

LONDON, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1862.

THE CHARITIES.

We cannot better close our volume than by reminding the brethren that the Festivals of our various Charitable Institutions are rapidly approaching, and once more the brethren are called upon to reflect upon the brightest teachings of our Order—the necessity of protecting the Aged and the Orphan.

On the 28th of January the Festival of the Royal Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and their Widows will take place under the presidency of the R.W. Brother John Havers, J.G.W., and if the subscription lists be at all equal to the fervid eloquence with which we know he will plead the claims of the Institution to the support of the brethren the result will prove a bumper; but the brethren may rest assured of one thing—that however liberal their subscriptions though they may do much to alleviate the distress of those claiming relief at their hands, though a few more annuitants may become partakers of their bounty at the election in May next, there will still be left many candidates—a list always growing as age creeps on man and woman—as incentives to exertion in the future; and it should be our pride to endeavour so to increase the funds of this Institution as to enable us to boast that no distressed Freemason—no helpless widow, ever pleaded to us twice in vain.

The R.W. Deputy Provincial Grand Master, the Earl De Grey and Ripon, will take the chair at the Festival in aid of the funds of the Boys' School on Wednesday, March 11th, when his Lordship will be supported by a numerous body of stewards, many of whom come from West Yorkshire, where every exertion is being made to give him a full list, his Lordship being the Grand Master of the Province. But it is not from West Yorkshire alone that we look for good returns, Bro. Binckes has worked arduously throughout the provinces, and we anticipate a response to his exertions by such a subscription as has never yet been witnessed at any of our Masonic Festivals. The School yet wants much improvement to make it equal to what we wish to see it, and what it will become if the aspirations of Bro. Binckes be realised.

Later in the season—viz., on the 13th of May—the Annual Appeal will be made on behalf of

the Girls' School, when the chair will be taken by the R.W. Prov. G.M. for Lincolnshire, His Grace the Duke of St. Albans, who will, upon this occasion, make his *debut* before the brethren in the graceful character of Champion of the oldest of our Charities, and one which has always been popular amongst the brethren, as nothing can commend itself more to the sympathies of any body of men than orphans of the weaker sex—who, as they are exposed to greater temptations, and have the less opportunities of obtaining a living than their brothers, require the more careful guidance in their younger years,—a guidance which they are sure to receive at our School, which now calls for liberal aid, in order that the Committee may be enabled to increase the number of children to be taken under its fostering care.

The three Festivals last year produced between £7000 and £8000: next year, we hope that the amount may exceed £10,000. Brethren, this is a result easily obtained: it is only about £15 a lodge throughout England and Wales, or 10s. for each member.

But we must not forget that there are also other Charitable Institutions connected with our Order, though not so general in their scope. West Lancashire has an Educational Institution; Cheshire is following in the wake; and as each has its own sphere of usefulness, these, too, we commend to the support of the brethren.

MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

ROGER BACON THE ALCHEMIST.

Is there any foundation for the assertion I once heard made that Roger Bacon, the Alchemist, was a Mason.—N. N.—[We are not aware of any but it is not unlikely that the following passage, of the late Bro. Godfrey Higgins, may have given rise to such a report. In one of his footnotes to the *Anacalypsis* he says:—"Roger Bacon believed in the possible transmutation of the baser metals into gold, and his reasoning amounted to this—Since carriages have been moved without the aid of animals—since boats have been impelled through the water without oars or sails—since men have been transported through the air—since very distant and very minute objects may be made perfectly clear to vision by means of glasses—and since the effects of thunder have been produced by a few grains of powder—how can it be contended that the transmutation of metals is impossible? From this most extraordinary exhibition of the words of this most celebrated natural philosopher or alchemist, or magician, or judicial astrologer, I feel very little doubt that among the ancient priests, or astrologers, all these secrets were known; and that from his books of the occult sciences he came by the information, that these important secrets were formerly known, though, perhaps, only known to a very few of the heads of a

secret order, guarded as Masonic secrets, and consequently in later times lost."]

FRENCH MASONIC CHARITY FOR ORPHANS.

[We have been repeatedly asked to point out in other countries the existence of similar institutions to our own for the benefit of the children of Freemasons, and some little light may be thrown on the method adopted in France, by condensing the latest information on the subject into a note for our readers. The administration of the *Orphelinat Maçonnique* is under four committees. One for finance, another for enquiry, a third for admission, and the remaining one for management and instruction. The first is composed of the first Vice-President, the two Treasurers and four members of the Council of Administration. The second of the two Secretaries and five members. The third of the second Vice-President and four members. The fourth of the President of the Council of Administration and seven of its members. The business of each committee is defined thus,—*Finance*.—They are to verify Treasurers accounts and report to the general body quarterly, and produce a balance-sheet of expenditure and income half-yearly. To propose the different modes there may be for investing the funds at the disposal of the charity, and all subscriptions due are collected in the name of the finance committee. Its advice is also taken upon the expenses proposed by the committee number four, the general body deciding. *Committee of Inquiry*.—Their duty is to receive all the information respecting the rights of the children proposed to be admitted, and they are the examiners of all claims on which they have to determine and make a report to the Committee of Admission. They are also the channel through which the whole of the correspondence is conducted. *Committee of Admission*.—It is their duty, after the Committee of Inquiry have reported to them, and after they have examined the applications, to determine the rights of the children being candidates for admission, and send the petitions to the President endorsed with the reasons for proposing or rejecting each cast. *Committee of Management and Instruction*.—They have to choose and propose to the general body Masters and all the *employés*. To make estimates for all necessities used or consumed in the asylum. To report on the letting or purchase of the real estate of the charity. To examine every proposition for fetes, banquets, spectacles, &c., on behalf of the institution. To enquire into the expenses of the above, and to choose the most desirable establishments for such purposes. To regulate the amusements and to select the stewards for the same. Beyond these four committees there is one for overlooking the welfare of the orphans until they are of age. They meet twice a year, on the same day as the general meeting, and present a report to that body. They appear to us to stand in the position of the orphans "next best friend," and to be their advocates on all occasions. If any of the pupils have complaints to offer, these Inspectors are charged to present them to the President of the body who delegates its examination to the respective committee to which it refers. The general principle which regulates the admission of candidates, is that of the most unfortunate always having priority. The classification of applicants is

1. Orphans by the loss of both parents } Whose fathers were subscribers and active Masons.
2. Orphans by the loss of the father } ing and active Masons.
3. Orphans by the loss of both parents } Whose fathers were subscribers only.
4. Orphans by the loss of the father } ing members only.
5. Orphans by the loss of both parents } Whose fathers were not subscribers but active members.
6. Orphans by the loss of the father } scribing but active members.
7. Orphans by the loss of both parents } Whose fathers were brethren but not subscribing or active Masons.
8. Orphans by the loss of the father }

In addition to the above the following are eligible for admission. 9. The orphans of subscribing professional men. 11. The orphans of persons who have given proofs of their devotion to humanity. The conditions under

which candidates are admitted are, that their relatives cannot withdraw the orphan before the age of eighteen, but, should the general body consent to any application of the kind, the relatives must defray the expenses incurred for the orphan from its admission to the time of withdrawal, at the rate of three hundred francs per annum, every quarter being considered accruing on its commencement.]

NOTES ON LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AND ART.

The *Société des Gens de Lettres* of Paris has elected into its body Mr. William L. Hughes, the translator of Poe and other English writers into French. Mr. Hughes is the first Englishman who has been made a member of that society.

Mr. Edmund Routledge wishes us (*Athenæum*) to state that the description of a cheap diet given in his book "Hodge Podge," under the head of "Living upon Small Means," is not copied from "Nicholas Nickleby." We take the opportunity of this reference to say that our copy of "Every Boy's Annual," edited by the same gentleman, has passed into the hands of two grave critics of 11 and 14, who report compendiously and respectively that it is "jolly" and "stunning."

A few items of literary gossip, says the *Queen*, have reached us, which seem worth recording. The author and publisher have sold to the proprietors of the *London Journal*, for a considerable sum, the right to run "Lady Audley's Secret" through

In accordance with a resolution passed at the annual general meeting at the Adelphi Theatre, on the 29th of April last, recommending the appointment of a committee to consider the best means to be adopted for the recognition of the valuable services of the honorary secretaries of the Art Union of London since the commencement of the society, it has been proposed to raise by subscription among the members of the society and their friends a sum of money to be expended in the production of two pieces of plate to be presented respectively to Mr. Godwin and Mr. Pocock.

that periodical. The sale of this novel already exceeds that of "The Woman in White," hitherto one of the most popular "sensational" novels of the day, and it is still selling largely. Mr. Tinsley has also purchased from Miss Braddon another story for £2000. It will first appear in *Once a Week*. Mr. Lawrence, the author of "Guy Livingstone," is writing a new novel for Mr. Tinsley, who has also purchased the copyrights of "Guy Livingstone," "Sword and Gown," and "Barren Honour," from the same author.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

DEVONSHIRE.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER.—As Deputy Grand Master of the Province of Devout I cannot permit the letter of "Z." (in your last MAGAZINE), to pass unnoticed. If your correspondent be a Mason, and the charge which he prefers be true, why did he not bring the circumstance before the Grand Lodge or the Provincial Grand Lodge, as was his bounden duty? I have good reasons for believing that the insinuations contained in his letter are totally false; and unless "Z." chooses to come forth from his ambush, and prefer the charge in a constitutional manner, I shall take no further notice of him, nor of his anonymous accusation.

I cannot but regret, Mr. Editor, that you should lower the character of the FREEMASONS MAGAZINE by making it the medium for the dissemination of such charges against your brethren, without previously ascertaining their truth.

Trusting to your sense of justice for the insertion of this letter.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally.

JOHN HUYSHE, G.C. and D. Prov. G.M. Devon,

[The writer of the letter alluded to is a Mason of long standing, and of unimpeachable truth.—Ed. F. M.]

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

METROPOLITAN.

JORDAN LODGE (No. 237).—The brethren of this lodge held their second meeting of the session at the Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, on Friday, 19th inst. There was a fair attendance although not so numerous as usual, a fact easily accounted for by the near approach of Christmas, whose festivities are invariably preceded by a great pressure of business necessarily contracting the extent of the Masons' Cable Tow. The lodge was duly opened in the first and second degree, when Bro. Reay having been tested as to qualification, was ably passed to the degree of Fellow Craft. There being no Masons below this degree among the brethren, the ceremony of electing the W.M. for the ensuing year was at once proceeded with, the ballot for whom proved to be unanimous in favour of the S.W., Bro. B. J. Jeffery. The Tyler was unanimously re-elected by a show of hands; the W.M. Bro. Swan having directed attention to the able manner in which the duty of that office are uniformly discharged. The lodge was duly closed in the second degree, when the Secretary Bro. Spooner, P.M., informed the W.M. and the brethren, that the proposition of Bro. S. Hart, "That Bro. Henry Hart of the Vitruvian Lodge to become a joining member of the Jordan Lodge," had with the consent of the second, Bro. Edgecombe, been formally withdrawn; and Bro. Patten, P.M. and P.G.S.B., also stated that he should with the consent of the second, Bro. Sheen, P.M. withdraw his proposition for a candidate for initiation as in the interim of the meetings, circumstances had come to his knowledge which would preclude admission into the Craft. Bro. Sheen having sanctioned the withdrawal of the proposition, at once proceeded with his motion for the alteration of certain rules in the bye-laws, notice of which had been given last month. Without following Bro. Sheen through all his arguments and the intricacies of the motion, which was carried *mem. con.*, we may say that its objects were to discontinue the meeting in May, thus reducing the regular meetings from seven to six in the session, and curtailing the expenses, affording the lodge an opportunity to promote more effectually the great aim of Freemasonry—Charity. Other minor business having been transacted, including a request to the Permanent Committee, consisting of the W.M., P.M.s, W.M. elect, and the J.W., to meet on the 9th proximo, to make arrangements for the installation meeting on the following Friday, the lodge was duly closed in solemn form. The P.M.s present were Bros. Patten, Spooner, Sheen, Watiss, Robinson, Dr. Goldsborough, and Dyer. At the banquet after the cloth had been withdrawn, the W.M. gave the usual Masonic and loyal toasts, dwelling at greater length upon that to the W.M. elect, whose abilities as a Mason, and firm attachment to the principles and interests of the Craft, were pointed out as good omens for the success of his year of office.—Bro. Jeffery acknowledged in suitable terms the compliment paid him by the W.M., and the kindness experienced on all occasions at the hands of the brethren of the lodge. He felt that the attention he had given to Masonry, would enable him to perform the onerous duties of the important office, with at least pleasure to himself, and hoped that at the completion of their next year's work, he might obtain that amount of approbation to which the present W.M. was so justly entitled, and which he now so fully enjoyed from the members of the Jordan Lodge.—The toast to the officers having been duly honoured, the W.M. called upon the J.W., Bro. W. Hammond, to respond. He said he would neither on his own behalf, nor on that of the assistant officers, presume to take credit for the high eulogium which the W.M. had been graciously pleased to pass upon the humble assistance they had rendered in the important duties the W.M. had so efficiently performed during the past year, and which he was now about to relinquish into other able hands, but he would promise on his own part, that should he again have the honour to be called to office, and he thought he might also speak for the junior officers, that no opportunity should escape of becoming thoroughly efficient in the duties of their respective positions, so that the anticipated precision in the working of the W.M. elect, and the prestige of the Jordan Lodge, might not be impaired. The health of the visitors was responded to in appropriate terms by Bro. Sachet Champion, who, with Bros. Carvill, Brabbam, Robinson, P.M., and other brethren, contributed materially to the enjoyment of the evening by the taste displayed in the selection, as well as

the execution of various favourite English melodies. The Tylers' toast, "To all poor and distressed Masons, &c.," having been solemnly given and participated in by the brethren, they separated till three o'clock on Friday, the 16th January prox., the day of installations.

ROYAL ALBERT LODGE (No. 1209).—On Monday, the 15th inst., this lodge met at No. 9, Gerrard-street, Soho. The lodge was opened by the W.M., Bro. Joseph Smith, P.G. Purst., as assisted by Bros. Jeffreys, S.W.; Downes, J.W.; Matthew Cooke-Sec.; J. A. Farnfield, S.D.; and other brethren. A ballot was taken for Mr. Wm. Henry Farnfield, solicitor, of 11, Crooked-lane, E.C., as a candidate for initiation, and for Bro. Robert Wentworth-Little, of No. 536, Uxbridge, as a joining member. The same having been unanimously favourable in each instance, the W.M. proceeded, in a most able and impressive manner, to initiate Mr. Farnfield into the mysteries of the Order. The W.M. stated that the proprietors of the house in which the lodge was held had given notice that it would be inconvenient for them to permit the lodge to meet in future at their premises; whereupon a committee was appointed to make enquiries for another eligible place in which to carry on its business. The lodge being closed, the brethren adjourned to the Freemasons' Tavern, where a sumptuous banquet was provided in the wonted excellent style of Messrs. Elkington and Co. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts having been given, the W.M. proposed the health of the initiate, coupling it with that of the joining member, to which Bro. W. H. Farnfield responded in a very appropriate speech, and Bro. Little also returned thanks for the compliment paid him. The health of the visitors being proposed was responded to by W. Bro. Farnfield, Asst. G. Sec., who took occasion to express the pleasure he felt in seeing two of his sons Freemasons, and members of the Royal Albert Lodge, which was presided over by such a zealous and persevering Mason as Bro. Smith. He hoped that the lodge would continue to prosper, and should always regard its progress with great interest. The W. brother, also, in returning thanks for the Grand Officers, called the attention of the brethren to the cause of the Masonic Charities, especially with reference to the coming festival on behalf of Aged Freemasons and their Widows. After several mirth-compelling songs from Bros. Cooke and Peters, J.D., the brethren separated, highly gratified at their evening's entertainment.

NEW CONCORD LODGE (No. 1115).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Friday, December 19th, at Bro. Stannard's, the Rosemary Branch Tavern, Hoxton, and was very numerous attended. Bro. A. Swinnoek, W.M., presided; Bros. Osmond, S.W.; Estwick, J.W.; and Emmens, P.M. The lodge having been opened and the minutes read, Bros. Blandford and Merrett were questioned as to their proficiency in the sciences and their answers being satisfactory, those brethren were severally raised to the sublime degree of M.M. Mr. George Henry Manning, a candidate, being introduced was duly initiated into the mysteries of ancient Freemasonry, the ritual being very impressively rendered by the W.M. There being no other business the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned for refreshment, which was of a very bountiful nature. After the cloth had been drawn, the W.M. gave the usual formal toasts, which were all duly honoured. The W.M. said the next toast he had to propose was one that gave him great pleasure, as it was "The Health of their Newly Initiated, Bro. Manning;" and he trusted that what he had heard that night he would never forget. He had seen a little of Freemasonry, but he hoped he could judge of the merits of the Craft, by what he would know hereafter. The toast was drunk with great cordiality.—Bro. Manning, in responding, said there never was a moment in his life when he had felt so little or so unable adequately to return thanks for the honour conferred upon him. He had long had a desire to join Freemasonry, as his father was a Freemason, and two other relatives were also Freemasons, and as he felt assured that its principles inculcated philanthropy and good-will, that it led to acquirements in science and literature. It afforded him the greatest enjoyment in being initiated into the order, but he was not prepared for so important and solemn a ceremony as he had that night gone through. He felt that it was no trifling matter to enter even upon the precincts of Freemasonry; but he trusted for many years to labour amongst them, as he felt sure that it would take many years to make himself thoroughly acquainted with its mysteries. It would be presumption on his part to attempt to define what Freemasonry is, or the extent of its intrinsic merits, as they went beyond his comprehension. Being; as he now was, only upon the threshold

of Freemasonry, he could say that so intense were his feelings from what he had heard that night, that he should be delighted to learn more, and should be most happy to attend a school of instruction to obtain all the knowledge he could of that noble institution, which had endured for ages, and to follow that example which had been set by those who had gone before him. He concluded by thanking the brethren for the honour conferred upon him. The W.M. next gave "The Health of the Visitors," for which Bro. Banks (No. 44) and Bro. Bellerby (No. 78) returned thanks, the latter strongly enforcing upon the younger brethren the necessity of attending lodges of instruction if they desired to qualify themselves for the honours which Freemasonry could confer upon them.—Bro. H. Thompson also returned thanks, and glanced at the success which had attended the New Concord Lodge, which, under the auspices of Bro. Emmens, its founder, had always been remarkable for the excellence of its working and the high qualifications of its officers. Bro. Emmens, P.M., said, however well they might have gone on and succeeded, they could not continue to do so unless the W.M. was perfect in his duties. Now, their W.M. was always with them, and his interest in the welfare of the New Concord Lodge no one could doubt. He congratulated him upon having initiated Bro. Manning that night, and he must say that his observations that evening would almost lead them to suppose that he was an old member of the lodge, instead of a new one, as he appeared to have deeply studied the principles of Freemasonry, and he had no doubt that he would be a credit to the craft, and do honour to the New Concord Lodge. He proposed "The health of the W.M.," wishing him long life and prosperity, and hoping that he might continue to be a member amongst them for many years.—The W.M. said he thanked their Bro. Emmens especially for the kind manner in which he had brought his name before the brethren, but he had passed upon him a much higher compliment than he deserved. He had only been a Mason for a very few years; but from the first he took a liking to it, from its straightforward and excellent principles. He endeavoured to ascertain its qualities in the highest sense, and as he went on he desired to know more and more of it. He thanked them sincerely for the kind manner in which his health had been received. The W.M. then gave "The health of the officers of the lodge," and said it was highly gratifying to him that they were all up to the mark, and that they were all members emanating from the lodge. Bros. Osmond, Estwick, and Nightingale severally returned thanks for the honour conferred upon them, stating that it was most gratifying to them to receive the approbation of the lodge, and that they would do their utmost to promote the interests of the craft and the welfare of the lodge. Some other toasts were given, and the evening was spent in the true spirit of Freemasonry.

PROVINCIAL.

CHANNEL ISLANDS.

NEW MASONIC TEMPLE AT ST. HELIER, JERSEY.

The first stone of this edifice was laid on Wednesday, Dec. 17th, with all the pomp and circumstance which so imposing and important an event demanded. Great preparations had been made in honour of the event, and, in order that the general public should be duly impressed and edified by the grandeur of the spectacle, extensive platform accommodation had been erected immediately contiguous to the site of the new Temple and surrounding it on three sides, the entrance in Stopford-road alone being kept clear. All was movement and preparation in the town from early morning, and the various roads converging into St. Helier's were thronged towards noon with heavily-laden vehicles and crowds of pedestrians, all attracted by the ceremonial, and doubtless eager to testify by their presence how warm an interest they felt in the important event which was about to be consummated. The day bore almost the appearance throughout town of a general holiday. That it was the occasion of some high festival—a red-letter day in the Jersey calendar—the most superficial observer could hardly fail to perceive. And when at length the hour of 12.30 p.m. arrived, and the procession, in all its majesty and with its superb and glittering accessories and symbols, according to arrangement approached the Court House, and halted in order to invite the Bailiff, Magistrates, and other dignitaries of the court to assist in the ceremonial—then the public excitement had reached its height. The square was thronged—the windows of all the houses were

filled—bevy of ladies gazed with eager curiosity and delight upon the novel scene, and as for children, the whole juvenile population of the island, it is almost needless to say, put in an appearance on so attractive an occasion. The band of the 18th Royal Irish sent forth their most inspiring strains, and all attempts to do business on the part of any of our plodding and persevering "nation of shopkeepers" must, we are satisfied, have been as futile as unseemly appropriate to the pending festivities.

Not only have the members of the Society of Freemasons done themselves infinite credit by the manner in which all matters connected with the imposing ceremonial were prepared, but the vast concourse of persons assembled on the occasion conducted themselves with a peace, order, and absence of anything which could lead to confusion, which are highly complimentary to the character of the inhabitants, and must be productive of great satisfaction to the authorities. Great fear arose for a day or two previously in reference to the weather; still, trusting in Providence, preparations were not slackened, and all went on as though success were certain, so far as exertions on the part of those concerned could secure it. A telegram from Admiral Fitzroy reached the Board of Managers when sitting on the previous evening, announcing the probability of fair weather, which elicited three hearty cheers, and gave additional impetus to their efforts. At noon most of those who were to take part in the procession, that is, nearly all the Masons of the island, had assembled at the Hotel-de-Ville, when, the doors having been tyled, Provincial Grand Lodge was opened with the usual forms by the R.W. the Prov. G.M., with the assistance of the D. Prov. G.M., and the Prov. Grand Wardens. This done, the Prov. G.M. said he could not omit, before commencing the work of the day, to express his great delight at the presence among them of His Excellency, Bro. Sir R. P. Douglas, Bart. Governor of Jersey, the sanction and assistance of his distinguished a Brother being of the highest importance to the craft in this island. He called on the brethren to give the grand salute, which was promptly responded to under the leadership of the D.C. His Excellency, while thanking the brethren for so kind a reception, called their attention to the character of the proceedings on which they were about to enter. He urged them to set aside during their performance the external circumstances of display by which they would be surrounded, and to attune their minds to serious thoughts befitting the solemnity of the occasion. He reserved further remarks for a later period of the day. By orders from the Prov. G.M. Brother Manuel, Dir. of Ceas. proceeded to marshal the procession, with the aid of his assistants, in the following order.

Two Tylers, with drawn swords. The Band of the 18th Regiment. 20 operative masons bearing their tools. Six Stewards of Prov. Grand Lodge. Visiting Brethren. The various Lodges, each of which was preceded by its Banner and closed by its W.M., the entered apprentices in each coming first, then the Fellow Crafts, and lastly the Master Masons. The contractors, Brothers De La Mare, Benest, and Mr. Pirouet. Cornucopia, with corn, borne by Brother Bellingham; one with oil, by Brother Sergeant Shorroek, and one with wine, by Brother J. Aubin. The rough Ashlar, by Brother Garland. The smooth Ashlar, by Brother Rogers. The Terrestrial Globe, by Brother Pelgelly. The Celestial Globe, by Brother Roberts. Prov. Grand Pursuivants, Brothers F. Aubin and P. Starck. Prov. Grand Organist, Brother J. Reynolds. Brother T. Gallichan, with a copy of the Inscription. Brothers Willcox and Le Cras, Past Prov. Sword Bearers. Past Prov. Grand Deacons, Brothers Mann, F. Esnouf, J. J. R. Peagam, and F. Prosser. Past Grand Secretary, Brother C. Sullivan. Prov. Grand Secretary, Brothers F. A. Godfray, with the Book of Constitutions on a cushion. Brother S. Wyatt, P.P.G.R., acting as Prov. Grand Registrar, with the Bag. Brothers J. W. Godfray and J. T. Du Jardin, Past Grand Treasurers, bearing the casket to be deposited in the stone. The following coins were within it:—1s., 6d., 4d., 3d., 1d., $\frac{1}{2}$ d., $\frac{1}{4}$ d., English; 3s. and 1s. 6d., silver of the date 1813, and copper, 1d., $\frac{1}{2}$ d., $\frac{1}{4}$ d. Jersey; 8, 4, 2, 1, doubles, Guernsey. Past Prov. Grand Sen. Wardens, Brothers James Johnstone, J. B. Le Roy, J. Grimmond. Visitors of Distinction: Brother J. W. Dupré, Attorney-General of Jersey; Bro. Luc Bode, deputed from the Lodge of St. Malo; Bro. Gallienne, Prov. G.S. from Guernsey; Bro. Lord Graves; Bro. Major Mackenzie, of the Antrim Rifles; Bro. Dr. Hopkins, Past Prov. G.S.W. for Warwickshire; Bro. Cumming. Next came the officers of the Masonic Temple Company, in the following order:—Hon. secs.: Bros. E. D. Le Conteur, P.M. and P.Prov. G.S.W., and A. Schmitt, P.M. and P.P.G.S.W. The au-

itors: Bros. P. W. Le Quesne and G. F. Perrot. Hon. Treas., Bro. H. L. Manuel, Prov. G.D.C. The donor of the silver trowel, Bro. B. Watts. Next came the managers not included in the preceding, Bros. J. Le Neveu, P. Le Neveu, P. Dinot, P.M. and P.P.S.G.D., C. Donaldson, P.M. and P.P.G.D. Trustees, Bro. P. Baudains, P.M. and J. Le Maistre. Now came the officers of Prov. Grand Lodge, with their accustomed attendants. The Corinthian light, borne by Bro. Hamon. Column of the Prov. Grand J.W., borne by Bro. Mann, P.M. Prov. G.J.W. with the plumb-rule, Bro. Charles Johnson. Banner of the Prov. Grand Lodge, borne by Bro. Baker, supported by the Prov. Grand Stewards, Bros. J. Le Cronier and T. Wade. The Doric light, borne by Bro. Peagam, P.M. and P.P.G.S.W. Column of the Prov. G.S.W. borne by Bro. Sergeant Mitchell. The Prov. G.S.W. with the Level, Bro. P. W. Benham, P.M. The Prov. Gr. J.D. Bro. Captain Lamb. Bro. the Rev. A. Rey, Prov. Grand Chaplain, and Bro. C. Marett, Past Prov. G. Chaplain, preceded by Bro. Dorey, bearing the Sacred Law on a cushion, and attended by stewards. The Deputy Prov. Grand Master with the Square, Bro. R. Crosse. The Ionic Light, borne by Bro. Sergeant Major Mitchell. The Senior Past Prov. G.S.W. Bro. D. Miller, bearing the Mallet.

[Here we may pause to describe this beautiful article, which had been made especially for the occasion, and was intended for presentation to the Prov. G.M., the cost having been defrayed from the funds of Provincial Grand Lodge. It is an exquisite specimen of workmanship. The handle, which is of ivory, bears all the appearance of having been deeply carved, whereas we learn that it was turned by a gentleman amateur in a lathe of his own construction, and as such is a work of great skill and ingenuity; the remainder is formed of an exceedingly choice piece of crocus wood, having the appearance of variegated marble; on the latter portion it is intended to attach a silver plate, bearing a suitable inscription, the preparation of which has been prevented by the lateness of the period at which the instrument was completed.]

We must not also omit to mention the trowel used on Wednesday, which is one of the most beautiful specimens of workmanship we ever saw, from the manufactory of Bros. Bragg, of Birmingham. It has been exhibited in their case in the International Exhibition as a first-class production and a specimen of exquisite skill and taste. This of itself is a sufficient guarantee for its quality. The metal portion is of silver, the handle of ivory, beautifully carved. The cost of the trowel is defrayed by Bro. Watts, one of the oldest Freemasons in Jersey, who generously presents it to the Masonic Temple Company.

Next came two banners of J. J. Hammond, as Prov. G.M. of Jersey and Guernsey, borne by Bros. Colonel Miller and B. Rogers, *R.N.* Prov. G.S.B., Bro. P. Richard. The R.W. the Prov. G.M. having on his right His Excellency Bro. Sir E. P. Douglas, *Bart.*, Lieut.-Governor, attended by his aides-de-camp, Bros. Captain Gabourel and Captain Mallet De Cateret. They were followed by Dr. Kitchener, Prov. S.G.D. The Masonic part of procession was closed by the Tyler, Bro. John Plyman. We must not omit to mention that Bro. H. L. Manuel, Dir. of Cers. and his Assistant Directors, Bros. P. Le Cras, F. N. Girardot, and P. Le Brun, were stationed in different parts to superintend the arrangements, but indeed seemed to be ubiquitous.

The procession having been formed in the above Order, started down Don-street at about one o'clock, along King-street, Brook-street, and Church-street, to the Royal Square, where the crowd was exceedingly dense, and all available heights were occupied. When the Prov. G.M. arrived at the Court House, the procession halted, and he entered it, accompanied by his Excellency the Governor, preceded by the Prov. G.S.B. and the Directors of Ceremonies. The Right Worshipful Brother then addressed the Court in the following terms:—

Mr. LIEUT. BAILIFF: It is the custom among the society of Free and Accepted Masons, on the occasion of laying a foundation stone, to invite the magistrates and other authorities of the town or place in which the building is to be erected, to assist at the ceremony; but on this occasion custom has been in a great measure laid aside, and instead thereof, respect and esteem have induced the Masonic body to request you, Mr. Lieut. Bailiff, and brother magistrates, to join the procession, and to co-operate with us this day in the levelling the foundation stone of a building, which will be not only useful to the body of Freemasons, and creditable to the genius and skill of the architect, but also an ornament to the town of St. Helier.

The LIEUT. BAILIFF, in reply, accepted the invitation,

and immediately proceeded to accompany the procession, in which he was joined by Bros. Jurats J. Le Couteur, Le Gallais, J. Le Bailly, N. Le Quesne, Elias Neel, J. Aubin; the Solicitor-General, R. P. Marett, the Greffier. G. Le Gros, Advocate George Vickery, Colonel Le Couteur, Q.A.D.C., Viscount; Colonel De Rinzy and the officers of the Artillery; Colonel Chapman and officers of the 18th Regiment; Commander de Saumarez and officers of the *Dasher*; the Very Rev. the Dean; Bro. Captain Briard, Harbour Master; T. Radford, Esq., Comptroller of Customs; and several representatives of the local press. There were also J.W. Deal, gent., Chief of Police, accompanied by Centenirs Le Lievre, Mourant; Vingtenirs Jeune, Hamon, &c., with John Carrell, and other members of the honorary police. All these having fallen into their places and been closed up by the Tyler, who had fallen back, the order to advance was given, and the procession moved on through Morier-lane, Halkett-place, Beresford-street, Bath-street, and David-place. Along the whole route the windows and accessible low roofs were densely crowded, but in several places there was plenty of spare space on the footpaths.

The military band having arrived at the north-west corner of the ground, the procession halted, the brethren opened ranks, and faced inwards, forming an avenue, through which the visitors who had joined at the Court House passed in succession, followed by the Provincial Grand Master, and afterwards by the officers and other members in due order.

At the entrance to the ground the Town Rifles were drawn up as a guard of honour, under the command of Capt. Guiton, also a relief party of the 18th, and the band of the Town Militia. The Brethren, and others, forming the procession, numbering probably six hundred, or even more, took their stations on the ground around the stone; flags were flying in every direction, and the inhabitants generally seemed to do honour to the occasion as well by outward display as by closing their houses of business. Places in front of the platform nearest the stone had been reserved for Lady Douglas and family, as also for Mrs. and Miss Hammond and Captain and Mrs. H. St. John Georges, from Guernsey. A lower platform had been constructed, on which were the seat and pedestal of the Prov. Grand Master, who was surrounded by his chief officers and the local authorities. Just in front of this was a stone, previously imbedded in the ground, containing a cavity for the reception of the coins, an almanac, and copies of local newspapers, with but a short space intervening between them—the upper foundation-stone—a square block of island granite, on the top surface of which a *Lewis* was inserted, and was duly suspended by means of a ponderous wooden structure, in readiness to be first raised to allow access to the cavity, and at the appointed time to be again lowered into its allotted place, a rope from the *Lewis* being attached to a windlass for the purpose. The wooden crane was decorated with evergreens and flags.

The Prov. G. M. having taken his seat on the platform, the consecrating vessels were placed on the pedestal. Silence having been obtained, the Rev. A. Rey, P.G.C., offered up a prayer in French.

"May the light of the Most High shine upon us and upon all the labours of this day. May the Great Architect of the Universe deign to grant his blessing on all works based upon the principles of justice and of the morality of Freemasonry. May he engrave these principles deeply in our hearts, so that, when we depart from this life, we may enter into the eternal Temple of which he is himself the Architect."

This being ended, Bro. Du Jardin and others raised the stone to a greater elevation. The 133rd Psalm was then sung by the choir, accompanied by the band, which was under the leadership of Herr Bergmann. The following address was then read by Bro. E. D. Le Couteur, one of the hon. secs. of the board:—

"Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master, Provincial Grand Officers, Worshipful Masters, and Brethren,—As one of the Honorary Secretaries of the Board of Management of the Masonic Temple Company, I am commissioned to lay before you a brief narrative of its proceedings. After repeated fruitless efforts, extending through several years, by a private lodge, to raise a Temple exclusively devoted to Masonic purposes, a few months ago, the passing of an act by the States for the formation of Companies with Limited Liability, raised the idea, that by the co-operation of the whole body, a Temple might be erected, at once worthy of the island of Jersey, an ornament to the town of St. Helier, and an honour, as well as an advantage, to the Craft. The members of all the lodges were accordingly convened to consider the question; all appeared animated by a common sentiment of union to accomplish the object, a temporary com-

mittee was appointed, and a prospectus was issued. After due time for consideration had elapsed, at a subsequent meeting sufficient shares were applied for to justify immediate operations, designs were drawn up by our respected Provincial Grand Superintendent of Works, which, after due examination, were approved. Advertisements for tenders for the building were then issued, which resulted in the appointment of Brothers De La Mare, Benest, and Mr. Pirouet, as the contractors. The company was duly formed, and registered in the Royal Court on November 30th, a Board of Directors having been elected by the shareholders, in place of the previous temporary committee, under whose direction, in conjunction with the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master and his Provincial Grand Lodge, the arrangements have been made under which we are now assembled to lay the Foundation Stone of a Temple consecrated to Freemasonry. Ladies.—In the name of the Board of Directors, as their representative, I am commissioned to offer to you their sincere thanks for the approval and interest which your presence indicates, as well as for your readiness to grace the present occasion with the smiles and encouragement which naturally come from beauty and elegance. Gentlemen,—I beg you, who are as yet unacquainted with our privileges as Freemasons, to accept the same thanks, for honouring the solemn rites of this day by your attendance, for though to you they may appear simply a manifestation of outward pomp and display, to us they are fraught with significance and interest, the prelude to enlarged benefits and extended usefulness; in fact, the realisation of our long-cherished hopes; thus you afford a sanction to our revered and ancient institution, the high value and importance of which can be duly estimated only by such as have entered its sacred portals, and become participators in our mysteries."

The Treasurer of the Board, Brother H. L. Manuel, P.G.D.C., then placed the casket mentioned before in the cavity of the stone. Brother Watts, the donor of the trowel previously described, presented it to the Rt. W. the Prov. G. M. The cement having been laid on the lower stone by one of the operative masons, the Prov. G. M. descended from the platform and spread it according to the usual form. The upper stone was then let down slowly, while a piece of solemn music was performed. During this interval we may mention that the following is the inscription which is engraved on the trowel:—"Presented by W. Brother B. Watts to the Board of Management of the Masonic Temple Company (Limited), for the use of J. J. Hammond, Esq., Rt. W. Prov. Grand Master of Jersey, in laying the foundation-stone of the Temple on the 17th of December, A.D. 1862, A.E. 5862."

To resume our narrative. The stone having been properly adjusted by the plumb, rule, level, and square, successively delivered to the Prov. G. M. by Bro. C. Johnson, Prov. J.G.W.; Bro. Benham, Prov. S.G.W.; and Bro. Crosse, D. Prov. G. M., Bro. Benest, as one of the contractors, delivered to the Prov. G. M. the mallet, with which he gave three knocks on the stone, and declared it to be duly and Masonically laid.

A Masonic hymn, which we have already published, was then sung, to the tune of the Old Hundredth Psalm. At its conclusion the R. W. Prov. G. M. scattered the corn on the stone, by way of consecration, and said, "I scatter this stone as a symbol of plenty. May the blessings of Heaven be scattered down amongst us, and may our hearts be filled with gratitude."

"So mote it be," by the Brethren.

By the choir, "Glory be to God," &c., chanted, from from Haydn's 3d or Imperial Mass.

Having poured the wine, the Rt. W. the Prov. G. M. said, "I pour this wine as a symbol of joy and gladness. May our hearts be made glad through the influence of Divine Truth, and may virtue flourish as the vine."

"So mote it be," by the Brethren.

By the choir, "Glory be to God," &c.

Having poured the oil, the Rt. W. the P.G.M. said, "I pour this oil as a symbol of charity and benevolence. May charity dwell in our hearts, and may our paths be the paths of benevolence."

"So mote it be," by the Brethren.

By the choir, "Glory be to God," &c.

Prayer was then offered up by the Rt. W. the P.G.M.

The plans of the Temple were then presented by the architect, Brother T. Gallichan, to the Prov. P.G.M., who, having examined and expressed his approval of them, in turn delivered them to the contractors for their guidance, at the same time saying, "I deliver to you these documents, entrusting them into your hands, well knowing that you will execute the work with honesty and faithfulness." He then delivered to the operative masons the several implements required for their use in the following terms:—"I present to you these tools with which to perform your task. Be obedient to the commands of your

masters, as by so doing you will please the Great Architect of the Universe."

The Prov. G. MASTER then resumed his seat on the platform, the band playing at the time. Brother F. A. Godfrey, Prov. G. Sec., then read the inscription on the plate, as follows:—

Province of Jersey.
Masonic Temple Company (Limited).
On Wednesday, the 17th of December, A.D. 1862, A.L. 5862,
Being the 26th year of the reign of H.M.G.M.
VICTORIA,
Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland,
was laid
the Foundation Stone of this Masonic Temple, by
J. J. HAMMOND, Esq.,
Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master
for the Provinces of Jersey, Guernsey, and their dependencies;
assisted by
His Excellency Major-General Brother Sir Robert Percy Douglas, Bart.,
Lieut.-Governor of Jersey;
The Very Worshipful Robert Crosse, Esq., Deputy Provincial Grand Master;
the Masters, Past Masters, Wardens, and Brethren of the various
and the Officers and Members of the Provincial Grand Lodge;
Lodges in the Province, viz.:
Yarborough (No. 302). Mechanics (306). Royal Sussex (722). Samarès,
(818). Césarée (860). Royal Alfred, (1179).
Justice Lodge (34), Irish Registry; and in the presence of
John Hammond, Esq., Bailiff, and the Magistrates and Officers of the
Royal Court, and the Heads of the
Civil and Military Departments of the Island;
Bros. E. D. Le Couteur, P.M.; P. Baudains, P.M.; E. J. Le Maistre,
G. Orange, P. Le Neveu, Trustees; C. J. Hocquard, P.M.,
J. Gibaut, Founders.

Members of the Board of Management.
J. T. Du Jardin, P.M.; T. Wado, P.G.S.; J. Durell, W.M.; T. Gallichan, C.
Donaldson, P.M.; E. M. De Carteret, P. Le Cras, P.M.; T. C. Le Gros, P.
Binet, P.M.; J. Le Cronier, M.D.; C. Le Sneur, J. Le Neveu.
Honorary Treasurer, H. L. Manuel.
Honorary Secretaries, E. D. Le Couteur, P.M., and A. Schmitt, P.M.
Honorary Solicitor, Ph. Baudains, P.M.
Honorary Auditors, P. W. Le Quesne and G. F. Perrot.

Honorary Architect and Surveyor, T. Gallichan.
Contractors, P. W. La Mare, J. C. Benest and Co.

W. Adams, Sculp.,
P.M. 722, 818, 302.
P. W. BENHAM, Provincial S.G. Warden.
C. JOHNSON, Provincial J.G. Warden.
F. A. GODFREY, P.G. Secretary.

His Excellency Sir R. P. Douglas, Lieut.-Governor, then delivered the following address:—

Right Worshipful Grand Master, Brother Wardens, and Officers of this lodge,—Mr. Lieut. Bailiff and the Jurats of the Royal Court, and all other functionaries in your presence, and the brethren of the Craft here present,—That period in the ceremonies of the day is now arrived when I have to perform a duty assigned to me, and which I believe I shall be able to perform in but a very indifferent manner. The part allotted to me in this interesting ceremony is that of delivering an address bearing upon the moral, social, and religious influences of Freemasonry. Now I will make bold at once to assert, that unless I believed from the bottom of my heart that Freemasonry was calculated to exercise a moral, beneficial, social and religious influence upon society, I would not have lent my presence to the ceremony in which we are now taking part. Sir and Brethren, I believe that in taking a part in this day's proceedings, it will be found that as Lieutenant Governor of the Island I am not mistaken in my mission here. I find that in the different public ceremonies connected with Freemasonry the nearest relations of our most gracious Majesty have joined, and have indeed taken part in everything calculated to promote the welfare of the Craft. I think I cannot be found fault with if I, in my humble way, am found following in the near footsteps of our gracious Sovereign. I have still greater pleasure in taking this active part, because I am a Mason myself. If in the hearts of Masons here and elsewhere our system be really something more than a mere matter of form, and the principles of our Craft are carried out, they are in a great degree calculated to exercise a beneficial influence not only in our hearts as individuals, and in the hearts of our brethren at large, but also for the good of society in general, and this in a sound, pure, and Christian spirit, as well as in a Masonic spirit. In my experience of Freemasons and Freemasonry; from the good I have seen that it has effected, and the high moral and excellent principles that I have ever heard advocated in its lodges, and from what I know of it in its essential requirements, I must give my willing testimony to this—I believe that we cannot find any where expressed the true principles of the Craft, or a description of the line in which we ought to walk anywhere portrayed, but in that which ever accompanies us in all our public proceedings—the Holy Bible—that book, from the first chapter of Genesis to the end of the book of Revela-

tions, is the Freemason's guide and text-book. Their principles are embodied there. I proclaim in the presence of this assemblage that Freemasonry in the United Kingdom—whatever it may be in other parts of the world where the glorious truths of Christianity have not yet been received—I proclaim, I say, that in Christian lands Masonry is essentially, and cannot exist without being practically, a Christian society. From the Bible alone do we get our beautiful rules and regulations, and learn our duty as Masons. It is true we have special obligations to each other, but they only add to the obligations by which we are bound, teaching us to be true and faithful in all our dealings with our neighbours. Masonry teaches us that "true religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this—to visit the widows and the fatherless in their afflictions, and to keep ourselves unspotted from the world." These are the convictions of my heart and conscience; and if we, as brother Masons, will only act up to our religious duties, depend upon it the moral and social influences of Masonry will be daily and adequately carried out. My earnest prayer is, that this ceremony of to-day will not prove to be an empty one, non-productive of good, but that we shall feel that the labours of the Craft are more than a mere ceremony; that it is a practical society, and that unless every Mason practically works out in his life and conduct the great principles of our Order, he will be only nominally a Mason, and not one in reality. I trust this day will prove one of harmony, not only in our lodges, but also in our homes, and that, when we return to the domestic circle, the remembrance of what we have seen and heard will conduce to make peace and comfort to dwell with us; and I trust that these things will reign and prosper in private society as they do at our own meetings. I will not trespass further upon your time. I think this day has been blessed to us in an especial manner. We have been favoured with fine weather, for which we are all, I trust, grateful. We have new a prospect of a local habitation, as well as a name in this island, and I am sure all the brethren will unite with me in praying God that the Temple that is to stand here may long continue to exist, and the conduct of anyone of the individuals belonging to it may discredit be brought upon our Craft and upon our character as Christians. (His Excellency was warmly applauded throughout.)

At the close of the above spirited address, which was distinctly heard in all parts of the vast assemblage, some money for the workmen was placed on the stone by Bro. Manuel, Treasurer of the Board of Management, after which a Masonic hymn was sung, which has already appeared in our columns, to the tune of the Spanish Chant. At its close the Prov. Grand Chaplain offered up a prayer.

The band and choir then gave "God save the Queen," and thus concluded perhaps the most imposing ceremony ever witnessed by the Jersey public, rendered brilliant by the decorations of those who took part in it; stirring by the addition of first-rate music efficiently performed; solemn from the sacred character given to it; dignified, as sanctioned by the presence of the civil authorities; yet withal simple and affecting. We congratulate the Freemasons on the impression that has been produced; and we hesitate not to say, that it must have the effect of inducing large numbers of thinking men, who have hitherto scrupled to join their ranks, to seek admission to "the mysteries and privileges of Freemasonry."

[Want of space compels us to defer until next week the account of the banquet, which followed the ceremony.]

DERBYSHIRE.

REPTON.—*Royal Sussex Lodge* (No. 446).—On Monday, the 15th inst., the anniversary of the above lodge was celebrated at the Masonic Tavern, Boot Inn. The lodge was opened at three p.m., and after the usual business had been transacted, the brethren adjourned to the banquet which had been provided by Mr. Roberts. Every delicacy in season was placed upon the table, including a haunch of venison from the Earl of Chesterfield. In the absence of Bro. Somers, the W.M., through indisposition, the chair was taken by Bro. Henchley Mason, P.M., Bro. H. Carson, P.M., being the vice-chairman. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and responded to, the honours peculiar to the Craft being given. The toast of "The Army, Navy, and Volunteers" was responded to by Lieut. Prince, of the 53rd Foot, and Lieut. W. Prince, of the Burton Volunteers. "The Health of the W.M. Elect" (Bro. W. T. Prince) was heartily drunk, and appropriately responded to. The toast of "The Visitors" was responded to by Bro. Merchant, who has recently returned from the Cape, and who gave an interesting account of the progress of Masonry in Africa. After the toast

list had been gone through, "To all poor and distressed Masons through the World, and speedy Relief to them," was given from the chair, and the party broke up, after spending a most enjoyable and truly Masonic evening. Amongst the brethren present were Bros. S. Henchley Mason, P.M.; W. Allen, P.M.; R. Baylis, P.M.; H. Carson, P.M.; W. T. Prince, W.M. Elect; S. Willder, P.G. Treas. of Derbyshire; T. Cox, W.M. Tyrian Lodge (No. 315); Ison, W.M. Arboretum Lodge (No. 1033); W. Mayer, Lieut. Prince, T. Merchant, A. Bennett, W. Peach, Turner, Roberts, Hanson, &c.

ESSEX.

BRIGHTLINGSEA.—*Lodge of Hope* (No. 627).—At the last monthly meeting of this lodge, a silver tobacco-box was presented to Bro. James Webb, P.M., bearing the following inscription:—"Presented to Bro. James Webb, by the brothers of the Lodge of Hope (No. 627), Brightlingsea, as a mark of their great esteem and appreciation of his services in Freemasonry." The testimonial was presented by the W.M., Bro. Bishop, who alluded to Bro. Webb's indefatigable exertions in reopening the lodge, after a temporary discontinuance, and taking a leading part in its working for a long period of years. The presentation was followed by Bro. Webb's good health, drank with Masonic honours; after which Bro. Webb returned thanks for the double compliment in an address of some length, characterised by strong attachment to the principles of the Masonic Order.

CHELMSFORD.—*Lodge of Good Fellowship* (Mo. 343).—The annual meeting of this lodge was held at the Shire Hall, on Thursday, December 18th, when there was a large attendance of members, including the R.W. Prov. G.M., Bro. Major Skinner, R.A. The ceremony of installation as W.M. of Bro. G. B. Hilliard, M.D., in succession to Bro. J. W. Myers, was performed by Bro. Peter Matthews, P.M., P. Prov. J.G.W. The W.M. then proceeded to appoint his officers for the ensuing year as follows:—Bro. the Rev. G. F. E. Shaw, Chap.; Bros. A. Goodchild, S.W.; W. Humphreys, J.W.; F. Wood, S.D.; T. Wood, J.D.; J. Gardner, I.G.; W. Lidington, Tyler; Joseph Burton, Treas.; J. W. Hair, Sec.; S. Blyth, jun., F. Mann, E. W. Robins, and S. G. Green, Stewards. Several gentlemen were initiated into the mysteries of the Craft. The sum of five guineas was voted from the funds of the lodge, to which the R.W. Bro. Bagshaw added a like sum, as from this lodge, in aid of the Lancashire Relief Fund. The formal business having been brought to a close, the brethren adjourned to a sumptuous banquet at the White Hart Hotel, presided over by the new W.M., supported on the right and left by the provincial grand officers above mentioned. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were drank, and the company separated at an early hour.

KENT.

RAMSGATE.—*Royal Navy Lodge* (No. 621).—The annual meeting of this unique lodge was held on Wednesday last, 17th inst., for the purpose of electing the W.M. and the Treasurer for the ensuing year, when the brethren, almost unanimously, elected Bro. J. Hickling to the former, he having ably filled the S.W.'s chair, and re-elected, as Treasurer, Bro. S. Beeching, and Bro. G. Meager, Tyler. Mr. Edward Hinds was afterwards initiated, the ceremony being performed in the usual impressive manner, by Bro. T. H. G. Snowden; and the charge by Bro. Rolfe, J.W., was rendered very effectively. The lodge was closed, and the brethren and visitors adjourned to refreshment, in goodly number, and spent a very pleasant and agreeable, as well as instructive, evening.

YORKSHIRE (WEST).

HUDDERSFIELD.—*Lodge of Truth* (No. 763).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held at Freemasons' Hall, Fitzwilliam-street, on Friday, December 5th, at 7.30 p.m., the W.M., Bro. J. W. Tempest, occupying the chair, supported by a goodly number of the brethren of the "Truth," and a gratifying proportion of visitors. The only business announced on the summons was the installation of the W.M. elect; but previous to entering thereupon a very interesting episode occurred, which it is pleasing to contemplate as an evidence of the unflinching cordiality and good feeling which exists in a marked degree between the three sister lodges of the town—the Harmony (342), Huddersfield Lodge (365), and Lodge of Truth (763). A deputation was in attendance from the lodge of Harmony (342), consisting of Bro. Richard Sissons, newly-installed W.M., Bro. Geo. W. Rhodes, I.P.M., and Bros. J. Wigney and Henry

N. Crowther, P.M.'s. Bro. G. W. Rhodes, in a brief but effective speech, explained the object of the deputation, which was to present to the Lodge of Truth, a massive richly-chased silver snuff-box, decorated with Masonic emblems and bearing a suitable inscription. Bro. Rhodes stated that the brethren of the Harmony desired, by this gift, to express their just appreciation of the kind feeling and truly Masonic conduct of the brethren of the Lodge of Truth in having spontaneously placed their hall at the service of the members of the Harmony, for the few months during which their own building was undergoing extension and improvement. And as it was during the past year, whilst he (Bro. Rhodes) had held the office of W.M., that this courtesy had been extended to the Harmony, it had been deemed proper that he, rather than Bro. Sissons, W.M. (who was also present), should tender on behalf of this lodge this token of the goodwill and concord which existed, and he trusted would ever continue to exist, between the Lodge of Harmony and the Lodge of Truth. After enlarging on this topic, Bro. Rhodes handed the snuff-box to the W.M., Bro. Tempest, who, having read aloud the inscription, passed it round for the inspection of the brethren, and then, in a very forcible speech, expressed the gratification which this very handsome presentation afforded to him and to all the brethren of the Lodge of Truth—the considerate delicacy with which the affair had been arranged, the pleasing manner in which the presentation had been made—and the beauty and utility of the present itself, called forth his warmest admiration; and he assured the deputation that the Lodge of Truth would ever regard this elegant piece of lodge furniture as a new link in that chain of brotherly love by which the lodges were united, and as the Lodge of Truth neither sought nor expected any such thing as recompense from the Lodge of Harmony in placing Freemasons' Hall at the disposal of the latter, so had the Lodge of Truth this evening received no recompense—for the beautiful present which was now placed on the pedestal was something more and something better than that—it was an interchange of fraternal feeling; as such he accepted it, and as such, in the name of the brethren of the Lodge of Truth, he thanked the deputation for their presentation, and for the very gratifying remarks with which it had been accompanied. The lodge being then duly opened in the Second Degree, the business of the evening was proceeded with, namely, the installation of the W.M. elect, Bro. Allen Jackson, the ceremony being admirably performed by Bro. W. Geo. Dyson P. Prov. A. Dir. of Cers., in his usual correct and impressive style. The W.M. then invested his officers, addressing to each a few appropriate observations, the brethren appointed for the ensuing year being:—Frederic Willis, S.W.; Thos. Sellers Higgins, J.W.; James T. Prince, S.D.; Edwin Woodhouse, J.D.; John Burgess, I.G.; John Turpin, Treas.; Mark Beaumont, H. Sec.; Rev. Wm. Kay Robinson, Chap.; Joe Wood, Org.; Thos. Robinson, P.M., and Wm. Smith, P.M., Dirs. of Cers.; Henry Burne, P.M., Samuel Hardy, P.M., and Geo. Marshall, Purveyors; W. G. Dyson, P.M., James Stockwell, and Thos. Jackson, Stewards; Joshua Lee, P.M. (365), Tyler. It was then proposed, seconded, and unanimously resolved that the annual Masonic ball of the Lodge of Truth should be held in January, 1863; and Friday, the 16th, was the day subsequently decided upon. The lodge was then finally closed at 9.15 p.m., when the brethren retired to the supper-room, and did ample justice to the excellent fare provided; after which they united at the festive board, and spent a most agreeable evening in harmony and concord, separating at 12 p.m.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

NOTTINGHAM.—*Newstead Lodge* (No. 55).—The ninety-ninth anniversary of the festival of St. John was held on Tuesday last, the 22nd inst., by the Newstead Lodge (No. 55), at the Assembly Rooms, in the Lower Pavement. Present—Bros. Percy, D. Prov. G.M.; Marsh, Prov. G.S.W.; Kidd, P.M. 594; Vowles, P.M. 594; Jenkins, 674, 1154, P.M. 252, and P. Prov. G.D.C., Berks and Bucks; Pearce, W.M., and the following Past Masters of No. 55:—Bros. Jefferies, Senior; Clarke, Skilton, Robinson, and several other brethren and officers of the lodge. The minutes of the last lodge having been duly read and confirmed, Mr. Dunnington was introduced and initiated by the W.M.; after which, Bro. Woodward, W.M. elect was presented to Bro. Jenkins (who had kindly offered his services as installing Master in the unexpected and unavoidable absence, through illness, of Bro. Richards, P.M. and Treas. of

the lodge, who had for twenty years past regularly performed that important duty), for installation; and notwithstanding the great difficulty of working and conducting the impressive and interesting ceremony at so short a notice, we are much pleased at being able to record Bro. Jenkins's entire success in carrying out the arduous duties which devolved upon him. The installation over, Bro. Woodward invested Bro. Pearce as P.M., and appointed and invested Bros. Carter, S.W. by deputy; Hack, J.W.; Parr, S.D.; Jefferies, Jun., J.D.; Clark, I.G.; and Attenborough, Sec. We should also add that Bro. Richards was unanimously re-elected Treasurer, and Bro. Banwell, Tyler, at the last lodge. The brethren then adjourned to refreshment, and enjoyed themselves in a truly Masonic and friendly manner over a very nice banquet prepared by Bro. Mee.

SUFFOLK.

IPSWICH.—*Lodge of Perfect Friendship* (No. 522).—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday, at the Great White Horse Hotel, Bro. C. T. Townsend, W.M. for the past year, presiding. Mr. E. T. Mead was ballotted for and unanimously elected, and was afterwards duly initiated into the mysteries of Freemasonry, the ceremony being effectively and ably performed by the presiding W.M. The working tools were duly explained to the newly-elected brother by Bro. Westgate, J.D. The installation of Bro. S. P. King, P.M., as the W.M. of the ensuing year was then proceeded with, the solemn ceremony being performed by Bro. C. F. Townsend, the retiring W.M., in a most effective manner. The W.M. having received the congratulations of the brethren in being exalted to this high and honourable office, he was invested with the badges of authority by the late W.M. The following brethren were then appointed by the W.M. to fill the various offices in the lodge during the ensuing year:—S.W., Bro. H. Luff, P.M.; J.W., Bro. G. A. Turner, P.M.; Treas., Bro. W. P. Mills, P.M.; Sec., Bro. Franks, P.M.; Chaplain, Bro. R. N. Sanderson, P.M.; S.D. Bro. Grimwood; J.D., Bro. A. Pettitt; Librarian, Bro. W. Spalding, P.M.; M.C., Bro. Findley, P.M.; I.G., Bro. F. B. Jennings; Tyler, Bro. Robinson. This part of the ceremony being concluded, the newly-elected W.M., addressing the brethren, said it would ill become him on this occasion if he did not rise and return them his thanks for placing him in that high and honourable position. He felt it a great honour, for on a previous occasion it had been his happy lot to have been called upon by the brethren of that lodge to fill the chair which he then occupied. It would be his endeavour to discharge the duties pertaining to the high and responsible office he held with impartiality in every matter connected with the Perfect Friendship Lodge; and he only hoped that during his year of office its general management would give every satisfaction to the brethren connected with it. And he also trusted that when he left that chair, at the expiration of his year of office, he would do so in the same pleasurable spirit as he took it that evening. His great aim would be to discharge his duties to the satisfaction of all, and the only reward he sought was the good opinion of those over whom he had the good fortune and pleasure of presiding. He should not, however, be discharging his duty if he refrained from alluding to the able manner in which his predecessor in office, Bro. C. T. Townsend, had performed the duties of W.M. He was entitled to the thanks of the lodge, and he had, therefore, great pleasure in proposing such a vote to Bro. Charles Townsend. It is needless to say that the resolution was most cordially received by the brethren. We feel assured that Bro. Charles Townsend is deserving in every way the thanks of the lodge, for the able and efficient manner in which he has discharged the duties of W.M. during the past year; and we only hope that he will still continue to give the lodge the benefit of his valuable services and assistance.—Bro. C. T. Townsend, in returning thanks, said it always gave him the greatest pleasure to further any object in which Masonry was concerned. The lodge was then closed in due and solemn form; after which, about 25 of the brethren partook of an excellent supper liberally provided by Bro. Guiver. This being over, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and cordially responded to; not the least, amongst whom being those of the present and retiring W.M.'s. A most agreeable and harmonious evening was passed; indeed, so happy did the brethren seem, that it was past high twelve before they separated.

ALDBOROUGH.—*Adair Lodge* (No. 1236).—A warrant of Constitution having been granted by the M.W.G.M. to several brethren residing in the above celebrated watering-place to form themselves into a lodge, to be called the "Adair," in compliment to the R.W. Prov. G.M., Colonel Adair, after the necessary preliminary meetings, the brethren met on Friday, Dec. 19, at their lodge room, when, with the assistance of several Provincial Grand Officers, four gentlemen were initiated into the mysteries of our Order.

In the absence of the W.M. Bro. Newton Garbett, the Prov. G. Sec. presided, who admitted to light the son of the W.M., (whose absence from England was greatly regretted by the brethren), the Rev. — Tate, D.D., and two others. After the labours of the lodge ceased, the brethren adjourned to an excellent banquet provided by the landlord of the White Lion Hotel, Bro. Hayward. Cloth having been removed, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given, and the evening spent as is usual by Masons. We noticed several brethren from the Doric Lodge (No. 96), and also from No. 522, the members of which lodges appear to be always ready to assist on such occasions.

ROYAL ARCH.

YORKSHIRE (WEST).

SHEFFIELD.—*Chapter of Loyalty* (No. 373).—It having been determined to work this chapter, which has long been in abeyance, a meeting was held on Monday, the 22nd inst., in the Freemasons' Hall, Surrey-street. The chapter was opened by Comps. Longden, Z., Dixon, H., and White, J., and there were also present Comps. Danby, P.Z., Thomson, P.Z., and others. Comp. Hay having been elected to fill the third chair, was ably installed by Comp. Danby, and Comp. Drury was appointed Scribe E.; Comp. Garnett, P. Soj., &c. A committee was also formed to prepare the byelaws, and other business was transacted.

MASONIC FESTIVITIES.

YORKSHIRE (WEST).

BRADFORD.—*Lodge of Harmony* (No. 874).—On Friday, the 12th inst., the members of this lodge held their annual soiree and ball, in their lodge rooms, Salem-street, which had been specially fitted up and decorated for the occasion. The Right Worshipful D. Prov. G.M., Bro. Dr. Fearnley, having kindly granted a dispensation for the brethren to appear in Craft clothing, they assembled in full Masonic costume in company with their fair sisters, the ladies. And shortly after eight o'clock in the evening, the Voltaries of Terpsichore led off the ball to the enlivening strains of a quadrille band. The ball room was quickly thronged by a gay assembly, and every available space occupied by the lovers of the dance. A number of handsome gilt mirrors were judiciously arranged along the pannelled walls, and interspersed with banners, photographs of the P.M.'s, mottoes, and other decorations, and festooned with flowers and evergreens. Over the whole a flood of light was shed by the jets of gas from the dome in the centre of the roof, and to the eye of every beholder the *tout ensemble* must have been most pleasing, as it was effective and brilliant. At eleven o'clock the whole of the company, about seventy in number, withdrew to the adjoining room, and sat down to a supper of the choicest viands. The W.M., Bro. Dodd, presided, supported by Bros. H. O. Mawson, W.M. of the Lodge of Hope (No. 379); J. A. Unna, P.M.; A. Englemann, P.M.; H. Newmann, P.M.; S. Barsdorf, P.M.; T. Johnson, P.M.; J. Ahrens, P.M.; S. O. Bailey, P.M.; J. Goldstein, P.M., and the Senior and Junior Wardens, Bros. Burnley and Dewhirst. After supper the W.M. proposed the usual loyal toast of "Her Most Gracious Majesty, the Queen," which was received with due honours. Bro. Peel, S.D., then rose in obedience to the call of the W.M., and in glowing terms, of the most flowery sentiment, proposed the toast of the evening "Our Fair Sisters, the ladies," who had deigned to grace the assembly with their presence, and "with smooth step disclosing motion in its every charm, to swim along and swell the mazy dance." The toast was drunk with enthusiasm, and Bro. Mossman most ably responded on behalf of the ladies, his lively sallies of wit and humour being received with repeated rounds

of applause. Dancing was then resumed and kept up with the greatest spirit untill two o'clock, when the brethren with their fair partners, almost simultaneously, separated, congratulating each other and especially the W.M. and his lady upon this the most successful of their annual festive reunions. The affability and assiduous attention of Bro. P. M. Johnson, the Master of the Ceremonies, was observed by all, and contributed in no small degree to the pleasures of the evening. Great credit is due also to Bro. Dewhirst, to whom was entrusted the preparatory arrangements, for the admirable judgment and taste displayed by him in superintending the fitting up and decorating the rooms.

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

MANCHESTER.—*Jerusalem Encampment of H.R.D.M. Kadosh Templars and Knights of Malta*.—A meeting of this encampment was held on the 17th December at the Masonic Rooms. present, Sir Knights John Smith, 18° E.C.; John Yarker, 18°, Prelate; Captain H. A. Bennett, 30° P.E.C., as 1st Captain; Charles Ellis, 18° P.E.C., 2nd Captain; S. P. Leather, 18°, Reg.; J. L. Hine, Treas.; Stephen Smith, 30° P.E.C. Visitor, Sir Knight W. H. Wright, Prov. G. Chancellor. The minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed, after which the V.C. elect, Sir Knight John Yarker, was duly inducted into office by Sir Knight Wright in his usual impressive manner. Appointments: Sir Knight B. St. John B. Joule, 30°, P. 1st. Captain, Prelate; S. P. Leather, 18°, 1st Captain; Charles Ellis, 18°, Reg. *pro tem.*; Allan, Excerpt; Captain Hargreave, 1st S.B.; Collinge, C. of L. A candidate for installation and a Sir Knight as a joining member were proposed. The E.C. then alluded to the working of the encampment, and stated that the Knights of Malta were anxious to possess a standard ritual, and proposed that the Treasurer Sir Knight Hine be instructed to procure a copy when the same is issued, and the suggestion was unanimously adopted. The encampment was then duly closed, and the Sir Knight. adjourned to refreshment. This encampment, the oldest in Lancashire, was originally constituted in the old York Rite (the representatives of the Templars who placed themselves under the protection of Archbishop Grenesfield, in 1314), and they adopted the authorised ritual at a resuscitation in 1851. The old banners, or tracing boards, of which there are four in the encampment, are highly curious and *instructive*, many of our emblems having been placed to the wrong degree. On the first we have a Castle, bearing the Red Cross Flag, a Tower filled with mystical characters, surmounted with a Beacon Fire, and bearing the words, "Jerusalem Conclave, 9. A.L. 5799, A.D. 1795, A.O. 677, A.C. 481." Reverse—the Patriarchal Cross of the Temple. Second: the All-seeing Eye, Sun, Moon, Hand, Foot, Coffin, Skull, and Crossbone; reverse—the Jerusalem Cross, or Emblem of the Knights of the Holy Sepulchre. Third: Seven Pointed Star, Cross and Serpent, Triangle of Lights, *Armed Pilgrim*, and Seven-stepped Ladder, surmounted by a Double-headed Eagle; reverse—the Cross of Constantine, or St. George of Italy. Fourth: Glory with Triangle, Cup, Scrip, Sword and Saw, Cock, Lamb, and Crown of Thorns; reverse—the White Octagonal Cross of Malta.

Ne Plus Ultra

S.B.	81.	K.	T.
T.			
S.A.	54.	A.	E.
H.	27.	D.	M.
E.	9.	O.	P.
H.	7.	S.	L.
A.E.	5.	H.	A.
S.		S.	R.
Z.	P.M.'s Problem.		

The Hartley Institute is now thrown open to the public three days a-week, and crowds of persons visit it. Contributions to the museum from all parts of the country arrive almost daily, and it already contains numerous curiosities of science, art, and natural history. Dr. Bond, the curator of the institution, has submitted an elaborate report to the corporation on its future management.

NOTES ON MUSIC AND THE DRAMA.

Next spring Mdme. Goldschmidt-Lind and Herr Otto Goldschmidt are to give a series of concerts in London, and afterwards to make a farewell tour in the provinces.

Being asked on every side (says the *Athenæum*) for the date at which "The Limited Liability Opera Company" will commence its proceedings, we may as well put the inquiry. At present it would seem as if there were not much chance of anything being done during the next season, the theatres being all occupied. Some grand performances at her Majesty's Theatre have been talked of, and *Les Huguenots* mentioned as the work to be attempted; but to the last rumour we cannot give credence for a moment.

The *Sunday Times* records the death of the once popular actress Mrs. Partridge (late Miss Edwards), and one of the original cast in *Don Giovanni*, which has just taken place in the infirmary at St. Giles's Union, brought on by extreme want and exposure. She had reached the advanced age of 78. For some time past she suffered great distress, having scarcely any clothing, often without food, and no shelter to protect her; but lately, through the generosity of Mr. J. W. Anson, she was enabled to obtain warm apparel, food, and lodging. At the time of her decease Mr. Anson had obtained the means from the Dramatic Sick Fund Association to convey her to the only relative she possessed—viz., a cousin at Birmingham. The moment the intelligence of her death reached Mr. Anson, he had her removed from St. Giles's, and on Sunday respectfully buried her at the beautiful cemetery set apart for the dramatic profession at the Working Necropolis, defraying the cost out of his private income, and himself following her remains to their last resting place.

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

We go to press at too early a period to remark how the Christmas entertainments have been received, but, we may briefly allude to their nature:—

At COVENT GARDEN the pantomime is from the pen of Mr. Henry J. Byron, and is entitled *Harlequin Beauty and the Beast: or, the Gnome Queen and the Good Fairy*. The scenery, appointments, &c., are all on a scale of unexampled magnificence, Mr. Calcott's transformation scene excelling anything of the kind before witnessed, even in this theatre. Mr. W. H. Payne, his two sons, and Mr. Charles Fenton have parts in the opening; and the Spirit of the Sun, by Miss Eliza Arden; Beauty, by Miss Louisa Laidlaw; and Prince Perfect, by Mrs. Aynsley Cooke, aid the effectiveness of the cast. The harlequinade is strongly supported as follows:—Harlequin, Fred. Payne; Columbine, Miss Bertha Adams; Pantaloon, W. A. Barnes. Clown, Harry Payne; Sprites, the Brothers Martinette.

At DRURY LANE, *Little Goody Two Shoes; or, Harlequin and Cock Robin* is the title of the new grand grotesque extravaganza opening, which Mr. E. L. Blanchard has contributed, as usual, to our national theatre, now under the management of Mr. Edmund Falconer, presenting a brilliantly-renovated appearance. The heroine of the well-known story is personated by that clever actress and danseuse, Miss Lydia Thompson. Some beautiful woodland and pastoral scenery has been painted by the eminent masters of their art, Messrs. Grieve and Telbin; the artistic designs and droll masks have been furnished by the famous Dyk-wynkyn. The harlequinade, which is full of pantomimic drollery, is supported by Mr. Harry Boleno and Mr. Charles Lauri, as Clowns; Mr. Cormack and Mr. St. Maine are the Harlequins; Messrs. Tanner and Deulin Johnson, the Pantaloons; and Madame Boleno and the Misses Gunness are the Columbines. The mechanical changes are very extensive, and an enormous expense has been gone to in order to secure the effectiveness of every department.

At the HAYMARKET *Rasselas, Prince of Abyssinia*, founded on Dr. Johnson's charming story, with an occasional advantage taken of the authoress, who wrote a sequel to the same under the title of "Dinabris," is the extravaganza which Mr. William Brough has prepared for the holiday folks. Miss Louise Keeley makes her first appearance at this theatre as the hero, Rasselas, and in the memorable search after happiness will be certain to find much that will insure the happiness of the audience. The new scenery, by Mr. O'Connor, is of more than ordinary magnificence, and a brilliant ballet, arranged by M. Petit, of Her Majesty's Theatre, is an important feature of the extravaganza.

At the PRINCESS's the story of *Prince Riquet with the Tuft* has been treated in burlesque fashion by Mr. E. L. Blanchard. The Harlequinade is full of smart hits at the topics of the day, supported by Mr. Milano, as Harlequin; Mr. Power, as Clown; Mr. Halford, as Pantaloon; and the whole has been arranged and produced under the supervision of Mr. Robert Roxby.

At the ST. JAMES'S, *Goldenhair the Good* is the title of the Christmas piece. It is a little, original, serio-comic, fairy drama, in one act, from the pen of Henry J. Byron, and turns upon the adventures of a certain Woodnymph (Miss Herbert), who disgraces her fairy belongings by falling in love with a demon. She is banished from fairyland, but is ultimately received back as a reward for her generosity and unselfishness. The music is original, and composed by Mr. F. Wallerstein.

At the ADELPHI, Mr. Byron has selected *George Barnwell* as the groundwork for his burlesque pantomime. The piece opens with the mythical personages Romance, Claptrap, and Folly, who, being at their wits' end for a subject, Folly suggests the present one, and assumes the shape of Millwood. The transformation scene is from the pencil of Mr. James. The wand of Folly evokes the pantomimic characters, and we then revel in the atmosphere of "bumps, jumps, thumps, and red-hot pokers." The Harlequin is Mr. J. Lauri; Clown, Mr. Hillyard; Pantaloon, Mr. Paulo; and Columbine, Miss C. Adams. The new scenery, by Mr. Charles James, is a conspicuous feature of the Adelphi novelty, and the whole has been produced by Mr. Phillips.

At the OLYMPIC, the subject of the new burlesque extravaganza here is the favourite legend of *Robin Hood and Little John*. Mr. Atkins (who lately made a very successful debut at Drury Lane), and the principal members of the company appear in the extravaganza. The scenery is on an extensive scale; and the music, by Mr. J. H. Tully, is, of course, a prominent feature.

At the WESTMINSTER (Astley's), now under the management of Mr. Boucicault, the pantomime is called, *Ladybird; or, Harlequin Lord Dundreary*, and is the first return for 30 years past to the old legitimate pantomime, the opening being without dialogue, except when the fairies interpose. Messrs. Hulme and Duprex, Miss Annie Cushnie, and Mr. Sylvester, are engaged in the comic business as it is called, during which we have a fishmonger's shop in the Haymarket, New Lambeth Bridge, and the machinery annexe of the Great Exhibition. The last scene, usually called the transformation scene, Mr. Roberts has displayed all those powers with which the public were favourably acquainted while he acted as head assistant to Mr. W. Beverley.

At the STRAND, *Ivanhoe, in Accordance with the Spirit of the Times*, is the title of Mr. Henry J. Byron's Christmas extravaganza. The burlesque abounds with songs, dances, show, and fun, and is to be placed upon the stage in a manner to eclipse all the previous dramas of a like nature in this theatre. The scenery is by Mr. A. Calcott, and the music, much of which is original, has been composed and arranged by Mr. Frank Musgrave.

At SADLER'S WELLS the pantomime is written by Captain Horton Rhys, and is entitled *The Rose of Blarney; or, Harlequin Duncymanooranyotherman*. The corps de ballet, headed by Miss Rosa Nathan, will be very numerous.

At the SURREY the pantomime, by Mr. Dutton, bears the title of *Harlequin Old Mother Goose; or, the Queen of Hearts that made some Tarts, and the Knave of Hearts who stole them*.

At the NEW ROYALTY, once known as Miss Kelly's theatre, a pantomime is produced, the manufacture of Mr. T. Townsend, the subject being *Humpty Dumpty sat upon a Wall*.

At the CRYSTAL PALACE the Handel orchestra affording such ample scope for a large audience, it has been determined to concentrate all the amusements this year at that part of the great transept. The nave and transept will be gaily decorated with holly and evergreens and flags, and various emblematic devices appropriate to the season. A feature of novelty will be portraits of the various Princes of Wales surrounding the great transept. At the garden end of the great transept a large prismatic mirror, by Messrs. Defries, has been placed. The nave of the palace are now also completely lighted by new candelabra, made to a design of the company, founded on the lights made use of in Paris at the *fête* of the Emperor in August last. The Christmas tree will be placed near the tropical screen. It will be backed up by national flags and banners, conspicuous among which will be those of the Prince of Wales and the Princess Alexandra of Denmark, ranged on either side of them being large equestrian portraits of the Prince and Princess. Commencing

on boxing-day, a daily series of amusements suitable to the season will be given, under the direction of Mr. Nelson Lee. Blondin still performs alternately on the high and the low rope.

POLYTECHNIC.—The novelties here are an optical harlequinade on Cinderella, "sung and said" by Mr. George Buckland; and a philosophical entertainment by Mr. J. H. Pepper; besides specimens of ventriloquism and conjuring. A giant Christmas-tree and a distribution of toys are also among the attractions.

COLOSSEUM.—The Christmas arrangements made by Dr. Bachhoffner include a pantomime founded on the story of the *Forty Thieves*, nigger minstrelsy, wizard illusions, dissolving views, musical and pictorial entertainments, &c., besides the usual attractions of the place. Juvenile *fêtes* are also promised, with periodical distributions of toys from a Christmas-tree.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, WESTMINSTER.—Under the new and rather unaccountable designation of "The Theatre Royal, Westminster," the edifice which for many generations past has been known as "Astley's Royal Amphitheatre," was opened on Monday for a class of entertainments very different from that which was contemplated by the original founders of that favourite place of public amusement. The building has been so thoroughly transformed that Londoners will find some difficulty in recognising in Mr. Boucicault's commodious and finely-proportioned theatre the house in which they were for so many years accustomed to witness "deeds of noble horsemanship." A magician's wand could scarcely have produced changes more complete in design, or more brilliant in effect. A few of the more important of these attractive alterations have been summarised by the manager himself, with a terse accuracy that can scarcely be improved upon. The auditorium has been entirely reconstructed, the stage machinery has been wholly altered, the line of sight corrected, a new acoustic form given to the proscenium, and the old method of light been superseded. When it is added that this revolution, involving other changes in matter of detail too numerous to mention, has been brought about within the brief period of four weeks, it will be admitted that Mr. Boucicault has effected a pictorial and architectural *coup d'état* of no common magnitude, and that he deserves all the praise fairly due to so remarkable an achievement. There was no feature of novelty in the entertainments, which consisted merely of Mr. Tom Taylor's comedietta of *Parents and Guardians*, and the manager's own Scotch drama and warlike spectacle of *The Relief of Lucknow*. Both pieces, however, were performed very spiritedly. In the former Mr. Boucicault played Tourbillon with excellent effect, and Mrs. Boucicault was equally successful as Bob Nettles, a part in which her powers of fun and pathos are displayed to great advantage. The military melodrama is decked out in the full splendour of new dresses, appointments, and "spectacular effects," and the scenery by Mr. Beverley is very beautiful. Box-keepers' fees are abolished, seats in all parts of the house may be reserved throughout the evening for 6d. extra on the charge for admission, and what will recommend the house to the notice of parents and guardians more especially, the performances are to be brought to a close at or before eleven o'clock.

THE WEEK.

THE COURT.—The Queen and Royal Family have left Windsor for Osborne.

GENERAL HOME NEWS.—A somewhat important circular was issued from the War Office on Saturday. Sir G. C. Lewis, having deemed it necessary to give instructions for a revision of the regulations which have been issued for the guidance of the volunteer force, considers it expedient to place a limit to the formation of a new volunteer corps, and he has therefore intimated to the Lord Lieutenant of each county that no offer of service which may reach him after the 1st of January will be accepted. —A county meeting was held at Stockport, on Saturday—the High Sheriff of Cheshire in the chair—for the purpose of taking further measures for the relief of the distress in the cotton districts. Among the speakers were the Marquis of Westminster, Lord Stanley of Alderley (Postmaster General), Bishop of Chester, and Lord Grosvenor. In the course of his speech, the Postmaster General referred to the capabilities of India as a cotton producing country, and urged that if "British manufacturers, capitalists, and merchants, would do that with cotton which had been done with indigo, before many years were past India would produce as good an article as the United States, and at prices infinitely lower. The Government was

improving the modes of transit and navigation, and he believed that shortly access would be had to all parts of the country. Before the meeting closed a subscription list was opened, and donations to the amount of £13,400 were announced.

The *Gazette* of Tuesday contains the appointment of the commission promised by Sir George Grey to inquire into the working of the present system of penal servitude. Among the members of the commission are Earl Grey, Lord Naas, Lord Cranworth, Lord Chelmsford, Sir John Pakington, Mr. Walpole, Mr. Henley, the Lord Chief Justice, the Recorder, Mr. Waddington, Under Secretary for the Home Department, Mr. Bowrie, Mr. Russell Gurney, the O'Connor Don, and Mr. Childer.

—Mr. Layard, the Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs and one of the members for Southwark, addressed a meeting of his constituents on Monday night. The hon. gentleman, after glancing at the principal domestic measures of the past session, referred at considerable length to the foreign policy of the Government. He defended the course adopted with regard to China, and gave the cheering assurance that there is not the smallest prospect of another war with that empire. With respect to the American war, the policy of non-intervention would be strictly adhered to, and he felt confident that the time would come when the people of the United States would admit the injustice of the feeling of irritation with which the conduct of England is regarded at the present moment. The hon. gentleman spoke with hope of the future of Italy; announced the willingness of England to hand over the Ionian Islands to Greece, "provided we have security for their good and free government; and finally paid a high tribute to the noble conduct of the operatives of Lancashire. —Admiral Fitzroy has once more proved a correct weather prophet. On Thursday week he telegraphed to the outposts, ordering warning signals to be hoisted. A heavy gale began to blow the same evening, and, as we are informed by a telegram, it continued to rage yesterday along the whole coast. The hurricane was felt with great severity in this city, and other inland districts. In the neighbourhood of Wigan, a singular and fatal accident occurred. A tub of coal was blown from the bank of a pit down the shaft, and falling upon a miner who was about to ascend, crushed the poor fellow to death.

—A military Court of Inquiry has declared that Colonel Burnaby has "vindicated his honour" in the matter of the famous "Reindeer bet." The Court had previously fully acquitted both Colonel Burnaby and Captain Annesley on the Tarragona charge. —The First Division of the Scottish Court of Session has reversed the decision of Lord Ardmillan in the Yelverton marriage case. Two of the Judges—Lord Deas and Lord Curriehill—gave judgment yesterday in favour of Mrs. Yelverton, while the Lord President adhered to the view taken of the case by the Lord Ordinary, who decided that no valid marriage had been contracted. Mrs. Yelverton has so far, therefore, established her claim to be the lawful wife of the heir to the Avonmore peerage; but there can be little doubt that the case will be carried to the House of Lords. —A very singular case of the recovery of lost property has been brought before the Westminster police-court. A young lady lost a brooch, and asked the servant in the house to look for it. It was not found, but a short time afterwards the servant was seen wearing the identical brooch openly in her shawl. She was given into custody, but she said she had received it from a female acquaintance of hers who was employed in riddling dust-heaps. The dust girl was called as a witness, and told such a plain, straightforward tale of having found the brooch among the ashes, that the magistrate honourably acquitted the servant, though he remarked it was one of the most singular instances of the return of lost property to the house it had gone from that was probably ever heard of. —Nearly two months ago a man was apprehended on the charge of having cut his wife's throat in a coffee-house in the Edgware-road, where they were lodging. It was then the decided opinion of the surgeons that the woman could not survive above a day or two, but through their unremitting exertions she has recovered, and was brought into Marylebone Police-court on Monday, very weak, and obliged to answer the questions put to her in writing. She distinctly charged her husband with the crime, while he persisted that she did it herself. The husband was committed for trial both on this charge, and on the additional charge of bigamy. —An inquest has been held on the body of a young man, aged 19, who had come home from Belize, on board the *Martha Pope*, a vessel, laden with mahogany, and who was said to have met with his death from ill usage. The captain, who

was cautioned, volunteered his evidence, and admitted that he had been in the habit of flogging the deceased with a piece of whip-cord. Dr. Giles, who had been called in to give a certificate for burial and refused, gave a shocking account of the state of deceased. His body was covered with bruises; his stomach was perfectly flat, and he appeared to have been left absolutely without food. The doctor attributed the immediate cause of his death to his being flogged while in that exhausted condition. The jury found that he was killed by misfortune. —A very daring outrage was committed in the neighbourhood of Chesterfield on Thursday night week. A miller, who had been out all day collecting accounts, was riding home, when he was attacked by two men. One of them he knocked down, while he shot the other. About twenty yards ahead he encountered two other fellows, whom he fired at, but missed. The police went to the place shortly afterwards, and found some blood on the spot where the first man was shot, but beyond this no trace of the highwaymen could be seen. —Mr. George Ruxton, who was recently acquitted at Liverpool on a charge of having ordered the destruction of one of his ships with the view of defrauding the underwriters, was committed for trial in London, on Saturday last, for alleged conspiracy to cheat an insurance company. James Bertie, a master mason, now or formerly in Ruxton's service, was at the same time committed for trial as an accomplice in this alleged fraud. It was stated on behalf of Ruxton that he had "a full answer to the charge." —Another boiler explosion has transpired. It has occurred at a small factory near Beveden, and three persons have thereby lost their lives. —The number of deaths that took place last week in London amounted to 1412. This is 78 above the average of the corrected returns for the last ten years. It is, however, considerably below the number reported in the first week of the present month. The prevalent diseases appear to be small-pox, measles, typhus, and pulmonary complaints. There were 1923 children born in the course of the week, which is considerably above the corrected average for the last ten years—that would make the number 1753. —Cox, the Irish pitman, who was recently sentenced to death for the murder of an old woman at Broadmires, was executed at Durham on Tuesday. The convict protested his innocence of the crime to the last moment. —The inquest on the bodies of the persons killed by the colliery explosion near Barnsley, has resulted in a verdict to the effect that the calamity arose from the "incautious and unsafe working of the dip-board." The jury further censure the mode of blasting with powder adopted in the pit, but no one is named as personally responsible for what has taken place. —Mr. Digby Seymour's "case" has once more been ventilated in the Court of Queen's Bench. Among the persons examined before the Benchers of the Middle Temple, when the charges preferred against Mr. Seymour were being investigated, was a Mr. Hudson, who had been on the board of a mining company, with which the hon. and learned gentleman had been connected. Mr. Hudson found that the Benchers had got possession of a book containing memoranda relating, it would seem, to the business of this concern. He said the book was his private property. The Benchers, on the other hand, said it was not, and that it had been handed to them by the company's solicitor. Mr. Hudson was, however, resolved to obtain possession of the volume, and on its being handed to him in order that he might refer to it, he put it in his pocket. A rather lively scene followed. The Benchers demanded that the book should be returned: but Mr. Hudson defiantly avowed his intention of keeping what he called his private property. The porters were then called in, and Mr. Hudson's pockets were "rummaged" in search of the book. It could not, however, be got hold of, and the upshot was that he was given into custody on the charge of having "taken" or "stolen" it. The inspector at the station declined to take the charge, and Mr. Hudson has therefore brought an action for assault and false imprisonment against Sir F. Slade and several other Benchers, along with two of the Temple servants. The case occupied the Court of Queen's Bench five days, when the jury, almost equally divided in opinion (7 to 5), they were discharged without giving a verdict.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.—The *Moniteur*, in its non-official bulletin, states that some journals "exaggerate the tendency" of the French proposal to mediate between the American belligerents, and declared that "the overtures of France are disinterested, opportune, and careful of the rights and susceptibilities of the belligerents." —The Italian Chambers were prorogued yesterday by Royal decree. A body of French and Italian troops

have made an expedition on the Roman frontier, and dispersed the remainder of Tristany's band of brigands. Garibaldi has once more returned to the island home which he unfortunately quitted in order to take part in the events that resulted in the affair of Aspromonte. On Saturday morning he arrived at Pisa from Leghorn, and in the course of the afternoon he embarked for Capraia. —Many fresh arrests have been made in Warsaw, and the Russian authorities are said to have obtained a clue to a central committee which directs the operations of the Polish malcontents. —A despatch from Lisbon brings a brief account of a railway accident, perhaps the most destructive to human life that has yet occurred in Europe. While a train conveying materials and some 200 workmen was passing over a bridge on the Great Eastern Railway of Portugal, the bridge gave way, and the train was precipitated into the river beneath. About 100 men are said to have perished and many others to have been injured. —Prince Gortschakoff officially denies that Russia has ever favoured the candidature of the Duke de Leuchtenberg for the throne of Greece. —Another blow has been struck at the passport system. The *Official Gazette* of Madrid yesterday published a notification that henceforth all passports are abolished in Spain. The Mexican debate still goes on in the Senate. The last speaker was General Concha, who strongly opposed the policy of General Prim, but stated he was friendly to the Ministers on other questions. —Advices from St. Petersburg state that a marriage is arranged between Prince William of Baden and the eldest daughter of the Grand Duchess Marie of Leuchtenberg.

AMERICA.—The latest despatches from New York state that on the 11th instant General Burnside succeeded in throwing bridges across the Rappahannock, notwithstanding the fire of the Confederates, and that his army subsequently crossed the river at several points. The Confederates, we are told, were "driven out of the city to their line of works outside Fredericksburg," but since then, says a New York telegram dated the evening of the 12th inst., "no further news has been received." There had been a severe engagement in Argansas, in the neighbourhood of Fayetteville. Some 24,000 Confederates are stated to have attacked a body of about 6,000 or 7,000 Federals, who maintained their ground until a reinforcement of 5,000 men arrived, and fell on the rear of the Confederates, who then retreated across the Boston Mountains, leaving their adversaries in possession of the field. The Confederate loss is represented to have amounted to 2000 men, while the Federals are alleged to have lost only 1000 men; but it is admitted that very few prisoners and no guns were taken from the Confederates. The Chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means had presented to the House of Representatives a scheme—which is, however, said not to have been sanctioned by the Committee or by Secretary Chase—empowering the Treasury to issue legal tender notes to the amount of 500,000,000 dollars, and directing the redemption of all existing bonds, and an issue of 1,000,000,000 dollars of six per cent. bonds, to be redeemable in gold or silver at the end of twenty years, but with the ominous proviso that the interest should be payable, not in gold or silver, but in "lawful money." The intelligence brought by the Hibernia steamer from New York to the 13th, states that after General Burnside's forces passed the Rappahannock, on the 12th, they occupied the south side of the river and Fredericksburg. The Confederates, who occupied two strong lines of batteries in the rear of Fredericksburg, had concentrated their forces, and a battle was expected immediately. The Federal movements in Missouri were much retarded by the rain, and doubts were entertained of their having occupied Grenada. The House of Representatives had tabled a resolution condemnatory of President Lincoln's emancipation proclamation by 95 to 47. A private telegram received at Liverpool states that a battle had commenced at Fredericksburg, and that it was being continued on the 13th, the date of the latest intelligence.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

SCOTLAND.—Our correspondent's notice of Mother Kilwinning and other festivals, &c., are deferred till next week.

T. H.—S.W., J.W., Treas., Sec., S.D., &c.

R. &c.—Next week.

