

LONDON, SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 1862.

THE GRAND LODGE PROPERTY.

If we are to believe rumour, with her hundred tongues, the Board of General Purposes are at length busying themselves with the consideration of the disposition of the Grand Lodge Property, and are likely to be able to present a report on the subject at the Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge in June. If so presented we trust it will be referred to a small committee of Grand Lodge to consider and report upon at a special meeting, to be held between that and the communication in September, as we believe it to be impossible that all the various details which will be necessarily involved, can, in the first instance be properly discussed in Grand Lodge; and, until it has been so discussed, the report, whatever it may be, should never be again referred to the Board of General Purposes, the constitution of which will necessarily be much altered by the annual election in June, and by the introduction of some of the new Grand Officers appointed in April.

Seeing that a large section of the members of Grand Lodge are of opinion that it would be impossible properly to provide accommodation for the brethren, both of the metropolis and the country, without some kind of tavern, we believe we may fairly anticipate that the report from the Board of General Purposes will adopt that view, and if so, the question only remains to be considered how it can be best provided, so as to ensure to the Craft the exclusive possession of a large portion of the property to their own purposes, make the accommodation to be given to and by the tavern the most efficient in every point of view, and at the same time preserve the Grand Lodge funds from waste or deterioration. The brethren are aware that could we see the way to the profitable occupation of the whole of the Grand Lodge Property by the Craft, altogether irrespective of tenants, we should be found amongst the most foremost advocates of the scheme. But we confess we do not see our way to any such consummation, nor are we convinced that we could become our own caterers at an expense which the Craft is in a position at present to meet, nor at a price so economical as may be obtained through the medium of a properly conducted tavern, which will not be dependent for its support solely on the patronage of the Craft, though that patronage must ever remain an important element in its success.

Whatever the arrangement may be, however, we trust the brethren will, throughout the discussions which must arise as to the arrangement of the property, never lose sight of the one great necessity of the Craft—that of obtaining a building for its ceremonies and meetings, with all the appliances of library, reading and writing rooms, coffee and refreshment rooms,

the whole of which shall be solely devoted to the use of Masons, irrespective of the tavern, though the proprietors of the latter should have the option of supplying the refreshments, if they desire to do so.

It was to carry out this view that we suggested some time since the leasing the whole of the present property, west of the Hall, much of which now lies in ruins, for the purposes of a tavern at a ground rent, binding the lessees to the erection of a suitable building and a hall larger than we now possess, with such a communication as would enable the brethren to pass from their own building to the tavern, whilst, however, the general public could not pass to that portion of the property dedicated to the purposes of Freemasonry; and to remodel for our own purposes the whole of the present tavern premises and those now used for the Grand Secretary's offices, believing that such a scheme would not only provide us every proper accommodation, but be the one most likely to be carried out at the smallest cost to the Craft, whilst it would give us the means hereafter of extending our premises to the east and south, should we desire to do so, on the falling in of the leases which have yet some six or seven years to run.

If our plan were carried out we believe that we could provide all the necessary accommodation for the efficient carrying on of the business of the Institution, which has enormously increased of late years; for the Charities, should they desire to avail themselves of it; for the proper working of our ceremonies; a library and museum open to all the Craft, in which only light refreshments should be served; and subscription coffee, reading, and writing rooms for such members of the brotherhood who wish to avail themselves of them, leaving the dining-rooms to be provided in the tavern, though we believe, with proper arrangements, room might be found for them in our own portion of the property, the great fault in the present arrangement of the tavern being that the rooms are too large and too small, there being no such thing as a medium room for the accommodation of a party of ten or a dozen throughout the building.

Having made these various arrangements, we are of opinion that some six sets of lodge and chapter rooms might be provided (there is now a very large space lost in immediate contiguity to the best lodge room in the house, being used only as a receptacle for lumber) four of which might be furnished at the expense of Grand Lodge for lodges and two for chapters (the whole being so arranged as to be made applicable to the purposes of lodges only, should necessity require so many at one time), and let according to the style of furniture, at 10s., 15s., or 20s. per night. At the same time we would give to lodges wishing to use special articles of their own furniture, liberty to do so, though they should still be charged the same

rates, which, in that case, should include warehouse room. Every lodge would, of course, provide its own jewels, and would be accommodated with proper lock-up cupboards in which to keep them, and, if they so wished it, the books of the lodge.

We think our own scheme to be the one which may be the most readily and the most economically carried out, but we are aware that there is another in contemplation, which is not without its advantages, viz., for Grand Lodge to build on the western portion of the property (which we have proposed to lease for a tavern) a new building for the purposes of the Craft; combining all the accommodation requisite, which we hold to be *sine qua non* in any arrangement; and to let the present tavern and Grand Secretary's offices, for the purposes of a large and improved tavern, having no nearer connection with the Freemasons' Hall, or whatever it may be called, than that of being next door to it, with the privilege of supplying it with such refreshments the brethren may require, but this we believe will involve the destruction of the temple, certainly as it now stands one of the most useless and inconvenient rooms in the whole building, and which is not used more than twice or three times a month, two thirds of the times when it is occupied being for want of a convenient Board Room for the various committees to meet in.

Whether either of these schemes or any other should be ultimately adopted, we trust that the next six months will not be frittered away as the last three or four years have been, but that before we enter another year a well defined plan will be adopted, which will ensure to the Craft the possession of a large central building devoted entirely to Masonic purposes, open alike to the Masons of the metropolis and the provinces, and where brethren from all parts of the world may always receive a cordial and fraternal welcome, whilst the accommodation provided in the way of refreshments (which is always found to be a necessary adjunct of every place of public resort, from the Great Exhibition to the humblest concert room) shall be placed on a footing second to none in the kingdom.

There is another part of the question, and that not the least important, the financial, which we propose to treat of at another opportunity.

Our country towns are rapidly doing honour to their illustrious townsmen by erecting monuments to them. The other day we recorded that a statue of Sir H. Davy is to be erected at Penzance, and now Paisley purposes perpetuating the memory of her townsman, Wilson, by putting up a statue of that eminent ornithologist in his native town. It will be in bronze, a little larger than life, and will represent him examining a bird, that he has just shot. The statue, which is designed by Mr. Mossland of Glasgow, will rest on a pedestal of Aberdeen granite, nine feet in height.

MASONIC FACTS.

(Continued from page 242.)

164. *Extracts from the Fabric Rolls of Westminster Abbey, &c.*

Pipe Roll 56, Henry 3rd, AD. 1271-72.—Account of the works of the church at Westminster, and the King's houses there, from the Feast of the Purification of the Virgin in this year, to the Feast of St. Edmund the King and Martyr (November 20) next following, before the king was buried, by Master Robert de Beverley, mason, and by the vicar of Adam de Stratton, Clerk of the Exchequer. Receipts, £1212 1s. 0½d., and in marble freestone, as well from Caen as Reigate, flints, &c., £205 6s. 10½d.; timber, &c., £13 14s. 7d.; lead, &c., £20 13s. 3½d.; tiles, £8 5s. 0d., and for three wooden angels made by task work, and placed in the aforesaid church, 20s.

And for wages of certain pavior masons, making the pavements before various altars in the said church, carpenters, painters, and other workmen, "and of a certain workman making a clock by task work," £648 12s. 8d.

Roll 15 Edward 3rd, 1342.—

Four stones bought for making capitals, 4s.

Wages of a Mason for repairing bays of windows for one week, 2s. 6d.

Making 4 stone capitals, 2s. 8d.

Hire of a Mason for 1½d. a day for placing said capitals, and repairing columns, 7½d.

11 corbels of stone bought, 5s. 4d.

Wages of two masons clearing drains, and making and placing the said corbels, 21 days, 10s. 6d.

Paid to Walter de Bole, mason, for the repair and making of four windows and one great pillar by special agreement, £20.

His wages for making parapets, 60s.

Dress, boots, gloves, and food found.

Roll 18 Edward 3rd (1345).—Wages of two bedders of stone, also bread and ale given to the masons, abbots' men, and many others working on Monday that they might better expedite the work on account of water in the foundation, 7½d.

Account of Brother John de Mordone for the work of the new cloister, 23 to 26 Edward 3rd (1350-1353). Receipts, £71 6s. 5d. Wages of two masons from Feast of St. Michael to February 23 (21 weeks) 70s., when a new agreement was made with them on account of flesh time, whereby each had 4d. a week more, viz., 2s. a week from Feb. 23 to Michaelmas. To one of them as Master of the work, 26s. 8d. over his wages, and for his dress, 13s. 4d.; for two pair of shoes, 3s., and to their boy, 12d.

Wages of Adam de Wytteneye, a bedder of stone, for 34 weeks, from the Feast of the Purification, 66s. 8d.; his servant, 48s. 63 cart-loads of stone from the quarry to Battersea, £4 14s. 6d.; carriage of same from Battersea to Westminster by water, 7s. 10½d.; carriage of same from the water to the church, nothing, because in the sacrist's carts, but in expenses of those helping to load the carts 2s.; cement for joining the stones. 6d., besides wax from the sacrist.

Making masons' tools for the year, 4s. 8d.; two bundles of steel for tools for the quarry, 20d.; putting on the steel and sharpening the tool, 6s.; two boat loads of rag stone, 22s.

Twenty-fifth year—

One bag of lead for strengthening the joints of the vaulting, 7s.

Twenty-sixth year—

A third mason, at work from November 19 to May 28. Wages of a fourth Mason, from November 24 to Michaelmas, 44 weeks, at 3s. 2d. per week, £6 19s. 4d.; *tunics for same.*

One bedder of stone, hired for a week for the expedition of the vaulting work, on account of the danger of frost, 2s. 6d.

Account of Brother John de Moudon for the work of the new cloister, from Michaelmas in the 26th Edw. III., to same feast in 27th.

Payments to four masons, two being occasional provided with winter dresses beside their own. Head mason's fee 26s. 8d.; nothing for his dress this year because he refused to receive it on account of the delay in its delivery.

Michaelmas 27 to 28 Edward III. Receipts, £34 6s. 8d. Expended, £63 8s. 5d. in excess. Wages of one bedder of stone for 40 weeks, making the foundation of the work on the side of the refectory, 70s.; to a boy helping him, 40s.; one mason hired for four weeks to make keys to the vaultings, 13s. 4d.

Michaelmas 28 to 29, Edward III.

Wages of two regular masons, two casual, one bedder and helper.

100 feet of cut rag-stone bought for the lodgement of the foundation, 58s. 4d.

Given to one marble mason for two weeks, shaping and polishing the said stones and others.

Twelve cartloads of stone making "lystes" in the vaulting, bought on account of the default of stone in the quarry, 18s.

Account Roll 31 to 32 Edward III.

Wages of 6 masons, some casual, one bedder of stone, 78s. the year, and one servitor, 18s., by agreement, besides his table with the sick to save expense.

Expenses of 2 masons at the quarry for 2 weeks, shaping and sculpturing stone for the windows and other necessaries, 6s.

Account 33 to 34, Edward III.

Wages of John Langelod, sculpturing stones for 8 weeks, 6s.

Account 38 to 39, Edward III.

Receipts, £45 4s. 10d. Three Masons at 2s. per week, and their livery and ale. Sum of all expenses, £45 4s. 10d. And so they are equal, the cloister being finished.

Account of Brother Peter Coumbe, keeper of the new work of the Church of Westminster, of all receipts and expenses from the vigil of St. Michael 11th, Richard II. (1388), to same feast in next year.

Fee of Master Yevelee, chief mason, 100s. per annum, and for his dress and furs, 15s.; do. of Robert Kentbury, 13s. 4d.; tunic of Thomas Paddington, 10s.

Five Masons for 17 weeks (£15 11s. 8d.); one for five weeks; 6 labourers for 17 weeks, at 20d. each; four bedders of stone for three weeks, three others for four weeks, two others for ten weeks; 4400 sacks of slacked lime; 52 carts of sand; luncheons for the Masons, bedders, and labourers, 53s. Paid to a Mason of Couf, in part payment of £40 for a marble pillar, £10.

17 to 18 Richard 2nd (1394). Wages, £86 11s. 6d. Henry Zgevely, chief Mason; 6 regular and named

Masons; 3 casual; 3 casual setters. £61 0s. 2d. for luncheons of the workmen.

14 to 15 Richard 2nd (1391). A chief and 6 regular Masons; 2 casual do.; 1 casual bedder; three labourers and quarry men. Paid for a marble column, £70; carriage of same from the Thames, 10s.; paid for tables for moulds, 21s. 6d.

18 to 19 Richard 2nd (1395). 1 chief Mason; 10 regular and 6 casual Masons; the "table" expenses of one mason's apprentice, 1s. per week; 2 casual setters; two carpenters working upon the new house for the Masons, and another house in Tothill-street, for 22 weeks, at 2s. 6d. each.

Paid for the dauber for the lodge for the Masons, and the house in Tothill-street, 15s. 6d.

Account. 1 to 2 Henry IV. (1400). Wages, &c., £62 5s. 10d.: fee of Master William Colchester, chief Mason, 100s. the year, and for his dress and furs; two workers, four Masons, 2 setters, 3 labourers. 1 pillar marble bought, £40.—*Scott's Gleanings from Westminster Abbey.*

165. The trading confraternities of the City of London were reconstituted in the time of Edward the 3rd, and were from this time called Livery Companies, and assumed a distinctive dress. The change of name from guilds to crafts and mysteries, and substituting for the old name of Alderman that of Master or Warden. By a list in Norman French of the "number of persons chosen by the several mysteries to be the Common Council," in 50 Edward 3rd, it appears that the Masons sent 4, and the Freemasons 2 members to the council.

The following is a copy of the Oath required to be taken, before admission to office, by all the Wardens or other principals:—"Ye shall swere that ye shall well and treuly or see the Craft of Masons, whereof ye be chosen Wardeyns for the yeere. And all the goode reules and ordyn'nces of the same Craft that hath been approved here be the court, and noon other, ye shall kepe and doo to be kept. And all the defautes that ye fynde in the same Craft ydon to the Chambleyn of ye Citée for the tyme beyng, ye shall wele and treuly p'sente. Sparyng noo man for favour, ne grevyng noo p'sone for hate. Extorcion ne wrong, under colour of your office ye shall non doo, nethir to noo thing that ye shall be ayenst the state, peas, and profite of our Sovereign Lord the King, or the citée, ye shall not consente, but for the tyme that ye shall be in office, in all things that shall be longyng unto the same craft after the laws and franchise of the seid citye welle and laufully ye shal have you. So helpe you God and all seyntes, &c."

In 1573 the Common Council ordered a loan of 2000 marks (afterwards increased to £2000) to be raised towards the purchase of wheat, in consequence of its great scarcity. The masons were assessed at £62 10s. 0d.; the mercers and grocers at £500 each; carpenters, £37 10s. 0d.; plumbers, £12 10s. 0d.—*Herbert's History of the Livery Companies of London*, vol. i.

The statue of Earl Fortescue is to be entrusted to Mr. E. B. Stephens, who is a native of Exeter; the fund of 1500l., raised by subscription, being equally divided between this monument and building a new wing to the North Devon Infirmary, in which the late Earl took a warm interest.

THE ROYAL MASONIC SOLAR CHURCH SOCIETY.

In a notice of the forthcoming International Exhibition in the *Morning Post* we find the following:—

"A society, calling itself the 'Royal Masonic Solar Church Society,' wishes for space to ventilate its dogmas. The tenets of this sect, which are said to number '1500 heads,' and to have the city of Bath as the centre of their operations, are somewhat misty, as will be seen from the following extract from their authorised publication:—

"'This church has been founded' for the promotion of demonstrative education, and the diffusion of intelligent utility, justice, and equity to the many, as being the true aristocracy, strength, and glory of every country, and the preventive of all slavery, disorders, wars, robberies, and murders. Beholding about 5000 fixed stars, which are as many mighty solar systems, in their own locations, like that of ours, which is composed of a mighty sun, the ever-living God of the system, with 80 known planet and satellite worlds, that revolve round the sun, and receive their ever-living soul from him (our earth and moon two of them); and hundreds of visiting comets that receive and transmit his vital soul to other parts of the living universe. So on earth there are 5000 corresponding specific families of men, and their capacities as various as the smallest stars compared with the sun. And in each family there are 200,000 varieties, not two alike in the same family, as the glories of the heavens are always in motion that produce them. All equal in justice, but vary in the powers of soul, mind, and body. Our earth, and all the sun's planets that revolve round the sun, is the property of our God, and the fulness thereof—and as there are 200,000,000,000 acres of land and ocean, and 1,000,000,000 souls upon this planet, so that our God in his providential laws gave (on a life lease) to every soul of man 200 acres of land and ocean to feed and support him in his education. . . . The best means to redeem man to the truth and knowledge of our God's providential laws is the study of astronomy, chemistry, botany, and animate nature, and good newspapers.'"

[Can any of our Bath brethren enlighten us with regard to the society, and tell us what connection it has with Masonry. We especially like the anti-climax of "good newspapers."—Ed.]

MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

BRO. ROBERT BURNS'S MASONIC CONTEMPORARIES.

Everything that is connected with Robert Burns is sure to interest a large portion of Masonic readers, and having cut out a long extract from an American paper (where its editor got it from I don't know,) I forward it to you thinking it should find a place in your "Masonic Notes and Queries," as it contains some very interesting details of brethren long since gone to their rest.—Ex. Ex.

"A' ye whom social pleasure charms,
Whose hearts the tide o' kindness warms,
Wha, hold your being on the terms,
Each aid the others',
Come to my bow, come to my arms,
My friends, my Brothers."—Burns.

The following are sketches of some of the companions of Burns, during the winter he spent in Edinburgh,—friends, rather, for many of the Masonic acquaintances he made then remained his fast friends during the residue of his brief and chequered life. They are worthy of record here, not alone for their disinterested friendship to the Poet, but for their own excellences and on account of their prominence in the Craft. How often does it happen that a very trivial matter

changes entirely the current of a man's life, and affects him for weal or woe even down to the grave. A private letter written by a friend of Burns, commendatory of the first edition of his Poems, arrested his steps just as he was about to sail for the West Indies, and changed his destination to Edinburgh—to popularity—to enduring fame! Had he gone to the Islands, he might have survived the ordeal; but it is more likely that, with his temperament, and the weight of sadness resting upon his heart at the time, he would have found an obscure and early grave: a trifle changed the current of his life; he went to the capital, threw himself into society, called into activity all his powers, and won an immortality as enduring as the mountains of his native land!

ALEXANDER FERGUSON.

Was the Worshipful Master of Canongate Kilwinning, as heretofore stated, and placed the wreath on the brow of Burns, as Poet-Laureate of the Lodge, on the evening of the first of March. He remained a warm friend to the Poet ever after the occasion alluded to. Burns repeatedly acknowledged his friendship, in prose and verse, with all the gratitude of his fervent and impulsive nature. It is Ferguson, doubtless, whom he represents as addressing him in the following stanza:

"No longer mourn thy fate is hard,
Thus poorly low!
I come to give thee such reward
As we bestow."

Alexander Ferguson, Esq., of Craigdarroch; Advocate and Assessor of the Burgh of Canongate, was Master of Canongate Kilwinning Lodge from June 1784, to June 1787, and appears to have been a man in easy circumstances, a fine lawyer, and something of a wit. Burns refers to him in *The Whistle*, as

"Craigdarroch, so famous for wit, worth, and law."

It was he who figured a contestant for the Whistle in the contest for that celebrated relic, and won it. Burns gives the history of the bauble as follows:

"In the train of Anne of Denmark, when she came to Scotland with our James VI., there came over also a Danish gentleman of gigantic stature and great prowess, and a matchless champion of Bacchus. He had a little ebony whistle, which at the commencement of the orgies he laid on the table, and whoever was the last able to blow it, every body else being disabled by the potency of the bottle, was to carry off the whistle as a trophy of victory. The Dane challenged the Scots to the alternative of trying his prowess, or else acknowledging their inferiority. After many overthrows in the part of the Scots, the Dane was encountered by Sir Robert Laurie, of Maxwellton, who after three days and three nights' hard contest, left the Scandinavian under the table,

'And blew on the whistle his requiem shrill.'

Sir Walter, son to Sir Robert, before-mentioned, afterwards lost the whistle to Walter Riddel, of Glenriddel."

"During Burns' residence at Ellisland the Whistle, being in possession of Captain Biddel, a descendant of Walter, and a neighbour of Burns, he determined to submit it to another friendly contest between himself and two other descendants of him who won it from the Dane, namely, Alexander Ferguson and Sir Robert Guthrie, M.P. The meeting took place at Friars' Carse, and Burns was present by invitation to witness the trial and result. The prize was won by Mr. Ferguson, and Burns left his record of it in "The Whistle." Such things entered into the fashion of the times, but would hardly be commended at the present day.

Mr. Ferguson possessed superior attainments, and much kindness and amiability of disposition. He was thrown from his horse and died three months before the Poet.

LORD ELCHO.

"For though he was of high degree,
The fient a pride, nae pride had he,
Mair than an honest plowman."—Burns.

During this memorable winter, the Honourable Francis Charteris was Grand Master of Masons in Scotland; and it was he who presided in the Grand Lodge on the evening of the 13th of December, when Burns was presented, and who gave the toast—"Caledonia, and Caledonia's bard—Bro. Burns," which was echoed by the entire meeting with multiplied honors and repeated acclamations.

The Hon. Francis Charteris was the only son of Francis, the

fifth Earl of Wemyss, and was born on the 31st of January 1749. In 1780 he was chosen member of Parliament, and on his father's succession to the Earldom of Wemyss, in May, 1787, Mr. Charteris succeeded as Lord Elcho. He was an active and influential member of the House of Commons, and succeeded in carrying through it some important measures. In later years he devoted his attention to agricultural pursuits, which he studied minutely, and in which he became proficient.

History does not tell us when or where he was initiated into Freemasonry, but he was a very active and zealous member. He was prominent as the Master of the St. John's Lodge, Haddington; and on the 3rd of March, 1779, he became a member of the Canongate Kilwinning, "where he carried a motion to the effect that all members of the Haddington Lodge should, while in the Canongate Kilwinning, be full members thereof, and *vice versa*." This was a very singular motion, and it is more singular still that it was adopted; but government in Masonry was not then reduced to such order as at present, and usages and practices were then tolerated which would not be at the present time.

Lord Elcho was elected Grand Master on the 30th of November, 1786, "and visited most of the lodges in Edinburgh in the course of the winter, beginning with the Cannongate Kilwinning on the 7th December." He was re-elected Grand Master on the 30th of November, 1787. "He bore the highest character for amiable manners, benevolence, generosity, and marked kindness to the lower classes; and he endeared himself to all who were honoured with his acquaintance, the whole tenour of his life being a series of kindness, friendship, and philanthropy:"—an honorable testimony to a worthy man and zealous Mason.

LORD TORPHICHEN

Was initiated in the Cannongate Kilwinning Lodge on the evening of the 7th of December, 1786, being the night of Burns' first visit. He was soon after nominated in the Grand Lodge as Deputy Grand Master, but we believe never rose to the "chief command," in that body. In June, 1787, he was elected Master of the Cannongate Kilwinning Lodge, but we are unable to state how long he served as such. His name was James Sandilands, was born on the 15th of November, 1759, and succeeded to his father's title in 1765. He was an officer in the 21st Regiment of Foot, or Royal Scots Fusiliers; he served under Burgoyne in our Revolutionary war, and "was one of those who had to pile arms at Saratoga." He afterwards served in the Coldstream Guards, where he rose to the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel. In 1790 he was chosen one of the representative peers of Scotland, but died without issue in 1815. One of his ancestors, Sir James Sandilands of Calder, "on account of his learning, and serving at Malta, was appointed Preceptor of the Knights Hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem. Lord Torphichen was a warm friend to the Poet, was present at his coronation as Poet-Laureate of the lodge, and Burns calls him "a higher brother in Freemasonry."

ARCHIBALD (ELEVENTH) EARL OF EGLINTON.

"'Twas in that place o' Scotland's Isle
That bears the name o' Auld King Coil."—Burns.

The tenth Earl of Eglington (Alexander), was killed in a dispute about a fowling-piece in 1769, and dying unmarried, the honors devolved on his brother Archibald, who figures in the painting of "crowning the bard." He was a military officer, and served in a Highland regiment in America. He was asked by his mother, on his return, to recount the dangers he had passed and the sufferings he had endured; he informed her that his chief endurance was from the sting of the vegetable nettle, and the animal muskito on his kilted houchs. He died in 1796, and having no son (though twice married) the title devolved on his kinsman, and another friend of Burns, Hugh Montgomerie, of Coilsfield. This was the Colonel Montgomerie in whose service Highland Mary was employed as a dairy maid when Burns became her lover. The "palace o' Montgomerie" was near Tarbolton, and near it the trysting tree of the lovers, and the brook—the scene of their final pledge and parting.

Archibald, the eleventh Earl, was born in 1740, and died in 1819. He entered the army in 1755, and rose to the rank of Colonel. He was in America with Sir Ralph Abercromby. On one occasion, in assaulting a fort, the troops met with such a terrible fire as to compel them to halt. He was behind, turned round as the smoke was clearing away, and exclaimed in the hearing of the Captain, "What! am I to take the place myself?" The question was met by a British hurrah, and the fort was carried.

At the time Burns came to Edinburgh, Hugh Montgomerie was a member of Parliament for Ayrshire. Burns alludes to his services as soldier and statesman, in his usual free and easy manner:—

"The soger Hugh, my watchman stented,
If bardies e'er are represented,
I ken if that ye're sword were wanted,
Ye'd lend ye're hand;
But when there's aught to say anent it,
Ye're at a stand."

Archibald, the eleventh Earl of Eglington, was a great admirer of Burns' poetry, and evinced his estimation of the Poet by extending a liberal patronage to him;—he subscribed for forty-two copies of the first Edinburgh edition of the poems.

THE EARL OF GLENCAIRN.

"The bridegroom may forget the bride
Was made his wedded wife yestreen,
The monarch may forget the crown
That on his head an hour has been;
The mother may forget the child
That smiles sae sweetly on the knee:
But I'll remember the, Glencairn,
And all that thou hast done for me."—Burns.

Few, among the many Masonic friends of Burns, made such during that winter—are more frequently mentioned, or mentioned in more grateful terms, than the Earl of Glencairn. He seems to have become acquainted with the Poet soon after his arrival in Edinburgh, and became at once a very sincere and valuable friend;—his name, his influence, and his purse were ever ready to aid the Ayrshire Bard, by whom his memory was gratefully cherished by his protégé to the close of life.

James Cunningham, Earl of Glencairn, was born in 1749, and succeeded in 1775 as fourteenth Earl. In 1778 he served as Captain in Lord Frederick Campbell's Regiment of Fencibles, and subsequently took orders in the Church of England. He married, in 1785, Lady Isabella Erskine, daughter of David Henry, tenth Earl of Buchan, and so was the brother-in-law of the Earl of Buchan and of the Hon. H. Erskine. Having no children, the title became extinct on his death, which took place near Edinburgh, on the 24th September, 1791.

Burns looked upon his Lordship as his best friend, and often alludes to him in his writings. His factor on the Finlayson estate, Ayrshire, Mr. Dalziel, laid the first edition of Burns' Poems, before his Lordship, and he (says Cromek) declared that its merits exceeded his expectations. He took it with him in November, 1786, as a literary curiosity, and communicated, through Dalziel, that he wished to know "in what way or manner he could forward his interest." Meantime Burns also had reached Edinburgh; and there, in a few days, he says,—"I have found a worthy warm friend in Mr. Dalrymple of Orange-field, who introduced me to Lord Glencairn, a man whose worth and brotherly kindness to me I shall remember when time shall be no more. By his interest it has passed in the Caledonian Hunt that they are to take each a copy of the second edition, for which they are to pay one guinea." Mr. Creech was induced by his Lordship, to undertake the publication of the second edition; and thus Burns found a ready publisher, and the means of bringing his work before the Edinburgh public. He seems to have been a man of great kindness of heart, and a very devoted member of the mystic brotherhood.

THE EARL OF BUCHAN.

"Praise from thy lips 'tis mine with joy to boast,
They best can give it who deserve it most."—Burns.

David, Earl of Buchan, is a historical personage, both in the annals of Masonry and freedom. He was born in 1742, and died in 1829. On finishing his education at the Glasgow University, he joined the army, and was appointed Secretary to the British Embassy in Spain in 1776. His father dying the next year, he succeeded to the title and estates, and returned to Scotland. He aided in the formation of the Antiquarian Society, and contributed to its lectures. He subsequently published a volume of Essays on the lives of Fletcher and Saltoun, and of James Thomson, the poet; and was also a contributor to the various periodicals of the day. We are not advised as to the time when, or the place where he was initiated into Masonry; but he was elected Grand Master of Masons on the 30th of November, 1782, and re-elected on 1st of December, 1783. He frequently visited the Canongate Kilwinning Lodge. He usually wore the Jewel of a Past Grand Master.

He was present at the inauguration of Burns as Poet-Laureate. During the evening he addressed a note to the Poet,

"containing patronizing advice to excite his muse by a visit to his classic country,"—for the Earl spent his summers at his seat at Dryburgh. He is represented in the picture as in the act of handing the letter to Alexander Cunningham, "who occupies the seat next to that which Burns, always resorted to." There seems to have been some foible in the Earl's characteristics, for Burns, in his reply, with a singular freedom says:—

"I wish for nothing more than to make a leisurely pilgrimage.
* * * * * But in the midst of these enthusiastic reveries, a long-visaged, dry, moral-looking phantom slides across my imagination, and pronounces these emphatic words, 'I, Wisdom, dwell with Prudence. * * * * *"

Now that your dear-loved Scotia puts it in your power to return to the situation of your forefathers, will you follow these will-o'-wisp meteors of fancy and whim, till they bring you once more to the brink of ruin?"

In 1791 the Earl wrote him again, "intimating a grand festive commemoration of the poet of the seasons, to take place on his Lordships' grounds at Edman, on the 22nd of September, on which occasion the bust of Thomson was to be crowned by the Earl with bays. Burns could not resist the appeal to his muse on behalf of this sweet Bard, and so he transmitted the 'Address to the Shade of Thomson,' but, along with it, he wrote the Earl that, 'a week or two's absence in the very middle of my harvest is what I much doubt I dare not venture on.'" Burns was at this time on the farm at Nithsdale.

In 1792, the Earl was presented with a box made of the oak which sheltered Sir William Wallace, bearing the following inscription:—"Presented by the Goldsmiths of Edinburgh to David Stuart Erskine, Earl of Buchan, with the Freedom of their corporation, by their deacon—A.D. 1791." The earl could not consent to retain this precious gift, but, by consent of the donors, immediately transmitted it to General Washington, then President of the United States, as may be seen by the following notice published in the papers of this country at the time.

PHILADELPHIA, January 4, 1792.

"On Friday morning was presented to the President of the United States a box, elegantly mounted with silver, and made of the celebrated oak tree that sheltered the Washington of Scotland, the brave and patriotic Sir William Wallace, after his defeat at the battle of Falkirk, in the beginning of the fourteenth century, by Edward 1. This magnificent and truly characteristic present is from the Earl of Buchan, by the hand of Mr. Archibald Robinson, a Scottish gentleman, and portrait painter, who arrived in America some months ago. The box was presented to Lord Buchan by the Goldsmith's Company of Edinburgh, from whom his Lordship requested and obtained leave, to make it over to a man whom he deemed more deserving of it than himself, and the only man in the world to whom he thought it justly due. We hear further that Lord Buchan has, by letter, requested of the President that, on the event of his decease, he will consign the box to that man, in this country, who shall appear in his judgement, to merit it best, upon the same consideration that induced him to send it to the present possessor."

Our readers, we are sure, will excuse us for this brief historical digression, even if we complete it by tracing the "box" a little further. In the last will and testament of the great Washington we find this:

"Item.—To the Earl of Buchan I recommit the 'Box made of the oak that sheltered the great Sir William Wallace, after the battle of Falkirk,' presented to me by his Lordship, in terms too flattering for me to repeat, with a request 'to pass it, on the event of my decease, to the man in my country who should appear to merit it best, upon the same conditions that induced him to send it to me.' Whether easy or not to select the man who might comport with his Lordships' opinion in this respect, is not for me to say; but, conceiving that no disposition of this valuable curiosity can be more eligible than the recommitment of it to his own cabinet, agreeably to the original designs of the Goldsmiths' Company of Edinburgh, who presented it to him, and at his request, consented that it should be transferred to me, I do give and bequeath the same to his Lordship: and, in case of his decease, to his heir, with my grateful thanks for the distinguished honour of presenting it to me, and more especially for the favourable sentiments with which he accompanied it."

But we are now done with the Box and the donor. It was a worthy gift from a noble Mason in the old world, to the most illustrious one on this side the ocean.

CHARLES MORE.

In the centre of a group the right of the Master in the picture before referred to, is Charles More, Deputy Master of the Lodge. He was also an officer in the Royal Arch Chapter, and was deeply attached to Masonry. He was connected with the Royal Bank; was a gentleman of good address and agreeable manners, and his society was courted by persons of rank and distinction.

PATRICK MILLER.

Of Dalwinton, was the son of Sir Thomas Miller. He had been bred a banker, but applied himself chiefly to scientific pursuits, and was the first to propose the application of steam power to navigation. He was initiated in the Canongate Kilwinning Lodge, on the 12th of February, 1765. Seeing a copy of the Kilmarnock edition of Burns' Poems, his attention was arrested by the following stanza, referring to his father and his property near Tarbolton:

"Through many a wild romantic grove,
Near many a hermit-fancied cove,
Fit haunt for friendship or for love,
An aged Judge, I saw him rove.
Dispensing good."

Soon after Burns' arrival in Edinburgh, he met the poet, for the first time, in the Lodge, and a day or two after sent him ten pounds as a present; and on the 13th of December, Burns writes—"I drank a glass of claret with him, by invitation, at his own house yesternight." At this interview, learning Burns' desire to devote his life to farming, Mr. Miller offered him his choice of a farm (by lease) in a large tract he had lately purchased in Dumfriesshire. In the following June, Burns visited the land, and selected Ellisland, of which he took possession in the spring of 1778. The friendship formed between the Bard and Mr. Miller, was sincere, and lasting as life.

MASONIC JEWELS OF EVERY GRADE.

Is there any work published in which the Masonic Jewels, of every grade, are delineated?—COSTUMIER.

FOREIGN JEWEL.

A silver jewel of an heptagonal form is in the possession of a brother Mason. It bears on the obverse an imperial crown at the top, in the middle a capital F, whilst the base has the two flukes of an anchor, the stem rising through the letter F—the crown—and passing out of the top as a ring, forming the head of the anchor, and a suspender to which to attach a ribbon; round the margin are the words: Zerrubabel et Frederick of the Crown of Hope. I believe it is a Danish Jewel, and belongs to some lodge at Copenhagen. Can any one say if it is a Centenary Jewel, and if it belongs to a lodge called Zerrubabel and Frederick of the Crown of Hope, if such a lodge exists or did exist at Copenhagen.—W. J. M.—[At present we cannot undertake to say what the above jewel is, because there are doubts on our mind as to the exact wording of the inscription, it being in two languages, a most unusual proceeding. The easiest and most homely way of forwarding such impressions is by covering the jewel with tissue paper, and passing lightly, several times, the back part of the bowl of a *lead* tea-spoon over the paper. From this action an exact copy will be made, and if W. J. M. will favour us with such a one, we will endeavour to ascertain what he requires. The *lead* spoon is a desideratum from its being soft, free from grit or hard substances, and therefore not likely to injure the jewel. Of course if you can get prepared paper and heel-ball, used for rubbings, they will be the best of all.]

LODGE SECRETARIES AND THE GRAND SECRETARY.

In a letter from the Grand Secretary, he says "private lodges usually follow the practice of Grand Lodge as closely as circumstances will permit." In Grand Lodge the Grand Secretary sits at the foot of the dais, as if it was only that Grand Officers should hear the minutes, the members at the lower end of the hall being treated as outsiders, although by the vote of the whole of the members does the Grand Secretary keep his appointment, for it is in the power of Grand Lodge to dismiss him. Now in private lodges the Secretary is placed in the north, opposite the J.W., and this appears to me the most con-

venient practice, but according to the dictum laid down by the Grand Secretary above, I have my doubts as to who is right, the Grand Secretary or the Secretaries of private lodges?—A SECRETARY OF A PRIVATE LODGE.

NAPOLEON THE FIRST.

A very zealous brother, resident in his native City of Chambery, for some reason which he has not thought fit to disclose, requests me to communicate the ensuing to the FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE. It is, he informs me, the concluding passage of a *Discours prononcé dans la Lodge St. Louis de Martinique le 22 Janvier, 1806*, by a member of the Craft named Valleteau de Chambrefy, who was sixty years since, well known in the capital of the ancient Courts of Savoy:—"Enfin la maçonnerie en but à plusieurs siècles de persecutions, repose sous les auspices d'un Prince (S.M. l'Empereur Napoléon I.), puissant, qui s'est déclaré le protecteur de l'ordre Maçonique en France, après avoir lui-même participé à nos travaux connus la piété de nos principes et la sagesse de nos mystères."—CHARLES PURTEN COOPER, Chateau Frampas March 8, 1862.

THE LATOMIA SOCIETY OF NEW YORK.

The following notice of this Masonic Society (connected with the Atlantic Lodge, No. 178) appeared in the "Notes on Literature, Science, and Art, in the *Bury Times* (Lancashire paper) of Saturday last:—

"G. W. Steinbrenner, Esq., of New York, has published, for the first time, his annual report as President of the Latomia Society, dated Dec. 10th, 1861. We have read this report (for a copy of which we have to thank Mr. Steinbrenner) with much interest, and all lovers of truth will wish the Latomia Society success in its important mission, which is stated in the document before us:—"Our aim is to encourage the art of criticism, through historical investigation within the bounds of Masonry, to purge truth of every fiction, to test and analyse the material on hand, and thus to become the life-giving principle, the source of light for our Masonic lodges. In the light of information thus gathered and spread, the thoughtful Mason will acquire a certainty of action and love of labour, which will result in real progress in the great masonic work, 'self-improvement.' A list of papers read, and many of which have been published in American and European prints, is annexed to the report; and we are sure that all historical students will wish every success to the Latomia Society, for the genuine history of the ancient 'Craft' is almost as important to 'the outer world' as to the initiated themselves. The Latomia Society was instituted on the 24th Sept., 1858, and has already begun to attract the attention of truth-seekers in Europe; and we trust that the publication of an annual report for the future will be regularly kept up."

REVIEWS.

A Handy Book to the Post-office Savings' Banks. Second edition. By H. RISEBOROUGH SHARMAN, F.S.S. London: Stevenson, Paternoster Row.

The value of Post-office Savings Banks having become already fully acknowledged as offering the only real security to the public for small savings, we do not think we can do better than recommend this admirable manual of Bro. Sharman to general notice, as in it will be found everything that can be wished to be known for opening, transferring, and closing accounts, in addition to the Act of Parliament establishing the banks, and all the official regulations under which they are governed. To lodges with but limited funds, and lodges of Instruction, the Post-office Savings Banks offer a ready means of investment and making something on their money (if only a little) instead of letting it be idle in a Treasurer's hands.

One Hundred Lectures on the Ancient and Modern Drama and Dramatic Poets, down to the 19th Century, commencing with Thespis, the founder of the Dramatic Art, 6th Century before Christ. By B. C. JONES. Nos. 1 to 6. Lacy, Strand.

Bro. Jones, who is well known as a Shaksperian lecturer, has set himself a somewhat difficult task, but one which he evidently understands. One hundred lectures upon the history of an art running over twenty-five centuries cannot be otherwise than a work of great labour, but Bro. Jones evidently possesses the perseverance and industry to enable him to carry out his plan successfully. In the numbers before us (we have not received part 3 by the bye), he has arrived at his seventh lecture, on the Medea of Euripides, which promises to be highly interesting, as is that on *Ædipus* of Sophocles, the treatment of which proves the close and through acquaintance Bro. Jones has with the Greek drama. Should he prove equally happy with the more modern drama as he is with the ancient this collection of lectures will prove one of the most valuable works of reference on dramatic literature extant.

Beeton's Dictionary of Universal Information in Science, Art, and Literature. Part 4. Beeton, Strand.

There is nothing more wanted in literature than an encyclopædia of moderate size within the reach of the million, in which everything shall be concisely and yet plainly described. This desideratum will be supplied by the work before us, which is amply illustrated with engravings; but they are as nothing in value when compared with the text.

Home Pets. Parts 12, 13, 14 and 15. Beeton, Strand.

The numbers we have previously noticed of this excellent little work have been mostly devoted to song birds. Here we have two parts on pigeons, and two on domestic poultry, the management of which, with their various distinctive peculiarities, are admirably explained. The coloured engravings alone, irrespective of the woodcuts and the literary matter, are more than worth the price of the work.

Englishwoman's Domestic Magazine for April. Beeton, Strand.

The illustrations and the literary contents of this number are equal to any which have preceded it. What more can we say?

We have also received from Mr. Beeton's establishment, the eighth part of the *Illuminated Family Bible*, bringing us to the 10th Chapter of Judges; the *Boys' Own Library*, No. 12, the history of "Phaulcon, or the Ship Boy who became a Prime Minister," increasing in interest as it proceeds; and *The Boys' Own Magazine*, No. 4, vol. viii., as full of matter useful and instructive to the rising generations as it can well be. The number of volumes it has attained alone bears testimony to the popularity of the work.

The Poet of the Age; a Satirical Poem, with introductory remarks on the Decline of Poetry. Hardwicke, Piccadilly.

The most valuable part of this work is decidedly to be found in the introductory remarks, which, by-the-by, is as long as the poem. It is a sensible well-written article, which would be better entitled an "Essay on Cant," than on the decline of poetry. Of the poem we are compelled to say we have failed to discover the point of the satire, and have only arrived at the conclusion that—whoever may be—the author of this brochure, is not the "Poet of the Age."

NOTES ON LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AND ART.

Dr. Ermete Pierotti, who recently read some lectures at Oxford on Jerusalem, has an imperial quarto volume in preparation, entitled *Jerusalem Explored; being a Description of the Ancient and Modern City*. The work will be illustrated with upwards of 100 views, ground plans, and sections. Dr. Pierotti has lived in Jerusalem for eight years as architect and engineer to the Pasha of the city, and has had many peculiar and favourable opportunities for pursuing researches relating to the topography of the ancient and subterranean city.

Trübner and Co. have favoured us (the *Critic*) with a prospectus of a remarkable work about to appear at Milan in the Italian language. We had better give the title; *Sommonakodom Codice Buddistico Siamese (T'hai) Manuscritto e Dipinto. Un volume in 4to grande. Con Atlante di Settanta Tavole in Cromolitografia, pubblicato per cura B. Biondelli*. The publication of the MS. with the plates in chromo-lithography, will be a treat to Oriental scholars. Buddhism is the religion of some 400 millions in the East. By good fortune, the present manuscript, unique of its kind, has reached Europe, in which the Bhuddist religion is figured and described. It is in the T'hai, or Siamese language. The first volume will be an exact facsimile of the original manuscript, and judging by the specimen before us, it will have pictorial interest, if nothing more. As to the written characters, we do not pretend to have the slightest acquaintance. The second volume, however, will tell us all about the contents of the first, and about the philosophy and religion of Buddha. Both volumes will be in the 4to form, and it is announced that 250 copies only will be printed.

David Wingate, the collier poet, to whom *Blackwood's Magazine* has directed so much attention, is a native of Lanarkshire, and lives and works to this day in a coal-pit at Windmill-hill, near Motherwell. He is about thirty-five years of age, and since his boyhood has written verses which have seen the light in the poet's corners of the Glasgow newspapers. So far back as 1852 the late Hugh Macdonald introduced Mr. Wingate and several of his poems to the readers of the *Glasgow Citizen* in a kindly and appreciative article. Wingate's collected "Poems and Songs," will be shortly published.

The poetical works of the late Hugh Macdonald, of the *Glasgow Citizen*, are in the press, and will be published in the course of the present summer.

A new translation of Horace, by G. Chichester Oxenden, printed for railway reading, will be published immediately.

Messrs. Longman and Co. project the issue of a new series of wall maps for schools. It is thought by many teachers that the maps at present in use are faulty in the following respect:—They do not give the physical features of countries with sufficient clearness and distinctness; the mountains are too frequently a confused mass of black, without any attempt to show the ranges, the peaks, and depressions; the rivers are laid down in a manner which renders it often impossible to say where they rise; places of importance in a commercial point of

view are omitted; and the positions of cities and towns are not given with that accuracy which is essential to sound teaching. It is believed that these evils can only be remedied by having two maps for each country; one, in which the physical features—the mountains, plains, rivers, &c.—shall be clearly and boldly delineated; and another, which shall contain, in addition to the physical features, the political divisions, cities, towns, &c. Upon this plan a map of England and Wales will shortly be published, and, if it meet with favour, it will be followed by others.

A new Practical Dictionary of the English and German Languages, by the Rev. W. L. Blackley and Dr. C. M. Friedlander, is in preparation. The dictionary has been compiled for practical English use, and will exclude all archaic or merely pedantic words unknown to literature and speech.

Mr. Charles Alston Collins, brother of Mr. Wilkie Collins, has in the press, *A Cruise upon Wheels*," an autumn ramble among the deserted post roads of France.

Professor Cairnes, of Queen's College, Galway, has in the press a work on *The Slave Power: its Character, Career, and Probable Designs*, being an attempt to explain the real issues involved in the American contest.

Mr. Peter Cunningham has completed his work on the *Environs of London*, similar in plan to his *Handbook of London*.

Mr. Richard Redgrave, R.A., and his brother, Mr. S. Redgrave, who has acted for years as the honorary secretary of the Etching Club, have been engaged for some time in preparing the materials for a History of the British School of Painting. They have both of them excellent opportunities at the present time for increasing their knowledge, as they are busily occupied, with Mr. Creswick, R.A., in the difficult and irksome task of arranging the British pictures sent to the International Exhibition.

Mr. Maclise, R.A., having finished his first great picture in the Houses of Parliament, "The Meeting of Wellington and Blucher at Waterloo," has received a commission for a work of the same size for a corresponding compartment, measuring 45 feet long by 12 high. The price paid for these large pictures, which are painted in the new method called "water-glass" painting, invented by Dr. Fuchs, of Munich, is £3500 each. The subject for this second great work of Mr. Maclise's is "The Death of Nelson." The Peers' Gallery is to have eighteen of these immense pictures upon its walls, all of which will relate to the military and naval history of England.

Messrs. Colnaghi, Scott, and Co. are about to publish a splendid series of photographs, made in Egypt and Greece, by C. G. Fountaine, Esq. These are taken from admirably-selected point of view of the countries in question, and present the ancient remains and famous localities with impressive grandeur. The effect chosen for representation is generally a softer one than that preferred by Mr. Frith in his noble collection. "The Rock Temple of Abou-Simbel," "The Eastern Colonnade of Philæ;" "The Hypæthral Court and Hieroglyphic Wall at the last place are rendered with the greatest force and delicacy. Not less delightful are those from Karnac, Edfou, and Luxor.

The Council of the Astronomical Society have awarded the Gold Medal to Mr. Warren De La Rue for his astronomical researches, and especially for his application of photography. This public recognition of the success of chemical delineation of celestial objects may be an important date in the history of astronomy. No discovery of our day affords a more hopeful field of anticipation than that of photography, which seems destined to take that part in the astronomy of visual phenomena which graduated instruments have taken in the astronomy of motions and positions.

Arrangements will be made at the British Museum during the International Exhibition of a character still more attractive than those of 1851. The departments of Natural History and Antiquities, instead of being open to the public on alternate days, will be open on every week day but one, which will be necessarily reserved for cleaning, and this day of closing will be Thursday, instead of, as formerly, Saturday, in view of the fact that Saturday is a day of more general leisure. The reading room could not, of course, be thrown open to the public without ceasing to be available for its usual frequenters, but it will, during the present season, be invariably closed to readers at five o'clock, and from five to eight will be open for general inspection. The public will also circulate during those hours through some portions of singular new library which surrounds the reading room, and is destined to contain more than a million of volumes. The King's Library, the Grenville Library, and the Manuscript Rooms, with their exhibition of bibliographical treasures, will be open at the same times as the natural history and antiquity departments; but as from five to eight there will be more to be seen in the Museum than on any previous occasion, it is anticipated that in those hours there will be the greatest number of visitors.

The trustees of the Soane Museum have decided upon declining the proposition made to them of transferring a portion of the objects contained therein to the forthcoming Exhibition; but with a view to the accommodation of foreigners and persons from the provinces—visiting London during the Exhibition season, they have resolved to keep the museum open four days in the week during the months of May, June, July, August, and September—namely, Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays. Foreigners will be admitted on producing a card to be issued at the several embassies.

The committee managing the Zoological and Acclimatisation Gardens at Paris have resolved to have an exhibition of birds and poultry (*votailles d'elite*) during the coming summer, from which however, birds of prey are to be excluded. Gold, silver, and bronze medals will be awarded on the recommendation of a jury. Foreign as well as French amateurs and breeders will be allowed to exhibit.

Mr. J. Lewis Farley, the author of a recent volume on the Massacres in Syria, has a new work on hand, which will be ready for the press in the course of a month, on *The Resources of Turkey, considered with especial reference to the Profitable Investment of Capital in the Ottoman Empire*, with full statistics of the trade and commerce of the most important commercial towns, viz., Constantinople, Smyrna, Brussa, Trebizond, Samsoon, Salonica, Volo, Monastir, Bosnia, Rhodes, Cyprus, Candia, Scio, Cos, Galatz, Ibraila, Aleppo, Alexandretta, Latakia, Tripoli, Beyrout, Damascus, Jerusalem, &c.

Mr. William Simpson has returned from India with a collection of water-colour drawings and sketches of the scenery, architecture, and manners and customs of the people throughout her Majesty's Eastern Empire.

The forthcoming volumes of *The Life and Correspondence of Lord Auckland*, edited by the Bishop of Bath and Wells, will contain a full account of the love-passages between William Pitt and the Hon. Miss Eden, differing in many respects from that given by Lord Stanhope in his *Life of Pitt*. These last volumes of the Auckland Correspondence are said greatly to exceed in interest even the first. They will comprise "secret and confidential letters" from George III., Mr. Pitt, Lord Liverpool, Lord Sidmouth, Lord Grenville, Lord Henley, Lord Loughborough, and others relating to the great party struggles of 1793 to 1814.

Mr. Edward Dicey will commence his papers on the United States in the April number of *Macmillan's Magazine*, with an article entitled "Three Weeks in New York."

The Memoirs left by Thomas Bewick are at length, we hear, in the press. They are to be edited by his daughter, and illustrated by several vignettes not hitherto published, together with the finished cuts of his work on *British Fishes*.

A few weeks ago an inquiry was made as to the existence of any drawing of Old York House—the most famous of all the old London mansions on the river. We are glad to say that hints for a representation of that house in which Charles Brandon and the "Pearl of England" lived, in which Lord Bacon was born, in which Ellesmere died, have been discovered in the drawings of Wyn Graede at the Bodleian. By help of Mr. Cox, the librarian, Mr. E. M. Ward, *R.A.*, has succeeded in making, from Wyn Graede's hints, a slight but pretty and spirited sketch of that historical pile which Buckingham pulled down in order to clear the site for Inigo Jones.

We see daily advertised an entertainment by a clever comedian, entitled "At home" but a lasting entertainment may be furnished "at home" by the purchase of one of those marvels of mechanism the "Lock Stitch Sewing Machines." Our attention was attracted the other day to the show rooms of the Wheeler & Wilson Co., at 139 Regent Street, and we were gratuitously and profitably entertained by having the "Lock Stitch Machine" explained to us. Instead of the old stitch, stitch, stitch, from morning to night, the materials for instance of a shirt are passed through the machine, and—*heigh presto!*—it is finished before we think it could hardly be commenced. Indeed, we could not recommend to our friends any of the exhibitions in London so highly as that at 139 Regent Street, where the visitor is certain to be gratified by the ingenuity displayed in the machine, astonished at the rapidity, and thankful to the inventor of such a boon to the fair portion of the civilized world.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

THE PAST MASTER'S JEWEL.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Is not the figure of the 47th Prop. Euclid, Book I., worn by a P.M. to show his ability as a Mason? Inasmuch as that theorem is the most important in plane geometry, and therefore fitly represents the whole science of geometry, with which an operative Master Mason should be well acquainted. This suggestion may satisfy the inquiries of your correspondents on this subject, without attempting to draw from the squares, lines, and triangles, any moral to show why a P.M. should wear it.

Yours fraternally,
J. NEWTON.

Navigation School, Sailors' Home, Well-street, E.
April 2, 1862.

THE HIGH GRADES.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I should not have thought it right to take up your limited space with the following remarks, had I not been, after a recent letter of mine in your periodical, almost compelled to accept the challenge so boldly proffered, in the somewhat extraordinary communication of your correspondent, "A.H.S. 36^c," in your

last number. I am perfectly ignorant of the "bitter animosity shown to the High Grades by Craft Masons," where it is expressed, or when it has been made conspicuous. No doubt there are many most excellent Masons in this country, and other countries, who have grave doubts as to the value or reality, whether historically or ethically, of those numerous illustrious and high-sounding grades, of which we see such frequent mention, but I am altogether unaware of those same doubts ever having been expressed, whether publicly or privately, in any way, but in the language of fair discussion, and in a true Masonic spirit.

Brother Findel, to whom your correspondent has made such special allusion, is quite competent to reply for himself, and, therefore, I will only say that any one who has been much abroad, and has there taken part in Masonry, will fully sympathise with Bro. Findel in his warm and indignant protest against many of those professed degrees, which, the offspring of charlatanism and imposture, are confessedly so ridiculous in themselves, as to be actually altogether excluded from what is called Christian Masonry, as practised at present in England.

I entirely disagree with your correspondent when he says, rather dogmatically, "that the great source of error in existing histories is the endeavour to prove that speculative Masonry, as taught in our lodges, is of the same remote antiquity as the lodges or guilds of working Masons."

On the contrary, much study now for some time, and many researches, and a careful examination and collation of ancient and modern authorities, have irresistibly led me to the conclusion that the only true historical theory of Masonry past and present is to be found, in the unbroken connection between our present speculative and adoptive Masonry, and the operative guilds of the early and middle ages.

To say nothing of the evidences now rapidly accumulating, from long-forgotten fabric rolls and monastic registers; to say nothing of our own oral traditions, so singularly borne out by existing manuscript authorities; to say nothing of the admissions of opponents, and the valuable illustrations of friends, we have not only in our ritual the distinct marks of very great antiquity, on purely philological grounds, but the earliest "constitutions," of our present fraternity, still happily preserved in the British Museum, are of themselves an irrefragable answer to those who would impugn the identity between operative and adoptive Masonry. Has your correspondent carefully weighed (which I must venture respectfully to doubt) the full force and inevitable conclusion of his own argument? If I understand it rightly, for it is not very clearly expressed, it amounts to this, that Craft Masonry is not, as we have always been taught and rightly taught, anterior, to Templar Masonry (to use a convenient phrase), but posterior to it; that, in fact, our present Masonry comes to us, from and through the Knights Templar, and hence, that Christian Masonry, as it is called, is more ancient than, and indeed the parent of, our Craft Masonry and the Royal Arch Degree. If there is one hypothesis which less can stand either the searching enquiry or the rigid test of historic truth, it is that "baseless fabric of a vision," which owes its birth and parentage and education, to the ingenious brains of a French writer on Masonry, and which, though put forth and ornamented with all the cleverness and "finesse," of our lively neighbours, is in itself so improbable and visionary, as hardly to warrant a serious consideration. Your correspondent, who seems to write with considerable authority, will, I hope, favour me with a reference to those "Papal Bulls or Charters," of which he makes mention, but which have hitherto unfortunately escaped the research, of both Masonic and unmasonic enquirers.

I think, however, that our brotherhood, generally, will be somewhat astonished to learn that the admission of others to a participation of Masonic privileges, whether

Jew, or Hindoo, or Mahomedan, entails on all Christian Masons the startling description "of a body of men who did not," and, consequently, do not, "believe in Christianity."

I really must ask your correspondent, before he again so describes the tolerant and genial basis of our great and universal order, in the language of a leading statesman, "to amend his vocabulary."

Like Mr. Haliburton last Friday night, I should have read the remarks of your correspondent with greater pleasure if I, too, could think that M.H.S. 30°, "understood what he was talking about," in reference to Masons' Marks. If there is one thing that is clear with reference to Masons' Marks it is that they were not local, or individual, or in any sense "the distinguishing marks or monograms of Masters of lodges," but that they were general and universal, governed by one law, and resolvable into one and the same geometrical and Masonic first principle—identical indeed, whether found on the pyramids of Egypt, or the temples of Mexico, the pagodas of India, the round towers of Ireland, the Roman wall and the Roman tower, the ecclesiastical buildings of the early and middle ages.

I am not one of those, Bro. Editor, who are ever afraid of fair and proper discussion, and I do not believe that "the halo of antiquity," as your correspondent puts it, will be stripped off, or "the poetry of the Craft" destroyed by any such enquiries as the present; on the contrary I believe, that the landmarks of our order, true and indestructible, will shine all the brighter when our history is more carefully considered, and our evidences more systematically put together, than has hitherto been the case.

I hope ere long to make a humble contribution to the interesting and intellectual study of our Masonic antiquities, ever bearing in mind that truth is what we all ought to seek after, and that nothing can be a more righteous duty or grateful privilege to the faithful Mason than to uphold and to illustrate, to strengthen and to defend, the wondrous history of our time-honoured Craft.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours faithfully and fraternally,
A. F. A. WOODFORD,

P.M. 382 and 72, P. Prov. S.G.W. for West Yorkshire,
and P.G.C. for Durham.

Swillington, Leeds, March 24, 1861.

RECENT INNOVATIONS IN MASONRY.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—The last number of the FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE (March 29th), discloses the fact that strenuous exertions are being made, in more than one locality, to introduce innovations in Masonry, by subverting the laws of the Order, and setting up new claims to jurisdiction and authority.

In the report of the festival of the Lodge of Fidelity (No. 281), held at Plymouth, at page 250, it is stated that "Bro. Cole, S.W.," proposed "The Prov. Grand Lodge of Mark Masters," which was responded to by Bro. C. J. Laidman. This meeting, it will no doubt be urged, was not a regular lodge, but a lodge festival, and that it was competent to the managers to introduce any subjects they pleased; but such a view is only a superficial one, for, on reading the whole report carefully, it will be seen that the Mark lodge was held immediately after the close of the Prov. G. Chapter, and that care was taken to blend the Craft and Arch brethren together, as evidenced in the toast of "Prosperity to the Royal Arch Chapter" being followed by "The Healths of the Wardens of the Lodge." Then, as if it had a relation to both Craft and Arch Masonry, the proposition of what is styled the Prov. G. Lodge of Mark Masters was adroitly introduced, and, no doubt, dazzled many brethren who, from seeing it in such good com-

pany, formed an opinion in its favour, whilst it really is but a thing of yesterday, uncountenanced by every Grand Lodge in the world. This grouping of an unrecognised body with legitimate Masonry is subversive of the laws of the Order, and is a direct infraction of the *Book of Constitutions*, wherein it is laid down, that Masonry consists only of the three degrees, including the Royal Arch.

Turning a few pages further, in the same number of the *MAGAZINE* (p. 257), there is another report of what is termed the Old Kent Lodge, and in this it appears that the innovations were multiplied, for a Lodge of Excellent and Super-Excellent Masters was formed and the quasi advanced brethren were passed through the veils by Bro. Purdy, Bro. Shuttleworth, among others, being present as a candidate. Now Bros. Purdy and Shuttleworth are old Masons, and cannot plead ignorance of the laws they are bound to support. They are also high grade Masons, *vide* Bro. Shuttleworth's letter, in the same number, (page 246), and it is presumed they are both registered members under the Supreme Grand Council. Either way as Craft, Arch, or High-grade Masons, they have done wrong, and added two more names to the roll of the contumacious.

First, with regard to Bro. Shuttleworth, the G. Vice Chancellor of Knights Templar. It is monstrous that one holding the executive office he does, in the Order of Knights Templar, should, by his example and practice, assist in any ceremonies so positively illegal as those reported. He is well known to be opposed to the Baldwyn Encampment, on the ground of their having severed themselves from their allegiance to the Grand Master of Knights Templar, and yet he offers himself to undergo an advancement in a lodge without a sanction, and receives two extra degrees, which belong to another jurisdiction, thereby widening the breaches in Masonry, instead of cementing them.

Bro. Purdy, too, seems to have taken upon himself to administer two degrees without any authority! and it is necessary to enquire what those degrees are. In doing this it must be constantly borne in mind that the Mark degree, as administered under the pretended auspices of a Grand Lodge of Mark Masters in England, is totally without authority; and its members subject to exclusion from participating in the working in every regular Mark Lodge throughout the Universe, all Grand Chapters being unacquainted with it as a legal body.

The degrees of Most Excellent Master and Super-Excellent Master, are modifications of the Royal Arch and Perfect Masters degrees, and can only be legitimately conferred by those in authority belonging thereto. In Ireland, Scotland, and America they are indispensable to those who take the Royal Arch degree, which includes, as its series, those of E.A., F.C., M.M., M.M.M., P.M., M.E.M., and then the R.A.

One of them being a paraphrase of part of the Royal Arch degree, the passing of the veils, how can this be conferred unless in a Royal Arch Chapter? as is still done in many places in the North of England, but then always in a chapter, and not separated from the rest of that degree. The other being an adaptation of the Perfect Masters degree, how could Bro. Purdy take upon himself to meddle with it? In one case he has placed himself above the Grand Chapter of England and in the other usurped the functions of the 33° by altering one of their degrees, and administering a garbled portion of their rite. Leaving him to settle these points as he best can, with his conscience and the two authorities, that of Grand Chapter and the 33°, let us look a little further.

Amongst the toasts is that of the "Earl of Carnarvon, G.M. of the Order!" For the first time the so-called Mark degree is assumed to be an order,—of what? None of the regular chapters or lodges, anywhere to be found, ever dignified it with such a title, and if my Lord

Carnarvon considers himself the G.M. of such an order, composed of pieces or fragments of two Masonic jurisdictions to which he belongs, viz., the Royal Arch and the 30°, it is quite time he is called upon to account to each of those bodies for the tricks played with their existing authority, under the cover and sanction of his name. The following toast of the "Officers of the Grand Lodge," of course means that mythical body calling itself a Grand Lodge, *sans* powers, *sans* legality, *sans* everything, and so may be quietly ignored.

These innovations, if not checked at once and thoroughly discountenanced, must have the effect of multiplying and distracting the acknowledged centres of Masonic unity. They will lead to the concoction of degrees, not a very difficult matter, and at last produce a confusion in the Craft, the Arch, the Order of the Temple, and the Ancient and Accepted Rite, which every legitimate Mason will deplore. The thin end of the wedge is introduced, and every regular system of Masonry stands a fair chance to be incorporated piecemeal by the new Order!—Shall it be so? This can only be definitely answered by each Masonic jurisdiction claiming strict obedience from those who are under its control or resorting to severe measures in order to stop the mad pranks of a few, who seem disposed to bring utter confusion on every grade of Masonry.

Apologising for the length of this communication, I am, Dear Sir and Brother, yours truly and fraternally,

ANTI-SPURIOUS MARK.

MASONRY AND POLITICS.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—It is painful to have to animadvert upon the proceedings of any brother holding a conspicuous station in the Craft, and deemed worthy of a notice in the columns of your *MAGAZINE*; but the speech of Bro. Biggs, P.M. of Lodge of Economy (No. 90), Winchester, as reported by you on March 29th, is so exceptionable, in a Masonic point of view, that it demands reprehension by all who are interested in the welfare of the Craft, and loyal to its ancient landmarks. Apropos of a discussion upon certain proposed rules of a Masonic institution (in which I should have adopted the same side as that taken by Bro. Biggs) he is reported to have said, in open lodge, "scarcely a public school of ancient date, in this country, but had some way or another suffered," "instead of the poor and indigent, or sons of the middle classes, the scholarships were filled by the wealthiest classes." And this attack upon our public schools, their governors and managers, and, by implication, upon the government of the country, on whose shoulders must lie the responsibility of the due performance of all trusts left for specific objects, was allowed to pass (seemingly) unchallenged by the gavel of the W.M., whose duty it is to see "that no quarrels about religion or nations, or state policy, be brought within the door of the lodge; being resolved against all politics, as what never yet conducted to the welfare of any lodge, nor ever will."

Let Bro. Biggs take these words to heart, and make them the chart of his Masonic course in future; that he may avoid any danger of undoing, by the indiscretion of his speeches as a P.M., the honourable reputation as a brother Mason, to which, no doubt, he is indebted for the exalted position he now holds, as P.M. of so eminent a lodge as No. 90.

Were I to enter into controversy with our worthy brother upon the statements contained in his speech, I might show him to be as mistaken in his facts as he is indiscreet in his expressions. I prefer, however, to keep within Masonic bounds.

And remain, fraternally yours,

A P.M. IN THREE PROVINCES.

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

MASONIC MEMS.

The Provincial Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire will be holden at Huddersfield by the Earl de Grey and Ripon, Prov. G. Master, on the 23rd inst.

A correspondent, writing from Quebec, says:—"I avail myself of the occasion to convey what must be gratifying intelligence to you, that the Order in this district, under the judicious and popular rule of R.W. Bro. James Dean, jun., is in a highly satisfactory and progressive condition." We could have wished that our correspondent had given us a little more information.

The Stewards of the recent Festival of the Royal Benevolent Institution for Aged Masons and their Widows, having a surplus of their deposits in hand, after paying all expenses, of £37 2s., directed it to be placed in the hands of the Committee of Management in aid of the sustentation fund of the Asylum building.

The Royal Albert Lodge (No. 1209) is to be consecrated in the Board Room of the Royal Westminster Dispensary, Gerrard Street, Soho, on Wednesday next. The consecration is to be performed at three o'clock, by Bro. William Watson, P.G. Steward, the musical portion of the ceremony being entrusted to Bro. Matthew Cooke. Bro. Joseph Smith, P.G. Purs. will be installed as the first W.M. At the conclusion of the business the brethren are to adjourn to the Freemasons' Tavern to dinner.

We understand that a new lodge is about to be opened at the Freemasons' Tavern, Plumstead, Kent, under the title of the Pattison Lodge, in compliment to Bro. Pattison, P.G.W., whose property is situated in the district.

ROYAL BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION FOR AGED MASONS AND THEIR WIDOWS.

Before this meets the eye of our readers, the subscribers to the above institution and the various Lodges and Chapters throughout the kingdom will have received their balloting papers for the election on the 16th of May next, when ten male annuitants out of thirty-nine candidates, and four female annuitants out of eighteen candidates are to be selected for the benefits of the institution.

As a rule, we abstain from taking any part in the elections of our Charities in the columns of the FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE—the exception being when a poor creature appears to have been forgotten by the world, and has unsuccessfully struggled for election for seven or eight years. Such a case we undertook to champion last year, and, thanks to the support and liberality of the brethren, we were successful in our endeavours to place Mrs. Weymouth on the list of annuitants.

Once more we are compelled to appeal to the brethren to support us in securing the election of Mrs. Elizabeth Piper, of Rochford, Essex, who now, in her 77th year, stands as candidate for the eighth time—having been approved by the Committee so long since as December, 1854. Her late husband, Bro. Stephen Piper, was initiated at Rochford in 1812, and continued a subscribing member for thirty-three years—in fact, almost to the time of his death, which took place in 1846; and it is only to the circumstance of his having been dead so long, as apparently to be forgotten by the brethren, can we attribute that his widow

has had to appeal so many times unsuccessfully for that aid which others, whose friends exert themselves, often receive on their first application. Mrs. Piper, it appears, is wholly dependent on her widowed daughter, who supports herself and mother by needlework. How poor a dependence must this be!

To such Lodges, Chapters, and Brethren, who have not already promised their votes, we confidently appeal to forward their proxies to Bro. Henry G. Warren, at the office of this Magazine, 19, Salisbury Street, Strand, or 6, Red Lion Square, Bloomsbury, W.C.

Male annuitants' proxies will be thankfully received, as they may be exchanged for those of females.

Such of the brethren who are not already subscribers to the Institution, we would observe, can secure four votes for every 5s. subscribed.

Brethren, remember the EIGHTH APPLICATION. LET IT BE THE LAST!

METROPOLITAN.

PEACE AND HARMONY LODGE (No. 72).—The usual meeting of this lodge took place at the London Tavern, on Thursday, 27th inst., Bro. T. Parker, W.M., presiding, conducting the business of the evening in his usual lucid style. By a strange coincidence, two interesting ceremonies took place on the occasion; the first was the presentation of a jewel to an old P.M., Bro. J. Long, who expressed his gratitude to the Lodge in thus acknowledging his humble services. The second was the presentation by the W.M., in a neat and appropriate speech, of a very handsome, elaborately finished silver snuff-box, with the following inscription:—"To Bro. Isidor Levinson, the immediate P.M. Presented by the members of the Lodge of Peace and Harmony, (No. 72), to Bro. Isidor Levinson, P.M., in testimony of their approbation of his efficient services while presiding over them as Worshipful Master. January, 1862."

ROYAL ALFRED LODGE (No. 1082).—On Friday the 28th ult., a meeting of this lodge was held at Bro. Rackstraw's, the Star and Garter, Kew-bridge. Present:—Bros. Fry, W.M.; Sutton, S.W.; Hale, J.W.; J. Smith, P.G. Purs., P.M., and Treasurer; Buss, Sec.; W. Watson, P.G. Steward; H. Potter, P.M. 11; and about 27 other brethren. The visitors were Bros. Matthew Cooke, S.W. 29; Stead and Mayo, 237; and Fisher, of 276. The business consisted of initiating Mr. Thomas F. Green, passing Bro. T. P. Smith, and raising Bros. Littlewood and Webb. It being election night Bro. Sutton, S.W., was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year, Bro. Joseph Smith, P.G. Purs. and P.M., unanimously re-elected Treasurer, and Bro. Hammett, Tyler. A letter was read from Miss Iron—daughter of the late Bro. Mark Oliver Iron, who acted as the Warden of the Asylum for Aged Freemasons and their Widows, at Croydon, from the foundation of that Institution—expressing her grateful acknowledgement to the Royal Alfred Lodge for having recommended her petition to the Board of Benevolence, and begging the W.M. to convey her heartfelt thanks to that Board and to the Grand Lodge for the munificent grant made to her of £30. The work was all that could be desired by the most fastidious the officers all in their places, and the banquet, like all that Bro. Rackstraw provides, excellent, the brotherly feeling and social intercourse happy and untroubled.

ROYAL OAK LODGE (No. 1173).—This select and prosperous lodge held its usual monthly meeting on Wednesday, March 26th, at Bro. Stevens's, Royal Oak Tavern, High-street, Deptford, Kent. The W.M., Bro. W. Scott, assisted by his officers, G. Wilton, C. Stahr, J. Stevens, F. Walter, J. W. Weir, J. H. Pembroke, and R. Mills, in an able and efficient manner passed Bros. E. G. Kelsey, D. Masson, D. O'Dwyer and P. Kavanagh, to the degree of a Fellow Craft. Each brother was introduced separately and the whole of the ceremony was performed in a superior style. The W.M. gave an explanation of the tracing board in such a superior manner as to elicit the unanimous approbation of the lodge. This is the first time for many a year since we have had any W.M. in this or the immediate towns give an explanation of the tracing board in this degree.

We sincerely hope this good example will be speedily followed. For it must be admitted that each tracing board adds a lustre to the degree it belongs. A long discussion took place relative to accepting the resignation of a brother (who had joined only on the previous meeting), his resignation being finally accepted. The business being ended the lodge was closed in perfect harmony. The brethren then sat down to refreshment. Visitors, R. Moore, W.M. 198; Brown, J.W. 198, &c. [We hear it rumoured to be the intention of several brethren to establish a new lodge at the White Swan Tavern, High-street, Deptford, if the Wellington Lodge (No. 805), is taken to the Clarendon Arms, Lewisham-road, because there is a firm determination of the brethren to have three lodges in the heart of this town, which has doubled its population during the last ten years. We have not heard lately any more steps being taken to open a new Chapter in Deptford. Have our companions abandoned this necessary work, or are they slumbering.]

TOWER HAMLETS ENGINEERS' LODGE (No. 1204).—This lodge met at the Ship and Turtle on Wednesday the 19th ult., when the lodge was opened by the W.M., Bro. Lieut. W. Wigginton, who passed Bros. J. W. Tripe (M.D.) Hon. Assist. Surgeon, Lieuts. Fraser, Bringes and Coffer, and Quarter Master Serjeant Paynter. Five were accepted for initiation, and two being present (Serjeants Bond and Mainwaring) the ceremony of initiation was performed in an able manner. On the motion of the W.M. it was resolved to subscribe for one copy of the FREEMASONS MAGAZINE, the W.M. stating that every lodge should be in possession of the periodical, so that they might make the members acquainted with what was passing in the Masonic world. It was also resolved that a committee of the officers be appointed to endeavour to arrange with Bro. Paynter for the fourth Monday in the month for their day of meeting, instead of the third, as originally intended. Some gentlemen having been proposed for initiation, lodge was closed and the meeting adjourned. The next meeting will be held on the 4th Monday in April.

PROVINCIAL.

CHESHIRE.

CHESTER.—*Lodge of Independence* (No. 1023).—On Tuesday, the 25th ult., the brethren of this lodge held their monthly meeting at their lodge rooms, Pied Bull Inn. The lodge was opened at 5 o'clock p.m. with the usual forms by the veteran mason Bro. Brown, P.M. and W.M., the Wardens chairs being filled by Bros. Watts and Dodd. A large number of the subscribing brethren were present with several visitors. Four brethren were passed to the second degree and one raised. During the business Bro. Lord Richard Grosvenor, M.P., S.G.W., was balloted for and unanimously accepted. This lodge is prospering beyond expectation, and candidates are coming forward at each monthly meeting. During this business it was unanimously agreed that the lodge become subscribers to the following Masonic charities: the Royal Institution for Boys, the Royal Institution for Girls, and the Benevolent Institution for decayed Masons; and it was also agreed that this lodge become subscribers to the FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE. Several other interesting subjects were introduced after which the lodge was finally closed and adjourned with the usual formalities. It is understood that the first stone of the new market in Chester, will be laid on the 8th of April next, by the R.W. the Mayor, Bro. John Trevor—and should the R.W. Prov. G.M., Field Marshal the Viscount Combermere, grant a dispensation—there will be a grand Masonic procession on the occasion.

DERBYSHIRE.

WIRKSWORTH.—*Derwent Lodge*, (1186).—The regular meeting of this young but very flourishing lodge was held at the George and Commercial Hotel, Wirksworth, on Friday, March 28th. The following brethren were present:—Bro. George Kirkland, W.M.; J. J. Neal, P.M.; G. J. Smith as S.W. (in the absence of Bro. J. Bowmer though illness); J. Hindle, J.W.; Walter Kirkland, Hon. Sec.; B. Steel, Treas.; J. J. Staley, S.D.; J. Stone, Steward; Charles Wright, W. Geo. Wheatcroft, W. P. Hubbersby, J. Kinder, W. Brooker, W. Smith, G. Knowles, S. Jepson, J. Pickard, &c. Bros. Capt. A. F. Hunt, (No. 20) was

admitted a joining member and Messrs. Chas. Walker, and R. Nathan Hubbersly, initiated. The lodge being closed, the members sat down to an excellent banquet. After the cloth was drawn the usual loyal and masonic toasts were given and duly honoured, and a very pleasant evening was spent. This lodge, which was only opened at the latter end of November last, already numbers upwards of thirty members, comprising many of the most respectable gentlemen of the neighbourhood, and it bids fair to become one of the most flourishing lodges in the province.

LANCASHIRE (WEST.)

LIVERPOOL.—*Mariners' Lodge* (No. 310).—At a meeting of this lodge, held Thursday, 6th March, the W.M., in warm and affectionate terms, presented to Bro. Peter Maddox a beautifully illuminated address on vellum, and richly framed and glazed, bearing the following testimony to his worth and the esteem in which he is held by the brethren of this lodge. "Mariners' Lodge (No. 310), Liverpool, A. L., 5862, of Ancient, Free, and Accepted Masons. At a meeting of this lodge, held on Thursday the 5th December, 1861, it was unanimously resolved on the motion of Bro. John Pepper, P.M., seconded by Bro. James Hamer, P.M., that a testimonial of our fraternal esteem and affection be presented to Bro. Peter Maddox for the services he rendered to this lodge when Worshipful Master in 1855, and for three successive years as Treasurer. 'His token of brotherly love is therefore respectfully presented to Bro. Maddox, P.M., P.Z., and Prov.G.S. of Works, by the W. Master, Wardens, and brethren of the Mariners' Lodge (No. 310) in acknowledgment of the many benefits we have received at his hands, and of our high estimation of his worth, his character, and his virtues as a man and as a Mason.'" Bro. Maddox replied in very feeling and appropriate terms, and the brethren were called off.

WARRINGTON.—*Lodge of Light* (No. 173).—On Monday, 31st of March, was held the regular meeting of this lodge, present, Bros. Pilling, W.M.; H. B. White, S.W.; Knight, J.W.; Fairhurst, S.D.; Mac Michael, J.D.; the Secretary, and several other brethren. The new bye-laws, which had been drawn up in pursuance of a motion made by Bro. White some months since, were read by the Secretary, and unanimously confirmed, the same having been adopted at a Lodge of emergency on the 10th inst. Bro. James Hamer, Prov. G. Treas., was again a visitor, and passed Bro. Pierpoint, who gave very satisfactory evidence of his proficiency in the 1st degree, to the degree of a F.C. Subsequently Bro. Hamer retired, and the chair was taken by the W.M. when (*inter alia*) Bro. White proposed, and it was duly seconded, and carried unanimously that Bro. James Hamer, Prov. G. Treas., as a trifling recognition of his services and unremitting kindness, be elected an honorary member of the lodge, with a vote in all its proceedings. It was resolved that this lodge be present in a body at the laying of the foundation-stone of the Town Hall at Chester, on Tuesday the 8th April. The brethren adjourned to refreshment about nine o'clock.

MIDDLESEX.

UXBRIDGE.—*Royal Union Lodge* (No. 536).—This lodge held a meeting on Monday, the 17th, in the commodious rooms of the Chequers' Hotel, Uxbridge. The time for meeting was two o'clock, and at that time about forty brethren assembled, many of whom were from London, having taken the train from the Paddington-station, accompanied by Bro. Carter, the W.M. elect. As there was a large amount of business to be gone through, the lodge was opened immediately. Five gentlemen were initiated, two passed, and two raised. The installation of Bro. G. T. Carter as W.M. then took place by Bro. Newall. Several W.M.'s and P.M.'s were present. Some propositions followed, and upon business being concluded the lodge was duly closed. The brethren, after a short time, again assembled at the festive board. After the withdrawal of the cloth, the W.M., Bro. Carter, gave the usual loyal toasts, and they were enthusiastically responded to. The next toast was the "M.W.G.M., the Earl of Zetland," which the Craft drank in good Freemason style. The "Health of the D.G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers," was duly honoured. The W.M. then said it was with much pleasure he proposed "The Health of the Initiates," and he had no doubt but that they would become excellent Masons, and he called upon Bro. J. D. Mills to respond.—Bro. MILLS

rose, and, in a neat speech, expressed his thanks, both on the part of himself and of his brother initiates, for the kindness and courteousness exhibited towards them, and concluded a most pleasing speech by stating that, although only a young "apprentice," he should use all his energies to become a "Master." Bro. Mills was warmly applauded. The toast of "The Visiting Brethren," was unanimously drunk and responded to. The W.M. then proposed the health of the P.M.'s, coupling the name of Bro. Newall, the immediate Past Master. The toast was drunk with much enthusiasm. After the applause had subsided, the W.M. rose, and, as a mark of regard, presented to Bro. Newall the following jewels, the first being from the Lodge, with words engraved thus:—Presented by the Royal Union Lodge (No. 536) to Bro. James B. Newall, P.M., in testimony of its appreciation of his valuable and efficient services as Worshipful Master during the year ending March, 1862." One from several brethren of the Lodge was also presented, engraved on which was the following:—Presented to Bro. J. B. Newall, P.M. 536, by the following brethren (numerous names) of the Lodge, in testimony of their appreciation of the felicitous manner in which he conducted its affairs, Masonically and socially, during 1861-2, and also in token of their affectionate regard for him personally." After the above, the W.M., on his own behalf, then made P.M. Newall a presentation of a watch-chain, with a beautiful ornament pendant to it, on which were engraved the words, "From Bro. G. T. Carter, W.M., to Bro. J. B. Newall, P.M., March, 1862, in remembrance of many happy hours spent together at Uxbridge." The centre formed a monogram of "536," beautifully executed. Bro. P.M. Newall, in returning thanks, said he was overwhelmed, and what he felt, he could hardly find words to express himself, but nevertheless he did, in a most eloquent and feeling manner. "The Health of the W.M., Bro. Carter," was enthusiastically drunk, which he responded to in a most appropriate manner. This brought the business part to a close, and after spending a most convivial and harmonious evening, a number of the brethren returned to London by a special train.

STAFFORDSHIRE.

TIPTON.—*Noah's Ark Lodge* (No. 435).—This lodge was held on Friday, the 21st ult., at the Masonic Hall, Bro. Thomas Walton, W.M., presided, supported by Bro. W. L. Underhill, P.M., as S.W., and Bro. Baker, J.W. The lodge having been duly opened, &c., a ballot was taken for Mr. J. M. Ballenden, which being unanimous, that gentleman was duly admitted and regularly initiated into the mysteries and privileges of Freemasonry. Bro. Peacock, P.M., delivered the charge. The lodge was soon after closed, when the brethren adjourned to the banquet.

YORKSHIRE (WEST.)

DONCASTER.—*St. George's Lodge* (No. 298).—The brethren of this lodge assembled in the lodge room at the Town Hall on the evening of Friday last, and immediately after the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed, proceeded to a ballot for W.M. for the next year in the place of Bro. Lister, who now occupies the chair. The ballot having taken place, the W.M. declared it to be in favour of Bro. Smith, S.W., who, being present, thanked the brethren for this additional mark of their favour. The office of Treasurer was again conferred upon Bro. Webb, and Bros. Smith and Hurst were re-appointed as Tylers of the lodge. In consequence of St. George's Day happening this year during the week when the Yeomanry Cavalry will be assembled in the town, the installation of the W.M. and the annual banquet were postponed until the 1st of May, when the latter will take place at the Woolpack Hotel. At the close of the proceedings the brethren, about ten in number, partook of supper, and spent a pleasant and harmonious evening.

ROTHERHAM.—*Phoenix Lodge*, (No. 1206).—The regular monthly meeting of this new lodge was held on Tuesday last, when the first ceremony, the initiation of the Rev. Richard M. South, was ably performed by Bro. Henry Webster, the W.M., Bro. Oxley, the J.W., giving the charge, and Bro. W. White, P.M. 162, A. Prov, G.D.C. West Yorkshire, with his usual ability, the lecture on the tracing board. Several brethren, on the announcement by the W.M., that the Provincial Grand Lodge meeting would be held on the 23rd inst., intimated their intention of supporting him there by their presence, so that a

goodly show might be made by them on this their first opportunity for appearing as members of the last enrolled lodge in the province. A lively interest was also expressed in the forthcoming festival of the Girls' School, and when the brethren shall have retrieved the expenses incident to the formation of a new lodge, there is every reason to hope they will not forget the characteristic virtue of every freemason's heart. An excellent supper was served after the lodge business, and after the toasts which loyalty and masonic allegiance and respect dictate in all masonic convivial meetings, and our poor and distressed brethren had been duly honoured, the healths of Bro. P.M. White, the W.M. and the Wardens of the lodge, were each received with such an ovation as fully testified the good feeling and unanimity of the brethren. "The Health of the Visitors" proposed by the W.M. was ably responded to by Bro. Garnett, J.D. 162, who expressed the pleasure he had experienced in seeing the firm footing already obtained in the new masonic territory, and how happy he should, at all times, be to render any service in his power towards the prosperity of the Phoenix Lodge. Bro. Waterhouse, S.W. in an excellent speech proposed "The Health of the Initiate," feeling it an honour to be deputed to propose the health of the first mason made in the Lodge, and more especially as that mason was a clergyman, and feeling convinced that as the late Archbishop of York (himself a mason) said a clergyman would be all the more likely to discharge his clerical duties well from the lessons learned as a mason. The Rev. Bro. South, in responding, said he had long wished to be initiated, and having entered for the race he trusted finally to win the prize, and from what he had that evening seen and heard he was satisfied the principles of the order were conducive to the highest morality. Among the brethren are some good singers, who added materially to the enjoyment of this portion of the proceedings, which were brought to a close by the railway whistle announcing the time for the departure of the Sheffield brethren.

CHANNEL ISLANDS.

MASONIC TEMPLE AT ST. HELIER, JERSEY.

A numerous meeting of the Freemasons of the province of Jersey was held at the Union Hotel on the evening of Friday, March 28th. Bro. Manuel was unanimously chosen to take the chair. At his request, Bro. Dixon Le Conteur (Secretary) read the following circular, a copy of which had been forwarded to every brother in the province, by order of the committee appointed nearly two years ago, as agreed upon at its last meeting.

"Jersey, 22nd March, 1862.

"Sir and Brother,—I have the favour of informing you that at special meeting of the Masonic Temple Building Committee, held yesterday evening, it was unanimously resolved that the cost of the projected temple or hall should not, on any account, exceed the sum of one thousand pounds,—exclusive of ground rent.

"It was also resolved that the sum required for the above purpose should be raised among the Masonic body only, and by means of five pound shares.

"And it was further resolved that a general meeting of the Brethren in the Province should be held on Friday, 28th inst., at 7 p.m., at Bro. Prosser's, to receive the names of Shareholders and adopt a plan of the building, which will then be laid before the brethren.

"The favour of your presence is specially requested.

"I remain, Sir and Brother. For the Committee, yours fraternally.

"HENRY LUCE MANUEL,
"Chairman of the Committee."

The Secretary also read a portion of the proceedings of the committee, which had especial reference to the business of the evening.

The Chairman then gave a short account of the different steps which had been previously taken, as follows. In June 1859 the members of Lodge La Césarée decided that a Masonic Temple should be erected, and with this view certain measures were adopted with the intention of making the building the exclusive property of that lodge, but eligible for the use of the other lodges also. The sum of £50 was appropriated to the purpose from the general funds, individual members contributed about £50, and a like amount was obtained from other sources.

Matters however did not progress so rapidly as had been anticipated, and it was afterwards thought desirable that the other lodges of the island should be invited to take part in the undertaking. With this view several general meetings were held, which were attended by many members of the whole masonic community. On these occasions different opinions were expressed as to the scale of expense which should be incurred, and the amount of accommodation that should be provided. The majority thought that the sum of £3000 might be raised, and an extensive building be erected, a portion of which might occasionally be let for public purposes. Attempts had been made to carry out this project, but they had proved unsuccessful. Consequently a more limited plan was now proposed, and it was thought that by an expenditure of £1000 on the building alone, provision might be made for every thing essential to meet the wants and conveniences of the Order. The object of the present meeting was therefore to consider this amended proposition, and to ascertain and determine by what means it could be carried out. Land had already been purchased for the intended erection at a cost of £300, and it was thought that, in addition to this amount, and the £1000 before named, another £100 should be provided in order to meet all contingencies. Thus, by the issue of 280 shares at £5 each, under the new Limited Liability Act, he considered that every purpose would be answered, and that so moderate a demand could not fail of meeting a read and hearty response. He proposed the following as the order of the evening's proceedings. First. An examination of the plans drawn up by the three architects who were present. Second. The appointment of a Building Committee, composed of the architects and some other brethren. Third. The selection of another committee to manage the allotment of shares, the finances and funds, and the general business connected therewith, the members of which should be deputed to act as representatives of the several lodges. The Chairman then called on the architects to lay the different plans on the table, when some time was spent in the examination and discussion of them, the result of which appeared on the whole satisfactory, though the drawings were by no means in a finished state, being rather suggestive than complete.

It was proposed by Bro. John Durell, seconded by Bro. Binet, and carried unanimously, that the sum of £1500 be raised by the issue of 300 shares, for a hall or temple, to be devoted exclusively to Masonic purposes, under the Limited Liability Act. That a deposit of £1 per share be paid on demand for an allotment. That in case the applications be more numerous than the number required, preference should be given according to priority of application.

Proposed by Bro. Binet, seconded by Bro. Le Sueur, and carried unanimously, that the Building Committee consist of Bros. Ph. Le Sueur, Gallichan, and Le Gros (the architects); John Durell, Thos. Dorey, John Gibaut, Dr. Hopkins, William Adams, and Chas. Hocquard, provided they be shareholders, whose special duties shall be to decide on the plans of the building, and to superintend the erection thereof.

Proposed by Bro. Dixon Le Couteur, seconded by Bro. Schmitt, and carried unanimously, that the Secretary be directed to address the Worshipful Masters of the several lodges in the province, requesting them to call meetings of their members for the purpose of appointing two representatives (being shareholders) from each, to form a general Committee, whose duties shall be to act as a board of management of the finances for the proposed temple, one half the number to form a quorum.

Proposed by Bro. Wm. Adams, seconded by Bro. Dr. Hopkins, and carried unanimously, that Bro. Philip Binet be appointed Treasurer, and Bros. Dixon de Couteur and Schmitt, joint Secretaries.

Proposed by Bro. J. Durell, seconded by Bro. Binet, and carried unanimously, that the General Committee be directed to call a meeting of shareholders, when 200 shares shall have been disposed of, and the plans decided upon, the immediate object being to fix the time when the first stone shall be laid.

Proposed by Bro. Moss, seconded by Bro. Durell, and carried unanimously, that printed circular containing a copy of the resolutions and proceedings of the evening be communicated to the W.M. of the several lodges, and also to resident Freemasons not members of lodges.

Of course, on each of the above questions considerable discussion took place, the details of which it is unnecessary to give.

A list was then made by the Secretaries of the names of the brethren present, who were willing to join actively in the move-

ment, with the number of shares each desired to take, the result of which was, that, including 22 shares for which Lodge La Césarée had applied as a body, entries were made of applications for more than 100 shares. Bro. Adams expressed his belief that in addition the Royal Sussex Lodge would take 10 shares, the subject having been already to some extent discussed by the members, but not finally decided upon.

The Chairman briefly addressed the meeting, expressing the satisfaction all must feel at the unanimity which had prevailed during the evening, the successful result of the proceedings, and the prospect of a realization of their long cherished hopes. He doubted not that before the close of the present year the Freemasons might be able to congratulate themselves on possessing a Temple worthy of this, the most ancient of all societies, in which they might suitably and reverently carry out their rites and ceremonies, for he hesitated not to say that they tended to unite in common bonds of love and harmony those who entertained every variety of creed.

Bro. Dr. Hopkins proposed, Bro. Schmitt seconded, and it was carried unanimously, that the best thanks of the brethren be offered to Bro. Manuel, the Chairman, not only for the able manner in which he had conducted the business of the evening, but for the interest he had evinced in the undertaking from the time when it was first proposed.

Bro. Manuel briefly acknowledged the compliment, and the proceedings were brought to a happy termination.

JERSEY.—*Lodge La Césarée* (No. 860.)—At the ordinary monthly reunion, which took place on Thursday, March 27th, about fifty brethren assembled, among whom were several visitors from distant lodges, and also from those in the province. In the absence of the W.M. from indisposition, the President's chair was occupied by Bro. Schmitt, P.M.; Bro. John Durell acted as S.W., and Bro. Le Sueur was in his place as J.W. The lodge was opened in the first degree. The minutes of the last regular meeting, and also of the emergency meeting held on the 19th were read and confirmed. The Rev. F. De La Mare, who had been balloted for on a previous occasion, was introduced, properly prepared, and having been duly initiated into the Order, the usual charge was impressively delivered to him by the acting W.M. Bro. Bridgeman, of the Sussex Lodge, kindly presided at the organ during the ceremony. Bro. Manuel, having been called upon for some statements respecting the projected Masonic Temple, took a short review of the proceedings on the subject during the course of the last two years, of which the following is the substance. He observed that several plans had at different periods been proposed, but that for various reasons each had been found impracticable, the principal of which were, first the purchase and adaptation of a chapel, and secondly, the erection of a building at a cost of about £3000, containing the requisite accommodation for Masonic purposes, and also rooms to be let for other uses unconnected with Freemasonry, such as as balls, concerts, lectures, &c.; that at one time it was intended to limit the proprietary to the Césarée Lodge, but that it had been determined by the committee, in whose hands the matter had been placed, to throw it open to all the lodges in the island, as more in accordance with Masonic sentiments and mutual good feeling; that a fund of upwards of £160 had been accumulated towards the object, and a plot of ground purchased on which to erect to building; that it was now proposed to provide a temple at a cost of £1000, in addition to the expense of the land; that it was intended to raise the whole amount required by an issue of shares at £5 each; and that a meeting of all the Masons in the Province had been called, to be held on the next day, in order to make final arrangements for carrying out the proposed plan. The W.M., in the course of a few remarks, urged the members of Lodge La Césarée to attend on this occasion, and to be prepared with a statement of the number of shares each would take. A short discussion ensued, which was terminated by a proposition of Bro. Durell, to the effect that the lodge should collectively take twenty-two shares, and that the Treasurer be authorized to pay the amount required for them, part of which had already been advanced. This having been duly seconded, was carried unanimously. Four brethren were afterwards proposed as joining members, and two gentlemen for initiation at the next meeting. The Lodge was then closed with the usual solemnities at about nine o'clock, and the brethren adjourned for refreshment.

Royal Alfred Lodge (No. 1179.)—A numerous attendance of the members of this new lodge, and their visiting brethren, took place on Tuesday evening, the 25th ult., at the Masonic

Hall, Grove-place, St. Helier, under the presidency of the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master, J. J. Hammond, Esq., the W.M. of the Lodge. Among the brethren present (between 70 and 80), was Bro. Lord Graves (an honorary member the lodge), the Masters of (with only one exception), all the Island lodges, and other high Masonic functionaries. The lodge-room was superbly appointed for the occasion. The brethren assembled at 7 o'clock, shortly after which hour the lodge was opened in the first degree, and the minutes of a previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the following gentlemen were balloted for and unanimously admitted as candidates for the first degree:—The Rev. Lancelot John Lee, the Rev. François Antoni Rey, John Le Cronier, Esq., M.D. Bro. W. H. Carter and Bro. F. S. A. Orchard (Lieutenant, 55th Regiment), were then raised to the third or Master Mason's degree. Bro. T. J. Aubin, Bro. G. M. Evans, and Bro. W. Le. Poer French (Lieutenant 55th Regiment), were passed to the second, or Fellow Craft degree. The Rev. L. J. Lee, the Rev. F. A. Rey, and Dr. Le Cronier, were initiated in the mysteries of the first degree; and afterwards expressed their intention of becoming subscribing members of the lodge. The ceremony of the initiation of the two reverend gentlemen first named was (in relief of the evening's heavy duties of the W.M.), impressively performed by the noble lord who honoured the lodge with his presence on the occasion. Mark Marshall Gillies, Esq., (Lieutenant 55th Regiment), was proposed by Bro. John Gabourel and seconded by Bro. Philip Richard, for initiation, and accepted. The lodge was then closed in due form, and with solemn prayer, the brethren all adjourning to the hospitable refreshment table of the lodge (at which the W.M. presided with his wonted urbanity and courtesy), and separating shortly after 11 o'clock. The greatest success has attended this new lodge. Since its formation in November last, twenty candidates have been initiated in it; and as many more (including some of the leading gentlemen of the island), have expressed their intention of entering the Craft and joining its ranks, in the course of the next few weeks. Masonry was never more prosperous in the province of Jersey than at the present moment.

Obituary.

BRO. WILLIAM FREDERICK BEADON, P.G.W.

On Saturday last Bro. Beadon, the senior magistrate at the Marlborough Police-court, died at his residence in Stratford-place, after a painful and lingering illness. He was educated at St. John's College, Cambridge; took his B.A. degree in 1829, when he was 14th junior optim in the mathematical tripos. This was the year of the celebrated struggle between Cavendish and Philpott, when Philpott (now Bishop of Worcester) came out Senior Wrangler, and Cavendish (now Duke of Devonshire and Chancellor of the University,) Second Wrangler. Bro. Beadon was first appointed to the metropolitan bench about 15 years ago, and since 1856 has sat at the Marlborough-street Court. He was distinguished for most assiduous attention to his magisterial duties, and frequently took his seat on the bench when suffering excruciating pains from the disease which at last proved fatal. Bro. Beadon was a member of a Somersetshire family of some standing, and in addition to being a Metropolitan Police Magistrate, was in the commission of the peace for his native county.

Bro. Beadon was initiated in the Scientific Lodge (No. 105) Cambridge, 12th May, 1828, and joined the Apollo University Lodge (No. 460), Oxford, 26th February, 1844. He joined the Bedford Lodge (No. 183), London, 8th February, 1832, and continued a member up to the time of his death, and was W.M. in 1842. He joined the Prince of Wales' Lodge (No. 324), London, 20th June, 1845, and served as W.M. in that lodge; the Polish National Lodge (No. 778), London, 14th Sept., 1848; and the Beadon Lodge (No. 902), in November, 1853, being one of the founders.

He was a member of the Prince of Wales' Chapter (No. 324), and was one of the Principals at the formation of the Polish National Chapter (No. 778).

Bro. Beadon was appointed Junior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge in 1849, and P. Soj. of the Grand Chapter in the same year. He was one of the Trustees of the Royal Freemasons School for eFemale Children, of which he was also a Vice-Presi-

dent, a Vice-President of the Royal Masonic Institution for the sons of Indigent and Decayed Freemasons, and a Vice-President of the Royal Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and their Widows.

Having had the honour of the acquaintance of Bro. Beadon, we can bear testimony to his invariably amiable and charitable disposition, he being in reality what a Mason should be.

NOTES ON MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

A congress is now being held in Paris, between the principal managers and the dramatic authors, for the purpose of revising the regulations which have hitherto been in force respecting the performances of pieces which belong to the French Society of Dramatic Authors.

The Opera at Madrid closes early next month. Mdme. Lagrange, Mdle. Filipy, and other of the best artistes are expected in Paris and London.

M. Verdi, the composer, who is now in Paris, is the object of great attention by the *élite* of musical society in the capital. It is said he proposes a brief visit to London before his return to Turin. Overtures have been made to him for a new opera, from M. Calzado, of the Italiens, and from the Grand Opera; and also, it is understood, by Mr. Gye.

M. Grisar's new opera, "La Chatte Merveilleuse," is said in the *Gazette Musicale* to have had a brilliant success at the Theatre Lyrique.

Madame Schumann is playing in Paris for the first time.—Madame Petipa, who has been described to us as the best dancer now on the boards, is again at the Grand Opera.

The sum raised in Paris in aid of the monument to Cherubini, to be erected in Florence, amounts to 5212 francs.

Some young violin-players are beginning to be talked of abroad. Among these are MM. Monasterio, Lotto, and Auer, each of whom, so far as we (*Athenaeum*) can understand, has a distinctive style of his own.

The Drama of "The Golden Knife," which has been written by Mr. Fechter, in conjunction with Mr. Edmund Yates, and in which the former intends to sustain the principal part, will probably be produced at the Princess's Theatre in the course of the Easter week.

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.

The programme of the arrangements for the forthcoming season has just been issued. The company is very similar to what it was last year, but weakened by the absence of Grisi, whose name, of course, does not appear. Mdle. Patti, it seems, is to be the leading singer *par excellence*. Madame Penco, Mdle. Csillag, Madame Rudersdorff, Madame Miolan-Carvalho, and Madame Nantier Didié are to be the lady associates of Middle Patti. Of these vocalists there is nothing to be said. They are all of good average merit. A Mdle. Gordosa and a Mdle. Marie Battu are promised, but what they are, or where they come from, the prospectus does not inform us. Tamberlik, Neri Baraldi, Lucchesi, Rossi, Graziani, Ronconi, Formes, Faure, Tagliafico, and Zelger are re-engaged. To them are added Delle Sedie, a member of Mr. Mapleson's Lyceum company last year, Gardoni, and a pair of strangers, named Nanni and Capponi, of whom, as in the case of Mdle. Gordosa and Mdle. Battu, rumour has said nothing, either good or bad. Mario is also mentioned. Mr. Costa will preside, as heretofore, over the orchestra. The only absolute novelty contemplated by Mr. Gye is "Don Sebastian," one of the heaviest of the Donizetti repertoire. It is better news to be told that Meyerbeer's "Robert le Diable" will be revived after so long a repose; and also the "Dinorah" of the same master. The "Figlia del Reggimento," "Don Pasquale," and "L'Elisir d'Amore" are likewise specifically mentioned, which, with "Don Sebastian," will give the season a peculiar Donizetti flavour. Meyerbeer's "Huguenots," Verdi's "Ballo in Maschera," Rossini's "Guglielmo Tell," and Mozart's "Don Giovanni," are, also, to be performed, with the further revivals of Gluck's "Orfeo e Euridice," and Auber's "Fra Diavolo." Such are the contents of Mr. Gye's prospectus. The season thus promises to be uncharacterised by any very

original feature. The vocal force is, in many respects, good, but the want of a singer of the calibre of Titiens, to give adequate weight and distinction to the higher class operas, now that Grisi has abdicated the throne she so long filled, is a palpable deficiency. Mr. William Beverley retains his post in the scenic department, assisted by Mr. Grieve and Mr. Telbin, and Mr. A. Harris also that of stage manager. Mdlle. Salvioni and Mdlle. Battalini rejoin as principal dancers.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.

Mr. Mapleson, the new lessee of Her Majesty's Theatre, has put forth his prospectus. In the preamble to his catalogue of artists engaged and works to be performed, Mr. Mapleson most emphatically expresses his deep sense of the onerous duties which, in becoming the lessee and manager of Her Majesty's Theatre, he has taken upon himself; and further, with equal force and earnestness, declares his determination to discharge those duties in the most satisfactory manner possible. He points to his brief managerial career last year at the Lyceum with exultation, and very reasonably asks the public to draw from that an inference favourable to his future endeavours.

Mr. Mapleson's list of singers is so rich in novelty that our remarks upon it must necessarily be brief. Foremost among these stands Madlle. Titiens and Signor Giuglini, who, we need scarcely say, are to be the great "stars" of the company. Next may be mentioned Madame Guerrabella (a first-class soprano), Signor Gassier (a capital baritone), Madame Lemaire (an efficient contralto), and, in conclusion, those experienced and able performers of subordinate parts, Signor Soldi and Signor Castolli. Of the rest of the singers, numerous though they be, we know but very little. Some possess a Continental reputation, others seem to be as yet quite unknown to fame.

That the orchestral arrangements will be satisfactory the engagement of Signor Arditi as conductor should be a sufficient guarantee. We learn, too, that those admirable players, Messrs. H. Blagrove and H. Cooper, are to be the principal violins, and that the band will consist chiefly of members of the present Philharmonic orchestra. Among the "revivals" promised are Meyerbeer's "Roberto il Diavolo," in which Mdlle. Titiens is to play Alice for the first time in England; Donizetti's "Linda di Chamounix," with Guigliani also for the first time here as Carlo; Mozart's "Le Nozze di Figaro," with two *débutantes*, Madlle. Trebelli and Madlle. Kellog, respectively as Cherubino and Susanna, and Madlle. Titiens as the Countess (likewise for the first time in England); and Weber's "Oberon," which Mr. Benedict has been engaged expressly to conduct. The scenic artist will be Mr. Callcott; the principal dancers, Madlle. Lamoureux, Madlle. Bialetti, Madlle. Morlacchi, and Signor Garbagnati; the ballet-master, as in former years, M. Petit.

GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION.

"The Family Legend," which was to have been brought out last Monday is announced for tomorrow evening. We hear that Mr. Tom Taylor, in his new entertainment, has cleverly catered for the tastes of the cosmopolitan multitude which is likely to patronise the gallery during the Exhibition, for among the "Illustrations" are those of English, Scotch, Welsh, Irish, and French character, relieved by a variety of new ballads, concerted pieces, and selected music, calculated to display to the best abilities of Mr. and Mrs. German Reed and Mr. John Parry.

MADAME TUSSAUD'S

The proprietor of this place has been indefatigable in his additions to his galleries and saloons. He has, within a very few days, placed a perfect resemblance, in the composition in which his artists produce their portraits, amongst the continental monarchs, of the present Prussian monarch. Those who have seen the king will recognise the felicity of the resemblance, and all foreigners, as well as Englishmen, will confess that the difference between him and his *alter ego*, is almost imperceptible.

The committee which was appointed some time since to consider if it were desirable and practicable to form a great Italian Exhibition at Naples, has decided and reported in favour of both those points, recommending next year as the period for carrying out the idea. It is to be hoped that this thing will really be done.

THE WEEK.

THE COURT.—Her Royal Highness the Crown Princess of Prussia (Princess Royal) left Windsor on Monday, and embarked at Gravesend on board the *Victoria* and *Albert*, Captain George Seymour, C.B., on her return to the Continent. The embarkation was conducted in the most private manner. It is also expected that her Majesty will leave Windsor Castle in the course of the week, and return to Osborne, where she will spend some time before proceeding to Balmoral.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.—In the House of Lords on Thursday, 27th ult., the Duke of Argyll, in reply to a question from Lord Airlie, stated that the Government had received no information of the abolition of the licence tax in India. His Grace, however, added that the financial position of our Eastern empire was most hopeful, and that as soon as possible the Customs duties would be modified. Several bills were advanced a stage.—On Friday Lord Dungannon called attention to the case of three men who were recently sentenced to penal servitude for having taken part in a "trade outrage," in the neighbourhood of Rotherham. The noble Lord submitted that the conviction was against the evidence, and urged the interposition of the Crown in behalf of the convicts. Lord Granville stated that the Judge who presided at the trial had represented to the Home Secretary that the newspaper reports of the case, upon which Lord Dungannon had apparently based his opinion, were not quite accurate, and the noble Earl added that no petition in favour of the men had yet been sent to the Home Office. The Lord Chancellor's Lunacy Bill was read a third time, and passed; and several other measures were advanced a stage.—On Monday the Charitable Uses Act (1861) Amendment Bill was read a third time and passed; the Australian Government Act Amendment Bill was read a second time; while the Mutiny Bill passed through Committee.—On Tuesday the business transacted was unimportant.—In the House of Commons on Thursday 27th ult., Sir George Bowyer called attention to another alleged Italian "proclamation," and received a rebuke from Mr. Layard, who told the hon. Baronet that Her Majesty's Government was not responsible for articles in Italian newspapers or for the proclamations which the Italian authorities may have thought proper to issue. With respect to the document referred to by the member for Dundalk, however, he had to state that it was drawn up by an officer who was not in the service of Victor Emmanuel. It has never been printed, and he was at a loss to imagine how it came into the hands of Sir George Bowyer. Sir F. Smith gave notice of his intention to ask the Government to-night, whether, in the face of the result of the engagement between the Confederate iron-plated frigate *Merrimac*, and the Federal gunboat *Monitor*, they did not intend to suspend the construction of large armour-cased ships, until the question of plated gunboats had been fully considered. The adjourned debate on Mr. Walpole's motion was resumed by Mr. Whiteside, who strongly condemned the "revised code," and appealed to the House to preserve a system which was "one of the glories of Victoria's glorious reign." Mr. Bernal Osborne defended the Government scheme, and complimented Mr. Lowe on the courage with which he had grappled with the existing cumbrous, costly, and unsatisfactory system. He commented in strong terms on the nature of the opposition with which the proposed reform had been met, and held up to ridicule the singular spectacle of "religious gentlemen who hated one another for the love of God in other things uniting with such wonderful unanimity to storm the Treasury." Mr. Gladstone contended that the present system, if fully developed, would in a few years impose upon the country a charge of five millions; and it was therefore the duty of the Government to check a "disgraceful scheme," which was utterly condemned by the royal Commissioners. Indeed, in his opinion, the revised code did not go far enough, and he hoped the House would know how to resist the pressure brought to bear upon it by interested parties. The debate was continued by Mr. Adderley, Sir John Pakington, Mr. Baines, and other members.—On Friday, Sir James Elphinstone addressed a question to the Secretary of the Admiralty, bearing upon the somewhat serious discussion which has arisen with reference to the capability of Portsmouth harbour to accommodate ships of war of the largest class. Lord Clarence Paget stated, in reply, that on the 17th of the present month, the height of water on the bar was 23½ feet. The *Warrior* draws 26½ feet; but there was sufficient water on sixteen days in the month of February to admit of her entering or leaving the

harbour. In answer to a question from Mr. W. E. Forster Mr. Layard explained that the commercial negotiations with Belgium had been broken off in consequence of the Belgian government insisting upon the capitalisation of the Scheldt dues as a necessary condition of a commercial treaty with this country. He trusted, however, that this difficulty would yet be overcome, and that we should have conceded to us those advantages which had been granted to several other powers. The House then went into Committee for the purpose of considering Mr. Walpole's resolutions on the revised code, when Mr. Lowe intimated that, in deference to the views so generally expressed during the preliminary debate, the Government had determined to make one or two important concessions. They were willing to agree, with some modification, to the motion of which Lord Enfield had given notice, and which declares that in giving Government aid to elementary schools, it is expedient to give a certain sum per head on the average attendance of scholars, and a certain further sum per head on the satisfactory individual examination of the scholars in reading, writing, and arithmetic. The modification they proposed was that the grant should be made on the general report of the Inspectors instead of on the average attendance of scholars. The grouping by age would also be abandoned; Mr. Walpole's resolutions with reference to pupil teachers would be adopted, as well as other alterations of the code which had been suggested. Mr. Walpole and Mr. Disraeli complimented the Government upon the concessions they had made, and the consideration of the question was deferred, on the understanding that the Government would, on Monday, name a day for proceeding with the discussion.—On Monday Lord Palmerston—who, we are happy to find well enough to be able to resume his parliamentary duties—stated, in reply to a question from Mr. Blake, that no official correspondence had taken place between the English and Spanish governments on the subject of the alleged persecution of Protestants in Spain. Sir James Fergusson moved a resolution to the effect that it is undesirable that the annual training of the militia should be of less duration than the minimum period recommended by the Royal Commission. Sir G. C. Lewis submitted that with our present volunteer force, and in the existing state of foreign affairs, the increased outlay which an extension of the period of drill would involve was unnecessary; and the House being apparently of the same opinion, the resolution was negatived without a division. A long and interesting discussion followed on a question of supreme importance to England. Sir F. Smith contended that the recent naval engagement at Newport News, proved, beyond doubt, that vessels of the *Merrimac* and *Monitor* class were of much greater value, as weapons of defence, than stone fortifications. Iron-plated ships, such as those built by the Federal and Confederate Governments, could steam by stationary forts with impunity, and he, therefore, urged that the proposed works at Portsmouth should be at once abandoned, and a fleet of iron gunboats and other small vessels constructed. Mr. Laird said the Federal authorities intended to abandon forts, and to rely solely upon a force of *Monitors*; and he trusted that her Majesty's Government would seriously direct their attention to the question of protecting the country by an efficient iron steam navy. Sir John Hay (Chairman of the Iron-plate Committee) admitted that he had changed his opinion as to the value of land fortifications, and he now thought that it was for the interest of the public that these works should be stopped. He supported the principle of a wooden backing in constructing "ironsides," and contended that the Admiralty might produce really serviceable engines of war by cutting down our wooden ships clothing them with armour, and fitting them with Captain Coles's cupola shield. After some remarks from Mr. Duff Abercromby, and Lord A. V. Tempest, Sir G. C. Lewis said that the practical result of the revolution demanded by the previous speakers would be a Ministerial demand for a supplementary naval estimate of from twelve to fifteen millions. He did not regard the result of the action at Newport News as decisive on the question of iron-ships *versus* fortifications, for he believed that the inventors of modern artillery were sanguine of their ability to produce weapons which would crush these naval monsters. While, however, it would be imprudent to adopt the suggested changes with haste, the Government would watch the progress of this question most carefully. Mr. Bright, Captain Jervis, Mr. Bernal Osborne, and Sir J. Pakington called upon the Government to suspend the construction of fortifications; while Lord Clarence Paget submitted that forts, supplemented by

floating batteries, would still be the best means of defence. He stated that the recent engagement had proved nothing which the Government had not previously ascertained from the experiments which had been made in this country. After some observations from Mr. G. Bentinck and Mr. Coningham, the subject dropped.—On Tuesday Mr. Berkeley asked whether, now that it was probable that guns of a heavier calibre would be required for the public service, it was intended that Sir William Armstrong should have the exclusive privilege of manufacturing the new ordnance. Sir G. C. Lewis stated, in reply, that the Government had entered into a contract, not with Sir William Armstrong, but with the Elswick Company; and that, if they ceased to employ the company, it would be necessary to grant them compensation, as they had provided a plant which had cost £85,000. The right hon. baronet added that proposals had been made for manufacturing rifled guns capable of throwing projectiles weighing 300lb and 600lb.—Mr. Hennessy submitted a resolution in favour of throwing the junior clerkships in the Civil Service open to competition; but, after a long discussion, the previous question—moved by Sir Charles Wood—was carried by a majority of 21. Mr. H. B. Sheridan then moved for leave to bring on fire insurance. The hon. gentleman proposed an immediate reduction of the duty from 3s. to 2s. and, after a lapse of five years, that another shilling should be struck off. The Chancellor of the Exchequer opposed the motion, pointing out that in the present state of the revenue, it was impossible to make the sacrifice proposed by the member for Dudley. After some discussion, the House divided, when the motion was carried by a majority of 127 to 116.—On Wednesday, the principal subject under discussion was the Marriages (Ireland) Bill. Sir Edward Grogan took exception to the bill, and moved that it be read a second time that day six months. Ultimately the amendment was withdrawn, and the House went into committee, agreeing to all the clauses up to 44.

GENERAL HOME NEWS.—The mortality in London rose last week to 1360, which was about 90 more than the deaths in the previous week. It is still, however, 200 below the corrected average of the corresponding week for the last ten years. The births have for the first time during a considerable period risen above the average, the numbers being 2124, while the average is 2091.—The Royal Commissioners for the Exhibition have issued a notification on the subject of the opening ceremonial for that building. After stating the impossibility of her Majesty's personal attendance under the circumstances, which all her subjects understand and sympathise with, the Queen appoints that his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Lord Chancellor, the Earl of Derby, and Lord Palmerston, shall be her representatives to conduct it in her name.—The visit of his Majesty the Emperor of the French to the Exhibition appears to be fully settled, and six vessels of the Mediterranean squadron have orders to repair to Cherbourg to escort the Emperor to England.—The returns of the revenue for the quarter just ended, which happens also to be the termination of the financial year, have been published. The increase on the quarter, as compared with the corresponding quarter of last year, £1,070,628, while the decrease on the year is £609,195.—A deputation of malsters waited upon the Chancellor of the Exchequer to request an extension of the time allowed for payment of the malt duties. The deputation was introduced by Sir Minto Farquhar, Mr. Ducane, &c. The Chancellor of the Exchequer stated that their application was too late for the present. He was willing to give it full consideration for the future, and with that view he requested that the deputation would send their case to him in writing; but he did not hold out much hope of its being granted, as he said it would involve an increase to the burdens of the country.—An influential deputation of shipowners connected with the different ports throughout the country, waited on Mr. Milner Gibson, President of the Board of Trade, on Saturday. They were introduced by Mr. Horsfall, M.P., and Mr. Moffatt, M.P. The object of the meeting was to bring under the right hon. gentleman's notice some alterations which they recommend in the bill now before Parliament to amend and consolidate the various shipping acts, and which stands for a second reading to-night. Mr. Gibson listened attentively to the different points they brought before him, and promised that they should have his fullest consideration in the subsequent stages of the bill.—An influential deputation, consisting of the Duke of Marlborough the Bishop of London, and several other members of both houses, as well as other gentlemen and clergymen representing various societies formed to promote the better observance of

Sunday, waited on Monday on Sir George Grey, to consult him as to the course Government might take in case a bill, which is contemplated, were introduced into Parliament, whose provisions would not alter the existing laws in relation to Sunday trading, but only increase the penalties already provided, and put its execution into the hands of the police. Sir George Grey stated in reply that the government had no intention of introducing such a bill themselves, and he held out little encouragement to others doing so, as he observed that the attempts during the last 20 years to put down Sunday trading by law, had, in his opinion, done more harm than good.—The late disastrous accidents in coal mines have drawn the public attention to the state of the mining population. The British Miners' Association, which was in existence before these accidents occurred, very properly availed themselves of the feeling created by them to bring their own claims before the world. The object of the association is to secure such arrangements in mines as will, as far as possible, prevent accidents, to promote education among the mining population, and to provide relief for the families of those who are disabled or killed through the accidents that can never be wholly prevented. A brilliant meeting of the friends of the association has just been held in the Hanover-square Rooms, Mr. Samuel Gurney, M.P., in the chair; and the claims of the society were earnestly set forth by Sir Fitzroy Kelly, M.P., Mr. Sheriff Cockerell, Colonel Brownlow Knox, M.P., and several other gentlemen. The large sum that was raised for Hartley Colliery, while the equally urgent case of Cethin has been left almost unheeded, is the best argument that can be urged for the organising aid of a society like the present.—The Lord Mayor has been examined by the Commons Committee on the subject of extinguishing fires in the metropolis. His lordship stated his opinion that the present fire brigade should be increased fourfold; that it should be a body independent of the police, under the control of one officer, and the whole governed by a commission, of which the fire insurance offices should appoint some of the members, in return for their contribution of £25,000 a year to the fire brigade, which his lordship would insist on their continuing to pay. He suggested that a portion of the fire insurance duty should also be appropriated to the support of the brigade; and, further, that all houses saved from a fire which was raging in their neighbourhood should be assessed to some extent as salvage money.—The Government have responded to the desire expressed at the recent meeting of members of both Houses of Parliament, and consented to issue a commission "to inquire into the present state of the volunteer force."—An interesting discussion on the subject of iron-cased ships has taken place at the meeting of the Institution of Naval Architects. A very satisfactory account of the *Warrior's* performances during her recent trial voyage, was sent in by Captain Cochrane, who states that the ship behaved nobly in the heavy gales she encountered, and that on her return to England she had sustained no damage, and was perfectly ready to proceed on active service to any part of the world.—It may be remembered that some time ago Prince George Galitzin, who has been an exile from Russia for some time, and has followed the profession of music in this country, was unfortunate enough to be brought into the Insolvent Debtors' Court. At the meeting of the Court on Saturday it was stated by his solicitor that the Prince had received his pardon from the Russian Emperor, that he had been put in possession of his estates, and that all his creditors would be paid in full. He therefore applied that the Prince's case might be withdrawn from the Court. Neither the Prince himself nor any of the creditors were present; and Mr. Commissioner Nichols postponed the case till there was some legal evidence of the good news.—It will be recollected that in the month of October last a private soldier in the 59th Regiment, whose name was John Cleary, was charged with having shot a young man, a student of the Bishop's College, at Chichester. There was no provocation, and the only suggestion of motive was that Cleary mistook his victim for one of his officers, against whom he was said to bear a grudge. Cleary has been brought to trial for the murder at Lewes, and acquitted on the ground that there was no legal evidence to show conclusively that he was the assassin.—John Stocker has been tried for the murder of Mrs. Hill, at Eversley, in Wiltshire, and acquitted. The circumstances, as detailed by the witnesses, all pointed towards the prisoner as the murderer, and the judge, Mr. Justice Byles, was at no pains to conceal the fact that this was the impression made upon him; but the jury were differently affected, as they returned a verdict of not guilty.—At the

Liverpool Assizes, on Saturday, the man Isott, who shot his wife, at Rochdale, some time ago, was found guilty of manslaughter, and sentenced to penal servitude for life.—At the Kingston Assizes, on Wednesday, a youth, named Stevens, was tried on a charge of shooting at Eliza Dewbury, with intent to murder her. The offence was committed in a fit of jealousy, arising from his rejection by the young woman as her suitor. He was found guilty, and sentenced to fifteen years penal servitude.—A shocking tragedy was perpetrated at Battersea-hill, near Hendon, on Saturday morning. A young man named Lawrence was paying his addresses to a girl named Ann Box, who lived in a cottage adjoining his own. It appears that there had been some quarrel between them, as some feelings of jealousy were entertained by Lawrence, for early on Saturday morning he shot at himself with double-barrelled gun, frightfully lacerating his jaw-bone. Finding, however, that the shot did not prove fatal, he proceeded, all wounded and bleeding as he was, to the girl's cottage, and shot her with the other barrel of the gun. The shot was more effectual in this instance, for the poor young woman almost immediately expired. Lawrence was himself conveyed to the Middlesex Hospital, where he lies in a precarious state, and but faint hopes are entertained of his recovery.—A case of suspected murder took place early on Tuesday morning in the Regent's Canal at Stepney. About one o'clock in the morning the inhabitants in the neighbourhood were alarmed by shrieks of murder proceeding from the towing path; and on search being made portions of a woman's dress were found on the path, where also there were indications of a severe struggle having taken place. The canal was then dragged, and the body of a respectably-dressed young woman was brought to the surface—of course quite dead—and with marks of great violence on her face and body. A young man and woman, the latter answering to the description of the drowned person, were observed wandering about the fields in the neighbourhood of the spot at a late period of the evening, and it is supposed the man can be identified.—An inquest has been held on the body of the unfortunate girl, Ada Emma Williams, and an open verdict has been returned, with a censure on the conduct of a lockman who, it appears, might possibly have saved her.—Another attempt on the part of a foolish girl to drown herself was made on Tuesday, but happily the result was not fatal. The girl, who threw herself into the Grand Junction Canal, is described as a prostitute.—Another life has been lost in attempting to escape from a fire. A young man in jumping from the second-floor of a house (in the Commercial-road East), which was wrapped in flames before any fire-escape arrived, fell and fractured his skull. The engines, too, only arrived when it was impossible to save the premises.—The coroner's inquest on the guard who was killed on the North Kent line a short time ago has been held. Captain Tyler, the Government inspector of railways, was examined at great length, and stated that in his opinion the cause of the accident was the rotting of the wooden trenails that fastened the chairs to the sleepers. The trenails used at the place of the accident were proved to have been there for the last fourteen or fifteen years. He recommended that iron spikes should be used in place of trenails. The jury concurred in this recommendation, and, with regard to the accident itself, they returned a verdict of Accidental Death.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.—The *Moniteur* has published a denial of assertions made in the Spanish papers, that the French Government had requested the Cabinet of Madrid to recall General Prim. The French Government, says the *Moniteur*, confined itself to expressing its disapproval of the convention concluded between Generals Prim and Doblado, and afterwards accepted by the plenipotentiaries of the allies, because this convention appeared to it to be contrary to the dignity of France. M. Saligny has in consequence been alone entrusted with the full political powers with which Admiral Jurien de la Graviere was invested. A letter from Madrid adds that a rumour prevailed to the effect that the Spanish Government too holds the opinion of France, and disapproves of the convention concluded with the Mexican plenipotentiaries.—From the French war estimates, we learn that the army is to consist of 400,000 men, namely, 23,414 officers, and 376,586 non-commissioned officers and men. The Pope's affairs are known to have lately formed the subject of much discussion between the Emperor Napoleon and his servants; and it has been reported that the result of the Marquis de Lavalette's visit to Paris must be the recall either of M. de Lavalette himself or of General Goyon, their dissensions being incurable. According to the latest rumour, however, each will retain his post; but the

Emperor is said to have assured M. de Lavalette that in the event of Pio Nono's death the French troops will not be withdrawn from Rome, as it will be necessary to secure French influence in the conclave that will choose a new Pope.—The text of the allocution delivered by the Pope on the approaching ceremony of the canonisation of the Japanese martyrs has been published. His Holiness dwells but very briefly on the martyrs who are about to be raised to the dignity of saints, but expatiates largely on his own griefs. He says it will be a fine spectacle to see the Supreme Pastor surrounded by other pastors who have supported unanimously the rights of the Holy See, and by their consoling words alleviated his profound grief. He rebukes those ecclesiastics who had advised him to renounce the temporal power, and declares that the Holy See does not maintain the temporal power as a dogma of faith, but asserts that that power is necessary and indispensable, so long as the order established by Providence shall endure, to sustain the independence of the spiritual power.—A Royal decree was read at the sitting of the Spanish Cortes on Monday, increasing by six million reals the yearly redemption of the Passive Debt. Preparations were being made for the evacuation by the Spaniards of Tetuan, as it is stated that the Emperor of Morocco will soon fulfil his engagements with the Court of Madrid.—Some thirty thousand Italians have, it is said, signed an address to the Emperor of the French calling on him to withdraw his troops from Rome. A somewhat similar address, according to the *Opinione*, has been sent to the House of Commons.—The Danish Government have taken objection to the proceedings of the German Diet on the Schleswig question. The *Dagbladet* says the ambassador refused to accept, as plenipotentiary to the Diet, the resolution which ought to have been communicated to him diplomatically as ambassador of Denmark; and, in consequence, the Diet made its communication to the Danish Government through the Russian ambassador of Copenhagen. The *Dagbladet* characterises the resolution of the Diet as exceedingly dangerous.—The Brussels *Indépendance* publishes a Vienna letter, which affirms that Lord Bloomfield, our representative at the Viennese Court, undertook his recent journey to Pesth as the bearer of proposals for a compromise from the Emperor Francis Joseph to the leaders of the Hungarian Constitutional party. The proposals are stated to have been unsuccessful, and the mediator returned to Vienna without having accomplished anything. The whole of this story must, however, be received with great caution. Various movements have been attributed to our Viennese Ambassador in continental journals which afterwards received official contradiction.—The insurgents of the Herzegovina are reported to have destroyed several villages in Albania by fire and sword, and massacred the Turkish inhabitants, sparing the lives only of Christian residents.—The surrender of Nauplia, is again contradicted. The citadel, it is affirmed, can hold out four months yet.

AMERICA.—General McClellan had issued to the Federal army of the Potomac an address framed upon the model of Napoleon's proclamation to his soldiers. In this address the Federal soldiers are told that they had hitherto been kept inactive in order that they might give a deathblow to rebellion, but that the moment for action has now arrived. Their General will now bring them face to face with the rebels, and only pray that God may defend the right. His object is to lead them to a decisive battle-field, and he will require of them great and heroic exertion, rapid and long marches, and privations perhaps. Their commander will share all these, and, when this sad war is over, we will all return to our homes, and feel that we could ask no higher honour than the proud consciousness that we belonged to the army of the Potomac. The *Canada* brings us the intelligence that the Federal expedition of General Burnside had gained a new victory on the coast of North Carolina. The town of Newburn was captured by the Federals, after an engagement which lasted four hours and which cost the victors 500 men killed and wounded. The Confederates lost 200 prisoners, 46 guns, and 3000 stand of arms; but the main body of their troops, said to be 10,000 strong, escaped by railway to Goldsborough, burning bridges behind them, and setting fire to the town of Newbern, which is said, however, to have sustained but little damage. General Beauregard, on assuming the command of the Confederate army of the Mississippi, had issued an order of the day, saying:—"Our reverses, far from disheartening, must nerve us to new deeds of valour, and, while true to our cause and ourselves, with the protection of the Almighty, we must and shall triumph." But his assumption of the chief command had been attended with fresh disasters; for the accounts of the evacuation of New

Madrid by the Confederates state that many guns and stores worth more than 1,000,000 dollars had been abandoned by them, and that their troops had escaped in a demoralised state to the opposite bank of the river. It was reported that Island No. 10, in the Mississippi, had likewise been deserted by the Confederates, and had fallen into the hands of the Federal troops. The latest telegrams from New York, however, state that the report was "premature," and that fighting still continued at "Island No. 10." Commodore Foote was there with a mortar flotilla, and was busied in shelling the Confederate works; and it was thought that some Confederate steamers and gunboats would probably fall into Federal hands. There was likewise a rumour, which yet needed confirmation, that the Federals had obtained a fresh success in Arkansas.—By the arrival of the *City of Washington* we have received two days' later news from Washington. No decisive results had been arrived at in the Mississippi. The Federals have silenced all the guns in the upper battery, but the Confederates are strongly fortified on the island, and some time would probably elapse before the place was reduced. In Virginia the Confederates are again shifting their line of defence, and are concentrating large bodies of troops on Norfolk.—A ship, arrived at Liverpool, from Bombay, brings intelligence of the capture of a Northern merchant vessel by a Confederate privateer, called the *S. C. Evans*. The capture was made on the 4th inst. in lat. 26 N. long. 39 W.; but, instead of following the example of Captain Pegrim and firing the prize, the Southern commander appears to have sent a body of his own men on board, with the view of carrying the vessel into some convenient port.

MEXICO.—Mexico advices, transmitted by way of Havana and New York, state that President Juarez had approved the provisional agreement with the Allied Commissioners, and that the expedition would probably terminate satisfactorily, without bloodshed. Some of the Spanish troops were returning to Cuba, the British marines were about to re-embark, and the French reinforcements were not to be landed.

WEST INDIA.—The news from the West Indies is of no political importance. The health of the islands was good, but there was great distress in trade. From the South Pacific there are the usual accounts of revolutionary changes, and amongst others the attempt of certain parties in Lima to prepare public opinion to annex Peru again to Spain. As may be supposed, the clergy are the principal actors in the movement.

INDIA AND CHINA.—The news by the India mail states the financial position of India is very encouraging. The cash balances in the Treasury were nearly three millions greater than at the same period (February) last year, and the revenue estimates had increased above three millions in two years. Mr. Laing, in speaking of the abolition of the licence tax, had declared that the import duties on Manchester goods would, "if possible," be abolished at the end of the financial year. The Sylhet disturbances, it was expected, would be suppressed on the arrival of the reinforcements. The natives at Calcutta had voted an address and a statue to Lord Canning. The general community intended to pass a separate address. A fresh rumour respecting Nana Sahib—probably as unfounded as its many predecessors—asserted that he had been discovered in Nepal, and that the British Government was expected to demand his surrender by Jung Bahadoor.—From Canton we learn that the celebrated missionary, Mr. Roberts, had quitted the rebel camp, as his life was in danger. Mr. Alcock, it is reported, will soon leave Japan for England. A large fire in Jeddó had consumed three streets, including the palace of one of the princes.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

W. M.—It is now the custom to allow E.A.'s or F.C.'s to propose or second candidates for initiation.

No. 17 (Quebec).—There ought not to be no doubt about your centenary. We do not know what system of arithmetic is adopted by the Grand Secretary, but we should think one of the principle rules laid down in it is "give everybody as much trouble as possible before you admit any proposition, however clear."

W. J. M. shall be attended to.

G.—On again referring to our report of the last meeting of Grand Lodge, you will find near the close of the second column, page 190, the following words "various grants of money from the Fund of Benevolence were then made, as set forth in the Agenda paper, which appeared in our number last week."