

LONDON, SATURDAY, MAY 21, 1864.

THE GRAND LODGE PROPERTY.

In looking over the agenda of Grand Lodge business for Wednesday next, there is nothing to excite particular attention until we come to a recommendation from the Committee on the Grand Lodge Property that they should be empowered to take the necessary steps, on behalf of Grand Lodge, "for the letting of the present and future Tavern, and the premises in Middle-yard upon such terms and conditions as may seem to them just and advantageous." Nothing could appear more simple and more consistent with the principles of common sense than that the Committee which knows all about the Property should be allowed to try and let it for the benefit of the Craft; but it seems that such a motion cannot be allowed to pass in silence, inasmuch as the disposal of the Property is claimed as a right by the Board of General Purposes, which showed itself so dilatory in its movements that its prerogatives in that respect were compelled to be curtailed, and the present Committee appointed to supersede them.

Whether the present is or is not the proper time for letting the Property we do not intend to argue; indeed, we are prepared to admit that we should have preferred seeing the work carried somewhat further toward completion in order that we might better know what there is really to let before any particular step on the subject was taken; but there are other questions to be considered. Have the present tenants a right to be kept in suspense as to their future position, and will or will it not conduce most to their interests to know whether they are, or are not, to continue lessees of the Tavern?

After mature consideration, we come to the conclusion that they ought to be placed in the position of at once knowing how they are to be treated in the future, feeling assured that if they can make an acceptable offer, as we have no doubt they will, it will be at once closed with by the Committee without regard to others; and should the Committee not do them justice, they may rely upon obtaining it at the hands of Grand Lodge. Whoever are to be future lessees of the Tavern ought to be placed in the position of suggesting such alterations as they may require in the arrangements of the proposed new buildings, as to render them complete at once, and thereby save future expense; and nothing will give us greater

pleasure than to announce that Messrs. Shrewsbury and Co. have taken a long lease of the new Tavern, giving, however, sufficient guarantees for the Craft receiving that accommodation which they have a right to demand, and without which the brethren, under any arrangements, will never be satisfied.

THE INTERIOR OF A GOTHIC MINSTER.*

In addressing you upon the subject of the interior of a Gothic minster I feel like the man in the Eastern story, who conjured the Genius of more than colossal dimensions kindly to recompose himself within his moderately-sized jar, so large are the materials and so short the limits of a lecture; in one respect, however, I will endeavour to secure your approval, in consulting your patience by brevity and conciseness.

The word "minster" I use in the following observations in its largest sense, embracing the cathedral, conventual, and collegiate churches; and if some points appear omitted from consideration, the reason will be found in the fact that they were treated on in my paper on Church and Conventual Arrangement, read before the Royal Institute of British Architects, and since published by Messrs. Atchley and Co.

Upon first entering a minster, the impression now is very different from that produced in Mediaeval times, when colour was freely used. The red and blue draperies, the shining gold backgrounds common in Mediaeval pictures, were intended for churches having such gorgeously-painted walls and pillars, and fainter colours would have appeared weak or been completely lost when submitted to the glowing streams of light which flowed from windows dyed with azure, ruby, and amber.

At St. Alban's we discover traces of successive stages of mural enrichment; representation of joints of Masonry in the thirteenth century; rich diapering of the fourteenth, in imitation of stained glass; and in the fifteenth, scriptural or legendary illustrations. At Rochester, the shafts and arches were painted red, green, and yellow; the whole face of the stonework was filled with the same tint, not distinguishing the moulding, both in the nave and transept. At Carlisle, the choir pillars were painted white, and diapered with red roses nearly a foot in diameter, with a gold monogram, I. H. C. or J. M. of the fifteenth century. In Conrad's "glorious choir" of Canterbury the vault was painted like a sky. At Peterborough the old Norman ceiling—and an imitation of the time of Abbot Wheathampstead, at St. Alban's—and one at Bolton of the Early Tudor period, are good specimens of their style, to which the

* By the Rev. Mackenzie E. C. Walcott, M.A., F.S.A., Precentor and Prebendary of Chichester, read at the Architectural Museum

abours of Mr. L'Estrange and Gambier Parry will add another at Ely. At Winchester the hooks remain above the base arcade on which the superb suits of tapestry were hung on solemn occasions. At Chichester, the remarkable wall-paintings in the south wing of the transepts, made by Bernardi for Bishop Sherborne, are, I fear, irreparably injured; some were wholly destroyed by the calamitous fall of the tower and spire. At Canterbury, Winchester, St. Alban's, Durham, Exeter, Rochester, Carlisle, and Westminster, we can still point to specimens of mural ornament; and at Exeter, in the panels of the screen, to thirteen oil paintings of the time of Charles I.; and still later—of the date 1728—to some figures in distemper, by Damiani, in the north wing of the choir transept of Lincoln.

The Nave.—Was used for the passage of processions and for preaching. The time at my disposal permits me merely to mention that most of the Orders had their peculiar arrangement, the Benedictines preserving the area of their naves clear of the parish church found in those of the Austin Canons; and the Cistercians, holding aloof from the presence of any but of their own body, and exhibiting a stern simplicity, in striking contrast to the sumptuousness of the Clugniac—the Premonstratensian churches, were unusually small and irregular—and the friars' naves long and narrow, with ordinarily a single aisle for the brethren during sermon-time, and a choir separated from approach by a central tower. But no positive law can be laid down for a certain discrimination at first sight, so frequent are the exceptional instances. Whilst from their constitution the Austin Canons of Thornton, Carlisle, and Christchurch, and the Secular Canons of Hereford and Chichester, left the naves open for the parish altar; the Benedictines, who, at Rochester, Westminster, Chester, St. Alban's and other places, built a separate parish church, yet tolerated it within the nave at Bodmin and Tynemouth. At Romsey the Benedictine nuns, as at Marrick, allotted the north nave aisle to the townspeople, while they occupied that on the south; and at Romsey the raised step of the platform remained till recently for their stalls. At Lincoln, Bishop Sutton removed the parishioners of St. Mary Magdalene out of the nave. In order to give still further relief at Chichester and Scarborough, and with less uniformity at Manchester, side chapels were erected externally to the nave aisles; for the same reason, a large chapel at York, and a church of St. Cross at Ely, were appended on the north, and at Rochester and Waltham, on the south of the nave.

In the nave stood the *pulpit* which appears to have been moveable, as it ought to be again, after the roodloft was deserted for it. The stationary structures of stone, as at Worcester, 1504, Wells, sixteenth century, and Ripon are not earlier (nor were those of Norwich or Exeter now lost) than

the Perpendicular period, and were copied from the refectory and open air examples, such as those of Beaulieu, Chester, or Magdalen College, Oxford. In most of our cathedrals this traditional use of the nave was observed: at St. David's the pulpit stood in it until 1844. The pulpits of Winchester and Bristol are of wood, and the sixteenth century; that of Hereford Elizabethan, and of the same material. That of Lichfield was the gift of Bishop Hacket. In several instances the naves were very inconveniently blocked up; at Canterbury the south aisle only was available for the public.

At Durham, the Lady Chapel blocks the west front. It contained an iron pulpit, from which a sermon was preached on Sundays, between one and three, to a congregation of women, as they were not permitted to pass the "row" with a cross of blue marble, which traversed the west end of the nave. This chapel derived its name of Galilee from being the last station of the procession (Martene, de Ant. Mon. Rit. iv., 155, 204), which took its origin in our Lord's command, given to His disciples after His resurrection to meet Him in Galilee (Rupert, Tuiten., I, vii., c., xxi.; v. c. viii.), and a Durham MS., quoted by Hutchinson, and Macro in his Lexicon, both mention that the Sunday procession was held in memory of the apostles' journey. But the Durham Rites say that it was called Galilee owing to the transposition of the eastern chapel to this site. Martene (u. s. p. 363), defines it to be "the lower end of the church," and in the aspect may refer to the Galilee of the Gentiles as being the most remote part from the altar. It served as the place of penitents, and also for the burial of the worthy dead, says Ducange; but I may be permitted to suggest that the true allusion, after all, was to the original Hebrew word applied to the outer folding gates of the temple (1 Kings vi. 34; Ezek. xli. 24. Comp. Gesenius on the word "Galilee").

In the nave, the sanctuary chamber occupied the basement of the south-west tower: in the next bay was a chapel of Bound Rood. Towards the east, in the south aisle also, was the Neville chantry, separated by low walls, on the east and west, and from the nave by a screen of ironwork; it contained the prior's pew when he attended the Jesus Mass. Under the north-west tower was the Saviour's altar, and in the next bay the chapel of Our Lady of Pity, enclosed with wooden screens. In the eastern bay was an organ-loft, used by the choir on Friday for the Jesus Mass, and beyond it were the large folding doors, opening into the transept, which were only unlocked at the time of processions.

In the nave the great processions were arranged; and at Fountains, at Chichester, and York were two rows of circular *processional stones*, arranged at proper intervals, and allotted as the positions of the superiors and inferiors and singers. At Canterbury two parallel lines were cut in the pave-

ment for a similar purpose. The new pavements were the cause of their disappearance; but at Norwich, on the north side of the nave, is a series of rings, through which, on such occasions, ropes were passed, in order to keep off the pressure of the crowd. Another adjunct which was used at these times was the *tribune* of Winchester, then occupied by musicians; like the *minstrel galleries* of Exeter and Wells. From the former, on Christmas morning, still, at seven o'clock, the choir sings the Old Hundredth Psalm.

The superb series of stained-glass windows of the early part of the fourteenth century at York will give some idea of the enrichment of a Mediæval nave. It also contains a unique feature—the great beam carved like a dragon's head which supported the font cover, with the effigy of the Christian warrior appropriately facing it. The Norman fonts of Winchester, Hereford, Lincoln, Rochester, Wells, Dorchester, Christchurch, Brecon, and Crowland, and the Perpendicular examples of Norwich, Ripon, and Binham, are well known; it is only remarkable that there are no more, as the right of baptism specially pertained to the cathedral, and in consequence the Pentecostals, St. Chad's pennies, and St. Richard's pence, were paid at Whitsuntide, because the cathedral formerly was the only baptistery, and at Easter and Pentecost it was administered (Mayer, i. 49). At Rochester, the country clergy paid their cathedraicum yearly, on Whitsun-Tuesday, in the cathedral.

At Canterbury, Erasmus mentions the books chained to the pillars for the use of the laity; but there are still earlier instances at St. Alban's in the twelfth century, of a Bible placed in a painted aumbry, and the best commentators, for the "use of all lovers of Scripture;" and at Hereford in 1369, when Bishop Charifon bequeathed a copy, with other devotional books, for public use in the church. At Lincoln, also, in the sixteenth century, a similar practice was observed. At St. Paul's, the standard measured foot was cut upon one of the pillars.

It appears, from several old statutes, that the pillars of the nave formed convenient places for gossiping to the canons out of their choral habit during the time of divine service.

At Durham and Worcester the lower portions of the nave was used as a thoroughfare between the north and south doors in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries; but at an earlier period statutes in other cathedrals forbid the sale of candles in the cemetery. At St. Paul's the nave seems always to have been, from a still earlier period, desecrated; whilst at York the gossiping of the vergers in the vestibule outside the rood-screen was frequently prohibited.

The dinnerless lounge was said to be Duke Humphrey's guest in the former church, as early as 1400. Bishop Baldock excommunicated persons making the nave a thoroughfare; and in

1385, Bishop Robert forbade buying, selling, and playing at ball; but at the close of the sixteenth century the desecration was something horrible, and only worse than the filth of the floors and the decay of the fabric. Drunkards and vagabonds slept off their drunken orgies on the bench at the choir door; butchers and water-carriers conveyed their wares, and men wore their hats through the aisles; mules and horses were driven across them; tobacconists sold in the nave; seamsters and booksellers plied their trades; a carpenter worked in the crypt; trunk makers in the crypt disturbed the services; chantries had become cellars, lumber-rooms, and glaziers' shops; choristers, as at Lichfield and Westminster (but less courteous than those of Ripon, who distributed apples to the congregation on Christmas morning), hunted booted gentlemen for spur-money, only less vociferously than beggars pursued the other company; the usurer touted in the south aisle; simony presided on the north: the horse-fair in the central alley; and money was paid on the font. Masked women, rufflers, ballad-mongers, stall-knights, captains out of service, and quacks, haunted the place; the servant waited to be hired at the serving-man's log; the serjeant-at-law received his client at his special pillar; whilst around were seen the merchants' change and the fashionable lounge.

In the ordinal of Lichfield, 1197, this entry occurs:—"On Pentecost and the three days ensuing, whilst the Sequence is being sung, clouds are customarily scattered." Architecture and tradition come in to enable us to explain this obscure intimation of an old ceremonial. A circular opening still exists in the centre of the vault at Norwich, as formerly in St. Paul's; and there are similar apertures at Exeter. At St. Paul's, Lambard, when a child, saw at Pentecost, a white dove let to fly out of it, and a long censer reaching almost to the floor, and swung from the west door to the choir steps, "breathing out over the whole church and company a most pleasant perfume." Bishop Pilkington, the Sacrist Rolls of Norwich, and the custom at Dunkirk narrated in Ellis's *Letters* in 1662, allude to the ceremonial.

The Crossing.—In passing out of the nave into the choir, we must recall to the mind the wonderful buttressing arches of Wells, and the less obtrusive examples of Salisbury, 1395—1415, and Canterbury, 1490—1517, which present remarkable evidences of the skill with which the mediæval architect could convert times of difficulty into opportunities of adding at once beauty and support to a previous faulty construction, in marked contrast to the hideous contrivances devised at Hereford, Worcester, and Salisbury at a later period.

Rood-loft.—When the choirs were extended into the naves, the rood-screen was placed westward, of the crossing, in the second bay of the nave, at Norwich, Peterborough, and Worcester; in the third bay at Melrose, Winchester, Binham,

and Westminster; in the first bay at Ely, Gloucester, Tintern, Fountains, Chichester, Christchurch, and Chester. At Fountains, a curious range of pottery was found in connection with it; but it is very doubtful whether it was designed on acoustic principles, or was part of a system of warming as charcoal was found in the urns. At Exeter, Lincoln, York, Carlisle, Canterbury, Rochester, Lichfield, and Oxford (and Christchurch, Hants, in late Decorated times), the screen appeared under the eastern, and at Hereford below the western arch of the lantern; but the central tower was at length almost universally regarded as the natural division between the nave and choir, and the screen placed in consequence between its eastern pillars: hence its name of rood-tower at Lincoln and Hereford.

In the early part of the twelfth century, a stone screen, with a central altar of St. Cuthbert, was erected at St. Alban's, stretching between the two second bays westward from the lantern. In the thirteenth century a more magnificent screen was erected, formed so as to enclose this altar, in the next bay westward; it had side processional-doors, and windows pierced in its partition walls. In order to compensate for the limited accommodation afforded by the dormitory, the chapel was furnished above the vaulting with an upper chamber, containing about twelve beds, lighted by windows, and covered by a leaded ceiling. At Wymondham, there was a dormitory over the south nave-aisle. In the reign of Edward I. the present screen was erected, the altar of St. Cuthbert standing unenclosed between the two doorways. The second screen at St. Alban's must have resembled the arrangement of the screens at Gloucester, St. David's, and Norwich, consisting of a front and inner wall, separated by a considerable interval; possibly one carried a rood and the other supported an ambon. The screen not only served to exclude draughts of cold air and seclude the choir, but also took the place of the double ambones, of the basilica, and from its summit the Gospel and Epistle were read (Martene, de Ant. Mon. Rit., iv., 143, 96). Ciompini dates the desuetude of the ambones from the time of the removal of the popes, to Avignon, in 1309. It was called *ambo* (Socrates, lib. iv., c. 5), from its stairs, *ἐκ τοῦ ἀναβαίνειν* (ab ambiendo quia intrantem ambit!—W. Strabo, c. 5), or *pulpitum* (S. Cyp., ep. xxxiii., xxxiv.) (Quod sit in publica statuendum, ut qui ibi stant ab omnibus videantur. W. Strabo, u. s.). The bishops used it for preaching, and the lectors for reading the Epistle and Gospel; in Cranmer's time the latter were read from the pulpit (Works, ii. 156, 501; Grindal i. 132). The rood-stairs corresponded to those of the ambo. At Peterborough, Adam de Boothby, on his election to be abbot, was carried on the monks' shoulders to the high altar, and thence to the loft, where he was proclaimed (Comp. Martene, de Ant. Mon. Rit., iv. 232; ii. 154, 159).

The Altar of Jesus or Holy Cross (Willis, Mitred Abbeys, i. 320) usually stood below the great rood or cross. At Exeter the Lady Mass at break of day, and at Salisbury the Matin Mass was sung at the rood altar for the convenience of the working people. A lamp burned perpetually before the rood. A common arrangement of the screen was that of a *central doorway between two altar-recesses*, as at Exeter, 1370-95; Chichester, 1447; Lincoln, 1310; Winchester; Chester fourteenth century; Brecon; St. David's, fourteenth century; Norwich, fifteenth century, and Hereford. At Winchester, the choir platform erected over the crypt extends into the nave, and is ascended by superb flights of stairs: it has been suggested that this space was canopied above the lateral altars. At Hereford the vicars received their dole here, and at Exeter offending vicars were compelled to stand during all the canonical hours of a single day and night. At Durham, athwart the east end of the nave, between the western pillars of the lantern, stood the Jesus altar wholly enclosed like a porch, with wainscot-work, at which the Jesus Mass was sung on Fridays, and the Jesus Anthem, led by the master of the choristers and deacons, on Friday nights during the tolling of the Galilee bells after evensong. It faced westward, with a small doorway at each side of the screen which formed its reedos leading into the transept. On the north side were an organ and loft for the singers. Above the screen was the great rood; with St. Mary and John and adoring angels rising over sculptures of the Passion and apostles, and a broad band of foliage. Behind the screen and under the lantern was the clock. The north rood door was only opened for processions. The screen, like that of Chester, was painted with portraits of English kings and worthies. The choir-door was in the screen between the eastern tower pillars, over which were the great organs, used only on chief days, and the pulpit for singing the Nine Sections in the nocturns of principal feasts. Below the left was a form on which men might rest themselves. A tall square-stone pedestal stood adjoining the south-east pillar, for the support of twelve cressets, one of which was lighted at midnight during Lauds. At Norwich, St. William's altar was on the north, and St. Mary's, or the Præcentor's, on the south side, enclosed with wooden screens. In the interval between the outer walls stood the altar of our Lady of Pity.

The other arrangement of the roodscreen was that of a *central door set in a wall*, which existed at Gloucester (of the fourteenth century, and destroyed with its pulpit in 1718); Canterbury, 1304; Wells, decorated; Salisbury; Chester, fourteenth century; Ripon, after 1489; Worcester, fifteenth century; Carlisle and Lincoln, fifteenth century; Christchurch, temp. Edward III.; and York, temp. Henry VI. At Worcester, on the western piers of the lantern, are stone brackets.

of the *roodbeam*, at a height of 28 feet from the floor. At Canterbury, pilgrims passed up the south aisle of the nave, and through the passage under the platform of the crossing when about to visit the shrine of à Becket or the Martyrdom; so that the choir was positively secluded from the laity, and the door of the screen used only on occasions of high solemnity and processions. At York, the screen is covered with statues of kings: at Hexham, in the fifteenth century, the oaken panels were painted with figures out of the "Dance of Death." At Exeter, the antiphon was sung daily at the screen, and the procession, symbolical of man's journey through this life heavenward, passed through the north gate of the choir to the vestibule of the Lady Chapel, and then by the south gate of the choir near the throne to the high altar; it afterwards traversed the nave and cloisters, concluding before the rood-loft; and if there was no sermon, the procession returned to the altar. Carpets were strewed along the way on great festivals. The altar of the Holy Cross, in this instance, stood in the north wing of the transept. At Chichester, at Epiphany, an image "of the Spirit" was carried round the church by the dean or senior canon, and two vicars. On Whitsun-Monday, the parishioners in the diocese often came to blows about right of precedence, so that Bishop Storey made injunctions, 1478, for order on this occasion, when the Shrine of St. Richard was visited annually. The place of meeting was the choir and the time 10 a.m. by the cathedral clock. Crosses and banners were permitted, but the long painted rods with which the contending parties had hitherto belaboured each other were proscribed, as well as laughing, crowding, and noise. The pilgrims entered by the great south porch and assembled in the choir, and left the building by it, having duly visited "the chancel and church." The pilgrims came by way of St. Richard's Wyne and the cloisters.

(To be continued).

MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

PATRONS OF FAITH, HOPE, AND CHARITY.

Who are patron saints of the Christian virtues Faith, Hope, and Charity?—H. C.—[The mediæval Freemasons used a form in examining their candidates by the words of S. Peter, in faith, S. James, in hope, and S. John, in charity.]

THE FAMILY OF LOVE.

The writings of the founder of the sect called the Family of Love were, by royal proclamation dated Oct. 13th, 22nd of Elizabeth, ordered to be burned, and all persons who had them in their possession were declared amenable to punishment. I have only seen some part of them, but they contain much Masonic sentiment. Have they anything to do with Masonry?—N. H.—[Much. Very much more than we can point out in print.]

THE MARK INSCRIPTIONS.

Will a Book of Marks help me to an explanation of what the marks on buildings mean? Did some one say there was a book being prepared on this subject, so that we should, by it, be enabled to know what was meant by every mark of the kind?—A. MARK MASTER.—[A Book of Marks will help you to the primitive kind of hieroglyphic that Bill Smith or Tom Jones chose for his own when he selected his mark, but it will not tell you even whose mark it was that you cast your eye upon in Westminster, Lincoln, Durham, or the thousand churches were marks abound. The dream of reading Masons' marks, as they are called, was abruptly terminated by the death of the amiable enthusiast who broached it. Despite much that has been written on the subject, we are inclined to adopt Pugin's theory as the very best and most sensible one suggested. Ninety-nine out of every hundred of our Mark Masons' marks mean nothing at all. They are neither canting, punning, alliterative, illustrative, or in any way belonging to the name of the brother, his occupation, his family, or any other circumstance connected with him, but are simply fanciful marks, having neither sense or reason for a basis. They are no more Masons' marks than the Ogham alphabet would be Slavonic if it was asserted it was derived from the Kalmuc Tartars resident amongst the South Sea islanders. Such a specimen of ethnology would be more reasonable to prove than to affix either sense or meaning to the marks of Mark Freemasons of the last twenty years].

ALIBENISTIC ORDER OF FREEMASONS.

Who and what is the Alibenistic Order of Freemasons?—A. LEEDS MASON.

SS. GG. II. GG. XXXIII^o.

I have lately been offered to be made a S.G.I.G. 33^o, but a brother tells me if I consent to this I shall get into a scrape, as the others wontacknowledge me. Why not?—A. PAST MASTER.—[For the simple reason that you, having sworn allegiance to the Grand Lodge of England, would not tolerate a second united Grand Lodge of England and take office under it. There is already a full, legal, and complete, Supreme Grand Council established here, and all that certain foreign authorities may chose to do, in setting up a rival, will be useless, powerless, and end in ridicule. The present council must adopt the Volunteer motto, "Defence not defiance," for its own, and, in so doing, will as certainly curb French dictation in their Kite as our countrymen did to those who vapoured about the invasion of our sea-girt isle. We have heard of this before, and know its source and ramifications. Both are alike harmless, and it is of no use to magnify innocent molehills into dangerous mountains. Take the offer if you think fit, but be prepared for the ridicule and contempt of all true brethren if you do. Full blown 33rds are not often developed from the chrysalis of a Past Master—not even under the Marshal and his Council.]

A MODEL LECTURE.

(Continued from page 405.)

"Hiram, who at the same time so worthily wielded the sceptre of Tyre—the faithful and devoted friend of David's son, together with those of his subjects who had been employed in building the Temple—es

tablished the institution at the same time in that kingdom. The Tyrians, sweeping over Spain with their victorious arms, planted it there. We behold it rapidly spreading through Egypt, that land of rich historic associations, reflecting glory upon it through the period of 1,500 years. The traveller at this day witnesses traces of it amidst the beautiful ruins of Ipsambul, of Axum, of Thebes, of Palmyra, and of Lxnor. From these places we trace it, as it is carried into the classic vales of Greece, into the land of the Great Monarch, into India and into Rome, in each country manifesting its salutary, benign, and illuminating effects, extending in all the sphere of knowledge, pouring the balm of consolation into the hearts of the unfortunate, and alleviating the miseries and calamities of war. We see it moving with the Roman standards in the time of that Cæsar to whom the Ides of March were fatal; through the provinces of Gaul to the shores of our own beloved fatherland, whose surge-beaten cliffs it has caused to blossom as the rose, rendering it the home of art in its beauty of science, in its depth of Justice with her even scale, and of true and rational liberty. Though partially obscured and circumscribed in its operations during that humiliating epoch in human history, the Dark Ages, it even then shines as a bright star in the East, exhibiting its own loveliness in more brilliant colours, while the surrounding darkness became darker still.

"We behold it again moving westward with the returning Crusaders, ameliorating the barbarism which had taken possession of the crumbling fragments of the Roman Empire, breathing into the shattered elements of society the soothing voice of benevolence and brotherly love, lifting up the Queen of creation's flowers from the degradation to which she was forced, and placing her upon the pedestal of companionship and equality with man. The grand and imposing structure, erected for the worship of God during the days of ecclesiastical supremacy, indicate the operative skill of the Craft of that period. We behold it during succeeding centuries in the various countries of Europe, battling with superstition, ignorance, injustice, and cruelty—often crushed down, it is true, by the iron hand of despotic power, but ever serving as a beacon, directing onwards to human improvement, morality, and truth. In no country upon the earth has its history and progress exhibited more important and deeply interesting phases than in Great Britain. The first English Grand Lodge, assembled in the year 287, was presided over by that pious and truly Christian Mason, St. Alban, who so loved and cherished the Craft that he gained a charter from the King and his council for them. His character was so truly Christian in word and action as to stamp piety as one of the marks of Masonry of that day. The second English Grand Lodge was convened at York, in June, in the year 926, by our noble brother Prince Edwin; and the laws and charges adopted by the illustrious band at that communication required that whosoever would learn and work Masonry must always reverence God, the Grand Master of the Universe. From that time our institution continued to flourish there, patronised and encouraged by the best of Albion's monarchs, many of whom were initiated into the body of the temple, and became its Grand Masters; and thus on, till the sea-girt isle became the radiating point of Masonic light and beauty, at the revival of Masonry a century and a half ago.

"In France the royal art has been practised from a very remote period. In the year 254 we see many of its skilful Craftsmen joining their British brethren, and many more visited Britain about the year 680. Many of the ancient Gallic and Norman Princes, becoming Masons, nourished it with extraordinary indulgence and care. Like its history in other lands during the days of darkest mental obscurity and prejudice, so in France it was prevented by the hand of power from fully working out its beneficent results.

"Though planted in Germany during the Roman conquests, and exerting its happy influences at various periods in the life of the German people, yet it was not till the year 1738 that the institution was revived, and which has reflected glory upon that land till the present day. The first lodge in Brunswick was formed under a warrant from the Grand Lodge of Scotland, and on the 15th of August, 1738, the Prince Royal of Prussia, afterwards Frederick William II., was initiated. In consequence of this, Masonry began to flourish throughout all the Prussian dominions, bearing its rich fruits for the benefit of common humanity. In 1768 the Freemasons in Germany obtained a charter from the King of Prussia, the Elector of Saxony, and the Queen of Hungary and Bohemia, empowering them to convene lodges and to transact their business, and the King of Prussia was elected their Grand Master. These monarchs had become fully convinced of the utility of the society in relieving the poor and distressed in their dominions, in erecting schools and seminaries for fatherless and deserted children, and in establishing funds for the support of those parents whose narrow circumstances would not permit them to provide for their offspring, or give them such an education as was necessary to render them fit and useful members of society. Thus the principal Sovereign Princes, many of the nobility, and men of eminence and learning, have always stood forth as the patrons, protectors, and friends of this society. A lodge was instituted at the Hague, in the year 1738, of which William IV., Prince of Orange, became a member, and since that time the Grand Lodge of Holland has established subordinate lodges in its foreign possessions, in India, St. Martins, and in South America.

"The first lodge in Denmark was established at Copenhagen, in the year 1743, and the first lodge in Sweden was established at Stockholm in the year 1754, both under warrant from the Grand Lodge of Scotland, since which time the Order in those countries has prospered in its work—relieving the necessities of the poor, and advancing the best interests of the people. The first lodge established in the vast empire of Russia was consecrated at St. Petersburg in June, 1771, and was called the Lodge of Perfect Union; and though the mystic art does not flourish there as in those countries where religious and political freedom have established their throne, yet many of the good, the wise, and the true among the Russian nobility glory in the privilege of wearing a Mason's habiliments and emblems.

"The first modern lodge of Freemasons in Asia was established by warrant from the Grand Lodge of England, at Bengal, in the year 1740, and now lodges exist in many parts of Hindostan, the East Indies, Ceylon, and China.

"A lodge was established at James Fort, in Africa, in 1736, and at the Cape of Good Hope in

1773. There are lodges now in many parts of that division of the world, at the Island of Mauritius, Madagascar, and St. Helena, appearing like beautiful oases in the moral and intellectual deserts surrounding them.

"In the year 1733 a charter was granted by the Grand Lodge of England to a number of the fraternity who resided in Boston, in the State of Massachusetts, giving them authority to form Masonic lodges in whatever part of North America they might think proper; and from that time, with alternate sunshine and cloud, calm and tempest, the principles of the Order have continued to advance, and now the mystic tree, deeply and firmly rooted, is flourishing in beauty, in strength, and in grandeur, through the whole continent.

"Thus you have seen that this society arose in the ages of the remote past, that it has continued to flourish to the present period, and that it has received the countenance and support of the good, the wise, and the powerful of the most renowned nations of the world. You have seen that it has been the depository of the arts and sciences most valuable to man during the dark days of our history. When ignorance and superstition hung over the earth like a pall, dark and dreary as midnight, typical of mental and moral death—when the pride of barbarism, in the meridian of its power and ruthlessness, trampled upon every vestige of literature and science, and crushed beneath its iron tread refinement and taste, and all those gems of truth and love which point out man as an emanation of the Divine Mind—the Masonic Temple was as an ark of safety for the seeds of knowledge, which were afterwards sown, extending and spreading over the earth, making the dark places brilliant with light, and the rough places smooth—which dissipated the mists of ignorance, and are now ameliorating the condition of the world.

"In the famous questions proposed by Henry VI. of England to the Masonic body, the commission appointed by that monarch to glean information respecting their principles and practice, reported to him that the Masons had taught mankind agriculture, architecture, astronomy, geometry, numbers, poetry, chemistry, government, and religion; and to the question, 'Do Masons know more than other men?' the answer given was, 'Not so; they only have the right and the opportunity to know more than other men, but many fail in capacity, and many more lack industry that is most necessary for its acquirement. But to the true Mason every object in nature is invested with a new interest. The blade of grass, the delicate leaf, and the beautifully tinted flower—the moss that carpets the woody shade, and the rainbow hues of the butterfly's wing, are fraught with a meaning to him which the world knows not of. He it is who

' Finds tongues in trees, books in the running brooks,
Sermons in stones, and good in everything.'

While the principles of universal grammar may be understood and used as matters of practice and convenience by the non-initiate, the *true* Mason makes use of those same principles in a higher and more noble sense. While the beautiful columns which strengthen and adorn the building, distinguishing the different orders of the science of architecture, may excite emotions of wonder and admiration in the beholder, to the *true* Mason, every line, and angle,

and curve, from base to entablature, speaks to his heart and his conscience. While arithmetic may be used by man in his daily avocations as an instrument for amassing wealth and numbering riches, to the true Mason it becomes a means of heightening his gratitude to his Almighty Creator, by calling his attention to the manifold blessings which surround the tessellated pavement of his life.

"The deep triangle, the mysterious circle, the beautiful ellipsis, and all those geometrical forms and figures, the properties of which were so well understood and demonstrated by those learned and noble craftsmen, Euclid and Pythagoras, may indeed enable the mathematician to weigh the sum as in a balance, to determine the times and seasons of a system of planets, to measure the sublime years of Mizar, to point out a spot in the heavens where no mortal eye has ever penetrated, and say with confidence that a mighty world, in the majesty of silence, is performing his solemn pilgrimage; yet with all this, the true Mason may use the same figures to determine the progress of his soul in the beautiful orbits of morality, virtue, benevolence, and truth, until he depart hence to the rest that will be hereafter. The sweet sounds of music may be listened to with rapture, until the soul is intoxicated with harmony; but the true Mason again accepts it, whether from the deep, rich, and solemn tones of the organ, the sweet zephyr whispering to the evening landscape, the rippling brook in its course over the pebbles, the deafening thunder in the cloud, or in the voice of pure affection by the expressive symbolism of his science, as a lesson to his heart.

"The rough ashlar and the polished stone, the half-erected house, and the completed mansion, the stately tree and apparently useless weed, the perfect animal and the minute infusoria, to the true Mason, furnish lessons for the guidance of his life and the elevation of his soul, to that temple above where all is harmony and perfection.

"Masonry is the impersonation of benevolence, charity, and mercy.

"The Sacred text declares that the wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid, and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together, and the little child shall lead them.

"Masonry emphatically fulfils these words of prophecy.

"See you yonder serried hosts on the battle-field, with the weapons of death poised, ready to do their fell and murderous work; the gleaming sword flashes in the light, the fatal rifle sends swiftly the pitiless ball, the thundering artillery sweeps down the ranks by hundreds—the crimson fluid of the young, the stalwart, the aged, and the noble, gushes from the unnerved arm. Cries of agony fill the air. Watch that fierce soldier about to plunge his death-dealing weapon into the body of his enemy. One moment, and his sword falls harmless to his side. He takes the refreshing draught and places it to the parched lips of him whom a moment before he designed to destroy; he lifts him gently and tenderly from the ground, carries him to a place of safety, and yields him henceforth his protection and support. He has recognised a brother, and whispers to him peace and consolation.

"This is the genius and spirit of Masonry!

"Look once more. Watch that beautiful ship with her sails spread to the gentle breeze—slowly and proudly gliding over the placid bosom of yonder sea. Mark those groups of men, women, and children upon her deck, unconscious of danger lurking near them. All appears to be peaceful and calm. Look again in the distant horizon. Do you observe that strange suspicious craft rapidly bearing down upon the noble ship!

"See, as she approaches, the black flag flying at the mast head, made hideous with the symbols of death imprinted on it. See the fierce and lawless band with their gleaming scimitars, preparing for the work of spoilation and slaughter. Hear the summons to surrender, and in a moment the ship with her precious burden is in the hands of the pirate band. But mark the Chief of that godless crew. He recognises by a universal language, one who is as he once was, in the days of innocence and purity! Those bloodthirsty men are hushed to silence by the stern command of him who alone can rule them, and the ship with her terror-stricken freight is released and permitted to pursue her voyage to her destined haven in peace.

"This is a result of Masonry. Do you see in the dense woods by yonder stream that body of savage warriors with the sharpened tomahawk and scalping-knife, waiting with a demon-like joy for the little company of white men, slowly, and unconscious of their proximity, wending their way towards them. Hark! the war whoop echoes the forest, and the little band, powerless, fall beneath the death-dealing steel. See you that noble-looking figure bending over the prostrate form of one of the fallen, shielding his body from the infuriated savage! That is Bront, the Mason! exhibiting a Mason's love, and affording a Mason's protection to a fallen and wounded brother. See, again, that aged man coming from the far west—behold him beside the same stream, where, instead of words and a pathless wilderness, a populous town and fields, teeming with the bounties of a benevolent father, greet the eye. Look how his thin and silvery locks are waving in the breeze; mark the tears trickled from his fine expressive eyes, as a coffin is removed from its humble resting-place, to be deposited in one more appropriate for a Christian sepulchre! That is the same white man who, fifty years before, received a Mason's protection from his Indian brother, and who has travelled from his home in the far west to assist at the last rites of that brother's sepulchre.

"Thus does Masonry break down the barriers that separate races, nations, and kindreds of men and unites them together by the cords of universal charity. It harmonises varied and opposite interests, snaps the fetters from the innocent and oppressed captive, and restores him to liberty and his home. It visits the prison cell, and administers consolation to the afflicted and unfortunate. It removes the hated spirit of party, and influences man to follow the injunction of the Saviour—'Love your enemies.'"

(To be continued.)

THE MORAL BUSINESS OF A MAN.—The ingratitude of mankind is sometimes alleged as an excuse for neglecting good offices; but it is the business of a man to perform his own part, not to answer for the returns which others may, or may not be disposed to make.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

GRAND CONCLAVE.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—My attention has been called to a statement in the last number of the MAGAZINE, in which, in giving an account of the proceedings at the Grand Conclave of Knights Templar, Bro. Binckes is reported to have said that "Bro. Havers had made an attack on the higher degrees recently, and he (Sir Knt. Binckes) was glad that he was able to reply to that attack and defend the Order."

I beg leave to say that in making the first part of this statement, Bro. Binckes is entirely in error; though, doubtless, unintentionally so.

I not only made no such attack, but I had no such thought in my mind, and I did not refer either by word or inference to the higher degrees, least of all did I refer to the Templars, for whom I have always felt and expressed a high degree of respect.

In the chair at the anniversary meeting of the Stability Lodge of Instruction, and in proposing the toast of the evening, I expressed my great satisfaction at the admirable working of the Preceptor and of his pupils; from this I was naturally led to say something as to the advisability of keeping up accurate workings. I pointed out that every succeeding age had given a certain tone and colour to Masonry, as well as to other social institutions—that much had been lost and a good deal added. I pointed out further that it was the especial duty of Lodges of Instruction, such as the Stability, and that presided over by our learned Bro. S. B. Wilson, to guard us against changes; and, *inter alia*, I expressed a hope that whilst my brethren of the Stability Lodge of Instruction did nothing to offend those who thought proper to join in other degrees, that they would themselves do their best strictly to maintain, and to preserve separate and distinct, the three well-known and acknowledged degrees of pure and ancient Masonry, as laid down in the "Book of Constitutions;" because they are all-sufficient for our purpose, and there is reason to fear that by the introduction of new degrees which had sprung into existence during last year, and under the authority of newly-formed Grand Lodges, our ancient ceremonies might be obscured, or even lost.

I did not, and could not, refer to the higher degrees, because they are not of recent origin, and because their work is so entirely different from that of Craft Masonry, as to be no possibility to be confounded with it.

Bro. Binckes, doubtless, misunderstood me; for to the astonishment of the brethren assembled, when he should have been returning thanks for the Charities, he made an elaborate and needless defence of Christian Masonry, which he had better have let alone then, and still better not have referred to now.

Yours fraternally,

JOHN HAVERS.

May 23, 1864.

MASONRY AT HOME AND ABROAD.

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

SIR AND BROTHER,—A few weeks ago, I sent you extracts from a letter received from my highly-esteemed friend and brother the Rev. F. De la Mare, late Chaplain of St. Aubin's Lodge (No. 958), with a running commentary. As I then promised to do so again from time to time, I forward the following, taken from a letter dated April 4th and 5th. The circumstances connected with the adoption of a child by one of the lodges at the Mauritius, are particularly interesting:—

“April 4th. When I last wrote to you, I do not think I had attended any lodge, and through sickness, have not been able to be present only once since my arrival. It was at a meeting of the Harmony. The evening passed off very well, and I confess I was pleased with the proceedings, although the W.M. fell far short of that correctness, fluency, and impressiveness of my friend, whose name I will not mention. An account of the meeting will, I believe, appear in the FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE, and you will see that my brethren of St. Aubin's and of the Césarée were not forgotten. Masonry, however, here, is not so lively as it ought to be. The Military and the British Lodges are very low. I hope they will revive. The brethren of the Harmony assembled in an elegant building, belonging to the Lodge La Triple Esperance, a large, airy, and most commodious building. The Temple is at one end, built with columns, and covered with a Gothic arch. The ceiling is painted with Masonic emblems, and they have, what would be well worthy of the Masonic brethren in Jersey, the portraits of all the Masters of the lodge hanging round the Temple.* The throne is well elevated. I shall procure a plan, and when I have examined it, I will send you a more complete description. With one thing, however, I found fault. The Bible is laid on a pedestal in the centre of the lodge, and thither the Master goes to do his work. I think the ceremony loses much of its beauty when the W.M. leaves his seat; besides, it is a violation of our ritual, and I maintain that the volume of the Sacred Law should be constantly before the Master, occupying the most distinguished place, aye, and the most prominent one, too, in the lodge. I spoke to the W.M. on the subject, and he promised to make the change. Another thing against which I lifted my voice is, that at their dinners, for Masons here dine together monthly, they set aside all *santés d'obligation*, and commence by proposing the health of the newly-initiated brother. This marks a deficiency in loyalty to our authorities. It will be my aim to endeavour to correct these little matters.

“April 5th. Yesterday evening an emergency meeting of the Harmony was held, to pass to the degree of Fellow Craft Bros. Sheppe, Elliott, and my son. The former two are officers of the R.M.S.S. the Sultan.

* In the St. Aubin's Lodge (No. 958), founded a year ago, the by-laws contain a provision for such a memento of all the W.M.'s from the commencement, in succession.

The labour was very well conducted. The volume of the Sacred Law was put in the proper place. After the meeting, a number of the brethren dined at the house of P. Ambrose, Esq., the W.M. You cannot say too much in praise of this worthy brother. He is the life of Masonry here, and being wealthy, practices true Masonic hospitality. I must mention an incident connected with Masonry in this island, which I think should be known to the whole Masonic world, for such publicity will, I have no doubt, encourage our brethren here in their labours of love. Some years ago, the Roman Catholic Bishop of the island thought proper to excommunicate all who joined Freemasonry, and the priests, too happy to pronounce anathemas on all who do not think as they do, refused their ministry to any and every brother who did not renounce his allegiance to our principles. Fortunately they all stood firm. It happened that just at this time a brother fell sick; his wife sent for the priest; he refused to visit the sick man, and almost insulted his afflicted wife. The brother died without receiving the last sacraments, and left behind him an infant. Application was made to the priests to baptize the child; this they refused, on the plea that he was the child of a Mason. The brethren, on hearing of this, were filled with indignation, and after consulting together as to the course they should pursue, decided to adopt the little persecuted orphan. They invited the mother to allow the child to be baptized in their Temple, which was done. The child was adopted as the child of the lodge; a sum of 10*l.* per month was voted for his maintenance and education, till he should be capable of doing something for himself, and now, I believe, the young man is in Paris pursuing his studies, still supported by the 'Triple Esperance;' no doubt he will by-and-bye distinguish himself in the great work of Freemasonry. This fact needs no comment. Might we not say to many lodges 'Go and do likewise?' Another proof of the determination of the brethren not to be intimidated by the priests, is the fact that they have built their Temple quite close to the Roman Catholic Cathedral, and I believe they contemplate erecting another for a sister lodge in the same neighbourhood. All honour to them.”

The Masonic Temple at St. Helier, Jersey, is now receiving the finishing strokes from the workmen, preparatory to its consecration on May 25th, for which ceremony the arrangements are nearly made. In reply to an invitation sent to the lodges in Brittany, an intimation has been received that a deputation of twelve brethren belonging to the Grand Orient of France, will attend, and a meeting of the Masonic authorities here is about to be held, to determine on the mode of reception of them. The names of the Jersey brethren who desire to attend, have now been sent in, from which it appears that there will be space for the accommodation of a considerable number of ladies, as well as the military and civil authorities of Jersey, to witness the proceedings. The Prov. G.M., who takes the lead in the arrangements, is most anxious to give all possible *éclat* to the event of the day. Some disappointment has been expressed in many quarters that there will be no public procession for the gratification of the inhabitants of the town.

H. H.

Jersey, May 12, 1864.

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

MASONIC MEM.

Bro. Major Adair, Prov. G. Master for Somersetshire, was installed on Monday last, and the foundation-stone of the Albert wing to the United Hospital, was laid with Masonic honours; but up to the period of our going to press, our report, as promised, had not arrived. The local papers, however, inform us that at the site of the proposed wing, the most efficient arrangements were made for the accommodation of the public to witness the ceremony. The mayor and town council, and clergy, and ministers assembled at the Guildhall, and went in procession to the hospital, where they were received by the Rev. C. Kemble, the president, and committee of the institution. On the arrival of the Freemasons at the barrier, the brethren opened out right and left, and faced inwards, so as to leave room for the R.W. the Prov. G.M., and installing Prov. G.M. and the V.W. D. Prov. G.M. to pass up the centre, preceded by the P.G. Sword Bearer. The Provincial Grand Master was met by the President and Mayor, and requested to lay the foundation-stone of the memorial wing. The Prov. G.M., and the brethren taking part in the proceedings, took up a position close adjoining the stone, and the other brethren occupied positions allotted them. The proceedings were opened with prayer by Bro. Rev. Mr. Davey. Bro. E. T. Payne then placed in an elegant vase (given by Mr. Rainey for the occasion) two phials containing coins of the present reign, and it was deposited in a receptacle prepared for it, and covered with a brass plate with the accompanying inscription:—

The first stone of the Albert Wing
of the Bath United Hospital,
erected in memory of H.R.H. the late Prince Consort,
was laid on the 23rd day of May, in the year of
our Lord 1864, A.L. 5,864,
by the Right Worshipful Major Alexander William Adair,
Prov. Grand Master of Somerset;
the Rev. Charles Kemble, M.A., Rector of Bath, being President
of the Hospital;
Jerom Murch, Esq., Mayor of Bath;
John Elkington Gill, Architect.

Mortar was then laid on the lower stone, and the Prov. G.M. having passed a silver trowel over it (the same that was used a century ago in laying the foundation of the General Hospital), the upper stone was lowered to its place and squared. The Prov. G.M. then received, from the hands of brethren who carried them, a cornucopia and bottles, and poured on the stone, corn, wine, and oil; and then said: I declare this stone duly laid; may the foundation laid this day raise a superstructure worthy in all its traits. Cheering was then given. The Prov. G.M. then briefly addressed his brethren and those assembled, and was followed by the mayor with a suitable speech. The Rev. C. Kemble acknowledged the kindness of the Prov. G.M. and his brethren in officiating, and also the liberality of the mayor and corporation in selling the fee simple of the site. The ceremony concluded with a benediction. The P.G. Treasurer, Bro. E. T. Payne, handed to Mr. Alderman Gill, the Hospital Fund treasurer, the results of the collection made by the brethren.

SAYING AND DOING.—People frequently use this expression—“I am inclined to think so and so;” not considering that they are then speaking the most literal of all truths.

GRAND LODGE.

The following is the official agenda of the business to be transacted in Grand Lodge, Wednesday, 1st June, 1864:—

1. The minutes of the quarterly communication of the 2nd March, for confirmation.
2. The minutes of the Grand Festival of the 27th April, for confirmation.
3. Pursuant to notice given, the M.W. Grand Master will move, “That Bro. David Ross Farmer, late Grand Pursuivant, do take the rank and wear the clothing of a Past Grand Pursuivant.”
4. Election of members for the Board of General Purposes.
5. Election of members for the Colonial Board.
6. Election of members for the Committee of Management of the Royal Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and their Widows.
7. The report of the Board of Benevolence for the last quarter, in which are recommendations for the following grants, viz.:—

Bro. John Cooke, of the Royal Union Lodge (No. 246)	
Cheltenham	£30
The widow of Bro. Egbert S. Cossens, of the Royal	
Albert Edward Lodge (No. 906) Tewkesbury	50
Bro. Richard Dixon, of the Vitruvian Lodge (No. 87),	
London	35
Bro. Charles Joseph Morbey, of the Lodge of Prudent	
Brethren (No. 145), London	30
Bro. Henry Booth, of the Lodge of Benevolence (No.	
336), Marple, near Stockport	30
Bro. Henry Merritt, of Saint Davids' Lodge (No. 366)	
Milford	30
The widow of Bro. John Fox Warner, of St. Peters'	
Lodge (No. 419), Wolverhampton	50

8.—THE REPORT OF THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES.
To the United Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free, and Accepted
Masons of England.

The Board of General Purposes beg to report as follows:—

1. Complaints have been received from Bros. James Fairbairn and William Phelps, of the Lily Lodge of Richmond (No. 820), Richmond, Surrey, being in the nature of appeals against resolutions of the lodge, duly confirmed, whereby the complainants had been severally excluded from membership, as they alleged, unjustly and illegally.

The Board having summoned the W. Master to attend and produce the warrant and books of the lodge, he, with his Wardens and some members of his lodge and other brethren, attended accordingly, when the charges, on which the resolutions for exclusion were based, were gone into. It was charged against the complainants that they had pursued a system of indiscriminate blackballing for a long period, and had publicly stated their intention of continuing such practice. The complaints were, at the request of the complainants, taken separately. The minutes of the emergency meeting of the lodge at which the resolutions for excluding the complainants were passed, and the minutes of the regular lodge meeting at which such minutes were confirmed were read, and the evidence given by brethren at the said emergency meeting was read, and many questions were put by the complainants severally to such of the witnesses as were present before the Board.

After a full and careful investigation of the case, and having heard what both parties had to say, and they having withdrawn, the Board proceeded to weigh very carefully the evidence that had been adduced. There appeared no question but that a system of indiscriminate blackballing had prevailed for a long

time in the Lily Lodge, and the Board cannot too strongly reprehend such a practice. In the present case, however, having regard to the evidence adduced, the charge did not appear to the Board sufficiently proved against the complainants; and it was therefore resolved—"That in the opinion of this Board the evidence produced is not, on the whole, sufficient to justify the lodge in excluding the appellants from membership." The parties having been recalled, the decision of the Board was communicated, and the warrant and books returned to the W. Master.

2. It has been brought to the attention of the Board that great inconvenience arises from the manner in which Grand Lodge certificates are now obliged to be prepared for taking an impression of the Grand Lodge seal, occasioning great waste of time. The Board beg to recommend that they be authorised to make such alteration in the mode of sealing the certificates as may to them seem advisable.

(Signed) J. LLEWELLYN EVANS,

Freemasons' Hall, May 16th, 1864. President.

At the meeting of the Board, held on Tuesday, the 17th day of May, the ordinary business having been concluded, it was resolved unanimously:—

"That this Board cannot separate without expressing to its President, the V.W. Bro. John Llewellyn Evans, its thanks for the uniformly courteous conduct he has shown to each and every member, and its full appreciation of the able manner in which he has conducted the business of the Board during the past year.

(Signed) J. RANKIN STEBBING,
Vice-President.

To the report is subjoined a statement of the Grand Lodge accounts at the last meeting of the Finance Committee, held on the 13th instant, showing a balance in the hands of the Grand Treasurer of £1,875 17s. 7d., and in the hands of the Grand Secretary for petty cash £50. Of these sums there belongs to the Fund of Benevolence £1,291 10s. 6d., to the Fund of General Purposes £187 1s. 10d., and there is in the unappropriated account, £447 5s. 3d.

9.—REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON GRAND LODGE PROPERTY.

To the United Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free, and Accepted Masons of England.

The committee beg to report, in reference to the new buildings, that in getting out the ground for the foundations very serious difficulties were encountered; these arose partly from the unsound condition of the ground itself, partly from the large quantity of water found therein, and partly from the very unsatisfactory nature of the old sewers; these difficulties, which caused considerable delay, and entailed the necessity of much precaution in shoring, underpinning, &c., have been satisfactorily overcome, and the buildings are now rapidly progressing.

The Grand Superintendent of Works reports, that all reasonable exertion has been used by the contractor, and that the character of the work has been hitherto creditable to him.

The committee cannot refrain from congratulating Grand Lodge and the Craft on the success attending the ceremony of laying the foundation-stone on the 27th April; though grateful for much assistance, they attribute the success of that day, not so much to the exertions of any individuals, as to the genuine good feeling and Masonic conduct of every brother who attended on that interesting occasion, and to the forbearance of the many who were unavoidably excluded.

The committee feel that the time will shortly arrive when it will be necessary to decide upon the letting of the future tavern. They have anxiously considered this subject, and taking into

consideration the inconvenience, loss, and possible injustice which may occur through a delay of several months after negotiations are opened, and before any definite settlement can be come to, they are of opinion that it is essential to the interests of the Craft, as well as of the tenant, that the Grand Lodge should authorise the committee to make the necessary arrangements in that respect, they therefore respectfully submit the following resolution for the adoption of Grand Lodge, viz.:—

"That the committee be, and are hereby empowered, to take the necessary steps on behalf of Grand Lodge, for the letting of the present and future tavern and the premises in Middle-yard, upon such terms and conditions as may seem to them to be just and advantageous."

(Signed) JOHN HAYERS,

Freemasons' Hall, May 17th, 1864. Chairman.

10. The annual report of the Royal Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and their Widows, dated 20th May, 1864, will be laid before the Grand Lodge.

11. The following resolution, passed by the Grand Lodge of Ireland on the 7th April, 1864, has been received from the Lord Naas, representative of the Grand Lodge of Ireland in the Grand Lodge of England, viz.:—

"That a communication be addressed by the Grand Lodge of Ireland to the Grand Lodge of England, requesting them to state officially to the Grand Lodge of Ireland the position which a Past Master under the Irish Constitution occupies, or is entitled to occupy, in a lodge under the English Constitution, and to what extent the Grand Lodge of England recognises the degree of a Past Master under the Irish Constitution."

PROPOSED MOTIONS.

By Bro. John Udall, P.G.D.

"That the sum of fifty pounds be given from the Fund of General Purposes to supply the inmates of the Royal Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and their Widows with coals, and that the same be placed in the hands of the Secretary."

By Bro. J. Rankin Stebbing, S.G.D.

To follow article 21, page 65, of the "Book of Constitutions."

"If the conduct of any member or members shall be such as to render it undesirable, in the opinion of a large majority of the lodge, that such member or members should continue to be a member or members thereof, he or they may be excluded from the lodge, provided that the following conditions be strictly fulfilled:—

"That the motion for exclusion shall be made at a regular meeting of the lodge.

"That seven days' notice of the intention to move such resolution shall be given to the member or members whom it is proposed to exclude, and to all the other members of the lodge.

"That the decision upon such resolution shall be taken by show of hands, and shall be carried by a majority of not less than 10 to 1 of the brethren actually present and voting, exclusive of the member or members to whom the resolution refers.

"That the resolution be confirmed at the next regular meeting of the lodge.

"When any member or members of a lodge shall be excluded under the foregoing regulation, the lodge shall repay him or them a proportionate part of any annual subscription which has been paid in advance for any time subsequent to the date of exclusion, and likewise when any member of members shall be excluded within two years from the date of admission into the lodge, one-half of the fee paid for admission, whether on initiation or joining, shall be repaid by the lodge to such member or members."

By Bro. Aencas McIntyre, G. Reg.

"1. That the cordial thanks of this Grand Lodge be given to the Chairman and the other members of the Building Committee for the complete and excellent arrangements made by them, whereby the comfort of the Craft was secured and ample accommodation provided for their witnessing the ceremony of the foundation-stone of the new buildings being laid by the M.W.G.M."

"2. That the cordial thanks of this Grand Lodge be also given to the W. Bro. Albert W. Woods, G. Dir. of Cers., to the R.W. Bro. R. W. Jennings, P.G.W., and to the other brethren who acted as assistants to the Grand Director of Ceremonies, for the very admirable and efficient manner in which they preserved order and conducted the entire proceedings at the ceremonial of the foundation-stone being laid."

"3. That this Grand Lodge desires to record its hearty and grateful thanks to the V.W. Bro. the Rev. Adolphus F. A. Woodford, G. Chap., for the eloquent and instructive oration delivered by him on the occasion of laying the foundation-stone of the new buildings."

METROPOLITAN.

PHENIX LODGE (No. 173).—This lodge held its installation meeting at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Saturday, May 14th. Bro. George States, the retiring W.M., very cleverly performed the ceremony of installing his successor, Bro. Hubbard, S.W., appointed and invested Bros. Wilson, S.W.; Caldeleugh, J.W.; Simpson, S.D.; Faulkner, J.D.; Stanton, I.G.; Coppock, Dir. of Cers.; and W. Watson, Wine Steward. Bro. Coppock is very popular with the lodge, a round of applause following his investiture. Two gentlemen were initiated, and after some formal business the brethren adjourned to a very excellent banquet, the new Dir. of Cers., being specially interested in seeing all properly arranged and comfortably supplied. After the usual toasts Bro. States, P.M., said they had all seen the W.M. do his duty for the first time, and no doubt he was well acquainted with all his business. It would be their fault if they did not find him plenty of work. He was greatly respected both in and out of the lodge, and would make a very capital Master. "The Health of the W.M., Bro. Hubbard," was then drank. Bro. Hubbard, W.M., returned thanks in very appropriate terms, and concluded by stating that he intended to perform all the duties which his office required, and he hoped never to sacrifice the efficiency or dignity of the lodge. The W.M. gave the initiates, to which they responded. The toast of the visitors came next, and Bro. Stuart replied for the twenty-six present. The W.M. had then one of the most pleasing and agreeable duties to perform. Their Immediate P.M. had stepped aside from his path to scatter kindness and good feeling amongst them during his year of office, and, in order to mark their sense of respect they had subscribed to present him with a beautiful specimen of art, made by Bro. Platt, in the form of an appropriate P.M.'s jewel, which bore the following inscription:—"Presented to Bro. George Spencer States, P.M., by the members of the Phoenix Lodge (No. 173) as a token of their regard, and to mark their sense of the truly Masonic manner in which he performed the duties of the chair during his year of office, ending May 14th, 1864." And he (the W.M.) hoped he would long live to wear it accompanied by their good wishes, and, as the brethren applauded so warmly, he would conclude by asking them to drink Bro. States's health. Bro. States was at a loss to find words to express his gratitude to the lodge, but he believed from the kindness he had met with from them, and the handsome present they had made him, that he must be greatly esteemed. He promised to cherish the gift dearly, and hoped to come amongst them for many years wearing their jewel, and both respecting them and being himself respected in return. Various other toasts followed.

BEADON LODGE (No. 619).—The opening meeting of this lodge for the season took place on Wednesday, May 18, at the Greyhound Tavern, Dulwich. Bro. Charles T. M. Bell, W.M., presided. There were present—Bros. A. Avery, Seaman, and Quelch, P.M.'s, besides several visitors. The first business of

the evening was to raise Bros. Piggott, Kelly, Jones, and Samways, to the sublime degree, which was most impressively done by the W.M. The lodge was then resumed to the first degree, and Mr. William Kennard, Mr. Thomas Clark, Mr. George Prier, and Mr. George Clements, were respectively introduced and initiated into the secrets and mysteries of Ancient Freemasonry. The lodge was opened in the second degree, and Bros. Snelgrove and Mayhew were passed to the degree of an F.C. A ballot was then taken, and Bro. Lane, of the Zetland Lodge, was admitted as a joining member of this lodge. Some other business having been disposed of, the lodge was closed and the brethren adjourned for refreshment, provided in Bro. Middlecott's usual excellent style.—On the withdrawal of the cloth, grace was sung by Bros. Seaman, Quelch, and Parker.—The formal Masonic toasts were given and duly honoured.—Bro. SEAMAN, P.M., in a few complimentary observations, proposed "The Health of Bro. Bell, W.M.," and said it was most essential that the W.M. of the Beadon Lodge should always be a working Mason. The toast was very cordially drunk by the brethren.—The W. MASTER said he thanked the brethren for the very kind manner in which they had responded to the last toast, and he could only say that he had endeavoured to do his duty as Master of the lodge. If he had erred it was not from want of care but from want of judgment, and his desire was to act fairly and impartially. He had that evening the pleasure of initiating four gentlemen into Freemasonry, besides four raisings and two passings, and when the health of the Master was proposed and received, in the manner his had been, it was a great satisfaction to him, as that was the only return he got for his labour. The W. Master said the toasts hitherto given had been of an entirely complimentary nature, and he now came to the real business of the evening. The next toast he had to propose was one in which the W.M. of every lodge felt a deep interest. At nearly every meeting they were favoured by four or five gentlemen who were candidates for initiation, which was almost unprecedented in any lodge. They had had four that evening, and as he had no doubt they all intended to become Masters in time advised them to obtain all the knowledge they could by attending lodges of instruction. He mentioned particularly the Domestic Lodge of Instruction, that was held every Tuesday evening, at the Holyrood Palace, in the Strand, where they would find intelligent Masons ready to assist any young brother in the way in which he should go, and where he could obtain a knowledge of Masonry in its purest form. He therefore, asked the brethren to join him in drinking to "The Health of their Brother Visitors." The toast was very cordially received.—Bro. CLEMENTS returned thanks on behalf of himself and the other newly-initiated brethren, trusting that at no time they would be any discredit to the Craft.—"The Health of the Visitors" was next given, for which Bro. HENRY THOMPSON, W.M. of the Domestic Lodge, returned thanks, expressing the great gratification he had in again visiting the Beadon Lodge, where he met with many of the most painstaking members of the Craft, and with whom he had so often been associated in lodges of instruction, more particularly their W.M. Bro. Bell, Bros. Avery, Quelch, Seaman, and some others, and, indeed he might say that in the course of instruction they had run together. He was pleased to be with them that day, and to see the excellent working of their lodge, and as Master of the Domestic Lodge it was most gratifying to him to hear their W.M. speak so highly of the Domestic Lodge of Instruction of which he was a member, and although he thought Bro. Bell had spoken of it perhaps in higher terms than it deserved, yet he believed there was a desire on the part of the brethren who attended it to afford to young brethren all the information they themselves possessed. He concluded by wishing health and happiness to the members, and that the Beadon Lodge might continue to flourish in that high position it had hitherto maintained.—The W. MASTER said the Past Masters of the lodge ought not to be forgotten, and he really thought they deserved attention. Their Immediate Past Master Bro. Quelch, had filled the chair in a most efficient manner; Bro. Avery had also filled the chair and he continued to assist them in every way. The whole of the P.M.'s could then go through any duties, and had not forgotten them as many P.M.'s of other lodges had done. He gave "The Health of the Past Masters of the Beadon Lodge."—Bro. A. AVERY, P.M., said he rose with diffidence to return thanks on behalf of the P.M.'s, as he felt assured that either Bro. Quelch, or Bro. Seaman would have done it much better than he could. He could simply return thanks on the part of the P.M.'s for the kind and cordial manner in which their healths had been drank,

and it was gratifying to them on all occasions to receive that mark of esteem. It argued well for the lodge when such a feeling existed, and the funds were never in a more prosperous condition.—“The Health of Bro. Blackburn, the Secretary of the Lodge,” was next given; and, in returning thanks, he said he had been a member of the lodge ever since it was consecrated, and he should have pleasure in remaining their Secretary as long as his health would allow. He congratulated them on the excellent state of the lodge, and they were all comfortable and happy. He felt deeply grateful for the honour conferred upon him.—The W. MASTER, in giving “The Officers of the Lodge,” said unless they did their duty the business of the lodge would soon come to an end. When their S.W. should come to the chair he would have officers who were able to do their work well, although one now and then was found wanting in attending. He was obliged to them for their assistance which had enabled them to see the lodge in so prosperous a state, and to receive such a large number of initiates.—Rro. J. AVERY, S.W., said it gave him much pleasure to hear the way in which his health had been proposed that evening. To maintain the harmony of the lodge would be his highest aim and ambition.—Bro. PARKER also returned thanks, and said it would be his study to render the Beadon Lodge a star in the Craft, and uphold it in its brilliant career.—Bro. LEONARD said, as one of the officers, he would do his best to carry out the duties of the office to which he was appointed, and to give satisfaction to the W.M. and every member.—Bro. BECKETT also acknowledged the compliment conferred upon him. One or two other toasts were given and the brethren separated after a very pleasant evening, which was very materially enhanced by some excellent glees, songs, &c., by Bros. Seaman, Quelch, Avery, and Parker.

INSTRUCTION.

WHITTINGTON LODGE.—The second anniversary banquet, to commemorate the establishment of this lodge, was held on Thursday week at Bro. Frith's, Old Kent Hotel, Brownlow-street, Holborn. The installation ceremony having been worked, the members and visitors retired to the banquet. Bro. J. Brett (Nos. 177 and 862) presided. The toasts of the Right Hon. Earl of Zetland, G.M., and Right Hon. Earl de Grey and Ripon, D.G.M., having been given, that of the Whittington Lodge of Instruction, coupled with the names of its founders, was proposed by the chairman. He said they had turned out some good Masons and officers, and they would also some good W.M.'s. The toast was duly responded to, and that of the Mother Lodge and others were given. The banquet was served up in a manner worthy of the fame of the house in by-gone times.

PROVINCIAL.

KENT.

MARGATE.—Union Lodge (No. 127).—At a meeting of this lodge, held on Friday evening, 20th May, 1864, it was moved by Bro. William C. Brasier, P.M., and P. Prov. G.S.B., and seconded by Bro. John R. Feakins, P.M., and P. Prov. S.G.D.—“That, referring to a circular received from the Provincial Grand Secretary, requesting the opinion of the brethren as to whether the procession to church at the Provincial Grand Festivals should be discontinued—it is resolved that this lodge unanimously and earnestly desire the present system to be continued; that they deprecate any change, deeming that it should be regarded as an ancient custom of the Order in this province; and that the solemn procession of Masonic bodies to Divine worship there (without distinction of creed or sect), to return thanks to the Great Architect of the Universe for the past, and to supplicate for the future, forms a noble instance of reverence to Him, the Most High, and of brotherly love and harmony amongst men of many faiths, which we, as Masons should much regret to abolish. That this resolution be signed in open lodge by the W.M. and Wardens, and be presented at the preparatory Grand Lodge Meeting, which will take place at the Royal Oak Hotel, Dover, on Tuesday, the 14th June, by Bros. John Harvey, Boys, P.M., and Thomas Holmes Gore, P.M., or one of them, and that their expenses be reimbursed by the Treasurer.” Carried unanimously.

(Signed) John Matthew, W.M.
C. D. Dixon, S.W.
James S. Hoile, J.W.

MIDDLESEX.

HOUNSLOW.—Dalkousie Lodge (No. 865).—This lodge held its first meeting for the season on Wednesday, the 18th inst., at the Town Hall. There were present, Bros. J. J. Hardey, senior P.M.; Gilbard, P.M.; Watson, P.M.; Stacy, P.M.; Frost, S.W.; Richards, J.W.; Pellatt, I.G.; Farrant, Treas.; Ruston, Johnson, Alfred Jupp, Clarke, Donald King, Watts, Holloway, Hopwood, Hedges, Raynsford, Hays, and several other brethren. There were also present as visitors, Bro. Elliott, of a lodge at Bombay, and Bro. Walker. In the absence of the W.M. (Bro. Willett), in consequence of domestic affliction, the chair was occupied by Bros. Hardey and Gilbard alternately. Bro. Charles Arthur Raynsford was raised to the degree of a M.M., the impressive ceremony being done by Bro. Gilbard. Bros. Golding, Sims, Johnson, Ruston, and Arthur Jupp, were passed to the second degree by Bro. Hardey; and Mr. Jones, of Isleworth, and Mr. Bingham Daly, having been unanimously elected by ballot, were initiated into the mysteries and privileges of Freemasonry by Bro. Gilbard. The election of officers for the ensuing year took place, when Bro. Frost was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year, and Bro. Farrant re-elected as Treas. The lodge having been closed in due form, the brethren adjourned to an excellent banquet at the Town Hall, provided by Bro. Lewis, of the Red Lion. The chair was occupied by Bro. Hardey. After the usual loyal and Masonic toasts had been drunk, the Chairman stated that he had on that occasion a most melancholy duty to perform, which was to propose the immortal memory of a member of this lodge, lately deceased, namely, Bro. George Francis Cooper. The worthy chairman then briefly adverted to the high social position of the deceased brother, and the great respect entertained towards him by all. The worthy chairman observed in the words of Shakspeare, “He was a man take him for all in all, we shall not look upon his like again.” The memory of the late Bro. Cooper was then drunk in solemn silence. After some excellent songs by Bros. Donald King, Pellatt, Daly, Stacey, Watts, and Walker, the brethren adjourned at twenty minutes before ten o'clock, in order to enable those brethren going towards London to be in time for the last train. We should have previously observed that upon the motion of Bro. Hardey, seconded by Bro. Gilbard, a jewel was unanimously voted to the outgoing W.M. (Bro. Willett) for his excellent and efficient services in the chair during the past year.

SURREY.

EWELL.—Grove Lodge (No. 410).—The installation meeting of this lodge took place at the Spring Hotel, Ewell, on Saturday, the 21st of May, under the presidency of Bro. W. S. Masterman, W.M. There were two initiations, three passings, and the installation and appointment of officers as the business for the day. The brethren present were W. S. Masterman, S.W.; C. E. Amos, S.W.; F. G. Blake, J.W.; A. Bingham, S.D.; C. C. Dumas, J.D.; John Gower, I.G.; J. J. Blake, P.G.D.; W. White, Prov. G.S.B.; W. Moates, P. Prov. S.G.W.; W. J. Meynott, P. Prov. S.G.W.; C. Greenwood, Prov. G. Sec.; A. Holman, and G. J. Palmer, all P.M.'s; with Bros. Litchfield, Turner, Giblett, W. Moates, jun., J. Goddard, and Winn. Visitors: Bros. Bennoch, W.M. No. 1; Truscott, S.W. No. 1; Bigg, P.M. No. 1; Baron Brunow, 33° France; Brunow, jun.; Newton, Fitzroy, and others, in all about thirty in number. After Bro. J. W. Blake was initiated, Bro. P. M. Meynott most ably installed Bro. C. E. Amos as Worshipful Master, who appointed Bros. F. G. Blake, S.W.; Bingham, J.W.; Rev. C. Grant, Chap.; J. J. Blake, Treas.; C. Greenwood, Sec.; Dumas, S.D.; J. Hart, J.D.; Gower, I.G.; and Litchfield, Dir. of Cers.; C. Speight was re-appointed Tyler. The lodge having been closed, the brethren adjourned to the pretty garden to enjoy a little fresh air after the lengthened, but able, working, and the banquet followed—of that good, plentiful, and elegant character, accompanied by the first-rate wine for which the Spring Hotel is well reputed. Bro. Winn sang some of his best songs, and the toasts were those usual on such occasions. It was mentioned that the Prov. G. Lodge of Surrey is to be held some time in next month, the date not yet fixed, at Reigate.

A DIFFICULTY.—It is easier to pretend what you are not, than to hide what you really are; but he that can accomplish both, has little to learn in hypocrisy.

ROYAL ARCH.

METROPOLITAN.

MOUNT SINAI CHAPTER (No. 19).—There was a very happy meeting of the members of this flourishing chapter held at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, on Tuesday, May 17th. Amongst the P.Z.'s present were Comps. M. Levinson, Jos. Smith, H. Potter, J. Copus, W. F. Blackburn, Rackstraw, and Andrew, with Comps. Loveday, Ashton Godwin, M.D.; Campion, Jas. Slack, E. Horwood, W. Pound, and others. Visitors: T. Simpson, Treas. 180; Matthew Cooke, E. 180, 382, 534, and 637; John Lane, and Dr. Nolan, of the Lily Chapter. The first business was the installation of Principals and appointment of officers, which was as follows: W. E. Platt, M.E.Z.; Joseph Taylor, H.; Queely, J.; Rackstraw, E.; Bywater, N.; W. L. Fox, P. Soj.; Carter 1st Assist.; and Riley, Janitor. A vote of thanks was ordered to be put upon the minutes to Comp. Andrew for his performance of the ceremony. Bros. Pepper, Crabb, and Snow were balloted for and exalted. After the chapter was closed, the companions went to dinner, which, being concluded, the new M.E.Z. Comp. Platt, gave the peculiar and routine Royal Arch toasts, and then proposed the health of the newly-exalted companions received that day. He was very glad that they had not only secured Professor Pepper's ghost, but had got the veritable professor himself amongst them, and was sure it was a matter of no small satisfaction to the chapter to have such a real spirit for a companion. He coupled the toast with Comp. Pepper's name. Comp. Pepper looked upon the degree into which he had been admitted that day as one of the utmost importance, and as they all owed a certain amount of respect to all societies they might join, so to the Royal Arch there was attached a great amount of solemnity, which ought never to be treated with levity or an unbecoming behaviour. He had been told that a chapter represented the Jewish Sanhedrim, and that made him remember that the son of Joseph, Ephraim, separated from the ten tribes, were joined unto idols, and were eventually known as the lost tribes. The ceremony that day had afforded him a great amount of satisfaction, and it was a most exquisite thought that when the King of Persia sent back the ten tribes the lost tribes were not included. The Anglo Saxons were admitted to have come originally from the banks of the Caspian Sea; and it seemed to be directed by Providence that we have been, and are, partakers of the blessings which were granted to those lost tribes. He deeply felt the solemnity of what he had seen and heard that night, and should ever hold in the highest estimation the degree he had taken, which, in his opinion, inculcated two of the great principles of Freemasonry—those of being virtuous and doing good. The M.E.Z. gave the health of the visiting companions, to which Dr. Nolan and Comp. Lane replied. Comp. Blackburn for the first time, as their P.M.E.Z. had the honour to propose the next toast, and also for the first time to propose it in connection with the name of Comp. Platt, who he was ready and willing at all times to assist. He (Comp. Blackburn) hoped their new M.E.Z. would long continue amongst them, and that having reached the highest position in the Order, that evening, would for many years be associated with his companions in the Mount Sinai Chapter, where he was so thoroughly appreciated.—Comp. Platt, M.E.Z., thanked all for their cordial response to Comp. Blackburn's kind mention of his name. They had placed him in an honourable position, and he felt it an honour and a pleasure to be unanimously elected their First Principal. He was inclined to say he would endeavour to do his duty, but upon second thoughts he could not say what he would do, for he felt it almost too late for him to learn and yet he did hope—with a long recess before him—that he might do something. Like many imperfect persons he was quite sure the chapter could not suffer while it could boast of such Past Principals. They had seen Comp. Blackburn's skill, how ably he did the work, and how well he deserved their thanks. Comp. Andrew was ever ready to do any duty. Comps. Smith and Rackstraw, E. and Treas., were equally able in their sphere. Comp. Potter was always merry and light-hearted. Comp. Copus did his work so well that they re-elected him a second year, and Comp. Levinson—always gentlemanly, ready, charitable, and graceful in his aid—left nothing to be desired. He, therefore, proposed "The Healths of the P.Z.'s.—Comp. Blackburn, on behalf of the P.Z.'s, felt very much flattered by the good opinion of the M.E.Z., and they would all do their best for the good of the chapter and to assist him, for amongst them there was not one to be found who was

not ready and willing to use his best abilities in their behalf. Comp. Platt, M.E.Z., had sitting beside him a Freemason of many years standing, one who would do his duties irreproachably and was, emphatically, "the right man in the right place." Comp. Joseph Taylor, their H., made him feel very small because he was so able. There were but few in the Craft or the Arch as perfect as he was, and if, occasionally, they saw him equalled, they would never see him excelled. He (the M.E.Z.) and the H. were twins of that, their mother chapter, and it was with great gratification that he proposed "The Health of the two Principals H. and J.," asking Comp. Joseph Taylor to return thanks for himself and Comp. Queely who had been obliged to leave early.—Comp. Joseph Taylor, H., said he had to tender his thanks for the kindness of the companions. It was his earnest desire to do his duty in every position he undertook, and although he ought to have been in the place of the M.E.Z. and the latter in his, he recollected they were twins—did not envy him—and was very happy to follow him. From his own knowledge, he could state that Comp. Queely was able and desirous to do his best, and they would both, he hoped, be found actuated by the same spirit. The toast of the officers brought the meeting to a close.

CHANNEL ISLANDS.

JERSEY.

ST. AUBIN'S LODGE (No. 958).—The first anniversary of this new lodge was celebrated on Tuesday, May 17th, at 2 p.m. The lodge was opened in the first degree by Bro. Dr. Hopkins, W.M., assisted by the Wardens, Bros. De Carteret and Orange, Bro. Kingsnorth acting as I.P.M. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. A ballot was taken for Mr. Alfred Wayland, a candidate for initiation at seven days' notice, for which a proper requisition was read. This having proved unanimous in his favour, and the declaration having been signed, he was introduced properly prepared, and received the ceremony of the first degree from the W.M., who also gave the charge, but deferred the explanation of the tracing board on account of press of business. The W.M. presented to him a copy of his lecture on Freemasonry, as is usual in the case of every one whom he initiates. Bro. Butfield having been presented as a candidate for the second degree, passed the customary examination on the first in a very satisfactory manner, and, having been entrusted, retired for preparation. The lodge was opened in the second degree. Bro. Butfield was re-introduced properly prepared, and passed to the degree of F.C. by the W.M. In this case both the charge and the lecture on the tracing board were deferred. The W.M. having stated that in the interval since the last meeting the audit committee had met, read the following report of the proceedings:—

"At a meeting of the Audit Committee of St. Aubin's Lodge, held at the residence of the W.M., at Richmond-place, Millbrook, on Wednesday, May 4th, the W.M. in the chair.

"The Treasurer presented the balance sheets of the general fund of the lodge, and of the benevolent fund, the former showing a credit of 2s. 1d. in favour of the lodge, and the latter one of £2 18s. 6d. The total expenditure has been £93 18s. 5d., of which sum rather more than two-thirds, namely, £65 12s. 2d., has been incurred for furniture, fitting-up of the premises, and expenses connected with the opening and consecration. The Treasurer stated that there was a few outstanding accounts to the amount of £7, and that some dues are still owing to the lodge, by which this debt will be covered. The account was examined, tested by the vouchers, and being found correct, was duly passed."

The W.M. read the following report on the proceedings of the year, which was approved and adopted for presentation to the lodge:—

"The Audit Committee has great pleasure in presenting this the first annual report to the members of St. Aubin's Lodge, because it has great reason to hope that in almost every respect it will be considered, not only satisfactory, but far more so than might have been expected, in a province where there are so many lodges, and in a district of the island, where not only is the Order as yet unappreciated, but a considerable amount of prejudice appears to have prevailed against it, and the impression that such is the case is fully confirmed by the small number of residents in the locality who have offered themselves for initiation. This, it is hoped, time and experience of the beneficial

effects of the Craft will gradually overcome. The circumstances connected with the opening and consecration of the lodge have been fully recorded in the minute book. It may, however, be stated that an endeavour was made to excite a kindly feeling on the part of the inhabitants of St. Aubin's, by devoting nearly £9, the sum collected after the church service, to the schools of the town.

"Very shortly after the opening, suitable premises were found for the lodge, the alteration and preparation of which furnishes no small item in the expenses of the first year, but it is one which it is hoped will not occur again for some time, although the tenure is not quite so certain as could not have been wished for. At the first few meetings the furniture of the lodge was very scanty, and for the loan of a portion of it the brethren were indebted to the kindness of several members of the Craft not immediately connected with it. Gradually, however, these deficiencies have been supplied, chiefly by the generous contributions of the members. It is unnecessary to enumerate them here, as they are all recorded in the minutes, and, moreover, a list of the property of the lodge is placarded in the room, with the names of the respective donors. The only articles of importance now required are a carpet, tracing-boards, a fender, and two hollow pillars to serve as 'archives to Masonry,' to which may be added the greater part of the requisites for the refreshment table, which are at present hired from Mr. Coudray for a moderate remuneration each evening.

"The number of brethren initiated in the lodge during the past year has been nine, all but one of whom have expressed their desire to become subscribing members, and that one was prevented by an immediate removal to a distant country from taking more than the first degree in Jersey. Eight brethren have been admitted as joining members since the formation of the lodge, of whom two have not paid the joining fees, one being on a voyage, and the other having left the island in a discreditable manner. Although matters of finance more properly belong to the treasurer's report, yet it may be not inappropriately mentioned here, that in the fear lest the receipts might not be sufficient to meet the current expenditure, the two Wardens and Treasurer offered a loan of £5 each. It is a matter of congratulation that it has been unnecessary to have recourse to this expedient. The returns to Grand Lodge and Provincial Grand Lodge have been regularly made, and the former paid to the present time.

"The form of ritual adopted in the lodge has been strictly that of the Emulation Lodge of Instruction in London, which is considered a high authority; sanctioned by Grand Lodge, and means have been taken to secure a continued adherence to it. As regards the manner in which the ceremonies have generally been performed, the members of the Audit Committee, being the officers, cannot with propriety remark upon it; they trust, however, that it has on the whole given satisfaction to the brethren, and to the numerous visitors who have favoured the lodge by their presence; at least, it has been their desire to do their duty. The Committee cannot omit to refer to one circumstance of a painful nature to the Craft in general, and to this lodge in particular, namely, the suspension of two of its members, with brethren belonging to other lodges, for some months past. At the same time, it is impossible to arrive at any other conclusion than that the Provincial Grand Master and the Grand Lodge of England had no alternative, according to what may be deemed a legitimate construction of the provisions relating to the case in the 'Book of Constitutions.' Another subject of deep regret has been the removal of the esteemed Chaplain, the Rev. Bro. F. De la Mare, from the island, and the consequent deprivation of the moral influence and happy effect of his connection with St. Aubin's Lodge in the capacity of Chaplain.

"The efficient lighting of the lodge room has been a matter of some trouble in the regular trimming of the lamps, in which the Tyler is not very expert, and the preparation of them has hitherto fallen on another officer. As the gas-pipes are now being brought to St. Aubin's, it is a question whether it will be desirable to take advantage of it, considering the uncertainty of the tenure. It is suggested that an estimate of the cost of laying the pipes might be made, which, perhaps, the landlord might be induced to take at a valuation, whenever occupation of the premises by the lodge shall cease.

"Having now briefly reviewed the proceedings of the first year of the existence of the lodge, the Committee has only, in conclusion, to express an earnest hope that, on resuming its duties twelve months hence, it may be able to give an equally satis-

factory report. The labour of construction, so to speak, has now been accomplished; the arrangements for the formation and furnishing will not have to be repeated; the anxieties of the brethren who have taken the leading part are at an end. But little remains except to continue the good work, and to turn the attention of all associated with us to the legitimate objects of the institution. A strong recommendation is offered to the members, to show to the world, and especially to the residents in the western parts of the island, by their demeanour as Masons, both in and out of the lodge, that the Craft is a noble one, and worthy of general support by just and upright men, and thus to bring into its fold many more of those around us. One other point must be noticed, namely, a hope that as soon as demands on our funds for the purchase of furniture shall cease, it may be possible to carry out the principles of Freemasonry by subscription to most, if not all, of the Masonic Charities.

"The W.M. elect announced his appointments to office, which were cordially approved by the Audit Committee.

(Signed) "HENRY HOPKINS, W.M."

The W.M. mentioned that the number of initiations during his Mastership was now ten instead of nine, and that, on account of the additional sum thus paid, the balance in hand was considerably increased. The R.W. the Prov. G.M. having been announced, he entered the lodge, and was received with the usual honours. Bro. Dr. Hopkins, W.M., then delivered the following address to the members, previous to his retirement from the chair and installation of his successor:—

"Brethren, in putting for your adoption the report of the proceedings of the past year, and the Treasurer's accounts, I have performed the last of my official acts as your W.M., and it now only remains for me to install my successor in the chair. It would ill become me now to take up your time by expatiating on his merits; indeed, it would be a work of supererogation, since your own unanimous vote in his election has proved your appreciation of them. I may, however, express my confidence, that on the return of this period a year hence, when he may have to install his successor, or himself to be re-installed, he will have established additional claims to your favour and esteem. Brethren, I cannot resign my position of authority over you without thanking you most cordially, not only for your earnest co-operation in forming the lodge, but for the support, the kindness, the courtesy, the obedience, which it has been my happy privilege to receive at your hands during the whole of our Masonic intercourse within these walls, and to entreat that you will continue to show your attachment to me by extending the same to my successor. I shall not be exacting too much, perhaps, if I claim the title of the father of the lodge, and as such, never did it fall to the lot of any one to have more dutiful and affectionate children. I believe, that with the exception of Bro. Le Gallais, who from his age and his public engagements never comes amongst us, I am the senior in Masonic age, as well as in the years of natural life, and, therefore, on these grounds also, in addition to that of having been the originator of the lodge, I have some right to the title, one of which I have reason to be proud. I hope I may truthfully say, that whatever have been my failings and shortcomings, I have earnestly striven to guide you in the right course of Masonic duty and practice, and to give to the ceremonies all the impressiveness of which I have been capable. To such attentions I have been able to bestow, you have at all times given a hearty response. Believe me, that if, as in the history of a family, which we ought to resemble, I should become separated from you as time advances, by the course of events removing me from this island, I shall look back on the period of your childhood, this first year of our union, with unmixed satisfaction, because I have uniformly received respect at your hands, harmony has prevailed among us, and success has crowned our mutual efforts. Though two or three circumstances afford cause for regret, they are such as only a very small number of the members have been concerned in, and for which the others are not responsible. You know that there are some wayward children in every household. But let me remind you, that the character of all is to a certain extent affected by them, and, therefore, they should serve us as warnings for the future. Brother officers, I have especially to express my gratitude to you for the zeal you have manifested in preparation for your respective duties, this having contributed so much to the efficiency of the working, and to the consequent character which I have reason to believe we have obtained in the province on this account. It has enabled me, having powerful

support by my confidence in your exactitude, to derive great pleasure from the more active share which the Master must take in the administration of our ceremonies. You possess the means necessary for enabling you to continue to deserve this character, of which I doubt not you will fully avail yourselves, so that it may never be lost. However loth to leave you even for a season, I shall necessarily be absent from two, perhaps three, meetings this summer after the month of June. I sincerely trust that on my return I shall have reason to congratulate you on the progress made during my absence under your new W.M., by exact working, and the addition of new members. In no other way can you so prove your attachment to myself, as your first W.M. With an assurance that I shall ever be ready to serve the lodge, and to promote its interests in any capacity, I have now simply to bid you an affectionate farewell as your head, and to offer an earnest prayer for your continued prosperity, from the chair which I am at once about to vacate."

The lodge was called off for refreshment for ten minutes. On resuming labour Bros. Durell, W.M., and Kingsnorth, P.M., presented Bro. E. C. Malet de Carteret to receive the benefit of installation. Bro. Dr. Hopkins at once proceeded with the ceremony. Bro. De Carteret in the usual manner signified his assent to the ancient charges, which were read by Bro. Le Sueur, acting as Secretary. The obligation as regards the duties of the Master's chair was administered. The lodge was opened in the third degree. All not holding the rank of W.M. or P.M. having withdrawn, a Board of Installed Masters was formed, and after the usual preliminaries, Bro. De Carteret was duly placed in the chair of the lodge. Bro. Dr. Hopkins was then invested as I.P.M. The board was closed, the Master Masons were admitted, and subsequently the Fellow Crafts and Entered Apprentices, the usual processions, salutations, and proclamations, and presentations of the working tools being made in each case. The lodge was resumed in the second and afterwards in the first degree. The warrant, Book of Constitutions, and by-law were presented to the W.M., who then appointed and invested the following officers, giving an appropriate address to each:—"Bros. Orange, S.W.; De La Taste, J.W.; Josh. Stevens, S.D.; Oatley, J.D.; Dr. Hopkins, P.M., Sec.; C. Le Sueur, Treas.; Surguy, I.G.; Bullen, Tyler. Bro. Dr. Hopkins, as Installing Master, gave the usual addresses to the W.M., the Wardens, and the brethren of the lodge not in office. The W.M. having risen three several times, and no other business being brought forward, closed the lodge, assisted by his new officers, in perfect harmony and with solemn prayer at a quarter-past five. The brethren then adjourned to Coudray's St. Aubin's Hotel to partake of the annual banquet. This having been concluded, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured and responded to. Bro. Dr. Hopkins, who proposed the health of the absent brethren, took the opportunity to read a letter recently received by him from the late Chaplain, the Rev. Bro. F. De La Mare, extracts from which he had sent for insertion in THE FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE. The party broke up about nine o'clock.

COLONIAL.

MAURITIUS.

LODGE OF HARMONY (No. 841, G.L.E).—This lodge held its installation meeting on the 11th February last, at the Lodge Rooms of the R. L. la Triple Esperance. At the time appointed the W.M., Povah Ambrose, opened the lodge assisted Bros. F. W. Barlow, S.W.; A. H. Jack, J.W.; James Brodie, Treas.; A. G. Rickwood, Sec.; W. Harrison, S.D.; J. J. Standley, J.D.; A. C. Wrehe, Dir. of Cers.; W. Besant, I.G.; J. Ambrose, Steward; also present—Bros. Thomas Rickwood, H. Wilson, R. Hanning, A. Lancaster, L. Pigot, Thomas McGregor, A. Scott, A. R. Barrant, and W. Hatch. The minutes of the preceding meetings having been read and confirmed, and the ordinary business of the evening having been gone through, visitors were introduced in the following order:—

1. Bro. P.M. Jourdain and a deputation of the Military Lodge (No. 235, I.C.) and visiting brethren.
2. Bro. W.M. R. Dundee and deputation of the British Lodge (No. 736, G.L.E.) and visiting brethren.
3. Bro. J. Robert, J.W., and deputation of R. L. La Paix, and visiting brethren.
4. Bro. J. Canonville, W.M., and deputation of the R. L. la Triple Esperance, and visiting brethren.

5. Bro. Vigier Latour, 33°, S.P.I.G.O., France.

6. Bro. P.M. J. C. C. de Lissa, of the British Lodge, Installing Master.

A report of the proceedings of the lodge was then read, showing a very satisfactory result, and was ordered to be placed on the minutes of the lodge in charge of the Bro. Sec. The ceremony of installation of the W.M. elect was then gone through. Bro. A. P. Ambrose having been re-elected to the chair, it was not necessary to form a board of installed masters, but the remaining portion of the ceremony was performed by Bro. De Lissa, P.M., in the most able and impressive manner. Bro. P. Ambrose being placed in the chair of K.S., then proceeded to invest the following officers:—Bros. A. Hill Jack, S.W.; A. G. Rickwood, J.W.; A. Scott, Treas. elect; J. Ambrose, Sec.; W. Besant, S.D.; J. J. Standley, J.D.; James Brodie, Dir. of Cers.; H. Wilson, I.G.; F. Thomas Rickwood, and Thos. McGregor, Stewards; A. Lancaster, Organist.

Two propositions were then read:—

1. By Bro. Barlow, seconded by the W.M.—"That the special thanks of this lodge are due to Bro. A. G. Rickwood, Secretary, for the very efficient manner in which he performed the duties of his office during the past year, and that a more lasting token, with a proper inscription be presented to him." Carried unanimously.
2. By Bro. Barlow, P.S.W., and seconded by Bro. A. H. Jack, S.W.—"That it is desirable to obtain the portrait of the W.M., Bro. P. Ambrose, and that he should be requested to sit for the same at the expense of the lodge. The portrait to be placed in the Salle des Pas Perdus of the Triple Esperance Lodge."

The W.M. having acknowledged the compliment in suitable terms, and consented to the said proposition—it was put and carried unanimously.

The lodge was then called from labour to refreshment, and all the brethren present were invited by the W.M. to adjourn to the banqueting room, which was tastefully decorated for the occasion. The brethren then sat down to a very excellent dinner prepared by the exertions of the Stewards. A band of amateur musicians enlivened the evening with selections from the popular operas.

Dinner being over, the W. Master rose and proposed the usual loyal toasts—"The Queen and the Craft; "The Most Worshipful Grand Master, the Earl of Zetland, and Grand Lodge of England;" "The Most Worshipful Grand Master, and Grand Lodge of Ireland, Scotland, and Grand Orient de France;" which were all received with great enthusiasm.

The following toasts were then drunk with due honour:—By the W.M.—"The Visiting Brethren, and the Masters and Past Masters of the Sister Lodges of this City." By the Installing P.M.—"The Worshipful Master, A. P. Ambrose." He congratulated the members of the Harmony on the re-election of Bro. Ambrose to the chair of their lodge, an honour which he fully deserved for his strenuous exertions in having raised their young lodge, which barely mustered sufficient members to open lodge when he took the direction, and which he had raised to the rank and splendour which it now occupies.

Bro. P. Ambrose replied in a few but deeply-felt words.

The W. Master then asked the brethren to charge, and join with him in drinking a bumper to "To the Health of the Installing Past Master, Bro. J. C. C. De Lissa of the British Lodge." He thanked Bro. De Lissa for his kindness in having conducted the installation ceremony, and said that now that Bro. the Rev. O'Dell had left these shores, the Craft looked up to Bro. De Lissa, not only for instruction, but for the performance of all those solemn rites usually so ably conducted by their reverend and absent brother. The brethren had had occasion to see how Bro. De Lissa had performed the installation, and were pleased to find that the vacant place left by Bro. O'Dell would be well and ably filled by Bro. De Lissa. This toast was received with loud applause.

Bro. J. C. C. De Lissa replied in his usual able manner.

The remaining toasts were then given:—"New Installed Officers," by Bro. Barlow, P.W.; "Past Officers," by the S.W.; "Mothers, Wives, and Daughters of Masons," by Bro. J. Brodie; "To all Distressed Masons," by the J.W.

Labour was then resumed, the charity box circulated, and the lodge closed in love, peace, and harmony.

A regular meeting of this lodge was also held on the 10th March last, at the Lodge Rooms of the R. L. la Triple Esperance. The business borne on the summons consisted only of one initiation

and an affiliation, but the brethren having been informed by the W.M. that it was the intention of Bro. the Rev. F. De la Mare to visit the lodge on that evening, there was a numerous attendance, not only of the members of the Harmony, but of the sister lodge of the island. Punctual to time Bro. A. P. Ambrose arrived, accompanied by Bro. the Rev. De la Mare, whom he had much pleasure in introducing to the Masters and Past Masters of the different lodges.

The lodge was then opened in due form and the minutes of the installation meeting confirmed, when the visitors were introduced as follows:—

1. Visiting brethren of all lodges.
2. Bro. J. C. C. De Lissa, British Lodge (No. 736).
3. Bro. Jacques Bernin, W.M. R. L. la Triple Esperance.
4. Bro. the Rev. F. De la Mare, P. G. Chap. of Jersey, and Chaplain when on that island of Lodges Césarée and St. Aubin.

Bro. A. J. Jourdain, P.M. of Military Lodge (No. 235, I.C.), being also a member of 841, assisted the W.M. in opening the lodge. Mr. R. Scott, who had been regularly balloted for and approved of in open lodge in January last, being in attendance, and properly prepared, was then introduced in due form and according to ancient usage initiated into the mysteries of Freemasonry. The usual charge at the end of the ceremony being delivered by the W.M. in a clear and impressive manner.

The W. Master then rose and said that he had a proposition to make which he was sure would be received with pleasure by every member of the lodge. The Worshipful and Rev. Bro. F. De la Mare, a visitor *this evening*, would no doubt ere long be an hon. member of every lodge in this city, but the reverend gentleman particularly wished to become a subscribing member to one lodge, and had requested him (the W.M.) to propose him as a subscribing member of the Harmony. He had, therefore, much pleasure in proposing Bro. the Rev. F. De la Mare as a subscribing member.

Bro. A. Hill Jack, S.W., immediately rose and seconded that proposition.

The W. Master then said that he had a further proposition to make, and that was to propose as a member for affiliation Bro. F. De la Mare, jun. of St. Aubin's Lodge, Jersey.

Bro. Jack seconded that proposition.

Bro. J. Ambrose then proposed as a member for affiliation Bro. A. Catto, M.M. of Lodge la Triple Esperance.

The W.M. ordered the usual forms to be filled in and placed in the hands of the Secretary, and appointed the 31st March to take those propositions into consideration, and also to pass Bro. Elliott Sheppee (of the mail steamer *Sullan*) and Bro. F. De la Mare, jun.

There being no further propositions, the charity box was circulated, and the lodge closed in love, peace, and harmony.

The brethren then adjourned to the banquetting room of the Pas Perdue, where they sat down to an excellent dinner.

On the cloth being withdrawn the W. Master rose and said that, according to the invariable rule of the lodge, he proposed as the first toast of the evening, "The Health of the newly-elected Brethren." He trusted that Bro. Scott would not soon forget the precepts he had received in the lodge, and hoped he would become an active and regular brother amongst them. Bro. Scott replied.

The brethren having been called upon to charge, Bro. Ambrose again rose and said—Brethren of this lodge, Worshipful Masters and Past Masters of the sister lodges, some few months back the whole Craft in this island, but especially the English Masons of this city, heard with deep regret that their esteemed friend and brother the Rev. M. C. O'Dell was about suddenly to leave the island, and so short was the time he had to remain that we were precluded from meeting him at a farewell banquet, and presenting him with any token of our esteem and gratitude for the services rendered to English Masonry in this island. Hurried addresses were got up and presented to him on board the vessel which took him away from us. On parting with us he bid us be of good cheer, and not to fear that English Masonry should fall away in this island, as it was fixed on too solid a basis. He said that he had no doubt that ere long some other reverend brother would be found to take his place, and to continue the good work which he had begun. He spoke, brethren, as if endowed with a prophetic spirit, for he had hardly reached the shores of Old Ireland, when another zealous and distinguished Mason, and another minister of our holy religion was parting from those he loved and who loved him also, and was travelling towards us. Brethren, if any of you desire to know what Bro.

De la Mare, our honoured guest has done for Freemasonry in Jersey, let him read the pages of THE FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE, and therein he will find how hard it was for his brethren to part with him, how many were the tokens of esteem and affection they presented him with, and whilst we sympathise with their loss, let us rejoice at his presence amongst us. Brethren, I have the reverend brother's authority to say to you this evening, that if, in these climes the Great Architect of the Universe grant him health and strength, he will be ready and willing to take up and continue the good work so ably begun by our respected and absent Brother O'Dell. As we shall all benefit by his advice, let us all then join on this occasion, when meeting him for the first time, in wishing him health and prosperity during his stay in Mauritius. Join, therefore, heartily with me, and let your cheers re-echo through these old walls, and let us drink a bumper to "Our Worthy and Reverend Brother F. De la Mare, and to those near and dear to him." This toast was drunk with great enthusiasm and amidst loud applause.

When the cheering had subsided, Bro. the Rev. F. De la Mare rose and spoke as follows:—

Worshipful Brethren and Brethren,—I do not know that in the whole extent of our English vocabulary I could find words that could possibly convey to your minds a true idea of the present feelings of my heart. Landing on these shores as a stranger to you all, unknown to any of you except by report, and meeting with such genuine, spontaneous, and truly Masonic kindness fills my heart at once with joy and yet with sadness. With joy because I have before me demonstrative evidence of the truth so loudly and so frequently proclaimed in our sublime ritual, embodied, perhaps, in other phraseology, but yet the same standing, living, truth—love to the brethren. Brethren, your kind letters received within the narrow space of our quarantine have been so many rills of consolation in our solitude, and have had the same effect on my mind as oil on a troubled sea. Yet, on the present occasion, I feel sad because I am afraid you are expecting too much from me. Conscious of my manifold infirmity I fear lest I should fail in the fulfilment of the high duties which will now devolve upon me as your chaplain, but I shall do what I can, not only from a sense of duty, but from a principle of love for the cause in which we are now engaged. One of my first inquiries concerning Mauritius was—*are there any Masons in the island, and do they work harmoniously?* I was answered in the affirmative by parties who have met with you in lodge, and am happy to have it now in my power to say that they were right. I must confess that I have been much pleased with your working to-night. The first degree has, I think, been as well worked as I ever saw it at home, the respectable appearance of all your members—the solemnity and respectful awe witnessed on their countenances—and the willingness and readiness of the different officers to perform their several tasks, have sufficed to convince me that they felt they were engaged in a matter of importance and of great responsibility. Brethren, you are aware that some people in this country as well as elsewhere make objections to our connection with Masonry, because, in their ignorance, they suppose that it is incompatible with the high and holy duty of the ministerial office. But you, at least know better—you know that it is the handmaid of Christianity, and is calculated, with God's blessing, to produce salutary effects on the regenerated heart. To be a good Mason, a man should be a true Christian, for, while Masonry enforces precepts of morality, truth, and justice, Christianity confers grace whereby poor helpless man is enabled to practise those precepts, and the two thus blended together form an admirable whole. And, then, is not the foundation-stone of our superstructure the very essence of Christianity—"love?" And, again, does not Christianity aim at accomplishing the same great and glorious work, has it not for its object the same high end, to draw all men together, and establish on earth one great and universal brotherhood? It was the work of Satan to alienate men's affections from their legitimate object—and it is the work of Christianity and ours to reunite them. Worshipful sir, I may not have it in my power to take a very active part in the actual working of your respective lodges. Living at a distance from town, and engaged in the numberless duties of my office, it may not be always possible for me to be with you, but if not in body, at least in spirit, for I love your meetings and have always looked forward with joy to the return of the lodge nights. Rest assured that my heart, my tongue, and my pen will always be found employed in promoting our common cause. Brethren, I feel that I stand amongst you as the humble representative of the sister lodges in the

Island of Jersey, and I am proud to say to you this evening that a more consistent, zealous, body of Masons does not exist. True it is, we have occasionally to pass through trials similar to that which now makes your hearts bleed. The wheat and the tares, you know, must grow together; but, as a body, the Masons of Jersey stand almost unequalled in affection, in perseverance; and I must confess to you that the officers and members of Lodges La Césarée and St. Aubin's in particular have so completely gained my affections, that at the thought of them my heart leaps for joy, and, pardon me, but I cannot altogether divest myself of the wish that I had but the wings of a dove to enable me fly over seas and lands till I alighted in their arms. Brethren, I am afraid I shall prove a very unworthy representative of such worthy men; but, however feebly and imperfectly I may fulfil my task, you will, I trust, ere I leave you, be convinced that although in the Channel Islands—we are as it were at the west end of our earthly lodge, yet that we seek to follow the Bright Star of the East, for we, too, have seen it and are disposed also to worship at the shrine of brotherly love and of truth. Brethren, we are Masons—not in name only I trust, but for the accomplishment of a high and holy object. It is ours to raise up amid the fragments of our fallen race the superstructure of mortality; it is ours to foster the development of virtue; it is ours to build up a temple to the goddess of love in every land, in every community, in every family, and in every heart. Let us, then, not leave our task unfulfilled, so that when our Great Master calls us to account we may be found faithful stewards. Accept, brethren, my thanks for your fraternal reception, and be assured that if blessed with health among you, I shall not eat the bread of idleness, but trust I may always be found steadfast, immovable, abounding in good words and works.

Bro. Descroizelles, R.L.T.E., then proposed "The Health of the Worshipful Masters and Past Masters, both present and absent, of the lodges of this city."

Bro. Lissa, P.M., and Bro. H. J. Jourdain, P.M., replied.

The Rev. Bro. De la Mare then asked permission from the chair to propose a toast. On rising he said he hoped that the toast which he was about to propose would not be considered impertinent and out of place. It was a favour that he was about to ask of his brethren, one that would be gratifying to his own feelings. He was a child of Lodge La Césarée and he felt he could not forget his mother, he loved her, and the very mention of her name was music in his ears. He had promised his brethren of that lodge as well as that of St. Aubin's to bear them in mind. He felt he need not have made that promise, for he could not, if he would, forget them, they had entire possession of his heart, and in his Masonic labours in Mauritius, he would be very much influenced by the thought that the mother expected much from the child, although she forgot to wean him before she permitted him to go and fight for himself in the world. He felt he was a connecting link between the lodges here and those at home—they would learn to know each other, and thereby help on each other in the good work. He then dwelt largely on the state of prosperity of La Césarée, alluding to some dissension and trouble from which she has emerged bright as the sun from the clouds. The rev. brother spoke of the Temple in course of construction in the Island of Jersey, remarking that he hoped it would prove a bond of union to all lodges in Jersey. He alluded to the W.M. of La Césarée and St. Aubin's in terms of the greatest affection. Of the first he said he had seen him work the three degrees under circumstances calculated to shake almost a cedar of Lebanon, and had brought the lodge happily through one of the most severe trials that she could experience. Of Dr. Hopkins, W.M. of St. Aubin's, he said he could only wish he was in Mauritius, which by the way, was a proper place for him as he was suffering from asthma. He was proud to know him. He hoped to be in constant communication with him, and would obtain a few copies of his lectures, which he was sure would be highly prized. But he must have done, and proposed—"The Lodges La Césarée and St. Aubin in Jersey."

This toast was received with due honour and cheers.

During the evening several songs were sung. At 10 p.m., the W.M. called upon the J.W. to give the last toast. "To all Distressed Masons, &c." The brethren separated highly pleased with their work.

The STRENGTH OF FOOLS.—There are none can baffle men of sense but fools; on whom they can make no impression.

THE WEEK.

THE COURT.—The Queen and junior members of the Royal Family are still in privacy in Scotland, enjoying the beautiful summer weather. On Tuesday, the Queen's birthday was celebrated with more than the usual honours, and the household troops were inspected by the Princess of Wales. In the evening a state concert was held at Buckingham Palace, where the Prince and Princess of Wales appeared as representing her Majesty. The attendance of the nobility and of the diplomatic corps was numerous, and the scene was a very brilliant one. Cambridge is all astir preparing for the visit of the Prince and Princess of Wales. The stay of their Royal Highness will extend over three days—from Thursday, the 2nd of June, until the following Saturday. On this occasion the university will confer the honorary degree of LL.D. upon the Prince, and upon several other persons of distinction, including the Duke of Cambridge, Prince Louis of Hesse, Lord Palmerston, and Lord Granville.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.—The HOUSE OF LORDS sat for the first time after the Whitsun holidays on Monday last, when the Lord Chancellor, in reply to some remarks from Lord Derby, denied that he had asserted that the University of Oxford had been guilty of a breach of faith in not having endowed Professor Jowett's chair after they had received certain pecuniary exemptions solely with that object. At the same time, however he condemned the conduct of the University in this matter, and his views were supported by his colleague, Lord Granville.—The County Courts Reform Bill was read a second time, after some discussion, in which Lord Brougham and other peers took part. Their Lordships adjourned shortly before nine o'clock till Thursday.—In the HOUSE OF COMMONS on Thursday, May 19, in answer to a question from Mr. Whiteside, Mr. Layard was unable to conform or contradict the statements which had appeared in the newspapers to the effect that, notwithstanding the armistice, the Prussians continued to levy forced contributions in Jutland. Sir John Pakington asked whether it was true that the powerful Austrian squadron which recently left one of the French ports had entered the Baltic, but the Government could give no information respecting the movements of this flotilla beyond what has been known for several days—namely, that the Austrian Admiral had taken his ships into the North Sea.—Sir George Grey introduced a bill for the amendment of the Highways Act. The remaining business was unimportant.—On Friday, the Marquis of Hartington stated, in reply to a question, that two battalions of Guards and one of the Line had been ordered home from Canada, and that it was not intended to send out troops to supply their place.—In answer to a question from Mr. Whiteside, Lord Palmerston (who was loudly cheered by both sides of the House on his re-appearance in his place) said it was clearly laid down as one of the conditions of the armistice between Denmark and Germany that the levying of forced contributions should cease during the suspension of hostilities. "There was, however, some ambiguity in the understanding between the parties as to whether contributions ordered before the armistice was concluded should be levied."—The House rejected by a large majority a resolution moved by Colonel North proposing that a further allowance should be made to Captain Grant, the inventor of the well-known military cooking apparatus. After a discussion on the affairs of China and the Ashantee war, the House went into Committee of Supply on the Civil Service Estimates, and several votes were agreed to.—On Monday, Sir John Hay, Sir J. Elphinstone, and Mr. Dillwyn addressed questions to the Government respecting Mr.

Reed's two new war vessels, the *Research* and the *Enterprise*. It was alleged that these ships, of which so much had been expected, were comparative failures, but Lord Clarence Paget defended Mr. Reed and his experimental craft.—In reply to questions from Mr. Whiteside and Mr. Darby Griffith, Lord Palmerston and Mr. Layard stated that Count Bismarck had intimated that orders had been issued to the Prussian officers in Jutland to make no military requisitions during the armistice, and to restore any property which may have been taken from Danish subjects since the day on which hostilities were suspended. Adjourned till Thursday.

GENERAL HOME NEWS.—The mortality in London last week was high. The deaths were 100 above the number reported in the previous week. The actual number was 1,421; the excess above the average of ten years corrected to allow for increase of population amounts to 178. The births were 1,814; the estimated average 1,915.—The pauperism of the cotton manufacturing districts continues to decline steadily. 4,500 paupers went off the union relief lists in the second week of the present month. Three of the larger unions contributed 2,430 to the general decrease, viz., Ashton-under-Lyne, 860; Manchester, 860; and Preston, 710. The out-door relief last week was £6,147, or £278 less than the sum expended in the week immediately preceding. The adult able-bodied paupers decreased by 1,850; leaving, however, 26,750 of this class, and their families, yet dependent upon the poor rates.—Mr. Farnall reported to the Central Relief Committee that during the fortnight ending the 14th inst. 13,916 persons were struck off the relief lists of the 27 unions composing the cotton manufacturing districts. Mr. Hugh Mason gave notice of a motion to request “the President of the Poor Law Board to seek for further powers under the Public Works Act, to enable him to lend a further sum of at least £500,000, in order to promote sanitary and other improvements in the manufacturing districts, and thus to provide employment and wages for cotton operatives.”—At the last meeting of the Metropolitan Board of Works an interesting discussion took place on the formation of a new line of street from Oxford-street to Charing-cross. The Hampstead and Charing-cross Railway had offered, in consideration of their bill being unopposed, to make a street 40ft. wide. The committee of the board insisted on a width of 60ft. The company objected to the expense, but offered to carry out the plan if the board would give them a site on the Thames embankment and a contribution of £75,000 in money. This proposal, when referred to the board, was rejected, and the committee was instructed to insist upon 60ft. of roadway untrammelled by conditions.—The *Gazette* contains an order from the Sovereign appointing the Duke of Sutherland and the Marquis of Ailesbury to be Knights of the Garter, and dispensing with the ceremonies attending the usual mode of installation. The *congé d'élire* is also issued for the appointment of Dr. Jenne to be Bishop of Peterborough.—On Saturday, the Newspaper Press Fund held their first annual dinner, Lord Houghton in the chair. There was a very brilliant company assembled, and the addresses of the noble chairman, Mr. Denman, Mr. Newdegate, and others, set forth in a striking manner the nature of the charity and the claims it has on the benevolence of public men. In the present case that claim was not made in vain, a large subscription, drawn from wide sources, following the chairman's appeal. The musical department came out in unusual force; in fact, the after-dinner portion of the entertainment consisted more of music than of eloquence. So many of the leading members of the musical profession, including Mr. Sims Reeves, Mdllie. Parepa, and others were anxious to testify their good will to the newspaper press

by their attendance on this occasion, that the dining-hall was in a measure turned into a concert-room, to the intense delight of a brilliant assemblage of ladies who graced the galleries.—The attendance at the Derby on Wednesday showed no falling off from former years. The rail and the road were as crowded as ever, the latter with the old motley grouping of vehicles, and the course presented the old vast surging crowd: The fineness of the day added much to the enjoyment of the scene. The “blue ribbon” was won on this occasion by Mr. FAnson's horse Blair Athol, a horse which, from its position in the betting list, did not seem to be popular among the turf frequenters. The favourite, General Peel, ran second.—Our second cupola gun ship is now afloat. The *Prince Albert* has been launched from Messrs. Samuda's building yard. It is said that the ship was intended to throw a weight of metal of 1,120lbs., against the *Warrior's* 88lbs., though the crew of the *Prince Albert* will be only 150, against the 700 men of the *Warrior*.—A meeting of the commanding officers of the Volunteer Corps in and about the metropolis, has been held, at which it was agreed to make a request to the employers of labour to allow all volunteers in their employment a half-holiday in order that they might take part in the review which is to take place in Hyde Park on the 28th inst., under the inspection of the Prince of Wales, and it is not doubted that the employers will cheerfully comply with a request so reasonable.—The *Globe* states that the Government has purchased the two Mersey steam rams,—a circumstance upon which that journal congratulates the country, on the ground that we have thus not only secured two good ships but have also escaped the heavy expenses of a trial at bar, and “the consequences of a possible adverse decision.” Our iron-clad fleet, which has been so unexpectedly strengthened, consisted, a few days ago—as we learn from a parliamentary return—of sixteen ships and seven floating batteries. Since the return was prepared, however, a cupola ship, the *Prince Albert*, has been launched, so that, including the Messrs. Laird's two rams, we have a total of 26 iron-cased ships and batteries afloat. Deducting the *Prince Albert*, the return shows that 10 other iron-clads are “building.”—Few places in England apparently escaped the thunderstorm of Friday week. A vast amount of damage was done in many parts of the country, and several deaths from lightning are reported.—The case of the men who were apprehended on the charge of being pirates for seizing a Federal ship bound from Matamoras to New York, has been concluded in the Court of Queen's Bench. The Lord Chief Justice was in favour of giving the men up to the Federal authorities, who claimed them, but all the other judges took an opposite view, and the prisoners were consequently discharged.—Vice-Chancellor Sir John Stuart has given judgment in the long pending action between Sir John Ramsden, Bart., and one of his tenants in the neighbourhood of Huddersfield. The late Sir John Ramsden was in the habit of granting verbal leases, renewable in perpetuity, and the present baronet soon after he came of age proposed to put the leases on a new footing, and to raise the rents, which led to a dispute that finally issued in Sir John bringing an action of ejectment. The action was tried in the case of one of these tenants; and the Vice Chancellor decided that the tenant had acquired a right to the land of which the owner could not dispossess him, but that the ground-rent ought to be doubled. Sir John Ramsden to pay the costs of the suit. This will decide several other cases that were pending.—There seems to be no prospect of an early termination of the dispute between the ironworkers of Leeds and their employers. On Monday the workmen submitted a sort of compromise to the masters, but the latter decided that they would entertain no propositions which did not embody the spirit of the “Declaration,” by which it is sought to relieve the trade from union interference. In this state of things, the “Association of Ironworkers” make the singular intimation to “those of their friends who are disposed to emigrate that there are ample funds now at their disposal to carry out that object.” It may be remembered that a person representing himself to be the agent of certain ironmasters in the Northern States of America recently addressed a meeting of the men, and we presume that the “ample funds” at the disposal of the union come from a Federal

source.—The monstrous delusion which at one time prevailed among the persons employed in many branches of industry, that the substitution of machinery for manual labour could be prevented by acts of violence, has by no means died entirely out. Benjamin Armitage is building a mill at Pendleton—the ricks used being machine-made. This has given great offence to the brickmakers, and on Saturday night, some fifty ruffians ought to put down brickmaking by machinery by a murderous attack on Mr. Armitage's watchman, by killing the watchman's dog, and by demolishing the walls, which had been raised from a height of from eight to nine feet. The watchman will be able to identify his cowardly assailants, who have so far escaped apprehension.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.—The session of the Corps Legislatif has been prolonged to the 28th inst.—The birthday of Queen Victoria was celebrated by a dinner at the British Embassy. The Emperor's Ministers were present, and M. Drouyn de Lhuys proposed the health of her Majesty, to which Lord Cowley replied, and proposed the health of the Emperor.—Baron Von Beust had an interview with the Emperor of the French on Saturday, and at its conclusion he paid a visit to M. Drouyn de Lhuys. The journals are replete with speculations and rumours about the Conference. The *Patrie* asserts that if Austria and Prussia refuse at the next meeting to negotiate on the basis proposed on the 17th, the English fleet will forthwith sail to the Baltic. The *France* sounds the knell of the Treaty of 1852, and recommends the Conference to give it up, and consult the populations and act upon their vote—a recommendation which is understood to be favourable to the French Government.—The *Moniteur* announces that the intelligence respecting the Arab revolt in Algeria is favourable, and that General Deligny's successes have "produced a good effect." It is admitted, however, that there is good reason to believe in the existence of a religious conspiracy throughout Algeria, Tunis, Tripoli, and even Morocco.—The death of Marshal Pelissier, who commanded the French army when Sebastopol was stormed, is announced by a despatch from Algiers of Sunday's date.—Again the health of the Pope causes serious alarm at Rome. Measures are said to have been taken to meet an emergency, by the issue of a secret bull, ordering the election of a successor to Pius IX. before his decease is made publicly known.—The King of Prussia to mark his sense of their services during the campaign in the duchies, has appointed the Crown Prince to the command of the Second Army Corps, and raised General Wrangle to the rank of a count. Prince Frederick, it is said, has been appointed commander in chief in the duchies.—In replying to an address urging that Schleswig-Holstein should be made an independent state, the King of Prussia expressed his "confidence that the sacrifices made for the German cause will also conduce to the interests of our more immediate fatherland."—The Ministerial crisis at Brussels, which has lasted several months, is at length surmounted, all the Ministers having withdrawn their resignations. The Chamber of Deputies has been summoned for the 31st inst.—Another change has taken place in the Danish Ministry. The Minister for War has resigned, and it is said that several important posts in the War Department are being re-organised.—The Russian Budget for the year 1864 has been published, and it purports to show, with as much certainty and clearness as a French Budget usually does, that the income will equal the outgoings. The revenue is estimated at 401,600,000 roubles, or about £64,000,000—the receipts, including 46,000,000 roubles from home and foreign loans; and the expenditure is likewise estimated at 401,000,000 roubles, including 37,000,000 roubles for "extraordinary military expenses."

AMERICA.—Several battles, attended with enormous slaughter on both sides, have been fought in Virginia; but the details and results are but very obscurely communicated by the despatches. The accounts brought by the *Bremen* informed us that there had been "heavy skirmishing" between the main Confederate and Federal armies on the 5th inst., and that a battle was expected to be fought on the 6th inst., the Federal army being then on a line parallel with the road from Germania Ford to Chancellorsville, and resting its flanks on those places respectively. A subsequent New York telegram, on the afternoon of the 7th instant, and conveyed to us by the *Pennsylvania*, added that, according to "unofficial information" received by the Federal Government, "after the day's fighting, General Grant had driven General Lee three miles," and was believed to be pursuing General Lee, who was marching in two columns towards Richmond. We now

learn that General Grant had officially reported that after the engagement on the 6th inst. General Lee retreated during the night, and was pursued by the Federal army on the morning of the 7th. During that day General Hancock's Federal corps pressed forward, and passed through Spotsylvania, while the Federal head-quarters were advanced to a place twenty miles south of the battle-field. At the same time Fredericksburg was occupied by the Federal cavalry, and great hospitals were established there. A New York telegram of the 12th instant next announces that there had been "terrific fighting without results," and that "a bloody battle" was fought on the 10th inst. near Spotsylvania Court House. The Federals, we are told, attempted to storm the Confederate position, and lost from 7,000 to 10,000 men, but captured three guns and 1,200 prisoners. Up to the date of the latest advices, the aggregate Federal losses during the campaign were estimated at 15,000 men; but the only intelligence respecting the slaughter on the Confederate side is a statement, said to be derived from General Lee's own reports, that on the 5th or 6th inst. General Longstreet was severely wounded, and three other Confederate Generals were killed or wounded. While these battles were in progress between the Rapidan and Richmond, there had been sharp fighting between General Butler's corps—which had landed on the south bank of the James River and had advanced towards Petersburg—and the Confederates under General Beauregard. In a severe engagement on the 7th inst., General Butler had, it is said, driven back General Beauregard's forces, obtained important advantages, and destroyed the railway communications between Petersburg and Richmond. The campaign in the south-west was hardly less active and sanguinary than in Virginia, for we learn that heavy fighting was going on in the neighbourhood of Dalton, in Georgia, between the Confederates and the Federal army, which, under General Sherman, had advanced from Chattanooga. The reports from the Federal expedition up the Red River were very unfavourable, and General Canby had consequently been despatched from Washington to supersede General Banks. The result of the engagements with General Lee's army on the 5th and 6th inst., was regarded by President Lincoln as so satisfactory that he issued a proclamation ordaining thanksgivings to God; and an official bulletin published by Secretary Stanton stated that those battles might be considered a success for the Federal arms. They were, we are told, regarded as favourable, but not decisive, by the New York public. Latest advices state that on the night of the 6th Lee began his retreat to another line of defence, near Spotsylvania. The losses on both sides were heavy, but those of the Federals, as the attacking force, must have been enormous. Lee claims to have repulsed the enemy at every point, but he has to regret the loss of many brave men—amongst them the gallant Longstreet severely wounded. As we write the news of fresh losses and fresh Confederate victories reaches us. There were battles on the 8th, 9th, and 10th. On the 11th the Confederates had fallen back upon a stronger position than ever. The Federal Generals Sedgwick and Warren had been killed. Twenty miles of country had cost the Federals 40,000 killed, wounded, and missing. And the Confederate flag flaunts as defiantly as ever from Richmond. As we were going to press we received intelligence from New York down to the evening of the 14th inst. Lee was represented at that time as still in retreat, with Grant following up the pursuit. The gravity of the situation is indicated by a demand of the Governor of Kentucky that the State should at once furnish 10,000 men for six months' service. Another account represents General Lee to be in Richmond and wounded.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

* * * From the pressure on our space, we are again compelled to postpone an interesting report from our own correspondent at Shanghai.

E. P.—The late Marquis of Huntley was the Provincial Grand Master for Northamptonshire and Huntingdonshire. His successor (the Duke of Manchester) will be installed on the 1st proximo.

A. W. M. (Manchester).—To the best of our recollection, No; but perhaps you had better apply at the Grand Secretary's office.

W. B. (Bridport).—Too personal for publication.