

LONDON, SATURDAY, APRIL 27, 1861.

GRAND LODGE.

The annual installation—or, perhaps, we should rather say, re-induction—of the Earl of Zetland as Grand Master, with the appointment of the new Grand Officers for the year, took place on Wednesday last, and was of more than usual interest, in consequence of the retirement of the Earl of Dalhousie from the office of D. Grand Master, and the appointment of Earl de Grey and Ripon as his successor.

Shortly after Lord Panmure entered upon office, it became our duty to endeavour to break a lance with him on some questions of Colonial policy; and though our suggestions were not at the time so fully attended to as we could have wished, we have the satisfaction of knowing that they were afterwards substantially carried into effect. In these contests we are bound to admit that we were always met with the greatest courtesy by the noble Earl who now retires from office; and we deeply share the regret, which we are sure is deeply felt throughout the Craft, that the cause of his lordship's retirement should be failing health; though on other grounds we rejoice at it, believing with his lordship that the occasional introduction of young blood into the higher offices of Masonry must tend to the benefit of the Craft—sentiments which we have often expressed, without, however, finding so high an authority to endorse them.

The noble Earl is succeeded by a young nobleman who is probably the most rising statesman of the day, and who, when Lord Goderich, made a favourable impression on the Craft as S.G.W. The two noble earls appeared to vie with each other as to which should be the most graceful—the retirement from, or the assumption of, office; and it would be hard to say which bore away the palm, so well were they both received at the banquet by the brethren; and we doubt not that in Lord de Grey we shall find a brother not only able, but anxious, to exert himself for the good of the Order.

In the retirement of the Earl of Dalhousie we are gratified to find that we are not altogether to lose his services, but that he has consented to continue in the Council of the Grand Master, and has promised to, as often as possible, attend the communications of Grand Lodge, and take part in its deliberations. We are the more gratified at this because we have always urged that the attendance of Past Officers of experience and position would not only add to the dignity of Grand Lodge, but would tend to curb any little excitability of temper, should it at any time unfortunately show itself.

We commend the speeches of the two noble earls to the close attention of the brethren; and must here be allowed to express our regret that the M.W.G. Master was unable to be present, through the serious illness of a relative—a circumstance which could not fail in some measure to cast a gloom on the proceedings of an otherwise happy evening.

Of the new Grand Officers we shall, as yet, say but little, intending to devote a column or two to them hereafter; but this we may say, that the Deacons and the Assistant Director of Ceremonies have the advantage over the Wardens of being known as taking an active part, not only in the general affairs of Masonry, but in the interests of her Charities. The announcement of the name of Bro. Lord Richard Grosvenor as S.G.W. was very far from favourably received in consequence of its being stated that pressing business kept him in the country—the brethren, no doubt, remembering that this is the third year a similar apology has been made for the absence of a Grand Warden on the night of installation—and that the J.W. of 1859, and the S.W. of 1860, are, to this day, as utter strangers to the members of Grand Lodge as they were on the day of their appointments. We trust that at the end of the year we shall not have to make a similar report with regard to Lord Richard Grosvenor—for brethren, however exalted, have no right to take office if they cannot sometimes attend to their duties; and we are the more inclined to be dissatisfied when they do not do so, when we recollect the examples which have been set them by the Earl of Dalhousie, the Earl of Yarborough, Earl de Grey, Lord de Tabley, Lord Leigh, and others. Of the Junior Warden we, as yet, know nothing, excepting that he is the W.M. of No. 6; and every brother we have spoken to upon the subject, appears to be in the same happy state of ignorance. Whether he will ever achieve a commanding position amongst Masons it is yet difficult to say, but certainly the little we saw of him on Wednesday evening does not lead us to believe that he will bring any great amount in aid of the deliberations of Grand Lodge.

Bro. Gregory, the new J.G.D. was also absent, being professionally engaged in Sicily, but he has taken too active a part in the deliberations of Grand Lodge to warrant any fear that he will long be absent. Bro. McIntyre is well known as a ready and practised debater, and will be found of great use on the dais, where the whole brunt of the business has far too long devolved only on one or two brethren, one of whom has borne the lion's share.

Bro. Symonds has fairly won his spurs by the part the part he has taken in promoting the interests of the various Charities of the order, alike by his purse, his time, and his talents, and we trust that as he has won them so may he wear them.

Of the other officers we need as yet say nothing, though we hope that at the end of their year of office they may fully justify the confidence of the Grand Master.

As we have stated elsewhere, the whole of the arrangements were tolerably complete; but it is high time that the musical entertainment in the glee room should be wholly dispensed with, if it cannot be carried out without the presence of policemen to overawe the brethren.

MEMOIRS OF THE FREEMASONS OF NAPLES.

(Continued from page 302.)

The Junta of State commenced the trial of prisoners, many of whom had been confined upwards of four years. Their proceedings were inquisitorial, the proofs against the accused parties were given in writing, secret accusations and denunciations were accepted as evidence, and even the testimony of paid spies was sufficient to condemn prisoners to death. But in many instances the friends were unable to obtain any information regarding them—both the crime and the punishment was an equal mystery.

We before observed that the office of *Reggenta della Vicaria* had been bestowed upon Luigi de Medici, in 1792. He was a young man, of noble birth and well-known rectitude in the discharge of his magisterial duties. He had formerly been a zealous Freemason, and became a member of two lodges in Naples (both being under the Grand Lodge of Germany). In these he had filled all the higher offices of the Order; but when he discovered that political societies were springing up on all sides, and members of his own fraternity were joining them, he proposed a resolution in each of the lodges—"That any brother becoming a member of a political association should be immediately reported to the lodge, and the W.M. reprimand him for so doing; and if the brother still persisted in attending such meetings, he should be expelled from the Masonic society;" but in neither lodge was this resolution received. He then declared that they were acting contrary to their principles as Masons, and that he should no longer belong to their body. We afterwards find him a member of "Loggia della Verita." This lodge still retained its connection with the Grand Lodge of England, and their principles seem to have accorded with his own disposition; but when he was appointed to his magisterial office, he devoted himself entirely to its duties, and was considered by all an upright and honest judge, and was never known, either by act or deed, to have shown favour to any party. This brother had acquired such an unusual degree of credit, that it awakened in the mind of Acton fears that, at some future time, he would gain sufficient power to deprive him of the monopoly of influence he himself possessed; he therefore determined upon effecting De Medici's ruin.

The King and Queen had such unlimited confidence in Acton that he could turn their minds any way that best suited his interest. He reported to them that the late trials, imprisonments, and executions, far from quelling the conspiracies formed throughout the kingdom, had only added fresh fuel to the flame, and that there were at that very moment new societies springing up, more diabolical in their designs than any of the former; and that they were patronised, not only by inconsiderate youths, but by men of high standing and authority, amongst whom might be named the Chevalier Luigi de Medici, who was their leader. He at the same time stated that he possessed undoubted proofs of what he asserted.

The King and Queen were both taken by surprise, as they had the greatest respect for De Medici, who at all times had admission to the Court, and desired further evidence before they were convinced of his crime. Accordingly, on the following day, Acton placed before their Majesties sundry documents, to prove his statements—Firstly, there were confessions, extorted partly by torture, and partly by promises of reward, from one of the principal persons condemned by the Junta, named Annibale Giordano; but his statements amounted only to this, that he had formerly belonged to a Masonic

lodge, and was a frequent attendant at their meetings. Other persons gave evidence, who were common informers, and willing to state anything that Acton dictated; they testified that they had seen him in close conversation with members of secret societies, and that they had heard treasonable words pass between them. The Queen was at first dissatisfied with this information; but Acton, determined not to be foiled in his scheme, brought forward a witness in the person of a young nobleman, who had received many favours from De Medici, and had always been on the most intimate terms of friendship. This witness stated that De Medici had of late been frequently at the house of one Michele Sciarone, where secret meetings were held affecting the state. This worthy citizen we have mentioned previously, as collecting his friends together, during the earthquake, to make an humble appeal to the G.A.O.T.U. When the convulsions of nature ceased, this worthy man prepared a room in his own house, and besought his friends to attend there, to acknowledge the power of the Almighty, and to offer their thanks and praise to Him that they had been preserved from death, and asking the help of the Holy Spirit to enable them wisely to consider these warnings from Heaven as intended for their eternal welfare, and devoutly praying that in their path through life they might ever remember His power, wisdom, and goodness.

These were the meetings that De Medici attended. Always first in every good and virtuous act, he admired the conduct of this man, and assembled, with others who had the same sentiments, twice a week, for the purpose we have described. A striking contrast was observable in the mass of the community, for they returned to their houses like the man in the parable, "taking with them seven devils worse than the first." Crimes of all kinds abounded; their passions were under no control, and theft and murder were of every day occurrence. But this nobleman, whose name we will not mention, for even now his family occupy a high position at Naples, and he himself, shortly after this occurrence, met his death in fighting for his country—he (probably bribed by Acton) falsely and maliciously stated that he heard a conspiracy planned, at a particular meeting at which he was present, and that a communication had been entered into with the Jacobins of France. The King and Queen were now satisfied of his guilt, and ordered the indictment of all persons concerned. They also authorised the formation of a special inquisitorial Junta to try these cases alone. It was accordingly convoked, and of course consisted of the satellites of Acton. The persons appointed were, Vanni Guidobaldi, and the Prince Castelicala, as President. The newly-formed Junta acted entirely according to the instructions of Acton; they received all private communications as evidence, and became the instruments of his private hatred and vengeance.

Acton obtained from the King, in private council, an order for the arrest of the Chevalier de Medici. This order was put into execution in November, 1794. The Chevalier, being warned of his danger, went to the palace; and, though not permitted to see the Queen, obtained an audience of the King, who, however, vouchsafed no reply to his arguments and entreaties, but the following day deposed him from his office, and shut him up in the fortress of Gaeta. The Junta declared the meeting at Michele Sciaronne's house was revolutionary and treasonable, and an order was made to arrest Bishop Forges, Pagano, Ciaja, Monticelli, and other distinguished persons who were greatly respected for their learning and virtue. The government offered gifts, offices, and a free pardon to whoever could reveal

treasonable designs in others; thus family life was corrupted by putting brother against brother, son against father; and society disorganised by obliging its members to look upon everyone with suspicion. The like unhappiness extended to the throne: the King and Queen, believing they were surrounded with treachery and death, dismissed their body guard, and chose others; they changed their attendants, altered the routine of the palace, ordered their food to be tested, and concealed their apartments from the under menials; their alarm increased daily, and they deprived others of the peace of mind they could not enjoy themselves.

The anxieties occasioned by the vicinity of the great war, and the dread of Napoleon's power, caused no cessation in these unhappy trials. The very successes of the enemy made the government more suspicious, while the police authorities watched on all sides for any pretence of a conspirator. If any person was known to be a Freemason, his house was watched continually, and if he ventured out, he was followed by a government spy. They saw the sign of a conspiracy in every fashion of dress. The hair arranged in a peculiar manner, uncurled locks, or an over-long beard, certain trowsers, ribbons, colours, or appendages, were severely punished as crimes entailing imprisonment and prosecution for high treason. The trouble of friends was also increased by the mystery maintained respecting the crimes and punishment of the persons accused.

It was forbidden for the prisoner's name to be mentioned, or his crime spoken of; it was a treasonable act to plead his cause. But we have one instance where motherly affection braved the danger, and partially succeeded. Two ladies, the Duchess of Cessano and the Princess Colonna, each had a son in prison; they were both held in the highest estimation, both by the Court and the people. They were overwhelmed by sorrow for their children, and appeared in deep mourning before the Queen, and each entreated her to listen to their petition:—

"Your Majesty," said they, "may as a mother feel for our grief. Our unfortunate children have been now languishing for four years in dungeons, and we know not even if they are alive. Their families wear mourning; and parents, sisters, and kindred are miserable and melancholy; they have never known happiness since the fatal night of our sons' imprisonment. Have pity on us, and restore us our children, and our peace of mind, and God will reward you for this mercy by the happiness of your own children." "Were they guilty?" said the Queen. The ladies each contended that their innocence must be proved by the silence of the inquisitors, for surely if they had discovered any plot in which they were connected they would long ere this have put them on their trial. "Consider also," said they, "the youthful age of our children; consider their virtuous life, their piety towards God, their obedience to their parents, their love of their country; no stain, no fault can be discovered in their character, not even the trifling errors inexperienced youth are subject to, can be laid to their charge." They could say no more, for, overcome with grief, their sobs choked further utterance, and thus they left the Royal presence. The Queen was more moved with the heartrending looks and noble character of these ladies than by their words. She would never pardon, if guilty; but these she thought must be innocent. Most persons believe that Ferdinand and Caroline wished to be just, and the blame of torturing the innocent and guilty alike rests more with their advisers than themselves.

The Queen reported her interview with these ladies to the King, who immediately ordered the Junta of State

to expedite the *procès* of those accused of treason, who had been long suffering imprisonment, "by which justice had been suspended, an example productive of serious mischief, and, perhaps, occasionally unmerited suffering to our unhappy subjects." The style of these commands, breathing pity, were so new and unexpected that they alarmed both Acton and the Junta. The two chief inquisitors, Castelvicala and Vanni, accordingly met in consultation. Nothing had been proved in the *procès*, and fearing the anger of the Sovereigns, the popular outcry, and the vengeance of the accused, they agreed to shield themselves by resorting to violent and desperate remedies. When on the next day they met at court, the King's message was read aloud, and the Junta were desired to expedite their report, when Vanni observed: "The *procès*, which are at least equal in number to the accused, are now completed as far as the inquisitors are concerned; but to be wholly satisfactory the *proof by torture* is still wanting, which wise legislators have enjoined as indispensable in crimes of treason, even where there is abundance of other proofs. We have to do with criminals resolved to keep a secret; the promise they have made of secrecy seals the lips of these wretches, but there is nothing like justice and torture to unloose those tongues kept silent by an unrighteous oath. I, armed with the authority, granted me by my King, as Inquisitor and Procurator Fiscal, demand, in the first instance, that the principal criminals, the Chevalier Luigi de Medici, the Duke di Canzano, the Abate Teodorè Monticelli, and Michele Sciaronne, should be put to the trial of torture after the severest manner prescribed by law, under the formula *Torquiri aciter adhibitis quatuor fomiculis*. Do not, gentlemen, from any weak scruple, hesitate to put criminals to the torture, whom you yourselves will shortly condemn to a greater and still more merited suffering, when we cease to discuss the *procès* and treat of the final sentence." Starting from his seat, Vanni turned his sallow, cold features, with eyes that glared like those of a wild beast, round upon the assembly, and added, "It is now two months since I have slept, less from the labour of these *procès*, than from anxiety for the dangers incurred by my Sovereign, and yet you, gentlemen, can feel pity for such odious wretches, who, if aided by fortune, and not overtaken by justice, would have subverted all we held most sacred; therefore, repeating my proposals, that the principal criminals should be put to torture, I exhort you to act with justice and loyalty towards the King, and with that courage which is the noblest attribute in a *prince* called upon to save a kingdom."

The magistrate, Mazzochi, who was the President of the first Junta, replied to Vanni: "The words, *my* sovereign, are ever on your lips, and, under a pretence of zeal, you conceal violence and pride; from henceforth it would be better to say, *our* sovereign. Then, turning to the judges, he asked their vote on the motion of Vanni, which was unanimously rejected, as barbarous and useless, since the inquisitors had so often sifted the proofs; and the crimes and criminals were clearly established. One voice alone, that of the Prince di Castelvicala, was raised in a menacing tone, while supporting the arguments of his brother inquisitor: adding his own belief that torture was just and necessary, he denounced the decision of the other judges as weak and criminal, and tried to rouse their fears by declaring that the King would take vengeance on them, and concluded by using all the seductive arts of which he was capable to persuade them to follow the course he suggested. Castelvicala was, like his patron, jealous of De Medici, and thought, if tortured, he would either die from shame and misery, or, if he survived, be rendered incapable of

continuing in office, if for no other reason, from the disgraceful nature of his punishment.

But the majority of the judges were firm in their vote, and the Junta replied to the royal message, that the *procès* were completed according to law, and were as ample as the ingenuity and skill of the inquisitors could devise. Nothing was now wanting but the final trial, as this Junta had only been appointed for the purpose of inquiry. The King, therefore, appointed another Junta, of which Vanni was the Procurator Fiscal. The *procès*, which had been declared complete, and which were now sent up for discussion, included the cases of twenty-eight persons, among whom were the names of men of high birth, such as Medici, Canzano, Di Gennaro, Colonna, Cassano; and of others distinguished for learning, Maria Pagano, Ignazio Ciaja, Domenico Bisceglie, and Theodore Monticelli. The Procurator Fiscal began with stating the accusations, the nature of the crimes, and the proofs which had been collected; he proceeded to expatiate upon them, and taking the part against the accused, passed over in silence all that might have been said in their favour, and demanded death for five, to be preceded by torture, "*without mercy, as upon dead bodies*," both to increase their punishment, and to extract from them the names of their accomplices and the secrets of their society. He now emphatically demanded that the torture should be applied to Medici, and three others pointed out by the Junta of inquiry. For nineteen more he proposed prolonged imprisonment and further examination, in the hope of extracting more ample proofs by confessions under torture, from time to time. The advocates who pleaded the cause of the accused, although they were men appointed by the King, and devotedly attached to the monarchy, were interrupted by a torrent of abuse from Vanni; yet they courageously defended the prisoners from all imputation of wrong. The judges gave a just sentence, honourably acquitting the prisoners, and restoring them their liberty.

(To be continued.)

CLASSICAL THEOLOGY.—XLII.

X. VESTA AND DECEMBER.

The metaphysicians of antiquity, so far as we can understand from those portions of their writings which have survived the lapse of ages, classed certain spiritual beings under the head of good and evil geniuses. This was, in fact, the personification of the good and evil influences which they believed to exist in the life of every man; the benevolent genius, or *δαίμων*, being the protector, as the other was the malevolent agent to whom misfortunes were attributed. Hebrews, Greeks, and Romans alike held this doctrine, which, indeed, is extensively observable as an essential component of the writings preserved in the Sacred Volume. The manner in which the passages we refer to may be interpreted, depends of course upon the discrimination and learning of the commentator; we merely state that they do exist beyond question.

The magic arts, which were considered by the Greeks to have been derived from the Persian *Magoi*, from whom, they thought, the Phœnicians obtained them, were, it is said, introduced into Greece by Oethanes. That personage, attending Xerxes upon his invasion, disseminated some hasty and confused instruction of the theory and practice of the Magi wheresoever he went, and could find an opportunity.

The renowned philosophical traveller, Democritus, some years later, availing himself of the mystical learning of some ancient Syrian writings, particularly of Phœnicia, reduced the science to its most reliable Pelasgic system.

The "wise men" of the Scriptures were certain philosophers of Asia, from that very large tract of country which was divided into Ecbatana and Atropatia, and called Media. These learned and profound thinkers at first were held in high estimation and honour for their physiological inquiries and deep research into the wonderful connection of the soul with the body. The primal secret works, the mysteries of elementary and material nature in their organisation and ordination, also engaged their attention. These evidences of super-human creation and order they attributed to the omniscience of their gods, Mitres, Oremasis, and Arimanis, the rulers of the universe. The Scriptures show that these fathers of science possessed a wonderful knowledge of those secrets of nature which lie concealed from vulgar eyes. The most ancient sciences were constructed upon their discoveries, and perhaps taught of old by them before the deluge; certainly, at all events, before the building of Babel. At that period they became corrupted and obscured, their philosophy deteriorating more and more into a factitious and peculating system of Theomancy (*Θεομαντεία*). The great truths of religion became overlaid and obscured by the follies and abuses of judicial astrology, practical necromancy, and natural and artificial divinations and enchantments. Ultimately, to establish for the welfare of all the comprehensive exposition of truth, the Almighty himself, by the hand of His chosen servant Moses, showed forth His might and majesty in opposition to the power of Pharaoh. With this prince, considered as the most learned and powerful king of his time, it would be irreverent to say that God alone contended, save only to that end for which the celestial and terrestrial invisible powers were suffered by Him to exercise their sway, that He might manifest Himself to the world as the one Almighty God. It was thus manifested that to trust in another god, or gods, before Him, was to show forth the thick darkness of ignorance impervious to the light, or wisdom and knowledge of His glory. And this, though Moses and Miriam had sung—

"I will sing unto the Lord, for he hath triumphed gloriously: the horse and his rider hath he thrown into the sea. The Lord is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation; he is my God, and I will prepare him an habitation; my father's God, and I will exalt him."

The Median sages (or Magi) were usually chosen to preside over the most solemn rites and ceremonies, including those of divine worship. They were held in such high repute for their studious learning and scientific experience as to become the chosen attendants upon the kings of that nation, to instruct them in wisdom and policy, and especially to advise them at times of doubt or uncertainty. In short, the highest places of dignity, honour, and trust, were conferred upon them. Let us not, however, confuse the right understanding of the holy mysteries, as the learned ignorant of our day are but too prone to do. The best established facts of their history inform us that, after the Magi had evidently lost their real knowledge, and given up the search of the holy mysteries, they fell, consequently, from the contemplation and service of the Most High, from the study of nature, and the works of practical prudence, to the invocation and the interposition of supposititious demons. Thus, the estimation of their judgment, and their credit for profundity, became not only diminished, but all their pretensions to supernatural, prophetic, and philosophical proficiency proved socially unnatural and violently fallacious. Little

is now preserved in memory of these sages further than their having been recorded as unexampled magicians and celebrated astrologers.

We may, perhaps, enter upon some description of those strange, unhallowed, obsolete, and forbidden contrivances which came to be prevalent, and were, of the many magical rites in practice, the most remarkable and the most ancient in Greece.

The determining of conclusions from natural causes, as by the flight of birds, the smoke of sacrifices; the inspection of the entrails of victims; by the casting of lots; by ominous words, aspects, and things; the configuration of stars; oracular responses, and all such (so termed) physical divinations, are very dissimilar to artificial and supernatural divination, by which, in fact, is meant the *μαντεια* and *εποδια*, otherwise incantations for bringing back to earth the souls of Hades.

In the Gospel we find described certain shepherds, who, according to St. Luke (ii. 8), were—

“Abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo! the angel (or star) of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David (called Bethlehem) a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. . . . And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.”

By St. Matthew, these shepherds are specified as being “wise men from the east.” Now, though it does not follow that they were either Medians or Jews, it does follow that they had a knowledge of the true God; and without scruple we may believe that the very remote Magi also had the like holy knowledge; and that Moses was not deficient in the learning of their wisdom, whatever might have been the relation of that to his own. Still, the veritable mystery of a heavenly immortality within reach of us was left wholly unaccomplished and unexpounded, specifically, by Moses. The Jews, nevertheless, were not unaware of a terrestrial spirit and a terrestrial Paradise. In the profane poets we read of all the gods being born on earth, and translated to heaven; but in the books of the First Testament mention is only made of Enoch and Elijah being taken up into heaven. Carrying out the exalted view of this mystery, it may be said that the fulfilling and unfolding the Scriptures could only be completed by the coming of Christ, without whom there is no celestial salvation extended to the soul. Of this holy doctrine, and reward of everlasting life, it is written:—

“If any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his. . . . If Christ be in you, the Spirit is life, because of righteousness. . . . He that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you. Therefore, brethren, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live after the flesh. For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: that is to say, ye are made of the earth, mortal; but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body (namely, by keeping the commandments, as He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins), ye shall live. That is to say, ye are made of heaven, immortal. For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, are the sons of God. . . . The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: (that is to say, not only of adoption by baptism, but likewise by the renewed Spirit which is of Christ, whereby, as St. Paul says, we cry, Abba, Father). And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint heirs with Christ;” not only as St. Paul says, but as Christ himself says (St. Luke, vi.), “Love ye your enemies” (or) “Be ye merciful, as your Father also is merciful—do

good, and lend, hoping for nothing again; and your reward shall be great, and ye shall be the children of the Highest.”

In explaining the doctrines of these holy mysteries, whereof there could be no explanation before the teaching of Christ, the gifted Apostle, in his Epistle (1 Cor., xv.), almost minutely divulges their secret:—

“All flesh is not the same flesh; but there is one kind of flesh of men, another flesh of beasts, another of fishes, and another of birds. There are also celestial bodies, and bodies terrestrial; but the glory of the celestial is one, and the glory of the terrestrial is another.”

For instance, the Scripture saith unto Pharaoh, “I raised thee up, that I might show my power in thee, and that my name might be declared throughout all the earth.” The Apostle continues, “Therefore hath He mercy on whom He will have mercy, and whom He will He hardeneth,”—that is, He hardened the heart of Pharaoh; but God’s own words to Moses were, “I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion.” “There is,” continues the learned St. Paul, “one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars: for one star differeth from another star in glory. So also is the resurrection of the dead.” That is, one spirit differeth from another spirit in glory; as such spirits of God, through the resurrection of Christ, that confessed Him in their flesh, and such spirits, not of God, through the resurrection of Christ, that did not confess Him in their flesh. Thus it is written, “Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth. . . . But the righteousness which is of faith speaketh on this wise, Say not in thine heart, Who shall ascend into heaven? (that is, to bring Christ down from above); or, Who shall descend into the deep? (that is, to bring up Christ again from the dead). But what is it? The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach; that if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.”

Furthermore, the Apostle proceeds to reveal to us the resurrection:—“There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body. And so it is written, The first man Adam (namely, the created) was made a living soul; the last Adam (namely, the begotten) was made a quickening spirit.” Here we are plainly informed by this saintly authority, “That was not first which is spiritual, but that which is natural, and afterwards that which is spiritual;” or, in other words, the Adam in flesh and blood “is of the earth, earthly;” the Christ in flesh and blood “is the Lord from heaven.” Therefore, “As is the earthly, such are they also that are earthly; and as is the heavenly, such are they also that are heavenly.” So, in this wise also, it is written (Rom. ix.):—

“As he saith also in Osee, I will call them my people which were not my people. . . . And it shall come to pass, that in the place where it was said unto them, Ye are not my people, there shall they be called the children of the living God. Esaias also crieth concerning Israel, Though the number of the children of Israel be as the sand of the sea, a remnant shall be saved.”

However inconsistent it may appear, it is compatible with reason, that those who have not been instructed in the same manner as Moses and the Prophets, neither as were the Apostles, nor either as St. Paul, may, nevertheless, have an implicit reliance on the integrity of those authorities. Granting this, it follows that, to comprehend the mystery, “We shall not all sleep, but

we shall all be changed," Christ must be in us and we in Christ, unto the resurrection of the body (not of the grave), and the free ascension and descension of heavenly immortality.

ARCHITECTURE AND ARCHÆOLOGY.

ON THE ARCHITECTURE OF THE ELEVENTH CENTURY.

(Continued from page 307.)

William of Malmesbury has given a letter from King Canute in 1031 stating that he has been to Rome, and, among many other things, that "the Emperor assented to my request, as did Rodolph, the King, and all the princes, and confirmed with an edict that my subjects, traders, as well as those who went on religious account, should peaceably go and return from Rome without any molestation from wardens, or barriers, or tax-gatherers. Again, I complained before the Pope, and expressed my high displeasure that my archbishops were oppressed by the immense sum of money which is demanded from them when seeking, according to custom, the apostolic residence to receive the fall; and it was determined that it should be so no longer."

These frequent journeys to Rome throughout the Middle Ages had the advantage of keeping the English clergy always acquainted with what was going on in other countries, and they were always ready enough to make use of their information.

But at the period of which we are now treating, I believe it will be found on investigation that the other countries of Europe were in much the same state of civilisation as the English, and that buildings of stone were as rare in other countries as in England. At the end of the eighth century, in the time of Charlemagne, a spasmodic effort was made to revive the art of building in stone, but it soon died away.

We have a few isolated buildings of that period remaining in France and Germany, curious and interesting links in the history of art. As might be expected from the history of Charlemagne and his era, they present a curious mixture of debased Roman and Byzantine; two of the most perfect are the gatehouse of the convent of Lorsch, in the Bergstrasse, on the banks of the Rhine, which is debased Roman, and Germigny, on the banks of the Loir, near Tours. This is a mixture of Byzantine and Roman, the plan being a Greek cross with a central lantern and a sort of cupola, but with details rather of debased Roman than Byzantine.

After the time of Charlemagne for two centuries it is very difficult to find a stone building anywhere in the West of Europe. In Normandy there is one church which approaches in some degree to the character of the Anglo-Saxon churches. It is called Vieux Pont (in Calvados), and is built of Roman materials in a very rude style, with herringbone work and some other points of resemblance; and it has an inscription, but one which does not give a date: it is probably quite at the beginning of the 11th century, but may possibly be of the time of Charlemagne.

It is probable, however, that there are many churches still remaining in different parts of France, or, more properly speaking, of Gaul, which belong to the first half of the 11th century; and of several of these the history is so well preserved that it is necessary to give some account of them here.

Perhaps the most remarkable of these is the church of St. Front, at Perigueux, which is a regular Byzantine church, with its five domes. A considerable part of it has lately been *restored*, which means entirely rebuilt from the ground, but I was fortunate enough to see it before this was done and again while the rebuilding was going on. The original work was of rubble only and very rude, and numerous fragments of Roman buildings were used as old materials in the mass of the walls: the Roman capitals were also used again. This church was consecrated in 1047. The nave of an earlier church still exists, and forms a vestibule

to the present church, and the west front of it is tolerably perfect, though concealed by a house built against it. The work of this earlier church is debased Roman. The nave had a timber roof only, which has been destroyed.

The domical church bears so much resemblance to St. Mark's, at Venice, that my friend Mr. Felise de Verneilh, who has studied it very carefully and has published a work upon it, has no doubt that it was copied from that church. I consider it more probable that both were copied from a common type at Byzantium, as Venice was then only a subordinate city of the Byzantine empire, and the resemblance is not so exact as M. de Verneilh imagines: at St. Front the arches are pointed; at St. Mark's they are round; and there are other variations in that part of Aquitaine called Perigord, of which Perigueux is the centre. There are about forty of these Byzantine churches with their domes, some of which have inscriptions recording their erection in the latter part of the 11th century and beginning of the 12th century. These domes also exercised a considerable influence on the vaulting of the whole of Aquitaine, and a few straggling instances extend as far as Normandy.

The church of Bernay was founded in 1024, by Judith, wife of Richard II., Duke of Normandy. It is now a market-hall, and has a west front of the 17th century, but the greater part of the walls are original, with the triforium and clerestory. These are very rude work, with baluster shafts. The aisles are vaulted with a series of small domes under a wooden roof; these are considered by Mr. Petit as original, and I am disposed to agree with him, although the French antiquaries consider them as part of the work of the 17th century, built at the same time as the west front. They are quite plain rather flat domes of rubble, or at least of small uncut stones, not of ashlar.

The celebrated and fine church of Tournus, on the Saone, was built between 1008 and 1019, and a portion of the original structure remains. The nave is vaulted with transverse barrel vaults across each bay from north to south, instead of the usual longitudinal vault. This arrangement is said to be unique. It is many years since I saw the church, and I did not then know the history of it, and did not clearly make out to what period the different parts belong, but it seems not improbable that the transverse stone arches originally carried a wooden roof only, as in many other examples, and that the vaults were put on subsequently, perhaps after a fire had destroyed the wooden roof.

The cathedral of Auxerre was founded in 1005, and the crypt appears to be not long after that date; it is very rude, with wide jointed masonry and plain early capitals, which correspond with others in some of the other early crypts.

The church of St. Germain des Près at Paris was re-built after its destruction by the Normans by the Abbot Morard, who died in 1014. A small part of the nave is said to belong to this period; it is plain and early-looking.

The cathedral of Nevers was founded in 1028, and parts of the existing building agree with that date: these are the western apse and the crypt under it, and the transepts with their chapels: the capitals are exactly the same as those in the crypt of Auxerre. The arches are square in section: the piers are square and massive, with heavy shafts attached to them, carrying a large round moulding under the soffit of the arch: the vaults are groined without ribs, and without transverse arches. The original church was small and cruciform, with a very short head to the cross, terminated by an apse. A new church was added eastward of it in the 13th century, and the eastern arm of the cross entirely rebuilt.

The church of the Ronceray, at Angers, was founded in 1028, by Foulques, Earl of Anjou, and a considerable part of the existing church is of early character, not long after that date.

The church of St. Hilary, at Poitiers, was rebuilt by Agnes of Burgundy, wife of William III., Duke of Aquitaine, and was consecrated in 1049. A part of the existing church belongs to this period: the greater part has been again rebuilt; but the plan and arrangement of the fabric probably belong to this century, though most of the ornamentation is later.

The fine abbey church of Jamieges was consecrated in

1067, and a considerable part of the existing ruins belong to this period: the capitals are plain and early: they have been covered over with plaster and painted.

These are all the dated examples of the first half of the 11th century that I have been able to identify. I have a list of many others either founded or rebuilt during that period, but have not been able to ascertain what portions remain.

The churches of the Pyrenees were admirably described by Mr. Freeman, a fortnight since: they are of early character, and have belfry windows, with mid wall shafts and balusters resembling those in England and some of them are probably of the 11th century; others more probably of the 12th; their history has not been investigated; but in remote and mountainous districts the earlier style is generally continued to a later period than in more central places.

In Switzerland there are two or three churches which partake of this character. The tower of St. Maurice is built of Roman materials at the beginning of the 11th century, and the belfry windows bear a resemblance to the Saxon baluster windows, but they are formed by using Roman columns taken from some older building, and these columns being too long for the windows, the lower part of them is built into the rubble wall, as more easy than cutting the marble columns.

The church of Roman Motier has long and short work in the angles; but this may arise only from the nature of the building material.

In Germany occasional instances of resemblance are found, but it seems to arise more from their belonging to the same rude period than that one is copied from the other. The idea that the ancient Lombards were great builders in stone, and the predecessors in the art of the Normans, I believe will be found, on examination, to be altogether groundless. I have searched in vain in Lombardy for any work of any importance between the Roman period and the 11th century. The absence of any examples of this period at Rome has been already mentioned.

The buildings of Pisa and Lucca, ignorantly attributed to the ancient Lombards, very commonly bear inscriptions recording their erection, and of others the history is perfectly well known.

They are the glory of the Pisan republic of the 12th and 13th centuries, with sometimes portions of the older buildings of the 11th century, or earlier, built up in them. At Ravenna, at Rome, and in the cities of central Italy, the buildings are almost entirely constructed of brick, cased with marble, and they present nothing whatever from which the Anglo-Saxons could have derived the peculiar features of their buildings.

I believe that the style called Lombardic has as much to do with the ancient Lombards as the Gothic had to do with the ancient Goths, and no more. Both are convenient terms as indicating the races by whom they were used; but we must be careful not to be misled by these names into erroneous notions about the dates of the buildings, which is very frequently the case, even with popular writers who ought to know better. The buildings of Italy so constantly bear dates inscribed upon them, that a little examination is all that is required to ascertain this point.

To return to England and our supposed Anglo-Saxon churches, it is remarkable that, out of nearly a hundred examples, spread over twenty-nine different counties, there are so few of which we have any account, or even any mention in history: they are nearly all obscure village churches. The large number of sixty-three Benedictine monasteries were founded in England before the year 1000, but of this large number not more than three or four are found to have any existing remains of early character, and there are not altogether more than six out of the hundred early churches that remain to us, of which we have any mention before the year 1000. These are the two crypts of St. Wilfred, at Hexham and Ripon, the walls of the church in the castle at Dover, and of the church at Brixworth, both built of the fragments of some Roman building, and in the rudest manner, and some portions of similar walls at Lyminge, Kent, and at St. Martin's, Canterbury. These exhaust the list of buildings which we can at all authenticate for the long period of five centuries. When we come to the 11th century, the case

is widely different; the great building era now begins, and we have a number of buildings remaining which we can identify and authenticate; and several of these are before the Norman conquest, as we have seen.

The Normans did not bring over an army of masons with them; and, although many of their soldiers were masons also, there is no doubt that their buildings were erected mainly by Saxon hands; and, as the Norman rule was not very readily or quietly submitted to, they were obliged in the first instance to turn their attention to building castles to keep the people in subjection. Forty-nine castles are enumerated in the Domesday survey, which was made about twenty years after the Conquest; and of these one only, that of Arundel, is mentioned as having existed in the time of Edward the Confessor. It is said that William attributed the facility of his conquest chiefly to the circumstance of the Saxons having no strong places to keep the Norman army in check, and that he set about providing them as soon as possible.

These early Norman castles are all built in the same type—a square massive keep or donjon, with the ground-floor vaulted for store-rooms, or stables, or prisons, according to circumstances; the entrance on the first-floor, with sometimes an external flight of stone steps; in other cases a drawbridge to an outwork.

These keeps do not appear to have been originally enclosed with stone walls; the custom of raising fortifications of a trench and vallum surmounted by wooden palisades was not yet abandoned; in fact, it was used occasionally long afterwards, and these keeps seem to have been usually surrounded by a double entrenchment, the inner one enclosing the inner ballium or bailey, or principal court, in which the keep was situated, the outer one enclosing the outer bailey or yard—and this was frequently of considerable extent, in order to drive the cattle into it in case of need for protection.

The custom of enclosing two courts or baileys round a castle was continued throughout the Middle Ages; and in later times farm buildings were erected in the outer bailey; and by degrees in more peaceful times this was changed into the farmyard for the Manor-house.

The Norman keeps were so massive and so well built that a large number of them have been preserved in the present day, often upon no other ground than that it would cost more to pull them down, from the great strength of the mortar, than the materials are worth.

We have, however, very few castles remaining that appear to have been completed in the time of William the Conqueror. During the twenty-one years of his reign his hands were generally full. They seem to have been completed for the most part in the time of his successor.

William the Conqueror, either from real piety, or in order to make his peace with the Pope and with the Church, founded several magnificent abbeys, which he richly endowed; but to say that he built them is generally a mistake; the monks erected the building with the help of the funds which he gave them. The two most celebrated of these abbeys are at Caen, in Normandy. St. Stephen's, or the Abbaye aux Hommes, was founded by William in 1066, and dedicated in 1077, which shows that in eleven years so much of the church was completed as was necessary for the performance of divine service. It was the usual custom of the Middle Ages to consecrate a church as soon as the choir was completed, leaving the nave and other parts to be completed afterwards; but the foundations for the whole were generally laid at once, and the west front with one of the towers to hold the bells; and the transepts were commonly begun at the same time as the choir, or very soon after it: and as the monks or priests must have some place to live in to enable them to perform the service, the domestic buildings of the abbey were generally begun at the same time as the choir, but they were frequently obliged to be content with temporary wooden buildings for a considerable time.

A careful examination of this building shows not only that the choir has been rebuilt in the 13th century, and the spires added at the same time, but that there is work of three periods antecedent to this, all belonging to what we call the Norman style, and that the whole of the west front, which is so familiar to us from engravings, belongs to the second

period; the original work terminates at the back of the western towers, which are placed against it with a straight joint all through. The original work can be distinguished on examination, more especially by the wider jointing of the masonry, but very little of it is visible to the casual observer.

The main walls of the nave and transepts in reality belong to it, but they have been entirely concealed, and cased over in the interior to carry the vaulting, and the whole of the ornamentation of the interior belongs to the third period. The original construction, no doubt, belongs to the time of the Conqueror, 1066 to 1077, but a considerable interval must have elapsed between this and the second period, as shown by the difference of masonry and ornament, and it belongs in all probability to the last ten years of the 11th century. It so happens that, in the course of my investigations into the history of Waltham Abbey, I have come across a bitter complaint of the monks, of the robbery of that abbey of all its treasures by William Rufus, for the purpose of transferring them to the abbeys founded by his father and mother at Caen. The date of this complaint agrees so well with what I should expect to find from the architectural character for the second period, that I think we may with confidence assign it to that date. We have so long been accustomed to look on the west front of the *Abbaye aux Hommes* as the starting point, the type of the earliest Norman work, that this proof of its belonging to a period thirty years later than had been supposed makes a complete change in our chronology of early Norman work. These western towers afford us further evidence: they contain a portion of the triforium of this second period, quite different from that now existing in the nave, and prove that the existing triforium and clerestory and vault, which all belong together, are of the third period, which is probably about 1160. A further examination of the passage through the clerestory makes this quite evident; the outer wall with this wide jointed masonry remains, but the whole of the inner face of the wall is of fine jointed masonry, and the junctions in the work are very evident, while neither the masonry nor the ornamentation agrees with the west front. My friend Mr. Bouet, of Caen, has made me a set of drawings of these details, which will, I think, make the matter clear, even to those who have not the opportunity of examining the building for themselves. Another peculiarity in the arrangement of the clerestory of this church has long been observed, but not explained. Each of the windows has only one sub-arch by the side of it instead of two, as is the universal practice. The cause of this appears to me to be this: the original church had no vaults: these were added to the aisles in the second period, but to the central space not until the third: the original timber roof was carried on stone arches at intervals, as was the case in the Abbey Church of Cerisy of about the same period, and in several English halls.

When the stone vaults were put on, these early stone arches interfered with the arrangement of them, and they were obliged to be accommodated to the spaces which they had to occupy; hence the apparent irregularity of the plan.

The character of the masonry of the earliest period is exactly the same as that of the early work at Westminster, which we usually attribute to the time of Edward the Confessor, but which may perhaps be twenty years later, as we have none of his church remaining.

The Church of the Holy Trinity, or the *Abbaie aux Dames*, at Caen, was founded by Queen Matilda in 1066, and the church was dedicated the same year, which is almost a proof that it was a temporary wooden church only; for a stone church would not have been built in the time, and there could be no reason why one of the two churches should require eleven years before it was ready for consecration and the other only one.

The work of the existing church is evidently of later date than the *Abbaie aux Hommes*. It was built at two different times during the course of the 12th century, but hardly any of this church can be considered as belonging to the 11th.

I have entered into the particulars respecting these two churches, because they are considered by many persons as the foundation of all ecclesiastical architecture in England, and are appealed to as tests of the style in use at the time of the Conquest, for which purpose they are almost as fallacious as Malmesbury Abbey was to Carter and the

antiquaries of the last century, who considered the existing building there as the type of the Saxon style.

I take this opportunity also of reminding you that in travelling on the Continent it is necessary to be very cautious how you receive the dates which are given you by the local guides, or even by Mr. Murray's excellent hand-books, which are necessarily compiled, in a great degree, from local guide-books and other foreign works. The dates usually assigned in such works are those of the original foundation only without taking any notice of subsequent rebuilding, which has taken place everywhere, just in the same manner as in England. In many foreign countries the subject of Mediæval architects has not yet been studied, and very few buildings have been subjected to the same searching investigations which Professor Willis has given to Canterbury Cathedral: his work is really the only safe guide to the history of all the great churches in Europe.

(To be continued.)

MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

In reply to "J." and "K. T.," I beg to say that the Rev. Edward Chaloner Ogle, of Kirkley Hall, Prov. G. Commander of Northumberland and Berwick-on-Tweed, was "*inaugurated*" ("*installed*," I respectfully suggest, is the proper word), on the 8th November, 1859, as it appeared in your *MAGAZINE* from the report of your "Own Correspondent." The writer, and three other of his colleagues, Present and Past Grand Officers of the Grand Encampment, were deputed by an official letter from the Grand Chancellor who conveyed, in the names of the M.E. and Supreme Grand Master, orders to them to proceed and install the Prov. G. Commander, which was done by the writer, the Senior Grand Officer, assisted by the other Past Grand Officers, and a large muster of Sir Knts. of this neighbourhood.

I hope you will, therefore, add our M.E. Prov. G. Commander's name to the list.—I am, yours, J. GROVES.

"VEXILLUM BELLI."

Although I am not a K.T., I think I can inform "R.G." what the "Vexillum Belli" is. It is, as its name implies, a War Banner; its uses, and the duties of the officer connected with it, are apparent.—DIAGORAS.

THE OLD MARK JEWEL.

If your correspondent, "A Mark Master," can decypher the inscription on one side of the jewel, he will find the same cypher applicable to the other side. Let him refer to "the stone which the builders left"—and I think he will be satisfied. If not, with your assurance that I shall not do wrong, I will, with much pleasure, send you a detailed explanation.—P. PROV. J.G.W.

IS JOHN PARRY A MASON?

Well knowing that John Parry, the bard Alaw, was a distinguished brother of the Craft, I should be glad to learn if his son, John Parry, the buffo-singer, is a brother?—CROCHET.

SHOCKING CALIGRAPHY.

[If the Bro. who sends either a note or query will have the kindness to get some one to copy his letter, instead of favouring us with a production so near akin to the arrow-headed Nineveh inscriptions, we will do our best to oblige him; but we are not well up enough in hieroglyphics to read more than a word here and there.]

BRO. MARSHAL SOULT AND HIS DIPLOMA.

The following extract from Laurie's *History of Freemasonry* may be interesting to many who have not access to the work itself.—D. T.

It having been brought under the notice of the Grand Lodge (of Scotland) on the 5th of August, 1850, that the Masonic Diploma of Marshal Soult, which had been found on the 21st of June, 1813, amongst that gallant Marshal's baggage after the Battle of Vittoria, was in possession of the Lodge St. Nathalan, Tullich-in-Mar* and the Grand Lodge being of opinion that no brother or body of

* It had been presented to that lodge on the 30th of June, 1823.

brethren had a right to retain unauthorised possession of the property of a brother Mason, directed St. Nathalan's Lodge to be communicated with about restoring the said Diploma to its legitimate owner. After some correspondence it was transmitted to the Grand Lodge, and exhibited to the members thereof at this communication, when the Most Worshipful the Grand Master directed that it should be returned to Marshal Soult, through the Marquess of Normanby, the British Ambassador at Paris; and the Marshal's letter of acknowledgment transmitted to the Lodge St. Nathalan, Tullich-in-Mar, for preservation in its archives, as a far more valuable memorial of a distinguished brother than the possession of his Diploma could be.*

CLAIRVOYANCE AND MASONRY.

I was introduced to a clairvoyant, and as he was a celebrated impostor, ready to answer any and everything, I put but three questions to him.—I. Could he see into a lodge of Freemasons, then actually being held and the hour about seven, with several third degrees to be taken, as the summons told me which I had in my pocket, and he declared he could—"Well! what can you see?"—"Oh! many gentlemen assembled in dresses, smoking cigars and passing the wine." This I knew to be false: banquet was ordered at eight. Question II. "Are any of them sitting with their hats on?" "He could not distinguish; they had some covering for their heads." Question III. "What did the principal man in the lodge wear?" "He had on an elegant robe, and wore a sword and spurs." Upon receiving these answers I took my leave, communicating to one of the interested parties that the whole affair was an imposition.—H. E. V.

THE LATE REV. STEPHEN ISAACSON.

I shall be much obliged to any reader of THE FREEMASONS MAGAZINE who will inform me when, and where, the late Rev. Stephen Isaacson, A.M., of Christ's College, Cambridge, was initiated, and to what degree he afterwards attained.—TAU.

DEATH OF OUR ILLUSTRIOUS BRO. WILLIAM THE THIRD.

Macaulay, in the recently published fifth volume of his *History of England*, thus describes the death of our illustrious Bro. King William the Third.—BRO. PETER.

On the 20th February, William was ambling on a favourite horse, named Sorrel, through the park of Hampton Court. He urged his horse to strike into a gallop just at the spot where a mole had been at work. Sorrel stumbled on the mole-hill and went down on his knees. The King fell off, and broke his collar bone. The bone was set, and he returned to Kensington in his coach, the jolting of the rough roads of that time made it necessary to reduce the fracture again. To a young and vigorous man such an accident would have been a trifle. But the frame of William was not in a condition to bear even the slightest shock. He felt that his time was short, and grieved, with a grief, such as only noble spirits feel, to think that he must leave his work but half finished. It was possible that he might still live until one of his plans should be carried into execution. He had long known that the relation in which England and Scotland stood to each other was at best precarious, and often unfriendly, and that it might be doubted whether, in an estimate of the British power, the resources of the smaller country ought not to be deducted from those of the larger. Recent events had proved that without doubt, the two kingdoms could not possibly continue for another year to be on the terms on which they had been during the preceding century, and that there must be between them either absolute union or deadly enmity. Their enmity would bring frightful calamities, not on themselves alone, but on all the civilized world. Their union would be the best security for the prosperity of both, for the internal tranquillity of the island, for the just balance of power among European states, and for the immunities of all Protestant countries. On the 28th of February, the Commons listened with uncovered heads to the last message that bore William's sign manual. An unhappy accident, he told them, had forced him to make to them in writing a communication which he would gladly have made from the throne. He had in the first year of his reign, expressed his desire to see an union accomplished between England and Scotland. He was convinced that nothing could more conduce to the safety and happiness of both. He should think it his peculiar felicity if, before the close of his reign, some happy expedient could be devised for making the two kingdoms one; and he, in the most earnest manner, recommended the question to the consideration of the Houses. It was resolved that the message should be taken into consideration on Saturday the 7th of March.

* The illustrious and gallant Marshal died in a few days after the Diploma was presented to him.

But on the 1st of March humours of menacing appearance showed themselves in the King's knee. On the 4th of March he was attacked by fever; on the 5th his strength failed greatly; and on the 6th he was scarcely kept alive by cordials. The Abjuration Bill and a money bill were awaiting his assent. That assent he felt that he should not be able to give in person. He therefore ordered a commission to be prepared for his signature. His hand was now too weak to form the letters of his name, and it was suggested that a stamp should be prepared. On the 7th of March the stamp was ready. The Lord Keeper and the clerks of the Parliament came, according to usage, to witness the signing of the commission. But they were detained some hours in the ante-chamber while he was in one of the paroxysms of his malady. Meanwhile the Houses were sitting. It was Saturday the 7th, the day on which the Commons had resolved to take into consideration the question of the union with Scotland. But the subject was not mentioned. It was known that the King had but a few hours to live; and the members asked each other anxiously whether it was likely that the Abjuration and money bills would be passed before he died. After sitting long in the expectation of a message, the Commons adjourned till six in the afternoon. By that time William had recovered himself sufficiently to put the stamp on the parchment which authorised his Commissioners to act for him. In the evening, when the House had assembled, Black Rod knocked. The Commons were summoned to the bar of the Lords; the commission was read, the Abjuration Bill and the Money Bill became laws, and both Houses adjourned till nine o'clock in the morning of the following day. The following day was Sunday. But there was little chance that William would live through the night. It was of the highest importance that, within the shortest possible time after his decease, the successor designated by the Bill of Rights and the Act of Succession should receive the homage of the Estates of the Realm, and be publicly proclaimed in the Council; and the most rigid Pharisee in the Society for the Reformation of Manners could hardly deny that it was lawful to save the state, even on the Sabbath.

The King meanwhile was sinking fast. Albemarle had arrived at Kensington from the Hague, exhausted by rapid travelling. His master kindly bade him go to rest for some hours, and then summoned him to make his report. That report was in all respects satisfactory. The States General were in the best temper; the troops, the provisions, and the magazines, were in the best order. Everything was in readiness for an early campaign. William received the intelligence with the calmness of a man whose work was done. He was under no illusion as to his danger. "I am fast drawing to my end." His end was worthy of his life. His intellect was not for a moment clouded. His fortitude was the more admirable because he was not willing to die. He had very lately said to one of those whom he most loved: "You know that I never feared death; there have been times when I should have wished it; but, now that this great new prospect is opening before me, I do wish to stay here a little longer." Yet no weakness, no querulousness, disgraced the noble close of that noble career. To the physicians the King returned his thanks graciously and gently. "I know that you have done all that skill and learning could do for me; but the case is beyond your art; and I submit." From the words which escaped him he seemed to be frequently engaged in mental prayer. Burnet and Tenison remained many hours in the sick room. He professed to them his firm belief in the truth of the Christian religion, and received the sacrament from their hands with great seriousness. The ante-chambers were crowded all night with Lords and Privy Councillors. He ordered several of them to be called in, and exerted himself to take leave of them with a few kind and cheerful words. Among the English who were admitted were Devonshire and Ormond. But there were in the crowd those who felt as no Englishman could feel, friends of his youth who had been true to him, and to whom he had been true, through all vicissitudes of fortune; who had served him with unalterable fidelity when his Secretaries of State, his Treasury, and his Admiralty had betrayed him; who had never, on any field of battle, or in an atmosphere tainted with loathsomeness and deadly disease, shrunk from placing their own lives in jeopardy to save his, and whose truth he had, at the cost of his own popularity, rewarded with bounteous munificence. He strained his feeble voice to thank Auverquerque for the affectionate and loyal services of thirty years. To Albemarle he gave the keys of his closet, and of his private drawers. "You know," he said, "what to do with them." By this time he could scarcely respire. "Can this," he said to the physicians, "last long?" He was told that the end was approaching. He swallowed a cordial, and asked for Bentinck. Those were his last articulate words. Bentinck instantly came to the bedside, bent down, and placed his ear close to the King's mouth. The lips of the dying man moved, but nothing could be heard. The King took the hand of his earliest friend, and pressed it tenderly to his heart. In that moment, no doubt, all that had cast a slight passing cloud over their long and pure friendship was forgotten. It was

now between seven and eight in the morning. He closed his eyes, and gasped for breath. The bishops knelt down and read the commendatory prayer. When it was ended William was no more.

When his remains were laid out, it was found that he wore next to his skin a small piece of black silk ribbon. The lords in waiting ordered it to be taken off. It contained a gold ring and a lock of the hair of Mary.

NOTES ON LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AND ART.

The annual meeting of the Art Union of London will be holden on Tuesday next, April 30th, at the Theatre Royal New Adelphi, by the kind permission of Bro. Benjamin Webster.

Mr. J. Lamont, F.G.S., in his *Seasons with the Sea Horses*, gives the following account of the great waste of life in shooting seals:—"When seals are in the water they are not the least afraid of a boat, but come boldly up quite close to it, first on one side and then on the other, as if impressed with the deepest curiosity to see what the unusual looking object is. When they are shot dead in the water, however, they sink so rapidly that it is very difficult to take possession of them. The most approved plan is, not to fire unless the boat's head is directed towards the seal and distant not more than thirty yards; then, if the men all give way instantly and vigorously, you may be in time to thrust or dart the harpoon into the seal before he sinks, but more likely you will only be in time to see him sinking far down in the clear water with his tail downwards. Some people compute that 'one-half of the seals shot in the water, even with skilful management, are lost;' others say 'two thirds,' and from our own experience, I am inclined to think it is two to one on the seal, or thereabouts. I have several times lost six consecutively, and a most tantalising proceeding it was; but, bad luck as that may seem, it is nothing, for our head harpooner, Christian, a very smart fellow, told me that one day he shot dead eighteen immense seals, and lost every one of them! If you merely wound a seal in the water, there is a much better chance of getting him than if he is killed outright, as he sometimes flounders on the surface till he is harpooned. I have often thought that it would answer to use small shot when they come so close, and I regret never having made the experiment."

Dr. Livingstone has now discovered that the celebrated Victoria Falls, which he had estimated at about a thousand yards in breadth, are at least 1860 yards, with a sheer fall of 310 feet.

Immense quantities of petroleum, or oil, has been discovered in the western countries of Canada. In the township of Enniskillen, county of Lambton, it is said to ooze up to the surface; and wells sunk to a depth of twenty or thirty feet, are reported to yield from 100 to 150 barrels every twenty-four hours. In other places wells require to be sunk from 100 to 150 feet.

At the sale of the late Principal Lee's collection of manuscripts, on the 4th inst., at Edinburgh, twenty-two letters from Lord Lovat, who was beheaded in 1746, sold for £6 10s.; a letter from Gibbon the historian, dated April 1st, 1776, noticing "the excellent work of Mr. Adam Smith," £1 3s.; eighteen letters from David Hume, 1735-49, £9 9s.; letter from the Earl of Cassilis to the Earl of Eglinton, written in 1568, giving an account how Mary Queen of Scots passed her time in England, £1 17s.; thirty-two treatises, principally on metaphysics, and several hundred letters and papers, in the handwriting of Dr. Adam Ferguson, 1772 to 1808, £19 3s.; and the Grange Papers—so called from being formerly in the possession of James Erskine, Lord Grange—reached £170. This last collection comprises twenty letters from John and Charles Wesley, to Lord Grange, with drafts of the replies; six letters of Dr. Doddridge, and upwards of 200 other letters, from Dr. Isaac Watts, George Whitfield, the Countess of Huntingdon, and others.

The summer session at Guy's Hospital commences on Wednesday, May 1st.

The total amount subscribed for the Pugin Travelling Fund now amounts to £1,016 11s. 6d.

Mr. Thomas River's little work on improved fruit-tree culture *The Orchard House*, has reached a ninth edition.

Mr. Thomas Hare's contribution to *Macmillan's Magazine* for,

this month, *The Development of the Wealth of India*, is about to be published in a separate form, with notes and additions.

The first volume of an English edition of Dr. Carl Von Scherzer's new work, *The Circumnavigation of the Globe by the Austrian Frigate "Novara,"* has just been issued.

At the meeting of the Society of Antiquaries on the 11th inst., J. Irving, Esq., exhibited "a curious Anglo-Roman ladder, made by means of holes cut in a solid oak plank," which was found in an iron-mine in the Forest of Dean, 300ft. below the surface. Ladders of this description are still used in England, placed perpendicular, in confined situations.

Frederick Gye, Esq., has kindly placed the Royal Italian Opera House at the disposal of the Council of the Royal Dramatic College, for a benefit in aid of the funds, on Friday, the 10th of May.

A public dinner is to take place at the London Tavern, on Tuesday, May 7th, Thomas Baring, Esq., M.P., in the chair, in aid of the special fund of the London Mechanics' Institution, for the purchase of the lease, and the liberation of Lord Brougham and Joshua Walker, Esq., the surviving trustees, from the liabilities generously incurred by them in connexion therewith. Upwards of £2000 have already been subscribed, and other £1500 are required. Surely "the great metropolis" can easily raise so paltry a sum for such a purpose. The pence of the working men alone might do it.

The Duke of Richmond has been unanimously elected Chancellor of the University of Aberdeen.

Our Bro. the Rev. Granville Granville, Vicar of Stratford-on-Avon, has written to the *Athenæum*, defending his conduct in causing the bust of Shakspeare to be daubed over with red and black paint; on which our contemporary remarks:—"We must be pardoned for disputing Mr. Granville's right to do as he pleases with the bust in his church. It belongs not to him, not to his church, not to the town, but to the whole civilised world."

It is proposed to erect a marble statue of our late Bro. Sir Charles Barry in the new palace at Westminster.

The famous altar-candlestick, formerly belonging to Gloucester Cathedral, and stolen therefrom nobody knows when, but which is considered one of the finest works of art of its kind, has been purchased for South Kensington Museum, at a cost of £800.

The monument designed by Mr. John Bell, and recently erected at the bottom of Waterloo-place, "To the memory of the 2162 officers and men of the Brigade of Guards who fell during the war in Russia, 1854, 1855, 1856," has been severely criticised. *The Illustrated London News*, which gives a good wood-engraving of the monument, terms it "an eyesore, and an obstruction of the public view of one of the most agreeable outlooks which our crowded thoroughfares afford," and adds,—“As a work of art this memorial is almost beneath criticism. It may be said of it with perfect truth that it is unique: nothing like it has ever been seen—nothing else like it, we trust, ever will be seen. It is neither picturesque nor architectural, nor jointly both.”

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

RETURNS TO THE CLERK OF THE PEACE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE FREEMASONS MAGAZINE AND MASONIC MIRROR.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I see my old opponent, "R.E.X.," is still harping on one string, the desirability of ignoring the Returns to the Clerk of the Peace, because, if he can upset the principle, then the so-called Mark lodges holding under the assumed Grand Mark Lodge of England, need not fear being classed amongst illegal secret societies. The gist of his communication is to be found in the first paragraph of his letter, in which he states, "Much uncer-

tainty exists in the opinions of well-meaning brethren as to the necessity, and even propriety of making such returns." This assertion is at once demolished by the fact that those returns are ordered to be made by every lodge and chapter; and whether they are necessary, or proper, does not lie within the powers of any well-meaning brethren to dispute. The law of the land says it shall be done, and the Masonic executive have determined this law shall be complied with. Can "R.E.X." want any stronger measures to compel him, and those that think with him, to obedience? If so, his appeal to the legal officer of the Craft is most singularly out of place.

I am, yours truly and fraternally,
ANTI-SPURIOUS MARK.

A CASE OF DISTRESS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE FREEMASONS MAGAZINE AND MASONIC MIRROR.

SIR,—I write to appeal to the consideration of the Freemasons on behalf of my husband, William Evans, who is now dying through the rupture of a vessel on his lungs. He is the son of the well-known William Evans, the Masonic jeweller, of Great Queen-street, Lincoln's-inn-fields.

After the death of his father, my husband, to liquidate his father's liabilities, sold the business to Mr. Spencer, since which period, now some years ago, he has been most unfortunate in his endeavours to obtain a living; and until Mr. Thearle, of Fleet-street, took him into his employ last Christmas, was earning insufficient to pay his rent.

One by one we parted with best part of the furniture.

On Saturday week my husband was taken ill in Mr. Thearle's counting-house, where he now lies on the floor, it being forbidden to move him.

If the Craft will take into their kind consideration mine and my children's very distressing position, I shall ever be grateful.

We have had but few friends since our distress came on.

To the Globe Lodge, I beg to render my most sincere thanks for the assistance afforded me last winter. To the Rev. J. E. Cox, for his kind consideration. To Mr. John Mott Thearle, who is the best friend we ever had, and a true brother to my husband, giving him every assistance, both in money and necessaries. It is because I know that I have no right to expect so much from an almost stranger, and that I sincerely believe, leaving out of consideration that charity that ever distinguishes the Freemasons, that I appeal to all those who knew the late Mr. Evans; and those who can sympathise with the extreme illness, poverty, and the pain of asking even my poor husband's brethren to assist him. The Rev. Mr. Cox, of 47, Mecklenburg-square, or Mr. Thearle, of 198, Fleet-street, have kindly consented to receive any donation the brethren may be disposed to give me.

I remain, very respectfully yours,

JANE EVANS.

THE HIGH GRADES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE FREEMASONS MAGAZINE AND MASONIC MIRROR.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I have not the least intention of answering "Ex. Ex.'s" remarks, further than to say that, if the balance-sheet of the high grades is any business of his, I doubt not he can obtain full information by application to the proper quarter.

One piece of information and one word of advice I will afford him.

I was Steward, in 1860, to the Royal Benevolent Institution, and by my list of subscriptions I find I took up £10 from the Supreme Grand Council 33°. Other Stewards, I know, can tell a similar tale; and I recommend "Ex. Ex." the next time he wishes to make an ill-natured remark upon his neighbours' actions, to be quite sure, first, that he is speaking the truth.

I am, Dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,
ARTHUR BLAKISTON, 30°.

Summertown, Oxford, April 13, 1861.

P.S.—Tuesday last, amongst others, I had the pleasure of signifying my approval of the still flourishing state of "the balance-sheet."

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

MASONIC MEMS.

The M.W. Grand Master has signified his intention of honouring the Isaac Newton University Lodge, Cambridge, with his presence on Tuesday, May 21st, when its consecration and the installation of Bro. the Duke of St. Alban's as first W.M., will take place.

ROYAL BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION FOR AGED FREEMASONS AND THEIR WIDOWS.

We have to acknowledge many kind promises of support for Mrs. Weymouth as a candidate for the Annuity Fund, and have again to request that those Lodges and Subscribers who have not disposed of their votes to forward their proxy papers to Bro. Henry G. Warren, at the Office of THE FREEMASONS MAGAZINE, 5, Salisbury Street, Strand, W.C., on behalf of Mrs. Weymouth, who is now in her sixty-fourth year, having been born January 27, 1798. She was married on the 1st July, 1821, and her husband died on the 29th May, 1845. The late Bro. Weymouth was initiated in the Lodge of Faith, No. 165, on the 26th August, 1828, and paid to June, 1841, a period of thirteen years. The only means of support of Mrs. Weymouth is described to be needle-work, and, being afflicted with rheumatism, she can do but little.

About 1000 votes, with those brought forward, will carry the election; and as every five shillings will purchase eight votes, we shall be happy to receive that amount from brethren, who have not already subscribed, towards aiding the object of taking from the balloting papers such an item as "Seventh Application." Towards the 1000, we thus head the list—

	Votes.
Bro. Warren, H. G.	72
Mrs. Warren	16
Bro. Cooke, Matthew, 29, (10s.)	16
" Dr. Hinxman	16
" Colonel Tulloh, 30°, (5s.) ..	8
" Gaball, J. H., 536, (5s.).....	8
" States, G., 202, (5s.)	8
" Morris, R., 202	8
" Boyd, John, 169.....	8

UNITED GRAND LODGE.

The annual meeting for the installation of the M.W. Grand Master, and the appointment of Officers, was held in the Temple on Wednesday last, the 29th inst., the M.W.G.M., the Earl of Zetland, in the chair, supported by the R.W. Earl of Dalhousie, D.G.M.; the Prov. G. Masters for Hampshire (Sir Lucius Curtis), Cambridge-shire (Bro. Hall, P.G. Reg.), Essex (Bro. Bagshaw), Durham (Bro. Fawcett), Oxfordshire (Bro. Bowyer), Norfolk (Bro. B. B. Cabbell), Bengal (Gen. Ramsay); Bros. F. Dundas, M.P., as S. G.W.; A. Perkins, J.G.W.; Rev. E. J. Cox, and Rev. Sir J. W. Hayes, P.G. Chaps., as G. Chaps.; Tomkins, G. Treas.; Roxburgh, G. Reg.; W. G. Clarke, G. Sec.; the President of the Board of General Purposes (Bro. Havers, P.G.D.); the President of the Colonial Board (Bro. J. Ll. Evans, P.G.S.B.); Bros. Crombie, S.G.D.; Jno. Hervey, as J.G.D.; Dawkes, G. Supt. of Works; Woods, G.D.C.; Harcourt, Asst. G.D.C.; Bridges, G.S.B.; Farnfield, Asst. G. Sec.; Horsley, G. Org.; Adams, G. Purst.; Farmer, Asst. G. Purst.; Chev. Hebler, P.G.W., Rep. G. Lodge of Berlin.

There were also present a large number of Prov. Grand Officers, amongst whom we observed Bro. Col. Burlton, P. Prov. G. Master, Bengal; P.G. Wardens, Lord de Tabley, Fenwick, M.P., and F. Pattison and W. Portal; P.G. Sec., Bro. W. H. White; P.G. Deacons, B. Wilson, T. R. White, F. Slight, J. Savage, W. P. Scott, Phillips, Hopwood, Solomons, Nelson, Potter, and J. N. Tomkins; P.G.D.

of Cers., Bros. Jennings and Chapman; P.G. Sword Bearers, Bros. Le Veau, Pocock, Elkington, Walmisley, Spiers, and Patten, and about 150 other brethren.

Grand Lodge having been opened in a solemn form, the minutes as to the election of the M.W.G.M. and Grand Treasurer, were read and confirmed. The M.W.G.M. having been duly saluted, thanked the brethren for the renewed mark of their favour in selecting him as their Grand Master. He could assure the brethren that he deeply appreciated the honour, and he would continue, as he had ever done, to endeavour to promote the interests of the Craft to the best of his ability. Though he had felt it is duty to be present that afternoon, he deeply regretted that it would not be in his power to join them in the evening, he having received intelligence of the serious illness of a near and dear relation (Sir Hedworth Williamson) He could assure the brethren he deeply regretted being unable to meet them, and he was certain under the circumstances they would excuse him. The M.W.G. Master then proceeded to appoint his officers, as follow those marked thus * being re-appointments.

The Earl de Grey and Ripon, D. Grand Master.
 Lord Richard Grosvenor, S.G. Warden.
 Bro. Novelli, J.G. Warden.
 Bros. the Rev. Dr. Senior, and Riland Bedford, G. Chaps.
 Bro. S. Tomkins,* G. Treas.
 „ F. Roxburgh,* G. Reg.
 „ W. G. Clarke,* G. Sec.
 „ Brandt, G. Sec. German Correspondence.
 „ A. McIntyre, S.G.D.
 „ C. H. Gregory, J.G.D.
 „ W. Dawkes,* G. Sup. Works.
 „ A. W. Woods,* G.D.C.
 „ J. Symonds,* Asst. G.D.C.
 „ Hyde Pullen, G. Sd. Bearer.
 „ W. Farnfield,* Asst. G. Sec.
 „ C. Horsley,* G. Org.
 „ T. A. Adams,* G. Purst.
 „ D. Farmer,* Asst. G. Purst.
 „ Chas. B. Payne,* G. Tyler.

It was explained that Lord Richard Grosvenor was unable to attend in consequence of engagements in the countr; Bro. Gregory, owing to professional engagements in Sicily; and Bro. Brandt, by ill-health.

The following brethren having been returned by the respective lodges as Grand Stewards for the ensuing year, and approved of by the Grand Master, were duly presented:—Bros. Lumley, No. 1; S. L. Tomkins, 2; S. Haydon, 4; H. Coote, 5; Capt. W. Platt, 6; W. W. Knight, 8; H. Cazenove, 14; Geo. Smith, 23; C. C. McDonnell, 27; S. Herapath, 32; Thos. B. Brankston, 51; Ed. H. Hubback, 66; Thos. Parker, 72; Herman Kopke, 108; Wm. Blewett, 116; Capt. M. J. Currie, 233; Thos. Hughan, 324.

The Earl DE GREY and RIPON having been duly obligated by Bro. Hall, Past Grand Master for Cambridgeshire, as Deputy Grand Master, was conducted to his seat on the right of the Grand Master and having been regularly proclaimed according to ancient custom, received the usual salutations from the brothers. His lordship then said:—“Most Worshipful Sir, I have to return you my most sincere acknowledgments for your kindness in promoting me to the responsible and important office which I have now the honour to fill, and to you my brethren for the cordial manner in which you have just now saluted me. I feel how very little I have deserved from any services which I have as yet performed in the cause of Masonry to attain to this distinction, but I can assure you that having accepted the office of Deputy Grand Master, it shall be my constant effort to labour, to the best of my ability, to discharge its arduous and honourable functions, and to promote the general good of our ancient craft, and to afford you, Most Worshipful Sir, all the assistance in my power in the government of the Order.

The Earl of DALHOUSIE then addressed the Grand Lodge, and said, I cannot surrender the office which I have held in the Craft for the last few years without offering to the Most Worshipful Grand Master, and to you my brethren, my most sincere thanks

for the kind manner in which you have at all times borne with the many imperfections which I brought to the discharge of its duties. I have felt it to be my duty to request the Most Worshipful the Grand Master to release me from the responsibility of the office which he was kind enough to entrust to me, simply because I could not command that health which I felt I required to adequately fulfil it. (Hear, hear.) But in retiring from office, I do not retire from Masonry. I do not relinquish the interest which I have always and will ever take in the advancement of the Craft. (Cheers.) I am happy to say I have his permission to remain as one of his council—a member of his cabinet, but without office, not simply to meet him in his cabinet, but to aid him in the high duty of advocating for the Craft the maintenance of those privileges and immunities to which it is entitled (cheers) and rejoice to think that in retiring from office I leave the Craft in a state of harmony and unity, and flourishing in a manner almost unprecedented, and on which we may all congratulate ourselves. During the state of disunion which everywhere exists, I raise my hands in thanksgiving to the G.A.O.T.U. that he has vouchsafed to us that state of unity which alone can make Masonry useful to the world at large. (Cheers.) I see that the seeds of that unity have been sown broadcast in England, and I feel confident it will secure to the Craft that high character and reputation which it had hitherto enjoyed.

Bro. HAVERS, President of the Board of General Purposes, then rose and said, Most Worshipful Grand Master, the Grand Secretary has already communicated to you the cause of the absence of Bro. Brandt, representative of the Grand Lodge of Hamburg. Whilst we regret the indisposition which has prevented that Brother's attendance, I am sure that he feels even a greater regret that he cannot in person perform the task which he has deputed to me. Late last night, Most Worshipful Sir, I received this packet, with the request that, in the unavoidable absence of Bro. Brandt, I would present it to your Lordship. I feel that I cannot better perform my task than by reading a translation of a letter which accompanies it. Bro. Havers then read a very complimentary and fraternal letter from the Grand Master and Grand Officers of the Grand Lodge of Hamburg to the Grand Master of England, referring to the period when the Lodges of Freemasons in Hamburg were subordinate to the Grand Lodge of England, and to the period of 50 years which had now elapsed since the formation of the Grand Lodge of Hamburg, and expressing the very fraternal feeling and respect which they still hold to their Mother Lodge, and that, as a mark of their respect the Grand Lodge of Hamburg had, by an unanimous vote on the occasion of their meeting for their 50th anniversary, elected the Earl of Zetland an honorary member. The following is a translation of the document, which was engrossed on vellum, and, as Bro. Havers remarked, was in itself an exquisite piece of art.

“We, Grandmaster, Deputy Grandmaster, and Grandwardens of the most honourable Grand Lodge of Hamburg, hereby announce in the name of the aforesaid lodge, that by a unanimous determination of the 2nd February, 1861, the honorary membership of the Grand Lodge of Hamburg was awarded to the most honourable Bro. the Earl of Zetland, Grandmaster of the United Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of England, in the Lodge of London. We beg this beloved Bro. to accept the same as a token of our sincere love and esteem, and also as a proof of our grateful fraternal acknowledgement of his manifold services to our Grand Lodge and to the Union of Freemasons.

“DR. BUCKSEN, Grand Master.
 “DR. C. W. ASHER, Deputy Grand Master.
 “C. E. BUCK, Senior Grand Warden.
 “V. A. NOODT, Junior Grand Warden.
 “B. L. TITSCHE, Grand Secretary.”

In presenting it to the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Bro. Havers, said, permit me to add on behalf of my Brethren in Grand Lodge, for I am convinced that I shall speak their feelings as well as my own, that if this mark of respect and attachment paid to you by a foreign Grand Lodge is gratifying to your Lordship's feelings, it will be felt as no less gratifying and complimentary by the

Brethren in this country, over whom you have so long and so worthily presided.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master, said, that he was much pleased in accepting this mark of respect and esteem offered to him by the Grand Lodge of Hamburg; he begged Bro. Havers to communicate his thanks to Bro. Brandt, and to assure him that he would take the earliest opportunity of sending a suitable acknowledgement to the Grand Lodge of Hamburg.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master having put on the collar and expressed the satisfaction with which he received this fraternal mark of attention from the Grand Lodge of Hamburg.

Bro. Binches expressed his regret at hearing of the cause of resignation of the D. G. Mastership by the Right Hon. Bro. Earl Dalhousie, and gave notice of his intention to move the presentation of a vote of thanks to his lordship for his valuable services to be entered in the minutes, emblazoned, and presented to his lordship.

The Grand Lodge was then closed in ample form.

THE GRAND FESTIVAL.

Shortly after six o'clock nearly 250 brethren assembled in the hall, where a very elegant banquet was served, under the personal direction of Bros. Shrewsbury and Elkington—the order given by the Stewards being only for 180. The chair, in the absence of the M.W.G. Master, was occupied by the Right Hon. Earl de Grey and Ripon, D.G. Master, supported by the greater number of the brethren whose names we have already given, besides an unusually large attendance of private brethren.

On the removal of the cloth,

The D. GRAND MASTER rose amidst loud cheers, and said—Brethren, the first toast I have to propose is one which needs no recommendation from me. The health of Her Majesty is always enthusiastically drunk in every meeting of loyal Englishmen, and loyalty is a peculiar characteristic of Freemasonry. (Cheers.) Brethren, the shining virtues which distinguish the Queen, and the love with which she is regarded by her subjects, make the toast no mere formal one, the more especially at the present moment; for as we rejoice with the Queen in her joy, we have been called upon this year to sympathise with her in a loss which we regret, and deeply feel all her sorrows. (Cheers.) I give you "The Health of Her Majesty the Queen." (Cheers.)

The D.G.M. next gave "The Health of H.R.H. the Prince Consort, Albert, Prince of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family," which he was sure would be cordially responded to, as the admirable manner in which the Prince Consort had performed his duties had endeared him to the people throughout the country. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales had, during the past years, proved himself in the eyes of the country and of the world worthy of his illustrious parents. He had proved that she possessed all the qualities that were required by Englishmen, in the Prince of Wales; and with such examples before them, he had no doubt that the other members of the family would also prove worthy of their love and esteem. (Cheers.)

The D. GRAND MASTER next rose and said:—Brethren, I now rise to propose that toast which on these occasions must be deemed the most important, the health of the M.W. Grand Master the Earl of Zetland. (Cheers.) I gather from that cheer that you share with me the deep regret which I feel at his absence on this occasion, and brethren I cannot better express how much the Grand Master regrets his absence than by mentioning that I believe this is the first occasion since he has filled the high and important office of Grand Master that he has failed to preside over the Grand Festival (Cheers); but it was impossible for him to do so to night, he having received intelligence of the serious and alarming illness of a dear and close relation. Under these circumstances I am sure you will not refuse him your sympathies, feeling that his absence was forced upon him by the cause I have stated. It would be impossible on my part were I to attempt to dilate on the virtues

Grand Master, as they have long since received the approbation of the brethren; and the anxiety of the Earl of Zetland for the interests of the Craft could not have been better shown, than by the fact that, notwithstanding the painful circumstances to which I have alluded, he was present in Grand Lodge this afternoon to discharge his duties. (Cheers) He could not partake of our festivities, but he did not shrink from performing the duties of his position, (Cheers), and is only a further evidence of the spirit with which he endeavours to discharge his duties for the benefit of the Craft. (Cheers.) It is my earnest trust that he may long continue to come amongst us, and give us the benefit of his valuable services, which have formed an epoch in the history of English Freemasonry, and set such a bright example to any one who may become his successor. I give with the utmost confidence that it will be heartily received "The Health of the M.W. Grand Master. (Cheers.)

The toast having been drunk amidst loud applause.

The D. GRAND MASTER, rose and said, brethren I have now to propose "The Grand Lodges of Scotland and Ireland." There can be nothing better than the existence of a cordial feeling amongst all Freemasons, and we are at all times glad of the opportunity of showing hospitality to the members of, and expressing our friendship towards the Grand Lodges of the sister kingdoms. It is at all times pleasant to express our feelings towards the Grand Lodges of Scotland and Ireland; but it will be the more so on the present occasion as I propose to couple with the toast the name of a Right Worshipful Brother, who is endeared to us all by other considerations than that of his connection with the Grand Lodge of Scotland; for though the Earl of Dalhousie has been for a long time our representative in the Grand Lodge of Scotland, it is not by the position he holds in Scotland that he is best known to us. (Cheers.) In rising to propose the health of that noble Lord my first feeling is that I ought not to fill this chair, and that I appear before you somewhat in the position of a usurper. (No. no.) But the noble Lord, for reasons which I will not allude to, as I have no doubt he will do so himself, has thought it desirable to resign the high position which he held; and though he considers he had ample reasons for that step, I sincerely regret that he has taken it. He has, however, thought fit to resign the office that he has filled for four years with great distinction, and with so much advantage to the Craft. (Cheers.) It is a pleasing duty to me to propose, as I know it will be a pleasure to you to drink to "The Health of Lord Dalhousie." (Applause.)

The EARL OF DALHOUSIE rose amidst loud applause, which prevented his being heard for some time, and said, Brethren, I can hardly find words to express the feelings which actuate me at the present moment, for the reception which you have given me is but an additional proof of your kindness towards me, and which has so materially facilitated the discharge of the duties of the office, from which I have just severed myself. Permit me in the first instance, to allude to the honour which you have conferred on the Grand Lodges of Scotland and Ireland. I concur with the remarks of your Deputy Grand Master, that the union of the three Grand Lodges, by the interchange of representatives has done much to promote our Order, and to increase the prosperity of Freemasonry throughout the United Kingdom. (Cheers.) It was a happy thought to send representatives from one Grand Lodge to another, and I have great pride and satisfaction in being the representative, in the Grand Lodge of Scotland, for so ancient and important a body as the Grand Lodge of England. (Cheers.) Beyond that, I have had the honour of serving the office of Deputy Grand Master for the last four years. I accepted the office when tendered me by the Grand Master, believing that I might be of some service to the Grand Lodge of England, and because I wished to repay, as far as I could, the debt of gratitude I owed to our departed Grand Master for first introducing me to the Grand Lodge of England, as Senior Grand Warden; and brethren



I have succeeded in rendering you any service, I am more than rewarded by the support which you have given me and which has enabled me to do so. (Cheers.) I would continue those services with pleasure, but when I find that an unfortunate complaint, to which I am subject, prevents me, from time to time, attending the quarterly communications of Grand Lodges I take it as a hint that I should no longer fill the office of Deputy Grand Master, and I feel that I am bound to vacate the chair, trusting that it will be filled by a brother who can give you the advantage of his presence, and be of more service than I have been. (No, no.) I own that it is with deep regret I take this step, but that regret is qualified by two considerations: first, that I believe it is for your advantage that from time to time new blood should be introduced into the high offices of the Craft; and, second from the conviction which I feel that I may still be useful to you in Grand Lodge. (Cheers.) Brethren, my health is not broken (loud and prolonged cheering); and, honoured as I am by the Grand Master, who has requested me still to form part of his council (cheers), I shall be enabled to give him advice, and should it please the G.A. of the Universe, to follow up that advice by action in my private capacity as a member of the Grand Lodge of England, which I shall endeavour at all times, when possible, to attend. (Cheers.) In retiring from office, I do not in the least forego my interest in the welfare and prosperity of the Grand Lodge, to which I have the honour to belong. (Cheers.) I have already stated that one advantage of my retirement is the allowing of the infusion of new blood into the office; and, brethren, I am happy to state that the Grand Master has selected for the office of Deputy Grand Master a nobleman whose name is not unknown in Masonry, though it is better known by his services to his country. (Cheers.) I know of no man whom I would rather see step into my vacant chair than Lord de Grey. (Cheers.) He is one whose character and talents eminently fit him for the discharge of the duties of the office, whilst I feel that the zeal with which he will perform the duties required from him will raise the character of the office far higher than I have been enabled to do. (No, no.) I will not say more in his lordship's presence; but I am convinced that the Grand Lodge of England will be as proud of him as one of its members and officers as, by-and-bye, the people of England will be proud of him as one of its legislators. (Cheers.) I give you "The Health of the Deputy Grand Master of England," with all the honours. (Loud applause.)

EARL DE GREY, Deputy Grand Master, rose amidst loud cheers, which lasted some time, and said, Brethren, I am deeply grateful to you for the kind manner in which you have received the toast proposed in such feeling terms by my noble friend, Lord Panmure, and I feel it difficult adequately to express my feelings on this occasion. Brethren, when first the Grand Master informed me that in consequence of the intended resignation of the office of Deputy Grand Master by my noble friend, he thought of nominating me to it, I wished to decline it, believing that he could easily find a better qualified brother for the post. (No, no.) I informed him that, consistently with the claims of public duty—which must be the first consideration with every public man (hear, hear)—I feared that I should be prevented taking that part in the affairs of Grand Lodge and performing my duties to the Craft as I would wish to do; but when the Grand Master informed me, at a later period, that having, at my request reconsidered the question, he still wished me to undertake the duties of this high position—considering that one of the first duties of Masonry was obedience—I felt that I could no longer, consistently with that duty, refuse to undertake the duties which I have entered on this day. (Cheers.) In entering upon these duties I do so feeling and hoping that I may rely on the kind indulgence and favour of Grand Lodge in overlooking any shortcomings of mine, provided they are convinced that I endeavour to discharge the duties of my office to the best of my ability. (Cheers.) In one

respect I am placed in a peculiarly difficult position, being called upon to succeed such a Deputy Grand Master as the noble Lord who has just retired from the office, and I have one good cause of quarrel with the noble Lord, besides that which I feel he has given me occasion for this evening, by having overwhelmed me with so many compliments, and that quarrel is for having fulfilled the duties of the office so well that it is very difficult to succeed him. (Cheers and laughter.) I can, however, assure you, brethren, that the kind reception you have given me will be an inducement to attend to the discharge of the duties of the high office conferred upon me on every possible occasion. It is my earnest desire to afford every possible assistance to the Grand Master, which he has a right to claim from every brother, in the discharge of his important office, and as far as is consistent with my public duties, which ought and must be first considered, it will be my pleasure and gratification to labour for the benefit of Grand Lodge (Cheers); and not only will I endeavour firmly to perform the onerous duties of my office, but in every way to promote the good of the Craft, the interests of the Grand Lodge, and harmony and union amongst all Freemasons (Cheers.) Harmony and Union are the great pillars and bonds which from time immemorial have proved the strong foundation upon which our Order rests, and has so long maintained for the Craft the confidence and support of its members, and insured the prosperity which happily attends the Grand Lodge of England (Cheers.) Brethren, I again assure you that I am proud of being placed in a position, by which I may be enabled to promote the interests of our institution, and I again ask your kind indulgence and assistance in the performance of my duties, and from this night it will be my pride, as it is my duty, to labour for the good of Freemasonry. (Cheers.) Now Brethren, having said so much relative to myself, I have to propose to you the health of the Grand Wardens and the other Grand Officers who have been appointed this day. You know how much depends on the Grand Officers efficiently discharging their duties; all have important duties to discharge, and doubt not they will zealously do so in order that the Grand Lodge may still occupy the high position it has long maintained, and I feel assured that position will not be endangered by such Grand Officers as have been appointed to day. (Cheers.) I will couple with the toast the name of the G.J.W., Bro. Novelli.

The toast was drunk with great applause, different brethren loudly proclaiming the names of the officers, with whom probably they were the most intimately acquainted.

Bro. NOVELLI, J.G.W., in offering his sincere thanks for the compliment paid to the Grand Officers, pleaded his inability to adequately do justice to the toast; but he would venture to say, that all the officers appointed that day, would do all in their power to perform their duty, so as to meet with the approbation of the brethren.

The D. GRAND MASTER said, the next toast he had to propose was "The Health of the Prov. Grand Masters." The office of Prov. G. Master was a most important one in Masonry as he was the representative of the Grand Master in the district over which he was appointed to preside, and on his skill and discretion much depended the interests and prosperity of the Craft. The Prov. G. Masters had most important duties to perform, not only in Grand Lodge, but in their respective provinces, and he was sure they would receive that acknowledgment which their zeal and efficiency deserved. He would couple with that toast the name of Admiral Sir Lucius Curtis, Prov. G. Master for Hampshire, and he could only say that as he (Earl de Grey) was the youngest Prov. G. Master present, he should endeavour to follow the example of that gallant and worthy brother. (Cheers.)

Admiral Sir LUCIUS CURTIS could assure the brethren that he was deeply sensible of the compliment paid to the Prov. G. Masters and to himself by the manner in which the toast had been so kindly proposed and drunk. He agreed with the noble Earl that the office of Prov. G. Master was a most important one, as on the man-

ner in which he discharged his duties mainly depended the prosperity of Freemasonry in the province over which he was called to preside. He had always endeavoured to conciliate the goodwill of all the brethren, and to promote the interests of the Craft in his province, where, he was happy to say, it was very flourishing, as he had no doubt it was in the respective provinces presided over by the brethren by whom he was surrounded. He again thanked the noble Earl for proposing the toast, and assured him that the Prov. G. Masters would ever be happy to support him to the best of their power. (Cheers.)

The D. GRAND MASTER next gave "The Sister Grand Lodges." They had already drunk to the prosperity of the Grand Lodges of Scotland and Ireland, and the good feelings expressed towards them ought to be extended to all the sister Grand Lodges throughout the world; for the benefits to be derived from Freemasonry were not confined to the limits of any one country, but they brought men together, and amidst wars, and rumours of wars, the distraction of politics and the dangers of revolution linked mankind together in bonds of love. He would couple with the toast the name of Chevalier Hebel, the Representative from the G. Lodge of Berlin.

The Chevalier HEBELER replied, and assured the brethren that the kind feelings expressed towards the Grand Lodge of Berlin were reciprocated in that country.

The DEPUTY GRAND MASTER said the next toast he had to propose would require very few words to recommend it to their notice, for he had no doubt the majority of those present had proved how highly they estimated the value of their Charities—as Charity was the characteristic of the true Mason. Their charities were an honour to the Craft, and evinced to the outer world that there was something really substantial and good in Freemasonry. He was proud of being the Provincial Grand Master of West Yorkshire—a province which held no mean position in the support which it afforded to their Charities (cheers), and he hoped on some future day that those he was then addressing would give further substantial proof of the estimate in which they held those institutions, the whole of which, he was happy to say, were prospering. He would couple with that toast the name of one who must be considered as a good representative of Charity—Bro. B. B. Cabbell. (Cheers.)

Bro. B. B. CABBELL, Provincial Grand Master, Norfolk, felt highly honoured in having his name associated with so important a toast. It was his pride and duty to maintain the charters to the utmost of his ability. Their charters fully carried out, the principles upon which their order was founded, and it must be gratifying to know that it was under the auspices of their present Most Worshipful Grand Master, that the excellent Institute for Aged Freemasons and their Widows had prospered and flourished. (Cheers.) He could only again assure them that he should be ever happy to do his best to promote the interests of the Charities.

The Deputy Grand Master next gave the Stewards, thanking them for their exertions in providing so excellent an entertainment, and the regularity which had prevailed throughout the evening.

The toast was responded to by Bro. Powell.

The health of the ladies having been drunk, such of the brethren as were provided with tickets proceeded to join their lady friends in that nuisance of nuisances—the glee room—where the usual suffocating scene took place, and the pleasure of which is much enhanced by the Grand Stewards being unable to keep order without the assistance of the police, to prevent the brethren unprovided with the requisite vouchers forcing their way upstairs. Formerly, if police were employed, they were dressed as gentlemen, and generally wore the badges of our Order; but now—such we suppose is the deterioration of the Company within the last few years—that F. 136, and comrades, appear in the full plenitude of their uniform and authority. Such a proceeding would not be tolerated at a banquet of mechanics, and we are astonished that the Freemasons are not

too much alive to their own dignity to allow it. It is but justice to state that the Grand Stewards affirm that they act under the direction of orders signed by Bro. W. Gray Clarke, G. Sec., and that they have no power of putting an end to the nuisance, or of making such arrangements for preserving order as they would themselves desire.

METROPOLITAN.

CONSECRATION OF SOUTH MIDDLESEX LODGE (No. 1160.)

On Monday last the consecration of a new lodge, under the above designation took place at the head quarters of the South Middlesex Volunteers, Beaufort House, Walham-green, where they have built spacious accommodation. The lodge was held in the principal room of the building, which was elegantly decorated with flowers and colours for the occasion. The ceremony of consecration was most admirably performed by Bro. Havers, the President of the Board of General Purposes, assisted by Bro. the Rev. J. E. Cox, P.G. Chap. and Bro. Dr. Hinxman, W.M. of the Grand Stewards' Lodge, who delivered the oration. At the conclusion of the ceremony, which was much enhanced by the manner in which the music was performed by Bros. Woollams, Suchet Champion, and Wm. Wilson, the latter of whom presided at the harmonium, Bro. Havers proceeded to install Bro. Viscount Ranelagh as the first Master of the lodge, performing the ceremony with great impressiveness. At the conclusion of the installation the new W.M. appointed as his officers, Capt. the Hon. Ed. Curzon, as S.W.; Col. Evelyn, J.W.; Sergt. Jones, Secy; Lieut. Gaskoin, S.D.; Capt. Hawker, J.D.; and Dr. Ree, I.G.

Bro. A. H. Hewlett, P.M. of the Grand Stewards' Lodge, was elected Treasurer.

Ballots were next taken for ten or twelve joining members, and about as many candidates for initiation, the whole proving unanimous, and five candidates being in attendance they were severally initiated into the order by Bro. Hewlett.

Votes of thanks were then ordered to be recorded to Bro. Havers, for his valuable services in consecrating the lodge, and to Bros. the Rev. J. E. Cox and Dr. Hinxman, for their assistance in the ceremony.

Business being ended, the lodge was closed in due form, and the brethren adjourned to refreshment, the dinner, which was announced for six o'clock, having been delayed, by the large amount of business transacted, to close upon nine.

After the removal of the cloth the health of the Queen and the Craft, was proposed and drunk with the usual honours, and succeeded by the health of the M.W.G. Master, the Right Hon. the Earl of Zeland. The W.M. said the next toast he had to propose was the Earl of Dalhousie, D.G.M. and the rest of the Grand Officers. They were honoured at their board by the presence of three of those Officers Bros. Havers, Scott, and Patten. He was himself but a young Mason, but he had heard from others older than himself how ably the noble Lord had discharged his duties, and it was matter of regret that in a day or two he would retire from his office. He was sure that every brother must have been struck by the able manner in which the ceremonies had been performed that day by their esteemed guest, Bro. Havers. Like many of the other brethren, he (Lord Ranelagh) had seen these ceremonies for the first time, and he felt, by the deep impression they made upon him, that their performance was a great success, and he had no doubt they had made an equal impression on the minds of the other brethren. He had had the advantage of sitting by that brother during the dinner, and from his conversation found him to be not only a highly educated and intellectual gentleman, but an enthusiast in Masonry. That brother also held a high position in the Craft, and he regretted to find that it was about to lose his valuable services.

Bro. HAVERS, President of the Board of General Purposes, returned thanks on behalf of Earl Dalhousie and the Grand Officers. The noble Earl was about to retire in a few days, in consequence of ill-health, but he felt that he was entitled to the greatest consideration from the Craft, having come amongst them a few years since to take upon himself a most onerous position, when some differences existed between the brethren of Canada and England, which had since happily, by his valuable advice, been settled to the satisfaction of all parties. For the rest of the Grand Officers, he could assure them that they all endeavoured to discharge their duties so as to promote the best interests of the Order. Personally he had received great kindness from the brethren, and now that the spirit of opposition which prevailed some four or five years since had subsided, he felt that he could safely retire, and leave the more active duties of the Craft to other brethren, as neither his health nor the pressure of his professional duties would allow him longer

to continue to give that attention to them which he had hitherto done. He would take the liberty of proposing to them "The Health of their W. Master Viscount Ranelagh." The noble Viscount had long advocated the volunteer movement, which had now taken such deep root in the empire, and he hoped and believed that he would be as beloved in Masonry as he was by his comrades in the volunteer service, and rule over a happy and prosperous lodge.

The W.M. having returned thanks, a variety of other toasts were drunk, which were acknowledged by Bro. W. P. Scott, P.G.D.; Bro. Dr. Hinxman, W.M. of the Grand Stewards' Lodge, and others, the brethren not separating until a late hour.

WESTBOURNE LODGE, (1035)—This flourishing and respectable lodge held its usual meeting on Thursday last at the Mitre Tavern, Craven Terrace, Bayswater Road, under the presidency of Bro. H. A. Stacey, W.M., who was assisted most ably by his officers. Bro. Dietrich and Harrison as Wardens. The lodge having been opened in due form, at five o'clock precisely, the following business was gone through;—Bros. Warner and Isaacs were raised; Bros. Tildesley, Fisher and Lederhausen passed, and Messrs. Edward Hill and Edward Welsh initiated. The whole of these ceremonies being performed by the W.M. in his usual correct manner. Four gentlemen were proposed for initiation at the next lodge meeting, and after some formal measures, such as the removal of the lodge, and the alteration of the by-laws, the brethren, numbering over thirty retired to an excellent banquet, served in Bro. Fisher's accustomed style, which gave universal satisfaction. After the usual toasts were given and drunk with great enthusiasm, the W.M. in a brief address, proposed the initiates, for which Bro. E. Hill returned thanks in an effective speech. The visitors health was responded to by Bro. Best, W.M. 1006, on behalf of the following brethren:—Bro. Vargues, from Brazils, W.M. Cobham, of 165 and 536, Bro. Dixon, of 201, Bro. Dorset, of 201, Bro. Lyon, of 25, and several other brethren. Then followed the W.M.'s health, the Past Master's and the officers, to which Bro. Stacey, Bro. Cottelbrune and Bro. Dietrich responded, when the members separated, highly pleased and delighted with each other, and satisfied with the arrangements and excellent accommodation. We cannot close our report without mentioning that the following brethren, viz:—Bros. Stacey, Appelby, Hill, Summersly and Cobham enhanced the enjoyment of the evening with some very excellent singing.

PROVINCIAL.

SOMERSETSHIRE.

HIGHBRIDGE, BURNHAM.—*Rural Philanthropic Lodge* (No. 367).—On Friday, April 19th, 1861, this lodge held its monthly meeting at the Masonic Room, Railway Hotel, Highbridge. The W.M., Bro. Joseph Duke, then read a letter of congratulation in accordance with the unanimous resolution passed by the brethren at the last lodge, and which was now approved and adopted. The W.M., in a very able and complimentary speech, presented it to Bro. Henry Bridges, D. Prov. G.M. and G.S.B. The following is a copy of the kind testimonial:—

19th April, 1861.

To the Very Worshipful HENRY BRIDGES, Esquire, Deputy Provincial Grand Master of the Province of Somerset, G.S.B.—

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I have been requested, by the unanimous vote of the members of Lodge 367, in open Lodge assembled, to tender you their warmest congratulation on your recent appointment, by the Very Worshipful the Grand Registrar of England, to the distinguished and honourable position of Deputy Provincial Grand Master of this Province, an appointment which reflects honour alike on the Very Worshipful Grand Registrar and on you. We rejoice that merit alone has dictated the selection, and we trust that you may for many years to come fill that high position, as we believe that your ability as a Mason and your courtesy and kindness as a Brother will tend to cement the bonds of Masonry, and brotherly love amongst us, and that the constant efforts made by you to increase our charities will greatly lead to the permanence of our institutions.

We also rejoice that our most gracious Majesty the Queen has lately issued her commission to you as the Captain of one of the finest Corps of Volunteers in the West of England, and we are proud, and rejoice, that the Deputy Provincial Grand Master of this county, and the Secretary and P.M. of our lodge, should occupy so important and distinguished a position; and we heartily wish you long life and happiness to enjoy the honours thus worthily conferred on you.

I am, Dear Sir and Brother, your faithful Brother,
(Signed) JOSEPH DUKE, W.M. 367.

Captain Henry Bridges, Very Worshipful Deputy Provincial Grand Master.

YORKSHIRE (WEST).

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

We are requested to correct an error which occurred in our last week's impression of the report of the provincial meeting holden at Huddersfield, in which it should have appeared in the appointment of officers that Bro. Wm. White, W.M. 162, Sheffield, E.C. and Rose $\frac{1}{4}$, 30^o, &c., was installed Asst. G. Dir. of Cers. for that province, and that Bro. Berry, of Huddersfield, was installed Asst. G. Purst.; these being newly-created offices in this province, were overlooked in the hurry of reporting.

BRADFORD.—*Lodge of Hope* (No. 379).—The lodge was opened on Monday, April 22, by the W.M., Bro. J. Lumb, with his usual punctuality, at seven o'clock, supported by Bros. J. Gaunt, S.W.; A. Hunter, J.W.; Rev. H. de L. Willis, D.D., as Chaplain; L. C. Hill, Sec.; and G. Beanland, Treas.; and the rest of the officers, and a goodly number of P.Ms., brethren, and visitors, amongst whom were, Bros. Robinson Salmund, P. Prov. S.G.W.; M. Rogerson, P. Prov. S.D.; Wm. Gath, P. Prov. J.G.W.; Thos. Hill, W. Mawson, P. Prov. Sup. of Works; C. H. Taylor, Prov. G.S., and H. Smith, P. Prov. S.G.D., P.Ms.; visitors from No. 174, Meltham; No. 78, Huddersfield; and No. 874, Bradford. After the usual routine business was concluded, the W.M. passed Bro. W. Bottomley to the F.C. degree, he being found proficient. Mr. E. C. Pearson was balloted for, and afterwards initiated by the W.M.; the working tools were respectively given by Bros. Smith and Hill, and the charge to the initiate by Bro. Rogerson. The subject of removal to the new lodge rooms, now being erected, was brought before the brethren, in accordance with the formal notice previously given, when it was unanimously resolved that the removal should take place so soon as legal and convenient. Bro. Isaac Wright, the Mayor of Bradford, was proposed as a joining member. Bro. Little, of Derby, was admitted a joining member. The subject of the vacant Secretaryship of the Girls' School was introduced, and a strong feeling was expressed in favour of Bro. C. H. Patten for the office, whose services on behalf of the charities are so well-known and highly appreciated in this province, and it was earnestly hoped that he might be successful in his application, the subscribers to the charity promising him their hearty support as a worthy successor to that invaluable brother whom every one must regret is compelled to relinquish the office on account of declining health. The brethren of West Yorkshire will long remember with feelings of pleasure the visit of Bros. Crew and Patten to their provincial meetings at Doncaster, at which their energetic appeal in favour of the Girls' School produced such fruitful results. It was mentioned by Bro. C. H. Taylor, Prov. G. Steward, that the arrangements for the installation of Prov. G. Master were progressing satisfactorily, and that great energy was being displayed by the Leeds brethren to give such a warm and hearty reception to the Right Hon. Earl de Grey and Ripon as would prove to him how highly the brethren of the province approve of the appointment. The following brethren were appointed a committee to carry out the furnishing and decorating the new lodge-rooms, viz., J. Lumb, W.M.; M. Rogerson, P.M.; D. Salmund, P.M.; W. Gath, P.M.; Henry Farrar, P.M.; John Barraclough, P.M.; C. H. Taylor, P.M.; S. C. Tetley, C. Pratt, A. M. Matthews, and Wm. Mawson, P.M. The lodge was closed in harmony at 9 p.m., after which the brethren retired to a substantial repast. After the usual loyal and Masonic toasts had been duly honoured, together with the newly-passed and initiated brethren, the W.M. called upon Bro. C. Lees, Prov. S.W., to propose the toast of the visiting brethren which he did in his usual fluent and humorous style, expressing the feelings of pleasure and pride with which the Lodge of Hope ever welcomed those who honoured them with their presence; trusting that when the time shall arrive for him to be placed in the high position of Worshipful Master of the lodge, the same hearty support will be given to him, which is now accorded to the present W.M., and that the Past Masters and brethren will rally round him, and the visitors become still more numerous, and that all might evince that truly Masonic and enthusiastic support of the charities, which has tended to render Freemasonry so estimable to its votaries. The proceedings were enlivened by many songs, and brought to a conclusion at the usual hour of eleven o'clock.

ROYAL ARCH.

MIDDLESEX.

UXBRIDGE.—*Royal Union Chapter* (No. 536).—This chapter, which has been in abeyance some three or four years, was formally resuscitated on the 20th inst. Its appointments have been carefully preserved by its P.Z. and Treas., Comp. Eden, and, with very little

expense, the Royal Union Chapter (No. 536) has again commenced a career which bids fair to rival in success the rapid progress of the lodge to which it is attached. The chapter, which is held at the Chequers Hotel, was opened in ancient and solemn form by Comps. P.Z. Watson, 25; P.Z. Newton, 25; and P.Z. and Treas. Eden, 536; and they proceeded to install into the chair of the First Principal Comp. Henry Norman, H., of No. 49, and Comp. of No. 11. After the installation the companions had been admitted, and the following Comps. were appointed to office and invested: Matthew Cooke, Scribe E. 211, Scribe E.; W. Smith, C.E., 25, Scribe N.; J. B. Newall, 211, P. Soj., who appointed Comps. Dickie and Claisen as his assistants. Comp. Platt and others were received as joining members, and the visitors were Comp. Newton and W. F. Blackburn, J. elect of No. 49. Comp. Daly was elected Janitor. There were several propositions to join, and some exaltations for the next meeting in May. The formal business being ended, the chapter was closed in ancient form, and the Comps. adjourned to the banquet, after which the peculiar toasts of the degree were given.—The M.E.Z. then gave the toast of "The Earl of Zetland, the Grand Z. of the Order," a nobleman ever attentive to his duties, and deserving of the respect of the Craft. He next proceeded to give "The Grand H., and J., and the rest of the Grand Officers," remarking that they were no doubt very efficient in their respective places. The M.E.Z. need not tell them that their visitors were not numerous, but they were well-known to them all. Comp. Newton he had known since he was first initiated, and he was well appreciated by a large class of Masons, who knew how indefatigable he was in the Robert Burns. Comp. Blackburn was more like his own brother, for he had known him many years before either of them were Masons. He then proposed the health of the visiting companions.—Comp. NEWTON was very much pleased to find Chapter 536 once more at work, and he was sure that from those who had already joined it would shortly become one of the best out-of-town chapters. He thanked them for proposing his health.—Comp. W. F. BLACKBURN said it was to him an event of much gratification to see his old friend and companion, Norman, installed as Z. of that chapter. He need not say he hoped to visit them again as often as he could, and tendered his thanks for their kind reception of himself and his health in the last toast.—Comp. EDEN, P.Z. and Treas., said it was a very welcome sight to him to have seen Comp. Norman installed that day as their M.E.Z., and he was sure he would do credit to the office. He proposed the health of their new M.E.Z., and might he long continue with them.—The M.E.Z. had to thank them and their worthy P.Z., Eden, for the very kind manner his health had been proposed and responded to. He was very grateful to them for placing him in that position, and would endeavour to discharge his duties; and though they might find fault with his shortcomings, yet he wished to find the chapter prosper. He had that day received its highest honours, and would do his duty to them for the trust reposed in him. He was greatly obliged to Bro. W. Watson for suggesting his name, and also to them for so unanimously electing him.—The M.E.Z. said it was with a large amount of pleasure that he rose to propose the health of P.Z. Eden, their Treasurer, who, he considered, was entitled to their best thanks for taking such care of the fittings and books of the chapter (hear, hear), and he hoped he would always meet with that kindness and respect to which he was so justly entitled. (Hear, hear.)—P.Z. EDEN was much obliged both for the matter and manner of their M.E.Z.'s proposition, and he was also gratified by the response of the companions. It had been to him a source of considerable annoyance to attend, and—to use an Irishism—and see no one (laughter), but he had endeavoured to keep the chapter going in some way, for he had issued summonses, attended the meetings, and dined by himself with great regularity. (Hear, hear.) He was glad to see every companion there, and thought there could be no doubt of the safe recovery of the chapter; and if they accepted his services in the same spirit in which he tendered them, they were rendered most cordially and willingly. (Hear, hear.)—The M.E.Z. next proposed the health of the officers, without whose aid nothing could go on well. He believed they would all do their duty, and conduce to the general prosperity of 536. Their P. Soj., Comp. Newall, was widely known for his energy, and was sure to discharge his duty with zeal and ability. Their Scribe E., Comp. Cooke, was used to that sort of thing, so he would do his duty well. Their Scribe N., Comp. W. Smith, C.E., was new to his work, but he never flinched from it, and, therefore, they had no need to be apprehensive in his case. The rest of the officers would second the efforts of those he had mentioned, and he was sure Chapter 536 was on the high road to success.—Comp. NEWALL, in reply, assured the M.E.Z. and Comps. that, with regard to the welfare of Chapter 536, he yielded to none. He felt that it was due to himself that it owed its resuscitation, for the success which had attended his efforts in the lodge had induced him to apply himself to revive the chapter. The fact of actually keeping

it in existence was due to Comp. Eden, and heartily had he come into the scheme to set it once more in active work.—Comp. W. SMITH, N., always was willing to lend his aid whenever and wherever it was required.—Comp. MATTHEW COOKE, E., would do all he could for the chapter as long as they did not cross him. He believed the officers, with himself, felt but one way, and they might depend on him, for he took a very great interest both in the chapter and the lodge.—P.Z. EDEN had permission to propose a toast which could not fail to meet with approval, since it did so everywhere. Comp. Watson's name was sure to be well received. He (Comp. Eden) had met him for several years, and he had always evinced the greatest desire to assist Freemasons and Freemasonry. In the words of the song, he was "a jolly good fellow," and it had given him (Comp. Eden) much pleasure to see the perfect manner in which Bro. Watson had performed the installation that day.—Bro. W. WATSON begged leave to thank them all for the toast and their response. He knew of nothing that had given him more sincere delight than that of seeing the Chapter 536 resuscitated. He could look back for many years, and call to remembrance numbers whom he had installed in that chapter, and he hoped he need hardly say how happy he was to be able to render any service he could, which were always at their command.—The M.E.Z. thought they could with great propriety drink the health of the joining members. He had a good recollection of Comp. Platt in No. 49, and although circumstances occurred which prevented his taking the chair of First Principal in that chapter, yet he greeted a companion of 49 with much pleasure, and proposed "The Health of the Joining Members, and Comp. Platt."—Comp. PLATT was grateful for the compliment paid to the joining members and himself. For some years he had been associated with their M.E.Z. in No. 49, and it gave him a double pleasure to see Comp. Norman in his present position. He was happy to be one who had joined No. 536, and hoped to see it a more flourishing chapter than ever. The Janitor's toast then brought the meeting to an end.

ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED RITE.

WOOLWICH.—*Invicta Chapter of S.P.R. No. 4.*—This flourishing chapter met at the Masonic Hall, William-street, Woolwich, on the 19th inst. The members present were the Ex. Bros. Carter, M.W.S.; Col. Clerk, 32°, High Prelate; Figg, 30°, 1st General; W. Smith, C.E., 30°, 2nd General; Fairlie, 18°, Grand Marshall; Cockcroft, 18°, Raphael; Schwarzkopf, 18°, Capt. of the Guard; Matthew Cooke, 18°, Organist; Dr. Hinxman, 31°, Col. Tulloch, 30°; Capt. King, 30°; Stuart, 18°; Read, 18°; and G. W. Taylor, 18°.—The visitors were the Ill. Bros. Merryweather, 31°; Dr. Jones, 30°, and How, 30°.—Six candidates appeared for installation, viz., Bros. George Lambert, Dadson, Carey, Wade, Price, and Arbuthnot, who were all received into the beautiful degree of Sovereign Prince Rose Croix.—After the ceremony was concluded, and the brethren had adjourned to banquet at the Freemasons' Tavern, Woolwich, the following toasts were given:—"The Queen and the Craft," "The M.W.S. of the Order, Dr. Leeson, and the Supreme Council," both of which were received with the fervour which they always elicit at these meetings. The M.W.S. was very happy to receive visitors at all times, and proposed health and success to all other chapters of this degree, coupling the same with the metropolitan chapters of Rose Croix, and its Past M.W.P.S., the Ill. Bro., Dr. Jones.—Dr. JONES hoped to be permitted to express his sincere thanks for their kindness. He had been exceedingly delighted with the work, and thought it beat the Metropolitan Chapter; but he believed the only strife between them would be for the goal of perfection. This was his second visit there, and it certainly would not be the last. He took that opportunity to propose the health of the M.W.S., of whom it was not too much to say that he was a most perfect worker; and if he (Dr. Jones) were to endeavour "to paint the lily" he should not fail more signally than by attempting to tell them what they all knew of the Ill. Bro. Carter's excellent working.—Dr. JONES then proposed "The Health of the M.W.S."—The Ill. Bro. CARTER, M.W.S., rose to return thanks for the very handsome manner in which his health had been proposed by the Ill. Bro. Dr. Jones. He feared his merits were not equal to the eulogy they had met with from the proposer, and he felt that he had many shortcomings to deplore; but when he looked back at the two Ill. brethren that had gone through the chair before him, he saw his failings by contrast; yet he could do no more than his best, and that it was always his intention to do, and he hoped to be able to perform his duties with some amount of satisfaction to the members.—The M.W.S. felt quite sure that every member looked upon the Ill. Bro. Col. Clerk as a star of no small magnitude in their chapter. The perfect way in which he performed

every Masonic office he undertook was well-known. (Hear hear.) Before him they had the Ill. Bro. Dr. Hinxman, and his zeal and intelligence were equally well-known. (Hear hear.) It was quite useless to expatiate on their worth, because their good qualities were known to all around them, and if he continued to speak for a long time he could tell them no more; and he therefore proposed "The Health of the Ill. Bros. Col. Clerk and Dr. Hinxman."—Col. CLERK, on behalf of Dr. Hinxman and himself, said, nothing gave them more pleasure than to see the chapter flourish, and he was sure, under their present M.W.S., it must continue to do so. For himself, he always hoped to be present (hear hear), and the Invicta Chapter had their ardent and best wishes.—The W.M.S. was proud to see such visitors as they had that evening. Dr. Jones had told them it was his second visit, and it was not to be the last; he heartily rejoiced in that assurance, for the Ill. Bro. would always receive a hearty welcome there. The Ill. Bro. Merryweather he had not seen before, but he had heard of him frequently, and the oftener he could be with them the better they would be pleased. Bro. How knew he was always welcome.—The Ill. Bro. MERRYWEATHER found nothing more useful nor agreeable than for visitors to have an opportunity of replying, for Masonry was universal, and nothing tended more to make that universality enduring than the visiting other lodges. With these feelings he visited the Invicta Chapter, and was thoroughly satisfied by the manner in which the sublime ceremony had been performed.—Col. CLERK had received permission to give the toast of "The newly-installed Brethren." To them it must be a matter of pleasure that they had been admitted, and although they might at first imagine the titles under which they had been addressed were of lofty pretension, still they had deep meaning. Col. Clerk then alluded to the typical and symbolical nature of the degree—the duties incumbent on its members, and its high privileges; and, in the name of the chapter, congratulated them on their installation, and the pleasure the chapter felt in having six such worthy princes enrolled that evening, whose health he begged to propose.—The Ex. Bro. GEORGE LAMBERT said, in the name of the newly-installed, he begged leave to tender their respectful thanks for the toast, and the honour of being received into the degree of Rose Croix. He had found it a great dilemma on the continent to be only a Craft Mason. The Rose Croix degree was the popular one abroad, and the Craft a nullity. Although he had been present in Paris at a Rose Croix Chapter, he felt he must tell them that their work did not equal the French system; and if they would accept some few hints from him, he should be happy to give them, and he thought they might, in several places, copy the French mode with advantage. He, and those standing with him, would, however, endeavour to propagate the tenets of the degree, and they each and all were happy to be numbered amongst its members in the Invicta Chapter.—The M.W.S. said, the next toast was always well received; it was, "The Officers." He believed he could not have made a better selection, for they all wished to do their duty, and he was well supported by every one he had appointed. He proposed their health, and thanked them for the able manner in which they did their duty.—The Ill. Bro. Figg thought their M.W.S. perfectly right when he made so good a selection of officers. Still he was inclined to think they had been thanked for what they did not deserve, for the various parts were performed so rarely, that certain slips were almost unavoidable. They were much obliged to the M.W.S. for their appointment, and he thought the Ill. Bro. Carter had taken a very effective way in training up an efficient staff to do the work of the chapter.—The routine toast of "All poor and distressed Masons" concluded the formalities of the evening, and the Ill. brethren then commenced that cheerful and pleasant exchange of ideas and information for which the Invicta Chapter has become famous.

TURKEY.

SMYRNA.—*Homer Lodge* (No. 1108).—At a meeting held on Wednesday, the 20th of March, Bro. Hyde Clarke, W.M., one member was regularised, under dispensation of the M.W.G.M., in the second degree, and one in the third degree. The Secretary read the following letter from W. Bro. John Havers, President of the Board of General Purposes, which, on the motion of the Wardens, was ordered to be entered on the minutes.

(Copy).

"10, Bedford-place, Russell-square, Feb. 23, 1861.

"DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—By some unaccountable oversight, I have overlooked your kind letter of the 23rd January, in which you inform me that the brethren of the Homer Lodge of Smyrna have been good enough to record in their books a vote of thanks to me for my labours in helping to restore constitutional Masonry in

Smyrna, and that they desire to enrol my name as one of the honorary members of their lodge.

"May I beg you to express my thanks to the W.M. and brethren, and my willing acceptance of the honour done me in electing me an honorary member.

"I have now been actively engaged on the work of the Craft for more than twenty years, during the last four or five years of which my labours have been of a very arduous and unceasing character. I am repaid by the good order, the good feeling, and the confidence exhibited on all sides in the altered (and I trust improved) conduct of affairs. I am gratified at seeing harmony restored, party-feeling dying out, and prosperity exhibiting itself throughout the Craft; and believe me, I am most satisfied by the kind expressions which I have continually received from my brethren, both at home and abroad.

"I feel that the time has now come when I may fairly claim to retire from my post, in the full belief that, under the able and impartial government of our noble chief, our beloved Order will continue to prosper.

"In begging you to convey my thanks to the W.M. and brethren of your lodge, I cannot refrain from expressing to you the high sense which I must even entertain of the frank and honourable spirit which has been shown by yourself and your friends, during times of great difficulty.

"May every prosperity and happiness attend you.

"Believe me, Dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

"(Signed)

"JOHN HAVERS."

This letter was read with great thankfulness by the Smyrna brethren as an expression of sympathy.—At a meeting of emergency held on Friday, 22, Bro. Hyde Clarke, W.M., in the chair, one member was regularised. Authority was given to take a house as a Masonic Hall. On the 26th the arrangement was completed, and the furniture and fittings belonging to the lodge removed. The brethren have till this time had great difficulty in finding a place of meeting, which they have now secured in a separate house on the premises of an English brother, between the Frank-street and the Marina, in a central situation, accessible to visiting naval brethren. There is a small lodge-room, banquet-room, and preparation-room. No public display can, however, take place, as on former occasions the Masonic Hall was broken into by a mob, and the brethren on meeting nights used to be hooted and pelted. Visiting brethren will not, however, experience any difficulty in finding the lodge, and will receive a hearty welcome.

WEST INDIES.

ANTIGUA.—H. R. H. Prince Alfred having visited this Island on the 14th March, a *levée* was held on the 15th, when various addresses were delivered by different public bodies—amongst others, the Masonic fraternity, headed by the W.M., Bro. Joseph Sherington, of St. John's Lodge (No. 723); and numerous members, with several unattached brethren, were presented and the address appended was delivered by the Master.

May it please your Royal Highness,

On this auspicious day, when all hearts throb with joy at beholding a son of our beloved Sovereign honouring this distant colony with his presence, we, the members of the St. John's Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, and the brethren of the Masonic Fraternity of this Island, beg leave to approach your Royal Highness with feelings of devoted attachment to the Throne, and the warmest congratulations on your safe arrival among us.

While the enthusiasm manifested on this happy occasion, by all classes of the community, exhibits in true colours that loyalty to the Sovereign, the Government, and the Constitution under which we live, and has at all times been deeply impressed upon the hearts of the people of Antigua, the Order to which we belong has an additional incentive in the proud recollection that our fraternity has been ever honoured by the patronage of your Royal House, and that among the members of our Craft have been enrolled Princes and Dukes of the Royal blood of England.

In that noble profession which you have honoured with your choice, may your Royal Highness's career be long and brilliant,—may the British Navy, during your connection with it, attain its highest glory,—and may the G. A. O. T. U. throw a protecting shield over your Highness's person, in the hour of peril and of danger.

To this address a reply to the following effect was made by his Excellency the Governor:—That his Royal Highness desired him to say that he acknowledged with pleasure the address from the Masonic Fraternity of Antigua, and that it was gratifying to His Royal Highness to receive the assurance of their attachment to the Throne and their congratulations to himself.

Poetry.

THE FIRST ROSE OF SUMMER.

BY W. MARTIN, P.M. AND P.G.S.B.

How I love to see sweetly the rose coming forth,—
'Tis the pride of our land from the south to the north;
'Tis the bonnie, bonnie flower, with fragrance so sweet,
That days seem but hours when I dwell at its feet.

Oh! the first rose of summer!—how gladly I feel
When I welcome thee as a new comer to steal
My mind away from the base things of this earth,
And to guide me well on unto something of worth.

Oh! give me the first bursting bud thou canst spare,
And give me the sweets thou transferrest to air,
And my song shall go on in the height of my glee,
While the first rose of summer brings gladness to me.

How I love to look on thee, when red or when white,
The hue of thy cheek is a beautiful sight;
The first rose of summer must ever give me
A joy when the dews are falling on thee.

I like the soft dews of the morning so bright,
Which visits the rose in the calm, silent night;
I love thee, sweet rose, wherever thou be,
For thy presence is ever a pleasure to me.

Then bloom on in beauty; though white or though red,
The rose of my country shall never be shed,
While I have an arm to keep the foe down,
I shall fight for my Queen, my country, and crown.

The Queen is a rose—aye, the first in the land,
And her virtues and glory for ever shall stand;
May her subjects keep loyal wherever she goes,
And sing out a welcome to summer's first rose.

Great Ayton.

SPRING IS COMING.

BY BRO. MATTHEW WARDHAUGH.

Spring is coming, verdant robed,
Peeping through young mellow buds,
And she's singing on her road
Songs of rivers and wild birds:
Waking scents and echoes ringing
Chorus her fresh mirthful singing.

Poor lorn flowerets rear their heads
From winter's dull grey gloom,
And seem, amid their dew-gemmed beds,
Like spirits in a tomb;
But spring is coming—smiling queen,
To dress them in her dappled sheen.

Now breezes woo the meadows fair,
And fitful sunbeams gay
Scatter their colours here and there,
Upon the wanderer's way,
Inspiring thoughts which, taking wing,
Like birds enjoy the coming spring.

Enchanting love, with dimpled smile,
Doth welcome spring in bliss,
And pouts his coral lips the while,
To greet her with a kiss;
For through her glinting, glancing eyes,
Sweet nuptial pleasures he describes.

Sad wrinkled care doth smooth his brow,
And raise his wither'd hands,
As if sharp sorrows felt but now
Were buried in life's sands;
And smiles do o'er his features gleam
At sight of spring, sweet balmy queen.

Ay; spring is coming, crown'd with buds,
Bearing flowers in her hands
From river-banks and vocal woods,
From hills and dales and sunny lands.
Oh! may her mission bless this earth
And fill our hearts with holy mirth.

THE POOR BLIND GIRL.

A poor girl came to my cottage door,
So lonely, and ragged, and blind;
Despair was upon her, and more—
She prayed for some heart to be kind.

The orphan craved for a kindly heart
To soothe her sorrows and woe;
Her's was a sad, yet truthful part,
No acting was there to show.

She could not act while those sightless eyes
Were sunken so deep in her head,
No more to her were the beauteous skies
Than the sun to the buried dead.

She asked for a morsel—a crust of bread,
Which eating, she could not see;
And the tears ran down, as she thankfully said,
"God's blessing rest on thee!"

The tears ran down her soft, pale face,
Yet a smile upon it played—
A smile which beamed so full of grace,
From that sightless orphan maid.

Give her a hand—a helping hand,
To cheer her gloomy way,
And teach her of that happy land
Where all is endless day;

Where the sun of glory shineth forth,
And blindness ne'er is known;
Where all shall know immortal birth,
In that Seraphic home.

Then smile upon the poor blind girl,
To want and anguish driven;
She hath a claim, by doing well,
To meet the good in Heaven.

To meet amid the truly blest,
Beyond the azure skies,
Dwelling beside her God at rest,
Where beauty never dies.

W. MARTIN, P.M. and P.G.S.B.

THE WEEK.

THE COURT.—On Friday the 18th inst., His Royal Highness the Prince Consort visited the Royal Military Hospital, at Netley. On Tuesday the Queen and Prince Consort, accompanied by Princess Alice and Princess Beatrice, drove out in an open carriage at Osborne, Her Majesty having hitherto observed the strictest retirement since her mother's death.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.—In the House of Lords, on Thursday, the 19th inst., in reply to the Earl of Shaftesbury, Lord Wodehouse said that no further correspondence had taken place on the subject of the treatment of Captain Macdonald by the Prussian authorities at Bonn, beyond that when, had already been laid on the table. Lord Lyttleton moved that the subdivision of Dioceses Bill be referred to a select committee, which, after some desultory discussion the motion was agreed to.—On Friday, in reply to the Earl of Eilenborough, Lord Woodhouse expressed his

opinion that the temporal sovereignty of the Pope was irretrievably gone. With regard to the position of Austria and Italy, the consistent advice which her Majesty's Government had given to both parties was to recommend that neither should become assailants, but to leave it to time to bring about a peaceable solution of the difficulty.—On Monday, the wills of personality, by British subjects, the object of which is to amend the present law with respect to wills which rendered it incumbent upon all British subjects residing in foreign countries to execute their wills in compliance with the forms and regulations of the English Wills Acts, although their residence abroad may prevent them from knowing whether the necessary forms had been complied with, was read a second time, as was also the Post Office Savings' Bank Bill.—On Tuesday, the Marriage Law Amendment Bill was, on the motion of the Lord Chancellor, read a second time.—In the House of Commons on Thursday 18th, the House went into Committee of Supply on the Army estimates, after which several bills went through committee, and the Charitable Uses Bill was read a third time and passed.—On Friday, in reply to Sir Robert Peel's Lord John Russell stated that the Spanish Minister had informed him that his government were quite willing to accord liberty to the two Spaniards confined for the exercise of their religion as Protestants, but that they found themselves embarrassed in doing so in consequence of the circumstance that, under the guise of meeting for religious purposes, secret societies had assembled for objects of a revolutionary character.—Mr. Cowper, obtained leave to bring in a bill to enable the Commissioners of her Majesty's Works to acquire a site for the erection of courts of justice, and of various offices belonging to the same.—On Monday, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, in reply to a question from Sir M. Peto, stated that it was his intention to adopt the same regulation as to the drawback of duty on paper as was contained in the bill of last session—namely, a drawback of one penny a pound on all paper in stock up to a certain day, and of the whole duty on paper made subsequently to that day.—A long discussion followed on the financial propositions of the Government, resulting in nothing.—On Tuesday, Mr. Henry Berkeley moved for leave to bring in a bill for the protection of electors in voting for members to serve in Parliament. The hon. gentleman repeated the arguments which he has so often used on similar occasions in favour of the ballot, and appealed to the evidence taken before the select committee on corrupt practices to show the extent to which bribery, treating, and intimidation prevailed; for which he contended the ballot was the only remedy. The motion was lost by 279 to 154.—On Wednesday, Sir M. Peto moved the second reading of the Nonconformists Burial Bill, the object of which is to legalise the burial of Dissenters in Church of England burial-ground. The motion was lost by 236 to 115.—

GENERAL HOME NEWS.—In the metropolis last week there were 1210 deaths, a number somewhat under the average, and therefore showing a satisfactory state of the public health. Of births registered there was 1007 boys and 954 girls—in all 1961. The barometer gave a mean height during the week of 30.125 in. and an average temperature of 45.4 degrees was recorded by the thermometer.—On Sunday evening a frightful outrage was perpetrated in a house in Chapel-street, Islington, which, according to present appearance, may be expected to terminate fatally. From the deposition of Mary Ann Redkison, who now lies in the hospital it appeared that the family had gone out, leaving her in charge of the house, when she was visited by a young man named Frederick Stragnell, a butcher, and formerly in her master's employment. Suspecting something wrong, she wished to call in the police, but was prevented by the fellow attacking her with a knife or chopper, and inflicting such injury that she immediately became insensible. Subsequently the door was forced open by the neighbours, and search being made, it was discovered that a considerable sum of money and other property had been stolen. Stragnell was brought before Mr. Barker at Clerkenwell Police-court, yesterday, and remanded. The latest news of the unfortunate young woman gives great cause to fear a fatal result.—An appeal from the Court of Exchequer, Ireland, has been heard in the House of Lords, involving the question whether a clergyman may marry himself. These are the leading facts in this singular case:—In the year 1831 the Rev. Samuel Swayne Beamish went through the ceremony of marriage privately with a lady in Cork, reading the service himself, there being no witnesses present. On his death a younger brother—the appellant—entered into possession of certain lands as heir-at-law, whereupon the son of the deceased clergyman, the defendant, brought an action of ejectment. After a sufficient amount of litigation, it was decided that the marriage was valid, and the son consequently legitimate and entitled to his father's estates. Against this decision it was that appeal was made, and the Lord Chancellor now reversed the judgment of the Court below, declaring the marriage to be illegal.—In the Court

of Probate and Divorce, the petition of Viscountess Forth has been heard, praying for a dissolution of marriage on the ground of cruelty and adultery. In consequence of a plea put in by the Queen's proctor, that since the filing of the petition Lady Forth had cohabited with a gentleman not her husband, and the judge's decision that she had therefore no right to a dissolution of her marriage, the allegation of adultery was abandoned, and a judicial separation only sought on the ground of cruelty. The evidence in support of the petition showed a long course of ill-treatment of a very aggravated nature practised by the respondent towards the petitioner, from 1855 the time of their union, till 1858, when they ceased to reside together. Sir Cresswell Cresswell gave his opinion that the alleged cruelty was proved, but directed the case to stand over for argument on the point whether, under the circumstances, he was justified in granting a separation.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.—The Chamber of Deputies in Paris have unanimously adopted a project of law, having for its object to exempt from stamp duty the supplements of newspapers when they contain the full reports of the sittings of the Corps Legislatif. Prince Napoleon has addressed a letter to the Emperor of the French in reference to the pamphlet of the Duc d'Aumale, urging that, as it contained a personal attack upon himself, it might not be suppressed, and pointing out that "to suppress is not to answer." The *Moniteur*, however, states that it did not seem possible to accede to the wishes of the Prince and to interrupt the course of justice.—The Spanish Ministry have prohibited the publication of the Duc d'Aumale's pamphlet in Spain, on the ground that they desire to live upon good terms with a friendly country.—The *Pays* of Paris states that the movement in Russian-Poland is extending to Volhynia, Lithuania, and Posen. According to several Parisian papers, a Russian army of 50,000 men has been concentrated on the Pruth, and placed upon a war footing. The cause of this movement is said to be the disputed condition of European Turkey. Austria, too, is represented as having made some movements of the same kind, but without any intention to order her troops to cross the frontiers.

AMERICA.—The American news does not wear so warlike an aspect as the news which we published on Saturday. Two transport ships, with five-hundred troops and a quantity of war material on board, accompanied by the cutter Harriet Lane, have sailed under sealed orders. Their destination is reported to be Fort Sumter. It is obvious that so small a force cannot do much mischief. There are other rumours of a more serious character, but as they are said to be "exaggerated," they are, at present, unworthy of attention. The State of Massachusetts has set an example of enlightened legislation by the abolition of capital punishment.

INDIA AND CHINA.—The Indian mail does not bring any important intelligence beyond that an outline of which has already appeared. In Bengal there is a complete stagnation of business. From Madras we learn that the whole district is suffering more or less from famine, the crops having generally failed. A telegram of Chinese news announces that the Yang-tsze expedition had arrived at Nankin; that a famine prevails at Peking; and that the insurgents were continuing to gain ground. From Japan we receive a confirmation of the report that the English, French, and Dutch Ministers had returned to Jeddo upon the invitation of the Government.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Bro. Geo. Fearnley, *M.D.*, the highly esteemed D. Prov. G.M. of West Yorkshire, was duly installed Prov. G.Com. of West Yorkshire by our much-regretted Bro. the late Matthew Dawes, of Bolton, on the 22nd of February, 1860.

REV. J. A.—We do not know when the first Grand Chaplain was appointed, but we find that the office was revived in 1775.

BENEVOLENCE.—The present Board of Benevolence is the legitimate successor of the Committee of Charity, established in 1752.

W.M.—You are mistaken with regard to your privileges. The votes for the Royal Benevolent Institution which come to your lodge on account of the donations of Grand Lodge, are yours individually. Those which the lodge possess in virtue of its subscriptions, are at the disposal of the members.

P.P. should buy a dictionary—we cannot reply to such nonsense.

J.H.W.—We have never asked the Grand Master, and we do not believe he would answer us if we did.

A GERMAN Bro.—In 1788.

T.S.—The calendar is far from correct, but it is the fault of the Masters and Secretaries, of the Lodges, who ought to forward any alteration of their time or place of meeting to the Grand Secretary.