

LONDON, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1860.

MASONIC PERSECUTION.

We last year published some communications relative to the rather extraordinary manner in which the business of the province of Hereford is conducted, the R.W. Prov. Grand Master, the Rev. Dr. Bowles, being unable to open his lodge, and so ignorant of the law as laid down in the Book of Constitutions—for we cannot suppose he would wilfully break it—as to appoint a rev. and ven. brother as D. Prov. Grand Master, who had never served the office of Master in a regular lodge. The first letter of the correspondence, signed “An Old P.M., and in the Province,” was, as appeared at the time, attributed to Bro. W. H. Warner, the then W.M. of the Palladian Lodge, Hereford, Secretary to the Vitruvian Lodge, Ross, and Prov. Grand Registrar. On these suspicions being expressed, Bro. Warner at once denied that he was the author of the letter, a denial which we willingly endorsed, though of course declining to state who was our correspondent.

We deeply regret that, so far from that denial being deemed satisfactory, such has been the obloquy cast upon Bro. Warner, that he has been forced to retire from both lodges, and relinquish his well-earned honours,—the Prov. Grand Master having so far forgotten his character, alike as a Mason, and as a minister of religion, as to denounce him in Prov. Grand Lodge as a disturber of harmony, and congratulate the brethren on his absence, and that on the mere suspicion of an act, which has been solemnly and Masonically denied.

In giving publicity to the subjoined communication we are sorry that Bro. Warner should have adopted a course to arrive at the name of the author of the letter which we cannot but condemn in the strongest of terms; for, should it be persisted in we might be led into a tilt with every Past Master, and indeed every brother in the province. That Bro. Luckes is a valued correspondent of ours, we do not pretend to deny; but we as strongly assert that, so far as we know, he had nothing to do with the communication in question; and we hope that this will be considered a sufficient answer to the question, without his being provoked into a personal discussion. There are plenty of P.M.s in the province—altogether apart from Bros. Warner and Luckes.

As regards the acceptance by such a man as the Ven. Archdeacon Frere of the office of D. Prov. Grand Master, we are fain to admit that it could not do otherwise than tend to the advantage of the Craft in the province—supposing that he had been *legally appointed*; but we must protest in the strongest terms against an infraction of our laws, however distinguished may be the individual in whose favour it is made.

The law, as laid down at page 49 of the Book of Constitutions, is clear upon the point that “the Deputy Prov. Grand Master must have previously served the office of Master in a regular lodge;” and we can find no power in a Prov. Grand Master to dispense with that law. The Prov. Grand Master, the Rev. Dr. Bowles,

has evidently placed himself in a position by which he may be severely censured—if nothing further takes place—should the matter be brought regularly under the cognizance of the M.W. Grand Master, as it ought to be; and he certainly very far oversteps his duty, when, in order to blink his own wrong, he assists in so far persecuting a brother as to drive him from the Order.

That Archdeacon Frere might not be so fully acquainted with the law at the time as to be aware that no brother could legally take the position of D. Prov. G. Master without having served the office of Master in a regular lodge, we can readily understand, he never having been installed into the chair, and therefore not had his attention so closely directed to the Constitutions as had the Rev. Dr. Bowles, who *must* have had his attention pointedly directed to them. For such a man it can be no excuse to say that he did not know the law—he had sworn to observe and maintain it—and a pretty governor and judge must he be who can not only commit offences against the law, but plead his ignorance of it. We sincerely trust that Dr. Bowles is not a fair specimen of our Masonic rulers.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE FREEMASONS MAGAZINE AND MASONIC MIRROR.

SIR AND BROTHER,—In the FREEMASONS MAGAZINE of 29th October of last year, there appears a letter, under the signature of “An Old P.M., and in the Province,” reflecting on the conduct and management of Masonic affairs in this province by the Provincial Grand Master, the Rev. Dr. Bowles, and against certain Masonic appointments made by him.

At that time I was the W.M. of the Palladian Lodge, Hereford, Secretary to the Vitruvian Lodge, Ross, and Provincial Grand Registrar of the Province. This letter created great sensation amongst the Masonic body, and throughout the county; and an impression was conveyed to the minds of the Provincial Grand Master and *his now* Deputy, the Venerable Archdeacon Frere, that I was the author thereof; and this impression became (in the face of my own positive denial) general, and resulted in my being publicly charged in lodge by the Prov. G.M. with being a disturber of harmony; and the Prov. G.M. congratulated the brethren present upon my absence on that occasion. I had many kind friends; but the position in which I became placed by repeated and unfair attacks upon my veracity and character as a man of honour and a Mason, led to my withdrawal both from the Palladian and the Vitruvian lodges.

You, sir, have done me justice, by declaring that I am not the author; but I am still told that until I can clearly fix the authorship upon the right man, I cannot re-enter the Palladian Lodge without suspicion. Sad as the fact may be, it is a belief entertained by some, and as I am one of those, I publicly, as I have done privately, charge Bro. H. R. Luckes, W.M. of the Vitruvian Lodge, with being, if not the apparent, the *real* author of this letter, and the promoter of those suspicions which have so unfairly fallen upon me, and call upon him, as publicly, if he can, to deny the charge; and I ask you, sir, to state (if such be the fact) that from the means of knowledge which you may have possessed, Bro. Luckes is not the author, or that the insertion was made in the MAGAZINE upon any request made by him to you—an act of justice which you have done me (and will I am sure repeat), and which should not be denied to him.

I may state that Bro. Luckes, as the W.M. of the Vitruvian Lodge, has refused all inquiry being made in his lodge, which would have afforded the brethren present an opportunity of aiding in the settlement of the complaint made by me against him.

I am, sir and brother, yours fraternally,
W. H. WARNER, P.M., 141.

The Woodlands, Ross, Dec. 6th, 1860.

VISIT TO STRATFORD-ON-AVON AND ITS VICINAGE.

By Bro. GEORGE MARKHAM TWEDDELL,

Author of "Shakspeare: his Times and Contemporaries," &c.
(Continued from page 430.)

A shilling in the hands of the sexton, and he was soon accompanying me, with willing steps, along the bleached avenue of lime-trees which leads up to the fine old parish church of Stratford. This avenue reaches from the gateway into the churchyard, up to the north porch or doorway of the nave of the church. Peace to the ashes of him or her who planted these trees; and may the name of the vicar* be held in remembrance, who, in 1798, had the good taste to cause the boughs to be so intertwined as to form a pleasant bower. I question whether any other church in England can boast of such an avenue as this.

The church, which is dedicated to the Holy Trinity, is situated on the right bank of the Avon, to the south of the town. In the churchyard repose the ashes of some of the inhabitants of Stratford and its neighbourhood who had attained to unusual longevity,

—There, fast rooted in his bank,
Stand, never overlook'd, our English elms.

—COWPER.

So that Shakspeare had not far to go in order to see "the female ivy" entwining "the barks fingers of the elm" which supplied him with that fine comparison in which Titania indulges in the fourth act of "A Midsummer Night's Dream:" for elms and willows about Stratford are as plentiful as blackberries. It is a pleasant spot, this God's-acre of Stratford, and very near to that New Place where Shakspeare spent the evening of his life, and where he at last "shuffled off this mortal coil." Who would not much sooner choose to be interred in such a place as this, than in those odious black burial-grounds in large towns? where, as my friend Procter† graphically observes, "treeless, flowerless, grassless, and completely walled in, the dead seem imprisoned, rather than buried."

The church is a venerable looking and spacious edifice, —a fit one to contain the ashes of Shakspeare. It is a cruciform building, as every Christian church ought to be; with a low square tower, surmounted by an octangular spire. The fabric appears to have been erected by our ancient brethren at various periods. The tower is twenty-eight feet in length, by the same in breadth, and eighty feet in height; is built in the early Norman Gothic style, upon four pointed arches, supported by massy clustered pillars. The entire height of the tower and spire is one hundred and sixty-three feet; and, were it not for the low situation of the church, it would show to a great distance. Washington Irving, in his delightful *Sketch Book*, has observed:—"How would it have cheered the spirit of the youthful bard, when, wandering forth in disgrace upon a doubtful world, he cast back a heavy look upon his paternal home, could he have foreseen that, before many years, he should return to it covered with renown; that his name should become the boast and glory of his native place; that his ashes should be religiously guarded as its most precious treasure; and that its lessening spire, on which his eyes were fixed in tearful contemplation, should one day become the beacon, towering amidst the gentle landscape, to guide the literary pilgrim of every nation to his tomb!" But the spires on which Shakspeare and Washington Irving gazed were not identical, though they both rose

* The Rev. James Davenport, D.D.

† *Literary Reminiscences and Gleanings*, by Richard Wright Procter, author of *The Barber's Shop*.

from that same old tower. "There was, originally," says Wheler,* "on this tower, a timber steeple, covered with lead, and measuring in height about forty-two feet; which, besides wanting frequent repairs, seemed of too mean and diminutive a size for so noble an edifice; the parishioners, therefore, in the year 1763, obtained a faculty from the Bishop of Worcester to take down their decayed spire, and erect a new one of Warwick hewn stone," which was done the year following—when the first centenary of the birth of Shakspeare ought to have been celebrated.

No portion of the present church seems to go back to the Norman Conquest, though it is supposed to occupy the site of St. Egwin's monastery; but a chancel-house, taken down in the year 1800, is supposed to have been a Saxon building. One cannot help regretting the destruction of this receptacle for the last remains of mortality, for doubtless to it we owe some of the fine meditations of our great dramatist, in whose plays the chancel-house is far from being overlooked;—take, for instance, his tragedy of "Romeo and Juliet," of which Schlegel has said:—"The sweetest and the bitterest love and hatred, festivity and dark forebodings, tender embraces and sepulchres, the fulness of life and self-annihilation, are all here brought close to each other; and all these contrasts are so blended, in the harmonious and wonderful work, into a unity of impression, that the echo which the whole leaves behind in the mind resembles a single but endless sigh."

But old Kempe has opened a sort of side-door, and we soon stand in the magnificent church, which is doubly sacred in my eyes as the mausoleum of Shakspeare. It is indeed a noble building; the nave being one hundred and three feet long, twenty-eight broad, and fifty in height; the side aisles, the same length as the nave, twenty feet broad, and twenty-five high; the transept, ninety-four feet long, twenty broad, and thirty in height; the chancel—in which the bard and his family lay buried—is sixty-six feet in length, twenty-eight in breadth, and forty in height; and the entire length of the church from east to west is a hundred and ninety-seven feet.

The nave is well described by Wheler as "a regular and handsome structure, raised on six hexagonal pillars, terminating in pointed arches; above which the sides are divided into twelve compartments, forming as many well furnished Gothic windows in trisections. The principal, and by far the grandest, entrance into the nave, is at the west end, under a Gothic receding arch or doorway: over which are three niches conjoined, evidently designed to contain three statues, and probably of tutelary saints; the spiral canopies, which are much carved and ornamented, shoot into the large and noble west window, which is nearly the width of the nave, and is justly admired, as well for the masterly design as the beautiful workmanship. Under this window is placed the font, which is a large vase of blue marble, put up in the beginning of the last century." Of the old font I shall have occasion to say something by-and-bye. The roof of the nave is surmounted by battlements, which need something to break their monotony. Mr. Wheler informs us that they are "greatly inferior in elegance and grandeur to those taken down in 1764, which were much ornamented, and were further enriched by six fine pinnacles on each side." The eighteenth century was a barbarous one for church architecture, and our lodges, which ought to be schools wherein all the liberal arts and sciences are cultivated, as well as the moral virtues, proved recreant to their trust. There is a revival of architecture in our day; literature,

* *History and Antiquities of Stratford-upon-Avon*.

science, and art seem to be finding their way into every cottage; God forbid that they should ever again be locked up in lodge or cloister; but without seeking to make either a mere mutual improvement society or an antiquarian and archæological institution of the Craft, I for one will never rest content with our present high pretensions and poor practice. We have, as we ever have had, an immense amount of talent and learning in our ranks; let us turn to it good account; let us have Masonic Halls, of chaste design, in every town of consequence throughout the habitable globe; let them be reserved exclusively for the Craft, and never let for hire; let us have lectures on all the liberal arts and sciences delivered therein, and on such literary subjects as can be handled without sectarianism, whenever the halls are not needed for our solemn rites; and instead of Masonry being a stumbling-block to thousands of good men, who judge it by the heartless and brainless fellows whom they sometimes see strutting in Masonic clothing, to the immense injury of the Royal Craft, we shall number in our ranks the best portion of the wealth, the intelligence, and the virtue of the age. Unless we do this, let the degree of a Fellow Craft be remodelled, and the valued privilege of laying the foundation-stones of public buildings foregone, and all the ancient landmarks and traditions of the Order cast to

the fat weed
That rots itself in case on Lethe wharf.

"Hamlet," Act i., sc. v.

Why should we not have a library, and museum, and scientific apparatus, belonging to every lodge? The money which some lodges spend in refreshment alone would furnish these; but they, alas! cannot afford so much as a tracing-board! When I look upon those fine old structures which our ancient brethren erected before the divorce of operative and speculative Masonry—take this church of the Holy Trinity of Stratford as an example—and think of the bauble which some of "my incompetent brothers," as Thomas Carlyle would very properly call them, make of our venerable and ever-to-be-venerated Craft, "I could brain them with my lady's fan."

At the east end of the north aisle is the chapel of the Holy Virgin, which is filled with monuments of the ancient family of Clapton, men of mark in their day, one of whom (Sir Hugh) was elected Lord Mayor of London in the year 1491, and erected the noble bridge of fourteen arches over the Avon, at the northern extremity of the town. The monuments are, many of them, costly ones; that against the north wall, with the two recumbent figures in white marble, rather interested me. As the William Clopton, Esq., who died April 18th, 1592, and who is here represented in armour beside his wife, Anne, who survived him until September 17th, 1596—as both these persons must have known the youthful Shakspeare and his Anne Hathaway, with many of their kith and kin, I would have given old Kempe something handsome if he could have roused them up for an hour from their dreamless sleep, so that I might have asked a few simple questions concerning the great poet of humanity. And then, if I had ascertained all that I could have wished, what savage criticisms and learned "dry-as-dust" treatises would have been written to prove my historical ignorance and total unfitness to write on a subject like Shakspeare. The trouncing which Wordsworth and Keats received for their poetry at the hands of the reviewers, or that Bro. Collier is receiving now, would be mildness itself compared to the cutting-up I should catch at the hands of the Mac Grawlers* and Augustus

* See *wer's Paul Clifford*.

Tomlinsons of the press. But the Clopton information would be curious and important in its way; for when this William died, our William had become a husband and a father, a player, a shareholder in the Blackfriars Theatre, and a dramatist who had received the published praise of Edmund Spenser,* and the envy of poor Robert Greene and others. And when the lady, whose ashes now repose with those of her husband beneath this gorgeous tomb, departed to

The undiscover'd country, from whose bourne
No traveller returns.

Our bard had published his poems of *Venus and Adonis* and *The Rape of Lucrece*, both dedicated to his noble patron, the Right Honourable Henry Wriothesley, third Earl of Southampton, who (like his unfortunate friend, the Earl of Essex) was then a popular and powerful peer; Spenser was writing his *Colin Clout's Come Home Again*, with its genial allusion to Shakspeare, under the feigned name of Aetion,—

And there, though last not least, is Aetion,
A gentler shepherd may nowhere be found,
Whose muse, full of high thoughts' invention,
Doth, like himself, heroically sound." †

Ben. Jonson, then twenty years of age, having abandoned alike the callings of bricklayer and soldier, was married, and an actor in London, just beginning to write for the stage; and—but hold! Why recount further? Both the chief of the Clapton clan, and his spouse of the Welsh Griffith family, are alike silent and indifferent to the inquiries I would make; never more shall sound salute their ears, until "the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised, incorruptible."‡ Pass we on, therefore, and let us come to the tomb of Shakspeare.

The south aisle is described by Wheeler as "a well-built structure, strengthened by the addition of buttresses, terminating in foliated pinnacles; and at the west end is a circular staircase, which, on the outside, has the appearance of an octagonal embattled tower. This aisle was rebuilt by John de Stratford, in the beginning of the fourteenth century, during the time he was Bishop of Winchester; and at the east end he founded his chapel, which he dedicated to Thomas à Becket. His ascent to the altar is now remaining; and in the south wall are three empty niches, spirally canopied, and ornamented with perforated carved work, which, when perfect, must have had an elegant appearance. At present, however, it is very much mutilated; but, from what remains, some idea may be formed of its primeval beauty."

The transept appears to have undergone considerable alterations in Shakspeare's twenty-sixth year (1589), when the poet was a player and shareholder in the Blackfriars Theatre, certifying (along with his fellows) the Lords of the Privy Council that they had "never given cause of displeasure, in that they had brought into their plays matters of state and religion, unfit to be handled by them, or to be presented before lewd

* In his *Tears of the Muses*, published only the year before.

† An evident allusion to the martial name of our bard, which, did I not follow the poet's own orthography, I would spell according to its etymology—*Shakespear*. BEN JONSON, in his noble tribute *To the Memory of my Beloved, the Author, Mr. William Shakspeare, and what he hath left us*, has a somewhat similar allusion:—

Look, how the father's face
Lives in his issue; even so the race
Of Shakspeare's mind and manners brightly shines
In his well-toned and true-fil'd lines;
In each of which he seems to shake a lance,
As brandish'd at the eyes of Ignorance."

‡ 1 Corinthians, xv. 52.

spectators; neither had any complaint in that kind ever been preferred against them, or any of them;" for several of the theatres had then entered fiercely into the celebrated Martin Marprelate controversy, and Lord Burleigh had ordered the Lord Mayor of London to inquire what companies had so offended, as well as appointed a commission for the same purpose. At that time the dramatist's father and mother, his sister Jane, and his brothers Gilbert, Richard, and Edmund, all appear to have been living about Stratford; and it is most probable that his sweet Anne Hathaway, then Mrs. William Shakspeare, was residing either at Stratford or Shottery, with their three children, all of them then living, as Susannah, their eldest daughter, is entered in the registers of this church as baptised on the 26th of May, 1583, and their son and daughter, Hamnet and Judith, who appear to have been twins, on the 2nd of February, 1584. And when, in the August of 1596, poor Hamnet—the only son of his father—was prematurely cut off from earth, a lad of twelve years, in whom the poet, with the weakness of human nature, had hoped to found a family, we find the record of the burial, not in Southwark, not about the neighbourhood of the metropolis, but here in the church of Stratford. It is my full conviction, that though the wife and children of Shakspeare would doubtless visit London occasionally, their home was always about the pleasant town of Stratford and its environs; and that there was never a year passed without "gentle Willy" paying a visit to his beloved native place. But on this head there are none of all the number who once knew him well, and who now lie around my feet, that will rise up to enlighten me.

Pass along, then, to the chancel, and let us stand by the grave of Shakspeare, for I know of nothing which, to a sensitive mind, so strongly teaches the uncertainty of this human life, and the certainty of death to all men, as to stand by the tombs of the rich, the powerful, and the gifted of our race. If a Shakspeare could not escape the penalty of nature, what chance is there, oh reader, for thou or me? It is better, depend upon it, that there is none.

(To be Continued.)

ARCHITECTURE AND ARCHÆOLOGY.

GENERAL ARCHITECTURAL INTELLIGENCE.

A commencement has been made to improve the internal appearance of the parish church of Gainsborough, Lincolnshire. A portion of the old high square box-pews has been removed, and substituted by carved oak benches; other improvements are to follow.

In consequence of the old and dilapidated condition of the present Congregational chapel at Stowmarket, and want of accommodation for the Sunday school, it was decided some time since to erect a new chapel, with class and school rooms. The new chapel is to be built of Kentish rag-stone, with Caen dressings. Its site will be that of the present one, the burying-ground being arched over. Three old houses, which hide the present chapel from view, are to be pulled down, and Ipswich-street will be improved in appearance.

St. Mary Elnas Church, Ipswich, has been in the hands of the builder, and the whole of the old square high pewing has been removed and new open benches substituted. The altar-piece, altar-railing, and a pulpit, all of a bastard classical design, have likewise been swept away, and a new railing, and a pulpit of ecclesiastical character and carved, provided in lieu of them. The east wall, where the altar-piece stood, has been hung from the floor to the under side of the window, and also round the north and south walls, as far as the altar railing incloses, with green cloth, on which is a diaper of amber-coloured *fleur-de-lis*, the whole having an

edging of moulded polished wood. The whole of the benching, &c., is executed in pine, slightly stained and varnished. The floor of the chancel is laid with encaustic red and black tiles, and the nave and north aisle with terra-metallic ware of the like colours. The tower, which has been for some years blocked up and made a receptacle for rubbish, is now thrown open. Iron pipes, heated with hot water, are laid below the level of all the passages, and covered with open gratings. The additional accommodation secured by the benching amounts to upwards 100 sittings, including the children's seats. The architect proposes (funds permitting) to case the outside of the church with red and grey brickwork similar to the western tower. The church has been re-opened.

The works of restoration have been continued at the church of Hadleigh, Suffolk. The fine old roof and other portions of the chancel were restored last year. A reredos has also been erected.

A movement has been set on foot to repair St. Mildred's Church, Canterbury, and the estimated expense is £1000. Towards this sum subscriptions, among others, have been received from the Archbishop of Canterbury, £10; the curate of the parish, £105; Archdeacon Harrison, £100; the Dean of Canterbury, £25. We trust the public generally will co-operate in this praiseworthy undertaking, as the parish is a poor one, and that the contemplated repairs will not be delayed for want of liberal and generous support.

St. Luke's Church, Southampton, has been re-opened, after being enlarged. By the erection of a new aisle, which has been completed the architectural design, 330 additional sittings have been provided, and, by continuing the north gallery across both aisles, 160 more; thus making a total of 820 free seats, besides 520 for renting.

MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

LODGE OF FREEDOM (NO. 91).

Is it true that the Lodge of Freedom at Gravesend, No. 91 meets under a warrant of confirmation which has replaced the original, said to have been destroyed by fire?—TIC.

MASONIC FUNERAL ANTHEM.

What is the Masonic Funeral Anthem?—A. MOORE.—[It commences—

Almighty God! our heavenly King!
Before whose sacred name we bend;

and may be found in almost every collection of Masonic songs, poetry, &c.]

THE MASONIC OFFERING TO H.R.H. THE DUKE OF SUSSEX.

What has become of the Masonic offering presented to the M.W.G.M. the Duke of Sussex, in 1838?—EX. EX.—[It may be seen at any Grand Festival, it having been placed at the disposal of Grand Lodge by the Duchess of Inverness, the widow of our late respected Grand Master.]

ARK MARINERS.

When, and where, do the brethren meet who practice the degree of Ark and Mark, or Ark Mariners?—JOSEPH.

WAS DAVID GARRICK A FREEMASON?

Many of our present and past actors are, or have been, members of the Craft. Can anyone tell me if David Garrick was a brother?—A WALKING GENTLEMAN?—[He was. His Royal Arch apron was, in 1835, in the possession of Bro. G. J. Baldwin, Past Master of the Lodge of Relief, No. 50, meeting at Bury, in Lancashire. Where is it now? These are the kind of relics that should find their way into a Masonic Museum.]

BRO. DR. WOLFF.

Is Dr. Wolff, the great traveller in the East, a brother Mason? In some of his works which I have read I think I detect symptoms of his being one of us?—THOS. TURNER?—[Dr. Wolff is a brother. He was initiated in the Lodge of Brotherly Love, No. 412, held at Yeovil somewhere about the year 1846 or 1847.]

KNIGHTS OF THE LION AND THE APE.

Wanted, particulars of a pseudo-Masonic society, called Knights of the Lion and the Ape, which appeared in Germany in the last century?—THOS. TURNER.

MASONIC MOURNING.

What is the *etiquette* of Masonic mourning? We all know how a lodge is placed in mourning, but how do individual brethren place themselves in the garb of "Masonic mourning" for a deceased brother? and does the term imply any difference of apparel from that which we should assume for a friend or relative?—LEFRANC.

THE BANK OF ENGLAND LODGE PORTRAITS.

The Bank of England Lodge used, at one time, to have a respectable collection of portraits of its members. Will the secretary, or some officer or member of the lodge, favour me, through the columns of "Masonic Notes and Queries," with a list of the names of such portraits?—A PORTRAIT PAINTER.

ARCHBISHOP HOWLEY.

It has been said that the Archbishop of Canterbury (Howley) was a Mason; if so, where was he initiated?—CLERICUS.—[In the city of Bristol, at a lodge called the Jehosaphat, long since extinct, which met at the Bush Tavern. He served all the offices, and passed the chair in that, his mother, lodge.]

BRO. FERGUSON'S "ELEMENTS OF FREEMASONRY."

Can anyone give an explanation of the symbols on the frontispiece of *The Elements of Freemasonry Delineated*, printed for Bro. R. J. Ferguson, at Belfast, in 1802? Some of the representations are obsolete.—L. F. A.

THE GRAND GALA.

What is meant by Preston's grand gala?—D.—[See Preston's *Illustrations of Masonry*, the edition of 1772.]

MASONIC IMPRIMATUR.

In the second edition of Hutchinson's *Spirit of Masonry* occurs the following imprimatur:—"The sanction obtained for the first edition. Whereas Brother William Hutchinson has compiled a book, entitled *The Spirit of Masonry*, and has requested our sanction for the publication thereof, we, having perused the said book, and finding it will be of use to this society, do recommend the same.

"Petre, G.M.

"Rowland Holt, D.G.M.

"Thomas Noel, S.G.W.

"John Hatch, J.G.W.

"Rowland Berkley, G.T.

"James Heseltine, G.S."—J. K.

RE-NUMBERING OF LODGES.

How many lodges were there on the roll of the Grand Lodge of England when they were re-numbered by order of the Grand Lodge, dated April 18th, 1792?—STATIST.—[542.]

PRESIDENT OF THE ROSY-CROSS.

As we Masons are often said to be the successors of the Rosicrucians of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, have there at any time been individuals who have claimed to belong to that fraternity; and, if so, who has seen them?—HENRY S. T.—[In 1626 there was a person sought an interview with the king, who called himself Phillipus Ishbertus, and his messenger, Origines. He promised all sorts of revelations, but never put in an appearance. For the letters which passed on the subject see the Rev. Stephen Collet's *Relics of Literature*, 8vo., 1823, pages 319-21.]

GARIBALDI A FREEMASON.

In THE FREEMASONS MAGAZINE of the 23rd of June last, a question is asked whether "Garibaldi is known to be a Mason." In none of your subsequent numbers which as yet have come to my hand have I noticed an answer to this question; and Garibaldi now sojourning in his islet, I was just about writing to Mr. John Goodwin, British Consul at Palermo*, on this point and some other Masonic matters. Accident, however, brought me a few days ago into the company of a Bourdeaux merchant trading with Buenos Ayres, a member of the Craft, who communicated to me the following interesting fact:—He became acquainted with Garibaldi in South America, and he states that Garibaldi was initiated at Monte Vido, in a lodge entitled "Les Amis de la Patrie," established under the Grand Orient of France. As well as he could recollect, the initiation took place in the summer of 1844. Garibaldi soon after left the country. I could learn no more.—CHARLES PURTON COOPER.

* Mr. G. is my first cousin. His noble conduct on the occasion of the bombardment of Palermo will not have escaped your recollection.

NOTES ON LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AND ART.

We have heard much outcry, and deservedly, about Austrian brutality in flogging women; but they are not the only men who have been ungallant in that respect; for the old Pilgrim Fathers flogged a female Quaker who went from England to preach to them; and that our polite Gallic neighbours before the revolution indulged in the same practice, the following extract from *The Journal and Correspondence of William, Lord Auckland*, just out, will show:—"Madame Lamotte's sentence was executed yesterday morning. She was called up at five, and informed that the court wished to see her. She had no suspicion of the judgment, which is not communicated here, except in a capital sentence. She went in an undress, without stays, which proved convenient. Upon the greffier's reading the sentence, her surprise, rage, and shrieks, were beyond description. The borreau and his assistants instantly seized her, and carried her into an outward court, where she was fastened to a cart, with a halter round her neck. The borreau talked to her like a toothdrawer, and assured her most politely that it would soon be over. The whipping was slight and *pro forma*, but the marking was done with some severity; after which she was carried to the Saltpetriere, where her hair was cut off, and she was put in the uniform of the house."

The Rev. John Wortabet, Missionary of the United Presbyterian Church, Aleppo, in his recently published book, *Religion in the East; or, Sketches Historical and Doctrinal of all the Religious Denominations of Syria, drawn from Original Sources*, gives the following description of the Ukkal, or initiated, among the Druses:—"The general conduct of the higher grade of Ukkal is good. They are almost always very temperate and abstemious, and in their morals are generally very correct. In their manners, they are dignified; and in their social habits, kind, respectful, and hospitable. During disease and other afflictions, they generally manfully bear pain and sorrow, attribute all to the inscrutable wisdom and goodness of the Almighty, and wear a calm air of perfect resignation. As a work of penance, some of them deny themselves the luxury of eating fresh meat and fruits, or sleeping on a bed, through life. One of this class was observed to eat only one of each kind of the fruits of the season; and on being asked why he did so, when he denied himself this privilege throughout the year, he replied, 'That I may not be elated with pride.' Mending a bad piece of the road, and other works of useful charity, are also ways of displaying their piety. It is related of a famous person of this character, that he one day left his house for the mill with a sack of corn on an ass which belonged to him. He had not left the village when he was met by a woman who told him that they had no flour at home, and that she had just set out for his house to borrow the ass, not knowing that he was going to use it himself. He at once set down his sack on the road, and, in spite of all her remonstrances, went to her house and laid her corn on the ass, and having proceeded with it to the mill, ground it and brought it back. On another occasion he went to pick his olive-trees, and found a strange woman, who did not know he was the owner, picking them. He politely saluted her, and asked her whether the trees belonged to her. She answered that they did: and on offering to help her, she accepted the proffered kindness. When they had filled the sack, he assisted her to carry it, and on parting told her that he had good reason to believe that the trees did not belong to her, and that she had better not come again to them, as the rightful owner might not like it."

The old custom of the boys at Westminster School annually performing a Latin play in the dormitory, is to be revived this year, the *Trinummus* of Plautus being the piece selected by the authorities.

Punch says, that Mr. Gladstone "is the most extraordinary *Medium* in England, because he has raised spirits all over the country."

The following extract from a new work by the Rev. E. B. Pusey, D.D., Regius Professor of Hebrew, and Canon of Christ Church, entitled, *The Minor Prophets, with a Commentary, Explanatory and Practical, and Introduction to the Several Books*, will be particularly interesting to the thoughtful Craftsman:—"No one image can exhibit the manifold grace of God in those who are His own, or the fruits of that grace. So the prophet adds one image to another, each applying a distinct likeness of a distinct grace or excellence. The *lily* is the emblem of the beauty and purity of the soul in grace; the *cedar* of Lebanon, of its strength and deep-rootedness, its immovableness and uprightness; the evergreen *olive tree*, which 'remaineth in its beauty both winter and summer,' of the unvarying

presence of Divine Grace, continually supplying an ever-sustained freshness, and issuing in fruit; and the fragrance of the aromatic plants with which the lower parts of Mount Lebanon are decked, of its loveliness and sweetness; as a native explains this, 'he takes a second comparison from Mount Lebanon for the abundance of aromatic things and odoriferous flowers.' Such are the myrtles and lavender and the odoriferous reed; from which 'as you enter the valley [between Lebanon and Anti-Lebanon] straightway the scent meets you.' All these natural things are established and well-known symbols of things spiritual. The lily, so called in Hebrew from its dazzling whiteness, is in the Canticles the emblem of souls in which Christ takes delight. The lily multiplies exceedingly; yet hath it a weak root, and soon fadeth. The Prophet, then, uniteth with these, plants of unfading green and deep root. The seed which had no root, our Lord says, *withered away*, as, contrariwise, St. Paul speaks of those who are *rooted and grounded in love*, and of being *rooted and built up in Christ*. The wide-spreading branches are an emblem of the gradual growth and enlargement of the Church, as our Lord says, *It becometh a tree, so that the birds of the air come and lodge in the branches thereof*. The symmetry of the tree and its outstretched arms express, at once, grace and protection. Of the *olive* the Psalmist says, *I am like a green olive tree in the house of God*; and Jeremiah says, *The Lord called thy name a green olive tree, fair and of goodly fruit*; and of 'fragrance,' the spouse says in the Canticles, *Because of the savour of Thy good ointment, Thy name is as ointment poured forth*; and the Apostle says, *Thanks be to God, which maketh manifest the savour of His knowledge by us in every place*. Deeds of charity also are an odour of good smell: the prayers of the saints also are sweet odours. All these are the fruits of the Spirit of God, who says, *I will be as the dew unto Israel*. Such reunion of qualities, being beyond nature, suggests the more, that that wherein they are all combined, the future Israel, the Church, shall flourish with graces beyond nature, in their manifoldness, completeness, unfadingness."

Dr. H. Bence Jones has been appointed Secretary to the Royal Institution, as successor to the Rev. John Barlow.

A new kind of bronze is coming into use which is tenacious as steel, and admirably adapted for the bearings of machinery. A polisher who used it for bearings in his lathe, which made 2000 revolutions in a minute, found it to last six times longer than any other metal. It is composed of ten parts of aluminum with ninety of copper.

Dr. Livingstone, in a letter addressed to the Bishop of Oxford, dated April 7th, says:—"By the Shire you get easily past the unfriendly border tribes, and then the ridge which rises on the east to the height of 8000 ft. affords variations of climate within a few miles of each other. The region bathed by the lakes is pre-eminently a cotton-producing one; and, as far as we can learn from Burton and Speke, the people possess the same comparative mildness of disposition as I observed generally prevailing away from the seacoast. There are difficulties, no doubt—an unreduced language, and people quite ignorant of the motives of missionaries, with all the evils of its being the slave-market." And, after urging on the English Church the appointment of missionaries, he adds:—"The French have a strong desire to enter before us. A Senor Cruz, the great agent of French emigration from this coast, lately returned from Bourbon with a sugar-mill and coffee-cleaning machine, sugar canes of superior quality, and coffee seed, and two Frenchmen to work the machines. Both, however, soon perished of fever. The Portuguese hate us and our objects, partly because of our religion, but chiefly because we suppress the slave trade. They desire the French to come and establish their authority over the slaves. At present Portuguese slave rule is mild, because the slave can so easily flee to independent tribes. If the French slave system were established here, slave hunting would go on till the country was depopulated. Even for the incipient plantation of Cruz there is slave hunting among the very people we lately visited at Sheiba and Negassa."

A novelty in connection with cattle and poultry shows has been introduced at Birmingham, where every description of dogs have had prizes awarded them. Upwards of 300 dogs were shown. When will the poor despised ass have a prize or two set apart at our agricultural shows for it? There is no class of animals in England, "humans" excepted, of which the breed is so capable of improvement.

Messrs. Longman and Co. will publish next month a new work entitled *The Lost Tribes, and the Saxons of the East and the West, with New Views of Buddhism*, by Dr. George Moore, author of *The Power of the Soul over the Body*. This work is to be com-

pleted in one volume, and is intended to prove the Hebrew origin of the Saxon races. This is attempted by tracing their earliest connections in the East, and by reference to historical events and existing monuments, of which latter several engravings are to be given.

The Rev. George W. Cox, M.A., one of the masters in the College, Cheltenham, has a juvenile work on the eve of publication, entitled, *Tales from Greek Mythology*. The aim of the volume is to simplify the most beautiful stories of the Grecian legends, so that the young may be early familiarised with the fine mythology of the most polished nation of antiquity.

Half-Hour Lectures on the History and Practice of the Fine and Ornamental Arts, is the title of a new work by Mr. William B. Scott, Head Master of the Government School of Art at Newcastle-on-Tyne, and brother and biographer of the late David Scott, R.S.A.

The second of Mr. John Chalmers Morton's *Agricultural Hand-Books* is just appearing, under the title of the *Handbook of Farm Labour, Manual Labour, Steam, Horse, and Water Power*.

Dr. Adling, F.R.S., Secretary to the Chemical Society, and Professor of Practical Chemistry at Guy's Hospital, has prepared for the press *A Manual of Chemistry, Descriptive and Theoretical*, which will shortly be published. The work is to appear in parts or sections, and is intended as an elementary text-book for the use of those lecturers and students who employ, or wish to employ, the unitary system of chemistry, according to which the molecule of water is represented by the formula H₂O. Water thus becomes a unit of comparison, to which the majority of oxides, hydrates, acids, salts, alcohols, ethers, &c., can be referred.

The *Critic* thus criticises Baron Marochetti's equestrian statue of Richard I.:—"Seldom have we experienced feelings of deeper vague disappointment—used to disappointment in artistic matters as we are—than on first approaching Marochetti's famed equestrian statue of Richard Cœur de Lion, in its present and final position in the corner of Old Palace-yard. That first view is a somewhat grotesque one: of a horse's elevated tail, of the hero's brawny back, and of his uplifted sword on a line with the top of the second-floor windows of the 'New Palace.' On journeying round the statue, and after painful effort discovering the right point of view, we recognised in the general felicitous *pose* of the rider—with uplifted arm, holding his trusty sword aloof, and in the august magnanimous aspect of that heroic face—those qualities which won general admiration when the original cast was exhibited at the Great Exhibition of 1851. The vivid picturesque life of the cast loses, however, by translation to bronze. The want of something *more* is here felt. *Life* the noble equestrian statue undoubtedly has—a quality which at once elevates the work into a rank infinitely superior to that of the crowd of modern sculptures. The life it possesses, however, is a wholly superficial and limited quantum. That *bravura*, melodramatic attitude—effective, spirited, and picturesque though it be—is but a Scott or Corbould-like kind of rendering of the grand chivalric era. Viewed again on the merely æsthetic side, the finished bronze statue is still but a sketch, executed on an imposing scale; bald and unsatisfying after you have exhausted the not very recondite sentiment it possesses. It is at once destitute of the idealism of Greek art, of the realism of Mediæval. The tight-fitting chain-mail of Cœur de Lion is generalised into looking like a jacket of knitted wool, with knitted wool continuations. In all respects the same disdain of reality—favourable to realistic treatment as was the subject—has resulted in the same loss of golden opportunities. The reins are of a plain modern pattern—or no pattern. Had these and the housings generally been enriched with the detail characteristic of Mediæval decorative art, that principle of contrast on which the Greeks themselves worked in their colossal sculpture would have been obeyed—to the infinite advantage of the whole. What opportunities, by the way, did the subject offer for glorious effects through enrichment by gilding and colour, according to what is proved to have been the practice of both antique and mediæval times! As it is, every part is alike vague and general. And if we recognise a feeling for reality anywhere, it is under an unfortunate aspect,—as in the kingly legs, which have the bow-legged look characteristic of the man oftener in the saddle than on foot. Baron Marochetti is said to have personally superintended the casting of the bronze. But its colour is that coal-hue, here and there powdered as with dust, with which we are so familiar in English bronze. The position of the statue, though better than some which were at one time

suggested, is far from happy. It is at once exposed and in a corner, standing, as it does, in the angle formed by Barry's southern end of Westminster Hall and the entrance to the House of Peers. In the middle of a quadrangle the effect of the statue would have been immeasurably enhanced. Old Palace-yard is not a yard at all, scarcely an open space; simply an irregular corner between Henry the Seventh's chapel and the new Houses of Parliament. Into one angle of this (the only regular angle), the statue is pushed back, its rear to Westminster Hall and to London generally. Ninety-nine persons out of a hundred who will ever see the statue—including the most august personages in the realm—will approach it from behind. Its rear and one side are, in fact, the leading points of view offered. On the whole the highly-coloured panegyric given of the statue in the *Times*, plainly to square with a preconceived opinion, will do more harm to the sculptor than otherwise, by exciting expectations the statue cannot fulfil. Its excellence, though, so far as it goes, indubitable, is by no means of so transcendent a kind as to justify the disparaging allusion to English sculptors with which that one-sided puff—for it was not criticism—concluded. The pedestal of granite is, we may add, plain and ugly, as modern pedestals seem to labour under the inexorable necessity of being; unadorned by the slightest trace of artistic feeling or mental influence. Two blanks are left in it for future bas-reliefs."

The title of the new story by Mr. Thackeray, which is to be commenced in the January number of the *Cornhill Magazine*, is evidently suggested by Christ's parable of the Poor Samaritan; it is—"The Adventures of Philip on his way through the World; showing, Who Robbed Him, Who Helped Him, and Who Passed Him By."

Mr. W. C. Bennett's new volume *The Worn Wedding Ring, and Other Poems*, is about being published.

In noticing a lecture recently delivered in the Ramsbottom Athenæum, "On the Pleasure and Usefulness of a Knowledge of Plants," by Mr. Leo H. Grindon, author of *The Wild Flowers of Manchester*, the *Bury Times* says:—"He concluded a lengthy and interesting address by exhibiting the peculiarities of the seed of the club moss. The chairman having a lighted paper, in his hand held it forth while the lecturer sprinkled the fine dust-like seed, and the particles coming in contact with the flame ignited, and produced a most brilliant effect, much to the gratification of the audience. There was another peculiarity in the seed of the club moss, which consisted in the softness and smoothness which it communicated to the skin, and this softness and smoothness could be communicated to others. He shook hands with the reporter of the *Bury Times* in order that he might evidence the correctness of what he had said, that no lady's hand in the hall was equal in softness to his. The softness thus communicated continued for hours."

The monument about to be erected to Ary Scheffer, at his native place, Dordrecht, is ready for casting, the model being finished.

OUR FATHERS' LAND.

God bless our fathers' land,
Keep her in heart and hand
One with our own!
From all her foes defend,
Be her brave people's friend,
On all her realms descend,

Protect her throne!
Father, in loving care,
Guard Thou her kingdom's heir,
Guide all his ways;
Thine arm his shelter be
From harm by land and sea;
Bid storm and danger flee.
Prolong his day!

Lord, let war's tempest cease;
Fold the whole earth in peace
Under thy wings!
Make all thy nations one,
All hearts beneath the sun,
Till thou shall reign alone,
Great King of Kings.

Bravo Republicanism!

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

INSTALLATION OF THE DUKE OF NEWCASTLE AS PROV. G.M. FOR NOTTS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE FREEMASONS MAGAZINE AND MASONIC MIRROR.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Two things struck me at the Notts festival worthy of notice—1st. The utter absence of tyling—or any attempt at it—at the Prov. Grand Lodge. Some London brethren remonstrated warmly, but without effect. I do not pretend that I have any reason for thinking that intruders were present, but I can only say no attempt whatever was made to see who *I* was, though I requested to be examined, and had my G.L. certificate in my pocket. Other London brethren present will bear me out in this, as they remarked upon it at the time. The second point was the choral addendum to the fire, "Worthy Masons, all," &c., which was exceedingly pleasing and effective, particularly as the number of brethren was large. I wish we could introduce it into our London lodges; it would be a pleasing addition, and I would earnestly commend the matter to Bro. Matthew Cooke, or some other worthy and enthusiastic brother who would take the trouble to learn it, and teach us how to do it.

Hoping that my complaint will be taken in the fraternal spirit in which it is made, and that such neglect will be avoided for the future, both in Notts and elsewhere, and, finally, that my suggestion will be speedily attended to,

I am, Dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

A LONDON PAST MASTER.

London, Dec. 10th, 1860.

"THE VOICE OF MASONRY."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE FREEMASONS MAGAZINE AND MASONIC MIRROR.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Being recently informed that *The Voice of Masonry* was not reaching its British and Irish subscribers, I communicated with Bro. Rob Morris, whose answer I received too late for insertion in your last issue. The following is an extract from his letter, dated November 10th, 1860:—"The *Voice of Masonry* has been and will be regularly published, whatever may happen. I will have an entirely new arrangement made next week about the whole English and Irish list. I do not know where the fault is, but in future there shall be accuracy and promptness." I have also been informed that the postage has in some instances been irregular. This I was at a loss to understand. Knowing the paper to be of uniform weight, and fearing that the fault might be with the Post Office, I hastened to communicate with the Secretary of the General Post Office, who very promptly gave the subject his attention. Subsequently an employé of the Post Office department called on me for names, and the matter is now being investigated. Thus, I hope, the cause of the delay will ere long be removed, and *The Voice of Masonry* be delivered with the usual regularity. Feeling that an explanation is due from me to the many brethren who have given me their names for *The Voice of Masonry*, I shall feel much obliged if you will insert the above.

I am, Dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

London, Dec. 11th, 1860.

ELISHA D. COOK.

MACHINERY FOR TEACHING.—Mr. Smalley, of King's College, has constructed two very efficient aids to teachers of elementary science, which are manufactured by Messrs. Elliott, in the Strand. The first is a machine demonstrative of the composition of forces, in which the pressure equivalent to two other pressures is shown to be represented by the diagonal, when the component pressures are represented by the sides. The second is a very simple revolving radius, which carries with it a pendulous perpendicular, both graduated, as also is the line of the base. The character and the approximate values of the trigonometrical functions are exhibited, in all parts of the revolution, in a manner singularly clear and free from the confusion which attends a diagram of several distances. There are also some illustrations of the disused *linear* definitions.

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

MASONIC MEMS.

VISCOUNT HOLMESDALE, Prov. G.M. for Kent, having kindly consented to take the chair at the forthcoming Festival of the Royal Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and their Widows, on the 30th of January next, it is hoped that the brethren of the Province of Kent will feel it their duty to support their Prov. G.M. on that occasion. The list of stewards already numbers upwards of eighty names, and seems likely, at the present rate of additions, to have half as many more before the day in question.

We are happy to announce that Bro. Colonel Adair, of Flixton Hall, has accepted the office of Prov. Grand Master of Suffolk. We hear that the appointment is likely to prove very popular, our gallant brother being generally beloved in the province.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

We have been requested to publish the following. We do so without comment:—

At a meeting of the House Committee, held at the School House, on Friday, the 30th of November, 1860, Bro. J. S. S. Hopwood, in the chair, the following boys, leaving the institution, were presented to the committee, viz.:—Richard John Fisher, James Willis, William Thomas Moore, Thomas Corke Chase, and Augustus Lang. The committee having examined the several reports submitted to them by the master of the school relative to the progress the above boys had made during the period they had been in the school,

It was resolved unanimously,—

“That this House Committee cannot separate without expressing its regret at the extremely unsatisfactory progress made by those boys who this day quit the institution, in those branches of education which have come under the notice of the members of the committee, more especially as regards the spelling and writing. The attention of the head and assistant-master is specially directed to these defects, and in the hope that no grounds for similar complaint with reference to the boys still in the school may exist in the future; and that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Rev. Charles Woodward and to Mr. Taylor.”

At a meeting of the General Committee held on Saturday, December 1st, 1860, the following notice of motion was given by Bro. George Barrett, one of the vice-presidents of the institution—

“Having heard the minute made by the House Committee at their last meeting, respecting the boys leaving the institution, to move at the next Quarterly General Court that the Head Master be requested to retire next Lady-day.”

METROPOLITAN.

PRUDENT BRETHREN LODGE (No. 169).—The members of this lodge met at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Tuesday, Nov. 27th, Bro. Boyd, W.M., presiding, when Bro. Hooper was elected W.M. for the ensuing year, and Bro. Warren re-elected Treasurer.

OLD CONCORD LODGE (No. 201).—The usual meeting of this lodge was held at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Tuesday evening, December 4th—Bro. Swainston, W.M., presided; Bro. the Rev. J. Laughlin, S.W.; Bro. Waters, J.W. There were present, P.M.s Booth, Kennedy, Nicholson, Gurton, and Jackson, and the following visitors—Bros. W. C. Lumley and R. B. Lumley, Grand Master's Lodge (No. 1); G. J. Kain, P. Prov. G. Sec., Shakspeare Lodge, (No. 356); W. G. Ross, No. 291 (Scotland); E. Rowley, 1044; Wilson, 830; G. Batten, Kent Lodge of Antiquity (No. 20); J. W. Roper, 72; E. Davies, 276 (United Strength); Wavell, 206; Clarke, 211; D. Shalboe, 812; Woodson, 15; Boyce, 1115; Horne, 11; Willis, 955; L. H. Isaacs, 812; Winter, 234; &c. The first business of the evening was to raise Bros. King and Cronin to the sublime degree of M.M., which ceremony was performed by the W.M. with his accustomed ability, and in a most impressive manner; after which Bros. Dorsett, Walker, and Eccius were passed to the second degree. A ballot having been taken, Mr. John Scarborough was introduced, and in due form initiated into the mysteries of ancient Freemasonry.—The next business was, the consideration of a motion by Bro. Kennedy, P.M. and Treas.; and it was resolved by a large majority that the initiation fee of this lodge be increased to eight guineas, and the joining fee to five guineas. The lodge then proceeded to the election of a W.M. for the year ensuing, which

was unanimously in favour of Bro. the Rev. J. Laughlin, S.W., who returned thanks for the honour conferred upon him. Bro. Kennedy was re-elected as Treas., and Bro. Beckett was unanimously elected Tyler to the lodge. The case of the widow and children of the late Bro. Plummer, of the Kent Lodge (No. 15), who came to an untimely end by suffocation in a well, was then submitted by Bro. Lensohn, and excited the sympathy of the brethren, with many promises of support for the purpose of obtaining admission for two of the children into the Masonic Schools. The lodge was then closed, and afterwards 76 brethren sat down to refreshment. This having been disposed of, the W.M. gave the usual formal toasts, which were duly honoured.—Bro. KENNEDY said he had permission to propose a toast, which was, “The Health of their W.M., Bro. Swainston,” and it would be unnecessary for him to say how well he had discharged the duties of the lodge, as they had all had an opportunity of witnessing them, or the efficient manner in which he had filled the chair at their banquet table. During the year he had initiated a large number of gentlemen into the lodge; he had been most punctual in his attendance to his duties, and he felt sure the brethren must all feel delighted at the manner he had gone through his year of office. That was the last night he would occupy the chair, and he (Bro. Kennedy) was delighted that so many as 76 brethren were present that evening to witness his departure from it. (Cheers.)—The W.M. said that, although his health had often been proposed in that lodge, yet he could say sincerely that he never had had greater difficulty than at that moment in adequately returning thanks for the honour conferred upon him. He was utterly unable to give expression to his feelings for the very flattering manner in which Bro. Kennedy had proposed his health, or to the brethren for responding to it so heartily as they had done. He had spoken of the way in which he had fulfilled the duties; and if the brethren were satisfied, he was highly gratified. When he was elected W.M. he strove to perform those duties as becoming a lodge of such high position in the Craft, and not to allow its glories to go down in his hands, but to keep it up to that position which should not only be honourable to the lodge but honourable to himself.—The W.M. next gave “The Visitors” and said he felt highly gratified at seeing so many present that evening.—Bro. LUMLEY, of the Grand Master's Lodge, returned thanks, and bore his testimony to the excellent working of the lodge.—The W.M. then gave, “The Past Masters of the Lodge,” and in doing so said he sincerely regretted the absence of Bro. Emmens, through illness, that being the second time only that he had been absent from the lodge during a period of upwards of twenty years.—Bro. BOOTH returned thanks on behalf of the P.M.s, and said that so efficient had been their W.M. that he not only did not require their assistance, but was able to give them information.—The W.M. said the next toast he had to propose was that of “The Health of Bro. Laughlin, W.M. elect;” and he could say that had he that brother's flow of eloquence and oratorical powers, he could not expatiate too much upon his good qualities. Bro. Laughlin had been most regular in his attendance at the lodge, and when he considered the duties their reverend brother had to fulfil in his parish, it was a wonder to him how he was able to devote any time at all to Freemasonry. That he had done so they had ample proof, from what they had witnessed in the lodge. He was the pastor of a very large neighbourhood, and yet he had passed his examination in a manner which had never been excelled by any P.M. of the Old Concord Lodge. The toast was most enthusiastically received.—Bro. the Rev. J. LAUGHLIN said he rarely had risen in his place to speak of himself, but to address a few words to their newly-initiated brethren on the great principles of faith, hope, and charity, and to dwell on that which was nearest to his heart—the good of the lodge. As regarded himself the brethren had taken an irrevocable step, but by the assistance of the G. A. O. T. U., when he went from that to the other end of the room, he hoped to perform his duties, and to remain at his post until they were all willing to go away. If he had failings, and did not possess those rare gifts of their present W.M., yet he trusted to the assistance of a most excellent body of P.M.s, of which their present W.M. would then be a member, and hoped to perform the duties of the Old Concord Lodge in a manner that should give no offence. His love of Masonry was great, but when in the chair he should not indulge in long speeches; and when at the end of 12 months he should resign the gavel, he should do so with the same satisfaction that he now had in accepting that honourable office. While he was in the chair he should endeavour to do good to all in every possible manner, and if he could add any weight or assistance to their Masonic charities, he hoped never to be absent from his post. By the assistance of the G. A. O. T. U. he trusted that in his hands the glory of the lodge would not be impaired or extinguished, and that while he held that chair that he should ably, faithfully, and conscientiously perform his duties.—The W.M. proposed “The Health of Bro. Kennedy, P.M. and Treasurer of the Lodge.”—Bro. KENNEDY, in reply, thanked the brethren for the honour they had conferred

upon him by re-electing him as their treasurer, and assured them that he would do all in his power to give them satisfaction; and he could say that during the past year, as they had not gone beyond the bounds of discretion, he should be able to place an excellent account before them. Their brother Laughlin had requested him to instal him, and, he need hardly say, that as he initiated Bro. Laughlin into Freemasonry, it would be a great honour to him to instal him into the chair of King Solomon. He thanked them, in conclusion, for that renewed mark of their confidence.—The W.M. next gave, "The Officers of the Old Concord Lodge," for which Bro. WATERS, J.W., returned thanks.—Some other toasts were given, and the proceedings were brought to a close. The pleasures of the evening were greatly enhanced by some excellent songs by Bros. W. G. Ross, Maddick, Davis, and Wild, and the proceedings were closed in the true spirit of Masonry.

ST. JAMES'S UNION LODGE (No. 211).—This lodge met at the Freemasons' Tavern, December 11th.—Bro. Williams and Bown were raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason; and Bro. Farwig was passed to the degree of Fellow Craft. It being the night of election, the following brethren were elected for the ensuing year: Bro Jackson (S.W.), W.M.; John Garton, Treas. A P.M.'s jewel was unanimously voted to Bro. Stacey for the very able manner in which he has discharged the office of Master during the last two years. The lodge was visited by Bro. Gorham, W.M. No. 178, Gibraltar; Bro. Grant, 166, and Bro. Zinkeison, of No. 3, Austria.

IONIC LODGE (No. 275).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, December 6th. The lodge was opened by Bro. Empson, W.M., who passed Bro. Edward Charlton to the second degree, and raised Bro. P. Paterson. Bro. John Sheridan, the W.M. elect, was then presented by Bro. Barnard, P.M., for installation, and inducted into the chair by Bro. Empson, in the presence of twelve other Past Masters. The W.M. appointed, and invested as his officers, Bro. C. F. Morstatt, S.W.; Bro. John Inglis, J.W.; Bro. J. A. L. Barnard, P.M., D.C.; Bro. Thomas Harrison, P.M., Sec.; Bro. T. H. Cameron, J.D.; Bro. Rochussen, J.D.; Bro. F. Mead, J.G.—Bro. Tomkins, who had been re-elected Treas., and Bro. Henry Holt, the Tyler, were also invested.—The W.M. then said it was his pleasing duty to present, in the name of the lodge, the P.M.'s jewel, which had been unanimously voted to his predecessor; and after paying a due tribute of praise for the zeal and ability he had displayed in discharge of the onerous duties of the chair during the past year, hoped Bro. Empson might proudly say, as did the Spartans, "I have won my honours, and will wear them."—Bro. Empson gracefully acknowledged the tribute of the lodge.—The W.M., who has been already announced as Steward for the Benevolent Institution, tendered the like service of representing the lodge at the boys' festival.—The lodge having been closed, the brethren adjourned to the banquet, when nearly forty were present. The cloth being removed, the W.M., in proposing the health of her Majesty, referred to the volunteer movement in defence of the country, a proof of the devotion of the people to the protection of the throne and their native land. "The W.M. the Grand Master, the Sovereign of the Order," followed, and the W.M. referred to his lordship's nomination for re-election on the preceding evening. In proposing the toast of "The D.G.M. and rest of the Grand Officers," the W.M. alluded to two distinguished brethren who had honoured the lodge with their presence, Bros. Hervey and Savage, whose past services were acknowledged by the marks of distinction they bore.—The toast was briefly responded to by Bros. Hervey and Savage.—Bro. Empson then said it was his especial privilege and pride to propose the toast of the evening, that of the W.M., whom he had the honour of installing in the chair; and referring to his diligence as S.W., said he was sure that in Bro. Sheridan as W.M. they had the right man in the right place. He (Bro. Empson) knew the W.M.'s ability, and had endeavoured by his own efforts to put Bro. Sheridan on his mettle. They had seen something of his skill, which he thought might guarantee that in their W.M. they had one who was to prove second to none even in the "Ionic."—The W.M., in reply, said he could not but feel that dignity had been conferred upon him in sitting under the shadow of Bro. Empson, but he hoped that between the light that departed and that which arose there would be no difference. He referred to the complimentary terms in which his predecessor had been pleased to speak of his powers; he trusted the anticipations would be realized. Satisfied there was in Masonry something beyond knowing how to conduct the ceremonies—something beyond the lees of the wine cup, that thus united people of all lands and language—it was his desire and intention to devote his mind to so acquaint himself with its mysteries, that the high office to which he had been elevated should lose nothing of its dignity, although at the same time he confessed that in following Bro. Empson he had a difficult task.—The W.M. then gave a cordial greeting to the visitors—among whom, besides Bros.

Savage and Hervey, were Bros. Ingram, W.M. 63, Bros. E. Leek, and J. How, P.M.s, 82, which having been responded to, "The P.M.s and Officers of the Lodge" were honoured by notice, and the Tyler's toast concluded the evening.

INSTRUCTION.

ALBION LODGE (No. 9).—This lodge held its usual weekly meeting at Bro. Hartley's, Western Masonic Hall, 10, Old Bond-street, on Sunday last, at seven, p.m., and was numerously attended. Bro. Stewart 1051, W.M.; Bro. Reilly, 1051, S.W.; Bro. Ford, 211, J.W. The ceremony of initiation was gone through by Bro. Stewart. Bro. Woodstock, P.M. 1051, worked several sections of the first lecture. Bro. Reilly was elected W.M. for the ensuing Sunday. Bros. Gibson, 1051, Benson, 9, and Steinhauser were elected members of this lodge.—Bro. Froud, P.M. 1051, proposed that a vote of thanks be given to Bro. Stewart, and recorded in the books of the lodge, for the beautiful and impressive manner in which he performed the ceremony that evening. He added that Bro. Stewart had only been initiated five months since, and he was sure the brethren would bear him out in saying that the duties of the chair had been discharged by him in a manner that did him credit.—Bro. Simpson, 211, seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously. There being no other business to transact, the lodge was closed in ancient form.

PROVINCIAL.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

CAMBRIDGE.—Lodge of Three Grand Principles (No. 645).—A meeting of the brethren of this old-established lodge was held at the Lion Hotel, on Monday evening, December 3rd, for the purpose of electing a W.M. for the year ensuing. The choice of the brethren fell upon Bro. Dennis Hall, who was declared duly elected. After the business of the lodge, the brethren partook of an excellent banquet, served up by Bro. Moyes, which was ably presided over by Bro. Massey, P.M. and W.M. *pro tem.*, in the unavoidable and much regretted absence of the W.M. Bro. John Deighton. After the banquet, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, including the W.M. in his absence and other officers of the lodge, were proposed and ably responded to. The health of the W.M. elect was then proposed by Bro. Haggis, P.M., in terms of warm congratulation.—Bro. HALL, in responding thereto, said that he rose with feelings of considerable emotion to return his sincere thanks for the kind manner in which his health had been proposed and responded to, but more particularly for the confidence placed in him by electing him to so high and dignified a position as that of Master of the lodge. He stated that during his career of office it would be his object, not merely to officiate in the ancient forms and ceremonies of the Order, but by the assistance of the G. A. O. T. U., to enlighten and instruct the brethren in the important and sacred truths with which Freemasonry abounds. It might be sufficient, he thought, to observe on that occasion that Freemasonry is a science, by which it is intended to stock and enliven the mind with the most noble and holy sentiments that human nature is capable of appreciating; and as such, it needed no strenuous observations on his part to enliven the brethren to the fact that Freemasonry is far, very far, from being what is thought by those of the world who are not Masons. Bro. Hall here pointed out the extreme absurdity of persons criticising that of which they know nothing, and endeavoured strongly to impress upon the minds of the brethren that there was ample room for Masons in general, by their conduct, to quiet the vulgar sarcasm hurled against the institution. It was not sufficient, he continued, to be enrolled a member of the society, and remain an inactive spectator of its proceedings; but it was urgently necessary, as they valued the prosperity of the Craft in general, and of this lodge in particular, to strive to excel in Masonic virtues. He contended that Masonry, under the blessing of the G. A. O. T. U., is peculiarly qualified to influence their conduct both in public and private life; and that by living up to its divine precepts, the world might thereby, and thereby alone, be convinced that Freemasonry is not vanity. He trusted there was no necessity for him to remind the brethren that for the well-being of the lodge it was necessary that harmony should still prevail; and he hoped that during the next year they might work hand-in-hand together with one object in view, *Secretly doing good.* Bro. Hall then resumed his seat amidst the applause of the brethren. The enjoyment of the evening was considerably enhanced by being favoured with songs from various brethren, accompanied by Bro. Hall on the pianoforte. The installation of Bro. Hall will take place on St. John's-day, that being the annual festival of Freemasons.

DORSETSHIRE.

POOLE.—Chapter of Amity (No. 160).—At the last meeting of this Chapter, at the Masonic Hall, Bro. T. Rickman was exalted

in the second degree by Comps. J. Sydenham, M.E.Z.; G. H. Gutch, H.; W. Parr, J.; J. Osment, P.S. After the ceremonies were gone through, the Comps. who had been elected at the previous convocation, viz.—Comp. G. H. Gutch, M.E.Z.; J. Osment, H.; W. Parr, J.; R. Hoskins, P.S.; J. Boyd, E.; W. Rebbeck, N., were invested with their respective collars, and took their places accordingly. The chapter was then closed in due form, and the companions adjourned to the refreshment-board.

HAMPSHIRE.

SOUTHAMPTON.—*Lodge of Peace and Harmony* (No. 462).—At the November meeting, Bro. Jas. Ricketts Weston, ex-Sheriff of the town and county of the town of Southampton, was nominated W.M. for the ensuing year, with the unanimous approval of the brethren, and Bro. P. M. J. Rankin Stebbing as Treasurer. The late Secretary Bro. Henry Clarke having removed to Wolverhampton, sent in his resignation, when the following resolution was unanimously adopted:—That this lodge receives the resignation of Bro. Henry Clarke as Secretary with considerable regret, and desires to record its deep sense of his long and valuable services to the lodge, as well as the high estimation in which his honourable and straightforward conduct was held by his fellow townsmen and Brother Masons, and whilst cordially thanking him for his great attention to the office of Secretary, sincerely hopes that his change of residence may be productive of much benefit and advantage to him, great as is the regret of the members to lose the association of a worthy brother and much respected fellow townsman. That a copy of this resolution be written on vellum, and signed by the presiding Master and acting Secretary, and forwarded to Bro. Henry Clarke.

SOUTHAMPTON.—*Royal Gloucester Lodge* (No. 152).—At the November meeting, a very splendid full-length portrait of the Mayor of Southampton, Bro. Fred. Perkins, was presented to him in open lodge, to mark the respect of the brethren for that civic functionary, and to commemorate the interesting event of the W.M. of the lodge being elected also Mayor of Southampton during his second year of office. The presentation was made by his Worship's successor in the lodge, Bro. T. P. Payne, in a very appropriate address, accompanied by the hope that Bro. Perkins would allow the admirable likeness to grace the walls of the Masonic Hall, where so many portraits of worthy Masons are now exhibited.—Bro. Perkins cheerfully acquiesced, and made a most feeling and able reply. The portrait is by a celebrated London artist, Bro. Phil Gaugain, formerly Master of the Royal Gloucester Lodge, and does the artist infinite credit. Bro. Perkins is taken in his civic robes, holding a Masonic address from his brethren in his left hand, an appropriate portion being seen. The inhabitants of Southampton have also presented Bro. Perkins with a silver cradle, value £350, to commemorate the birth of a daughter during his mayoralty. At the same lodge a very cordial vote of thanks was given to Bro. Henry Clarke, the late Hon. Secretary, on his leaving Southampton for the North, acknowledging his great services to the lodge, and his honourable career whilst resident in Southampton. It was ordered to be written on vellum, and forwarded to the worthy brother. Another lodge has presented him with a handsome silver cup.

WINCHESTER.—*Lodge of Economy* (No. 90).—The last monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday, the 23th ult., when there was a good attendance, Bro. Hasleham, P.M., being the W.M. *pro tem*. The first business transacted was the passing of Bro. Mundy, which was duly worked by the Presiding Officer and his subordinates. The lodge next proceeded to ballot for the election of Bro. William Biggs, P.M. of No. 247, &c., as a joining member. That worthy, esteemed, and eminently useful member of the Masonic Fraternity was unanimously elected by the brethren present. The election of the W.M. for the ensuing year was the next business. For this important office there had at the previous lodge been a general nomination of the whole of those members of the lodge eligible to fill the office, viz., the retiring Master and Wardens, and all P.M.s and P.W.s. The ballot resulted in the election of P.M. Bro. Hasleham, by a large majority. Bro. Hasleham ably filled the chair in the official year 1858-9, and had made himself much respected and beloved by the brotherhood by the great zeal and fidelity he had displayed since his connection with the lodge. His re-election under such circumstances as the present must be considered as an event testifying alike to the honourable qualities of his head and heart. The centenary of the Winchester Lodge occurs on Tuesday, the 29th of January next, the date of its warrant from the Grand Lodge of England being January 29th, 1761; and the interesting event, it is suggested among the Fraternity, shall be celebrated here in a manner becoming the importance of the occasion and the celebrity of the province. The installation of the Master elect will be postponed till the same day; and it is very probable that a large and influential gathering of Freemasons will be realised in the city.

LYMINGTON.—*New Forest Lodge* (No. 401).—This lodge had a gathering on Tuesday, November 27th, which seems to indicate that it is destined to occupy an important position in the province. The chair was filled by the Rev. Bro. G. Bradshaw, M.A., Prov. G.C., W.M., supported by his Officers, Bros. G. Perkins; Preece; F. Perkins, ex-Mayor of Southampton; and other leading members of the Craft. The lodge was favoured by the attendance of the R.W. Admiral Sir Lucius Curtis, K.C.B., and his R.W. Deputy, C. E. Deacon, Esq., and other Prov. G. Officers. After the Masonic business had been disposed of, the lodge entertained the Prov. G.M. and his Officers at a splendid banquet, over which the Rev. Bro. G. Bradshaw presided most ably. In proposing "The Healths of the Prov. G.M. and his Deputy, Bro. C. E. Deacon," he alluded to the progress Masonry was making in Hampshire, the success it was now meeting with in Lymington, his determination to use his best energies to promote it, especially in that locality, and thanked them for the deep interest they took in everything connected with the Craft.—The Prov. G.M., in reply, alluded to the talent and well-known eloquence of the rev. brother who had consented to preside over that lodge, the impressive manner in which he discharged his duties; and then, in a most pleasing manner referred to his own career in connection with the province, and the gratification he felt at the Masonic demonstration that had taken place that day in the town of Lymington, and resumed his seat amid the plaudits of the brethren. Several other toasts were proposed and responded to, among which the name of Bro. Hayward, ex-Mayor of Lymington, elicited from the Prov. G.M. a warm eulogy for the manner in which he and another brother had for many years preserved the warrant of the lodge.

LEICESTERSHIRE.

LEICESTER.—*St. John's Lodge* (No. 348).—This lodge held its usual monthly meeting at the Freemasons' Hall, on Wednesday, the 5th inst., when among those present were the W.M., Bro. Cummings, who presided; P.M.s. Bros. Kelly, D. Prov. G.M.; Underwood, as S.W.; Windram; and Gill, Sec.; Bros. Dr. Sloane, J.W.; Marris, S.D.; &c. Visitors, Bros. Brewin, W.M.; Willey, P.M.; and Lloyd, of the John of Gaunt Lodge (766). The lodge having been opened, and the minutes of the last lodge read and confirmed, the following resolution was proposed by the D. Prov. G.M., seconded by Bro. Underwood, and supported by the W.M., all of whom bore warm testimony to the estimable character of the departed brother:—"That this lodge has received with feelings of the deepest regret the melancholy intelligence of the premature decease of the Senior Warden, Bro. Martin Nedham, Prov. J.G.D., at the early age of twenty-seven. By the removal of Bro. Nedham from this sublunary abode, the members of St. John's Lodge have been deprived of the valuable services of a zealous Mason and most efficient officer, and the brethren generally have lost one who was endeared to them by his quiet, unassuming manners, his amiability of disposition, and genuine kindness of heart, and by whom his memory will long be cherished." The resolution was, of course, carried unanimously, and was ordered to be entered on the minutes. This being the period for the election of W.M., a ballot took place, which resulted in the unanimous election of Bro. William Weare (Senior Warden, 1857), who acknowledged the compliment paid to him by the brethren. There being no further business the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to refreshment. A notice of the late Bro. Nedham appeared in our obituary column last week.

NORTHUMBERLAND.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—*Northumberland Lodge* (No. 985).—This lodge was opened on the December 4th, by the V.W. Bro. E. D. Davis, P. Prov. S.G.W., assisted by the following:—V.W. Bros. J. J. Challoner, P. Prov. G.G.W.; John Barker, Prov. G. Treas.; Andrew Gillespie, Prov. G. Reg.; Thomas Crawford, Prov. S.G.D.; John Poppelwell, Prov. G., as D.C.; Wm. Johnston, P. Prov. G.S.W.; G. H. L. Hawks (W.M. elect), S.W.; John D. Scott, J.W.; Bro. Capt. Agnew, 381; &c. The minutes of the previous lodges held having been read and confirmed, the lodge was duly opened in the second degree, and the W.M. elect duly presented by P.M. Barker for installation. This and the subsequent portion of the installation were gone through in that able and impressive manner which characterise all the Masonic labours of Bro. E. D. Davis. At the conclusion of the ceremony, the W.M. installed the following as his officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. B. J. Thomson, as P.M.; John D. Scott, S.W.; John Poppelwell, J.W.; Charles J. Jobbing, Sec.; Wm. Johnston, Treas.; Hugh L. Pitinon, P.D.; Henry Bell, J.D.; John Shield, S.S.; J. T. Hoyle, J.S.; Thos. Crawford, J.G.; John S. Trotter, Tyler. At the banquet the brethren were joined by the D. Prov. G.M. of Northumberland, Bro. M. L. Jobbing, and other brethren, and the evening was spent most harmoniously.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.—INSTALLATION OF HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF NEWCASTLE AS P.G.M.

On Friday, December 7th, was celebrated one of those "Masonic Festivities" which have been the talk of this county, in the Craft and out of it, for a very long time past. We have had placards, and circulars, and newspaper notices—in fact every form of advertisement and announcement which ingenuity could devise, and industry, combined with liberality, carry into execution. All the lodges took the matter up, and brethren from the neighbouring provinces flocked to this fine old county town to meet the Duke, and the Grand Master who had done himself the pleasure, and his Grace the honour, of being present to instal him in the dignified situation, for which he is fitted alike by his official and personal position and popularity in the province, his status as a statesman, and his many Masonic virtues and his political services to his country, and the colonies connected with it.

The brethren congregated in large numbers, and put on their Masonic attire at the Mechanics' Hall, between eleven and twelve o'clock. Shortly after the time appointed for the commencement of the proceedings the approach of the Most Worshipful the Grand Master was announced, and the organ struck up a lively voluntary. The brethren remained standing and uncovered. The procession entered in due form, and the Grand Master and his Officers, together with the Prov. Grand Officers for the county, were received with loud applause. The noble Earl ascended the Throne, and the Prov. Grand Lodge was opened in due form, and with solemn prayer, the Rev. Bro. Wentworth Bowyer, Grand Chaplain of England, officiating. Amongst the Rev. Brethren present we observed the Rev. Bro. Jackson, Prov. G. Chaplain of Notts.; Rev. Bro. Charles Hudson, Rev. Bro. Wilkins, Rev. Bro. J. Lawrence Prior, Rev. Bro. Jones, Rev. Bro. J. Denton, Prov. G. Chap., Leicestershire, &c.

In order to avoid the obvious inconvenience of requesting brethren of the various degrees to withdraw, the ceremony of Installation was performed in another apartment, to which the noble Earl, the Grand Master, and his grand officers retired for the purpose.

On their return to the Prov. Grand Lodge they were accompanied by the noble Duke, and were received with loud applause, and the business of the Prov. Grand Lodge proceeded.

Bro. RICHARD ALLEN, the Prov. G. Sec., then read the warrant of appointment.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master then set forth in the usual way the important qualifications required of a brother occupying the position of Prov. Grand Master.

Bro. ALLEN then recited the ancient charges of the Order, to all of which his Grace signified his assent in the usual way; and subsequently took the oaths impressively administered by Bro. Stephen Barton Wilson, one of the Grand Deacons.

His Grace was then formally placed in the chair amidst loud applause, and the gavel was handed to him. His Grace was next saluted in due form and loudly cheered, in the midst of which the organ struck up with some pleasing variations upon the well-known air of "See the conquering hero comes."

His GRACE having been duly saluted and proclaimed, Bro. Danks was appointed Prov. S.G.W., and Bro. John Comyn, Prov. J.G.W. These brethren were invested and escorted to their places by the Deacons.

The rest of the Prov. G. Officers were reappointed, the same brethren consenting to serve under his Grace who had so efficiently fulfilled their duties under our late lamented Prov. G.M., Bro. Col. Wildman, of Newstead Abbey.

The roll of members was presented to his Grace, and the Masters and Wardens of the Newstead, Sussex, Commercial, and Forest Lodges were successively presented, and delivered brief but appropriate addresses, which were acknowledged by his Grace.

Bro. PERCY, the D. Prov. G.M., then read the following address from the Freemasons of the Province to his Grace, the newly-appointed Prov. G.M.:

"To the Most Noble Henry Pelham Pelham Clinton, Duke of Newcastle, of Clumber Park, Workson Manor and Nottingham Castle, all in the County of Nottingham; Lord Lieutenant and Custos Rotulorum of the County of Nottingham, one of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, &c., Provincial Grand Master of the Free and Accepted Masons of Nottinghamshire."

"The Freemasons of this Province hail your presence amongst them with feelings of unfeigned joy, sincere respect, and profound attachment, and are peculiarly bound to offer their humble congratulations to your Grace on the celebration of the auspicious event of your installation as their Prov. Grand Master.

"It has been the happiness of the brethren for the period of thirty-five years to have been presided over by our late lamented Colonel Wildman, whose unwearied zeal and meritorious services in the cause of Freemasonry have deservedly endeared his memory to the heart of each of us.

"Upon the severance of that tie, the Freemasons of this Province felt deep anxiety as to his successor; but with one mind their hopes centred on your Grace; and were it possible to hold communion with the dead, there is no brother on whom our late Prov. Grand Master would have preferred his mantle to descend more than on your Grace.

"Being aware how your Grace's time is occupied in the service of our beloved Sovereign and country, and by the cares and responsibilities of a landlord, it was no matter of surprise that your Grace should have hesitated before undertaking other duties. Our gratification was however complete, and our debt of gratitude enhanced, when you were pleased to overcome those scruples, and consent to rivet more firmly the mystic tie of brotherhood by becoming our chief.

"We behold in your Grace that high character which calls forth the respect and approbation of the fraternity, whose confidence you have gained, and we not only appreciate your worth as a nobleman, senator, neighbour, and friend, but it will be our happiness to yield a ready obedience to your commands, and by our united efforts to support intact the great principles of our Order, by cementing them with every moral and social virtue.

"Henceforth rest assured that your Grace will have the heartfelt wishes and prayers of the brethren, that it may please the Almighty ruler of events, in His goodness and mercy, to grant your Grace increasing happiness and prosperity in this life; and when time shall be no more, and earthly honours have passed away, that you may be received into that Grand Lodge above, where the World's Great Architect lives and reigns for ever.

"Dated at Nottingham, this 7th day of December, 1860."

(Signed)

"E. PERCY, D. Prov. G.M.

"Richard Allen, Prov. G. Secretary."

To which his GRACE replied as follows:—

"To receive such an address as this which you have presented to me from any body of honourable men amongst whom life's lot has been cast, must ever be an incident of the deepest gratification; and I assure you that I have listened to these words of congratulation, and their earnest wishes for my happiness from the free and accepted Masons of Nottinghamshire with no ordinary sense, both of the mark of confidence and honour which has been conferred, and of the increased obligations which have been imposed upon me by the position which I am called to occupy amongst my neighbours and friends.

"It is true that I hesitated for some time to add another duty to those which, whether of a public or private nature, make such constant demands upon my attention,—but I felt compelled to withdraw a refusal which appeared opposed to your wishes, though even now I am but too conscious how unworthy a successor has been appointed to that chair which for so many years was filled by our deeply-lamented brother and friend, Colonel Wildman, whose services can never be replaced by any efforts of mine.

"To the Most Worshipful Grand Master of England I am under great obligations for his personal attendance here to-day to inaugurate my appointment in this province,—and to him as representing the Freemasons of the kingdom, as well as to you, the brethren of Nottinghamshire, I beg to tender the assurance of my earnest desire to uphold those principles of the Order which are based in the virtues of social life, and strengthened by the ties of charity.

"May it be my good fortune, whilst I continue to hold my present position amongst you, to contribute in ever so small a degree to the happiness and welfare of the humblest of the brethren."

After reading the above, the noble Duke addressed to the brethren some extemporaneous observations—remarking that he felt it his duty, when informed on the previous evening that this address would be presented to him, that he should, in addition to the observations he had just made, also make some response to the kindness of the brethren of those four lodges which had just reported to him, in so interesting a manner, as to their present condition, and expressed themselves so kindly with respect to his appointment. His Grace continued—I feel deeply flattered by the offer of the distinguished position in the Craft to which I have just been appointed, although I feel that I am very inadequate to succeed to so worthy a Brother as Col. Wildman, who so efficiently presided over you for the long period of 35 years. Kind reference has been made to the fact that I at first declined the honour, but I assure you, brethren, that that step was taken through no unwillingness to assist in their laudable endeavours my friends and neighbours in this country. But, brethren, although I do not feel myself adequate to serve you in this important position, yet I feel sure that I shall receive, on every occasion, your kind consideration and your indulgence for any deficiencies which I may display in the conduct of my duties. I have the satisfaction also of knowing that I shall receive the invaluable assistance of those Prov. Grand Officers who have been kind enough to accept, under me, the positions which they held under my respected predecessor. Under these circum-

stances, I shall cheerfully endeavour to fulfil the duties of the high position which has this day been conferred upon me. In one of the addresses the hope was expressed that I might continue to fill this position for as many years as was held by my lamented predecessor. This is hardly, perhaps, a kind wish, though doubtless kindly meant; for the lapse of such a period would bring me to that time of life at which I should scarcely be able efficiently to assist you—a time of life at which, supposing it to be the will of the G. A. O. T. U. that I should attain such an age, I ought to be devoting my attention to considerations affecting another and a better world. But I hope you will know me well enough to believe me when I assure you that as far as lays in my power I will endeavour to discharge the duties of the position this day conferred upon me. (Applause.)

Bro. ALLEN, the Prov. G. Secretary, then read the following address to the Most Worshipful the Grand Master:—

“To Thomas Dundas, Earl of Zetland, Baron Dundas, of Aske, Co York, in the Peerage of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Lord Lieutenant of the North Riding of Yorkshire, and Acting Grand Master of the Freemasons in England.”

“We, the Provincial Grand Officers, Past Officers, Masters of Lodges, and Wardens, on behalf of ourselves and brethren of the ancient and honourable Order of Free and Accepted Masons of the county of Nottingham, most gladly welcome the opportunity thus afforded us of approaching your Lordship with expressions of our profound gratitude for your presence amongst us, and of our affectionate attachment to your Lordship’s person, as the head of our inestimable institution.

“In celebrating the auspicious event which has this day brought us together, we cannot overlook the fact that to your Lordship’s ready acquiescence in our wishes and cordial sympathy with our feelings, we are in a great measure indebted for the happiness which this province enjoys, in being enabled to recognise as its Prov. Grand Master, and bringing into intimate communion with the Craft a nobleman of such rare virtues and high qualifications as His Grace the Duke of Newcastle.

“May the Most High, under whose providence we are permitted to assemble here, long continue to us the fostering care of so kind and vigilant a Grand Master, and may He crown with success every endeavour of your Lordship to promote the prosperity of our institution, devoted as it is to benevolence and universal brotherhood.

“Under such auspices, the grand cause of Masonry cannot fail to enjoy happiness and security—and with the benefit of such influence and example, our ancient and mystic Order will not only in this province, but in every other under your Lordship’s guidance and control, continue to maintain that high position which it has ever held, and spread wider and wider those blessings which it is so well calculated to confer.

“We cannot conclude without expressing to your Lordship our sense of the honour conferred upon us by the presence in Nottingham of your amiable countess, and our deep sense of gratitude for her watchful care as patroness over those benevolent institutions which are alike the honour and glory of our Order, and the brightest ornaments of our land; and we earnestly hope that, whilst participating in the festivities at the close of this day, she may not only observe a desire on the part of the brethren of this province to do honour to the head of the noble house of ‘Newcastle,’ but to a fervent attachment to that of ‘Zetland.’

“That the choicest blessings of Heaven may continue to rest upon her Ladyship, and that she with your Lordship may long be spared to each other, is the sincere and prayerful wish of your Lordship’s faithful and loving brethren in Nottinghamshire.

“Dated at Nottingham, this seventh day of December, one thousand eight hundred and sixty.

(Signed)

“RICH. ALLEN,

“Prov. Grand Secretary.”

The MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTER, in rising to reply, was received with considerable applause, and addressed the brethren as follows:—

“R. W. and W. Brethren of the Province of Nottingham.

“I thank you most sincerely for the kind and fraternal address which you have presented to me, and for the assurance of your affectionate attachment to your Grand Master. It was with feelings of the greatest satisfaction that I learned the wishes of the Freemasons of Nottingham to be ruled over by the noble Duke who has just been installed as my representative, and your Prov. Grand Master. Those wishes were in perfect accordance with my own, for after the lamented death of my good friend, your late Grand Master, I had no doubt in my own mind, that if the noble Duke would accept the high office in Masonry of your Prov. Grand Master, that from his position in the county, his acquirements, and the exalted character which he bears, he was, without doubt, the most fit man to rule over the Craft in this county; and I need hardly assure you that it is with the greatest satisfaction that I learned that the noble Duke had consented to accept that office.

“I thank you, brethren, for the kind and flattering manner in which you have been pleased to view my services as Grand Master. Having been on seventeen different occasions all but unanimously elected to that high position, I am well aware of the responsibility which rests upon me in the selection of my representatives in the provinces; and how much the prosperity of our Order, and the fostering of our institutions depend upon those representatives. Under the rule of the noble Duke I can have no fear for the Province of Nottingham.

“I beg to thank you most sincerely for your kind expressions towards Lady Zetland, and to assure you that, while she takes the greatest interest in our Benevolent Institutions, she will at the same time highly appreciate the attentions and the welcome which you have afforded her in Nottingham.” (Applause.)

The PROV. GRAND MASTER then rose for the first time to ask if any brother had aught to communicate for the good of Freemasonry in general, or this Prov. Grand Lodge in particular.

Bro. FRANCIS CREW, Secretary of the Freemasons’ Girls’ School, made an earnest and forcible appeal on behalf of that institution, and urged the claims of the other Masonic charities upon the brethren of the province of Nottingham. He said: It was a very remarkable fact, and not less remarkable than gratifying, that of the hundreds of girls—the daughters of deceased and necessitous brethren—who had passed through the institution, of which he had the honour to be Secretary, there was not a single instance, from the very origin of the institution, in which any one of those girls had not so conducted herself, after leaving it, as to reflect credit upon the training which she had received whilst within its walls. (Applause.) The fact was that there was not a single case in which any one of those girls on leaving the institution, had acted in a manner which would bring discredit upon it. When he had the honour of attending the Prov. Grand Lodge of Yorkshire, he made an appeal similar to that which he was then making, and the result was an almost immediate subscription of a hundred guineas, and a total subscription from the Prov. Grand Lodge of no less than a sum of £730. (Loud applause.)

The Prov. G.M. said that he had no doubt that the brethren had been duly impressed with the importance of what had fallen from their worthy Bro. Crew, and he would propose, therefore, that they should adopt the course usual in such cases, and appoint a committee to consider and carry out the suggestions which had been placed before them. (Hear, hear.) It was no doubt very desirable to concentrate the attention of the brethren of the province on the subject; and he thought that this could best be secured in the manner he had indicated. (Cheers.)

The Prov. G. SECRETARY then read several letters of apology for unavoidable absence, amongst which were the following:—

“Gopsall, Atherstone, Dec. 4, 1860.

“Dear Sir and Brother,—It is with feelings of the very deepest regret and disappointment that I am obliged to relinquish the long cherished hope of being present at the interesting ceremony of the installation of the Duke of Newcastle. Nothing but the positive orders of my medical friend to avoid any distant fatigue at this time of the year, would have prevented my attending, and I must trust to your kindness to explain the reason of my absence to the Duke and the Grand Master. I feel deeply the kindness which has prepared so hospitable a reception for Lady Howe and myself, which would have added greatly to the comfort of the expedition.

“Believe me, very faithfully and fraternally,

“R. Allen, Esq., Prov. Grand Secretary.”

“HOWE.

“Chatsworth, Dec. 4, 1860.

“Dear Sir and Brother,—I regret extremely that it will not be in my power to attend the installation of the Duke of Newcastle on Friday next, as I had hoped to be able to do, but having friends staying here at present, I shall not be able to leave Chatsworth for a day.

“I remain yours fraternally,

“R. Allen, Esq., Prov. Grand Sec.”

“HARTINGTON.

The Prov. G.M. then rose for the second and third time, and no further business having been brought forward, the M.W.G.M. brought the proceedings to a close in the usual way.

THE BANQUET.

In the afternoon, at three o’clock, the brethren assembled in great force at the Corn Exchange, where a substantial banquet had been provided by Bro. Malpas, of the Flying Horse Hotel. The noble Duke presided, and near him we observed the Right Hon. the Earl of Zetland, Most Worshipful Grand Master; the Rev. J. Wentworth Bowyer, G. Chaplain; Bros. Stephen Barton Wilson, P.G.D.; Henry Bridges, G. Sword Bearer; R. C. William Spiers, P. G. Sword Bearer; Charles William Elkington, P. G. Sword Bearer; Capt. Henry Bowyer, Prov. G. Master of Oxfordshire; Edmund Percy, D. Prov. G.M. of Nottinghamshire;—Cullen, the present Mayor of Nottingham; Sir Thomas Parkyns; the

Mayor of Lincoln; Comyn; Wilkins; Thomas Close; Thomas Crew, Secretary of the Freemasons Girls' School; Dr. O'Connor, Physician to the Royal Free Hospital, London; George Barrett, of London; H. Riseborough Sharman, London; Col. Daniell; Charles Ratcliffe, of Birmingham; B. W. Goode, and others.

The cloth having been removed,

The noble DUKE said: Brethren, you will be well aware that the first toast which it will be my duty to propose to you will not only be highly acceptable to you as Englishmen and Freemasons, but one which is generally regarded as of mere routine. In one sense it is a routine toast, because you commence with it in all your festive assemblies, but to such a gathering as the present it is far from being a mere routine toast; it is a toast which appeals to the hearts of every one in the assembly I am now addressing. It is a toast which will be drunk, in such an assembly as this, with such an enthusiasm as no other toast which could be proposed to us could produce. One of our great principles, as Freemasons, is obedience to all constituted authorities, and respect for the existing institutions of the realm. These are principles from which you can under no circumstances diverge. You support those authorities not only because they are, but because they are such as you would wish them to be. Brethren, it has been my good fortune recently to visit other portions of the globe, and to examine some of the most important of our colonies in a distant part of the world; and in those colonies allow me to say that I witnessed such devotion to the Sovereign of these realms as no one who had not been himself a witness of it would be ready to believe. (Loud cheers.) The enthusiasm which I saw came from the inmost hearts of all those who displayed it: it was no mere noisy acclamation in the streets; it was not a mere demonstration of the towns and populous places, but an enthusiasm exhibited in every back street and thinly-populated locality. It was a demonstration of the attachment of the entire people to the throne of England, and of their veneration and respect for the lady who at present occupies it. (Cheers.) It was a loyalty not of creed, or of sect, or of party, or of race. After leaving that country I went to another, which, it is true, does not at present own the sceptre of Great Britain; and, therefore, throughout the many thousand miles over which I have travelled there was not the same loyalty, because there was not the call for it in a country which was not subordinate to the Crown of England; but there was an amount of respect, of attachment, of veneration, and of love for the Queen of this country which far transcended anything that could possibly have been expected. (Cheers.) It was a tribute on the part of the American people—it was a demonstration of their veneration for female excellence; and it was also a proof of their deep and lasting attachment to the mother country. (Cheers.) I have no hesitation in saying that the feeling towards the Queen of Great Britain in the United States of America cannot be designated by any other word I know of but as a passion. (Loud and continued applause.) I had the gratification in the lodge this morning of seeing a brother—I do not know whether he is in the room at this moment or not—who comes from America. [It was here announced that the brother in question was present.] I am delighted to find that he is here, and I shall say nothing in his presence which I would not say even more strongly in his absence, when I state that the impression made upon my mind by that journey is one which time will not efface. (Loud cheers.) I am referring now to that powerful general influence which the excellent Queen of this country exercises over other nations, and more especially over those with whom we have a common origin; and I am certain that you will not be wanting, on the present occasion, in that feeling towards her Majesty which has been so generally exhibited. Having now referred briefly to the attachment exhibited towards her Majesty in the colonies and in the United States of America, I may notice the fact that a not less striking demonstration of affection was recently seen in the anxiety and alarm which, I am told, prevailed in this country as to the safety of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. (Cheers.) From the manner in which that anxiety was displayed, her Majesty must be fully convinced of the ardent attachment of her people. Nor was this less strikingly demonstrated when his Royal Highness reached these shores; for we met with a reception most enthusiastic in its nature at every railway station from Plymouth to Windsor. But, my brethren, I must ask you to forgive me for having lingered on this topic. (Cheers.) I could not on such an occasion as the present avoid doing so; and I will now conclude by asking you to drink "Health to the Queen, and Prosperity to the Craft," and to give the toast all the Masonic honours. (Loud applause.)

The toast was drunk with great enthusiasm, and with the usual honours.

His GRACE then rose and said,—Most Worshipful Grand Master and brethren, I have now to propose to you a toast which naturally follows that to which you have just done honour. It is, "The rest of the Royal Family." There is, first, the Prince Consort. (Cheers.) There are few persons in this country who know the merits

of that prince. Those who know him most will best appreciate him. (Cheers.) Brethren, we shall never know how much we owe to him till some unhappy day, when it will be our misfortune to lose him. (Hear, hear.) His good sense, good taste, sound judgment, and good feeling, have on all occasions been remarkable. We oft discover failings where we are unable to appreciate excellencies, and I am certain that I do not exaggerate to you the merits of H.R.H. the Prince Consort. I have to propose to you also the health of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales (cheers), the young prince with whom I have spent the last four months in the most intimate connexion, during which I have learned to regard him with the greatest interest and affection. (Cheers.) It has been his happy lot, at the age of nineteen, to render to his country a very great and essential service. (Cheers.) Many a man, born of a royal family, has descended into the grave rendering to his fellow-men much less good service than has been rendered by this young prince. (Cheers.) Whatever may be the destiny which Providence has reserved for him, it is a proud thing that he can reflect on this voyage across the Atlantic. (Cheers.) I believe that nothing so much as that journey could have cemented the good feelings—I say cemented, mind, because I am convinced that they were previously entertained—which exist between the two countries on the opposite sides of the Atlantic. But not only is it desirable that the existence of those good feelings should be known; it is singularly fortunate that they have been placed on record and propagated by the press. (Cheers.) The feeling between the two countries just now is one of peace and good will—(cheers)—and woe be to us when the day shall come that that peace is broken up. (Cheers.) I will not say that that peace is likely to be broken up, but I will say that it is less likely—that the likelihood of such an event has been greatly postponed by that which has taken place. (Cheers.) This I can say of this extraordinary visit, that we witnessed in New York, and in every other important city of the United States, an amount of enthusiasm which was perfectly extraordinary, from the moment at which we entered Detroit till our departure from Portland. (Cheers.) With one solitary exception, we met with nothing but enthusiasm; and in fact I do believe that this visit of the Prince of Wales to America has done more to cement the good feeling between the two countries than could possibly have been effected by a quarter of a century of diplomacy. (Cheers.) The two great peoples on either side of the Atlantic have disclosed those feelings of fraternity which they entertain towards each other. (Cheers.) In asking you to drink to "The rest of the Royal Family," I must not omit to mention H.R.H. Prince Frederick William—(loud cheers)—the only member of the Royal Family at present who is a member of our Order,—(hear)—although in former times our members have been far more numerous in the family of the reigning Sovereign. (Hear.) His Grace concluded by proposing "The Health of the rest of the Royal Family," with which he coupled the name of H.R.H. Prince Frederick William of Prussia.

The toast was drunk with great enthusiasm and the usual honours.

His GRACE then said,—I am sure that the toast which I have now to propose is one which you will receive with cordiality, and I may say affection. (Applause.) It would ill become me on an occasion like the present, so ill versed as I have been of late years in the mysteries of the Craft, to dwell at any length on the merits of a brother like your present Grand Master. (Loud cheers.) It would be peculiarly out of place in me to say much about him on an occasion when he has placed me under so great an obligation. Still I may be permitted to observe that though we have had presiding over Masonry in England upon former occasions noblemen of great distinction, occupying the highest places in the realm, we have never had a Grand Master more popular and more respected in all relations of life, than the Bro. who now fills that distinguished position. (Cheers.) I am certain that I have said enough on a toast like this, and I now call upon you to drink, with all Masonic honours, to "The Health of our most Worshipful Grand Master the Earl of Zetland." (Loud cheers.)

The M.W.G.M. (who was received with an amount of enthusiasm which the present writer never witnessed on any previous occasion during a long series of years) said,—I can hardly find words to express the gratitude I feel to the Provincial Grand Master for the manner in which he has proposed my health to you, and to you, brethren all, for the manner in which you have received the toast. I assure you that I feel most deeply the kindness of our noble Bro. in taking upon himself the responsibilities of this office. For my part, I have a natural, and I may say an hereditary, right to take the greatest interest in the welfare and progress of Masonry. My grandfather was D.G.M. to the Prince of Wales, afterwards George IV.; my father was D.G.M. to the Duke of Sussex, and afterwards Pro. G.M. I, too, had the honour of being D.G.M., and afterwards Pro. G.M. to the Duke of Sussex; and I have imbibed a veneration for Masonry which I am sure will descend with me to the grave—(loud applause)—and my best

services will be, as they ever have been, at the command of the fraternity. I assure you that I have never had a more pleasant duty to perform since I became Grand Master than that which I have performed this day, in installing the noble Duke in the office of Prov. G.M. of this province. (Loud applause.) Your late Prov. G.M. was a very early and a very good friend of mine, for whom I always entertained the highest respect, although until now I have never had the pleasure of visiting this province in my official capacity. I rejoice sincerely that the noble Duke has not allowed himself to be prevented by his public and private duties from taking upon himself the responsibilities of the position which he has this day assumed, and the duties of which I am sure he will perform with credit to himself and with satisfaction to you. (Loud applause.)

His GRACE next proposed "The Health of Lord Panmure, D.G.M., and the G.L. of England." He said the brethren were no doubt aware how frequently the health of our D.G.M. prevented his appearance amongst them at their social meetings; but he was sure they were well convinced that his heart was not the less with them. (Applause.) He hoped they would, therefore, drink the toast with all sincerity.

The toast was duly honoured.

The Rev. Bro. BOWYER, G. Chap., as the senior officer of Grand Lodge present, responded to the toast, and said that the installation in which they had that day taken part would be a source of satisfaction, not merely to that province, but to the Craft at large. (Cheers.)

The M.W.G.M. next proposed "The Health of the Prov. G.M." his Grace the Duke of Newcastle—a toast which he said he was sure they would all drink with enthusiasm. He felt that in such a company he need say nothing in praise of their R.W. brother—(cheers)—because, in that county, his personal merits and political services were so well known that it would be presumption in him to dilate upon them. (Applause.) He would venture to say, however, that on the death of their late lamented friend, Colonel Wildman, the noble Duke was the first person whom it occurred to him to nominate as his successor. (Loud cheers.) He certainly did feel some apprehension when the noble Duke at first thought that his other avocations would prevent his accepting the appointment; and he was much gratified when he consented to waive these objections and undertake the duties and responsibilities of the office to which it was his (the Grand Master's) earnest desire to appoint him. (Cheers.) Under their R.W. Brother he felt sure that Masonry in Nottingham could not fail to flourish. (Hear, hear.) He assured them that he proposed this toast with no ordinary satisfaction, and he hoped that the noble Duke would for many years to come rule the brethren in that county. (Cheers.)

The toast was honoured in a very enthusiastic manner.

His GRACE acknowledged the compliment, and expressed his gratitude to the noble lord for the many marks of affection and kindness which he had experienced at his hands. He said that he had always met with the greatest kindness in Nottingham—a town to which he was bound by many ties of affection and of mutual interest. (Cheers.) He expressed his thankfulness to the numerous brethren from other provinces, who had that day honoured them with their presence. As to his having, for a time, declined the honour, on the ground of his numerous engagements and avocations, he could only say that he ultimately felt it right to do everything that he could, consistently with his other duties, when solicited to undertake the task by his friends and neighbours. (Cheers.) One of the features of Freemasonry was its abstinence from all those exciting topics which usually formed the subject of public addresses in assemblages of Englishmen, and it was one of those characteristics of the Order to which no doubt a great deal of its permanence and popularity was due, and he was not on that occasion about to diverge from that admirable rule, but he would say that, in the present temper of the world, they must all wish that the principles of Freemasonry pervaded all sections of society—(loud cheers)—in order to pour oil on the troubled waters—(cheers)—to stay those serious and blood-stained events of which we so often deprecated the approach, and which we most earnestly hoped might never arrive. They were freed by their principles from all the animosities of diversity of creed, and divested of all national animosities. (Cheers.) They spoke as Freemasons, as loyal subjects, and as Englishmen, and they wished to see universally prevalent the refined feelings of charity, benevolence, and philanthropy. (Loud cheers.) The brethren might rely on his best efforts to promote the interests of the Order—(hear)—and he hoped that his endeavours would be seconded by those officers who had kindly undertaken to assist him. He felt it all the more desirable that he should do what he could, since so many of the landed proprietors of the county were prevented by age, or ill-health, from taking the part which they otherwise would take in public affairs. (Cheers.) He felt all the more encouraged by the fact that he was treated with so much forbearance and consideration by his

friends in the performance of the duties of that position to which he had been called by the favour of his Sovereign. But he would cut his observations short, as the time approached at which they would be called elsewhere to conduct the fair sex to a participation in their proceedings. (Cheers.)

Bro. T. CLOSE, Prov. G. Treas., expressed his gratification at the manner in which the ceremony of installation had been conducted, with the full splendour of which the Masonic art was capable. This was indeed a proud day for the Masons of this county, for they had secured a Prov. G.M. of rank and station, who was also endeared to them by his private worth and his personal character. The worthy brother here bore high testimony to the Masonic and personal character of Col. Wildman, the noble Duke's immediate predecessor, and referred to the beautiful and appropriate inscription on the monumental brasses which had been put up in the chapter-house of Newstead Abbey. He remarked in a very touching manner on the irreparable loss sustained by the widow of the gallant Colonel, and concluded by proposing that they should drink to the health of Mrs. Wildman, and of Lady Zetland; and that also, in solemn silence, they should drink to the pious memory of their deceased Prov. G.M.

This having been done, the noble Duke proposed, "The Health of the Prov. G.M.'s and D. Prov. G.M.'s present on the occasion," which was drunk with great enthusiasm, and acknowledged by

Capt. BOWYER, Prov. G.M. for Oxfordshire, who remarked with satisfaction that the noble Lord at the head of the Order, and the noble Duke who had just been elected to preside over the Masons in that Province, had both been initiated in the Order in the Province over which he had the honour to preside.

Bro. ELKINGTON, D. Prov. G.M., Birmingham, acknowledged the toast on the part of the D. Prov. G.M.'s, and apologised for the absence, from unavoidable circumstances, of the Prov. G.M. of his province, who he was sure regretted that illness prevented from participating in the pleasing duties, and partaking of the splendid hospitalities of that day. (Cheers.) He congratulated the Nottinghamshire brethren on the appointment of a Prov. G.M. so deservedly popular amongst them as the noble Duke. (Cheers.) It was clear that his Grace already reigned in their hearts, and that they hailed with satisfaction his appointment to rule over them as the representative of the G.M., or they would never have seen such a gathering as had done honour to the ceremonies of that day. (Cheers.) Another reason for the numerous attendance was the desire not only to pay respect to their Prov. G.M., but to testify to the M.W.G.M. the high regard and allegiance which they owed him—(loud cheers)—to mark their sense of the great discernment which his Lordship evinced in the appointment of the Prov. G.M.s in general, and of the appointment for that province in particular—(hear, hear)—as well as for the courteous and able manner in which he discharged his duties as the head and ruler of the Craft in this country. (Renewed cheers.) He congratulated the brethren on the very satisfactory manner in which everything had passed off. He excused himself from entering into any lengthened observations, on the ground that the time had now arrived when they must attend to the ladies; as the "Entered Apprentice's" song said:—

"What mortal can more the ladies adore
Than a free and an accepted Mason."

(Loud cheers.) He believed that if the ladies of Nottinghamshire appreciated Masonry at its true value, they might alter the song thus:—

"The ladies adore a man all the more
Who's a free and an accepted Mason."

(Great applause.)

Bro. PERCY, Deputy Prov. G.M. for the county, after eulogising the arrangements which had been made, said that the authorities of Nottingham deserved the highest credit for the spirit and liberality with which they had taken up this matter; and, after some appropriate observations, which were loudly applauded, he proposed "The Health of the Mayor, Corporation, and Magistrates."

The toast was drunk with great cordiality.

The MAYOR OF NOTTINGHAM (Bro. T. Cullen) returned thanks. He said he felt highly gratified both at the way in which this toast had been proposed, and also at the very flattering reception which it had met with at their hands. He was aware, however, that the compliments which had been made use of belonged, not to him personally, but to the office he had the honour to hold. Nottingham had twice done him the honour to elect him as its chief magistrate. (Applause.) The duties of his position were very onerous, but he had the gratification of stating that no man could experience a more kindly reception than that which he met with at the hands of those magistrates with whom he had the honour to associate. (Cheers.) He hoped they would ever be found vigilant supporters of that code of laws which he believed to be one great element of the safety of the community, and in fact, he might say, one of the bulwarks of the country. (Cheers.) Hoping that they would never

be found wanting in their duties, he would conclude by again thanking them for the toast.

The M. W. G. M. said,—Brethren, we have another toast to propose to you, which I am sure you will drink with great cordiality. It is that of the D. Prov. G. M. of Nottinghamshire. I have not long been acquainted with that worthy brother, but I understand that he was D. Prov. G. M. under your late respected and lamented G. M.; and I know that this day he has taken the greatest pains to make the proper arrangements for the ceremony which we have just witnessed, and I am quite sure that every one who has witnessed it must do him the justice to say that his arrangements were most effective in the management of the affair, that as D. Prov. G. M. the success of the proceedings of this day have reflected the highest credit upon him, and that he is deserving of our heartiest thanks. I therefore ask you to join with me in drinking his health.

The toast was drunk with enthusiasm and the usual honours.

Bro. PERCY, the D. Prov. G. M. for Nottinghamshire, acknowledged the toast, and said that he should belie his conscience if on the present occasion he were not to say that he felt a degree of pride which he had never in his life before experienced as a Mason. Having had his health proposed by the first Mason in the kingdom, the Grand Master of England, he had had conferred upon him an honour of which few Masons could boast. He had been a Mason a great number of years, and had always supported the Order to the best of his ability, and he must say that he felt great satisfaction on the present occasion to witness the installation of such a nobleman as the Duke of Newcastle as Prov. G. M. for the county of Nottingham, in the presence of so large a number of distinguished Masons from all parts of the kingdom. (Cheers.) For some time after the decease of the late lamented Prov. G. M. it was a matter of considerable anxiety to the Masons of this province as to who should be appointed in his stead. But upon the appointment of the noble Duke he was sure they must all look with the highest satisfaction. (Loud cheers.) In conclusion, he begged to thank the Most Worshipful the G. M. for the very complimentary manner in which he had proposed this toast, and the Brethren for the cordial reception they had given to it. (Applause.)

His Grace then proposed "The Visitors," coupled with "The Health of Bro. Crew, Secretary of the Royal Freemasons' Girls' School."

The toast having been drunk,

Bro. CREW returned thanks. He expressed the gratification he felt at the acceptance of an office of such responsibility by a nobleman occupying a position so distinguished as that which was held by the noble Duke. It was by appointments such as these that the status and reputation of Freemasonry was sustained, but it was not by kindly speeches and eloquent expressions that the real object of Masonry was to be upheld. It was by those active deeds of benevolence for which Masonry was distinguished that its practical utility was illustrated. Much as he valued Freemasonry in general, he valued it more for the good that it did, than for all the hospitalities of such an occasion as the present, and for all the beautiful addresses to which they had listened. One of the great objects of Freemasonry was to relieve the distresses of those of its members who had fallen into adversity. As a specimen of what they did in this respect, he might instance a grant which had been made at the last Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge, to the extent of £50, to the widow of a man who at the period at which he entered the Order—who, he might say, up to the time at which he was removed from our midst—had had no idea whatever that any member of his family would become a recipient of its bounty. The worthy brother concluded by a few words emphatically urging the claims of the Masonic charities; and was called upon by the noble Duke to favour the company with a song, which he gave in a very admirable manner. He was loudly encored, and favoured the company with another, which elicited an equal amount of enthusiasm.

The Tyler's toast was then given, and the brethren dispersed to reassemble in the ball-room.

THE BALL

was by far the most brilliant display of the kind that has been seen in Nottingham for several years. The company began to assemble about nine o'clock, and soon the hall was filled by a gay and fashionable throng, including the *élite* and beauty of the neighbourhood, the principal Freemasons of the town and county, as well as several members of the mystic body from distant places, a sprinkling of the Robin Hood Rifles, dressed in their Lincoln green, and several of the military, whose varied and magnificent uniforms added no little to the attractiveness of the scene.

For the comfort and convenience of the company, a temporary wooden porch was erected in front of the ordinary and main entrance to the hall, which was surmounted by an illumination in gas, representing the Crown and the letters "V. R.;" and, as the rain kept falling rather heavily during the evening, this proved of great

service in preserving from exposure to the weather the dresses of the company. The staircase was lined on each side with a splendid collection of chrysanthemums.

In compliance with the orders of the Town Council, the Exchange Hall was thoroughly cleaned and beautified for the occasion; and but for the limited extent of the rooms, nothing more could be required for the reception of such a magnificent company as that which assembled at the Exchange in the evening. The entrance staircase has been painted with an eye to durability, in plain colours, being used every day as a passage to the Police Court. Passing into the circular of the vestibule, we find it painted in three tints—white, gray, and pale drab, the circular vestibule ceiling being decorated round the cornices and centre with dark pink in the simple Greek pattern. We next come to the large suite of rooms, which we find to be finished in an excellent manner. The two smaller rooms are of the same uniform tints as the vestibule, the gray being separated from the light drab by a white line. Here the chandeliers and ornamented bosses have been regilded, and the latter are surrounded by appropriate ornaments in light blue on grounds of white. In the large hall the walls and ceilings have been entirely repainted, and the woodwork and pilasters cleaned and varnished. The walls and ceiling are painted in four tints, relieved by panels picked out in lines of gold, edged with chocolate, white insertion, and inner-lines of blue, the corners being an adaptation of the Greek honeysuckle pattern. The frieze and cove of ceiling, as well as plane panels, have also been decorated with patterns in various tints, to give a richer effect. The gilding of the ceiling has been entirely restored, but the capitals of the pillars and pilasters have been merely cleaned.

The ball dresses worn by the ladies were of the most elegant and *recherche* description—some of even dazzling splendour, whose general effect was considerably enhanced by a rich profusion of costly jewels. The colours predominating were white, pink, and blue, and occasionally rich black velvet, which set off to much advantage a brilliant array of gems and jewellery. The costumes were various in style and material, including moire antique, satin and silk, with lace over; whilst the younger ladies wore the lighter textures, consisting of gold and silver tissues, tulle, turlatan, gauze, &c., trimmed with flowers. The head-dresses worn were chiefly tiaras and coronets bedecked with jewels. The dresses were greatly admired. One of the fair dancers was attired in a white silk petticoat, with black velvet train, and a tiara of cut steel and white ostrich feathers—a dress at once conspicuous and unique. A prominent feature in the selection of the ball costume of the lady members of many of the leading county families deserves especial notice, as it will probably exercise a beneficial influence upon one of the staple products of the Midland metropolis. Nottingham manufactured lace and tulle were on this occasion generally worn, and added greatly to the effect of the otherwise rich material of which the ladies' robes were composed.

Among the dresses particularly striking and splendid we especially noticed the following, a brief description of which may prove interesting to our lady readers:—

The COUNTESS OF ZETLAND (who entered the ball-room shortly before ten o'clock, and left for her hotel about a quarter before eleven) was most magnificently attired. Her dress was of the richest black silk, with three narrow frilled flounces at the bottom; head-dress of white roses and two large diamond pins; diamond necklace and pendant; diamond star on the breast; diamond earrings and costly diamond bracelets. The Countess likewise wore a superb white Nottingham lace shawl, which was much admired.

Miss BARCLAY wore a slip of white silk and a dress of white tulle with gold stars; head-dress and bouquet of water lilies and ornaments of brilliants and diamonds.

Mrs. MANNERS SUTTON was attired in really splendid costume. Her petticoat was of white silk, the dress of white tulle, and berthe with trimmings of black velvet and black lace; head-dress of water-lilies and green leaves and diamonds; bouquet of green leaves and lilies; necklace of black beads with diamond clasp.

Miss BURNABY, of Newark, wore a petticoat of white silk, with a dress of white tulle and gold, and a bouquet and wreath of green leaves and lilies of the valley.

His GRACE the DUKE of NEWCASTLE was dressed in the uniform of Lord Lieutenant.

The Duke seemed to enjoy the affair thoroughly, and did not call for his carriage until about half-past one. It is due to the managers of the ball to say that everything was admirably arranged; the supper was plentiful, the wines were good, and there was no conceivable reason for complaint in any department. Mr. Mee, of the Assembly Rooms, supplied the supper.

It was hoped that the Prince of Wales would be present, but his Royal Highness found it impossible. The following letter was received by the Prov. Grand Secretary:—

"Windsor Castle, 19th Nov., 1860.

"Sir,—In reply to your letter of the 9th inst., conveying a com-

munication addressed to the Prince of Wales, I am directed to state that other engagements will prevent his Royal Highness from availing himself of the invitation of the Freemasons of Nottinghamshire to be present at a ball which they purpose to give in honour of the Duke of Newcastle.

"I have the honour to be, sir, your obedient servant,
"R. BRUCE, Major-General.

"R. Allen, Esq., Nottingham."

The High Sheriff of Nottinghamshire (Edward V. Pegge Burnell, Esq.), we understand, was prevented from attending the Masonic banquet and ball owing to the recent demise of his uncle.

The Marquis of Hastings was unavoidably absent, we believe, through an engagement with his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales.

SOMERSETSHIRE.

HIGHBRIDGE, BURNHAM.—*Rural Philanthropic Lodge* (No. 367).—A lodge of emergency was held at the Masonic Room, Railway Hotel, Highbridge, on Friday, November 30th, 1860, for the purpose of passing Bro. W. J. E. Poole, who is shortly going abroad, and is anxious to take his third degree before leaving. Bros. Poole and Whitney having been examined, and found duly qualified, were passed to the degree of Fellow Craft. Bros. Poole and Whitney having retired, Bro. Spink was examined, and raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned for refreshment, after which the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and heartily responded to. A collection was made for the Benevolent Fund, and the evening spent in a very agreeable manner.

SUSSEX.

BRIGHTON.—*Royal York Lodge* (No. 394).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Old Ship Hotel, on Tuesday, the 4th inst., under the presidency of the W.M., Bro. Freeman, upon which occasion Mr. O. Webster was initiated into the mysteries of Freemasonry, and Bro. W. Corder raised to the sublime degree of M.M. An almoner was appointed on behalf of the lodge. [We presume this is in consequence of a previous communication in our journal from "Progress."—Ed. F. M.]

CHICHESTER.—*Lodge of Union* (No. 45).—The brethren of this lodge met at the Council Chamber, Chichester, on the 6th inst. Present,—Bros. Elliott, W.M.; Cottell, S.W.; Collins, J.W.; Smith, Treasurer; Holmes, Secretary; Adams, J.D.; Bond, I.G.; Benford, Tyler; Bros. Past Masters Molesworth, Powell, jun., Gambling, and Powell, sen.; Bros. Jones, Kitson, Purchase, and Wonham; Visitors, Bros. Mercer, 372; and Sharpe, 428. The lodge being opened in the first degree, and the minutes of the last lodge meeting having been confirmed, Mr. William Liall Ferrier, who had been accepted as a candidate, was admitted and duly initiated into Freemasonry. The S.W. explained the working-tools, and Bro. Molesworth, P.M., gave the charge in this degree. The brethren then proceeded to the election of a W.M. for the ensuing year, the result being that Bro. W. H. Cottell, S.W., was declared to be unanimously elected to fill that office.—Bro. Molesworth, P.M., proposed, Bro. Powell, P.M., jun., seconded, and it was duly and unanimously voted, "That the hearty thanks of this lodge be given to Bro. Robert Elliott, W.M. of No. 45, for the kindness, courtesy, and impartiality he has evinced towards its members in the discharge of his duties as W.M. for the past year."—The W.M., in replying, said he felt much gratified by the compliment paid him; he feared he had but inadequately filled the chair. He begged to express his cordial thanks to the officers of the lodge for their able assistance and constant attendance, and only hoped that his successor would have as pleasant a year of office as he had had.—The W.M. elect assured the brethren that he heartily, sincerely, and gratefully felt the honour they had conferred on him. It would be his endeavour, as far as his ability would enable him, to perform the duties of his high office in a manner worthy of such a position. His best energies should be devoted to the lodge, and he hoped he may be blessed with health and strength to carry out his intentions.—The usual annual donations to distressed brothers formerly belonging to the lodge, and to the widows of others, having been voted, the lodge was closed in harmony. The installation of the W.M. elect takes place on the 3rd of January next.

COLONIAL.

GIBRALTAR.

INHABITANT'S LODGE (No. 178).—A meeting of this lodge took place on Tuesday, 20th November, when the W.M. Bro. Gorham being absent from indisposition, Bro. Irwin, P.M., presided, sup-

ported by Bros. Jackman, S.W., and Wilkinson, J.W. Several P.M.'s, members of this lodge, and between forty and fifty of the brethren, were present. Bro. Marsland, of the Albany Lodge, No. 176, Newport, Isle of Wight, was unanimously elected a joining member. Bros. Pahner, Hemphill, and Kempson were passed to the second degree, and Messrs. Belling and Travo duly initiated, the ceremonies being performed in Bro. Irwin's well-known efficient manner. The expediency of having a Masonic Hall at the approaching festive season was discussed; but the final decision was postponed until a future meeting. The meeting broke up at an early hour.

LODGE OF FRIENDSHIP (No. 345).—This lodge held a meeting on Tuesday, 27th November, Bro. Swain, W.M., in the chair. The proceedings of a former meeting having been confirmed, the lodge proceeded to ballot for the admission of Herr Moritz Relle, bandmaster in Her Majesty's 25th Regiment (K.O.B.), who was unanimously elected. Bro. Thompson was then passed to the second degree. After which the W.M. requested Bro. Ingram, P.M., to take the chair for a time; and the following brethren having consented to fill the several offices temporarily, the ceremony of initiating Herr Relle was performed in German, viz.:—Bros. Capt. Black, S.W.; Wortmann, J.W.; Viesohn, Mas. Cer.; Crooks, S.D.; Lieut. Prior, J.D., &c. On the completion of this interesting ceremony, Bro. Relle expressed his great gratification at being admitted by means of his mother-tongue.—Bro. Ingram, before resigning the gavel into Bro. Swain's hands once more, begged to thank Bros. Black and Wortmann, as also the other brethren who had assisted him in giving the degree. To Bros. Wortmann and Viesohn, not only his thanks, but those of the lodge, were due; to the former, for the great interest he had shown in the welfare of this lodge, and the Craft in Gibraltar—to the latter for the kind way in which he had visited the lodge for the purpose of enabling it to initiate Bro. Relle. Bro. Swain, W.M., having resumed the chair, informed the brethren that Bro. Wortmann being precluded by the laws of his own lodge from becoming a subscribing member, had made a very handsome donation to the charity fund of the lodge; he therefore proposed that a vote of thanks to Bro. W. Wortmann for his liberality and services be recorded on the minutes carried by acclamation.—Bro. Ingram had much pleasure in informing the brethren that in a recent number of a German Masonic periodical—*Die Bauhütte*—he had been openly requested to express to the Masons of Gibraltar sentiments of fraternal regard and esteem from their brethren in Germany.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

PRINCE ALFRED AND THE FREEMASONS.

On the 18th September, Prince Alfred, assisted by the Freemasons of the Colony, laid the foundation stone of the New Sailors' Home at Cape Town. The design of the new building consists of a frontage, including two wings, in all 125 ft. long, and each wing 50 ft. on the return. There will be a capacious cellarage, which is calculated to produce a good rental; and the ground floor is disposed thus: First, along the main front, there is the dining and day-room, a spacious apartment 67 ft. long by 24 ft. wide. Behind it, and in the recess formed by the wings, is the kitchen, with offices and ample yards in the rear. An opening in the dining-room wall, next the kitchen, affords facility for introducing the joints of fresh meat smoking-hot, and the dining-room will accommodate comfortably and easily at least 150 people. In front is a verandah and spacious stoep or terrace, that agreeable adjunct to old Dutch houses, so suitable to this climate, in which people should be out of doors as much as possible. The ground floor of the western wing is to contain the offices of the shipping master of the port—Captain Thomas Tinley, a good friend to the Home, and to the sailors too. On the same floor, also, is the officer's mess-room, for the Home contemplates moderate and comfortable provision for mates and others, and for captains too, if so disposed; but the petty officers will probably most favour it. The eastern wing contains the superintendent's apartments and his business-room. Beneath is a store-room for seamen's baggage. And having got thus far we must now go upstairs. There are two stories, first and second. The two principal dormitories along the front corresponding to the dining-room beneath, each contain twenty-six apartments, 9 ft. 6 in. by 5 ft. Each wing contains twelve similar on each story, so that there are one hundred in all. The cubical space allots nearly one thousand feet of air to each man. The windows are admirably arranged from end to end, and right across, so that the ventilation is perfect and complete. The compartments in the western wing are arranged differently, and somewhat larger, for the use of the petty officers and masters as before named; and there is, of course, separate access to them.

The weather appears to have been most unpropitious, but there was a large attendance of spectators, including, of course, a goodly proportion of ladies.

The brethren assembled at the Lodge "Goede Hoop," at eleven o'clock, a.m., when the lodge was opened in due form, and a procession arranged as follows:

Marshal on horseback (Bro. Bussell).
Band of H.M.'s 59th Regiment.
Tylers of Lodges.
Stewards with Banners.
Banners.
Entered Apprentices.
Banners.
Fellow Crafts.
Banners.
Master Masons.
Banners.
Knights Elu.
Banners.
Royal Arch and Scotch Masters.
Banners.
Prince Rose Croix.
Banners.
Principals of Chapters.
Banners of Chapters.
Band Cape Royal Rifles.
Stewards with Wands.

The Architect, Bro. Welchman, bearing the Plan of the Building.
The Constitutions of the Lodges the Goede Hoop, Goede Trouw, British, and Southern Cross, borne by their Senior Wardens,
Bro. Pearce, Bro. Serrurier, Bro. Eckard, Bro. le Sueur.
The Bible, borne by Bro. J. H. Brand, Orator of the Lodge.
Goede Hoop.
The Box with the Coins and Inscription, borne by Bro. Russell, P.M.
The Trowel and Mallet, borne by Bro. J. B. Nisbet, S. M.
Vase containing Wine, borne by Bro. Wheelwright, D.M.
Cornucopia, borne by Bro. Ekermans, D.M.
Vase containing Oil, borne by Bro. King, P.M.
Stewards.
Banners of Lodges.
Masters of Lodges, namely:
Bro. J. S. Rowe, W.M. British Lodge. Bro. V. de C. de Villiers, W.M. Goede Trouw Lodge.
Bro. J. W. Herman, W.M. Goede Hoop Lodge. Bro. J. Saunders, W.M. Southern Cross Lodge.
Bro. Sir C. J. Brand, Kt., R.W. Deputy Grand Master National of the Netherlands.
Banners.
Inner Guards.

The Procession entered at the back entrance of the Gardens, and halted in front of Government-house, where it was joined by his Royal Highness Prince Alfred, his Excellency the Governor, Sir George Grey, K.C.B., his Excellency Lieut.-General Wynyard, C.B., Commander of the Forces, and their respective suites, escorted by the Cape Town Cavalry, and proceeded down Adderley-street, thence by the Central Causeway to the site of the proposed building.

On arriving at the barriers, the procession opened up to the right and left. The Prince, the Governor, the Lieut.-General, followed by the Deputy Grand Master, Netherlands, the Masters of the four Lodges, and the Masters bearing the elements of consecration, the trowel, the coins, &c., and the architect, with the plan of the building, passed up the centre and took their position within the inner barrier, joined by the Committee of the Sailors' Home, the other brethren taking up their position as indicated.

The ceremony commenced by the choir singing the English National Anthem.

The Rev. Geo. Morgan, a member of the Committee of the Home, offered up an appropriate prayer.

At the conclusion of the prayer, the Deputy Grand Master, Netherlands, called the brethren to order. He then received from Bro. Russell the box with coins and the inscription, and handed it to his Royal Highness, who deposited it in the cavity of the stone.

The W.M. of the Southern Cross Lodge next presented to the Prince the trowel, when, taking some cement from the hod, borne by an Entered Apprentice (Bro. Kleynberg, of the Goede Trouw Lodge), he spread it on the stone around the cavity, upon which the choir sang the anthem and chorals, "When earth's foundations," &c.

While this was being sung, the stone was slowly lowered, three distinct stops being made in bringing it down.

The W.M. of the Goede Hoop Lodge presented the Prince the square, saying,—

"It is to adjust all irregular corners of buildings, and assist in bringing rude matter into due form."

The W.M. of the Goede Trouw Lodge presented the level saying:—

"It is to try levels and prove horizontals."

The W.M. of the British Lodge presented the plumb, saying:—

"It is to try and fix all uprights, when placed upon their proper basis."

The W.M. of the Southern Cross then handed to the Prince the mallet, and desired him to knock three times on the stone, after which the Prince said:—"I DECLARE THIS STONE TO BE WELL FORMED AND TRULY LAID," and replaced the trowel on the cushion. Three hearty cheers having been given, the choir sang "To Heaven's High Architect."

During the music, the Cornucopia and the vases with the wine and oil were delivered to the W.M. of the Goede Hoop, Trouw, and British Lodges, and at its conclusion the W.M. of the Goede Hoop Lodge poured the corn upon the stone, and said:—

"In the name of the G. A. O. T. U., I dedicate this building to Brotherly Love."

The W.M. of the Goede Trouw poured the wine on the stone, and said:—

"In the name of the G. A. O. T. U., I dedicate this building to Relief."

The W.M. of the British Lodge poured the oil on the stone, and said:—

"In the name of the G. A. O. T. U., I dedicate this building to Truth."

The Deputy Grand Master, Netherlands, then said:—

"May the all-bounteous Author of Nature bless the inhabitants of this place with all the necessaries, conveniences, and comforts of life, assist in the erection of this building, protect the workmen against every accident, and long preserve this structure from decay, and grant us all a supply of the Corn of Nourishment, the Wine of Refreshment, and the Oil of Joy."—So MORE IT BE.

Responses to prayer:

Glory be to God on high—(bis).

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be.—Amen!

The four W. Masters each knocked three times on the stone, upon which the Deputy Grand Master, Netherlands, said:—

"May the G. A. O. T. U. look down with benignity upon our present undertaking, and crown this edifice, of which we have now laid the foundation, with every success."

The Choir having sung the Masonic Anthem, "Hail! Masonry Divine,"

Bro. BRAND (the Speaker of the House of Assembly), Deputy Grand Master of the Netherlands, advanced with the trowel, and, addressing the Prince, said,—May it please your Royal Highness, I am charged with the performance of a most pleasing duty—that is, to hand over to your Royal Highness the instrument with which you have laid the foundation of this building, which will serve as a lasting memento of your visit. Of all the works to which your Royal Highness has lent a helping hand, this surely is one that has been the most pleasing to you, as it is to be an asylum for persons belonging to the profession to which your Royal Highness—to the glory of your mother country—will become such an honour. On your arrival, I had the pleasing duty, on the part of my brethren, of wishing you welcome. We now tender to your Royal Highness this assurance of our attachment to your beloved and august mother, and the kindly feelings which we have towards your Royal Highness personally. We invoke the blessing of the Almighty on your Royal Highness's speedy arrival amongst the bosom of your family, to receive the embraces of your father and mother, brothers and sisters. We pray, also, that the Lord will watch over your Royal Highness's future life. These prayers we heartily express, and the colonists generally respond. And while expressing these feelings, we beg your Royal Highness to accept this emblem of your labours to-day.

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS took the trowel, and, through his Excellency, Sir G. Grey, thanked Bro. Brand, and intimated that he accepted the gift with pleasure.

The Hon. JOHN STEIN then advanced to the dais, and addressed the Prince as follows,—In the name of the subscribers to this work I am deputed to thank your Royal Highness for the kind manner in which you have this day lent your assistance in its inauguration. Not only has your Royal Highness done us much service in aiding here to-day at the laying of the foundation-stone, but you have also contributed most liberally towards the erection of the building. And with their thanks for your kind assistance, I beg to present your Royal Highness with a copy of the inscription which has been deposited under the stone.

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS accepted the document, and briefly thanked Bro. Stein.

The Rev. Bro. THOMPSON, the superintendent of the London Missionary Society, a good man and a zealous friend of the institution, spoke the prayer of benediction, and the ceremony was ended. During its progress and at the time of the descent of the stone into

its place the Cape Town Volunteer Artillery, under the command of Chevalier Duprat, fired the appropriate salute.—Abridged from the *Cape Argus*.

ROYAL ARCH.

BRITISH CHAPTER (No. 8).—This chapter met at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Friday, Dec. 7th. It being the night of election, the following companions were selected to fill the several offices of the chapter, namely, Comps. Baxter, M.E.Z.; Warrington, H.; Meynott, J.; Tepper, S. E.; Freeman, N., and Grissell, P. S. Comp. Stohwasser was re-elected Treasurer. A Past Principal's jewel, of the value of five guineas, was unanimously voted to Comp. Cottrell, for the able manner in which he discharged the duties of First Principal during the last year.

SOUTHAMPTON.—Royal Gloucester Chapter (No. 152).—On Thursday, December 6th, Comp. J. Rankin Stebbing was installed 1st Principal for the tenth time, and Comp. William Page 2nd Principal; the 3rd Principal, Comp. George Lungley, W.M. 555, being absent from England, was not installed.

Chapter of Concord (No. 555).—On the same day the Principals for the ensuing year were regularly installed by Comp. J. Rankin Stebbing, P.Z.; viz., Comps. D. G. Douglas, Z.; Fred. Perkins, ex-Mayor of Southampton, H.; and Thomas P. Payne, W.M. 152, J.

Obituary.

BRO. WILLIAM WALKLEY.

It is with sincere regret we have this week to record the death of a very old and much esteemed Mason—Bro. William Walkley—who departed this life on the 6th inst., at Light Pitt, in Gloucestershire, whence he had gone from London between three or four months since, in the hope of recruiting his health, which had been for some time failing; it, however, pleased the G. A. O. T. U. to remove him from the working Lodge of Life, and we trust he has gone to that Grand Lodge above, whence all goodness emanates. Our late brother was initiated into Masonry in the year 1827 by Bro. Peter Gilkes (Bro. David Wale being the actual Master) into the St. Luke's Lodge (No. 168), meeting at Chelsea. He afterwards retired from any active part in the Craft, but in 1838 became a joining member of his mother lodge, and served the office of W.M. He was also a P.M. of the Rural Philanthropic Lodge (No. 367), meeting at Highbridge, Somerset, and known as one of the best lodges in that province. He had, in his time, belonged to no less than twenty-six Lodges of Instruction, ever ready to impart that knowledge of Freemasonry—of which he possessed such a bountiful store—to those of his brethren who desired it. His loss is painfully felt by his friends and family, and will be much regretted by a large circle of Masonic friends.

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.

A new opera, by Balfe, has been produced with complete success. More than half a century ago, "Rugantino; or, the Bravo of Venice," founded upon Mr. G. Lewis's romance of the same name, itself derived from a German source, was a popular melodrama, and, although almost unknown to our modern generation of play-goers since, it has not, we believe, been performed in any theatre of repute for upwards of twenty years, had in it many elements of dramatic success. Upon this drama, or tale, or both, the libretto of "Bianca; or, the Bravo's Bride," is based, and it cannot be denied that the story has numerous requisites for a good opera. In the first place, it is full of striking incident, and in the second it tells itself almost in action, so that when the situations are musically worked up, and in consequence the words are not readily understood, the eye of the spectator is able to follow the action without interruption; and great care has been taken by Mr. Palgrave Simpson, the author of the words, in bringing forward those portions of the story which are best adapted to musical treatment, and, to borrow a term from a sister art, in drawing as it were a broad bold outline of the plot, whilst the composer has thoroughly adapted himself to the melodramatic character of the story—a striking instance of which is the skill with which he has adapted the ballad which introduces the bravo to a very pretty and ear-catching melody, which is repeated whenever the bravo enters or is even alluded to by any of the *dramatis personæ*. Mr. Balfe has evidently taken great pains with his work, especially with the instrumentation, which is elaborate and full of character and ex-

pression, perhaps less so in the everture, although that was *encored*, than in the accompaniments generally and in the numerous instrumental passages that are scattered throughout the opera. Mr. Balfe's manner is eminently flowing, and in the invention of pleasing melody he has never been more happy or more prolific than in "Bianca," which abounds with charming phrases in the airs, concerted pieces, and accompaniments. The music of the part of the heroine is extremely well suited to Miss Louisa Pyne, whose clear, fine voice, pure and brilliant style, and marvellous execution, are all effectively displayed. Mr. W. Harrison is seen to great advantage as the bravo; his demeanour throughout is in thorough keeping, and his manly and characteristic delivery of the recitative is full of dramatic power; he looked and acted the part capitally. Miss Thirlwall deserves a word of praise for her efforts in the little part of *Zefferina*, as does Mr. St. Albyn for his in *Beppo*. Mr. Wharton's *Malespina* is a great advance upon what he has done before, and he impressed the audience most favourably by his execution of the important music allotted to him. Mr. Alberto Lawrence has a splendid voice, and is learning how to use it, and he may be assured that the rare quality of the organ he possesses deserves all the care he can bestow upon its cultivation. The lesser parts were all satisfactorily filled, and the chorus was everything that could be desired. The orchestra, under Mr. Mellon's direction, did full justice to the instrumentation of the opera, and contributed not a little to the completeness of the general effect. Some beautiful scenery is exhibited, the dresses are magnificent, and the stage arrangements altogether most effective.

PRINCESS'S.

A new version of that popular drama, "The Corsican Brothers," was produced at this theatre on Saturday evening, for the purpose of introducing Mr. Fechter in a fresh character—at least one, his personation of which is new to the London public, although familiar to Parisian play-goers, with whom it achieved almost unparalleled popularity. The new version of "The Corsican Brothers," which, although not the original, is understood to be the one best accepted by the Parisian public, differs only in arrangement from that with which the audience at the Princess's are so familiar. The incidents and characters are the same, only the drama is in four instead of three acts, and the scenes in Paris precede instead of follow the scene which takes place in Corsica. The difference is so immaterial, that, except that Mr. Fechter now represents the two heroes, and that Miss Murray has resumed her old part of Madame de Lesparre, the cast is nearly the same as that of last season. Mr. A. Harris is still *Chateau Renaud*, and the minor characters are distributed pretty much in the same manner. The performance of Mr. Fechter is one that demands the direct attention of every admirer of true acting; it is not possible to award too much praise to the finish and the intelligence of his personation. Mr. Fechter's narrativerof the mystery of his family was admirable, and worked up as it proceeded with the most intense energy of expression; and his management of the reconciliation between the hostile peasants was full of subtle touches of character, and clear though slight indications of individuality. At the close of this scene, where the spirit of the brother appears, Mr. Fechter's solemnity of manner was truly impressive and in the highest degree imaginative. In the concluding scene of the duel, again, the fixed determination and the strong desire for vengeance were finely marked. Such a combination of thorough conception of character, with perfect ease, energy, and finish as Mr. Fechter's personation of the "Corsican Brothers" presents there is at present no other instance of upon our stage.

LYCEUM.

That an actor who has achieved a success in an Irish character of low life should fail to appear in what is sometimes called "a genteel part," would appear like a dereliction of duty to the public or a disinclination to subject his powers to the usual test of varied application. Thus Mr. John Drew, whose personation of *Handy Andy* we have so recently expressed an opinion of, undertook last night the part of *Sir Patrick O'Plenipo* in that popular comedietta "The Irish Ambassador"—a part so essentially different from the blundering servant of Lover's novel, that its assumption becomes almost like that of entirely a new line of character; it is a change from the kitchen to the court, from the broadest of low comedy to a *finesse* of manner that copes with diplomats and princes. Still the position in which *Sir Patrick* is placed by the dramatist in this piece affords great scope for those specialities which are universally attached to our ideas of Irishmen, at all events as they appear on the stage. A deportment altogether different, and a brogue a little less rich, are required, but easy assurance, and a constant tendency to blunders, with a happy knack of escaping their consequences, are common to both, and the actor

who succeeds in the one is almost sure to win the suffrages of his audience in the other style of parts. Mr. Drew was equally at home in the mimic German court as he was amongst squireens and attorneys; and the same humour which carried him through *Handy Andy* availed in *Sir Patrick O'Plenipo*. His puzzled demeanour, and his cool acceptance of the position that is forced upon him, with his ludicrous attempts at explanation, constantly excited the mirth of his audience in no trifling degree; and although he is perhaps not altogether so well fitted for those Irish characters which partake of the manner of high comedy as for those of low life, his success was unequivocal, as was shown by the unanimous call for him which followed the fall of the curtain.

THE WEEK.

THE COURT.—Another Royal marriage is arranged, that of the Princess Alice with Prince Louis of Hesse Darmstadt, which is shortly to be solemnised in London. The father of Prince Louis is brother and heir presumptive to the present Grand Duke, who has no children.—Her Majesty, accompanied by the Prince Consort, and several members of the Royal family, arrived in town on Monday morning, and proceeded to take a private view of the Smithfield Club Cattle Show, at the Bazaar, King-street. The Royal party remained for a considerable time, bestowing a large share of attention on the mechanical department of the exhibition, and appeared well satisfied with the result of their inspection. After leaving the bazaar, her Majesty and the Prince Consort visited the Empress Eugenie at Claridge's Hotel.—Oxford was on Wednesday honoured with a Royal visit. The Queen, Prince Consort, Prince Alfred, Princess Alice, Prince Louis of Hesse, travelled by special train from Windsor to Oxford in the forenoon, viewed the lions of the place, took luncheon with the Prince of Wales at his residence, Frewin Hall, and returned to Windsor Castle about five o'clock. The Vice Chancellor and the Dean of Christchurch were invited to meet her Majesty at luncheon.—Yesterday (Friday), the "Babes in the Wood" was performed at the Castle by the Haymarket company.

GENERAL HOME NEWS.—It is gratifying to state, on the authority of the Registrar-General, that the health of the metropolis is better at present than it usually has been at this season of the year. A good deal of sickness there is, no doubt; but the mortality, nevertheless, falls below the average. In the week ending Saturday the total number of deaths was 1240; that is, 35 below the week preceding, and 129 below the average of the last ten years. Of births there were registered 1814—923 boys and 891 girls.—Numerous communications have been addressed to the Lord Mayor on the desirability of observing the Monday preceding Christmas-day as a holiday, as well as Christmas-day itself. Few as our stated holidays are, and limited as are the opportunities of those engaged in business, of practising the minor virtues of social intercourse, this would be no great piece of commercial extravagance; and it is to be hoped that his lordship's publicly-expressed concurrence with the suggestion will have some effect in aiding to bring it about.—The half-yearly meeting of the Royal Agricultural Society of England was held on Wednesday at the rooms, Hanover-square, under the presidency of the Earl of Powis. Reference was made in a feeling manner to the loss the society had sustained in the death of the Duke of Richmond, one of the trustees, and three times elected to the office of president. The Duke of Marlborough fills the vacancy in the trusteeship, and Mr. Owen Wallis, of Overstone Grange, that in the council caused by the resignation of Lord Southampton. At present there is a total of 4942 members in the society, the funded capital being £12,000 stock, showing a state of matters highly satisfactory. It is expected that the selection of Leeds for the show of 1861 will prove a financial success.—The Cattle Show at the Bazaar, Baker-street, has proved the focus of attraction during the last three days to an immense crowd of visitors that flocked in from every quarter—some to gratify a natural taste in witnessing the effects of training and feeding on the domestic animal, some to follow a fashion, but all, in the result, to experience unbounded admiration in the noble and symmetrical proportions of the bovine specimens, and feelings of a mixed character on view of the porcine monstrosities wallowing in their fat.—At the Durham assizes on Saturday Milner Lockey, a coal-miner, was arraigned before Mr. Justice Keating for the murder of Thomas Harrison, on the 29th of September last. Harrison was "put in possession," as bailiff of Urpeth Mill, about nine miles from Durham, and lodged with the wife of the prisoner, who had been living apart from her husband for some time previous. On the night of the murder Lockey entered the cottage of his wife, which was in a lonely situation, and

attacked her with a knife, wounding her seriously. The deceased called out to the assassin, who then turned upon him, and stabbed him in the breast, from which wound he died. The jury found the prisoner guilty, and sentence of death was passed upon him.—A case was tried on Monday in the Court of Queen's Bench, arising out of the accident that occurred in May last at King's-cross, owing to the guard, who was intoxicated and asleep, not putting on the break, by which neglect the train ran right through the station into the street, and many of the passengers were seriously injured, among whom was the plaintiff, Mr. Williams, a flour factor at Manchester. The only question in dispute was the amount of compensation, which the jury fixed at £1200.—A somewhat singular case of forgery has been tried at the Maidstone assizes before Mr. Justice Byles. The prisoner, whose name was Alfred Cullen, desirous of getting an appointment in the county police, produced, according to requirement, a certificate of good character signed by respectable householders. One of these signatures turned out to be a forgery; but the tradesman whose name was so forged said, had he been applied to, knowing the young man to be of good character, he should have had no hesitation in signing the document. Under the circumstances the jury returned a verdict of Not Guilty.—On Saturday night, an order reached Newgate, from the Home Office, directing that the sentence of death passed upon Anne Padfield should not be carried into effect at present. In all probability, although a decision has not yet been come to on the matter, the capital sentence will be commuted into one of penal servitude for life.—The directors of the Crystal Palace Company have prepared their report, to be submitted to the meeting of proprietors on Wednesday next. Altogether affairs wear a more hopeful aspect than hitherto, and justify the expression of satisfaction with which the directors invite the shareholders to inspect the figures. The income from all sources for the year was £120,669; expenditure, £72,261; leaving a balance on the right side of £48,408, which, with the reserve from the previous year, admits of a dividend of 2 per cent. on the ordinary stock. A considerable increase in the number of visitors is shown, the total being 1,531,951. In anticipation of the exhibition of 1862, the directors have it in view to hold a musical festival on the most magnificent scale, and purpose making arrangements with the Sacred Harmonic Society for that purpose. Reference is made to the projected connection of the Palace with Farringdon-street, which would prove of immense benefit to the company. The receipts for season-tickets and half-season tickets is set down at £12,374; for Mendelssohn Festival, Orphéonist Festival, and other concerts, £11,505; for special concerts and fêtes, £11,194; refreshment contracts, £15,058.—A grand fancy bazaar is to be held on Wednesday and Thursday next in aid of that most valuable institution, the Metropolitan Free Hospital, Devonshire-square. The institution is at present much in need of assistance.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.—Count Persigny has inaugurated his entry on the functions of Minister of the Interior by a circular to the various prefects, in which he draws attention to the Emperor's decree of the 24th November, which he describes as an act of great generosity, and intended to prepare the country for the peaceful exercise of liberties whose development the popular throne of the Napoleons is bound to protect.—Some relaxation of the restrictions on the French press is to be effected, not by a direct change in the law, but by its more liberal administration by Count Persigny. In a circular addressed to the prefects, the Count examines the English laws, and points out that while the English press enjoys great liberty in discussing all acts of Government, yet the law is severe against all attacks on the Crown and State. He says: "Let abuses in society or Government be disclosed; let the acts of the Administration be discussed, and injustice be revealed; but should parties endeavour to overthrow the state and dynasty, the law will not permit discussion, and the system of warnings will then be enforced." The Minister concludes thus:—"I declare that, although disposed not to flinch before any responsibility in prohibiting attacks by the press against the state, on the other side I shall not consult any private considerations in the resolutions which I shall take to encourage the habit of free discussion in France." All past warnings have been cancelled.—Francis II. of Naples has made another protest to the European Powers. It is addressed to his representatives at the various Courts, and signed by M. Casella, his Foreign Minister. In this document M. Casella traces the rapid progress of the revolution in the kingdom of the Two Sicilies, and while admitting that the army was demoralised by pernicious doctrines, and that treason had penetrated even to the court and council, contends that the King would have achieved a triumphant return to his capital, had not a "perjured and disloyal sovereign" intervened to prevent it. At the present moment, as the resistance of the fortresses of Gaeta and Messina necessarily depends on a thousand circumstances, it is not probable, says the Minister, that this defence will be as prolonged as the sovereigns of Europe seem to wish. And

when the fatal and inevitable hour of surrender has come, the King, in the midst of the tears of his faithful followers, will descend from his throne, and will reflect with a just and noble pride that he has not failed to discharge any one of his duties. After a little advice and warning as to the consequences of their conduct in forsaking him, the Ministers are requested to demand formally of the respective courts their intentions relative to the last and imminent crisis of the Neapolitan monarchy.—The siege of Gaeta proceeds. The fortress is well defended by the Royalist troops, who briskly reply to the fire of the Piedmontese, and have inflicted much loss on them. Hitherto the Piedmontese have only used 27 guns, and, judging from the destruction they have effected, large results are expected when General Cialdini opens his whole battery, amounting to 107 guns.—The reactionary movements of the Neapolitan Royalists have again broken out in Caserta, Aversa, and Sorà. In each place the movement has been crushed, and public order restored. The most serious affair was that of Caserta, where many of the inhabitants joined the Royalist agents in a demonstration for Francis II. A counter manifestation was the immediate result, and the Garibaldian army rushing to the spot soon crushed the insurrection, which ended in the ringleaders being shot, and a hundred malcontents arrested. Naples also has been the scene of a riot attendant on the arrival of the Cardinal Archbishop, against whom a manifestation took place, the mob besieging the palace and attempting to fire it, and the rioters were only ultimately appeased by the archbishop appearing on the balcony, holding the Italian tri-colour flag. Victor Emmanuel fortunately returned to Naples on the 7th, and it is hoped his presence will tend to abate the strifes of parties and strengthen the hands of his Government.—The last accounts from Rome represent the Papal party as much discouraged, and that M. Merode was occupied with the formation of a new army. A band of volunteers, under Colonel Mari, had invaded Orano. General Goyon was expecting orders to occupy Orvieto. The Pope has surely little need of an army, and might economise his resources by dispensing with one, when his territories and person are so well looked after by the French.—At a Council of Ministers held at Vienna a few days ago, the programme drawn up by Baron SCHMERLING for the interior development of Austria was agreed to, and the Baron has entered the Cabinet.—The state of affairs in Hungary daily becomes more alarming. Throughout the country the agitation for the restoration of the laws of 1848 is increasing, and demonstrations with that object too frequently end in disturbances leading to conflicts between the military and the people. Such a scene lately occurred at Debreczin, and we now hear of another at Waitzen, in which numbers were wounded on both sides. Unless the Austrian Government succeed shortly in overcoming these revolutionary movements there seems no alternative but to grant all that is demanded, or to prepare to face an open rebellion.—The congregation of the comitat of Pesth met on Monday, when Counts Karolyi and Nyari spoke in favour of the establishment of the laws of 1848. The city was illuminated on the occasion, but public order was not disturbed.—The Spanish Government, in imitation of the great naval powers, is looking to her naval efficiency, and has given orders for the construction of two large frigates, one of which is to be iron-plated.—The life of General O'Donnell has been attempted by a despicable assassin. As the gallant general was leaving the Senate he was wounded in the left shoulder by a pistol shot. The assassin, named Imaz, was immediately arrested.—The German Duchies question is again occupying the attention of the German Governments. The Danish Government has, as is known, broken the condition imposed on it by the Diet, by putting in force the budget for 1860-61 without submitting it to the States of Holstein and Lauenburg. This proceeding has given great umbrage, especially to Prussia, and it is said that that power has come to an understanding with Austria to take energetic measures against Denmark, and it is expected that at the sitting of the Diet all the other Governments of Germany will support the views of Austria and Prussia.—As was predicted from the beginning, the French are unwilling to loose the hold they have of Syria. The French Ambassador is urging on the Sultan the necessity of the extension of the French occupation, and an agitation is being got up by French agents amongst the Christians of Damascus and Beyrout to back him in his demand. The Porte, however, refuses to accede to the request, and though the other ambassadors are said to be apparently neutral, there can, we think, be little doubt the Sultan is assured of their support.—A curious murder has taken place in France. It appears that M. Poincot, one of the French judges, was travelling by railway from Mulhausen to Paris, and on the arrival of the train at the latter city he was discovered in one of the carriages stabbed to the heart, and robbed of his watch and purse. The murderer, who is supposed to have got out at some station near Paris, has not been discovered.

CHINA.—Telegraphic advices from China state that Peking surrendered to the allies on the 13th October, yielding to all demands. As the Emperor and the Tartar army had fled, we suppose that the surrender and the concessions were made by the civic authorities.

Mr. Parkes and Mr. Loch, L'Escayrac and thirteen soldiers had been released; but, says the telegram, there is little hope of the return of Captain Brabazon, Mr. Boulby, or the missing French officers. Captain Anderson and Mr. De Norman have died from effects of ill-treatment. The Emperor's summer palace had been taken and sacked, affording immense spoil. The forces were to winter at Peking and Tien-tsin.

AMERICA.—The latest intelligence from New York is to the 28th, and its chief interest consists, as we may expect it will do for some time to come, in the progress of the disunion movement. In South Carolina there was no abatement of the demand, if not desire, for disunion. Governor Gist's message to the State Legislature recommends the arming of the state, and the making the circulation of abolition documents a crime punishable with death. He says the proposition of a conference is now too late, and that South Carolina would be wanting in self-respect if she entertained the proposition of remaining in the Union. He then points out the various measures to be adopted to effect the disunion, even to opposing the Government by force of arms. To these ultra and dangerous measures several of the other Southern States are opposed, being unwilling to precipitate a result in which so many important interests are at stake.—The Mexican news comes down to the 21st ultimo. The capture of Guadalajara is confirmed, and the Liberals were marching on Mexico. In this city the greatest anarchy prevailed, and the British legation had been robbed of a million dollars belonging to the British bondholders.

NOTES ON MUSIC AND THE DRAMA.

A four-part Mass, by Neukomm, has just been revived at the Cathedral of Beauvais.

It is said in Paris that Mr. Gye has found a tenor in Italy; also, that among his operas of 1861 are to be given "Guillaume Tell," "L'Etoile" (with M. Faure as *Peter*), and a version of the "Pré aux Clercs."

Wilkes's New York Spirit of the Times has the following among its theatrical intelligence:—"Tom Taylor's new tragedy of 'The Fool's Revenge,' recently produced at Philadelphia by Edwin Booth, is merely an amplification or adaptation of the original plot of 'Le Roi s'amuse,' by Victor Hugo."

Mr. and Mrs. Henri Drayton, according to recent American advices, have been appearing with success at Mobile.

News from Italy announces the success of Miss Whitty at the opera at Milan. This accomplished English songstress appeared as *Rosina*, in the "Barber of Seville," and her performance is spoken of in terms of high praise by the Milan *Lombardia* and the Milan *Gazetta*.

Galignani says, Verdi's "Rigoletto" has been heard for the first time at the Italian Opera this season, with Mario as the Duke. His voice is still under a cloud, but it is to be hoped he will speedily become "Mario again," as it is certainly better than when he commenced the season. Ronconi has not appeared, as was expected, in his great rôle of the King's Jester. The part was taken, as before by Graziani, who sings many parts of the character most admirably. The voice of Ronconi is still rebellious. Mdle. Battu, since last season, has made great progress; scarcely anything can be finer than her singing in this part; with a little increase of power this young *artiste* would take an enviable place among our modern cantatrices. It should be mentioned, merely as a note, that Mdme. Albani appeared as Madalena. It is a complete waste of talent, for there is nothing at all worth her singing in that part. There is some rumour of "I Lombardi," one of Verdi's grandest operas, being about to be produced at this theatre.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

THE CANADAS.—We have received a communication from Bro. Harrington, Grand Master of Canada, which shall receive due attention next week.

W. B.—In the absence of the Wardens, any Master Mason may be appointed to act in their place, and the proceedings will be perfectly legal.

DIAGORAS.—The Grand Chapter cannot grant a dispensation to enable a brother who has not been a M. M. for twelve months to take the Royal Arch degree.

BRO. FINDEL, Leipsig.—The first two sheets of Bro. Cooke's advertised work only are in print. We understand the delay has occurred through the printer having had to get several of the characters engraved.

P. M.—We hope so:

Press of matter reluctantly compels us to hold over many interesting communications until next week.