

LONDON, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1864.

MASONRY UNIVERSAL.

In another part of our Journal will be found two curious documents—the one a report from the Colonial Board, declaring that Parsees may certainly become members of the Order, and Hindoos, if their characters entitle them to the privilege—a test which we regret is too often overlooked with regard to professing Christians. This document goes to widen the basis of Masonry as far as possible, and the other to which we have to direct attention to narrow it—it being a report from a Committee of the English Grand Lodge of Mark Masons, showing that the Mark Degree is essentially Christian, and *à priori* can only be taken by members of a Christian Church. There is not one word in that report that does not equally apply to Craft Masonry as it existed a few years since, and as it still exists in many parts of the world; and we can imagine no reason for its publication, except it be to endeavour to sow discord where nothing but brotherly love and charity should exist. That Craft Masonry was formerly known as St. John's Masonry, and that St. John's Day is still kept as a Masonic festival not only abroad, but in many parts of the United Kingdom, is as notorious as the sun at noonday, and required no Committee of the Grand Lodge of Mark Masters to inform us. If the members of that body cannot employ themselves in more useful inquiries, or in endeavouring, by their example and precepts, to extend the principles upon which our Order is founded, the sooner it is dissolved the better.

ARCHITECTURAL REVERIES.

THE WINDOW.

(Concluded from page 364.)

We have seen the window feature steadily advancing in importance, and marking each epoch with its reflex, more or less striking of the spirit of the time. It was, however, in the Christian churches from the tenth to the fifteenth century, in our grand Mediæval cathedrals, that the "window," as a truly decorative and all important architectural feature, most grandly developed itself. In the earliest days of Christianity, the rites of the new religion had been performed, not only in secrecy, but in darkness, in the subterranean recesses of the Roman catacombs. But when its influence had become all-powerful, these conditions were destined to be strikingly reversed in the glorious edifices that the genius of Christian

architects eventually reared as the temples of their religion. A Pagan writer, Longinus, in treating of sublimity of style in literary composition (though he had a vast range of classical masterpieces at his command), cites as an example of the truly sublime expression of illimitable power, a passage from the Jewish Scriptures—"God said, Let there be light: and there was light." It would almost seem as though those Christian architects had seized upon the same passage as their motto when, to admit a vast body of light into their vaulted naves and aisles, they proceeded to construct those broad openings in their temple walls, which were eventually destined to become the chief glory and ornament of those wonderful structures. Unlike the castle, in which the external windows were deep and narrow—as through them might constantly be dreaded the visitation of a cloud of arrows, or dangerous masses of stone thrown upwards from the catapult—the Christian temple could widen its window openings without fear. The influence exercised by the Church was at that period nearly omnipotent over all classes. Churches were truly sacred buildings, even the vicinity of which was a sanctuary, the bounds of which could not be forcibly passed, even in pursuit of a criminal who took shelter within the ecclesiastical precincts. There was no necessity, therefore, to make security a consideration in the design and proportion of church windows. Consequently, in order to throw a sufficiency of light within the lofty vaultings of a vast covered area, these features soon began to assume such proportions as rendered supporting mullions necessary; and these, branching eventually at the top, so as to meet the great pressure of superincumbent wall above the wide opening, gradually grew into that exquisite window tracery which forms one of the crowning beauties of the marvellous details of Gothic architecture. The art of staining and painting on glass having developed itself about the same time, these windows were gradually converted into fields for the pictorial illustration of the great story of Christianity; and the churches thus became, as it were, spacious picture galleries, the paintings of which were lighted as no paintings had ever been lighted before, for the light passed through the pictures themselves to the eye of the spectator, giving them a vivid brilliancy such as no pictorial representations had ever been endowed with at any former period, and producing a most striking effect, which, in a decorative point of view, had certainly never been equalled. Even classical art had never achieved such decorative splendour, not even in the highest period of their temple architecture, when a Phidias wrought, in gold and ivory, the celebrated Chryselephantine statuary of the Parthenon and other Attic temples. The effect produced by the translucent pictures of the painted windows was, indeed, most brilliantly rich; and at the same time most appropriate. The

light streaming through them, imparted an almost supernatural effect, as of pictures of coloured æther; and with these advantages neither the defective drawing of the period, nor the necessity of surrounding every feature of a different colour with the broad line-joints of lead-work, materially injured the grandeur and imposing richness of those vast pictorial compositions which at once both decorated and lighted the great cathedrals of the thirteenth, fourteenth, and fifteenth centuries. The great painted windows was, in fact, the most striking triumph of Mediæval art; and it was its great success which led to the continually increasing size of the windows as a field for this kind of church decoration, which proved itself so much more brilliant than any profusion of painting or gilding could possibly be on the opaque walls. Hence arose the extreme development of another striking feature in the Gothic architecture—the buttress—the increased strength of which was rendered necessary by the abstraction of such large portions of the walls as window space; and, with the increased size and importance of this feature, arose the necessity for its decoration, during which process, with its canopied niches and fretted pinnacles, it became one of the leading features in the external architecture of our Gothic cathedrals.

With the increased decoration of the windows in ecclesiastical buildings, those of private dwellings proportionately increased in richness and appropriateness of ornament, and in general delicacy of architectural treatment. In great cities, indeed, window decoration developed itself in an exuberance of artistic device that often renders each window quite an artistic study in itself. Tracery was not resorted to so profusely as in church windows, where it was a necessary support in such wide openings; but its beauty was so strongly felt that architects could scarcely be expected to abandon it altogether in their domestic architecture. We therefore find it introduced in the upper parts of windows where it would not obstruct the look-out. The amount of this tracery in the windows of domestic architecture greatly differed in different countries, being most profuse in Venice, and in parts of Spain, and perhaps least so in Germany and Flanders, where, on the other hand, the Church Gothic found its greatest degree of exuberance. If, however, in the windows of the household façade the features of tracery were but sparingly used by Gothic architects, they found a vent for their skill in this class of decoration in the traceried framework with which they often surrounded their dormer windows, some of the work of which is more rich and delicate than any to be found in church architecture; among other examples, those of the Hôtel des Mathurins at Paris, and of the Palais de Justice at Rouen, may be cited as extremely beautiful. And while tracery was thus made available for the gabled top and its surroundings in the dormer window, the decora-

tion of those of the façade by means of the enrichments of the architrave, and the introduction of a surmounting label, decorated with appropriate ornament in allusion to the profession or trade of the owner of the house, led to a distinct class of ornament in domestic windows which had not developed itself in those of the churches. Even the painted glass was not entirely neglected by the Gothic architect of domestic architecture; but the windows of ordinary houses had to be considered as things of *use*, as well as decoration. They had to be seen through, as well as to admit light; and yet a means was found to introduce it, without inconvenience, by the adaptive skill of those true artists; and in the upper part of the window, far above the eye-line, painted shields of arms and other brilliantly-coloured ornaments were introduced, adding greatly to the richness of the interior decoration, without impeding the view from the window, or materially decreasing the supply of light.

The richness and delicacy of window ornamentation which arose in the next great architectural epoch (that of the revival) was of extraordinary beauty and almost endless variety, so much so that to dwell fitly upon its marvellous details would be impossible in this essay; but those of Heidelberg, those of the châteaux of Francis I. and Henri II. of France, and many most exquisite and well known examples in Germany, Spain, and Italy, should be carefully studied by all who would fully understand and appreciate the history of window architecture.

Towards the close of the seventeenth and during the whole of the eighteenth century, the treatment of this architectural feature has but an inferior story to tell; and yet art was not then in a rapid decadence, as has been till recently thought and stated. It had but assumed a new phase, and succumbed, as it were, to a new influence. It was less profuse of striking ornament, less demonstrative, but in many respects more delicate and refined, especially in the last half of the oft-decried eighteenth century; and had not the great revolution—the Neapoleonic era with its classic mania—and the subsequent reaction in favour of Mediævalism interrupted the onward course of the styles of art which were developing themselves in the eighteenth century, they might have rapidly led to very interesting and beautiful results, the precise character of which can never now be known.

The new power to which the direction of art had partially and gradually succumbed during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries was that of the rapidly increasing female influence. It is in fact, to this kind of influence that the greater delicacy and refinement, and the less demonstrative and somewhat more colourless character of art in those epochs may be traced. The exclusively female qualities of mind had been in matters of art, as in many other fields of human activity, almost a dead letter before those periods; but

when the intrigues of the boudoir became a positively influencing power even in matters of state; and when a female coterie could decide authoritatively on the merits, or, at all events, the temporary vogue and fashion of authorship, the productions of the sculptor, the painter, or the architect, it is not to be wondered at that every style of art should feel the influence of the newly developed *régime*. The new features of the artistic progress of this period were, in England, interrupted in their development by the Puritan revolution in the reign of Charles I.; but in France, even in the uncongenial atmosphere of the court of Louis XIII., the first scintillations of a decided change of taste began to make themselves felt, and assumed a very rapid development in the reign of his successor. It was then that the leather hangings, quaintly stamped and gilt, were stripped from the walls where they had hung for ages. It was then also that the rich tapestries of former periods began to disappear. Those heavy drapings from the looms of Arras and Mechlin, grim with sanguinary battle-scenes or with the scarcely less sanguinary proceedings of the Mediæval hunting-field, were not found to be in accordance with the sympathies of the new leadership of art, and gave way to silken hangings of delicate hues, enriched with scarcely visible embroideries. The old wall linings of oak or cedar, heavily carved in quaint and often beautiful devices, were too dark and massive in their effect for boudoir taste, and give place to delicate panellings, painted entirely white, and relieved only with light and fanciful enrichments of slight-raised ornaments, heightened with gilding; leaving the dresses of the court beauties to supply the rich colouring which had in their favour been made to disappear from the walls; while even the decorative pictures, when introduced, were of light and delicate tones, all more or less modified by the admixture of white, giving to them a kind of tender bloom, and producing somewhat the effect of a picture seen through gauze, or a girl's face through a white veil.

But while interior architecture, and especially furniture, was undergoing the boudoir influence of the eighteenth century, window architecture suddenly ceased to make any decorative progress whatever. Improvements in glass-making furnished larger panes, and the leaden lattice, with its variety of patterns, gave place to a plain wooden framework with its monotonous and never-varying square panes.

As architectural genius was withdrawn more and more from the monumental to the domestic in the course of institutional changes, internal comfort became, as a rule, a greater desideratum in buildings than external effect. And though, in Paris, in the course of the eighteenth century, some elegant façades arose, in which even the neglected window feature was coquettishly adorned with surrounding mouldings, made graceful with chisellings of light and fanciful character; yet the

monotonous square panes had firmly established themselves as a given element in window design, and all variety in the glazed portion of this important architectural feature came to a stand, from which, even at the present time, it has not emerged.

Whether this stationary phase of window design be absolutely necessary, as arising out of the nature of the materials used and the object to be attained in the construction of a modern window, is a matter worth examining. The first question that presents itself in the inquiry is, whether wood be really the best material for the framework of the glazed portion of house-windows of a superior class, and whether strong and rudimental objections may not exist to the present system of glazing. As regards objections to this system, it may be urged that, as glass is a very brittle substance, and liable to frequent accidents, it seems a clumsy process to stick the panes in permanently with a substance that hardens in such a way that, when a new pane has to be introduced in place of a broken one, the hammer and chisel have to go to work to extract the broken glass by main force, permanently disfiguring the neatness of the framework, and rendering fresh paint necessary to cover the unsightly patching; while as the fresh paint can never be made to match the old, the whole window ought to be repainted; and even then, if the paint of the other windows of the front be rather old, the only way to make a "good job" would be to repaint the whole of them—and all this in consequence of an accident to a single pane of glass. Now, if instead of this clumsy and primitive method of glazing, one were adopted in which a fresh pane might be put in with the same ease and neatness as putting a new glass to a watch-face, all this clumsy pottering might be avoided. And this might be easily effected at a very small increase of expense, even with the present wooden frame. But, first, let us see whether metal framing would not be in every respect superior to wooden ones. The old objection to metal, on account of its liability to expansion by heat, is not a valid one, as that quality of metal might easily be provided against. Taking it for granted, therefore, that windows might be cast in metal, either in iron, zinc, or in some mixed metal; the first advantage gained would be, that instead of the eternal square panes (any deviation from which would be very expensive in woodwork), we should be able to produce elegant varieties of tracery at the same cost as the plainest rectangular pattern, after the mould had once been prepared. Then comes the subject of glazing, in such a way as that any piece of glass might be taken out and replaced as easily as the process of unlocking the lid of a box and locking it again. The plan proposed is this—the rebate of each compartment should have a groove, into which india-rubber tubing should be fixed, of a flattened form suitable for the purpose; upon this tubing the edges of the glass would lie; and to secure the pane in

its position, a light metal frame of the width of the rebate, and also lined with india-rubber tubing, should be secured to the rebate with two or more screws, thus fixing the glass; and at the same time, as the india-rubber would only offer an elastic resistance between the glass and the metal, the contraction or expansion of the frame might take place without cracking the glass; while the glass could be taken out at any time and other glass put in its place as easily as the renewal of a watch-glass, as has been said above. This process may appear complicated in description, but is in reality exceedingly simple; and when a pattern-frame is cast, with its glass-securing framelets to match, the matter of glazing, even in the first instance, would be absolutely less costly than the clumsy puttying system, while in all cases of renewal it would only be the cost of the glass, instead of, on the old system, a heavy charge for labour (half a day), which expensive labour destroys the beauty of the wooden window-frame, makes much needless dirt, much unpleasant noise, and keeps a family out of a room in daily use, to the great incommoding of all the family affairs, while the clumsy piece of pottering is being glazierly, and leisurely, and most noisily, accomplished.

The greatest advantage gained, however, would be to art, in the new impetus that would be at once given to design in the various new forms which our window framework would necessarily assume; giving to our domestic architecture an epochal stamp such as all former periods have enjoyed, while our own, in all its most important architectural efforts, has hitherto been one of sheer imitation, with the almost solitary exception of railway work, where entirely new conditions have actually compelled the adoption of new treatment, which is destined to result in very remarkable and very beautiful changes, though at present in a very embryonic state, from which, however, it cannot fail to emerge in due time.

Supposing the use of metal window-frames, of the kind suggested, to be generally adopted, the question arises, what kind of tracery would be desirable, and to what part of the window ought it to be confined? Taking a drawing-room window, opening to the ground, for a first experiment, it will be seen with but slight consideration that the portions of the window-space below and above the eye-line at once suggest themselves as fitting fields for ornament, without obstructing the view; say, to the height of 18in. at the bottom of the window, and above the height of 6ft. from the floor at the top, which spaces might be enriched, if not filled, by well-designed tracery. This open tracery might be filled with coloured glass, in graceful design, and well contrasted colours—sober, or rich, according to the style of the apartment, its fittings, and furniture. The want of colour of this kind has been evidently felt by our modern builders, and borderings—mere linear borderings—of coloured glass, more or less ugly and vulgar,

have been frequently introduced; but this has generally been the case only when it has been thought advisable to exclude an objectionable look-out from staircases or back rooms. It is not, however, in the humble position of a screen that coloured glass is here recommended, but as a conspicuous element of beauty in the design of a window; in which, the forms of the compartments produced by the play of the tracery should be a more important feature than the coloured glass, not only from the exterior, like the stone tracery of church windows, but also from the interior, where church window tracery, on the contrary, sinks into a secondary position in presence of the striking effect of the transparent picture of which it forms the frame. This should not be the case in a drawing-room window, in which a great portion of the central space is necessarily clear glass, surrounding which the traceried framework should conspicuously exhibit its play of lines, to which the coloured glass in the interstices should only perform a subdued accompaniment. The central space of clear glass might be a long oval, in which case, instead of the opening being up the centre, the entire oval might form of itself the opening portion, and the surrounding tracery the frame to which it would be fixed. With such an opening there would be no less room for tracery below it than if the window opened down the centre in the usual way, as the bottom of the opening should not be higher than could be conveniently stepped over into a balcony or garden.

Windows constructed and ornamented in the manner described would form very decorative and really novel features in an apartment; and would at the same time tend to the development of new external effects. It has been suggested, as a starting point, to make the clear portion of the window of some new shape, while still leaving the entire framework of the window of the orthodox square form. But that is not necessary; for, not to mention the glorious Catherine-wheel windows of our cathedrals, it is well known that in Chinese architecture—a by no means contemptible school of art—that windows of entirely oval or circular form are made to produce most pleasing effects in ordinary domestic architecture, especially where they frame, as it were, a pretty view of lawn or flower-garden, as seen from a room or passage; but even in the external design of the building they produce a novel play of lines that might be made much of by skilful and artistic management; for there is no real aesthetic reason why the basal line of a window should be always a horizontal one. Much more than has been here hinted at remains to be done in window design; it is a fertile field for architectural innovation of the safest kind, in which, if carried on with a true sentiment for art, one might in our reverie imagine many beautiful novelties evolving themselves, if one could but wait to watch them; but this dream about windows has already reached its utmost limits.—*The Builder*.

MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

THE ELEUSINIAN MYSTERIES.

Please direct me to some easily accessible work which will inform me what were the Eleusinian Mysteries of which we hear so much?—No SCHOLAR.—[The best for you, that is supposing you are desirous of getting a general outline of them, is contained in a paper entitled "A Glimpse at the Eleusinian Mysteries" which appeared in *Blackwood's Magazine* of February, 1853. Blackwood can be met with in most libraries in town or country.]

MASONIC LEGENDS.

What is a Masonic legend?—P. M.—[The foundation upon which a degree is founded—the story or plot upon which the superstructure rests. Many of the traditions of Freemasonry are legendary because it is impossible to trace, historically, the events they refer to in any history, sacred or profane. The Craft degrees are overflowing with such legends.]

THE FIVE SENSES.

In Mackey's *Lexicon*, under the title of "Senses," he says:—"The five human senses are seeing, hearing, feeling, smelling, and tasting; of which the first three are, for certain well-known reasons, held in great estimation among Masons." With every respect for so high an authority, I venture to inquire if the two latter are not even held in higher estimation by the majority of Masons? graduates, solely, in the—FOURTH DEGREE.

"THE ENGLISH OF THE CRAFT."

"Right you are!" for I possess what I believe to be the original draft of the E.A. charge, with phrases scored through and new words substituted for those struck out, the latter being retained in the published charge, &c. I mean to show it to you, or Bro. M. Cooke, some day when I am in town! shall I?—P. Prov. G.O., P.M., P.J., &c.

SUPPOSED MASONRY.

I send you the following extract from "Explorations in Australia," by our Bro. Jno. McDouall Stuart:—"About an hour before sundown, one of the first that had come (two natives had visited the camp early in the afternoon) returned, bringing with him three others, two of whom were young, tall, powerful, well-made, and good-looking, and as fine specimens of the native as I have yet seen. On their heads they had a neatly-fitting hat or helmet close to the brow, and rising straight up to a rounded peak, three or four inches above the head, and gradually becoming narrower towards the back part. The outside was net-work; the inside was composed of feathers very tightly bound together with cord until it was as hard as a piece of wood; it may be used as a protection from the sun, or as armour for the battlefield. One of them had a great many scars upon him, and seemed to be a leading man. Only two had helmets on, the others had pieces of netting bound round their foreheads. One was an old man, and seemed to be the father of these two young men. He was very talkative, but I could make nothing of him. I have endeavoured by signs to get information from him as to where the next water is, but we cannot

understand each other. After some time, and having conferred with his two sons, he turned round, and surprised me by giving me one of the Masonic signs. I looked at him steadily; he repeated it, and so did his two sons. I then returned it, which seemed to please them much, the old man patting me on the shoulder and stroking down my beard. They then took their departure, making friendly signs until they were out of sight." I fear this is only one of a numerous class of chance coincidences. Last year we initiated a Dervish at Constantinople with a view to test the supposed connections between Dervishism and Masonry. The result of the investigations you had in a very learned paper by W. Bro. J. Porter Brown, P.S.G.W. Turkey, W.M. Bulwer Lodge, Constantinople. The conclusion is, there is no connection. This year a Mollah has been initiated at Constantinople. Some of our brethren among the Turks are as strong in the belief of this universal Masonry as our officers are in India. The Turks believe, the Arabs, and most have Masonic signs, but I consider this is only a popular faith like that which attributes to them magical power.—HYDE CLARKE, Smyrna, Turkey.

"THE WHITE BAND."

Overhauling lately our Masonic cabinet, we fell upon the M.S. of a code of by-laws, a copy of which we now send for insertion in THE MAGAZINE. The degree to which they refer is wrought, we believe, in some of the encampments of the "Early Grand" body.—D. MURRAY LYON.

"1. Every member in the priestly Order of Royal Arch Knights Templars shall bring with him the Old and New Testament, and meet together in some convenient place, as the members from time to time shall think proper—once a month, quarter, or year, as may be agreed upon, if within one English mile of each other—to instruct and edify one another, and build each other up in faith and holiness.

"2. No member shall carry on, or know to be carried on, any secret plot, or plots, against the brotherhood, or country, of our king, so long as he or his male heirs shall abide by their coronation oath, but shall freely give notice, if in their power.

"3. Any one member of this Order, if in case of necessity, shall make and admit one man into this degree, provided him, or them, be proven true and faithful brethren of Knights Templars.

"4. Brethren shall not make merchandise of this Order, but as loyal Christian Masons let us receive with open arms of love every faithful Knight Templar of good report among us, being freeborn, without blemish, and who will conform to the laws and rules of this sacred Order. Such shall be admitted a pillar in our Tabernacle, and a priest in our Temple.

"5. A Royal Arch Templar Priest must assent to all the real principles of true religion, which is agreeable to the Holy Scriptures and Knight Reason, and believe in all the articles of religion which God hath revealed to us by his Son. All those who have the honour to belong to this Order must live according to the principles of the reformed Churches, and never separate themselves therefrom to the last end.

"6. If a brother of this sacred Order is obliged, by his honest employment, or in a lawful lodge, to converse with any wrangling, lewd, or drunken companion, let him be upon his guard, despatch his

business, and leave their conversation; fly their company as he would the plague; for why should he lose himself and his soul for such wretched men.

"7. These laws shall be read unto all the brethren before any brother can be made.

"8. Every brother shall not spend more than 6d. in our night of meeting. And after business is over, every brother shall go quickly home, as becometh Christian Masons.

"9. As the great duty of friends, then, let all men unite together in one indispensable bond of union to resist the devil and the flesh, and to promote Christianity and the welfare of the human race. 1st. To keep his secrets; 2nd. To cheer him when he needs comfort; 3rd. To counsel him when he needs advice; 4th. To endeavour his rescue out of trouble or danger; 5th. To aid and assist his soul in all spiritual wants; 6th. It is the duty of brethren to be faithful to each other.

"*Finis.* Beloved brethren, let us love one another; let us bear with one another; let us not speak evil of each other; let us always do good to each other; let us pray for, and with, each other; let us spend and be spent in defence of the Christian religion. Every true and faithful Knight Templar Priest is always a pious, sincere, and upright follower of our Lord Jesus Christ, believing in him, and loving, fearing, and obeying him, or else he is not worthy of the name of a *Mason*."

THE SANHEDRIN.

Which is correct Sanhedrim or Sanhedrin, and what was its powers?—P. P.—[The tribunal of the Sanhedrin fixed the authority of all traditions, and decided upon the Divine mission of the prophets. "Rabbi Johanan says, none were allowed to sit in the Sanhedrin who were not men of stature, men of wisdom, men of good appearance, aged, skilled in magic, and acquainted with the seventy languages, so that the Sanhedrin might not be obliged to hear through an interpreter." The Hebrews believed there were seventy nations, and, therefore, there were seventy languages. The Sanhedrin is, according to the Rabbinites, the great foundation on which the oral law rests, as the following asserts:—"The great council in Jers alem is the foundation-stone of the oral law, and the pillars of the doctrine; and from them the statute and the judgment goes forth to all Israel. They have the warrant of the law, for it is said, 'According to the sentence of the law which they shall teach thee,' &c. (Deut. xvii. 11); which is an affirmative precept, and every one who believes in Moses our Master, and in his law, is bound to rest the practice of the law on them, and to lean on them." There was also a minor Sanhedrin, for it is said, "In every city of Israel that contains one hundred and twenty Israelites or more, a minor Sanhedrin ought to be appointed, and of how many members ought it to consist? Of twenty-three judges." But these minor councils through the tribes and towns were not to be established except by the Council of 71. The Emperor Napoleon, at one portion of his reign, convoked a council of the Jews which is famous in history as the Paris Sanhedrin. Of course, to go through the *Talmud*, *Hilcoth*, *Sanhedrin*, *Torah*, and various other books of the law, is a serious labour, and, unless to define a positive law, or usage, bearing upon some general point of interest, we have not the

spare time to devote to the reading necessary to furnish a general account of the Great Council, for which we advise P. P. to consult the best *Encyclopædia* with his reach.]

MASONIC ALPHABETS IN CYPHER.

The correspondent who subscribes himself "A Student," may obtain the information he requires by applying to Bro. James Frederick Spurr, P.M. Old Globe Lodge (No. 200), Scarborough, Yorkshire. If "A Student" will look at the Count Couteux Cantelenu's book he will find twenty-two various examples. The Royal Arch is not included in the series, and, unfortunately, though I have seen it, I cannot recollect where.—Ex. Ex.

JOSHUA OR JESHUA.

Which is correct, Joshua, or Jeshua, as the name of the third Principal in the Royal Arch?—P. P.

THE GAY SCIENCE.

What is meant by the Gay Science?—O.—[Freemasonry; *vide* Longuet, Marillot, &c.]

A NOTE ON THE BALLOT.

A black ball may be the result of bad feeling, but white balls are much oftener evidences of partiality, negligence, or ignorance.—R. M.

THE CHEVALIER RAMSAY.

Is there any life of the Chevalier Ramsay easily to be procured by—A STUDENT?—[There is nothing worthy of the name of a life of him published. All that has appeared may be found in the usual biographical dictionaries—*i.e.*, Kippis, Gorton, and Chalmers.]

THE COMMANDMENTS OF THE NOACHIDE.

What were the seven commandments of the sons of Noah?—P.P.—[The *Hilchoth Melachim* says, "The first Adam was commanded concerning six things—idolatry, blasphemy, shedding of blood, incest, robbery, and administration of justice. Although we have all these things as a tradition from Moses, our master, and reason naturally inclines to them, yet, from the general tenor of the words of the law, it appears that he was commanded concerning those things. Noah received an additional command concerning the limb of a living animal, as it is said, 'But flesh in the life thereof, which is the blood thereof, ye shall not eat' (Gen. ix. 4). 'Here are the seven commandments, and thus the matter was in all the world until Abraham'."]

THE MARK DEGREE.

If the degrees of Craft Masonry are founded upon the Bible, and as the Mark degree is claimed by some to be the completion of the second degree in like manner as the Arch is that of the third, what portions of the Sacred Volume tell the story of the Mark degree?—M. M. M.—[See Walther's "Lexicon Dipolomaticum.—F.]

MASONS' MARKS.

Two or three years ago it was said some one was about to publish a collection of Masons' Marks and their explanations. Who was the brother, and is the book out?—† O.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

ELECTION OF PAST MASTERS TO THE BOARD OF BENEVOLENCE.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—At the meeting of the Board of Masters, last evening, the annual — of electing twelve Past Masters to serve for the ensuing year at the Board of Benevolence was *duly listed*,—and no doubt the self-elect (for such they virtually are) will be regularly posted at the ensuing Grand Lodge.

What I complain of is, that sufficient encouragement is not given to the younger brethren who are desirous of being useful to the Craft. Although we cannot too highly appreciate, or be too grateful, for the self-denying and most useful services of the eminent brethren who habitually constitute this Board, it is on the face of it a monopoly.

I would suggest that a rule should be laid down to the effect that at least six of the immediate Past Masters who have been most regular in their attendance should be elected, and that any brother who has served three years consecutively should not be re-eligible until after a lapse of two years. By this means Masters of lodges would take more interest in the proceedings, and have an inducement to a regular attendance.

Yours fraternally, H. B.

London, Nov. 24, 1864.

HONORARY MEMBERS.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I would esteem it a favour if you will favour me with your opinion on the following circumstances:—

During the year 1862, a brother in holy orders was regularly proposed in open lodge as an honorary member of my lodge; his name was inserted in the summons for the next regular meeting, at which he was regularly balloted for and accepted; since which time, Grand Lodge dues, and quarterage to the Board of Benevolence, have been regularly paid on account of this brother, as a member of the lodge, and he has exercised all the rights and privileges as such, by speaking, voting, balloting, lecturing, &c.

When the W.M. for 1863 was installed as Worshipful Master, he appointed his officers, and amongst them he appointed the Rev. brother "Chaplain of the lodge," and the W.M. for 1864 re-appointed him. This office he has held therefore about two years.

I am now the duly elected Worshipful Master of the lodge for the ensuing year, and, when installed, I shall have to appoint my officers.

I have it in my intention to offer the "post of Senior Warden" of my lodge to the Rev. brother, conceiving it to be "for the good of Masonry in general and of *this* lodge in particular," bearing in mind the ancient charges that "all preferment among Masons is grounded upon real worth and personal merit only;" and I think that I am justified in my choice, and so do many of my Past Masters; the zeal of our Rev. brother for the welfare of the Craft being patent to the brotherhood at large.

Still some captious member might be discontented, or question our Rev. brother's right to promotion, on the ground that he is only an "honorary" member. The "Constitutions" do not appear to be very clear, or rather not to have contemplated any difference between "paying," that is, "subscribing" and "non-paying"—that is, "honorary" members; but accords them all equal privileges, provided Grand Lodge dues and all fees to the Fund of Benevolence are paid. Indeed, common sense, and usages of common law, coincide in dictating that, unless precluded or restrained by some positive by-law or regulation, "honorary" members must have, and do have, and may exercise, all the rights and privileges of other members; or else, wherein would consist the honour of "honorary" membership? In Masonry, especially, it would place the "honorary" member in a lower scale than "visitors," who have no right to vote or speak; or than a "serving" brother who is initiated without fees, and who, though he cannot vote or speak, is yet entitled to the benefit of our public charities, provided always Grand Lodge dues and quarterage to the Board or Fund of Benevolence have been paid for him. Such being my views, I question whether I am not doing wrong in trespassing so long on your valuable time and attention; but that "reverence for all lawful constituted authorities" "which ought ever to characterise all Masons," more especially young Masters of lodges, prompts me to solicit the opinion of an authority so well and widely known for impartiality and uprightness as your journal, as to whether I am right in the view I take of the subject, which I here reiterate:—"That an 'honorary' member of a lodge, duly proposed and regularly balloted for and accepted as such, in open lodge, is entitled to all the rights and privileges of a 'subscribing' brother of the same Masonic rank, provided that all Grand Lodge dues and fees, or quarterage to the Board of Benevolence and General Purposes, have been paid." Your answer in the affirmative will, of course, imply that I have the right, if I deem it expedient, to appoint the Rev. brother S.W. of the lodge after I am installed its Master.

Another point would be, perhaps, can a brother, with the consent of the W.M., transfer from his "honorary" membership to "subscribing" member.

ship, with a lodge, at any time he may wish to contribute to its funds, by simply paying the regular subscriptions; or should the W.M. bring it before the members in open lodge, or mention the transfer to them for their information; or is he to be re-proposed and re-balloted for, and pay a joining fee, &c.? I ask this simply because I believe that the nice sense of gentlemanly honour possessed by our Rev. brother might prevent his accepting the office of Senior Warden, unless I allowed him to transfer his name to the subscribing list. I have no doubt myself on this point either; but I ask it out of "respect to our lawfully constituted authorities" (as I have the former), and for more especial caution, as I wish conscientiously to perform the sacred duties that will shortly devolve on me. You will, of course, remember that the "Book of Constitutions" most expressly provides that "every lodge must receive as a member" (that is, of course, as a "paying" or "subscribing" member), "without further proposition or ballot," "any brother initiated therein." How much more so, then, any brother who has been balloted for and admitted as an "honorary member?"

Again apologising for the length of this epistle, I remain, dear Sir and Brother, yours faithfully and fraternally,

Tyro, Worshipful Master Elect
of Lodge —

London, October 20th, 1864.

[Honorary members are not acknowledged by Grand Lodge, and by-laws providing for their admission would not be passed. All members must, according to law, pay something to the general funds. The office of Chaplain, we look upon it, may be given to an honorary member, as it confers a lustre on the lodge. Should the brother wish to take any other office, we hold he must become a full member, and that he is entitled to do so at any time.]

MASTERS AND WARDENS.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—In June last I was appointed to the Junior Warden's chair, all the other offices being at the same time re-filled by the W.M., who was then re-elected and re-installed.

The lodge has now determined to alter its day of installation, and elect a new Master in December next. The Grand Registrar and the editor of the FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE have both expressed an opinion that such a course will be legal and unobjectionable.

I wish to know if I and all the other officers of the lodge can be compelled, under any such circumstances, to resign those offices to which we have been appointed, before we have been allowed to fill them for one year. The "Book of Constitutions" only provides for the removal of officers in the event of misbehaviour. In my case it will work a positive injustice, as I have never filled a Warden's chair before, and shall be deprived of my qualification for the chair.

Yours truly and fraternally,

JUNIOR WARDEN.

[There will be no injustice if the new Master raises our correspondent to the Senior Warden's chair, or re-appoints him, as, under the circumstances, he should certainly do.]

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

MASONIC MEMS.

At the Lodge of Benevolence, on Wednesday, Bro. Benjamin Head, P.G.D., in the chair, eighteen petitioners were relieved with various sums, amounting in the aggregate to £230. Two petitioners were recommended to Grand Lodge for grants of £30 each, and two for £50.

It is stated that Bro. Charles Stratton (otherwise General Tom Thumb) has been specially invited to Grand Lodge. We hope it is not true. Grand Lodge ought not to be converted into a raree show.

GRAND LODGE.

The following Report of the President and Vice-President of the Colonial Board to the Colonial Board, on the eligibility of Parsees and Hindoos to be admitted to the mysteries and privileges of Freemasonry, is to be submitted to next Grand Lodge:—

The Parsees are a tribe scattered over our Indian possessions, and numbering about 150,000 in population, including in this estimate the Parsees of Persia. Their numbers, therefore, are insignificant in proportion to the 150,000,000 of natives by whom they are surrounded, and to the wealth and importance which they have themselves acquired. It is computed that more than half of the wealth of the city of Bombay is in their hands. Being chiefly engaged in commercial pursuits they fully appreciate the advantages of British rule, and in the public benefactions of some of their merchant princes they may, to some extent, lay claim to having substantially acknowledged the blessings of order, civilisation, and civil and religious liberty, under which, as a class, they have made rapid strides towards social and material advancement. Little as the mass of Englishmen know of their Indian fellow subjects generally, few are ignorant of the name of Sir Jamsetjee Jeejeebhoy, the fame of whose vast fortune was alone sufficient to have made him conspicuous, had it not been surpassed and perpetuated by the well directed munificence which has enriched the city of Bombay with hospitals, schools, and public works, at the cost of a quarter of a million sterling. As might be fairly presumed, the industry, perseverance, and benevolence displayed by the late baronet are not, except in their extent, exceptional qualities. He may be justly regarded as a representative man; and while many of his class have, like him, started from poverty, and accumulated large fortunes, his liberality and public spirit have been as widely emulated as his energy and perseverance. Nor are the springs and sources of this large and intelligent beneficence, which takes no account of distinctions of creed or caste, to be found merely in self-interest or the desire for social distinction. If the educated professors of their faith are to be heard, these acts proceed from the spirit of charity directly inculcated by their religion. Their morality, which is unquestionably pure, is intimately connected with the doctrines of their religion; and the foundation of their morality is the virtue of brotherly love. Purity of thought, word, and deed is by many moral precepts and religious ceremonies directly sanctioned and enforced. The sacredness of domestic life is fully recognised; bigamy is only permitted in exceptional cases; and woman holds a place of social dignity and respect rarely accorded to her in the East. Charges of idolatry and fire-worship have been brought against the Parsees, but with little justice. Of the former they may be acquitted at once. No idol is to be seen in their temples. With regard to the latter, an explana-

tion has been given by intelligent exponents of their faith, which reduces the supposed adoration of the element to an act of symbolism. Zoroaster, the founder of their religion, taught that the world was governed by two principles. Ormuzd was the source of all good and light; Ahriman, the author of all evil and darkness, though in his own realm coequal, was not recognised as coeternal with the author of good. To the Sun, as the fittest image of the Almighty, and to Fire, as the purest, the most active, and the least corruptible of created things, the devout Persian was to turn his eyes when engaged in prayer. It is not surprising that strangers from without, or the ignorant and superstitious from within, should have confounded the outward sign with the thing signified, the Creator with the creature, which was at first intended only to signify his spiritual attributes in bodily shape. Such a mistake is perhaps not without a parallel in western lands and amongst western creeds. The Parsees present many points of contrast to the Hindoos, and it cannot be denied that the advantages of the comparison are on the side of the former. Both, it is true, believe in the immortality of the soul; both expect a heaven or dread a hell; but the Parsee, when charged with idolatry, throws the burden of proof on his accuser with justice, and perhaps with success. The Hindoo, on the other hand, stands convicted by the idols that crowd both house and temple. "Gods many and lords many" divide the allegiance which was once paid only to Brahm, the Creator, and his ministers, Vishnu, the Preserver, and Shiva, the Destroyer. As a consequence, numerous barbarous and degrading superstitions check or neutralise the spread of western civilisation and education. The western conqueror, though he has exchanged the olive branch for the sword, is repelled at the outset by the impenetrable system of caste. While this remains the strongest outwork of the religious and social system of the Hindoos, it must not only be an almost insurmountable impediment to the access of true religion and enlightenment, but also to the exercise of anything like large-hearted charity and brotherhood between man and man. How can western ideas make their way amongst a people, whose superstitions so kindle their suspicions, that a greased cartridge may become the cause of a general rebellion? How can a man think of another as his brother, made like himself, after God's image, when to touch him is pollution?

It is, however, only fair to acknowledge that the great sagacity of these people, the boundless resources of the country they inhabit, the interest in their welfare now awakening in England, all encourage the hope, that, as they enjoy the laws and liberties, so they may be led to adopt the faith and manners of Englishmen; until that day arrives, there can be but little hope of friendly intercourse between the dominant and the subject races.

For the foregoing reasons, we are of opinion that Parsees are eligible to be admitted to the mysteries and privileges of Freemasonry, care and due precaution being taken that the candidates are of good repute, which must be deemed an essential element in all cases. And while we are unprepared to say, that men professing the religion of the Hindoo, believing in the glorious Architect of Heaven and Earth, and practising the pure principles of morality, can be excluded from a participation in such mysteries and privileges, yet, for the reasons we have expressed, great caution should be observed, and vigilant inquiries made to ascertain whether a candidate of the religion professed by the Hindoos is or is not a fit and proper person to become a Freemason.

It does not seem to us requisite to enjoin a candidate (not being Jew or Christian) to make the Book on which he is obligated "the rule and guide of his faith;" words may easily be

selected and used to meet the exigencies of such cases, and we think without any violation of the forms and ceremonies adopted by English Masons.

(Signed) J. S. S. HOPWOOD, *President*.
JAMES MASON, *Vice-President*.

Freemasons' Hall,
2nd August, 1864.

METROPOLITAN.

BRITANNIC LODGE (No. 33).—The regular meeting of this old lodge was held on Friday, the 11th inst., at the Freemasons' Tavern. The business consisted of one raising, three passings, and one initiation. The brethren afterwards partook of the usual banquet.

MOUNT LEBANON LODGE (No. 73).—This old and prosperous lodge held its regular meeting on Tuesday, the 15th inst., at the Green Man Tavern, Tooley-street (Bro. C. A. Cathie's). Bro. E. N. Levy, W.M., assisted by Bros. F. Walters, I.P.M.; H. Moore, S.W.; J. C. Gooddy, J.W.; E. Harris, P.M., Sec.; G. Morris, S.D.; M. A. Loewenstark, J.D.; F. H. Ebsworth, I.G.; Dr. Dixon, P.M.; T. N. Moore, R. G. Chipperfield, Cooper, R. Fenn, J. Delany, G. J. Loe, C. A. Cathie, J. T. C. Powell, Harrison, Retzbach, Sabine, Goutly, Jackson, Drapper, Maidwell, Rose, Jacobs, Hunter, Lipscombe, and many others, opened the lodge. The first ceremony was the raising Bro. Rose, Harrison, Retzbach, and Jackson to the sublime degree of Master Masons. Bros. Drapper, Maidwell, Jacobs, and Hunter were then passed to the degree of Fellow Craft Masons. Mr. Barclay was then introduced, and initiated into ancient Freemasonry. The W.M., Bro. E. N. Levy, performed all the ceremonies in his usual impressive manner. A benevolent fund was agreed to be formed and added to the lodge. All business being ended, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to a cold collation. The visitors were Bros. Parrish, L. Davis, Carrol, &c.

ST. GEORGE'S LODGE (No. 140).—This old flourishing lodge held its regular meeting on Wednesday, the 16th inst., at the Lecture Hall, Greenwich. Bro. E. M. Hubbuck, W.M., presided, and was supported by Bros. T. Ryder, H. A. Collington, G. N. Mourylian, Sec., and Dr. W. Scott, P.M.'s; C. L. Smyth, S.W.; Badger, J.W.; Tattershall, S.D.; W. Noak, J.D.; and many other brethren too numerous to mention. Amongst the visitors we noticed Bro. F. Walters, P.M. 73, 147, 871; W. R. Orchard, P.M. 79; Palmer, 57; Allen, 101; and others. The business was one initiation and one passing. Bro. Dr. Scott, P.M., initiated Dr. Cogan into ancient Freemasonry. All the work was well rendered. After business, the brethren adjourned to Bro. Moore's, Globe Tavern, Royal Hill, Greenwich, where they enjoyed a first-class banquet. The usual loyal toasts were given and received.

LODGE OF JUSTICE (No. 147).—This old-established lodge held its regular meeting on Wednesday, the 9th inst., at the White Swan Inn, High-street, Deptford (Bro. J. Porter's). The lodge was opened Bro. J. Bavin, S.W., assisted by Bros. J. Lightfoot, J.W.; C. H. Davis, P.M. and Sec.; G. Chapman, S.D.; J. Patte, J.D.; F. Walters, P.M.; Wingfield, and very many others too numerous to mention. Amongst a large number of visitors we noticed Bros. T. N. Moore, 73; F. H. Ebsworth 73; W. Simmons, P.M. 548; J. W. Avery, W.M. 619; G. Holman, 871; and many others. Bro. G. Bolton, P.M. and Treas., then took the chair, and presided over the lodge for the remainder of the evening. The only work which presented itself from a large programme on the summons were two initiations. The candidates were duly introduced separately, and the esteemed W.M. rendered the ceremony in his usual impressive manner. After business the lodge was closed, and the brethren, upwards of thirty in number, sat down to a superior first-class banquet.

WHITTINGTON LODGE (No. 862).—INSTALLATION OF THE W.M.—The members of this lodge assembled at the Whittington Club on Monday evening last, when among those present there were Bros. Hurlstone, W.M.; J. G. Thompson, P.M. and Treas.; T. Wavell, P.M.; W. H. Warr, S.W. and W.M. elect; G. H. Griffin, J.W.; Hamilton, S.D.; Quilty, J.D.; Collins, Sec.; Weaver, Jennings, Cleghorn, Sheard, Jones, Carle, D. J.

Davies, T. G. Nix, S. S. Davis, and several other brethren. The only business of importance before the lodge was that of confirming the minutes, and upon their being read by the Secretary, Bro. THOMPSON, P.M., said: Worshipful Master and Brethren—It has always been the custom in the Whittington Lodge for the Worshipful Master elect to intimate his intentions with regard to the appointment of his officers. At the audit meeting Bro. Warr was asked for that information, and his reply was that he had been too busy to give the matter his attention. As another fortnight has since elapsed I presume Bro. Warr has now made up his mind, and will, perhaps, inform the lodge on the subject, according to our established custom. I therefore ask you, sir, to put that question to Bro. Warr before putting the minutes for confirmation.—The W. MASTER said: It is a very proper question. I, myself, asked Bro. Warr at the audit meeting the same question, and the answer he gave was most evasive and unsatisfactory. I, therefore, again ask you, Bro. Warr, if you are prepared to give the members the information they seek.—Bro. WARR: It is, I believe, the prerogative of the Worshipful Master to appoint his officers; and all I can say is, that I intend to name them in their rotation as I see fit.—Bro. THOMPSON, P.M.: That amounts to a declaration that you will adhere to the usual rotation, only as far as you feel inclined. Under these circumstances, Worshipful Master and brethren, and having reason to believe it is Bro. Warr's intention not only to pass over, but to exclude entirely from office one of our present officers, I have to move that the minutes, so far as they relate to the election of Worshipful Master, be not confirmed, and I trust some brother present will second that motion.—Bro. GRIFFIN, J.W., after some delay, rose and said: Worshipful Master and brethren, I waited in the hope that some other brother would have relieved me of the unpleasant duty of seconding a motion which so nearly concerns myself; but as I have a personal explanation to give to the lodge, I am reluctantly compelled to second instead of speaking to the motion. As I am the immediate cause of the misunderstanding existing between Bro. Warr and other members of this lodge, I may be permitted to claim your attention while I explain my position in this lodge generally, but more particularly with regard to Bro. Warr. When this lodge was first projected by Bro. Brett, P.M., it must be in the recollection of some present, though not known to all, that I was solicited to become one of the founders; that there were two vacancies in the office, the choice of which was offered to me; and that, without knowing Bro. Warr, but because he was the older Mason, I yielded the senior position to him, and resolved to work my way up as his junior. This I have done, and have ever since, with the most uniform consistency, studied the interests of this lodge; and although I have occasionally observed signs of hostility in Bro. Warr's conduct to me, I have invariably, with but one exception, done all in my power to conciliate his good will and the good opinion of every member of the lodge. The exception I refer to was on the occasion of the then Worshipful Master (Bro. Thompson), through illness, coming late to the lodge. Bros. Warr and Collins, the Secretary, indulged in some very indiscreet and ill-timed remarks, and I at once said they were very un-Masonic observations, and recommended them not to say that behind a brother's back which the dare not say to his face. That is the only instance in which I ever uttered an angry or unkind word to any member of the lodge; and I challenge Bro. Warr to deny it if he can. That is now about three years ago, and I think it was not unreasonable to suppose that such a circumstance had been forgotten: I was, however, at a loss to account for a rumour which reached me about twelve months ago, to the effect that Bro. Warr had expressed his determination to exclude me from office as soon as he reached the chair; and, having every reason to believe it true, when Bro. Brett—whom, as the father of the lodge, we have all held in the highest respect, and to whom we have always looked for guidance in all our difficulties—called upon me six weeks ago, I told him that, as there was likely to be a disruption of the lodge, in consequence of Bro. Warr's unaccountable hostility to me, I would not be the cause of any such disunion, and that I would resign office, and the lodge too, if necessary. His reply was that I, as a founder of the lodge, must not leave it. That Bro. Warr's arrogant and dictatorial bearing had so disgusted the members, that they had resolved to place me in the chair as the only means of saving the lodge from a premature break up. I yielded to Bro. Brett,

as I would have done on any other question, but took no active steps either for myself or against Bro. Warr; and when, a few days before the election, Bro. Brett again called upon me, and said he had heard that Bro. Warr, as a true Mason, had determined to do what was right, and to preserve the rotation unbroken, and that it would, therefore, be advisable to send him unanimsly into the chair. I heartily concurred in that view, and on the night of the election went down to the lodge with the full intention of voting for Bro. Warr. It was not until I got to the door of the lodge-room, one foot almost within the threshold, that I heard there really was to be any serious opposition to Bro. Warr. There I was met by Bro. Brett, who said he had just learned that it was Bro. Warr's intention to exclude me from office, and that we must try our strength to prevent him succeeding in his determination, if possible. The opposition was, therefore, the spontaneous effort of the lodge, and did not emanate from me, and the result was declared in favour of Bro. Warr, by a majority of two. Since the election, I have taken no active part in the matter whatever. On the other hand, Bro. Warr has been most energetic in his canvass, personally and by circular; and even the newly initiated brethren, who on the election voted with me, have been intimidated into adopting a neutral course on the present question; and although I might have removed their doubts, I deemed it more becoming to leave them to their own discretion. These are all the facts which have given rise to the present motion. If I have stated anything at variance with the truth, it remains for Bro. Warr to correct it. At all events, his conduct in the nomination of his officers will be the strongest proof of the truth or falsehood of all that I have uttered. The motion was then put; but the numbers for and against it appeared so evenly balanced that the Worshipful Master deemed it better to take the show of hands over again, when the motion was negatived by a very narrow majority. The minutes were then confirmed, and the ceremony of installation was immediately afterwards most ably conducted by Bro. Terry, of the United Strength Lodge; after which the W.M. (Bro. Warr) appointed his officers as follows:—Bros. Collins, S.W.; Quiltz, J.W.; Thompson, P.M., Treasurer; Cant, S.D.; Cleghorn, J.D.; Carle, I.G.; Weaver, Organist; Brett, Dir. of Cers.; and Jones, Secretary. A motion was then brought forward relative to the removal of the lodge, which was referred to a committee of Past Masters and Wardens, to consider and report upon to the lodge at its next meeting. On the W.M. rising for the first time,—Bro. GRIFFIN rose and said: Worshipful Master and brethren,—I rise for the purpose of placing my resignation, as a member of this lodge, in your hands, and I do so upon the ground of the gross injustice which has been exercised towards me, as a late officer of this lodge, by the Worshipful Master. You all heard him, in the early part of the ceremony of his installation, solemnly promise to avoid all private piques and quarrels. You have all seen how he has kept that promise; and after the explanation I have given, any further word or comment from me must be unnecessary, except to place my resignation in your hands.—The W. MASTER,—Will any brother second that?—Bro. GRIFFIN,—It does not require seconding. You are bound to accept it in the absence of any proposition to the contrary.—The business of the lodge then closed, and the brethren adjourned for refreshment.

PROVINCIAL.

CHESHIRE.

VOCAL AND INSTRUMENTAL CONCERT AT CREWE.

On Monday evening, the 14th inst., a concert of an interesting character was given in the Town Hall, by Bro. J. W. Bullock, who announced that he would divide the entire proceeds between the Crewe Rifle Corps and the Cheshire Masonic Orphan Schools. There was a large and very respectable audience. In addition to two professional singers—Mrs. Hayward and Miss Clara Wight—the following amateurs took part in the performances of the evening:—Dr. Armstrong, vicar of Burslem; Miss Armstrong, Miss S. Davies, and Bro. Bullock. Bro. Adlington, Provincial Grand Organist of Derbyshire, presided at the pianoforte.

The programme opened with a duet, "I would that my love,"—sung very sweetly by Mrs. Hayward and Miss Wight.

Dr. Armstrong then gave a solo on the chromatic silver flute, "Moll Brook," with variations, &c., which was received with great applause. Miss Wight then sang "My heart is over the sea" very charmingly. A duet followed, "Come o'er the moonlit sea," sung by Bro. Bullock and Miss Davies in a pleasing manner. Miss Armstrong sang Handel's "Let the bright seraphim," accompanied by Dr. Armstrong on the Armstrong horn. Mrs. Hayward next sang a song of a pathetic character with so much feeling that it received a deserved encore, when she sang another song of the same class of music equally well. Bro. Bullock then favoured the audience with one of his original medleys, in singing which he is very successful; the happy way in which the verses of the various songs are strung together create much amusement, and each verse or part of a verse being sung to its own proper music renders the music much more effective than those commonly known by that title. It was loudly encored, when Bro. Bullock substituted "My dear old wife." A grand fantasia on the pianoforte by Bro. Adlington closed the first part of the programme. The second part opened with a duet, "The gipsy countess," sung by Bro. Bullock and Miss Wight. This was encored, and the performers returned and bowed their acknowledgments. Miss Armstrong sweetly sang Bishop's "Echo song," the echo being given by Dr. Armstrong on the flute. Mrs. Hayward then sang an amusing love ditty with so much humorous archness that it was rapturously encored, and she sang another song of the same character with equal effect. Dr. Armstrong then gave a solo on the flute, which received much applause. This was followed by Glover's duet, "The cousins," sung with such telling effect by Mrs. Hayward and Miss Wight that it was loudly re-demanded, the vocalists, however, substituting "I know a bank," &c. Bro. Bullock next sang Howard Paul's serio-comic song "Banting," in which that fashionable plan of reducing the human system is ridiculed with some effect. Miss Wight then gave "Home sweet home," with great pathos and power, and it was much appreciated by the audience.

Mr. T. Mould rose and proposed a vote of thanks to Dr. Armstrong and the other amateurs for their kindness in rendering their services on the occasion. Mr. S. Sheppard seconded the motion. Dr. Armstrong, in responding, said his niece, Miss Armstrong, had given her assistance with great pleasure, as she took much interest in the Volunteer movement; and he might say the same for himself, as he was not only a Rifle Volunteer but a Freemason also, and he was happy in having met them on that occasion. The concert then closed with the National Anthem. Bro. Adlington fulfilled the duties of accompanist at the pianoforte during the evening with great taste and judgment.—*Staffordshire Advertiser*.

ESSEX.

HARWICH.—*Lodge Star in the East* (No. 650).—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held at Bro. Brice's, Pier Hotel, on the 14th inst. Present: Bros. Durrant, W.M.; Whymark, S.W.; Newman, J.W.; Surridge, I.P.M.; Ward, P.M.; E. Darling, Prov. G. Sec. Suffolk; Butcher, Malpas, Farthing, Munson, Dickson, Morris, Walford, Rasmers, &c. Visitors: Bros. Golding, Keigwin (Aldboro), W. Westgate, 959, &c. Bros. Dickson, Morris, and Rasmers were raised to the sublime degree of M.M.'s, the ceremony being ably performed by the respected W.M. After some other matters connected with the lodge were disposed of, the brethren adjourned to a very excellent banquet, served by Bro. Brice. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given, and a most agreeable evening spent.

SUFFOLK.

IPSWICH.—*Lodge St. Luke* (No. 225).—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Coach and Horses Hotel, on Wednesday, the 9th inst. Bro. Richmond, W.M., occupied the chair of K.S.; Bros. Davy, S.W.; Westgate, J.W.; Clarke, Masters, Whitehead, Garwood, Cade, Barber, and King, P.M.'s; also Bros. Brinkley, P. Whitehead, Talbot, Smith, Robinson, and Brock, 376. The lodge having been opened in due form, Bros. Whitehead and Talbot were passed to the degree of F.C. The ceremony was ably given by the W.M.; Bro. Whitehead, P.M., delivered the charge, and Bro. Westgate described the working tools. This was the meeting for the election of W.M. for the ensuing year, when Bro. Taylor, Prov. S.G.W., was unanimously elected to fill that important office. Bro. Clarke,

P.M., was elected Treasurer in the room of Bro. Luell, deceased. A petition was agreed to be forwarded to Grand Lodge in behalf of the widow of the late Bro. Suell. Bro. Westgate referred to the proposed subscription amongst the brethren for the purpose of raising a monument to Bro. Suell, who had been a regular attendant at the lodge for upwards of thirty-four years. The lodge was then closed in harmony, and the brethren adjourned from labour to refreshment.

LANCASHIRE (WEST).

GARSTON.—*Lodge of Harmony* (No. 220).—This lodge met at the Wellington Hotel on Monday, the 7th inst. The lodge was opened by the W.M., Bro. Thomas Marsh, assisted by his officers. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Two gentlemen were balloted for, and, being unanimously elected, and being in attendance, were initiated into the mysteries of the Order by the W.M. The business of the lodge over, it was closed in due and solemn form. At refreshment, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were done full justice to; and after spending a most agreeable evening in social and fraternal fellowship, the brethren returned to Liverpool in a special omnibus. There were several visitors, who expressed themselves delighted with the reception given.

WATERLOO.—*Sefton Lodge* (No. 680).—This lodge, which has been dormant for some time, but is springing again into life, was opened on Thursday, the 17th inst., by the W.M., Bro. T. Goodier, Prov. G.S.B., assisted by Bros. H. Alpass, P. Prov. G.S.B., as S.W.; Lyon, as J.W.; J. Mawdesley, Prov. G. Sec.; J. H. Younghusband, Prov. G.S.B.; H. Gambell, P. Prov. S.G.W.; T. Yeatman, G. Glynn, H. Murdoch, S. White, R. J. Nodder, P.M.'s; C. J. Banister, P.G.S.B.; &c. Mr. Simcox, who had been unanimously elected, was properly prepared and presented to the W.M., who initiated him into the mysteries of the Order with great care, Bro. C. J. Banister, P.M., acting as Deacon. The charge was delivered by Bro. J. H. Younghusband, P.M., and the working tools by the W.M. The business of the lodge over, it was closed in due form and with solemn prayer, and the brethren adjourned to the Ancient Union Lodge (No. 203), which held their meeting the same evening in the Temple, Liverpool.

YORKSHIRE (WEST).

BRADFORD.—*Shakespeare Lodge* (No. 1018).—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Freemasons' Hall Salem-street, on Wednesday evening, the 9th inst., the W.M. Bro. Dodd in the chair; Bros. Dr. Shillito, S.W.; Henry Ward, J.W.; Thos. Johnson, P.M.; John Ward, Treas.; Thos. Peel, Sec.; J. Nicholson, S.D.; Jos. Jennings, J.D.; and T. Laycock, I.G. Amongst the brethren present were Bros. R. R. Nelson, Prov. G. Sec.; Alexander Hunter, W.M. of the Lodge of Hope (No. 302); James Dewliwett, W.M. of the Harmony Lodge (No. 600); Christopher Pratt, W.M. of the Eccleshill Lodge (No. 1,034); M. Rogerson, Dr. Taylor, H. O. Mawson, Manoah Rhodes, 302, and J. Ahrens, 600, P.M.'s. The lodge was opened in the first degree, and the minutes duly confirmed. The ballot was then taken for Bro. Frederick Ronnfeldt, of the Lodge of Harmony (No. 600), as a joining member. Bro. Ralf having repented his obligation, and answered the necessary questions, was passed to the second degree, the charge being given and the working tools explained by the W.M. Bro. Dr. Biddle was then raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason, Bro. Hunter, W.M. of the Lodge of Hope, officiating. The working tools were explained by Bro. Ahrens, P.M. of the Harmony Lodge, and the charge delivered by Bro. Dodd, W.M. A few matters of routine business having been completed, and hearty good wishes expressed, the lodge was closed in due form and with solemn prayer. The brethren then adjourned to refreshment, and spent the evening in a most agreeable and harmonious manner.

ROYAL ARCH.

YORKSHIRE (NORTH AND EAST).

HULL.—*Minerva Chapter* (No. 250).—A regular meeting of this chapter was held on Thursday, the 17th inst., in the Hall of the Minerva Lodge, at which were present Comps. Hewson, M.E.Z.; Humber, 57, as Z.; J. F. Holden, H.; Dr. Hay, as J;

J. Malcolm, Scribe E.; B. L. Wells, Scribe N.; Walter Reynolds, Prin. Soj.; G. N. Harrison, Assist. Soj.; R. Goddard, S.B.; J. Norton and W. Johnson, Janitors; M. C. Peck, G. G. Bond, J. G. W. Willows, Captain Wharton, T. N. Harker, &c. Visitor.—Comp. M. C. Peck, P.Z. 57. The chapter having been opened in due form, the minutes of the last chapter were read and confirmed. The ballot box was prepared for Bro. John Marshall, of the Minerva Lodge, and Bro. Jonathan Turner, of the Camalodunum Lodge, Malton, both of whom were unanimously accepted. Bro. J. Turner was then admitted, and exalted to this sublime degree by the M.E.Z., the Prin. Soj. giving the explanation of the jewel, working tools, &c. Bro. F. Jackson, of the Minerva Lodge, was then proposed as a candidate for this sublime degree. Hearty good wishes having been expressed, the chapter was closed in due and ancient form.

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

LANCASHIRE (WEST).

LIVERPOOL.—*Jacques de Molay Encampment.*—This encampment was opened at the Temple, Hope-street, Liverpool, on Friday, the 18th inst., at four o'clock, by P.E.C. Sir Knt. C. J. Banister, P.G.A., in the unavoidable absence of the E.C. Sir Thos. G. Hesketh, *Bart.*, M.P., assisted by Sir Knts. S. White, 1st. Capt.; W. Horner, 2nd Capt.; and the rest of the officers, and a full attendance of members. After the muster-roll was called, the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The ballot was then taken for the four candidates, and each was unanimously elected. Comps. Captain Percy Beale, John Melladew, James W. J. Fowler, and Captain Thos. Barry—the three latter being in attendance, were each severally admitted and installed Knights of the Order by the acting E.C. in his usual careful manner, P.E.C. Sir Knt. E. Pierpoint acting as Expert. The Almoner made his collection, which amounted to 19s. This collection is never omitted in this conclaves, which enables all cases of charity coming to be relieved. Several communications were read; one from the Grand Vice-Chancellor, stating that the Grand Conclave would be held on the 9th of December, at their new Hall, Bedford-row, London, which was well responded to, and it is expected that this encampment will be well represented on that occasion. Another candidate was proposed, and the next meeting will be held the first Friday in the new year. Business over, the conclave was closed in solemn form and with prayer at half-past six. The banquet was held at the Adelphi Hotel at seven o'clock, under the presidency of P.E.C. C. J. Banister, Sir Knt. S. White, 1st. Capt., in the vice-chair. The loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to; for the M.E. and Supreme Grand Master and Grand Officers, by Sir Knt. Edward Pierpoint, Grand Herald; Sir Knt. H. S. Alpass, for the Prov. G. Commander and Prov. G. Officers; Sir Knt. Crankshaw for the P.E. Commanders; Sir Knt. S. White for the Officers. Each newly-installed Sir Knt. answered for himself, expressing the great satisfaction they each had experienced in being admitted to this beautiful and solemn Christian degree. Sir Knt. Edw. Pierpoint, in very flattering terms, proposed the health of the E.C. Sir Thomas G. Hesketh, *Bart.*, which was responded to by the acting E.C., Sir Knt. C. J. Banister, with true Masonic spirit, hoping that he should meet all who could spare the time in the Grand Conclave next month. A very happy evening was spent, and the last toast was given at ten o'clock.

MARK MASONRY.

GRAND LODGE.

The following, though somewhat out of date, is inserted, it being an official report of the proceedings at the half-yearly meeting of the Grand Lodge of Mark Masters of England and Wales, and the Colonies and Dependencies of the British Crown, held on Wednesday, the 15th of June, 1861, in the Grand Hall, "Masonic Union," Bedford-row. Present—Viscount Holmesdale, M.P., M.W.G.M.; the Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, P.M.W.G.M. as Dep. G.M.; Bros. Dr. Norton, P.G. Treas., as S.G.W.; Rev. G. R. Portal, G. Reg., as J.G.W.; Rev.

Dr. Richards, and J. W. Laughlin, G. Chaplains; C. J. Banister, G.S.O., as G.M. Overseer; George Haward, P.G.M.O., as G.S. Overseer; James Gibbs, as G.J. Overseers; Frederick Binckes, G. Sec.; W. E. Gambleton, as G.S.D.; H. J. Thompson, as G.J.D.; Thomas Pickering, G. Dir. of Cers.; Charles Swan, G.S.B.; Jesse Turner, G. Inspect. of Works; Frank Haes, P.M. No. 25, Del. from Sydney; many Past Grand Officers; the Grand Stewards of the year; and several Masters, Past Masters, Wardens, Overseers, and brethren of private lodges.

Grand Lodge was opened in ample form, with solemn prayer. The minutes of the last half-yearly communication were read and confirmed.

Bro. Geo. Mobbs, G. Steward, proposed the re-election of Viscount Holmesdale, M.P., as M.W.G.M. for the ensuing year. The proposition having been duly seconded, and no other candidate having been nominated, the M.W. Past G. Master declared M.W. Bro. Viscount Holmesdale, M.P., duly re-elected as Grand Master, who was thereupon proclaimed and saluted in ancient form. The M.W. Grand Master warmly and earnestly acknowledged the honour again conferred upon him.

The report of the General Board was read, received, and ordered to be entered on the minutes, viz.:—The General Board, in making their half-yearly report, have little to do further than to congratulate Grand Lodge upon the continued prosperity of the Mark Degree. During the past six months, 228 certificates have been issued—this being a considerable increase in the number ever issued in any previous half-year. There have also been granted, in the same period, three Warrants of Constitution, viz.:—Nos. 65, West Lancashire Lodge, Liverpool; 66, Fortitude Lodge, East Stonehouse, Devon; 68, Victoria in Burmah Lodge, Madras. And one warrant of confirmation—No. 67, Benevolent Lodge, at Stockport.

It is with regret, however, that the Board feel themselves again under the necessity of complaining of the want of punctuality in many small lodges in the returns and payments to Grand Lodge. They content themselves, with expressing an earnest hope that greater regularity will for the future be observed in this important duty.

Letters alluding to the non-recognition of Mark Masters advanced under this jurisdiction, by brethren paying allegiance to the Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland, are submitted, on which the Board invite the opinion of this Grand Lodge.

The Treasurer's report shows that the receipts during the past six months—including the balance in hand on the 1st December, 1860—amounted to £141 19s. 2d., and the expenditure to £101 14s. 6d., leaving a balance in favour of Grand Lodge of £40 4s. 8d.

In accordance with the authority given to them at the last half-yearly communication, the Board have entered into an arrangement with the "Masonic Union, Limited," for the use of their grand hall, and other rooms for the executive, and for the transaction of the official business of Grand Lodge, at an annual rental of £20, inclusive of gas, &c.; and they cannot but feel that the interests of the degree will be promoted by the possession of so suitable and handsome a place of meeting.

G. R. PORTAL, M.A., G. Reg.,

London, June 14, 1861.

Vice-President.

The correspondence with reference to the non-recognition by the brethren under the Scotch Constitution of brethren advanced under the Constitution of this Grand Lodge having been read,

Bro. C. J. BANISTER, G.S.O., as W.M. of the West Lancashire Lodge (No. 65), meeting at Liverpool, explained the circumstances under which that lodge was established, and the friendly relations they had cultivated with the lodge (S.C.) at Birken-

head. Many brethren were members of both lodges, and they had done all in their power to work harmoniously together. As the letters now read stated, representations had been made inducing a course which threatened to disturb the existing amity. The brethren in question were not disposed to resign the membership of either lodge, and he trusted from the calm consideration of the subject that the result of their deliberations would be to fix the brethren firmly in their allegiance to this Grand Lodge.

Bro. GEO. LAMBERT was very glad he had entered the hall in time to hear read the correspondence on the subject before them. It was all very well to talk of the illegality of this Grand Lodge, the constitutional formation of which he was prepared to maintain. Why, he well remembered going to Scotland to make inquiries as to the Mark Degree; and what did he find?—that the Mark Degree was worked under the Grand Chapter of Scotland, which was not recognised by the Grand Lodge of Scotland, by whom they were considered a spurious body. He considered that this Grand Lodge held a superior position to the Grand Chapter of Scotland, and an equal position with any Grand Lodge exercising jurisdiction over the Mark Degree.

Bro. JAMES GIBBS was in this position—he was a Scotch Royal Arch and an English Royal Arch, and had at one time met with some difficulty in obtaining a proper recognition. In connection with the question under discussion, there were two difficulties not to be overlooked—1st, the Grand Chapter of Scotland was now a divided body, a division having recently taken place; 2nd, the fact of the Grand Lodge of Scotland recognising nothing but the three blue degrees. What then is to be done? Go to the Grand Chapter of Scotland? Yes, but to which Grand Chapter will you refer? The old Grand Chapter of Scotland, he believed, does not regard the Mark Degree as essential, but considers it as a by-degree. The form to be gone through as a Mason in Scotland may not be known. First, there were the three blue degrees—then there was the degree of Past Master, then that of Excellent Master—then a knight of something or other—and then the Royal Arch. In his case, after the closing of the chapter a sort of conclave was formed in which the Mark Master's and other degrees were conferred. If the Grand Chapter of Scotland had no more regular lodges in which to give the Mark Degree in Scotland than they possessed in India, then he agreed with the conclusions of Bro. Lambert.

The M.W.G. MASTER recommended that this Grand Lodge should put itself in communication with the Grand Chapter of Scotland, stating the circumstances which led to the foundation of this Grand Lodge, and maintaining its position as the undoubted head of the Mark Degree in this country. Without yielding one jot of their dignity, they were quite willing to interchange friendly relations and to establish reciprocity. If the Grand Chapter of Scotland would consent to meet them on amicable terms all would be well. If not, then there were two courses open—to decline all further communication with them, or to receive such of their members as may choose to come to us. The terms of the warrants issued by the Grand Chapter of Scotland should be borne in mind, viz.:—“Further, in the event of the degree of Mark Master hereby authorised becoming at any time hereafter a degree lawfully sanctioned and acknowledged by a supreme body of the country in which the Mark Lodge hereby constituted shall be situated, this present warrant or charter of constitution shall *eo ipso* become void and null, the holders thereof be deprived of their functions under it, and thereupon bound to return the same to our Grand Chapter.” Here we have a supreme body, and he thought the Grand Chapter of Scotland instead of refusing recognition to

us, ought, in accordance with their own terms, to withdraw their warrants now in force in this country.

The M.W. EARL OF CARNARVON, P.G.M., had heard nothing of this question until this afternoon. It was a most important question and one requiring most careful consideration. The letter from Edinburgh was certainly not one calculated to promote friendly feeling, or such as ought to be sent from one friendly body to another. When he considered the position of the Grand Chapter of Scotland, he could not help being reminded of the proverb—“Those who live in glass houses ought not to throw stones.” He was very pleased to hear the Grand Master recommend what he agreed in as the true basis of policy. First, do all that is conciliatory, all that is consistent with the true spirit of Masonry, but do not abate one jot or tittle of dignity. Should this conciliatory conduct fail in its effect, then would come the consideration of two courses open—whether simply to hold aloof from the Grand Chapter of Scotland, or to receive those willing to come amongst us. He should clearly recommend the latter. We are the larger body, and by the known law of gravitation, the tendency is for the powerful to absorb the weak. Those who value the Mark Degree will join us in preference to a body so situated as is the Grand Chapter of Scotland. Let peace and conciliation guide our counsels. Remember how we have had to struggle—how by pursuing the even, steady tenor of our way, we have defeated opposition, and attained to the condition of strength and prosperity upon which he was delighted to congratulate them.

Bro. Rev. G. R. PORTAL, G. Reg., would move a reference of this subject to the General Board, who should meet on a day when the G. Master could attend, for the purpose of considering it, and of taking such steps as they may deem advisable now that they had pretty well ascertained the feelings and opinions of Grand Lodge. The remarks of their Past Grand Master were very important. In his opinion, not many Scotch lodges will approve the conduct of the Grand Chapter of Scotland. It was idle to question the validity of the Constitution of this Grand Lodge, or to speak of it as an emanation from any one particular lodge. This Grand Lodge was formed by the union of representatives of various Mark Lodges, amongst them many lodges in which the Mark Degree had been conferred from time immemorial, and as a matter of course, long before the establishment of the Bon Accord Lodge. Its origin was precisely analogous to that of the Grand Lodge of England in 1717, when the members of four lodges met together in London and formed themselves into a Grand Lodge altogether distinct from the Grand Lodge meeting at York. These two bodies exercised separate jurisdictions until 1813, when they combined, the two bodies being then known as the “United Grand Lodge of England;” and so with us—there existed various bodies exercising conflicting jurisdiction over the Mark Degree, with no real head; a union was formed, and the result was the establishment of this Grand Lodge, under the presidency of one of the most constitutional Masons in existence, the Right Hon. Lord Leigh, their first M.W. Grand Master.

Bro. C. J. BANISTER G.S.O., seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

The G. REGISTRAR proceeded to read the

Report of the Committee on connection between Mark Masonry and Christianity, appointed at the last meeting of Grand Lodge:—

The Committee having investigated to the best of their ability the important subject referred to them have deemed it advisable to content themselves with embodying the following facts as their report:—

1. That up to the time of the Union of 1813, the two Grand Parallels in Masonry were St. John the Baptist and

- St. John the Evangelist. That at that time Moses and King Solomon were substituted.
2. That according to the Articles of Union of the Craft Grand Lodge, that body is bound to meet on the Festival of St. John the Evangelist.
 3. That a manuscript in the British Museum, dated 10th century, during the reign of Athelstan, and professing to explain the antient history and principles of Freemasonry, commences as follows:—"The Almighty Father of Heaven, in the wisdom of the glorious Son, through the goodness of the Holy Ghost, Three Persons and One Godhead, be with our beginning, and give us grace so to govern our lives, that we may come to His bliss, which shall never have an end."
 4. In "The Freemasons' Pocket Companion, 1761," the following is given as "a Prayer to be used of Christian Masons at the empointing of a brother, used in the reign of Edward IV." "The Mighty God and Father of Heaven, with the wisdom of his Glorious Son, through the goodness of the Holy Ghost, that hath been Three Persons in One Godhead, be with us at our beginning, give us grace to govern in our living here, that we may come to His bliss that shall never end."
 5. In the same work is given "A Prayer to be used at the admission of a brother." "Most Holy and glorious Lord God, Thou ordainer of heaven and earth, who art the giver of all good gifts and graces, and hast promised that when two or three are gathered together in Thy name, Thou wilt be in the midst of them in Thy name we assemble and meet together, most humbly beseeching Thee to bless us in all our undertakings, to give us Thy Holy Spirit, to enlighten our minds with wisdom, and understanding, that we may know and serve Thee aright, that all our doings may tend to Thy glory, and the salvation of our souls—and we beseech Thee, O Lord God, to bless this our present undertaking, and to grant that this our brother, may dedicate his life to Thy service, and be a true and faithful brother among us. Endue him with Divine wisdom, that he may with the secrets of Masonry be able to unfold the mysteries of godliness and christianity; this we humbly beg in the name and for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour. Amen."
 6. The following prayer, used at initiation, appears in a work entitled, "Hiram; or, the Grand Master's Key to the Doors of Antient and Modern Freemasonry, date 1776." "O Lord God, the great and universal Mason of the world, and first builder of man, as it were a temple, be with us O Lord, as Thou hast promised when two or three are gathered together in Thy name, Thou wilt be in the midst of them, be with us O Lord, and bless all our undertakings, and grant that this our friend may become a faithful brother, let grace and peace be multiplied unto him, through the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. * * * * * And grant that we may all be united as one, through our Lord Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth for ever. Amen."
 7. The following passage occurs in the charge of this degree which must be held to bear a Christian meaning:—"Let me remind you that the stone which the builders rejected possessing merits to them unknown, ultimately became the Chief Stone in the corner."—St. Luke xx. 17.
- (Signed) G. R. PORTAL, Chairman.

And proceeded. Such is the report of the Committee nominated at the last meeting of Grand Lodge, to consider this question. They do not propose the adoption of any course further than that recommending that the facts adduced should be made known in some way or other. For himself, he should simply propose that the report now presented be received and entered on the minutes.

Bro. PICKERING, P.G. Dir. of Cers., felt very great pleasure in seconding the proposition, but he must make an addition thereto. He thought that this report possessed so much interest, that in an era of improved research and enlarged enquiry such as that in which we live, it would stimulate further enquiry, and therefore ought to be printed and circulated extensively. He could not assume that an enquiry such as this will meet with universal approval, but he felt that the result of con-

tinued investigation on this important and interesting question must redound to the interests of the fraternity, and promote the cause of intellectual truth. He would not go so far as to recommend that action should be taken upon this report, his object being in the first place to direct attention to the subject. He had little doubt that a considerable number of their brethren had often seriously pondered this question in their closets, but had shrunk from discussing it in public, had forbore to press its consideration upon their assemblies, for the want of fitting guidance as to the most discreet and proper means of doing so. To the proposition of the Grand Registrar, he moved this addition, "and printed and circulated."

The M.W. EARL OF CARNARVON, P.G.M., thought there could be but one opinion of the value of the report, which reflected great credit upon the committee, to whom it would be disrespectful if circulation were not given it. It was simply a question whether the report should be printed in a separate form, or incorporated in the usual published account of their proceedings, and this the General Board could determine.

The M.W. G. MASTER concurred.

The G. REGISTRAR having accepted Bro. Pickering's addition, the motion as amended was put and carried unanimously.

Bro. Joseph Rankin Stebbing, P.G.W., was unanimously re-elected Grand Treasurer for the ensuing year.

The G. Master then proceeded to appoint and invest the Grand Officers as follows:—Bros. W. W. Beach, M.P., D.G.M.; George Cornwall Legh, M.P., S.G.W.; James Gibbs, J.G.W.; Andrew Gillespie, G.M.O.; William Cooke, G.S.O.; Bethel Jacobs, G.J.O.; Rev. J. W. Laughlin and Rev. George Roberts, G. Chaps.; J. R. Stebbing, G. Treas.; Rev. G. R. Portal, M.A., G. Reg.; Frederick Binckes, G. Sec.; J. W. Hayward, S.G.D.; T. W. Swinburne, J.G.D.; Wm. Ed. Gumbleton, G. Dir. of Cers.; Hy. J. Thompson, Assist. G. Dir. of Cers.; W. Barrett, G. Supt. of Works; John Dupré, G. Sword Bearer; S. D. Forbes, G. Standard Bearer; —, G. Org.; James Bond, G. Inner Guard; George Smith, G. Tyler.

Bros. C. J. Picard, Bon Accord Lodge, London; J. H. Wynne, Old Kent Lodge, London; Behrang, Mallet and Chisel Lodge (No. 5), London; Thos. Meggy, Thistle Lodge (No. 8), London; Alex. Shirer, Cheltenham and Keystone Lodge (No. 10), Cheltenham; J. Coleman Wills, Russell Lodge (No. 23), Tavistock; R. H. Rae (No. 35), Devonport; Harrison, University Lodge (No. 55), Oxford, G. Stewards.

The General Board was nominated as follows:—The Deputy Grand Master; the Grand Wardens; the Grand Treasurer; the Grand Registrar; the Grand Secretary; Bros. Alex. Ridgway, P.G.W. and P.G. Reg.; George Lambert, P.G.D.; Dr. Nolan, P.G. Inspect. of Works; Thos. Pickering, P.G. Dir. of Cers.; Richard Spencer, P.G. Steward; Edward Burrell, P.G. Reg.

Bro. C. J. BANISTER, P.G.S.O., begged permission to suggest the inconvenience of the present hour of meeting, which he felt sure precluded the attendance of many desirous to be present, and thought if they, for the future, were to meet at five for the transaction of business, and to banquet at seven, the Grand Master would find himself much more numerously supported.

Bro. WYNNE complained of the delay in the commencement of business.

The G. MASTER would give the matter his best consideration, his only object being to promote the efficiency and influence of the half-yearly communications, at the same time consulting the convenience of the brethren.

Grand Lodge was closed in ample form with solemn prayer, and adjourned.

A banquet was afterwards provided, at which the Grand Master took the chair, supported by many of the Present and Past Grand Officers, the proceedings being characterised by hearty good feeling and concord.

CHANNEL ISLANDS.

JERSEY.

ST. AUBIN'S LODGE (No. 958).—At the regular monthly meeting, held at the Masonic Rooms, on Tuesday, the 15th inst., the lodge was opened by Bro. Dr. Hopkins, P.M., in the absence of the W.M., assisted by Bros. Jos. Stevens and Mannan, acting as Wardens, and Bro. Durell, as I.P.M. After some routine business had been transacted, portions of letters from the late Chaplain, Bro. De la Mare, were read, containing information on the state of Masonry in the Mauritius, and expressive of fraternal feeling towards the members of St. Aubin's Lodge. The acting W.M. gave a short account of his recent visit to England, during which he had taken every opportunity of attending lodge meetings. He then gave a new lecture explanatory of the 3rd tracing board, which elicited a vote of thanks from the lodge; and finally worked two sections of the authorised lectures on Craft Masonry. The lodge was closed at a quarter to nine, the brethren adjourned for refreshment, and in about an hour the party broke up.

INDIA.

(From the Masonic Record of Western India.)

BOMBAY.

LODGE RISING STAR (No. 342, S.C.)—The third quarterly meeting of this lodge was holden at No. 1, Grant-buildings on the evening of the 20th September, 1864. Bros. Nowrojee Nabhoy Framjee, W.M.; Merwanjee Manockjee, K. R. Cama, J. Anderson, W. S. Crawford, C. Frommurze, P.M.'s; Dossabhoy Ruttonjee Cola, Sub-Master; Ardaseer Framjee Moos, S.W.; Cursetjee Jehangheer Tarachund, Offg. J.W.; Jehangheer Gustadjee, Sec.; Muncheerjee Murzana, Offg. J.D.; Muncheerjee Framrose, I.G.; Cowasjee Sorabjee Patell, Tyler. Members—Bros. Hormusjee Pestonjee, Rustomjee Badhurjee, J. H. Irvine, Framjee Cowasjee Metha, Sorabjee Jejeebhoy Moogana, H. Bowman. Visitors—Bros. H. Wickham, P.M.; T. Diver, Master of Lodge Concord; Leckey, Connell, Davis, Showell, Maggs, Johnson, Houghland, Seager, Judd, Avron, Phillips, Young, Ford, Farrar, Glover, Connelly, Fazilbhoy Noor Mahomed Khan, Kennedy, Bailey, Lockley, Mitchell, Forbez, Burden, and others. The lodge having been opened, the summons read, and the minutes of the last regular meeting and of the standing committee put to the lodge and confirmed, the ballot was proceeded with for Mr. Jehangheer Merwanjee, which proved quite clear. Bro. Dossabhoy Byramjee Pesikakana was next called up, examined, and raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason. No further business being before the lodge, it was closed in peace and harmony with the usual appropriate address by the Senior Warden, at half-past eight p.m.; the brethren adjourning to the banquet table. After the formal toasts of the evening, the health of Bro. W. H. S. Crawford was proposed by Bro. K. R. Cama, who said that he was much pleased to see Bro. Crawford present that evening, as it was some twelve years since he last had the pleasure of meeting him in lodge; he remarked upon the assistance and ready acquiescence afforded by him on all occasions in the furtherance of the interests of Lodge Rising Star, and of Masonry in general, and said it gave him extreme pleasure in being able to return thanks now to one who was the first to introduce him to the arena of that bright Morning Star whose refulgence is always reflecting upon the divine works of the Most High, and whose benign influence and rising brings peace and tranquillity to the faithful and obedient of the human race.—Bro. CRAWFORD, in returning thanks, said it afforded him great pleasure to find the toast so heartily responded to, and that he always felt himself bound to the Craft to do that which was taught him on his admission, and that if he had done anything more than anybody else, it was done for the good of the Order, whose welfare he had at heart, and felt very grateful to think that his name was still

cherished by those over whom he had the high honour to preside during his year of office, and that he would do all in his power to uphold the dignity of the Craft.—Bro. K. R. Cama next remarked upon the differences that existed between the Provincial Grand Lodges, and said that as far as he was able to judge the difference did not exist between the lodges themselves, but was confined to certain members only, and he was now happy to say that peace and good order had been restored between the two banners, and that the line of demarcation drawn by some members relative to a Scotch and an English Mason was utterly absurd, as there was no such thing, but that they were all of one body, sprung from the same source, and all bound to do the same thing for the good of the Order in general, and as a proof that a true brotherly feeling now existed, he mentioned the presence of the Master, officers, and members of Lodge Concord, and then proposed the health of Bro. T. Diver, his officers, and the members under him.—Bro. DIVER, in returning thanks for the hearty responses, spoke to the following effect:—He was glad to be able to support all that Bro. Cama had stated, and that the only way of securing and increasing that necessary brotherly feeling which had temporarily been disturbed was to visit each other more frequently, and then assured the brethren that on his behalf and that of the officers and members under the English banner, they were always happy to be able to stretch out the right hand of fellowship to all willing to partake of the hospitality, and recommended to them generally to visit the Lodges of St. George, Truth, and Concord, as often as they pleased, assuring them of a welcome and hearty reception.—Bro. Cama again rose, and now dwelt upon the services of two very old and staunch members, who were high in the Craft, and who, he assured the brethren, had worked for Masonry and its cause, but especially for Lodge Rising Star, and that through their influential positions and extensive stock of Masonic knowledge, they were found to be very valuable friends, to this lodge in particular; and that whenever sound and politic advice was needed, it was sure to be found in Bros. Wickham and Anderson, whose health he now proposed, which was drunk in true Masonic style, accompanied by the "Jolly good fellow" chorus.—Bro. WICKHAM rose and spoke on behalf of himself and Bro. Anderson, saying, in his easy but touching style, that he felt very grateful to the brethren for the kind manner in which they had responded to the toast, and then referred to the late differences, also assuring them that the quarrel was not universal, he was happy to say, and that everything had now been amicably settled; inculcated on the brethren their duties to each other, directing them to uphold the reins of Masonry firmly, and that if they wished to succeed in their endeavours to establish unity and a good name, they should give a good pull, a strong pull, and a pull altogether, as without unity and peace our Society would be nowhere, and instanced the success of Lodge Rising Star to those excellent virtues alone, and also remarked upon the hearty reception he and all he had the pleasure to know received whenever they visited those rooms.—One or two other speeches were made, but press of business prevented our stay any longer. We may remark, however, that all went off remarkably well, and that the evening was as pleasant as one would wish to see, being materially assisted and enlivened by the humorous songs and recitations sung and delivered by several of the visiting brethren.

ROYAL ARCH.

CHAPTER PERSEVERANCE (No. 71, S.C.)—The annual convocation of the above chapter took place on the 23rd September for the purpose of electing the nine office-bearers for the ensuing year. Present—M.E. Comps. T. Carpenter, P.Z.; J. H. Irvine, P.P.Z., Offg. P.H.; E. Freeborn, P.J.; E. Comps. C. Jones, Scribe E.; J. Jamieson, Offg. Scribe N.; W. J. Farrow, 1st Soj.; G. L. F. Connell, 2nd Soj.; H. Howman, 3rd Soj.; J. Houghland, Jan. Members—Companions T. Wood, B. Field, F. C. Metha, G. Brooks, J. B. Haines, J. Gillon, and W. Read. The chapter having been regularly opened, and the minutes of the last quarterly and emergent meetings read and confirmed, the election was proceeded with, the following being the result:—M.E. Comps. Carpenter, P.Z.; Freeborn, P.H.; Jones, P.J. Comps. G. Brooks, Scribe E.; J. Jamieson, Scribe N.; T. Wood, Treas.; W. J. Farrow, 1st Soj.; J. Gillon, 2nd Soj.; G. L. F. Connell, 3rd Soj.; J. Houghland, Jan. Nothing further being before the chapter, it was formally closed with solemn prayer at half-past eight.

MASONIC FESTIVITIES.

HULL.

Hull may most assuredly be congratulated on the possession of amateur talent of no ordinary character. Few towns could have produced so large and efficient an orchestra as that by which the "Creation" was recently performed. But dramatic talent is that by which Hull is pre-eminently distinguished; perhaps in no other town in the kingdom would it be possible to constitute an amateur company in which every shade of dramatic talent would be so efficiently represented, or to which *Hamlet's* "advice to the players" would be so thoroughly superfluous.

The Masonic theatricals have now become an institution, and their repetition is perhaps more anticipated than any other event of the season. This alone served to secure a very large audience on their first evening, the 1st inst. When, however, the overture commenced, the room was crowded in all parts. The display of taste on the part of the ladies was even greater than usual; and this, combined with the florid decoration of the room, produced a *tout ensemble*, perhaps more brilliant than on any previous occasion. After the overture, which was very effectively rendered, by an amateur orchestra, the curtain rose for "All that Gitters is not Gold."

The ability of Bro. Bethel Jacobs, as a comedian, is well known; on this occasion, however, he seemed to be in even a more merry mood than usual, and effective as was his acting on a former occasion in the pathetic scene between *Sweet William* and *Susan*, he has not yet appeared in a part better suited to his dramatic powers than *Jasper Plum*. *Stephen Plum* was performed by no novice in matters theatrical, but by a veritable old un (Bro. Holden), while *Frederick Plum* will for all time be regarded as a peculiarly *Ardened* character. Both gentlemen performed these difficult parts admirably, and were frequently greeted with such applause as is only bestowed on established favourites.

Bro. John Harrison's peculiar powers were devoted to the part of *Toby Twinkle*, which, from being a subordinate one, he exalted by careful acting, into, perhaps, the most amusing one of the piece. Bro. Robert Harrison, who appears to have an affection for villanous characters, appeared as *Sir Arthur Lassell*, and fully sustained the reputation he has gained as an actor of first-class ability. What little *Harris* had to do was exceedingly well done by Bro. Brooke. It is unnecessary to criticise the performances of Miss M. Oliver (*Martha Gibbs*), Mrs. Wolfenden (*Lady Leatherbridge*), and Miss Gifforde (*Lady Valeria*). All are eminent in their profession, and exerted every effort to please the audience, and to render the drama a success, by entering into the spirit of the evening.

The drama itself, though somewhat sentimental, was well received, and in some scenes, especially those in which *Toby Twinkle* figured prominently, elicited great applause. The concluding piece "Of Age to-morrow" was more amusing, and decidedly less sentimental than the first, and being relieved throughout by music, both vocal and instrumental, proved more popular. The leading characters were supported by the gentlemen of whom we have previously spoken, and as the parts were essentially different, the versatility of their powers was placed beyond question.

It would be but an ill return to omit to mention the obligation under which the amateurs rest to Miss Oliver, Mrs. Wolfenden, and Miss Gifforde, for the invaluable assistance they afforded. The same remark also applies to the gentlemen composing the orchestra.

The second performance took place on Thursday, the 3rd. As on Tuesday, the first piece was a comedy, while a burlesque was substituted for the musical farce which formed the afterpiece on the previous occasion. The

overture was very effectively rendered by an amateur orchestra, among the members of which were Bro. E. Jacobs and Bro. Humphreys, the former playing the violin, the latter the flute; Bro. Jackson presiding at the pianoforte. The opening piece was "Naval Engagements." It was performed in a most masterly manner, and frequently elicited the applause of a discriminating audience.

The character of *Admiral Kingston* is very well adapted to Bro. Bethel Jacobs' powers; he looked and acted the bluff old sailor admirably. Bro. Arden was equally at home in the part of *Lieut. Kingston*.

This is, we believe, the first occasion on which Bro. J. F. Holden has essayed the part of an Irishman; it is to be hoped that it will not be the last. *Dennis* was no stage Irishman, but a true son of Erin; his brogue was unimpeachable; and his every action characteristic. *Landlord Short* was well played by Bro. Dickson. But the credit of the success which attended the piece must not be attributed entirely to the gentlemen. The *Mrs. Pontifex* of Mrs. Wolfenden was a most finished piece of acting; to this lady both performers and audience are under a deep obligation; she has been ever ready to assist, and whatever she has undertaken she has rendered peculiarly her own. Of Miss Oliver's acting as *Miss Mortimer*, it is unnecessary to say more than that it fully confirmed the favourable impression of Tuesday.

The prevailing taste for burlesque was gratified by the production of "Aladdin; or, The Wonderful Scamp," which was perhaps the most popular, because the most laughable, piece of the series. In the opening scene—an anteroom in the Emperor of China's palace—the *Vizier*, Bro. Peart, is discovered drinking tea with several Mandarins. Bro. Peart, though hitherto unknown upon the Hull boards, is a great acquisition to the dramatic company. *Pekoe* his son, Bro. R. Goddard, soon appears upon the scene, and solicits the interest of his father to obtain for him the hand of the daughter of the Emperor, the *Princess Badroulbador* (Miss Gifforde). The *Emperor*, Bro. Bethel Jacobs, enters, terrible to behold, and the *Vizier* urges his request; is denied; but ultimately gains the consent of the *Emperor* to the marriage of his daughter. Bro. Jacobs is an actor of all work; from the deepest tragedy to the highest comedy he is equally at home, and in both the dramatic and musical portions of the burlesque acted in such a manner as to associate his own name with that of the ruler of the celestial empire. Miss Gifforde was a princess in every sense of the term, notwithstanding her awful name; she sung like a princess should sing, and acted as a princess ought to act.

Scene the second—a street in Pekin—opened with mysterious music, and the entry of *Abanazar*, the magician. Bro. John Harrison made as good a magician as he did *Conjuror* on Tuesday. Ere long, the *Widow Twankay* makes her appearance in a most excited state. Perhaps a disguise was never so complete, or a character so perfect, as that of Bro. R. E. Harrison. The widow laments to *Abanazar* the dissolute life of her son *Aladdin*, who soon presents himself in the person of Miss Oliver, and is patronised by *Abanazar*, who claims to be his uncle. From him he steals a magic lamp (not a magic lantern), and avails himself of its properties to become possessed of the hand of the Emperor's daughter, and blight the hopes of *Pekoe*. For a time his cup of happiness, and that of his relation, is full to the brim; but *Abanazar*, disguised as a pedlar, re-obtains the precious lamp, and dissipates the fortune of his nephew. Miss Oliver, as *Aladdin*, almost excelled herself; and although her previous acting had rendered anticipations great, they were far more than realised.

The scenery was far beyond what might have been expected in a room not adapted to theatrical performances. A most popular feature of the evening's performance was a Chinese *ballet divertissement*, which was danced most admirably by Bros. Gill, Reckitt, White, and a

fourth gentleman, whose identity was so obscure that even an opera glass failed to distinguish it.

Lastly the Stewards—among whom was no unjust one—performed their onerous duties with the greatest courtesy, and manifested every anxiety for the comfort and convenience of the audience, while the general style of the performance, reflecting credit, as it does, upon the individual members of the *corps dramatique*, nevertheless attests the energy and ability of the acting manager, Bro. A. O. Arden.—Abridged from the *Eastern Daily News*.

Obituary.

BRO. R. SNELL.

On Wednesday, the 2nd of November, the funeral of Bro. R. Snell, who for upwards of twenty years acted as Treasurer of the St. Luke's Lodge (No. 225), held at the Coach and Horses Hotel, Ipswich, took place at the cemetery. The deceased brother was very highly regarded both in private and public life; and in order to testify the estimation in which he was held by the brethren of Ipswich, a numerous body of them attended the funeral to pay their last tribute of respect. It is intended to place a monumental stone over the grave of Bro. Snell, the expenses of which will be defrayed by subscription amongst the brethren of the various lodges. Bro. Westgate, J.W. of St. Luke's Lodge, has kindly undertaken to collect subscriptions, and by his praiseworthy exertions, we have no doubt the project will be successfully and properly carried out.

BRO. WILLIAM RULE, P.G.P.

The brethren of the Doric Lodge (No. 933) held an emergency on Wednesday, the 2nd inst., for the purpose of marking their great respect for their deceased Bro. Rule, the late Secretary of the lodge, when the Masonic funeral service was performed as per the following programme. Bro. H. Bradley, Past Master of the lodge, acted as W.M.; the musical portion by Bro. Saqui, P.M., assisted by the brethren; Bro. J. Stevens as Director of Ceremonies.

An Anthem,—Whate'er we fondly call our own.

SERVICE WITH RESPONSES.

Master.—What man is he that liveth, and shall not see death? shall he deliver his soul from the hand of the grave?

Brethren,—Man walketh in a vain shadow; he heapeth up riches, and cannot tell who shall gather them.

Master.—When he dieth he shall carry nothing away; his glory shall not descend after him.

Brethren,—Naked we came into the world, and naked must we return; the Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away. Blessed be the name of the Lord.

Master.—Let me die the death of the righteous, and let my last end be like his.

Brethren,—God is our God, for ever and ever; He will be our guide even unto death.

Music,—The Dead March in Saul.

Prayer.

The Master then addressed the brethren upon the solemn nature of the service, pointing to the uncertainties of life, the virtues of the deceased brother, and the application of the peculiar teaching and bearings of Masonry upon the present solemn occasion.

INVOCATION AND RESPONSES.

Master.—May we be true and faithful; and may we live and die in love.

Brethren,—So mote it be.

Master.—May we always profess what is good, and act agreeably to our profession.

Brethren,—So mote it be.

Master.—May the Lord bless us and prosper us; and may all our good intentions be crowned with success.

Brethren,—So mote it be.

“Glory be to God on high,
Peace and earth,
Goodwill towards men.”

An oration by the Past Master of the lodge.

Prayer.

Selections from the Sacred Writings were read, and

The Master addressed the brethren upon the future government and prospects of the lodge.

Solemn music.

Anthem,—Vital spark of heavenly flame, &c.

The oration was prepared and delivered by Bro. H. Bradley, P.M., who delineated the particular services of the late Worshipful Brother to the fraternity, especially as regarded the duties he performed as the first Grand Pursuivant on the appointment of the late Grand Master, His Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex, which office he held for nine consecutive years, to the great satisfaction of the Grand Lodge, and twenty years of usefulness to the Craft since his retirement from that office. The worthy brother then dilated in most eloquent terms upon the duties of Masoury, and its obligations, powerfully exhorting his brethren to the practice of every moral and social virtue, and the exercise of brotherly love and unity. The business of the evening concluded with an unanimous vote of thanks to Bro. Bradley, which he acknowledged in brief but suitable terms, thanking the brethren who had so kindly assisted him, more particularly Bros. Saqui and Stevens, who conducted the music.

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

DRURY LANE THEATRE.

The elaborate revival of “Macbeth,” which so creditably sustains the dignity, whilst maintaining the prosperity of the theatre, was on Monday evening preceded by a new farce, entitled “A Young Lad from the Country.” *Miss Lucy Parkinson* having clandestinely married a young gentleman named *Johnson Jones*, has contrived to secure the presence of her husband in the house of her father by the ingenious, but not altogether original, device of passing him off as the new footman. His embarrassments in a vesture of plush, and her anxiety to smooth away the constant difficulties arising alternately from his professions of constancy and his exhibition of clumsiness, create some ludicrous situations. The fun of the farce, however, really arises from the bewilderment of *Damon Dobbs*, a raw country bumpkin, who comes to the lady's parent to purchase from him *Bumbletree Farm*, recognises in the wearer of the livery a young country squire, and is turned out of the house on making the abrupt discovery, because at the same time he is recognised as the rude individual who had previously involved the old gentleman in a disagreeable street dispute. *Damon* in difficulties has no sooner been thrust across the threshold of one door, than he finds another unexpectedly opened; being mistaken, through the accidental exchange of his own hat for the cocked hat of the supposed footman, to be the heir to thirty thousand pounds, really inherited by *Mr. Johnson Jones*. The series of misapprehensions, illustrated in a rather old-fashioned style, with a profusion of practical joking, gives *Mr. Belmore* an opportunity of humorously delineating rustic awkwardness; and, with *Mr. Fitzjames* as a peppery old gentleman, *Misses Helen Howard* and *Rose Leclercq* as two love-making young ladies, and *Mr. Spencer* and *Mr. G. F. Neville* as a couple of plotting young gentlemen, the farce is carried on merrily to the end. The house is well attended every evening.

THE WEEK.

THE COURT.—The Queen and the younger members of the Royal Family remain at Windsor. The Prince and Princess of Wales have returned to Marlborough House, where they received on Wednesday evening Mr. Charles Stratton (otherwise General Tom Thumb) and family, afterwards visiting the Princess's Theatre. Monday was the birthday of the Princess Royal, Crown Princess of Prussia, her Royal Highness having now attained her 24th year. The occasion was celebrated both in London and Windsor in the usual manner. At Windsor it was made the occasion of another interesting ceremony. On her last birthday her Royal Highness was in England, and observed the day by proceeding with her husband to lay the foundation-stone of a new chapel of ease in Windsor. That church has been completed in the course of the year, and has now been consecrated by the Bishop of Oxford, the Princess of Wales, the Princess Helena, and most of the notabilities of Windsor, being present at the ceremony.

GENERAL HOME NEWS.—It appears from the report of the Registrar General that the metropolitan mortality has risen to an alarming height. The deaths for the last three or four weeks have been rising at the rate of about 100 a-week, but last week the increase rose to 156. The excess over the average mortality of the corresponding week in the last ten years, allowing for increase of population, is no less than 331. The disease that has proved the most fatal is bronchitis. There were 1,960 births during the week, which is 56 above the ten years' average.—Mr. Purdy's report last week upon the state of pauperism in the twenty-eight cotton unions is more favourable than any recently issued; and we trust it indicates that a check has been given to those rather large accessions to the union relief lists which we have now recorded for several weeks past. Sixteen unions exhibit an increase, and twelve either show no increase, or an actual decrease. The net increase for the second week of November, is 970 only. Burnley union has increased 290; Haslingden, 200; and Manchester, 250. Among the unions which have had fewer paupers to relieve we note Blackburn, with a decrease of 130; Bury, 120; Saddleworth, 130; and Stockport, 140. The total number now on the rates is 111,510, of whom 30,780 are adult able-bodied paupers. The sums distributed by the Guardians last week, as out-door relief, amounted to £6,814; but, it should be remembered, that one-fifth of the outdoor paupers receive assistance from the local relief committees as well as from the poor rate.—At a meeting of the Common Council the thanks of the Court were unanimously voted to the retiring Lord Mayor. An interesting discussion took place on the finances of the City in relation to a report brought up recommending that £1,000 should be spent on the widening of certain thoroughfares. Some members contended that the City was on the verge of insolvency, while others—and they seemed to be the prevailing party—contended that the finances were never in a more flourishing condition. The vote of £1,000 was then agreed to. A petition was presented from one of the wards praying that the City would become its own gas manufacturer, which was referred to a committee.—Mr. Cobden met his constituents at Rochdale on Wednesday, and made a lengthened address, reviewing the events of the session, explaining the course he had taken with regard both to the Ministers and the Opposition.—Mr. Cox, M.P. for Finsbury, met his constituents at the Agricultural Hall, Islington, on Tuesday. The meeting was very numerous attended and boisterous in its demonstrations. The principal topic under discussion was the part Mr. Cox had taken in the inquiry into Mr. Stansfeld's connection with Mazzini last

session. Mr. Cox defended himself with much vigour, and carried the majority of the meeting with him.—*The Morning Post* and the *Observer* state that the navy and army estimates for next year will, in all probability, give evidence of considerable retrenchment, and that, as a consequence, we may expect a reduction of the income tax and the malt tax, and some further modification of the customs duties.—The question whether the Corporation of London or the chartered governors of St. Thomas's Hospital have the right to fix the site for the new hospital has been again before the Lord Chancellor. It may be remembered that on a previous day he intimated his opinion that the right lay with the chartered governors, but adjourned the case that it might be put in such a shape as to allow the Corporation to carry it to the House of Lords. It is now stated, however, that the City would not appeal the matter further, as they were satisfied with the adverse decisions of his lordship and Vice Chancellor Wood. The appeal was therefore dismissed with costs.—At the meeting of the Board of Works last week Mr. Bazalgette denied the statement which has gone abroad that the outfall of the sewage into the Thames had occasioned an epidemic in Woolwich. The deaths occurring there arose from scarlet fever. There was, however, some inconvenience produced by the present mode of discharge of the low-level drainage, which would be remedied as soon as the pumping operation was erected.—An Oxford tradesman recently sued an undergraduate of the University for a trifling sum. But the University is entitled by ancient charter to hear and determine all such causes in its own court; and as the practice of taking undergraduates before the superior civil courts for small debts appears to be on the increase, the University, by its Chancellor, the Earl of Derby, applied to the Queen's Bench for a rule to show cause why this action should not be removed to the Chancellor's Court. The Lord Chief Justice granted the rule.—A curious will case has been decided by the Lords Justices in Chancery. It appears that many years ago the then Sir Thomas Mostyn made a will, leaving a number of legacies, and among others one of £20,000 to his natural daughter. But when the testator died it was found that he had left little behind him but debts, and all the legatees renounced their legacies except the daughter, who was married, and whose son is the plaintiff in the present case. In 1813 a compromise was arranged between the legatee and the testator's nephew, Lord Mostyn, which was sanctioned by the Court of Chancery, and the present suit was brought to set aside that compromise on the ground of fraud. The Master of the Rolls, before whom the suit in the first instance came, decided for the defendant, and the plaintiff appealed. The Lords Justices sustained the appeal, and quashed the compromise on the ground that all the facts were not brought before the parties at the time the compromise was made.—The trial for divorce between Admiral Codrington and his wife, which has occupied so much of the public attention, came to a close on Wednesday, when the jury found a verdict that Mrs. Codrington had committed adultery both with Colonel Anderson and with Lieutenant Mildmay, and that Admiral Codrington had not by his conduct condoned to his wife's adultery. The question of costs was reserved.—Some time ago Messrs. Jones and Highatt were convicted of enlisting seamen for a Confederate cruiser, which was at the time lying at Calais. Some points of law were reserved, however, which came on for argument before the Court of Queen's Bench on Monday. But after the case was called the counsel for the prisoners intimated that they would not contest the matter further, on the understanding that the fine to be imposed on them did not exceed £50. The Attorney-General, for the Crown, agreed to this arrangement, as the law had been doubtful and the points were

new. The arrangement was sanctioned by the Court.—The Court of Common Pleas has been engaged in deciding the *bond fide* traveller question. It came up on an appeal from a decision of some magistrates near Birmingham, who had fined a public-house keeper for supplying refreshments in church hours to parties out for a stroll. The Court decided that persons taking a walk for their enjoyment were as much entitled to be considered *bond fide* travellers as those who were on an ordinary journey, and they therefore affirmed the appeal.—Robson, whose great frauds upon the Crystal Palace Company excited so much attention a few years ago, figures once more in the law reports—this time as a respondent in a divorce suit. He was sent out as a convict to Australia, but soon obtained a ticket-of-leave, and the allegation of the petitioner is that he has contracted a bigamous marriage in Australia with one Jane Bell.—At the Central Criminal Court, Edward Hammond, Emily Wakeman, and Elizabeth Allan, appeared to answer the charge of locking up Mrs. Hammond, the wife of the male prisoner; and also with assaulting the prosecutrix. The facts of the case will be fresh in mind, having been so recently before the magistrates at the police-court. Hammond now pleaded guilty, and the two female prisoners were discharged. Judgment on the other prisoner was respited, during which he was admitted to bail.—At the Middlesex Sessions, Henry Collings, the manager of the Penny Parcels Delivery Company, was put on his trial for illegally pawning some watches which had been sent to the company in a parcel for delivery. The prisoner admitted his guilt, but, through his counsel, pleaded several mitigating circumstances, which had such weight with the judge that he sentenced him to the comparatively lenient punishment of nine months' hard labour.—A strange story has been reported from Liverpool. Some sailors recently paid off from a ship, with abundance of money in their pockets and more liquor than was good for them, proceeded on Monday afternoon by the London and North-Western Railway from Euston-square to Liverpool. They were all in a second-class carriage, and other passengers were in the carriage with them. When a little beyond Rugby, one of the sailors disappeared from the carriage. The statement of his companions was that being drunk he got up from his seat, pushed the door open, and fell out. Others said that he was robbed by his companions and pushed out. His companions were taken into custody. Great but fruitless exertions were made all night to find the body, but in the meantime the drunken sailor, who had escaped unhurt, had a good sleep behind a hedge, and then walked to the nearest station, whence he was forwarded to Liverpool.—Ann Leslie, the woman who was tried, but acquitted, at the late Manchester assizes, on a charge of shooting at Mr. John Whalley, a merchant in that city, has evinced her appreciation of the merciful disposition of Manchester jurors by again threatening to take the life of her former protector. On Wednesday night Mr. Whalley received a letter from her, in which she declared, "As true as there is a God in Heaven, I will make you swear your life against me, or I will be hung for you." The police were communicated with; and when she was apprehended she said to the detective who took her into custody, "I will murder him if he does not report me." She was at once taken before the magistrates, and committed for trial at the assizes.—The coroner's inquest on the Plaistow murder has been concluded, and the prisoner Kohl brought before the jury. He was defended by a solicitor, and the evidence of the witnesses previously taken was read over to him. Dr. Lethely gave in a report of some chemical analysis he had made of spots on on the prisoner's clothes and on the hatchet, showing that there were upon them traces of blood, of human hair,

and of threads that appeared to have come from the neckerchief the murdered man was wearing. The Coroner then summed up, and the jury returned a verdict of Wilful Murder against the prisoner. He was committed for trial on the coroner's warrant.—It is difficult for Englishmen to realise the frantic excitement which the execution of the murderer of Mr. Briggs has aroused in Germany. A Berlin letter describes the state of public feeling in that city, on Monday, after the intelligence of Muller's death (but not his confession) had been made public. The writer says he never before saw a feverish state of agitation. "Vengeance is vowed against England for the foul crime," and the writer of the letter, who had been looking into the reading-rooms and beerhouses, deemed it prudent to get out of the way as soon as possible. The "bitterness and animosity against England beggared description," and it would be to him no matter of astonishment if some English were "lynched or maltreated."—Dr. Louis Cappel has addressed a letter to the editor of the German newspaper, the *Hermann*, thanking the German Legal Protection Society for the exertions they made to save the life of Muller, being under the apprehension of his innocence. In the course of his letter he reverts to the last conversation that passed between him and Muller, in which the convict declared his guilt. The words, as Dr. Cappel gives them, are more full and distinct than even those that were before published. It will be remembered that, as formerly given, the last words were "I have done it" ("Ich habe es gethan"). The doctor now informs us that, in answer to his last question, the convict, in a distinct voice, said, "Yes; I have done it" ("Ja, Ich habe es gethan"). These words dispel the doubt as to the meaning of Muller in these words.—Two railway labourers were brought before the magistrates at Bromley, in Kent, on Tuesday, on a charge of murder. The circumstances are very suspicious. The deceased man was quarrelling with one of the prisoners at the door of a public-house on Saturday night last, but was advised by the constables to go home. The prisoners followed him, and two policemen followed them, but before they overtook them they had come up with the deceased, and were in the act of lifting him up. His face was covered with blood, and he appeared to have been savagely kicked about the eyes. He was insensible, and never rallied. The prisoners were remanded.—There are painful accounts from the coast of the disastrous effects of the recent gale. At Southport a vessel was lost, and all on board except one seaman perished. Similar casualties are reported from Barnstaple, Cloyelly (Devon), and Campbellton. A ship foundered in the Channel, but fortunately the crew had time to get to their boats, and were afterwards picked up.—A large vessel, the *Robin Hood*, was run into by the *Spirit of the Ocean*, on Monday night, in the Channel near Dungeness. So severe was the shock, that the *Robin Hood* sunk at once, and the other vessel was seriously damaged. The crew of the foundered ship took to their boats, and it is stated that one of these boats, with seventy persons on board, is missing.—A sad case of poisoning has occurred at a place called Gresford, a village near Wrexham. On Thursday week a labourer, named Millington, and his wife and four children, became suddenly ill after tea. Medical assistance was obtained, but two of the children died on Wednesday last, while the other two children and their parents are described as lying in a dangerous state. It is supposed, but the conjecture has not yet been verified by a chemical analysis, that the bread which they ate on Thursday night week contained poisonous matter.—De Witt and Wright, the two men concerned in the great wine frauds, have been convicted at the Central Criminal Court, and were each sentenced to fifteen years' penal servitude.—At a coroner's inquest in

Bethnal-green, the jury returned a verdict of manslaughter of a mother against her son. The ruffian was quarrelling with his brother-in-law, and the mother went to separate them, when he knocked her down, and she died from the blow. He has since made off, but a warrant is issued for his apprehension.—The *Great Western*, the ship chartered for the conveyance to New York of a large detachment of supposed recruits for the Federal army, is still detained at Liverpool. The police are busily engaged in collecting information respecting the alleged violations of the Foreign Enlistment Act at Ashton and other places. Fifty-three of the foolish fellows who were induced to leave Ashton and Stalybridge have returned to their homes. An "Irish-American," named Murphy, has been committed for trial at Athlone, on a charge of endeavouring to persuade four men belonging to the 25th Regiment to desert the service and proceed to New York, with the view of entering the Federal army.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.—The *Patrie* gives a list of the various public works which, according to its statement, the Government was prepared to execute with the funds of the public works bank, but for the present abandoned. The alterations in the Austrian army estimates for 1865 reckon upon a reduction of about 1,500 in the number of men, and an increase of 2,000 in the number of horses. The actual numbers are 416,973 men and 62,933 horses.—From various sources the assertion comes that Austria has formed the very sensible and prudent resolution to recognise the kingdom of Italy. A resumption of commercial intercourse, and regular diplomatic relations between Vienna and Florence, is the programme announced. The report of a concentration of Russian troops on the Bessarabian frontier proves to be a fabrication.—There are reports, more or less trustworthy, that the bands of insurgents in Venetia have increased in number, and have had several skirmishes with detachments of Austrian soldiers. The official journal of Turin declares that the Italian Government will not permit a violation of its frontiers, and will not allow itself to be "compromised in the movement," which it has discouraged. Part of a band which intended to enter Tyrol has, it is added, been forcibly captured; and the prisoners will be prosecuted according to law.—A semi-official journal of Berlin declares that "the Great German powers expect Germany to confide in them that the Schleswig-Holstein question will be settled in accordance with the rights and interests of Germany," and that Prussia considers any further occupation of Holstein by Federal troops to be "inadmissible under any pretext." The Prussian Government has opened negotiations with Austria respecting the removal of the Federal troops from Holstein, but the Austrian Cabinet has not yet returned any reply.—After a very protracted debate the Italian Chamber of Deputies has passed the bill for the transfer of the capital to Florence by 317 to 70 votes.—It is stated that a decree for the abolition of convents in Poland has received the Imperial sanction.—A convention has been concluded between the British and Turkish Governments for the purpose of regulating the transmission of telegrams to India through the Turkish dominions.

INDIA AND JAPAN.—The papers brought by the Bombay mail contain some very interesting particulars of the visit of the Viceroy to Lahore, the capital of the Panjab. His excellency met with a most enthusiastic reception from all classes of Europeans and natives. A grand vice-regal *darbar* was held on the 18th ult.; the Viceroy opened it with an effective speech from the throne in Hindoostanee. Six hundred rajahs and chiefs were present. In an engagement between the Khan of Kokan and the Russians at Tashkund, the former was defeated and retreated to Kokan. The Russians then marched against

the latter place and captured it. The King of Bokhara is espousing the cause of *Ufzul Khan*, and is taking active measures against the Ameer of Cabool. There was a rumour at Bombay that the *Bhooteas* had submitted; but it met with little credit. A telegram from Suez has brought us news from Japan, to the effect that the Prince of Nagato has agreed to open to navigation the straits leading into the Inland Sea, to abstain from rebuilding the forts which the European squadron lately demolished, and to pay the expenses of the expedition which resulted in their demolition.

AMERICA.—Mr. Lincoln has been re-elected President, with a majority of at least 225,000 votes over General McClellan, and with a large and sufficient majority in the Electoral College; and there have been no serious disturbances during the elections in any of the Federal states. This news has been brought to us by the *Canada*, which arrived at Queenstown from Boston and Halifax at an early hour yesterday morning. In the city of New York General McClellan had obtained a majority of 37,000 votes, but it was doubtful whether the Democrats or the Republicans had been successful in the state. General Butler had taken the chief command of the troops in the state of New York; and it was asserted that he had warned gold brokers that "they must not speculate in gold to the detriment of the Government." There had been no serious operations in the neighbourhood of Richmond, though there had been some skirmishing caused by a Confederate reconnaissance of General Grant's left. Both armies still occupied the same positions in the Shenandoah Valley, but the Federals were said to be suffering much from a want of forage. The Confederates in Tennessee had taken Johnsonville, on the Tennessee river, and had there captured three gunboats, eight transports, and a great quantity of stores and artillery; but the Federal garrison was said to have escaped. There were contradictory reports that General Hood had succeeded in crossing the Tennessee with his troops, and that he had been foiled by the Federals in an attempt to force a passage of that river. There was a rumour, said to have been brought by Federal officers from Chattanooga, that General Sherman had not only abandoned the pursuit of General Hood, but had destroyed the Chattanooga and Atlanta Railway, had evacuated and burned Atlanta, and had commenced his march, with five corps of his army, from Atlanta for Charleston, South Carolina. This rumour, which represented General Sherman to have abandoned all his communications with the purpose of marching 300 miles through a hostile country to Charleston, was discredited at Washington; but a "general belief prevailed that General Sherman was making an important movement from Atlanta towards the Atlantic seaboard." General Price was said to have been again defeated by the Federals at Newtonia, and to be retreating with his recruits and supplies towards Arkansas; and the Confederate invasion of Missouri was apparently regarded as terminated, for the Federal Generals Rosecrans and Pleasanton had returned to St. Louis. In consequence of the destruction of the Confederate ram *Albatross*, the Federal gunboats had been enabled to re-occupy the town of Plymouth, in North Carolina. At Chicago many persons had been arrested on charges that they were implicated in a plot to burn the city and release the Confederate prisoners.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

M. M. (Constantinople).—The objectionable by-law having been withdrawn and another substituted, in accordance with the R. A. regulations, which has received the approval of the G. S. E., it is no use re-opening the subject—though M. M. was certainly right when he wrote to complain of an illegal by-law having been adopted by Chapter 687. That by-law had subsequently to be altered, not however before it had acted upon.

H. M. shall hear from us.