a counter-proclamation, in reply to that of Queen Victoria. The document is an evidence that the British proclamation is effectually influencing the natives. Further telegrams were received yesterday. Nana Sahib was reported at Churdah, in Oude, with 1,500 men. Two rajahs with him have solicited government for protection when they may be able to escape. Their messenger also appeals, on behalf of the Nana himself, for clemency to his family.—Nothing authentic has been heard of Lord Elgin's trip up the Yang-tse-kiang. The Chinese report that the ambassador's ship exchanged fire with the rebels in passing Moohoo.—At a meeting of the Whittington Life Assurance Company, on Monday, Mr. Charles Browne, the secretary, fell from his chair in a fit, and died instantly. The deceased gentleman had previously appeared perfectly well. He was very much respected.—An inquest has been opened on the bodies of Joseph and Charles Philip, young boys, the circumstances of whose death have given rise to a suspicion of their having been accidentally poisoned by some paste used to kill rats.—On Thursday, at Kentish Town, several houses had approached a state of completion, when one of the chimney stacks, with a poor fellow on it, gave way. The falling material of course brought a large portion of the wall and all the scaffolding with it, in its descent, to the ground, burying the workmen under the ruins. They were quickly conveyed to the hospital, where some of them lie in a precarious state.—Esther Griggs, who has been in custody some time for throwing her child out of window, was again examined at Marylebone police-court. The surgeon states that the infant is now out of danger. Mr. Broughton announced his intention of committing the prisoner for trial, as in his opinion it would be fraught with danger to admit the plea of the influence of a dream in such cases. Two sureties of 30*l.* each were accepted for her appearance.—The public have again been grossly deceived by a pretended case of virtue in distress. Jane Newell, the ballet girl, who was said to be starving for want of an engagement, and over whose hapless fate so much sympathy and benevolence have been expended, turns out to be far from a legitimate object of public compassion, at least, if we may judge from her own evidence given before the police magistrate. It is one of the most depraved cases that it ever was the misfortune of a magistrate to hear, and perhaps the worst feature of it is that the mother, whose application to the magistrate was so plausible (and which has been warmly responded to by the charitable), has been living upon her child's infamy for some months.—George Gibson, or Elliott, who stands charged with being an actor in the Stamford-hill burglary, has been again brought before Alderman Humphrey, at Guildhall. Important evidence connecting the prisoner with that crime was produced, and the counsel for the prosecution promising to close the case next week, another remand was agreed to.—Emma and Ellen Smith, in the service of Mr. Cremer, proprietor of the German Fair Bazaar, and Emma Smith, their mother, were brought before Mr. Beadon, charged, the daughters with stealing, and the mother with receiving, a quantity of goods, the property of the prosecutor. Mr. Cremer stated that having accidentally found a number of articles on one of the girls in the bazaar, he was induced to accompany them home in the evening, where he found an immense amount of

property belonging to him of every description disposed of in all parts of the house. The prisoners were remanded for a week.—In the Court of Criminal Appeal, on Saturday, a somewhat curious question was decided. A person named Robinson became the pretended purchaser of two dogs, which he sold, and applied the money to his own use. He was tried for obtaining money under false pretences, and sentenced to seven years' penal servitude. The question to be decided was, whether the dog was "a chattel." The Court decided that it was not, and quashed the sentence, at the same time expressing surprise at its severity.—At the Strand theatre, on Friday night, several young gentlemen conducted themselves in a disgraceful manner. When Mrs. Selby made her appearance on the stage, and before she had opened her mouth to speak, they threw at her a large funeral wreath, such as in France is placed upon corpses. Notwithstanding that she was much shocked, and the audience manifested great indignation, another and a larger wreath was thrown. Their expulsion was then demanded and effected; and their cards were obtained. Mr. Selby has since written to the public journals that he has received an apology from these individuals, with which he declares himself satisfied.—A few days ago Mr. Coward, of the *Morning Post*, brought an action for false imprisonment against Inspector Baddely. The evidence showed that Mr. Coward had been subjected to very improper treatment at the Islington police station. Sir Richard Mayne has suspended the inspector for a week, without pay, and has reduced a serjeant, who appears to have been the most culpable, to the rank of constable.—An important case under the extradition act came before the Bow-street police magistrates on Monday. Henry J. David, against whom proceedings have been pending since 1857, was charged with having forged a bill for £1000 sterling, in the name of a wealthy merchant of New York. The fraud was committed on a Mr. Kean, now in America. The magistrate decided that the evidence was insufficient to justify his sending the prisoner to New York, but he would detain him until Mr. Kean came over to prosecute. An application to bail the prisoner was acceded to, but sureties to a very heavy amount were required.—A horrible affair has taken place at Newcastle-on-Tyne. A butcher named Scott, in company with three other men, entered the house of a woman named Tulloch. A quarrel ensued, which resulted in the cruel death of Scott, who appears to have been treated by the woman and her brother, Matthew Wilson, in a most brutal manner. At a coroner's inquest, on the body, held on Saturday, the jury returned a verdict of manslaughter against these two persons.—A conference on the pew system was on Tuesday held in Manchester, but it does not appear to have had any definite results. A proposal for bringing a bill into Parliament, securing existing rights, but designed "to check the pew system," was made, but fell to the ground.—The action brought to try the right of the Garrick Club to expel Mr. Edmund Yates will be tried at the sittings after the term before Lord Campbell and a special jury. The matter excites much interest in literary and other circles, and various witnesses, including Mr. Charles Dickens, will be examined. Mr. Edwin James, Q.C., will conduct the case for the plaintiff; the Attorney-general will represent the defendant, who is the secretary of the Garrick Club.—A deputation from the Woolwich local board of health waited upon Lord Hardinge and Sir E. Hawes at the War-office on Saturday, relative to the refusal of the Government to pay taxes for the quarters occupied by military officers. It appears that in consequence of such refusal the local board of health has refused to permit the public roads to be opened for the purpose of supplying gas to the artillery barracks and the military academy. After some discussion, Lord Hardinge stated that he was favourable to the payment of a fixed sum in lieu of a rate, and such a course he should recommend General Peel to adopt.—On Thursday "a Protestant demonstration" was held at Westbourne-grove in connexion with the West London Protestant Institute. This meeting was held in consequence of "the aggressive attitude" of the Roman Catholics in that locality. In other words, several powerful local organisations connected with the Roman Catholic Church have recently sprung into existence, and excited the apprehensions of Mr. Kinnaird, Canon Stowell, and their evangelical colleagues.—Mrs. Wordsworth, widow of the poet, died on Monday night the 17th instant.—The Registrar-General's return for the last week shows a high rate of mortality.

The deaths were 1429, being an increase of 91 over the previous week, and of about 100 over the average rate. The births during the week numbered 1830. —A deputation from the Sunday league have had an interview with the Bishop of London, with a view to obtain his support to the proposed opening of the various national institutions on Sundays. The bishop received the deputation with great courtesy, and talked about the question in a very friendly way, without apparently committing himself to any definite opinion. —The result of the poll on the motion for rescinding the resolution authorising the admission of shareholders to the Crystal Palace and grounds on Sunday afternoons showed a majority against rescinding the resolution of 17,021. —The death of the venerable Henry Hallam, the distinguished historian of the English constitution, is announced. He died on Saturday, at the age of eighty-one.

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#### CRYSTAL PALACE.

THE Burns centenary was celebrated at the Crystal Palace, yesterday, when ten or twelve thousand persons were present. At twelve o'clock, a colossal bust of Burns by Calder Marshall was unveiled, being surrounded by the busts of contemporary poets and very many interesting relics of Burns. After this, there was a concert of Scottish songs, principally selected from the works of the poet, a new song in memory of Burns, by Oliphant, being beautifully rendered by Miss Dolby. A poem, for which a prize of £50 had been awarded out of six hundred and twenty-one sent in for competition, was then recited by Mr. Phelps, and announced to be the production of a lady, Isa Craig. A further Scottish concert took place and a recitation of "Tam O' Shanter," illustrated by dissolving views. The *fête* went off with great *éclat*.

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#### PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

Mr. E. T. Smith has issued a preliminary announcement of the forthcoming Italian opera season at Drury Lane Theatre; and if all his promised arrangements are carried out the lessees of Covent Garden and Her Majesty's Theatres will find that they have a most formidable rival to contend with. Mr. Smith declares that the experiment last season was so successful as to warrant his increasing the attractions of his programme for 1859; he thinks that the good taste of the English music-loving public will fill the walls of old Drury nightly, when the opportunity is given of hearing the finest works of the Italian school given by singers of acknowledged superiority, and an orchestra selected from the most celebrated instrumentalists in Europe. Among the company engaged we find the names of many who are new to the English stage, but who are well-known and admired abroad; while several have established their reputation in this country. Signor Graziani, we may mention, has been detached from the Covent Garden *troupe* to join that of Mr. Smith—a loss which there will be some difficulty in replacing at the former establishment. Mr. Benedict is the general who is to lead this formidable array into action, and a more accomplished conductor does not exist. Altogether, the undertaking contains the elements of success, and we trust the liberality of Mr. Smith's management will prove remunerative. —At the Lyceum a new drama was produced on Thursday, entitled "*The Sister's Sacrifice*, or the Orphans of Valneige," with the view of bringing prominently forward the unrivalled talents of Madame Celeste, and was received as it well deserved, with every possible mark of favour. The other characters were well sustained by Mesdames Keeley, Weston, and Julia St. George; Messrs. Emery, Barrett, and Rogers. With the exception of the third act, which has something about it weak and awkward, the "*Sister's Sacrifice*" is a powerful melodrama. In the various situations giving scope for the exercise of her peculiar gift of expression, Madame Celeste was quite herself and was rapturously applauded by great and small, young and old, critical and uncritical. The parts of a Pro-

venical farmer and his son were thoroughly well sustained by Messrs. Barrett and Emery. The latter artist depicted excellently the bashfulness of a peasant lover. Mrs. Keeley applied all her talent to make the best of a part necessarily an up-hill one; and Mr. Rogers was, of course, amusing in his delivery of a most uncomical character.—Monday night witnessed the production of a melodrama at the Adelphi, entitled “The Borgia Ring; a Legend of Stonehenge.” It is a genuine Adelphi piece, full of thrilling situations, relieved by a comic underplot. Mr. Webster plays the villain of the piece most powerfully; and Mrs. A. Mellon is equally good as the heroine. Messrs. Toole and Paul Bedford undertake the comic business which, truth compels us to say, was somewhat heavy. There are some strong and effective situations in the drama, especially the closing scene of each act, and considerable applause was manifested when the curtain fell. Mr. Webster and Mrs. Mellon are the props of the piece. Mr. Selby, too, made the most of a somewhat unthankful part, and deserves especial commendation for the energy he threw into it. Two scenes representing Stonehenge are admirably painted and highly effective.

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## NOTICES.

THE Brethren and others are requested to notice, that George W. Bower has no connection with the *Freemasons' Magazine*; and all persons are cautioned against paying him anything on our account. We shall be glad to be furnished with the address of the said George W. Bower, who formerly lived at 10, Dorcas-street, Lambeth, and had offices as a fancy type founder and commission agent, in King's Head Court, Gough Square.

All communications for the Editor, to ensure insertion in the next week's number, should be forwarded to the office, 2, Red Lion Court, Fleet Street, E. not later than Saturday.

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## TO CORRESPONDENTS.

“JUSTICE.”—A Past Warden is not entitled to attend Prov. Grand Lodge as a right. He, like other Master Masons, is generally allowed to do so as an act of courtesy, but he cannot take any part in the proceedings.

If “VERTAS” wishes us to publish his letter, he must allow us to put his name to it.

“DELTA” shall hear from us privately.

“A WIDOW'S SON.”—It was certainly extremely improper for a young Mason to prepare a brother for a superior degree without instructions. The refusal of the young Mason to enter the Lodge and give an explanation of his conduct when required so to do, and his subsequent conduct, show that he can neither have read the Book of Constitutions or considered the import of his obligations. We trust that upon more mature consideration he will make a fitting submission to the W.M. With regard, however, to his preparing the candidate, we should like to know what the Tyler was about. He should have represented to the young man the position in which he would be placed by his conduct, and not have permitted him to interfere with his duties. We are almost inclined, however, to believe from the letter forwarded to us that the Lodge has no Tyler. If so, it is not properly officered.

“A MASTER MASON.”—A Past Master has no power to annul the business of a Lodge upon the ground that the warrant was not in the Lodge at the precise time of working; although it ought never to be absent.

Various communications arrived too late for our present number.