

LONDON, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 1862.

ADMISSION OF STRANGERS.

With a view, it is to be supposed, of the advantage to be derived from an interchange of Masonic courtesy, as well as the greater uniformity of working, likely to accrue from occasional visits to strange lodges, an ancient ordinance, from which has emanated the existing instructions in our *Book of Constitutions*, lays down that rulers in the Craft should, at times, witness the solemnization of our rites in neighbouring lodges; than such a course of procedure, nothing can be more calculated to establish and maintain friendly relations with the society at large, and as by a natural course of reasoning, which has been considered advisable for Masters and Wardens may be deemed equally expedient for Masons generally. It is evident, therefore, apart from other considerations, that hospitality should be viewed by us all, as a necessary and pleasing duty.

Nothing can be more chilling to the feelings or opposed to the true principles of the Order than an inattention to this important point. There are instances on record, though I trust but few, when brethren who have travelled far to attend a lodge-meeting, have been in a measure treated as interlopers, and given to understand, that their presence is regarded rather as an intrusion than as a compliment; on the other hand, who of us but remembers with pleasure, warm and fraternal greetings experienced in similar positions? Individually, I hold that the true spirit of Masonry is never better exemplified than by a sprinkling of strangers at a Masonic assemblage; by it a greater degree of emulation actuates the office-bearers, and whilst mindful of the duties of hospitality, members vie with each other in demonstrating to their guests the efficiency and perfect state of their lodge, formality, and indeed every other matter of a disagreeable nature, being rigidly eschewed. The practice of refreshment upon the conclusion of business may be said to be generally prevalent, and when such is the case, visitors are frequently invited to partake of the good cheer set forth; the expense of this sequence to the evening's obligations is defrayed in different ways, by some lodges from the general fund, and by others the cost is divided amongst the members who actually partake of the refecton; where the latter custom prevails, visitors are more commonly excluded from participation in the pleasures of the table than in lodges where the expense fall upon the entire community. Albeit these are questions in which Masonic legislation cannot authoritatively pronounce, there are few members of the Craft who do not think that the general observance of refreshment is open to improvement. Let examination, prior to admittance,

be rigid and minute; but when a visitor is once within the walls, neglect no duty of hospitality.

It is certain that adequate circumspection is not invariably exercised, and the responsible parties are but too often biased by personal friendship, or by the status in society of the applicant for admission; these ought to be extraneous matters, and should procure exemption from no test that would be applied to the most utter stranger. You may show an individual to be of spotless integrity in the discharge of his mundane obligations, and be disposed to place perfect reliance on the word of another, whose position in the social scale forbids distrust, yet would be guilty of a grave error in admitting, or counselling the admittance of, either without the obligatory guarantee. Circumstances occur, where tact and judgment of Masters are sorely tried—a brother perchance craves admittance, whose memory, at best, far from retentive, fails to supply the necessary rejoinders, his certificate probably *en règle*; another arrives, brimful of information, but unprovided with a certificate; what is to be done in these cases? It is, I believe, generally held that naught but both diploma and actual ability to sustain examination absolutely entitles to admission; but where good grounds of belief in the veracity of the candidates' statement are plainly apparent, it is questionable whether peremptory exclusion is justifiable; I incline to the opinion that in either of the above-mentioned cases, a re-obligation would be sufficient, though extreme caution would be necessary and the corroborative testimony of an actual member of the lodge should be a *sine qua non*. We may assume that the majority of brethren would on no account vouch for persons with whom they were but cursorily acquainted, or have not met in lodge, and we should render such a contingency impossible by demanding in all instances from vouchers, satisfactory reason for their confidence.

Once admitted within the portals, if the lodge has not yet been opened, it becomes the duty of the member enjoying a previous acquaintance with the visitor, to present him to the Master, from whom, on account of Masonic, not social, position, a few words of welcome, courteously delivered, come with a peculiar grace. Should the stranger have passed the chair, a seat in the East ought to be accorded him, whilst if he has not progressed so far in the Order, he may be left to the discretion of the brother by whom he was introduced. At the termination of business, if refreshment be provided, the Master or Principal Officer, should personally request the visitor to partake of it, and on the dispersion of the brethren the recipient of these attentions will doubtless feel it incumbent on him to shake the presiding officer by the hand, and whilst bidding good night, render an acknowledgement of the civilities experienced, both at labour and refreshment.

III.

NEW MATERIALS FOR THE LIFE OF GRINLING GIBBONS.

Within the last few years—since the life of Gibbons was written at any length—the place of his birth has been determined past all future doubt. From his nativity, cast by his contemporary, no less a person than Elias Ashmole, we learn that he was born, not in London, as had been too readily believed, but in Rotterdam, on the 4th of April, 1648. The figure of his nativity was discovered by Mr. W. H. Black, among the Ashmole MSS., and may be seen, with many others, in the Ashmolean Museum, at Oxford. As far as I can decipher the planetary arrangements at his birth, his unrivalled excellence in wood carving was apparently unforseen.

That he was of English descent I see reason to believe, for I find in the works Accounts of the Crown of Charles I. the mention of Simon Gibbons, a skilled carpenter, employed under no less a master than Inigo Jones. Of this Simon Gibbons I have found no other trace.

We first hear of Gibbons from Evelyn, in a well-known entry. That well-accomplished English gentleman found the sculptor, then (1671) unknown, busy at Deptford, with an elaborate carving in wood from Tintoretto's cartoon of the "Stoning of St. Stephen." Where is this carving? I have never seen a person who has seen it or can tell me where it now is, and I am diligent in my inquiries. Horace Walpole had evidently never seen it; Allan Cunningham, I can state, had never seen it. What is known about it?

This miracle of carving in wood was at Cannons, in Middlesex, the princely seat of the Duke of Chandos. From Cannons it was "brought" to Bush-hill, near Edmonton, in the same county, the seat, late in the last century, of Joseph Mellish, Esq. Mrs. Catherine Mellish, his widow, was in possession of it at her death, in October, 1794, and from that period I have lost all trace of it. "The architectural parts," says Lysons, *Environ's*, ii. 260 (writing in 1794-5), "are particularly fine."

Before I produce the many curious entries I have had the good fortune to discover touching our great sculptor, I will ask another question about a work by Gibbons, of which I can learn nothing more than the fact of his having executed such a work, and in whose hands it once was. Among the effects (1730) of Mrs. Oldfield, the celebrated actress, was the following article:—

"The Earl of Strafford, a whole length, finely carved in ivory by Mr. Gibbons."

Think of the Vandyck collar, and in ivory, and by Grinling Gibbons; Walpole's point-lace cravat would surely fade before it. Where is this statue or statuette? Remember that it is no less a person and poet than Pope, who tells us that Mrs. Oldfield was a judge of lace:—

"Odious! in woolen! 'twould a saint provoke
(Were the last words that poor Narcissa spoke):
No; let a charming chintz and Brussels lace
Wrap my cold limbs and shade my lifeless face:
One would not, sure, be frightful when one's dead—
And, Betty, give this cheek a little red."

And that her "maid" assures us she was buried in Westminster Abbey, "in a very fine Brussels lace

head, a Holland shift with a tucker and double ruffles of the same lace, and . . . a pair of new kid gloves."* Mrs. Oldfield was the very lady to possess and value such a Grinling Gibbons' example; and I repeat the question, "Where is the ivory Earl of Strafford, by the great G. G.?"

I will now introduce entries of payments made to him by the Crown for "work done." Here is a Whitehall entry:—

"To Grinlin Gibbons, carver, for carving the Crown sceptre and tassell, with 9 boses of wood over the canopy, and for vallens, festoons, cornishes, and other carved works on the front of the organ for the Tabernacle and all its relieves, and 14 figures in the Chapel; for a marble holy-water pot; and for a chimney-piece in the Great Bedchamber and another in the Little Bedchamber, £340 17s. 9d."—Works, Rebuilding Privy Gallery at Whitehall, 1685-6.

Here is another:—

"To Grinling Gibbons, carver, for carving and sculpturing by him done in her Majesty's New Chapel at Whitehall, by Treasury order of 27 May, 1690, £361."—Works of Whitehall, 1690-1.

Here is a third, and one of historical importance (unknown to Macaulay), to be explained hereafter:—

"The said Grinling Gibbons and Arnold Quellin, for making and carving the great altar-piece of white marble, veined, wrought according to a design and contract, they finding all materials and workmanship, with two marble columns under the throne, fluted, with capitals and bases (besides £14 18s. 2d. abated for a square white marble pillar delivered them),—£1875 1s. 8d."—Works—Rebuilding Priory Gallery at Whitehall, 1685-6.

Quellin made Squire Thynn and his coachman's monument in Westminster Abbey—famous, additionally, through Mr. Joseph Miller, better known as "Joe."

Stepping westward, we come to Kensington Palace, Gibbons worked at Kensington:—

"To Grinling Gibbons, for 1405 feet of Ionick modillion and hollow cornish, 912 feet of picture frame over the doors and chimneys, 80 feet of astregal moulding about the glasses in the chimneys; carving the king's arms, supporters, crown, and garter, the rails and ballisters in the Chapel, and several other services in and about the said buildings,—£536 14s. 7d."—Works at Kensington, 1st Oct., 1689, to 30th Sept., 1691.

"To Grinling Gibbons, carver, for work done in the New Gallery building in the King's Great and Little Closet, in three rooms under the King's Apartment, in the King's Gallery, and other places,—£839 0s. 4d."—Works at Kensington, 1st Oct., 1691, to 31st March, 1696.

Windsor is next in our way. The following payments are new, and of moment. What was, and where is now to be seen, "the extraordinary fine piece of carved work made by Gibbons, and given by Charles II., 'as a present to the Duke of Florence'?"

"Grinling Gibbons, carver, for an extraordinary fine piece of carved work made and carved by him for his Ma^{ty}, and sent by his Ma^{ty} as a present to the Duke of Florence, £150. And more to him for his pension, after the rate of £100 per annum, according to his Ma^{ty}'s warrant, and due to him for half a year ended at Midsummer, 1682, £200."—Works at Windsor, 1st Oct., 1680, to 30th Sept., 1682.

"Grinling Gibbons, carver, for 2 chimneypieces carved with flowers and fruits set in the Queen's Privy Chamber and the King's Drawing Room, and for 26 foot of Picture-frame carved, £63 5s."—Works at Windsor, 1st Oct., 1678, to 30th Sept., 1680.

"Grinling Gibbons, carver, for sundry carved works by him performed, viz., for sixty panels carved with flowers, fruits, shells, and several other ornaments, set over the chimney in the angles of His Maj^{ty}'s Great Bedchamber, Little Bedchamber, and

* Egerton (*i. s. Curl's*) Life of Mrs. Oldfield, p. 209.

Closet, £60. For carving 2 picture-frames set in the Queen's Chapel, £2 14s. Carving and Cutting the 4 white marble panels of y^e Pedestal of his Maj^s [Charles II.'s] Statue on Horseback, £400. And for cutting and carving the mouldings and ornaments for the Pedestal of the large Dial in the North Terrace, and for 17 foot of white marble for the two end panels of y^e Pedestal of His Maj^s Statue on Horseback, £16. In all as by 4 bills, £482 4s."—Works at Windsor, 1st Oct., 1678, to 30th Sept., 1680.

"Grinling Gibbons, carver, for carving work done and laid upon 28 seats and stalls carved with fruit, flowers, palms, laurels, pelicans, pigeons; 5 foot of cornice that has two members, enriched with leaves between each seat; 20 foot of framing to every seat, according to contract, £518. More to him for carving the six vases with thistles, roses, and two boys, laurels, palms, and other ornaments, in the front and upon the top of the King's Seat, with drapery, fruit, flowers, crotches, stars, roses, and several other ornaments of carving about the altar, pews, and other places in and about the King's Chapel, he finding timber and workmanship according to contract, £498 5d.—£1016 5d."—Works at Windsor, 1st Oct., 1680, to 30th Sept., 1682.

"Grinling Gibbons, carver, for carving work done round the vainscot in Saint George's Hall round the inside of the pedestal panels to the cornice over the panels; for carving 141 feet 5 inches of great leaf cornice upon the pedestal; 118 foot 6 inches of swelling moulding round the five doors in the Hall, for carving 226 foot 3 inches of moulding in the upper moulding of the rail going up the stairs into the King's Closet in the Chapel, the panel in front of the stairs, the garter and festoons about the two Compass doors, the two Georges, the upper and lower rails on both sides, the panels and mouldings at the Throne in St. George's Hall, with several other ornaments belonging to the said Throne, £328 16s. 11d."—Works at Windsor, 1st Oct., 1682, to 33th Sept., 1684.

"Grinling Gibbons, carver, for carving several frames over the chimneys, picture-frames, and altarpieces, in the King's and Queen's Chapel, y^e Queen's old Bedchamber and Dressing Rooms, and several other lodgings, £96 19s. 9d."—Works at Windsor, 1st Oct., 1684, to 30th Sept., 1688.

"Grinling Gibbons, carver, for carving two foliage panels for the Confession chair in the King's Chapel, 40s. And for carving a model for the founder to cast the copper pipes that convey the water into the Queens bathing cisterns, 10s.—50s."—Works at Windsor, 1st Oct., 1686, to 25th Sept., 1688.

"To Grinling Gibbons, carver of her Majesty's works at Windsor Castle, for his allowance of £100 per ann. for looking, cleansing, and repairing the said carved works for half a year ended Xmas, 1681,—£50. And for ten years' allow^{ce} at y^e said rate ended Micæas, 1701 allowed by warr^t of y^e Lords Commiss^{rs}. of the Treasury dated y^e 1st of December, 1691, which were confirmed and directed to be executed by y^e said late Lords Commiss^{rs} y^e 12th of April, 1695,—£1000.—In both, £1050."—Robert's Acct. of Windsor from April, 1688, to 30th Sept., 1702.

"Grinling Gibbons, carver, for carving y^e hollow of y^e cornice over y^e marble chimney piece in the Queen's New Closet by y^e Gallery, mending and new making some pieces that were lost of y^e carving in y^e Queen's Room; mending and altering the carving in y^e Queen's Closet, in the Long Gallery, and making new pieces, and for other carved works by him done as by two bills of y^e particulars appear, £5 14s. 4d." Robert's, &c. [same service and time].

"Grinling Gibbons, carver, for carving a chimney piece in lime tree with fruit, flowers, and birds, in y^e Queen's Dressing Room; carving six frames; carving a cock's head for y^e Duchess of Marlborough's side board, and a snake's head for a basin at y^e Queen's back stairs; for carving a plum for a glass in her Majesty's Dressing Room, and other workes, &c. by three bills, £39 19s. 10d." Works at Windsor, 1702-7.

Gibbons says Walpole "had several disciples and workmen." He mentions Seldon and Watton, and to these I now add a third and hitherto unknown assistant:—

"Grinling Gibbons and Henry Phillips, carvers, for severall sorts of carved works by them performed [at Whitehall] upon the Chimney-pieces, Pedestals, and picture frames of the King's great and little Bedchambers and Presence, his Ma^{tes} Closet, Musicke Room, Eating Room, Withdrawing Room, Bedchamber, and Gallery, and in our rooms at the Duchess of Portsmouth's Lodgings, £25 14s."

The Crown Accounts contain a further joint payment to them of £514 17s. 8d. for works at Windsor. My extract is, unfortunately, imperfect.

The historical entry touching King James II., to which I have referred as new and unknown to Lord Macaulay, runs as follows:—

"To Grinling Gibbons, Master Carver, for taking down the Marble Altar Piece, with the Columns, Ornaments, and Figures thereto belonging, in the late King James the Second's Chapel at Whitehall, and loading the same into barges, and delivery thereof at Hampton Court, according to contract, £130. More to him for carving cornishes, mouldings, and picture frames for architrave frese, subbase, and other carver's work by him done in and about the said building, £520 7s. 4d."—Works at Hampton Court, 1st April, 1694, to 31st March, 1696.

Who, after reading this, will look on the altar-piece at Hampton Court Palace without recalling (forced as it were upon him) an instructive trace of historical associations? That ill-suited altar-piece cost King James II. three Kingdoms, placed his son-in-law, "the hero William," and his two daughters, on the throne of England, and was a primary cause that James died in exile at St. Germain.

Gibbons survived his wife between nine and ten months, the register of St. Paul's Covent Garden, recording her burial on the 30th November, 1719, and that of Gibbons himself on the 10th August, 1720. Of their children—nine or ten in number—I can learn nothing but their names and the dates of baptism and burial of each in their father's and their own parish Church of St. Paul's, Covent Garden.

PETER CUNNINGHAM.

IMPORTANCE OF DETAIL IN ARCHITECTURE.

In treating of our subject, we shall touch upon the arts generally, and try to discover some of the causes of success and failure attending the practice of them. We shall endeavour to show that what applies to one, will, without much modification, apply with equal force to another, and we trust that our drift, if at first obscure, will in the end be appreciated and apparent to all. As the premises of our arguments will be generally admitted facts, our conclusions, we hope, will in consequence be sound.

Architectural detail is a term broad as it is significant; by his thorough appreciation and knowledge of it must an architect test his claim to consideration and fame. Before commencing practice, he must have formed, in his own mind, a set of rules for its governance, and these rules must have been based upon well-known and admitted laws in connection with the fine arts; for one art is so mixed and interwoven with another, that a thorough knowledge of one can never be gained unless the whole of the others are more or less understood.

This now is allowed more readily by the professors of the art under consideration, than by those of painting and sculpture; yet all who have studied the matter, know how many failures might have been avoided, and how much ground gained, had each been better acquainted with the other, and we shall not be going too far in averring that this rule applies most forcibly to architecture, the home or resting place of its sisters. Not that it should be subservient to them, but that upon their entrance into its portals, a chord of harmony should be struck that should echo until Time's ruthless hand had stilled vibrations which could only cease with existence. For the waves of light which strike upon the eye fill the soul with quite as much delight, from reflection of form and colour, as the grandest melody.

A building, a picture, a piece of sculpture, or music is termed a composition, as each is composed of many parts, and according to the skill displayed in the distribution of

these parts is the amount and success gained. Take, for instance, one sculptured figure, to keep our argument within the narrowest bounds; the intention of the artist ought to be patent to every one examining his work, and the eye led to the key by a proper arrangement of lines: one part should not be too prominent, for fear of distracting or occupying too much of the attention to the detriment of the other, neither should a necessarily important feature be too much suppressed. Light and shade, in which the half tones are so carefully thought of, and cared for, by the master who knows the importance of the soft and delicate parts to give life and force, should be carefully weighed, or failure will be the result—all depends upon the result; a muscle badly formed, a part out of proportion, a single action at variance with the character of the work, will jar upon the feelings and mar the design, however well all else may be done. Precisely the same argument applies to architecture; but let us again, for the sake of greater precision and clearness, touch upon a subject more generally known by the people, and certainly supported and appreciated to a greater extent by them, than either architecture or sculpture. Few, indeed, who have had a liberal education, but know most of the essentials of a good picture, yet are not ashamed to own that they know nothing of architecture, even stating with a strained effort certainly, that "Architect" to their mind has no signification. Let us hope that such days are at an end, and that a brighter dawn is breaking upon maligned art and its votaries.

Painting is better understood by the community at present, because they are more familiar with it and honor it by their patronage. Even fashion, powerful as it is, and much as it has to do in supporting an art, will fail in doing so if too great ignorance upon that art prevail. Painting in these days is doubly blest, being tolerably known, and having fashion in its favour. In using it, therefore, as an illustration, we shall use that which all our readers can understand. Before putting brush to canvass, the painter has mentally worked out to a great extent the conception of his mind. He has studied the position of the chief point of interest; he has arranged his colours and weighed his light, and shade, and contrasts; nor unless he can bring his picture before his mind's eye, clearly and sharply defined, will the work be looked upon as an effort of genius: the manipulation might be all that it should be, but the soul and the fire will be wanting. A really good artist's difficulty is simply reproducing the picture of his brain, with the clumsy vehicles at his command. To attempt a work without first having given it mature deliberation, is even more dangerous to the tyro than to the master; the former, not knowing his powers, will finish with failure and disgust;—successive attempts gradually chilling any ardour with which he was at first inspired. After having thought out his subject well let him embody it upon his canvass, but in doing so numberless shoals, rocks, and quicksands will have to be avoided, especially the syren repletion, who will try to prevent his leaving well alone, leading him still on until a mass of dirty confusion is all he has for his pains. In fact, doing too much to a thing, attempting more than can be accomplished by the knowledge at your command, going beyond your powers, is a cause of half the sorry affairs, the glaring harshness and poverty of which so often elicit a prayer on behalf of the author. A few touches put in with judgment will give more richness, or rather lead to an impression of more richness, more quickly and more effectively than a painful quantity of work, however neat. We might be told that none can arrive at such perfection without much practice, and that none but those deeply versed in an art can be expected to produce the maximum amount of effect with the minimum of labour. Truly, but many there are who think the reverse, who go on from day to day with the full conviction that labour and material, profusely expended, must win the admiration of mankind, and perhaps stamp their name upon the undying page of fame. Witness what are termed "pre-

Raphaelites," and carefully examine their exhibitions; with what care are the whole of the daisies and grass blades limned! Could you not almost fancy the sweet scent of the apple blossoms exhaled from that shining surface? No! how strange! The painter intended you should. He pored for hours, day after day, week after week, with his nose and chin so close upon his work, as now and then to give them both a dash of pink, or may be blue; his cuff would easily restore their tone, his brush the pilfered pigment. But, after all his pains, has he succeeded in making a "joy for ever?" Often the reverse. "Hideous," without injustice, might be applied, rather "than a thing of beauty." He has done too much, and made a grave error, as many now have told him. The fact is, he has been labouring under an optical delusion, and people are unable to see things with the eye of his photographic lens—the facilities afforded by which probably led to his retrograde movement.

Here, then, is a forcible illustration against a thoughtless disregard of repose and want of judicious distribution or arrangement of highly finished parts. Many of these painters do not want ability, but their judgment is warped; many can paint, and paint well, and hence a sale of their dreary repetitions.

Let us turn to something more congenial—some of Turner's landscapes—you are enchanted, but hadly know why. We must endeavour to get at the reason, a task both pleasing and instructive, and of easier accomplishment than at first sight would appear. Turner arrived at his effects generally by the quickest and easiest paths open to him. He knew nature well, and the power of his own eyesight; never attempting to show more than he could see, and rendering that as forcibly as the great depth and extent of his knowledge would allow. Many of his works hold the highest place in art. All that man is supposed capable of achieving in the particular branch in which he most delighted, he has done. Ruskin holds that no other man ever painted stems and branches of trees, hardly a pleasant contemplation to other men who have produced so much of what must be a new vegetable production uncommonly like trees, and sold for them. Who, then, can be a better instructor? His pearly lights, his gradations of tints, his bold massing of shadows, and the breadth of the whole, are wonderful; no splitting up of his subject into knots; no weakness for a pretty bit here or there, and a consequent bringing of them out of their proper and subdued place. He bent his mind to the consummation of that which he had set about at first, and would not be wiled away from his purpose by enticing parts which courted more attention than they deserved during the progress of the work. The reader may often have fancied, when standing before one of his landscapes, that he could almost walk into it, such a perfect illusion of reality was there. The power of singleness of purpose, breadth and repose, truth and knowledge, are sure to make themselves felt, and to gain admiration. Now, we want architects to work as Turner did, and not as pre-Raphaelites do; for there can be, and are, pre-Raphaelites in architecture. One man will make a much more handsome and effective building, at half the cost for ornament, than another, simply by judicious application of his detail. One will be a pre-Raphaelite without knowing or intending it; he will stipple his buildings with a regularity and carefulness marvellous to behold. If his funds are liberal he can bestow a thick coat; if not, he might have some trouble in bestowing a thin one; but the trouble would be taken, and mediocrity, at the most, achieved. Breadth and repose, which follow as a necessity, are often ignored by the Gothic architect, whose idea of perfection seems to be the greatest amount of breaks, gables, and angles he can possibly obtain in the smallest space; his horror is an unbroken face, his joy no face at all; and this has been termed picturesque—quaint Gothic! The thing, above all others, that has brought it into disrepute, if such treatment must be without a loss of the style, then the style is rotten to the

core, will not admit of artistic treatment, and should be discarded at once; but it is not so, as numberless buildings stand in majesty and beauty to attest. Witness the many Continental Town-halls, unbroken in the long lines of their façades, asserting boldly and impressively their right to a high place in art, their great beauty and force resting in the simplicity of their principal arrangements, and the masterly application of their minor parts as enrichments.

Let us, therefore, seek the proper foundation of our subject, and we find it in the Grecian Doric, which stands alone in its massive proportions a shining beacon on the sea of art, whose mariners will never be misled by its light. In it is embraced all those points of composition we would wish to enforce in all works; and although its use is almost discontinued, the fact of excellence will still remain. A monumental art like architecture could never have a better exponent; the boldness of its parts, and yet the tender delicacy of its detail, are truly sermons in stone preached to all art students. The ornament is used like costly gems, attesting the wearer's high estate, and not like tawdry gear, to hide lean poverty.

The whole of the Greek orders have their detail treated in this delicate and thoroughly artistic manner, but they lose in simplicity what they gain in elaboration; the balance, consequently remains with the Doric. Nevertheless, in lightness and adaptability to modern uses and utilitarian views, the Ionic and Corinthian assert a greater influence. The licentious use of ornament, as time wore on, swallowed up the true principals of art, until in the time of Louis the Fourteenth the lowest stage of debasement was reached. In the Gothic of our own country the same falling away took place. Commencing with its present phase in the fourteenth century,—we cannot call the early English the purest—it was merely transitional. We see the fungi attaching themselves year after year, *perverting the good tree, until we can recognise it no longer* in the flat roofs, flat windows, and flat insipid profusion of enrichment; only capable of raising our astonishment, as did the painting of our friend the pre-Raphaelite.—*Building News*.

ARCHITECTURAL PROGRESS.*

On such occasions as the present our view naturally ranges over a somewhat broader horizon than that which closes round our own sphere of action. We remember that we are an institution of respectable age, especially if age is to be reckoned by the march of events and the progress that has been made in our profession since we were established; in which progress we have had an active and useful share. But while we congratulate ourselves on the past and present, our business is with the future. The architecture of to-day has been determined by events some of which are now long past, and whose influences will far outlast our time; but the architecture of the future will be in a great measure what we shall make it. We begin, then, by urging upon our members the acquisition of a thorough knowledge of the art of past ages as a preparation for future progress. We strongly advocate the study of professional practice as it now exists; but we do not profess to remain satisfied with it: if we did, our association must soon cease to be. There is little room in the world for societies intended to maintain things as they are: every body of men must have an active principle as a bond of union, and cannot properly seek to remain unaffected by external or internal influences. We desire to cultivate a habit of looking somewhat in advance of the present

time, both in the projects of public usefulness, in which we are called upon to assist, and in the quality of art which we are expected to produce. It is necessary to avoid leading our younger members into a morbid desire for novelty; but it is not less desirable to preserve them from the opposite error: lead them, while they are studying the art as they find it now, to expect that practice and opinions will change considerably during a very few years, and to be prepared to take an active part in the labours and responsibilities that such changes involve.

To those who are able to remember several of our annual meetings, it is interesting to call to memory the different subjects that were prominent in our minds, year after year; and to note the alteration in our views and feelings, that the lapse of a few years can produce. If we look at the many excellent drawings in the Architectural Gallery, in the International Exhibition,—still more if we look back in our illustrated periodicals,—we are struck by the wonderful change in taste that has taken place amongst the more active minds in the profession. New ideas that once caused some excitement have ceased to be novelties, and have been absorbed in modified forms into the practice of design. They may have been simply reproductions from ancient examples; but being new to us, they have to some extent satisfied our desire for change, and have certainly infused variety and life into the particular class of art to which they belonged. For many years past such a process as this has been going on; nor do I think it has come very near its conclusion. The present is an age of discovery; in which, although much ground has been thoroughly examined, much has been left comparatively untouched. We are far from being able to say that we know all the beauties of the Gothic art; while the discoveries of late years amongst Classical remains have been very valuable, and have done much to provide that kind of variety which was at one time so greatly needed. It is natural to avail oneself first of the ideas which come readily to hand, and which are of acknowledged excellence; and not till new discoveries become rare, and a pressure for original invention arises, is it likely to greatly prevail. The invention which is now exercised by the professors of the different styles is of a far more healthy kind than in years past; copyism is less encouraged; you cannot so frequently as formerly point to a whole building, or part of a building, as taken from a particular example. The architect works freely in his chosen style; he does not justify a fault by appealing to his copy; but says very fairly, "This is my design,—let me bear the praise or blame."

This may be very far from what some of the more advanced theorists upon architecture desire to see; but let them not be too impatient; forces are in operation which will allow nothing to stagnate, and will turn even the slowest of arts into a channel in keeping with the feelings of the age. We have had a comparatively quiet period for the study and revival of ancient styles; we are probably entering upon a period of activity in architectural matters for which we are scarcely prepared. It has happened that Gothic art, which has been so largely used in our new churches, has answered very admirably the demands made upon it; but it can hardly be so with all staples, when we apply them to the great variety of demands to which advanced civilization and wealth have given rise. In our own country, these demands are rapidly increasing; and at the same time new materials are being brought into use, which must increase the powers of the architect in matters of construction, and even in design also. I hope to see amongst those architects who are celebrated for skill in design a much stronger disposition to avail themselves of new materials wherever their adaptability in point of economy can be fairly proved. Not until continued efforts have been made to treat a new material artistically should the attempt be abandoned; and we should never abandon it when, by so doing, we

* From the address of Mr. Blashill, Principal of the Architectural Association, at the Spring conversazione on the 31st ult.

leave it in the hands of persons who will use it without caring anything for its artistic treatment. To me these things, under disguises, instead of taking the trouble to discover a form which becomes them, is as great a loss to art as is the attempt to supply some new want of modern times by twisting the design for an ancient building out of its proper use, instead of trying to supply the need from more original sources. I have alluded to these matters, though they are by no means novel ones, because I believe that while we are calling for more originality, we are throwing away very important opportunities for developing it, and because it is specially our business here to see that no occasion of doing a good thing shall pass; and, if it be at the same time a new thing, we profess to be better pleased. I will only say further, that such questions as these, where truth is involved, are above and beyond mere questions of style; and that any style which refuses to adapt itself to new purposes, and to use novel means, will in no long time become an antiquity, and give place to a more pliant rival.

We must, then, endeavour to promote originality, wherever a proper opportunity arises; but in doing so, I sincerely hope that nothing will be done to greatly check the strong feeling which men now have for the style in which they work. There is so little of enthusiasm in the world that it would be matter for the greatest regret to see that which exists so strongly amongst us reduced to a cold impartiality which could not be very far from indifference. Wherever work is to be done that is difficult, and not always agreeable, the man whose heart is in it is the man to do it. The study and revival of ancient styles is of a nature to produce feelings of a very strong kind: if it were not so, the art of architecture would be as dull and prosaic as any ordinary business in life: but, happily for us, we are employed in a pursuit in which we may, if we will, take a warm interest: we may feel that it is endeared to us by the labours which it has cost us, the friends who have aided us in it, the opponents against whom we have defended it. The man who has spent his best years for study either in foreign travel or in seeking out the exquisite remains that are scattered up and down his native country, can ever be truly impartial. It is for the man who has done neither of these, or the man who has done both and cares for neither, to serve out justice with one weight and one measure. But we may be sure that it is by no such judgment that the fate of parties will be settled; the profession will settle the matter amongst themselves in the ordinary course of events. That style, the followers of which practice it with the truest feeling, and are at the same time most confident in its powers to supply the wants of the age, will contribute most largely to the style of the future.

But speaking as I do without professing to be impartial, I may be allowed to suggest that it is for the interests of all parties and for the great cause which through all our differences we profess to serve, that we should seek to temper our enthusiasm with a larger information upon the beauties and advantages that we claimed for the style which we do not profess to practise. We may depend upon this, that no very large body of professional men has become attached to any style by accident; and if we were to take some trouble to find out its merits instead of seeking for defects, we should be gainers in information, in liberality of idea, and in the power of judging correctly as to matters more immediately connected with our own pursuit. We should be able to discuss matters fairly open to dispute with something like good temper and with something like sound logic: and by being compelled to inquire into the hidden principles of that beauty which seems to us so obvious, but which does not affect all in the same degree, we should be more competent to produce designs claiming to be original, and could more safely leave the beaten track for fields now unexplored, but whose treasure may be not less rich than that now lying in our hand.

THE NEW SYSTEM OF LIGHTING THEATRES IN PARIS.

On the Place du Châtelet, which is one of the bold openings cut through the mass of buildings of old Paris for the formation of the Boulevard Sebastopol, two new theatres have recently arisen, both claiming high rank in architectural design. These rival structures face each other, from opposite sides of the Place—one being the Théâtre du Châtelet, replacing the Cirque, and the other the Théâtre Lyrique. The Théâtre du Châtelet, with which we have to deal at present, exhibits by far the more effective façade, in consequence of the large open gallery or loggia which forms its principal feature. The design of the basement story, with the decorated entrances, is good, and sufficiently massive to form a characteristic support to the loggia above. This last feature is formed of open arcades, which support the upper story, both arcades and the architectural features above being richly decorated with ornamental sculpture of a very superior kind. The loggia of the ceiling, as well as the inner sides of the arcades and the back, are richly decorated with arabesque paintings; and the warmth and colour so obtained, combined with the depth of shadow beneath the arcades, produce an effect which is indisputably fine, and, in northern architecture, quite original, though but a successful piece of borrowing from an architectural device which is common enough in Italy. This open loggia, or spacious covered balcony, forms an agreeable *salle de promenade* between the acts, and we recently found it a most agreeable lounge on one of the hot October evenings of this exceptional season.

The interior of this graceful theatre is constructed after a fashion still farther from the vulgar beaten track than the exterior. There is no architectural proscenium; the tiers of boxes sweeping round in a richly undulating curve till they abut against the sculptured bordering which, from floor to ceiling, frames the front of the stage, as it would a picture. The second innovation occurs in the projecting balcony, which in most French theatres runs round the front of the principal tier of boxes, having an even depth of one, or at most two, rows of seats. In the present instance, however, the balcony feature is made to deepen in the centre, projecting far over the pit, and having, in its deepest part, 10 or 12 rows of seats. Here it is that the greatest amount of light falls, and that toilettes are seen to the greatest advantage. It is a central section of this portion of the house that is destined to be set aside for the imperial family, when visiting the Theatre du Chatelet. The decorations of the *salle* also present a general novelty of effect. There is little of that heavy sprawling class of ornament, in impertinently high relief, so common in theatrical decorations; the principal effects being obtained by contrasts of burnished and dead gold, blended together, and subdued by a soft ground of delicate buff, which is relieved, sparingly, by sparkling traces of white. Among that class of ornaments intended to convey some, more or less, appropriate meaning, there are none of those *bothering allegories*, the pith of which is so difficult to extract; the only ornamental features intended to illustrate more or less directly, the purpose of the structure being a series of medallions of the great patrons of art in all ages. These are placed on the fronts of the upper tier of boxes, and although the selection has been made in the reign of Napoleon III., former sovereigns of France, are not excluded. Francis I. and Louis XIV., are allowed to hold their ground against Napoleon I. and Napoleon III.; though these last appear to have assumed the chief places of honour, flanked as they are by Pericles and Augustus. The last and by far the most important of the novelties of structure and decoration attempted (successfully attempted) in this new theatre, is the entirely original mode of lighting the *salle*. Not a single chandelier appears, large or small; and yet the house is perfectly lighted, and the richness of the architectural effect, strange to say, seems absolutely to gain by the absence of those glittering accessories of glass and lights, which usually form such principal features in theatrical interiors. In lieu of these we are presented with a ceiling of ground glass, sparingly decorated with elegant arabesques; from above which, and unseen, are jets of gas, arranged in a concentrated mass, which pour down a flood of softened and equalized light through the semi-transparent ceiling, the intensity of which can be heightened or diminished at pleasure. It was at first suggested by some of the art-critics of the French press, that the light so introduced was not brilliant—that it produced the effect of imperfect sunlight during an eclipse; in short, that the new system was less advantageous than the old ones. Farther experience has, however, proved its triumphal success, both in an artistic and

sanitary point of view; in so much that it is now determined to light the *Theatre Lyrique* in the same manner, and a Viennese architect visiting Paris, who has seen it, has at once advised its adoption in the new theatre now building at Vienna. Not only is the glare of the chandelier, by which the view of the stage from some parts of the house was obscured, effectually removed, but the unwholesome heat and noxious fumes produced by a number of gas-lights are also got rid of, a most important improvement, which should not be lost sight of in the construction of new theatres, while it is a system that might with moderate outlay be applied to all our existing theatres. When the performance begins, the brilliant light of the salle is reduced to exactly that point calculated to give just the proper amount of due predominance to the lighting of the stage, without, at the same time, leaving too little light in the house, upon which the full power of light is again thrown between the acts, during which intervals the interest of the *toilette*, &c., is supposed to be in the ascendant.

BRO. FREDERICK LEDGER.

On Tuesday week the presentation of a candelabrum and *epergne*, with a purse of four hundred pounds, forming the testimonial which had been subscribed in compliment to Bro. Frederic Ledger, proprietor of *The Era*, took place in the Grand Hall of the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen-street. The event was celebrated by a dinner of the subscribers to the testimonial, the chair being occupied by Bro. PETER MATTHEWS, who had kindly officiated as Hon. Treas., supported by nearly one hundred gentlemen connected with the Arts, Sciences, Law, Literature, Music, and the Drama, Bro. Frederic Ledger, the guest of the evening, being on the right of the Chairman.

The testimonial arose out of a dispute between Bro. Ledger and Bro. Webster, the lessee of the Adelphi Theatre. *The Era* having made some remarks on the Anniversary fete of the Royal Dramatic College, at the Crystal Palace, which Bro. Webster considered uncalled for, and inserted in his play bills in a manner somewhat unprecedented. This led to an action by Bro. Ledger against Bro. Webster for libel, and though he obtained a verdict he gained a loss. It was in order to reimburse him this loss that the testimonial was proposed and was, as we have stated, presented on Tuesday week.

Bro. MATTHEWS having proposed the toast of the evening and presented the testimonial,

Bro. FREDERICK LEDGER said—Mr. Chairman and gentlemen,—It is a trite saying, for which you will give me very little credit, when I assure you, my kind friends, that I never felt prouder, or more gratified, with any occurrence that ever befel me, than with this noble and generous proof that I have merited your confidence and esteem through many long years. Those years are short to look back upon, but they have not passed away without much labour and attention, and many anxieties and difficulties. To conduct a public journal, representing as the *Era* does, special interests, involving the exercise of good judgment, tact, and impartiality, is no slight responsibility, and if the columns have given you satisfaction by their fair criticism and sincere desire to measure out fair justice to all, without fear or favour, I have the reward of my honest exertions. (Cheers.) The Editor's-room, gentlemen, is generally considered a sacred enclosure, almost as mysterious as that of the Delphic Oracle, and its occupant passes so shy and unseen an existence that he is scarcely believed by some to have "organs, dimensions, senses, affections, passions," like other men; he must be pardoned, therefore, if, when suddenly revealed from his hiding-place, and made "the observed of all observers," he is a little overpowered by the exposure, and found to hesitate and stumble in the delivery of public speech. To this ordeal, however, your kindness has compelled me, and the best thanks which I can

express do no justice to my feelings of pleasure and gratification. (Cheers.) I want the Art of that Profession of which the *Era* is a favoured organ, that, "without o'erstepping the modesty of nature," I might yet tell you how truly sensible I am of your appreciation of my motives, as well as your bountiful generosity. You can understand that, with the best intentions, offence must be sometimes given, when some individual chooses to fancy that he is entitled to turn a public journal to his private ends; and to keep clear of such influences, to resist the pressure from without, sometimes causes annoyance, which one would be glad to escape. But even such annoyances are well worth encountering, if they prove a signal for friends to rally round you, and give you their assurance of support and confidence. This I have this day received, a day which I shall ever remember with deepest gratitude, a day which I shall look back to, throughout my connection with the *Era*, for inspiration in its future management. (Cheers.) The manner in which some of the most honourable heads of the theatrical profession have subscribed to this testimonial cannot fail to be a source of extreme gratification to me personally, while those whose names might have been expected, and do not appear in the list, I have good reason for believing are entered under some familiar synonyme—all subscribed with the laudable motive of vindicating honest criticism, and enabling me to cover the heavy expenses entailed by a necessary lawsuit. That the amount subscribed has been sufficient, not only to liquidate all charges, but, in addition, to yield so splendid a testimonial as this, may well afford me feelings of profound exultation. For particular reasons I tender especial thanks to the forty-six ladies who have so kindly forwarded donations to the fund. Why I feel a special obligation to those ladies' proceeds from this that irrespective of all consequences and probable intimidation, they nobly thought for themselves, and ignoring the base calumnies advanced against *The Era* in respect of actresses generally, come forth with a spontaniety and determination that has so deeply excited my thanks and gratitude, that I shall never forget the memory, or the appreciation of the act. (Great cheering.) It was my good fortune in 1854 to receive an equally pleasing testimonial, when my friends and patrons of *The Era* presented me with a splendid service of plate, and now, after another probation of eight years, my old and new patrons rally round me again, to mark, by a gift of peculiar value and significance, the high opinion they still entertain for a journal that has endeavoured, honestly and fearlessly, to carry out its specialities with truth and independence. (Cheering.) If I fail adequately to convey to you my appreciation and thanks for the splendid proof of your esteem, I hope, Sir, that you and all around me, will attribute it to my want of words to impart the sentiments I feel, but am incapable to express. (Cheers.) In conclusion, gentlemen, allow me to say that the testimonial before me, while it stamps the occasion as one of the white days of my life, will be prized as a motive for still greater exertion, and, let me assure you, be ever regarded with gratitude and pleasure as one of the brightest memories of my existence. With my heart as full as this glass, or the purse which you have so generously presented to me, I drink all your good healths, and return my best thanks for all your good wishes. (Cheers.)

The Eleusinian mysteries was the term applied by the ancient Greeks to the festival and sacred rites originally celebrated only at Athens and Eleusis, in honour of the goddess Ceres. It was considered the holiest and most venerable of all the festivals of Greece. There are several traditions current as to its origin; and many of the mysteries are unknown, as they were so superstitiously observed, that any person who revealed any of the religious ceremonies was put to death.

Poetry.

IF WE KNEW.

BY RUTH BENTON.

If we knew the cares and crosses
Crowding round our neighbour's way,
If we knew the little losses,
Sorely grievous, day by day,
Would we then so often chide him
For his lack of thrift and gain—
Leaving on his heart a shadow,
Leaving on our lives a stain?

If we knew the clouds above us,
Held by gentle blessings there,
Would we turn away all trembling,
In our blind and weak despair?
Would we shrink from little shadows,
Lying on the dewy grass,
While 'tis only birds of Eden,
Just in mercy flying past?

If we knew the silent story,
Quivering through the heart of pain,
Would our womanhood dare doom them
Back to haunts of guilt again?
Life hath many a tangled crossing:
Joy hath many a break of woe;
And the cheeks, tear washed, are whitest;
This the blessed angels know.

Let us reach in our bosoms
For the key to other lives,
And with love towards erring nature
Cherish good that still survives;
So that when our disrobed spirits
Soar to realms of light again,
We may say, dear Father, judge us
As we judged our fellow men.

THE GOLDEN SUNSET.

BY LONGFELLOW.

The golden sea its mirror spreads
Beneath the golden skies,
And but a narrow strip between
Of land and shadow lies.

The cloud-like rocks, the rock-like clouds,
Dissolve in glory, float,
And midway of the radiant flood
Hangs silently the boat.

The sea is but another sky,
The sky a sea as well,
And which is earth, and which the heavens,
The eye can scarcely tell.

So when from us life's evening hour,
Soft fading, shall descend,
May glory, born of earth and heaven,
The earth and heaven blend.

Flooded with peace the spirit floats,
With silent raptures glow,
Till where earth ends and heaven begins
The soul shall scarcely know.

MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

NOTES FROM THE MINUTE BOOKS OF THE ST. PAUL'S LODGE,
BIRMINGHAM.—Continued from page 367.

1791. August 5th.—Bro. Banks, of the theatre, patronised "as usual."

September 2nd.—Resolved that the lodge was not to be put in mourning for brethren not members.

October 21st.—A man was locked up in Park-lane on suspicion of being a deserter, when, proving himself to be a Mason, he was relieved with 7s. 6d., pledging his honour, when he arrived in London, to prove himself no deserter.

December 16th.—James Cresshull elected W.M.

About this time there are repeated votes of thanks to Bro. Sketchley for his services to the lodge.

1792. January 20th.—St. Alban's and St. Paul's Lodge resolve to dine together again.

March 2nd.—Bro. Sketchley presented the lodge with a "cabin compass." The Union Cross Lodge, of Halifax, No. 65, advised the lodge of a Mason who had defrauded his brethren, &c., as well as of a man who had refused to go through the ceremony of initiation, after having been admitted into their lodge room.

April 20th.—Received an invitation from the Hanley Lodge. Notice of the assassination of [Gustavus Adolphus] King of Sweden, a brother Mason. Another notice about a "bad brother." Thomas Thompson, Esq., M.P. for Evesham, appointed Prov. G.M. The Coventry Lodge (No. 473), had advised them of this, as well as the meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge, but as the Prov. G.M. had not written, or sent, to the St. Paul's Lodge the brethren of the latter determined not to notice either circumstance.

June 27th.—Provincial Grand Lodge held at the Shakespeare Tavern. Bros. Timmins made D. Prov. G.M. and Sketchley, Prov. G. Sec. St. Paul's and St. Alban's lodges had all the honours between them, the former getting the largest share.

August 3rd.—An addition of 5s. made to initiation fee, for the benefit of the Cumberland School for girls.

November 2nd.—The number of the lodge changed to 38, as per advice from the G. Sec., who asked them to pay their dues.

December 7th.—Bro. James Millar presented the lodge with a portrait of Bro. Sketchley, and thanks were voted him for the gift, as well as to Bro. Sketchley. A frame for it, with *all* the emblems, ordered.

December 21st.—Richard Evans elected W.M. An invitation from St. Alban's, to keep St. John's Day with them, declined. The St. Paul's brethren advertised for neighbouring lodges to join their festival that day.

1793. January 4th.—A dance, on an economical plan proposed by Bro. Sketchley.

February 1st.—A question raised as to the lodge being put in mourning on account of the murder of the King of France, [Louis XVI.] Agreed to write to Bro. White, G. Sec., to know if he was a Mason?

February 15th.—The lodge drank the toast of "health and speedy recovery to Bro. S. Adkins." Brethren not attending the ballot to be liable to a fine.

October 6th.—Bro. Sketchley proposed that the liberal arts should be brought forward each night by the brethren. The Gooch's Masons.

October 18th.—The last lodge of emergency being convened by the Secretary, without summons or direction from the Master, Deputy Master, or S. Warden, the lodge resolved that such meeting was irregular and unconstitutional. It appears to have been held, to pass and raise Bro. Grant, on the 16th of October. One guinea and a half was voted to relieve a prisoner, for debt, in Warwick gaol. Bro. Sketchley refusing to record the above minutes, relating to the lodge of emergency, after having been repeatedly ordered to do so the Master dismissed him from his office.

November 1st.—The new *Book of Constitutions* ordered. One guinea was sent to the general charity in addition to the regular dues.

November 15th.—A subscription entered into to provide the Army in Flanders with warm clothing.

December 20th.—A report was made that the lodge had sent eighty-four pair of shoes to Flanders, through S. Barker, Esq., High Bailiff of Birmingham.

Bro. Evans re-elected W.M., Bro. Sketchley seconded a candidate, showing that, though removed from the secretaryship, he still attended the lodge.

1794. January 17th.—Bro. Sketchley resigned from his low finances and was made an honorary member, but to have no vote. He presided on the 21st of February and on the 2nd of May. On the latter occasion the lodge was in mourning, that evening only, on account of the death of Bro. Vale.—NOTES BY AN OLD P.M.

INDIAN NATIVE PRINCES AS MASONS.

What native Indian Princes are Masons?—F. B.—[Those of our Indian Empire it is supposed our querist means. We cannot furnish him with a list, but shall be glad to receive such names as our brethren may know.]

MASONIC PAMPHLET.

Wanted the loan of a Masonic pamphlet entitled *Documents on Sublime Freemasonry*, by Joseph McCosh, G. Sec., S.G.C., 12mo., Charlestown, 1822. Any brother having a copy of it in his possession, and being willing to oblige by the loan of it for a week or two, will confer a favour on—ORDO AB CHAO.

THE ORDER OF CINCINNATUS.

In reading a pamphlet I came upon the following:—“As Sovereign Grand Commander of the Supreme Council of Sovereign Grand Inspectors General, 33, John Mitchell, a native of Ireland, a Justice of the Peace, and a Notary public, late Lieut.-Colonel in the American Army, a member of the *Order of Cincinnati*,” &c. What is or was this Order?—ORDO AB CHAO.

ORIGIN OF THE GRAND LODGE OF FRANCE.

What is the origin of the Grand Lodge of France?—ALT.—[The first lodge in France was constituted in 1725 by the Grand Lodge of England, in the York Rite, and a Grand Lodge was formed there, and called the “English Grand Lodge of France,” which existed until 1756, when it took the title of “Grand Loge du Royaume.” The Count de Clermont was elected G.M. of the first mentioned G. Lodge when it was working under the English charter, and it declared itself independent in 1756.]

MASONIC BUTTONS.

Is there any regulation pattern for Masonic buttons?—I. V.—[No. We are inclined to think the querist has not got “all his buttons.”]

MASONIC DISHES.

What are the proper Masonic dishes to be served at a lodge banquet?—I. V.—[Can I. V. be serious? If so, a plain dinner, where love and harmony are the *chief* dishes; then will “good digestion wait on appetite, and health on both.”]

EARLY GRAND ENCAMPMENTS.

Where do any of the early Grand Encampments hold their meetings?—P. E. C.

THE EMPEROR OF RUSSIA A BROTHER.

Is there any truth in the following extract from a daily paper?—*Russia*.—The Emperor Alexander has not only recognised Freemasonry in his dominions, but has himself become a member of the Craft.—DUBIOUS.

COWANS.

The following extract from the Minutes of Mother Kilwinning of date 1703, is confirmatory of the definition of *Cowan* given by “P.T.A.”:—“The same day, by consent of the meeting, it was agreed that no masson shall employ no *Cowan*, which is to say *without the word*, to work if there be one masson to be found within 15 miles—he is not to employ ane *Cowan* under the payn of 40 schillings Scots.”—D. M. L.

PLAIN SPEAKING.

On drawing the attention of a brother who worthily fills the chair of one of our oldest Scottish lodges to the series of extracts upon ancient lodge minutes at present appearing in *THE MAGAZINE*, he rehearsed one which is well worth a place here. An abstemious official thus records in the lodge minute book his protest against the way in which its exchequer had been emptied:—“This lodge might have been worth hundreds, had it not been for the guzzling propensities of certain unworthy brethren; and I beg to denounce them as scoundrels and unworthy brethren, as witness my hand, McC.”—D. M. L.

LODGE DECORATION.

An Ayrshire lodge committee appointed in 1778 to “improve the lodge in such manner as they shall judge proper, after the model of some of the most respectable lodges in Edinburgh and Glasgow,” submit to their constituents the result of their inquiries regarding the expenses of “canopy and chair.” “A platform with three steps to the front, and two on each side, and Indian canopy with a gilded bell and gilded mouldings on each corner to the top and back to carry the canopy from the platform. The pannels of the canopy painted white, the bottom of the canopy covered with cloth that the inside may not be seen, will cost Five pounds ten shilling sterling. It would be more elegant not to cover the bottom of the canopy, but to paint the inside of it the same colour of the cloth with a gold goloss running up each corner, on the inside to the top, and a piece ornament hanging down in the middle; the outside pannels painted green, with a festoon hanging from the top in each hollow pannel, with gold moulding and gilded bells on each corner as above, will cost 8*l.* sterling. An elegant chair in the modern taste, finished in white and gold, covered with crimson damask, may be had at 4*l.* sterling.” The above estimate was procured from Messrs. Boyle and Scott of Glasgow; but the expense appears to have frightened the committee into “delay in the execution of their commission.”—D. M. L.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

PROVINCE OF BERKS AND BUCKS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE FREEMASONS MAGAZINE AND MASONIC MIRROR.

SIR AND BROTHER,—I have read with much pleasure in your valuable paper of Saturday, the 1st inst., the report of the Provincial Grand Lodge, held at Windsor, on the 28th of October.

There is, however, one part of the day's proceedings almost passed over, that I deem deserving of notice, namely, the music at the lodge, the church, and the banquet, which was the theme of general admiration, and was referred to by the R.W. Grand Master more than once during the day.

At the opening of the lodge the Anthem “Behold how good and joyful a thing it is,” was sung by Bros. Marriott, Tolley, and Whitehouse, of the Castle Lodge, and at the close of the lodge “Brothers, ere to night we part,” a most charming anthem, or rather hymn, set by one of the brethren of the Castle Lodge to a lovely piece of music, by Haydn, was sung by the same brethren, and Bro. Dyson, also of the Castle Lodge and Asst. G. Dir. of Cers.

The prayers at church were read, not intoned, and the choir consisted, not of the choir of St. George's Chapel, but of Bro. Marriott, Mr. Adams (alto), Bros. Dyson, Tolley, and Mr. Bransome (tenor), Mr. Lambert, member of the choir of St. George's Chapel, and Bro. Whitehouse, of Chapel Royal and Westminster Abbey (bass), who, without the permission of any one, most kindly gave their valuable assistance. The whole of the boys from St. George's were, by permission of the authorities, in attendance and of course added greatly to the effect of

the music. The principal parts of the anthem were sung by Bros. Marriott, Dyson and Whitehouse, and I need hardly say was most effectively given.

At the banquet a number of songs and glees were sung by Bros. Marriott, Dyson, Tolley, and Whitehouse, which were much admired, and during the evening their healths were proposed in flattering terms, and acknowledged by Bro. Dyson.

Thus much have I ventured to add to your excellent report, which I trust you will give in your next impression.

I may add that the musical brethren of the Castle Lodge, Bros. Dyson, Tolley, Marriott, and Whitehouse, have, in conjunction with P.M. Bro. Devereux, Prov. G. Sec., given much time and attention to music and Masonry, the result of which is that the whole of the ceremonies are worked with music, to the great gratification of the brethren of the lodge, and the numerous visitors who come from far and near to witness the working of this model lodge.

I enclose my card and remain fraternally yours,
A MEMBER OF 1073.

Windsor, November 6th, 1862.

PRIVATE LODGE SEALS.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Will you have the goodness to inform me and others the reason why the *Book of Constitutions* is now different to the publication in 1847, where at page 86 it was distinctly stated private lodges should have a seal to be affixed to all documents proper to be issued, the necessity of which will appear in many cases, for instance: a brother's clearance certificate from his last lodge is worthless, unless it is vouched for by having the foregoing proof. Should a Mason leave London to reside in any other part of the world, it would be the duty of any lodge not to admit him without producing his Grand Lodge certificate, as also one from the last lodge he was a member of, to prove he had left it in a legal manner.

Trusting that you will kindly insert this,

I am, Sir and brother, yours fraternally,
J. W. W.

[We suppose that Grand Lodge in its wisdom thought fit to alter the law.]

INITIATIONS AND JOININGS.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—For the last four or five years I have been accustomed to read THE FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE, but do not think I have ever read an article therein so much required by the Craft as the one in last week's number (Nov. 8th), on "Candidates for Initiation and Joining." I can thoroughly endorse (from my own close observations) all that you there set forth. I will not now take up your space by any lengthened remarks, but most earnestly recommend your readers and the Craft to examine and act upon your remarks in reference to the admission of members to the various lodges. I must confess it seems to me that the chief aim of too many Masters of lodges appears to be to try how great a number they can initiate into the Craft, "during their year of office," without anything like due regard to the character of those they admit.

Surely it is more honourable to a brother to pass out of the chair with "white gloves" than to have made one Mason (amongst even so great a number) who should afterwards bring scandal on the Order.

I have long regretted to see the various rules, according to the *Book of Constitutions*, so much disregarded as I am sorry to say they are.

I hope, however, your kindly calling the attention of brethren to other broken laws, as you have done to that named, will have the effect of recalling to them their solemn Masonic duties.

I am, dear Sir, yours faithfully and fraternally,
ONE OF THE CRAFT.

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I find at page 77 of THE MAGAZINE, certain strictures passed by Bro. Francis, upon the Grand Vice Chancellor, for placing the title of Hospitaller on the circular, along with that of Templar. I trust that before any alteration is again made, as required by the Stuart Encampment, the whole may be well discussed, considered, and placed upon a proper historical basis.

We are all aware that at the suppression of the English *langue* of the Templar Order, a small portion, who were opposed to the pretensions of the Romish Church, repaired to the monasteries of York, and in that town continued their ceremonies in secret unimpaired down to 1787. The bulk of the Order, however, joined the brethren of St. John of Jerusalem, and the possessions of the two Orders were united in the reign of Edward III., and so continued until the second and final suppression of the Order of Malta by Elizabeth, when it became Masonic, and was adopted at the re-organisation of Southern Masonry, by the Athol Masons. There can be little doubt that it is these United Orders which our Grand Conclave at present represents. Everything proves it. The clothing was chiefly black, the jewel until recently, a combination of the red and white cross of the two Orders; the ritual chiefly used was that of an Hospitaller, and in some of the encampments, including the Baldwin, this title preceded that of Templar, and a candidate was installed a Knight Hospitaller of St. John of Jerusalem and Palestine, Rhodes and Malta, and a Knight Templar. Some of these encampments of the United Orders of the Temple and St. John, became possessed of the York degrees of Rose Croix and Templar K.D.S.H., whilst one, at least, of the oldest Yorkshire Encampments, until very recently, adopted the revised ritual, confined themselves to the two latter, but conferred in addition a "Priestly Order," which is stated formerly formed a part of the K.D.S.H. Order. This was evidently the unadulterated Order of the Temple. The Duke of Sussex obtained the appointment of the Grand Prior of the two degrees from the Emperor of Russia, but afterwards accepted the office of Grand Prior of the Temple from Sir Sydney Smith. If these views are incorrect, where were the separate Orders? If incontrovertible as I believe,—were Bro. Francis' coadjutors justified in going over the Maltese Templars ritual in 1851, and striking out all that would not apply to the latter; forming a separate ritual for the former; rejecting entirely the genuine Templar ceremony, viz., the old K.D.S.H. Our Scottish brethren may well complain of the difference in ritual, though probably in lapse of time there might be little resemblance in the Maltese Templar ceremony to their own Order, and perhaps as little in the other. Unless the Supreme Council is disposed to go back to the Templar K.D.S.H. ritual, is it not folly for our Grand Conclave to reject it? I have no theory to uphold, but wish only to elicit the truth, and therefore beg a space in your pages.

I remain, dear Sir and brother, yours fraternally,
J. Y.

PAST MASTERS.

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

DEAR SIR,—In the *Book of Constitutions*, page 18, No. 1, it says, "A Past Master loses his rank if he ceases to subscribe to any lodge, for the space of twelve months, &c."

Does this law apply if a Past Master ceases to contribute to any lodge for three or four years and then joins his own, or another lodge. Your answer will greatly oblige.

Yours fraternally,
A P.M.

[Certainly. He will continue to be a P.M., but he loses the privileges of his rank until he again passes the chair, Ed.]

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

MASONIC MEMS.

A Grand Conclave of Knights Templar is convened for December 15th.

On the 26th inst. a public night of the Grand Stewards' Lodge will be held, when Bro. Warren, P.M., will deliver the second Prestonian lecture, being the first time it has been delivered during the last 12 or 15 years, and the first time out of the Lodge of Antiquity. All Master Masons and Fellow Crafts are invited to attend.

On the 28th inst. the Annual Meeting of the Emulation Lodge of Instruction is to be held, when two sections of the second lecture and the whole of the third lecture is to be worked. At the banquet which follows, the chair will be taken by Bro. Stebbing, Vice President of the Board of General Purposes.

METROPOLITAN.

TEMPLE LODGE (No. 118).—The second meeting of the season of this prosperous lodge took place on Tuesday week, the W.M., Bro. Beard, presiding. He initiated into the secrets and mysteries of the Craft Mr. Samuel May, the well-known theatrical costumier, and afterwards passed Bro. Dilly to the degree of Fellow Craft. At the banquet, Bro. May responded to the toast of his health, and some excellent singing by Bros. Perrin, Lawrence, and others, caused an agreeable evening to be spent.

PHENIX LODGE (No. 202).—The first meeting of the season of this lodge, which is now in the full flow of prosperity, was held at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Saturday last, under the presidency of Bro. Morris, the W.M., who was well supported by his officers, the P.M.'s, and other brothers. The lodge having been opened in due form, Messrs. Coppock, Paterson, Stanton, Atkinson, and Kenyon were initiated into the order, the ceremony being most impressively performed by Bro. C. R. Harrison, P.M. Bros. John Simpson and Henry Faulkner were passed to the second degree, and a letter was read from Bro. Slater regretting that he was unable to attend to take the third degree owing to illness, not being allowed by his medical attendant to leave the house. Two letters of resignation were read, and the resignations were received with regret. Two gentlemen were proposed as candidates for initiation, and all business being ended the lodge was closed. The brethren afterwards dined together and spent a very pleasant evening. The health of Her Majesty having been drunk, a special bumper was dedicated to the Prince of Wales, it being the evening before he came of age. The usual masonic toasts followed, and in reply to the health of the initiates, Bro. STANTON said he had long wished to be a Freemason, and now, through the introduction of Bro. Wilson, his wish had been gratified. He had made a good start—he had been deeply impressed with the ceremony—he liked their ways—and it should be from no want of exertion on his part if he did not become as good a mason as any of them. He would study hard to become so, so that if the time should ever arrive when he might gain the honours which others had won it might be acknowledged that he had reflected no discredit on the lodge (Cheers).—Bro. KENYON and the other initiates said they could do no better than say ditto ditto to Bro. Stanton.—Bro. MORRIS proposed the health of the W.M., Bro. Morris. He had been initiated in the lodge and regularly passed through the various offices until he had arrived at the chair. He was most kindly and genial in his manner and highly respected by the brethren.—Bro. MORRIS returned thanks and expressed his regret that he was not quite so well up in his duties as he could wish—but they had excellent Past Masters and no one could have performed the ceremony with greater solemnity and impressiveness than Bro. Harrison, to whom he felt greatly indebted for his kindness. He took great interest in the Phoenix Lodge, which he looked upon as second to none in the craft, and wished it a long continued run of prosperity.—The toast of the

Past Master's was briefly acknowledged by Bro. WEBBER, Treasurer.—The health of the visitors was responded to by Bro. WINSDALE, P.M. No. 82, who expressed the gratification which he and the other visitors felt at the admirable manner in which the ceremonies had been performed, and the urbanity and courtesy with which the visitors had been received at the banquet table. He was glad to be present at the initiation of his friend Bro. Coppock, whom he had known from a boy, and who had ever enjoyed the highest character for honour and integrity.—Bro. Geo. STATES, S.W., acknowledged the toast of the officers, assuring the W.M. that no exertions should be wanting on their part to ensure the efficient working of the lodge. The usual toast brought the proceedings to a close, the brethren first entering into a subscription for the distress in Lancashire, which amounted to 2*l.* 10*s.*, and has since been transmitted to the Lord Mayor. The proceedings were enlivened by the singing of Bros. Weeks, Distin, G. Wilson, States, and others.

INSTRUCTION.

ATHELSTAN LODGE (No. 19).—The anniversary festival of this excellent Lodge of Instruction, was held at Bro. J. W. Adams's, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, on Thursday, the 6th inst., when the banquet was served up with great taste and care, under the personal superintendance of the host, who had catered most liberally for the entertainment of his guests. The chair was occupied by Bro. Rice, the W.M. of the parent lodge, who was faced by Bro. T. A. Adams, P.G. Purst., and supported by nearly fifty brethren. On the removal of the cloth the W.M. gave "The Health of Her Majesty," and stated that he was happy to announce she had returned from her continental tour with a smiling face, and the traces of her recent grief were happily fading away. The toast having been drunk with loud applause, the W.M. gave "The Prince of Wales and the rest of the Royal Family." He regretted that he could not see any prospect of His Royal Highness following the example of many other members of the Royal Family, and becoming a Freemason; but he was sure they would not drink his health the less cordially on that account. The toast having been responded to, the W.M. gave "The Health of their Masonic Sovereign the M.W.G.M. the Earl of Zetland." He had long presided over them, and enjoyed the full confidence and respect of the brethren. The next toast given was "The R.W.D.G.M., the Earl de Grey and Ripon, and the rest of the Grand Officers, coupled with the name of Bro. Adams, P.G. Purst.," who was well known as an active and energetic member of the lodge, always able and willing to give the members the best of instruction.—Bro. T. A. ADAMS returned thanks on behalf of the Grand Officers, all of whom he was convinced were anxious to promote the interests of the Craft to the best of their ability. For himself, he could only say he had been a member of this Lodge of Instruction fifteen years, having joined it in 1847, and had always endeavoured, so far as he was able, to give instruction to the younger brethren. He was proud to be amongst them that evening, and he hoped he might be spared to meet them at such happy festivals for twenty years yet to come.—Bro. GALE, P.M., rose to propose "The health of the W.M." He (Bro. Gale) had been a member of the lodge for thirty-one years, and though they had had many very able Masters, he did not remember one more zealous or more able than the brother who then presided over them. He was highly respected both in the Parent Lodge and in the Lodge of Instruction, and he was sure they would drink his health with the utmost pleasure. (Cheers).—Bro. RICE returned thanks. Bro. Gale had given him too flattering a character (No, no), but though he felt he had not the ability to carry out all he could wish, he could assure them that none could be more zealous in the discharge of his duties, and he had no higher ambition than that of enjoying the respect and esteem of his brethren.—The W.M. next gave "The Health of the Vice-President of the evening, Bro. T. Adams," who, as he had already said was a constant attendant at the lodge, always ready to give them that instruction of which so many stood in need, and which he always gave with that kindness of manner, as to command the willing attention of every brother. (Cheers).—Bro. ADAMS having already addressed them once, could only again thank them for their kindness, and assure them that nothing afforded him greater pleasure than to instruct them in that Masonic knowledge which he had himself received mainly through Lodges of Instruction. The Athelstan Lodge of Instruction was the first he attended after his initiation, and he well recollected the favour-

able impression which the working of Bro. Honey and others then made upon him, and he was proud to see the lodge continuing to hold the high position it then enjoyed.—Bro. RICE proposed “The Health of Bro. Gale the Treasurer, and Bro. Figg the Secretary, of the lodge,” both brethren well known—they had done much to promote the interests of the Craft, and were ready at all times to give their best assistance to the carrying on the business of the lodge.—Bro. GALE returned thanks for the compliment, and assured the brethren that his duties as Treasurer were not very onerous, but such as they were they were cheerfully rendered. He had been a member of the lodge for thirty-one years, and had ever taken, and should continue to take the greatest interest in its prosperity. Bro. Figg had far more difficult duties to perform than he had, and how well he carried them out they all knew. Bro. Figg was too modest to return thanks for himself, and he (Bro. Gale) had therefore, in the name of himself and Bro. Figg, to return thanks for the kindness manifested to them on this and other occasions.—Bro. GEORGE, in a highly glowing address on the advantages of a Free Press, proposed “The Masonic Press,” expressing himself gratified at seeing present Bro. Warren, who so ably and independently conducted THE FREEMASONS’ MAGAZINE.—Bro. H. G. WARREN replied, and thanked the brethren for their kindness. During the nine years he had been connected with THE FREEMASONS’ MAGAZINE he had always endeavoured to conduct it with the strictest independence, and so as not to give offence to any one. Sometimes, however, he found himself in the position of the old man in the fable; by endeavouring to please every one, he managed to offend them all. (Laughter.) He could assure them that so long as he continued to be connected with THE MAGAZINE he should do his best to maintain its independence, and to sustain the laws of the Order in their integrity. If he saw that a brother or brethren were violating the laws under which they were governed, it was his duty to tell them of it, and that duty he should ever fearlessly fulfil. (Cheers.) He had been a member of that Lodge of Instruction for twenty-one years, and though he did not visit it quite so frequently as formerly, he was glad to see it prospering, and trusted it might long enjoy its ancient reputation.—Bro. T. A. ADAMS proposed “The Stewards of the evening,” with thanks to them for their exertions.—Bros. COTTEBERTUNE, GEORGE, and others acknowledged the toast, assuring the brethren that they found their best reward in the number of happy faces around the table that evening.—The health of the P.M.’s having been drank and responded to by Bro. COULCHER and others, Bro. GEORGE said he wished to propose a toast, to which he was sure they would all heartily respond. They had seen that evening how well Bro. J. W. Adams had entered for their enjoyment, he having solved the mystery of giving them a guinea dinner for three shillings and sixpence, and he hoped profitably to himself; but their thanks were not due to Bro. Adams only; there was another—a ruling star—to whom they were also deeply indebted, Mrs. Adams, who he knew took great interest in providing for their creature comforts, and who he was afraid might suffer for her exertions that evening, as she was only just recovering from a severe illness. He therefore gave them, “The Health of Bro. Adams, and Mrs. Adams’ renewed health.” (Cheers.) Bro. J. W. ADAMS briefly acknowledged the compliment, assuring the brethren that nothing could give him or Mrs. Adams greater pleasure than to know that they had been happy and comfortable. The toast “To our next merry meeting” brought the evening to a close, the proceedings having been much enlivened by the vocal exertions of Bros. Burton Ford (Christy Minstrels), Reere (son of the immortal John), W. Adams, Exall, Peters, Gibson, Nicholls, &c.

PROVINCIAL.

CHANNEL ISLES.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

The half-yearly meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Jersey was held on the evening of Tuesday, November 4th, at the Masonic Hall, in Museum-street, at which there was an unusually full attendance of brethren belonging to lodges in the Province. The chair was occupied by the R.W. J. J. Hammond, Prov. G.M., assisted by Bros. R. Crosse, D. Prov. G.M.; P. W. Benham, S.W.; C. Kingsnorth, acting as J.W.; John Gibaut, Treas.; J. N. Westaway, Reg.; S. Wyatt, acting as

Sec.; Dr. Kitchenér, S.D.; Captain Lamb, J.D.; T. Gallichan Supt. of Works; D. Miller, D.C.; Ph. Bichard, S.B.; Aubin, Poursuivant, the Stewards, many Past Grand Officers, several Masters of Lodges, Past Masters, Wardens, &c.

The Provincial Grand Lodge was opened in due form. The minutes of the last lodge were read and unanimously confirmed. The Prov. G.M. appointed Bro. the Rev. Launcelot Lee to the office of Chaplain, Bro. Reynolds was invested as Prov. G. Org., and Bros. T. Wade and Dr. Le Conteur as Prov. G. Stewards. The reports of the Board of General Purposes were read, and, with one trifling modification, approved.

The reports of the Local Fund of Benevolence were also read and unanimously approved, from which it appeared that the sum of £19 had been applied to the relief of distressed Freemasons. Bro. J. T. Du Jardin, P. Prov. G. Treas., drew the attention of the Provincial Grand Lodge to its claims upon some Past Officers, who had not yet paid their fees of honour, and urged the necessity for calling on them to comply with the by-laws applicable to the subject. At the suggestion of the Prov. G.M., it was unanimously agreed that the matter should be referred back to the Prov. Board of General Purposes,* for the purpose of investigation, accompanied by a request that a report thereon may be presented at the next meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge.

The Prov. G.M. read a letter from the Grand Sec., acknowledging the receipt of an address of condolence to Her Majesty on the occasion of the death of his late Royal Highness Prince Albert, stating that it should be duly forwarded to the Right Hon. the Secretary of State for the Home department. The R.W. brother also read a communication from the Right Hon. Sir George Grey, informing him that the same had been laid before Her Majesty the Queen. It was unanimously resolved that these two communications should be entered on the minutes.

The first proposition on the agenda, made by Bro. A. Schmitt, P.M. 860, was read, when Bro. Schmitt suggested and recommended, that with a view to render the sequences of the proceedings more logical, the order of some of the propositions should be reversed, since, if the sixth should be passed, those to which his name was attached would be rendered unnecessary; he, therefore, expressed his earnest desire to postpone the consideration of motions 1 and 4, the adoption of which would make a great inroad into the fund of benevolence, in favour of that of Bro. Le Conteur, No. 6. The latter he sincerely hoped would be carried, as by its provisions the Province of Jersey, would in course of time have the advantage of possessing a school for the children of Freemasons. The object of Bro. Schmitt’s proposition, the consideration of which it was determined to defer to a later period of the evening, was to divide the contributions of the members of the province to the fund of benevolence, and to make an annual grant of four guineas to each of the Masonic charities in London.

The next proposition on the agenda, emanating from Bro. J. T. Du Jardin, P.M. 860, was read, to the following effect. “That the documents relating to the suspension of Bro. J. T. Du Jardin from all his Masonic functions and privileges by the Prov. G. Master, and the subsequent restoration of that brother on the 6th March, 1861, by the unanimous vote of the United Grand Lodge of England, be inserted in the minute book of the Provincial Grand Lodge.”

The proposer, in a very dignified and impressive manner, demonstrated that right and justice being in his favour, he was justified in calling on the Provincial Grand Lodge, in vindication of its dignity and of the course he had taken, to direct that the documents concerning his suspension by the Prov. G. Master, as well as those relating to the judgment delivered by the Grand Lodge of England on the subject, should be entered on the minutes of the Provincial Grand Lodge. In reply, the R.W. Prov. G.M. maintained that as no trace or record with regard to the suspension of Bro. Du Jardin was to be found on the minutes of the Provincial Grand Lodge, this demand was unfounded and ought not to be complied with. In accordance with this opinion, he refused to put the motion to the vote. Thereupon Bro. Du Jardin protested against this decision of the Prov. G. Master, and declared his intention to enter an appeal to higher Masonic authority.

The next proposition, No. 3 on the agenda, was read, namely, “That the Deputy Prov. G. Master pay an annual fee of three pounds, three shillings,” which gave rise to an animated discussion. The proposer, Bro. J. T. Du Jardin, stated that every

* This Board is illegal.

Provincial Grand Officer, in passing through the several offices, was bound to pay his fee of honour for every new dignity conferred upon him, so that in many cases brethren must have paid several pounds; for instance, he himself had contributed more than £15; he inquired whether it was just that the Dep. Prov. G.M., the highest authority but one in the province, should be exempted from all payments during the pleasure of the Prov. G.M., perhaps during a period of twenty years, or even more; such an interpretation of the law Bro. Du Jardin considered to be erroneous, very injurious to the interests of the province, and unjust towards the other officers, who were obliged to pay their fees to the Fund of Benevolence year after year. On being put to the vote, the motion was declared to be carried, there being twelve in its favour and eleven against it; but on the suggestion of a member who stated that the votes had not been correctly counted, the Prov. G.M. put the proposition to the meeting a second time; on this occasion there were thirteen votes for and fourteen against it, so that it was declared to be lost.

Proposition No. 4, previously referred to, having been read, the Prov. G.M. expressed his gratification at being able to declare, that he hoped and expected to have a school for the children of Freemasons attached to the Masonic Temple about to be erected. He felt that this motion, if carried, would militate seriously against any educational scheme that might be entertained, inasmuch as it would tend to diminish the funds at the disposal of the Craft in this province, which might be useful, and even necessary, for the furtherance and effectual carrying out of these important objects. In reply Bro. Schmitt could not but express his satisfaction at such an announcement on the part of the Prov. G.M., and again stated his joy at the idea of the establishment of a school supported by the provincial funds being likely to be realised; he, therefore, most cheerfully withdrew the proposition.

No. 5 on the agenda, proposed by Bro. Schmitt, ran thus:—"That an annuity of £16 be voted out of the fund of Benevolence of the Province of Jersey to Bro. John Plyman. Should the motion be carried, it shall be immediately carried into effect." After a discussion, in the course of which it was stated as undesirable to establish a precedent, though all the members were animated by kind and charitable feelings towards Bro. Plyman, the motion was put to the vote, and declared to be negatived.

Proposition No. 7, brought forward by Bro. J. T. Du Jardin, as follows, was then considered:—"That the Committee for the distribution of the local Fund of Benevolence shall have the power to relieve a deserving brother twice in one year, should he claim relief." This being carried unanimously affords facilities for attaining the purpose of No. 5 in such a manner as to effect the same object, without a risk of inconvenience resulting therefrom.

The following proposition, No. 6, of Bro. E. D. Le Couteur, was passed by acclamation:—"That so soon as the funds at the disposal of the Committee of the local Fund of Benevolence shall have attained the sum of £400, a school for the education of the children of indigent Freemasons in this province shall be established."

The Treasurer's balance sheet was presented, showing a sum of £197 7s. 6d. in hand in favour of the Fund of Benevolence. The Provincial Grand Lodge was then closed in due form.

DEVONSHIRE.

DARTMOUTH.—*Hauley Lodge* (1099).—The regular lodge meeting was held on Monday last, when Bro. T. Lidstone, the W.M., raised one candidate and passed two others in a very effective style. The Wardens were at their posts, likewise Bro. S. Jarvis (Prov. G. Org., Devon), Organist. Bro. the Rev. W. Langley Pope, M.A., was elected a joining brother, and officiated as Chaplain. After the routine business of the lodge, the W.M. read a lecture of twenty minutes, on the Second Degree. Bro. Dr. Rickards, the indefatigable Treas. and Sec., and Bro. Phillimore, the esteemed J.D., rendered especial service towards the efficient order of the workings. The FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE was ordered to be taken in by the lodge. On Monday week next, the "First Section of the First Lecture" will be worked, and a brother tradesman of the town raised.

DURHAM.

HARTLEPOOL.—*St. Helen's Lodge* (No. 774).—A regular lodge was holden in the Masonic Hall on the 6th of November, 1862,

present Bros. James Groves, W.M.; H. H. Hammerbom, P.M. P. Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; Geo. Moore, P.M., P. Prov. G.J.W.; S. Armstrong, P.M., Treas.; W. S. Hodgson, P.M.; B. R. Huntley, S.W.; D. Cunningham, J.W.; J. Emra Holmes, Sec.; A. Nathan, S.D.; S. Lindhardt, J.D.; J. Sivewright, Acting I.G.; —Ingils, &c. Lodge was opened in ancient form and with solemn prayer, and the minutes having been read by the Secretary and confirmed, the W.M. proceeded to draw the attention of the lodge to the case of the widow of one of their brethren, who was in very necessitous circumstances; and a petition was subsequently prepared, and signed in open lodge, which is to be forwarded to the Board of Benevolence on her behalf. This being the annual meeting of the lodge, when the W.M. for the ensuing year is chosen, the brethren proceeded to ballot for that officer, when the result proved that Bro. Huntley, S.W., had been almost unanimously elected. Bro. Huntley may be said to have fairly "won his spurs," as he has passed successively, and with merit, through almost all the offices of the lodge. Bro. S. Armstrong was unanimously elected Treasurer and Bro. Mowbray Tyler, for the next year. Mr. Klaas Hermannus Stersema, of Groningen, master mariner, being a candidate for initiation into our ancient Order, having been balloted for and accepted, and having come properly prepared, was regularly initiated into the secrets and mysteries of the Craft. Business being concluded, the brethren retired for refreshment, when the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to with characteristic vigour, "Our Newly-elected W.M.," and "Our Newly-initiated Brother," being most cordially received.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

TWICKESBURY.—*Saint George's Lodge* (No. 1202).—At the meeting on the 6th instant, after the confirmation of the minutes of the last lodge, &c., the W.M. called before him Bros. Geo. Blizard, Samuel Wooles, Francis H. Harvey, and James Mathews, as well also, Bro. W. E. H. Ellis, of the Military Lodge (No. 235), Ireland, who was shortly about to proceed to the East, and they having passed severally a satisfactory examination, the W.M. conferred the S.D. of M.M. upon them in his usual manner. The brethren refreshed and retired. Upon the W.M.'s suggestion an address of condolence is about to be presented to the R.W. the Prov. G.M. on the bereavement he is suffering from in the death of his most worthy parent, the Right Hon. Lord Sherborne, by which the R.W. Prov. G.M. succeeds to the title and estates.

HERTFORDSHIRE.

WATFORD.—*Watford Lodge* (No. 580).—At a meeting held on Friday, November 8, at the Freemasons' Hall, in Watford, present, Bro. Captain C. M. Layton, W.M.; the V.W. Bro. Geo. Francis, P.M. and D. Prov. G.M.; Bros. H. H. Burchell Herne, C. H. Finch, D. Goodyer, H. Miles, C. F. Humbert, and T. Rogers, P.M.'s, and several other brethren, Mr. Thos. Hill was initiated into Masonry. After the disposal of the other business of the lodge, the D. Prov. G.M. rose, and referring to the loss the brethren had recently sustained in the decease of his predecessor in office, and he felt sure that there was an universal wish among the members of the lodge to place on the grave of Bro. Ward a memorial of their estimation of his worth. He therefore suggested that a committee be formed for that object. A committee of seven of the leading members of the lodge was accordingly elected. The usual banquet followed the business.

NORTHUMBERLAND.

NEWCASTLE.—*Newcastle Lodge of Instruction* (No. 24).—Thursday, the 6th of November, being the regular night of meeting, the lodge was opened by Bro. A. M. Loades, W.M., assisted by every officer of the lodge. The minutes of the last regular meeting were read and confirmed. The report of the finance committee was read and the Treasurer empowered to pay over the balance to Lodge 793, for their share in the joint furniture of the lodge, consequent on removal of that lodge. Bro. C. J. Banister, P.M., called the attention of the lodge to a letter received from the Secretary of the Royal Benevolent Institution for aged Freemasons and their widows, asking for a Steward to serve at the festival in January next, which was responded to by Bro. Swithinbank, S.D., and Bro. Banister promised to give him every assistance and information regarding the office. It was the unanimous wish of the lodge that a deputation should wait on

the Prov. G. Sec., asking him to communicate with the Prov. G.M. with respect to having a sermon preached on the day the Provincial Grand Lodge meeting, and a collection made on behalf of the distressed weavers in Lancashire. Bro. Rev. S. Atkinson, P.M., Bro. A. Gillespie, and Bro. Swithinbank, agreed to take this in hand. A candidate was proposed for initiation. Business over, the lodge was closed in solemn form. At refreshment the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured, and the brethren spent a very happy hour. Present, A.M. Loades, W.M., P.M.'s. A. Gillespie, H. Hotham, A. Clapham, C. J. Banister, H. Sanitor, 706; W. H. Scott, 614; Reed, 786; Thomas Smith, 793; R. Hopper, Brodick, Bagnall, Blake, Lambton, Taylor, Young, and others.

WARWICKSHIRE.

PRESENTATION TO LADY LEIGH.

The Freemasons of Warwickshire, on Wednesday, Nov. 5th, consummated a graceful expression of their appreciation of the manner in which Lord Leigh has for ten years past fulfilled the duties of G.M. for the Province of Warwickshire, by presenting to Lady Leigh a portrait of her noble husband, and an address expressive of their sentiments. Of the portrait, painted by Sir Watson Gordon, we have previously spoken. The address, given in its proper place below, was engrossed in a vellum folio volume, handsomely bound in purple roan, edged with gold, and bearing on the front cover an escutcheon, emblazoned with the arms of the house of Leigh. It is signed by the brethren of the eighteen Warwickshire lodges, and the title of each lodge, occupying a separate page, is beautifully illuminated in the mediæval style, each illumination being characterised by an interweaving of Warwickshire flowers and plants. The members of the lodges of the province signed in the following order:—Bros. C. W. Elkington, D. Prov. G.M. (Chairman of the presentation committee); E. A. Lingard, P.D.J.G.W., (Treas.); Dr. Bell Fletcher, P.D. Prov. G.M.; W. Briggs, P.G.J.W., and C. Ratcliff, (Secs.); and the officers and members, being subscribers of the following lodges:—St. Paul's, Birmingham, 51; The Athol, 88; The Trinity, Coventry, 316; The Shakespeare, Warwick, 356; The Apollo Lodge, Alcester, 378; The Guy's Lodge, Leamington, 556; The Abbey Lodge, Nuneaton, 625; Lodge of Light, Birmingham, 689; Faithful, Birmingham, 696; Lodge of Rectitude, Rugby, 739; The Unity Lodge, Warwick, 828; The Howe Lodge, Birmingham, 857; The Stoneleigh Lodge, Kenilworth, 1027; The Temperance Lodge, Birmingham, 1041; Bard of Avon Lodge, Stratford, 1080; The Warden Lodge, Sutton Colefield, 1096; The Leigh Lodge of Rifle Volunteers, Birmingham, 1189; The Bedford Lodge, Birmingham, 1227; St. Paul's Chapter, Birmingham, 51; The Howe R.A. Chapter, Birmingham, 857. The total number of signatures was between four and five hundred. We may state that the book was got up by Bro. B. Hall, A. W. Woods (*Lancaster Herald*) supplying the coat of arms, &c.

Wednesday being fixed by Lord Leigh for the presentation, a deputation consisting of representatives of each of the lodges proceeded to Stoneleigh to make it. The brethren connected with the Birmingham lodges left the New-street station by the 12.15 p.m. train, and were joined at Coventry by the brethren at that city, and at Stoneleigh they were met by brethren from Warwick, Leamington, and other surrounding towns. Altogether between eighty and a hundred of the Masonic fraternity were introduced to Lord Leigh, in the large hall at Stoneleigh. Amongst those present were Bros. C. W. Elkington, D. Prov. G.M.; Dr. Bell Fletcher, P.D. Prov. G.M.; E. Lingard, Prov. J.G.W.; W. B. Briggs, Prov. J.G.W.; C. Ratcliff, Rev. W. K. R. Bedford, Grand Chaplain of England; J. Collins, Dawes, Sir J. Ratcliff, Turner, Hutton, B. W. Goode, J. Goode, Greenway, Weiss, J. C. Cohen, J. B. Hebbert, Rev. Kittoe, Mole, Beaumont, F. Dee, G. Jones, Thompson, Chandler, Beresford, Best, Munggeridge, Randall, Roberts, Rev. J. Ray, Foster, L. Cohen, Johnson, Pursall, Vaughan, Dr. Warden, Machin, Rev. Dickens, Rev. Kittoe, Rev. Widdrington, Isaacs, Bliss, Overell, Read, T. Clark, Overbury, Wymer, Captain Meacham, Flynn, Dr. Fayer, Redfern, Tyler, Jason, Hobbs, Durckinson, &c. After being introduced to his lordship the company were conducted through the Stoneleigh Library and Museum, and then entertained at a cold collation, provided in one of the corridors. At three o'clock they were conducted to the grand reception room, where they were received by Lady Leigh, who was accompanied by the Hon. Miss Leigh. The presentation was then made.

officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge, the masters and other brethren from the various lodges. By your permission, we are here to-day to perform a most agreeable and pleasant duty; to show our esteem and affection to your noble husband. It is ten years since that estimable nobleman and Mason, Lord Howe, retired from the office of Provincial Grand Master, and on that occasion he wrote a letter, an extract of which I shall venture to read. In giving up the office, he said:—"The regret I feel in taking this step is greatly reduced from the circumstance of having provided a successor in the person of Lord Leigh, who has accepted the appointment, and who will, I have no doubt, fulfil the various duties of the office with dignity and honour to the Craft." We little thought at that time that he would prove so true prophet, but I need scarcely say that Lord Leigh has carried out that prophecy to the fullest extent, and has ruled over us "with dignity and honour to the Craft." (Hear.) He has carried out in his every day life the three great principles of our Order—brotherly love, relief and truth. We have had many and frequent opportunities of meeting Lord Leigh, in lodge and out of lodge; we have always seen the same urbanity of manners, the same kindness of heart, the same nobleness of disposition, the same courtesy to every Mason. He has, in fact, ruled over us with a brother's love. (Hear, hear.) With respect to relief, I need only mention amongst many, two circumstances, one connected and the other unconnected with Freemasonry. The great and highly successful effort made by Lord Leigh, assisted by ladies and gentlemen of this county, and by your ladyship in particular, to raise a fund for the relief of the distressed weavers of Coventry and its neighbourhood will soon be a living testimonial of what Lord Leigh, as Lord-Lieutenant of Warwickshire, did for his country. (Applause.) With respect to Freemasonry, I have only to mention that for three consecutive years Lord Leigh consented to preside at the festivals for our Masonic charities. The brethren, led on by their Prov. G.M., were glad to avail themselves of the privilege to subscribe to these noble institutions. Nearly £1500 was raised in aid of the aged Masons, the widows, the children, and orphans of our brother Masons. (Applause.) But, Lady Leigh, the brethren were not content with showing their attachment and appreciation of these charities, but they also wished to testify their attachment to their Prov. G.M., and during the three years 150 of the brethren travelled to London to support Lord Leigh in the chair. (Hear, hear.) They fully appreciated the high position in which Lord Leigh had placed them in the history of Freemasonry. (Applause.) It was in connection with this last, and, to us, most gratifying, circumstance, we wished to have a memento of our success in aiding our Masonic charities, and to testify our esteem to our Prov. G.M. Bro. Edward Lingard suggested that we should ask Lord Leigh to permit us to have his portrait painted, and that portrait presented to Lady Leigh. We felt that no place was so fitting for such a record to be placed in as within the walls of this beautiful abbey. (Applause.) We felt that Lord Leigh would more appreciate any testimonial, and attach a higher value to it, if your ladyship were closely associated with it. We also felt that you would value such a testimonial more than any other object—in fact, that you would value, next to the original itself, a life-like portrait of your noble husband. (Applause.) With that portrait we have to present an address, which, with your ladyship's permission, I will now read:—

"To the Right Hon. Lady Leigh.

"Madam,—The Freemasons of Warwickshire, with the strongest feelings of gratification derived from the interest which your Ladyship has been pleased to show in the progress of Masonry in the Province, an interest not evidenced by words alone, but by many and various substantial acts of kindness and encouragement to the Craft, request your Ladyship's acceptance of a portrait of Lord Leigh, from the pencil of Sir John Watson Gordon, and beg that you will regard it as a testimony of the high esteem in which they hold your noble husband, their Prov. G.M. During the exemplary rule of the present illustrious head of the Craft in this province, the advance of the principles of the Order has been signalled, not merely by the formation or consecration of six new lodges, and the great increase of candidates of high social position and moral worth, but chiefly by the unparalleled contributions of nearly £1500, raised in Warwickshire in three consecutive years for the three great Masonic charities, each year under the presidency of Lord Leigh. By such kind and zealous course of action our Prov. G.M. gives the best evidence of his devotion to those high principles on which Freemasonry is founded, and warrants us in

Bro. CHAREES W. ELKINGTON said: Lady Leigh, I have the pleasure to introduce to you a deputation from the Freemasons of Warwickshire, consisting of the present and past the request that our record of esteem for our leader in the path of brotherly love, relief, and truth, should be crowned by the favour of your Ladyship's acceptance. That the God of Mercy and Truth may ever bless you and yours, that the prayers of the widow and the orphan may be heard on your behalf, and that the portrait now presented may descend to a long line of posterity, heirs to those virtues which so eminently distinguish the present owner of the illustrious name of Leigh, is the fervent and sincere prayer of the Freemasons of Warwickshire. (Applause.) I have now the pleasure, in the name of the Freemasons of Warwickshire, to ask your Ladyship's acceptance of that portrait. I know I need not assure you that the task which now devolves upon me as D. Prov. G.M. is one I highly honour, it is the most gratifying task in my long career of Freemasonry, that in the name of such a body of Masons I have to ask your Ladyship's acceptance of this portrait. Each word in that address is fully reciprocated by every brother who is here to-day, and not only so, but by every brother in the province of Warwickshire. Our prayer is that you may long live to possess the original of the portrait, and may have the opportunity of comparing the portrait with the original, and the original with the portrait, for many many years to come." (Applause.)

Bro. ELKINGTON then formally made the presentation.

Lord LEIGH said, in reply: Deputy Provincial Grand Master and brethren, I am desired by Lady Leigh to read you the following observations which she wishes to make, and having done so, I desire to say one word my own self. His Lordship then read the following reply:—

"Gentlemen,—It is impossible for me to express to you as fully as I could wish, my sense of the kindness which has prompted you to offer me a valuable present, or for the kindly appreciation of my feelings which suggested to you that a portrait of Lord Leigh would be the most acceptable form in which such a gift could be presented. You are pleased to refer in terms of personal congratulation to the collections made among your body under Lord Leigh's presidency for the various excellent Masonic Charities in the country, but I cannot allow your observations to pass without telling you how fully I am aware that it is to the liberality of yourselves, and to the generous cordiality with which you seconded the wishes of your Grand Master, that I shall have the gratification of connecting this portrait with a circumstance so honourable to your province. Gentlemen, I accept this beautiful portrait from you with cordial thanks, and you may believe me when I say that it will have a triple value in my eyes, not only as an excellent work of art, and as an admirable likeness of my husband, but as a memorial of the esteem in which you hold Lord Leigh, and of your generous feelings towards myself; and I am sure that it will be scarcely less valued by my children, and by their children after them, not only on the former ground, but as a proof of the kindly feeling subsisting between the Freemasons of Warwickshire and the former head of their house."

Having read her ladyship's reply, Lord Leigh continued:—And now, brethren, allow me on my own behalf to express the overwhelming gratitude I feel, not only for your kindness to myself, but for your kindness to one who is dearer to me than anything in this world. (Hear, hear.) I appreciate your kindness more than I can say, and the delicate manner in which you have expressed it, by making your presentation to one, so dear to myself, adds one more to the many acts of kindness that I have received at your hands. Brother Elkington, you have alluded to the support I have given to the Masonic charity, and I can only say that if it had not been for the noble support of yourself and the brethren of the province, the large contributions of which you have spoken would never have been realised. It is to you, brethren, that I owe a deep debt of gratitude for the for the noble aid you have given me. Ever since I have been connected with you—which is during the last ten years of my life—my connection with you has been a source of great gratification to myself, and I can only hope that that connection which has so long subsisted between us may continue to subsist for many years to come. (Applause.) I am not, brethren, able to express half that I wish to express, but I am sure you know me well enough to know that I do feel most deeply the kindness you have shown me and my family this day. Brethren, I thank you from the bottom of my heart. (Applause.)

Bro. Dr. BELL FLETCHER, P.D.G.M., then, on behalf of his

brethren, asked Lady Leigh's permission to have the portrait engraved, and, on behalf of Sir John Watson Gordon, to have it exhibited in the National Gallery; both of which requests were granted.

The proceedings then closed, and the members of the Birmingham lodges returned home by the train which reaches Birmingham at 6.15 p.m.

YORKSHIRE (WEST).

LEEDS.—INAUGURATION OF THE NEW MASONIC HALL.

It is with great pleasure we inform the Craft that the brethren in West Yorkshire are gradually removing their lodges from hotels into private rooms. The three Leeds lodges are now located in rooms of their own. The inauguration of those belonging to the Alfred Lodge (No. 384), took place last week, which the brethren resolved to celebrate with a Masonic banquet, and an entertainment to the ladies, styled "An Evening at the Lodge."

A short time ago a committee was appointed to secure eligible premises, which they succeeded in doing, in a convenient situation in Albion-street, opposite the Stock Exchange. After having obtained a lease of them for seven years, a subscription was entered into by the brethren for raising a fund for the purpose of making the necessary alterations; the appeal was most liberally responded to, and Bro. E. W. Shaw, having prepared plans for a lodge room, in the Gothic style, the work was commenced and pushed forward with energy and completed, to such an extent, that the lodge was formally opened on November 4th, by and in the presence of the following officers and brethren, viz., Bro. S. Freeman, W.M.; Frederick Blackburn, S.W.; S. Faviell, J.W.; Rhodes Dawson, P.M. as S.D.; J. Steal, J.D.; R. Harrison, P.M. as Sec.; J. Whitham, I.G.; Rev. Dr. Senior, P. G. Chaplain of England, and P. Prov. S.G.W., West Yorkshire; Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, M.A., P. Prov. S.G.W. of West Yorkshire, and P. Prov. G. Chaplain of Durham; L. Hicks, P. Prov. G.J.W.; Thomas England, P. Prov. G. Reg.; W. Dixon, Prov. G. Treas.; B. C. Bennett, P. Prov. G. Puist.; J. Hargraves, P. Prov. G. Sec.; and a numerous assemblage of brethren.

After the lodge had been opened in the first degree, the W.M. called upon Bro. E. W. Shaw, to present the various offerings made to the lodge, which he accordingly did with a few appropriate words.

The offerings consist of a first-class harmonium for the lodge, and a semi-grand pianoforte by Collard and Collard, for the refectory, presented by various members of the lodge. An embroidered crimson velvet covering for the Master's pedestal. The border consists of quatrefoils, surmounted with equilateral triangles, the pentalpha and the double equilateral triangle in circles, finished with fleur de lis. This offering was made by Mrs. Whitham, of Burley, the wife of the Inner Guard. Embroidered velvet coverings for the altar pedestal, consisting of a crimson one, underneath which is a purple one, covering another of a pale blue colour, edged with lace, which contrasts remarkably well with the colouring of the pedestal beneath. This elegant present was worked and offered by Miss Blackburne, the sister of the Senior Warden. A circular faldstool of Craft blue, with a crimson and purple vandyked; in the centre an equilateral triangle in gold coloured silk, the bottom and side covered with Craft coloured velvet. This sumptuous cushion was presented by Mrs. Southwell, the wife of Bro. Southwell, a respected member of the lodge. A square cushion of Craft blue wool work, with a circle of crimson and purple, vandyked, in the centre is a beautiful pentalpha worked in gold coloured silk, in the spandrils are suitable ornaments in purple. This chaste cushion was worked by a young lady (Miss Freeman), the eldest daughter of the respected W.M.

An elegant pair of blue slippers with the pentalpha on the front, and edged with crimson velvet, worked and presented by Mrs. Southwell.

The W.M. accepted the various gifts with pleasure, and proposed that the thanks of the lodge be sent to the respective donors.

The arrival of the R.W.D. Prov. G.M. Dr. Fearnley at the portals of the lodge, having been announced, the Prov. G. Officers left to receive him. A procession was formed, and when the Prov. G.M. entered the lodge, the brethren received him with acclamation.

Bro. Clarke, having proved his efficiency as a F. C. was duly raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason, in a most impressive manner. He was received by the W.M. who gave the O.B.

Bro. Harrison, P.M., gave a portion of the traditional history; after which Bro. Clarke retired, and on his return to the lodge Bro. Hargreaves, P.M., resumed the traditional history; the working tools were given by Bro. Faviell, J.W. Bro. Clarke having returned thanks, the lodge was lowered to the second, and subsequently to the first degree.

The D. Prov. G.M., having left the dais, proceeded round the lodge with Bro. Shaw, and made a minute inspection of the furniture, armorial bearings, decorations, &c.

The W.M. then thanked Dr. Fearnley for his attendance, and called upon the brethren to salute him with the royal sign, and directed Bro. Shaw to lead the same, which was accordingly done.

The D. Prov. G. M. rose and thanked the brethren for their hearty reception, and congratulated them on having possession of such a splendid and well-appointed lodge room, and expressed the pleasure he felt in being with them on such an auspicious occasion. He also warmly complimented Bro. E. W. Shaw on the skill and taste which he had shown in designing the lodge, &c.

Bro. Dr. SENIOR, then read a suitable portion of the Sacred Volume, after which the lodge was closed in peace and harmony at 6.28 p.m.

The brethren next adjourned to the refectory, where a most sumptuous banquet was provided by the stewards (Bro. L. Hicks, P.M., and Bro. B. C. Bennett, P.M.), to whom too much credit cannot be given, the wines and viands being of a most recherché character. Covers were laid for fifty brethren.

The W.M., Bro. Freeman, presided, supported on his right by the R.W. the D. Prov. G.M., Dr. Fearnley, Dr. Senior, Bro. W. Dixon, &c.; and on his left by the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, Bro. Thomas England, and other eminent members of the Craft.

After justice had been rendered to the banquet, the W.M. proposed the health of Her Majesty the Queen, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, the Army, Navy, and Volunteers, the heads of the Craft in England, including the Prov. G.M. the Right Hon. the Earl de Grey and Ripon, and his Deputy Dr. Fearnley, who suitably acknowledged the same, and complimented the W.M. on the position to which the lodge had now attained under his presidency.

Various other Masonic toasts were given and duly responded to by the W.M. Dr. Senior and the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, who made an eloquent speech in defence of the landmarks of the Order.

The brethren separated after having spent an agreeable and convivial evening.

Bro. Roberts presided at the pianoforte.

On the evening of November 5th, the brethren gave an entertainment entitled "An Evening at the Lodge," to the members of the three Leeds lodges, their wives, daughters, and lady-friends. The invitations were given for 8 p.m., when shortly afterwards upwards of 120 guests had assembled, who on entering were ushered into a room, where tea, coffee, ices, &c., were provided. As each lady and gentleman retired they were conducted upstairs to the lodge room, at the door of which they were received by Bro. Harrison, P.M., who duly presented them to the W.M. Bro. Freeman, who had on his right Mrs. Charles Lee, the relic of the late much esteemed and respected D. Prov. G.M., and Mrs. Hicks; on his left, his wife and daughter.

The reception was conducted in a courtly and dignified manner, and drew forth many marks of commendation from the ladies, who also expressed their delight with the beautiful scene presented to their eyes—the colours and insignia of the Craft, Provincial and Royal Arch Masons, together with those of the Knights Templars, giving to the whole a very gay and animated appearance.

The W.M. after having explained to the ladies that there was nothing in Masonry, but what tended to elevate the mind and character of its members, and that in the midst of their work, the volume of the sacred law was always unfolded, gave a hearty welcome to the visitors.

A short voluntary was then performed on the harmonium. By this time, half past nine, the whole of the company had assembled, when the W.M. proceeded to the room, prepared for the occasion, and opened the ball, with Mrs. Charles Lee, to the enlivening strains of Spencer's Quadrille Band.

The entrance hall, ball and other rooms, were tastefully decorated with mirrors, banners, and festoons of evergreens. The whole of the arrangements reflected the highest credit upon Bro. Faviell, who well merited the encomiums passed upon him.

The banquet and ball passed off with great *éclat*, and will be long remembered with pleasure by those who were present.

SCOTLAND.

GRAND LODGE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

A Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge was held in the Freemasons' Hall, on Monday, the 3rd inst. The lodge being opened, several proxy Commissions were sustained, and presents received from the Grand Lodges of England, Canada, the Netherlands, and New York. The nomination of Office-bearers and Grand Stewards for 1862-3 was proceeded with, his Grace the Duke of Athole being again named as G.M. Among other business transacted at this meeting, his Majesty Bro. the King of Denmark was named as an Honorary Member of the Grand Lodge of Scotland; and a charter was granted for a lodge at Goring, Lambing Flat, New South Wales. Certain alterations were made in the Laws of Grand Lodge, which it is thought will prove beneficial to the Craft. Notwithstanding that Truth is one of the cardinal principles of Freemasonry, too many of the returns presented to Grand Lodge exhibit in their composition a sad want of that necessary element. This remark applies principally, nay, almost exclusively, to the "Annual Return of Intrans," which the office-bearers of every lodge under the Scottish Institution are bound to send up to headquarters. The non-recording of intrans, besides defrauding Grand Lodge of its rightful dues, and rendering impossible the production of reliable statistics of the Order's progress in any given year, inflicts a yet deeper and more permanent injury upon the brethren whose names have been withheld from the records of the Supreme Head of the Order in the country in which they may have received Masonic birth. Masonic baptism, so to speak, has thus been denied him. Frequent instances have come under our notice of the disadvantages to brethren who have emigrated to foreign lands, arising from this, to say the least of it, most unbusinesslike mode of conducting the affairs of many lodges in the Mother country. In some cases the evil can to a certain extent be remedied, but in the great majority of them it is quite beyond the power of lodge officials to afford the slightest aid to the injured brother, who must either suffer involuntary and unmerited suspension from Masonic privileges, or knock anew at the portal of the outer court of the temple for admission into the sanctum sanctorum of a Master Mason. The merest tyro in Masonry knows that a Grand Lodge Diploma is the passport into the bosom of any lodge in which the holder of it may not personally be known, and that no diploma can be obtained unless the applicant for the same has been duly recorded in the books of the Grand Lodge. Yet scores, we believe, of our Scottish-made Masons are, through the gross carelessness of those who ought to have known better, permitted to leave their native shores with no authoritative documentary evidence of their initiation by which they can obtain recognition as a regularly entered member of the Order. With a view to guard against the perpetuation of such manifest injury towards brethren, and at the same time to preserve its pecuniary interests, the Grand Lodge of Scotland at its meeting on Monday unanimously passed the following statute:—

"It being of the utmost consequence for the prosperity and welfare of Masonry in this country that all Freemasons should be registered on the Roll of the Grand Lodge, and become thereby entitled to all the privileges connected with the Craft, this Grand Lodge resolves—

"1. That it shall be *imperative* on all the Daughter Lodges holding of this Grand Lodge to register in the books of the Grand Lodge, in terms of the Grand Lodge Laws, chapter 22, sections 1, 2, and 3, the name of every brother who has passed the First Degree of St. John's Masonry.

"2. It shall also henceforth be imperative upon all lodges holding of this Grand Lodge to present every brother who has passed the Master Mason's Degree with a Grand Lodge Diploma, which diploma shall be the certificate of his having been properly made a Master Mason.

"3. That the method hitherto in use of assessing fees for Registration and Diplomas separately shall henceforth be abolished, and in lieu thereof one fee to the amount of eight shillings shall be exigible, the payment of which shall entitle the intrans to registration in the Grand Lodge Book, as also his diploma from the Grand Lodge when he shall have become a Master Mason.

"4. That the returns of initiations in each lodge shall be made to the Grand Secretary on the 31st December of each year, with the payment of the fees due to that date.

"5. That, in the case of lodges who have not made their returns up to the 15th January following, it shall be the duty of the Grand Secretary to correspond with the said lodges on the subject; and if, at the 31st day of the said month, the returns have not been forthcoming, it shall be in the power of the Grand Committee to *suspend* the said lodges, unless a reason satisfactory to the Committee is produced for non-compliance with the Grand Lodge Laws."

It was also at the same time resolved that a pocket edition of Grand Lodge Laws be forthwith printed and issued at the price of Sixpence or Eightpence per copy. [This is a wise enactment, and will enable brethren to become acquainted with the laws they are taken bound to observe. From the high price at which the books of the laws has hitherto been published, it could not be otherwis than that much ignorance should exist in regard to what all ought to have been well versed in.]

MAYBOLE.—*Lodge Royal Arch* (No. 198).—The brethren of this lodge have shown their attachment to Bro. John Henry by entertaining him at supper and presenting him with a handsome apron and a Grand Lodge Diploma, previous to his departure for Queensland. Bro. West, the efficient Secretary of the Arch, made the presentation; and in addressing Bro. Henry remarked that the brethren of No. 198 wished him and his family a prosperous voyage, and good luck at the end of it. They commended the noble spirit that actuated those hardy pioneers of civilization who, like Bro. Henry, went forth to new colonies ostensibly to better their condition, but at the same time enlarging the boundaries of the glorious empire of our Queen on which the sun never sets. "The brethren had put into his hands this beautiful apron and grand lodge diploma to present to you; while they regret that they will no more hear your cheery footsteps on the chequered floor, nor see your merry face among them, yet they earnestly hope that you will be long enabled to wear this badge, and that this diploma will be your passport into the society of masons good and true." Bro. HENRY, in replying, said he would endeavour to sustain the character of a mason, and while he was sorry to leave so many brethren, yet he hoped that by their kind recommendation he would meet with true friends on the other side of the globe.

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

NORTHUMBERLAND.

NEWCASTLE.—Friday, Nov. 7th, being its regular meeting night, the Conclave was opened in due and solemn form in Freemasons' Hall, Newgate-street, by the E.C. Sir Knight, C. J. Banister, P. First Grand A.D.C. of England, assisted by the officers of the encampment. The minutes of the last regular meeting were read and confirmed. Comp. Yanson, being in attendance, was properly proposed and presented by P.E.C. Sir Knight A. Gillespie, P. First Grand Herald of England, to the E.C., who installed him in his usual earnest and impressive manner. The newly-made Knight was proclaimed by the Heralds, and took his seat in this ancient Conclave. The regular business of the Conclave over, it was closed in due and solemn form. There was a good attendance of Sir Knights at refreshment, presided over by the E.C. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and duly responded to, and the Sir Knights departed after spending a truly social hour. Sir Knight John Barker was prevented being present from indisposition.

SCOTLAND.

THE PRIORY OF AYR.—Sir Knight D. Murray Lyon having summoned the Sir Knights of his encampment to meet in the Tam o' Shanter Hall, on Thursday night for the reception of aspirants to the Order of the Temple, a large number of the members of No. 4 appeared in their stalls at the prescribed hour. The encampment having been opened, and the ballot declared clear, two well recommended pilgrims (Comps. George Good and John Park, of Ayr Kilwinning Chapter No. 80), were conducted through the outworks to the hospitable gates of the priory, nor had they long to wait until their wants were administered to by the Wardens in attendance. Having been refreshed, the pilgrims took their departure from the refectory, and by petition craved to be enrolled under the banners of the Temple. The "threefold pilgrimage" performed, and the pilgrims having in course of the same given ample proof of their courage, were

raised to the rank of esquire, and ultimately had the honour of being dubbed Knights of the Temple. On the conclusion of the ceremony, and the newly dubbed Sir Knights having received congratulations of the members of the priory, Sir Knight James Jones made a feeling reference to the death of Sir Knight John Lauchlan (Souter Johnny's son), and moved that a minute expressive of regret at his removal be entered on the books of the priory. Sir Knight McLauchlan was the oldest K.T. in the encampment, and was ever devoted to its interests, and in his death the Priory of Ayr had sustained a great loss. The Sir Knights having severally extolled the virtues of their recently-deceased frater, the motion was unanimously agreed to. The encampment was then closed. The following are the Office-bearers of the Ayr Priory No. 4, for the years 1862-3:—D. Murray Lyon, Prior; Andrew Glass, Sub-Prior; Major C. E. Thornton, 30°, Past Prior; William Livingston, Marshal; Robert Laurie, Hospitaller; John Boyd, Chancellor; David C. Wallace, Treasurer; Donald McDonald, Secretary; John Mc C. Williamson, Instructor; James Jones, Beaucenniffer; David Brown, Bearer of Vex. Bel.; William Young, Chamberlain; Robert Limond, Sentinel. The Prior has appointed as his aides-de-camp, Sir Knights George Good and John Park.

MARK MASONRY.

METROPOLITAN.

WOOLWICH.—*Florence Nightingale Lodge* (No. 10).—A meeting of the above lodge took place at the Masonic Hall, William-street, Woolwich, on Tuesday, the 11th inst., the R.W. Dr. Hinxman, presiding. Owing to a misconception and countermanded summons there were but few members present, but as in all that is done at Woolwich, the brethren unanimously elected Bro. Colonel Clerk to be their R.W.M. for the ensuing year. It was deemed advisable, under the circumstances, not to transact any other business, and those present adjourned to Bro. De Grey's, the Freemasons' Tavern, to dinner, where the evening passed off with all that cordiality, kindness, friendship, and agreeable chit-chat which is the characteristic of these Woolwich gatherings. It is expected that the Installation Meeting will be a large one.

Obituary.

BRO. THOMAS TOMBLESON.

This worthy and respected brother departed this life at his residence, Park-row, Chelsea, on the 4th inst., aged 83, being nearly, if not the last, of the gallant band of heroes who fought on board the *Pictory*, with Lord Nelson at the battle of Trafalgar. Bro. Tombleson was initiated at the age of 43, in the Robert Burns Lodge (No. 25), on the 2nd March, 1829, and continued a member until his death, having long been the father of the lodge. Bro. Tombleson took an active part in the business of the Order, and was a member of the Board of General Purposes in 1846-8. He was exalted in the Chapter of Prudence (No. 12), on the 22nd April, 1834, and having passed the respective chairs became the First Principal of the Robert Burns Chapter (No. 25), on its establishment in 1843. He was appointed Grand Standard-bearer in 1849, and was for several years a member of the Grand Chapter Committee in 1845, and again from 1849 to 1857. Bro. Tombleson had served the Stewardship of all the Masonic charities, becoming a life governor of each, and an active member for many years of their respective committees. The last few years of Bro. Tombleson's life, was spent in ease in the enjoyment of an honourably earned independence by his exertions as a builder after quitting the navy. Bro. Tomlinson though having something of the brusqueness of the sailor in his manner, was genial and kindly in the various relations of life—full of anecdote, an excellent working Mason, a sincere friend, and his memory will long live in the recollection of those who had the honour of his acquaintance.

BRO. THOMAS ABEL WARD.

On the 7th of October, at his residence, in Watford, Herts, universally regretted, in his 69th year, the V.W. Bro. Thomas Abel Ward, P. Dep. Prov. G.M. of Hertfordshire. Our departed brother was initiated in the year 1819, in the Union Lodge, at Norwich, and on removing to Hertfordshire founded the Watford Lodge (No. 580), in 1829, being its first Master,

He also founded the Royal Arch chapter in connection with the lodge, and in the year 1840 had committed to him a warrant from H.R.H. the Duke of Sussex, for the encampment of Knights Templar, now designated, in compliment to the M.E. Supreme Grand Master, the Stuart Encampment. Bro. Ward's active services in the cause of Masonry were well known in the province, and on many occasions the Prov. G.M., Bro. Stuart, bore testimony of the high esteem in which he held his father in Masonry. Bro. Ward for some years exercised the office of Grand Secretary of the province, and was afterwards the Deputy of Bro. Stuart, which office failing health compelled him to resign in 1861. The esteem in which Bro. Ward was held by the brethren of the Watford Lodge, has been manifested in a very life-like portrait, painted by Bro. Philip Westcott, which now ornaments their noble hall.

PRINCESS'S THEATRE.

To all who are wise enough to relish a hearty laugh, Mr. Lindus, the lessee of this theatre, has rendered an important service by the production of a very irrational, but at the same time a very amusing, comedietta ingeniously adapted from the French by Mr. Maddison Morton, and bearing the good natured title of "One Good Turn Deserves Another." It were a profitless task to collect the *disjecta membra* of this ludicrous little piece with a view to frame out of them a symmetrical and consecutive narrative. It were only to worry and distract the reader to concoct for his perusal a serious and logical description of a plot which appears to have been constructed in heroic defiance of all the laws of probability. Touch it with the aquafortis of common sense, and such a play as this is reduced to ashes; but take it in the jovial spirit in which it is offered, and it may do you good. It belongs to that happy-go-lucky class of productions which, illumed with random flashes of wit and humour, and abounding in comic incidents, that have little or no relation one to the other, exact no effort of thought from the spectator, and can therefore be best relished by people of that enviable temperament who, without inquiring too nicely into the reasonableness of their mirth, are good-humouredly content to "take the goods the gods provide," and be thankful. "I would go fifty miles on foot, for I have not a horse worth riding on," observes Laurence Sterne, "to kiss the hand of that man whose generous heart will give up the reins of his imagination into his author's hands, and be pleased he knows not why, and cares not wherefore." Persons thus happily constituted will find abundant matter of merriment in Mr. Morton's little play, in which a number of comic characters, droll scenes, and preposterous incidents are all jumbled together in a wild farrago of fun, such as the author of "Box and Cox" has the peculiar faculty for producing. Of the general *vraisemblance* of the story some idea may be formed when it is stated that the most important personage of the scene is a journeyman blacksmith, who proves in the result to be no son of Vulcan after all, but a dashing young guardsman, who is known at the West-end clubs as Captain Fitz-Fritterly. This delectable individual finds a most efficient representative in the person of Mr. George Vining, who plays the part admirably. Another character of more mark than "likelihood" is Mrs. Trooper, a blacksmith's wife, to whose abundant drolleries Miss Amy Sedgwick does full justice. Mrs. Marston also has a part well suited to her powers, and thus cleverly acted the comedietta passes off very merrily, and gives entire satisfaction to the audience.

The entertainments at this theatre are now of a more attractive character than at the commencement of the present management. Miss Constance Aylmer acts spiritedly in the pleasant little comedy of "Time Tries All," and Miss M. Oliver is seen to advantage in the favourite old farce of "A Boland for an Oliver."

THE WEEK.

THE COURT.—If the coming of age of the Prince of Wales, who is at present in Italy, was not celebrated with imposing demonstrations of loyalty throughout the country, the circumstance arose not from any indifference to an event of so much interest and importance, but from a just appreciation of the feelings of the Queen herself. The prince's majority has been marked by several promotions in the army and navy, and a limited distribution of decorations. The prince himself has been

made a general, while the Duke of Cambridge, Lord Clyde, Lord Gough, and Sir E. Blakeney have been promoted to the rank of field-marshal. The Princess Alexandra of Denmark and her father have arrived at Osborne, on a visit to Her Majesty.

GENERAL HOME NEWS.—The mortality of London took a serious upward spring last week. The deaths amounted to 1307 which was 123 more than in the week before, and 68 more than was yielded by the average of the last ten years. The principal increase was among children, and the most fatal diseases were scarlatina and measles. The births were 1832, which was slightly below the average.—Three other districts—the Ryde, Garstang, and Saddleworth—are now included in Mr. Farnall's reports as to the condition of the cotton workers. In the whole twenty-seven districts there are now 224,712 persons in receipt of parochial relief,—an increase of 364 per cent. as compared with the corresponding period of last year. The average percentage of pauperism in the unions affected by the cotton famine is 11.3 against 2.4 in the corresponding week of 1861.—The Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol, who was raised to the episcopate only last year, is to be translated to the vacant archbishopric of York. It is rumoured that Dr. Jeune, Master of Pembroke College, Oxford, "the only member of the Oxford University Reform Commission who has not yet received his reward in the way of promotion," will be succeed Dr. Thomson, as Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol.—Lady Elgin is about to leave this country for Calcutta—a circumstance which would seem to dispose of the statement that Lord Elgin is about to retire from the governor-generalship. Indeed, shortly after the publication of the rumour adverted to, we received Indian papers, in which it was stated that excellency was about to proceed to the hills to recruit his strength.—Another member of Parliament has been cut off suddenly, and under most painful circumstances. Mr. Thomas Mills, the member for Totnes, was out hunting on Monday, when he was seized with an apoplectic attack, and soon died. The hon. gentleman, who was 68 years of age, had represented Totnes since 1852.—The Marquis of Breadalbane died in Switzerland on Saturday night. The deceased nobleman leaves no issue; and, as he was the only son of the first Marquis, the marquise becomes extinct. The Scottish title of Earl of Breadalbane, however, descends to Mr. J. A. G. Campbell, of Glenfalloch, Perthshire.—Mr. Edward Francis Maitland, the Solicitor-General for Scotland, has been appointed a judge in the Court of Session, in the room of Lord Ivory, who has resigned. Mr. Young, sheriff of Haddington and Berwickshire, the barrister who was entrusted with the investigation into the Glasgow murder case, has been appointed Solicitor-General in place of Mr. Maitland.—Her Majesty's Government has under its consideration the question recently raised respecting the destruction of the British property which formed part of the cargoes of two of the American vessels destroyed by the Confederate war steamer *Alabama*.—At a meeting of the Juridical Society, on Monday night, Lord Stanley part in a discussion on the proposed alterations in the law of blockade. The noble lord pointed out the extreme difficulty of this important subject, and suggested three questions for the consideration of those who share the views of Mr. Cobden. These were, first, whether the effect of the practical application of their doctrine would not be to equalise the powers of the combatants, and enable them to continue the contest; secondly, whether they would not take away the inducements to neutrals to bring about a peace; and thirdly, whether they would not diminish the interest of the people of the belligerent countries in asking for a cessation of hostilities. It was also, he said, desirable to consider whether it would be well to make laws which could not be enforced if, in a death struggle, one of the belligerents chose, as a matter of self-interest, to set them aside.—At the last meeting of the Metropolitan Board of Works, Mr. Bazalgette laid two important reports before the members. One of these detailed the progress made in the various branches of the great sewer scheme, which appears, from his statement, to be making rapid progress towards completion. The other report related to the embankment of the southern shore of the Thames. It may be remembered that the body to whom the examination of the question was referred recommended that the embankment should be carried from Westminster Bridge to Chelsea, which they thought might be done for £1,100,000. Mr. Bazalgette proposes a scheme to begin the embankment on the south side of London Bridge, and carry it up on that side as far as the Pimlico Railway Station, which he believes would not cost more, compensations included, than the committee set apart for the more limited scheme. The report was ordered to be

printed and circulated.—The metropolis has for some time past been kept in a constant state of alarm by the boldness with which the criminal classes have been pursuing their avocation. Not only have the suburbs been infested with a set of daring burglars, but in the most public thoroughfares the garotter has carried on his murderous work even in the afternoon. Nervous citizens arm themselves to the teeth when they venture abroad after dark, the streets, to use the language of one of the police magistrates, being as unsafe as a tiger's den. Mr. W. D. Harvey, one of the commissioners of police, attributes many of these outrages to ticket-of-leave men; and he suggests that, in order to meet this serious evil an order should be issued, requiring every convict at large on licence, to report himself at a given place, within a certain time, on pain of losing the privilege of his licence.—Another case of garotting has been brought before the magistrates at Westminster. In this case four ruffians set upon a gentleman when he was within a few yards of his own door, and while one of them clasped his throat and nearly strangled him in his powerful gripe the others rifled his pockets, and having done that they knocked him senseless on the ground that his cries might not impede their escape. Two of them, however, were captured, and were remanded in the hope that their companions may be also brought up.—A meeting was held on Tuesday by a portion of the shareholders of the Great Western Railway who dissent from the policy of the directors in leasing, subsidising, and amalgamating neighbouring lines. The matter which has more immediately stirred them into action is the support rendered by the directors to the project of a line called the East Gloucester, running from Farringdon to Cheltenham, with a branch line to join the West Midland. It was said that these lines went through a difficult country, with no towns to yield a traffic, and that they would prove a dead weight on the resources of the company. A resolution was passed condemning leases, subsidies, and amalgamations generally, and a committee was appointed to urge forward these views.—The pleadings in the Yelverton marriage case were brought to a close, at Edinburgh, on Saturday. The public will await with some interest the decision of the Court in this important appeal; but whichever way it goes, it is more than probable that the case will ultimately be carried before the House of Lords.—The important case raised at the Bow-street police-station the other day, whether the photograph of an engraving is a breach of the law of copyright, was brought to a close—we cannot say settled—in that court on Saturday, when Mr. Corrie stated there was so much doubt on the law that he thought it ought to be tried in a higher court. He also intimated that there was not evidence enough to convict the defendant on a criminal charge.—The five prisoners who are charged with the robbery and forgery of Bank of England note paper have been again examined before the Lord Mayor. The witness Brown, who has turned Queen's evidence, was severely cross-examined on behalf of the prisoner Brewer, who had also worked at the paper mills, and who was charged by the witness with having stolen the note paper as well as himself. Evidence affecting Buncher was given by one of the detectives, whose description of the means he took to entrap him excited much interest and amusement. The case appears to ramify in different directions, and to implicate an increased number of persons as it proceeds. The prisoners were remanded.—Jonah Andrew, of the Manchester City Bank, has been committed for trial on a second charge of misappropriating money entrusted to him for the purpose of advising a bill.—A serious attempt at fraud was brought under the notice of the sitting magistrate at Guildhall, on Wednesday. There appears to be a person on the continent, dating now from the Pyrenees, then from Civita Vecchia, and anon from some other place, who answers advertisements for information wanted. Mr. Schultz, solicitor, of Dyer's-buildings, Holborn, has been favoured with two communications from him. Mr. Schultz had occasion to advertise for the address of a gentleman who had gone to Australia. He received a letter from the Pyrenees, signed Richard Brookes, offering to give the information, if £5 was sent immediately. The money was not sent. Some time afterwards, Mr. Schultz advertised for some one who had witnessed an omnibus accident. In a few days "F. Neville" wrote to him from Civita Vecchia, saying that he saw the accident, and would come over to England if his travelling expenses were sent out to him. He requested that letters might be addressed to him at the British Consulate, Civita Vecchia. Mr. Schultz saw that the writing of "F. Neville" and "Richard Brooks" was the same, and wrote to the British Consulate for information. The Consul replied that "F. Neville" is unknown to him, but that some one called

himself by that name had taken the liberty to have letters addressed to the Consulate, which he had requested might be sent to Messina. The request had not been complied with.—A widow woman, named Anne Walne, has been barbarously murdered at Ribchester, a small place between Preston and Blackburn. She was a small farmer and beerseller, and on Tuesday morning was found dead in her bed by a man in her employment. She had been fearfully beaten about the head with a churn staff, and then suffocated with the bedclothes. It is supposed that the murder was committed in order to get money. A man has been taken into custody on suspicion of being the perpetrator of the foul deed.—The sentence of death passed upon Mrs. McLachlan for the murder of Jesse McPherson, at Glasgow, has been commuted to penal servitude for life. It remains to be seen what further steps will be taken in this extraordinary affair.—Three men were killed, while a fourth was dangerously injured, by the bursting of the boiler of a locomotive engine, at the Paddington Station of the Great Western Railway, on Saturday.—A fall of the railway viaduct at Kensington on the Hammersmith and City Railway, has resulted in the loss of six lives. It is ascertained that the heavy rains had rendered the newly built arches insecure; and the unfortunate men who have lost their lives were engaged in shoring up the arches when the crash took place.—On Wednesday the ancient ceremony of pricking the sheriffs for England and Wales was gone through in the Exchequer Court. There was no deviation from the old forms, and as it is anticipated that there will be a pretty liberal distribution of honours among the sheriffs of counties as well as the mayors of towms, in honour of the Prince of Wales attaining his majority, fewer excuses than usual to evade service were presented to the Court.—The physicians and surgeons of St. Thomas's Hospital have issued a strong and unanimous protest against the project of building the new hospital any further from the centre of the population than its present temporary situation at Walworth. They say that country air would benefit nobody but convalescents, whose interest may be consulted in another form; and that the removal would render it useless to all cases of acute diseases and in the accidents which are constantly occurring in a dense and busy population, while it would destroy its usefulness as a great medical and surgical school. They also declare their inability to conceive what the managers want with 40 acres of ground for the purposes of a hospital.—Mr. Gladstone presided at a volunteer banquet in London, on Tuesday evening. The right hon. gentleman spoke with enthusiasm of the progress of the volunteer movement. He urged that in the main, the force, if it is to retain its real character, must be self-reliant and self-supporting, and it was a matter of some difficulty to determine the extent to which public aid ought to be given. That was a point, however, which would receive the careful attention of Parliament and the Government from time to time; and, whatever might be the result of that consideration in regard to this or that particular, he fervently hoped that the force might be maintained in that degree of efficiency which has already made it "the honour of the country, and a new guarantee of its security."

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.—The *Paris Patrie* announced on Monday evening that it had learned from a reliable source that the French Government has proposed to the English and Russian Cabinets "to request of America suspension of hostilities for six months." During the term of that armistice the three powers "would tender their good offices to bring about a reconciliation, and would ask of the North an immediate cessation of the blockade." It is understood that the English Government have declined to take part in the proposed intervention. The *Patrie* also announces that the Emperor has received Mr. Slidell, the Southern Envoy, at Compiègne. According to *La France* the resignation of the French Ambassador in London, Count Flahault, has been actually accepted, and the successor of the Count will shortly be appointed. The *France* has published the note addressed to the Italian Cabinet by the new French Minister for Foreign Affairs. This document declares that General Durando's recent note "cannot serve as a basis for negotiations." M. Drouyn de Lhuys affirms that the Emperor Napoleon's government "has always expressed the firm resolution of preserving Rome against all aggression, and protecting the independence and sovereignty of the Pope." He does not see any good reason why, because the Italian Cabinet has "loyally" frustrated Garibaldi's enterprise, "France should be obliged to evacuate Rome;" and, in conclusion, he asserts that "at no period has the French Cabinet given to Piedmont and Italy the hope that it would sacrifice to them Rome and the

Papacy."—The *Independence* publishes a letter written a year ago by M. De Persigny to the Archbishop of Bourdeaux, which contains a violent attack against the temporal power of the Pope." Not having been able, says M. De Persigny, for a long time past to govern its little state unless Italy was under the yoke of Austria or of France, the temporal government finds itself smitten with powerlessness before every eye. The French occupation of Rome is characterised in terms equally remarkable. "It is," says M. De Persigny, "a strange situation, for while on the one hand the interest of France requires that Italy should govern herself freely, without our having to spend our money and sacrifice the blood of our children in an odious mission, on the other hand it is the interest of religion that the Pope, whether he exercises or not his temporal power, should be equally independent."—The brigands still show a bold front in Italy. A strong band of them have just attacked and worsted a small detachment of the royal troops in the Capitanata. Additional forces were immediately despatched to the spot, and every effort is to be made to suppress these lawless bands.—Garibaldi, in pursuance of the advice of his surgeons, has been removed from Spezzia to Pisa. He left Spezzia on Saturday, on board the war ship *Moncalieri*, and safely arrived at Pisa. His general health is good.—The Madrid papers of Saturday state that the representative of Spain in that city has received instructions which, it is thought, will lead to a satisfactory settlement of the affair of the Montgomery. The Finance Minister has ordered the commencement of the sale of the landed property of the clergy. The Queen is reported to be *enceinte*. The King has had a fall from his horse and dislocated his arm. His Majesty is, however, progressing as favourably as could be expected after the accident. The American Minister at Madrid has been instructed by his Government to state that it considers the conduct of the captain of the *Montgomery* in seizing a neutral vessel in Spanish waters, and insulting the Alcalde, wholly unpardonable; that it is quite ready to inflict punishment upon him should Spain desire it, and is willing to give any reasonable satisfaction which Spain may require.—The ex-Queen of Naples, after much solicitation, has, it seems, been persuaded to leave the Ursuline Convent at Munich, and return to her husband. The conditions are that the Queen-Mother shall not live with them, and that the young couple shall have a separate establishment at the Farnese Palace at Rome. From these conditions the cause of the dispute between the Royal pair is as old as it is clear.—The revolution in Greece, up to the present time, is being carried out very quietly. The National Assembly is summoned to meet at the close of the month, when the form of constitution under which the country will for the future be governed will be settled. If a Monarchical Government be chosen, some of the Paris journals assert that it has already arranged between Russia and France that the Duke of Leuchtenberg shall be at its head. General Grivas, who was supposed to favour a Republican Government, and had been appointed Commander-in-Chief of the National Militia, is dead.—The reply to be given by Denmark to Prussia and Austria on the Schleswig-Holstein question has been settled by the Danish Cabinet, and approved by the King. His Majesty, in reply to an address from the Council of the Empire, expressed his entire concurrence in the policy of the Ministry, and his hope that a settlement may yet be obtained.—One of the attempts made by political desperadoes to assassinate Russian functionaries in Warsaw has, at length, proved successful. On Sunday afternoon, M. Telkmer, the head of the secret police of Warsaw, was found dead on a landing in his own house. He had been mortally stabbed, and the assassin had likewise cut off his ears. The murderer has not been discovered, and it seems probable that his crime will remain unpunished, as his escape will, no doubt, be favoured by the whole Polish population. The crime has afforded an excuse, if it has not actually given a reason, for the adoption of the most stringent measures to maintain order, and the streets of Warsaw may once more be said to be in the possession of the military. Strong patrols traverse the town in all directions. In some instances the approaches to points of the city are literally occupied by the military, and over sixty persons have been arrested. For the deed, perhaps, of a solitary assassin, the whole population are doomed to suffer.

AMERICA.—The *Asia* arrived at Liverpool, and which sailed from Boston on the 29th ult., and from Halifax on the 31st, has brought us New York newspapers of the 28th and Boston journals of the 29th. There were reports that Gen. McClellan was about to advance against the Confederates; and General Burnside's corps, with General Pleasanton's cavalry, had crossed

the Potomac into Virginia, and was said to be marching on Leesburg. It had been rumoured that the Confederates were retiring up the Shenandoah Valley, and had even evacuated Winchester; but it seems very doubtful whether there had been any foundation for the rumours. According to a telegram from Fortress Monroe, the Confederate General Wise, with 20,000 men, was advanced against Yorktown; but there had been no subsequent confirmation of the statement. The action in the neighbourhood of Pearidge, Arkansas, seems to have been fought at a place called Maysville, between a division of the Federal General Schofield's corps and a portion of the Confederate General Hindman's army. The Federals allege that they "routed" their enemies, capturing all their camp equipage and a battery of field artillery. The Confederates were believed to be preparing to attack Memphis, and there had been some skirmishing in the neighbourhood of "Island No. 10." The city of Galveston, in Texas, was occupied on the 5th ult. without resistance by the Federals, who had also previously taken possession of Sabine pass and Sabine city, at the mouth of the Sabine river, which forms the boundary between Louisiana and Texas. An attempt had been made by the Federals to occupy Pocatigo and Coosawatchie, and intercept the railway communication between Charleston and Savannah; but they were, according to a report from General Beauregard, repulsed, and driven to their gunboats and their transports before they could do any serious injury to the railway or telegraph at either place. It was reported in the North that Federal expeditions were about to be despatched against several parts of the Southern coast, and that serious operations were to be attempted in Texas. The arrival of the *Kangaroo* puts us in possession of news from New York to November 1. At that date there was every probability that the Confederates and Federals would speedily come to blows in Virginia. Both appear to have been closing with each other, so that a battle was to be expected. It was reported that General Bragg, who had escaped from Kentucky, was on his way to join General Lee in Virginia. In Mississippi, the Federals had occupied Grand Junction, the Confederates being within nine miles of that place. Nashville was stated to be surrounded, and its inhabitants in a starving condition. At Fayetteville, Arkansas, the Confederates, according to a report from General Curtis, had been routed. Southern papers state that Gen. Butler, with 7000 men, had landed at Pensacola. The Southern slaveholders, estimating the President's proclamation at its just worth, are endeavouring to save their "property" by running their negroes through the blockade and selling them at Cuba. President Lincoln has interfered at Baltimore and released the citizens of that place who had been arrested by General Wool. At New York the Republicans had declared their determination to subjugate the South, and endorsed the anti-slavery proclamation. One curious piece of news is that the Federal Governor of North Carolina had proposed to hold a conference with the Confederate Governor of the State to discuss the position of public affairs and the aspect of the war. Deserters from Richmond report the *Merrimac* No. 2 as a complete success.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

S. J.—Certainly not.

X. Y. Z.—Must apply to the Grand Secretary. We are not in the secrets of the Grand Secretary's Office, if there be any such.

J. O.—You can apply if you think fit, but we do not look upon your case as one for relief. You say you were initiated fifty years ago, but have nothing to prove it beyond an old letter from the Secretary of your lodge. We do not look upon our funds as accumulated for the benefit of those who have forgotten us for fifty years.

AN AMERICAN.—Foreign brethren are relieved by the English Lodge of Benevolence on giving sufficient proof that they are Masons and in distress.

AN ARCH MASON.—No. There is no annual payment from Arch Masons to the Grand Chapter, but we trust there will be before long. We agree with you that the exaltation fee is too high, but when we tried to press our views on Grand Chapter we were left in a minority. Of course, we, like all true Masons, must bow to the decision of the constituted authorities.