

LONDON, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1865.

THE INTELLECTUAL AND MORAL CULTURE OF MANKIND.

(Continued from page 404.)

We may truly regard the Grecian period as that in which the arts and sciences assumed their proper aspect, emerging almost entirely from that dark cloud of superstition which mysteriously involved the lucubrations of the Magi of Egypt, and invested them, in the eyes of their ignorant disciples, with superhuman attributes.

A sound description of philosophy began to gain ground; men were disposed rather to inquire into doctrines for themselves than to continue receiving passively from others the articles of their belief, and accordingly the love of knowledge increased. By such minds as those of Plato, Socrates, and Leucippus, the standard of the human understanding was elevated, and their examples of earnest truth seeking, inspired their pupils to go beyond their masters in exploring the unknown regions of knowledge, and in uncovering to the view of their fellow men some of the active physical agents which, in obedience to nature, are ever producing startling phenomena, or quietly maintaining the great cosmical movements.

The cultivation, not only of the mental, but also of the muscular functions, was carefully attended to; the Greeks evidently well knew the importance of physical qualifications in maintaining the status of a nation, hence, until their better judgment was sapped at its foundations by the insidious snares of luxury attendant upon a perverted mode of extending civilisation, athletic exercises were not merely regarded as amusing spectacles, but esteemed as necessary in the education of youth, and an accomplishment in those of more mature years. An example descriptive of the games instituted at the Court of Alcinoüs illustrates the opinion of the Greek people,—

“Now swarms the populace; a countless throng,
Youth and hoar age, and man drives man along.
The games begin; ambitious of the prize,
Acroëus, Thoön, and Eretmeus rise:
The prize Ocyalus and Pymneus claim,
Anchialus and Ponteus chiefs of fame,”

Thus we see that at the age of which we are treating, it was not considered derogatory to “Chiefs of fame” to contest the prizes offered at public games, as is also clearly shown in the passage:—

“While thus the peerage in the games contends,
In act to speak, Laodamas ascends.”

These games consisted chiefly of racing, casting the discus, contending with the cestus, and of other recreations of an arduous nature; but the more elegant accomplishments which tend to elevate and refine the mind were not neglected; the graceful dance charmed the eye, the harmonious lyre the ear.

“Intent to play,
The Bard advancing meditates the lay;
Skilled in the dance, tall youths, a blooming band,
Graceful, before the heav'nly minstrel stand;
Light-bounding, from the earth at once they rise,
Their feet, half viewless, quiver in the skies.”

Indulgence in such pastimes does far more than merely increase physical strength or serve to pass leisure time; they impart a healthy and cheerful tone to the mind, and maintain the mental elasticity requisite for the attainment of knowledge.

Considering the modes of instruction and argument used by the Greek philosophers, we find a very excellent system existing, and one which may very profitably be studied by modern instructors. One most noticeable characteristic consists in a modest, but yet commanding, because firm, style of expression. Its modesty prevents instruction from hurting the dignity of the student, and its firm self-reliance gives him confidence in his preceptor.

If we take, for example, the discourse between Socrates and Ion (as given by Plato), we cannot fail to perceive how thoroughly sound is the argument of the former, and how excellently he discloses the errors of Ion, without in any way becoming either offensive or egotistical, and yet he has to express matter which must be well calculated to wound the pride of the rhapsodist.

Undoubtedly there are many matters of both political and social economy, upon which the learned ancients held opinions which now cannot be maintained, and which have given rise to many views that have exercised a deleterious influence upon the progress of the human intellect, but the good preponderates over the inferior part generally. The following passage translated from the “Republic” of Plato exhibits rather a peculiar, but abstruse mode of reasoning:—

“God being good, cannot be the cause of all things, as is commonly imagined. * * * For all good things there can be no other cause besides God; but some other disposing power should be found as the originator of evil, which, as an effect, should never be attributed to the Almighty.”

The thorough discussion of this doctrine, simply as it is put, would involve the introduction of theological arguments of the greatest weight, and

which the greatest difficulty would arise from, not easily obviated without doing violence to the most generally accepted views of our own day.

The errors (for such we take them) which we detect in such passages as that above cited, appear to be due to an anxiety to *reason* upon all subjects, and this course must produce fallacious or fruitless results when applied to such matters as transcend human argument and human understanding. Among the estimable opinions formed by Plato we may include that which has reference to the evil effect of bad or corrupted taste in art. He says that not only poets but also all artists must be restricted to the use of examples whether of living beings or inanimate subjects which shall not inspire any but virtuous and moral ideas, nor be of a monstrous or illiberal type for fear of producing a degrading effect upon the minds of others.

We will now pass on to another period, and descend from the Greeks to the Romans. Here we shall find in some degree a check upon the progress of one or two branches of science, but at the same time an increased impetus given in other directions, which, when considered in an utilitarian view, may perhaps be of the greatest importance.

The intellectual tone of any race of people will usually be indicated by the state of the fine arts among them, and among the Romans the fine arts did not receive at any time as much attention and care as during the period of their fullest development in Greece. The Greek monuments, in fact, seem at once to have been accepted as perfect types of classic purity, and to have retained to this day their unprecedented pre-eminence.

The architecture of different nations and periods is in itself a history of the progress of mental refinement; splendour may be attained with wealth, even when developed in forms conceived in a barbaric mind, incapable of those more cultivated sentiments which inspired the Grecian architects and sculptors. Curiosity will cause us to study the hieroglyphics which cover the columns of Egypt and Assyria, we may be attracted by the luxurious ease and air of tranquillity of the Alhambra, admire the solid magnificence of the Roman viaducts and mansions, and find pleasure in surveying the lighter effect of the later Italian style, but for our *models* we ever incline towards Greece.

So much of the public attention during the most brilliant epochs of the Roman Empire was

by circumstances directed to warlike objects, that excepting the execution of national works of necessity, but little time was left to be devoted to the arts of peace, except by a few professionally engaged. The only encouragement that, under the circumstances, the fine arts could receive would probably accrue from the lavish expenditure of the wealthy and luxurious, with whom, in too many instances, it has ever been the custom to esteem objects in proportion to their cost, instead of valuing them in accordance with the skill bestowed upon them.

Regarding the Romans as a nation, we may consider war (if we may be allowed the expression) as one of their staple commodities; and, however glorious a military career may be, the result of being constantly involved in contests must be, to a great extent, demoralising to the mass of the people. So long as men are but fighting for liberty, or to protect their own country, there is in connection with it a heroic spirit which diverts the attention from the degrading details, but when the object of a war is to obtain pecuniary benefits at the expense of our neighbours, then all that is worthy of admiration disappears, as far as the nation is concerned, although deeds of personal valour may command admiration and esteem.

In addition to the corrupting influences of war on the intellectual and moral condition of the Romans, were others arising from the spectacles of the arena—exhibitions which it is difficult to conceive as entertaining, even to the lowest class of minds, when in the most morbid state of excitement. Many also of the celebrations and mystic games were most indecorous and revolting to civilised feelings, but yet the first noble matrons of Rome were not ashamed to assist openly at them. It seems almost impossible to believe that they imagined that in those riotous scenes were the elements of devotion to the deities in whose honour they were instituted, and if they did, it but makes the effect more deleterious, for nothing can be more degrading, and more utterly demoralising to the human soul, than a corrupt religion, which, if not directly, indirectly holds up for worship objects in themselves vicious.

(To be continued).

MEN, as well as women, are much oftener led by their hearts than by their understandings. The way to the heart is through the senses; please their eyes and their ears, and the work is half done.

THE PEN-AND-INK SKETCHES OF ONE FANG.

(Continued from page 452.)

No. 7.

光妙
輪燈



THE INSCRUTABLE LAMP, THE STARRY WHEEL.

No. 8.

輪寶蓋妙



THE PRECIOUS WHEEL OF THE INSCRUTABLE UNIVERSE.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

FREEMASONRY IN JERSEY.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—In your number of the 11th inst., "P.M." has again kindly favoured us with a missive.

I am very sorry indeed if I have wounded his (P.M.'s) vanity. If I have done so it was unintentionally, and if he wishes me to apologise I may do so. Perhaps it is wrong in a junior warden to rebuke, although ever so gently, a P.M.; but I cannot well refrain from it. It is not becoming in a P.M. to wax so wrath at trifles, to feel so indignant, to use such harsh language. These measures are only resorted to in defence of a bad and hopeless cause.

Is not "P.M." unkind when he taxes me with insubordination, defiance, disobedience, inconsistency, misapprehension of facts, &c., and when he so unceremoniously drags into the discussion, and turns into ridicule, Anglican clergymen holding Romish opinions, and weak-minded popes, &c., is he not here, more than ever, Masonically at fault, and had I not some grounds for saying, as I now repeat, that "P.M." seems dissatisfied with everything and with everybody?

Again, why make, or attempt to make, a personal affair of what is only a question of principle? For my part, I must confess that I have not run through the list of P.P.M.M. in order to ascertain whether your correspondents "P.M.," "P.Z.," and "H.H.," were one and the same person; it was quite immaterial to me.

"P.M." issues several decrees, which he calls propositions, and in which he would lay down the law. Will you allow me to recall the first, which embodies all the others? It runs thus:—

"That there is no absolute agreement between the various grand lodges throughout the world. Still Masonic custom and courtesy forbid the invasion of a country where a Grand Lodge exists by the issue of warrants on the part of the authorities of another country."

Then there is no law forbidding it; there is no agreement hindering it; common sense and common justice (as in this case) would often imperatively command it, as far as precedents are concerned. The French rite has lodges in English and many other foreign colonies and dependencies; the English have lodges in French, Spanish, German, Chinese, Brazilian, Turkish, and other territories, the better to prove the universality of Freemasonry. Still, in this solitary case of Jersey, it must be considered a dangerous precedent, a want of courtesey, and several Masons, from no other crime than an involuntary breach of etiquette, must remain suspended, perhaps during the time of their natural lives.

"P.M.'s" running observations ran so fast that I could hardly catch their meaning. He attributes his own words to me in order to prove me illogical. It is hardly fair.

He can hardly mean, although he seems to insinuate it, that the Lodge La Césarée have the laws of the Order in the French language. I know for a certainty that such is not the case. The laws by which they are governed are written in English, a language unknown to the majority of the members of Lodge Les Amis de l'Avenir.

Then, again, it was not an attempt to introduce by-laws not in accordance with the English constitutions that led to the secession of the members of Les Amis de l'Avenir, inasmuch as they never seceded—they did not wish to leave their English nor their Irish lodge. Had they really been desirous of seceding, they would have given their resignation, and the Grand Lodge would have been spared the trouble and annoyance of a Masonic investigation which has led to no possible good.

In conclusion, I would have "P.M." know that although I am as loyal as he may be to our constitutions, I cannot, without deep-felt regret, nay, without shame, see an act of intolerance and injustice perpetrated without sympathising with the oppressed, and tendering them the true hand of fellowship, and that in so doing, if I do not obtain (nor do I court it) the admiration of "P.M.," I have that which I prize a great deal more—a conscientious satisfaction of having done my duty.

Yours fraternally,

Jersey, Nov. 30.

J. W.

CHOLERA.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER, — While due preparations are made by the authorities how to prevent, next spring, the possible dangers arising from the reappearance of the cholera, allow me, in true Masonic good spirit, to suggest an idea how, by very simple means, courts, lanes, and corners, which proved by past experience the propagators and conservatories of the miasma, could be cleansed, and thus made innocuous.

We know that the atmospheric envelope of the air, which in concentric layers, parallel globes within globes (strictly mathematically $\frac{4}{3}R^3\pi - \frac{4}{3}r^3\pi$), surrounds the earth, is from layer to layer of different thermal character. Be the lowest the warmest at times (midday and evening), or the higher (at midnight and morn), the two are never of the same temperature. Thus, by the law of the reconstruction of the thermal equilibrium, a continual operation is going on, which tries to equalise throughout the air the homogeneity of atmospheric temperature. This process of equalisation, however, can be produced more violently and effectually, by connecting the highest and the lowest layers by a simple tube (the paper tubes of Colonel Szerelmey's would be the cheapest), and thus the accumulated miasmatic foul air, which, localised and inhaled, would form seed fungi of microscopic visibility, themselves easily decomposed by heat within the body, and decomposing the blood lungs themselves, would be by the artificial draught produced by the paper tubes far above the dwellings, and by the seaward winds swept towards and into the sea.

Daring to know and to advise the application of natural laws, whose chapter astute selfishness stole, and transformed into patents, I now and again draw

my brethren's attention to the immense power that exists in magnetism (the continual effumation of the earth magnet, or the central loadstone), and in electricity, the radiant heat of the sun (whose ancient appellation was Electros, whose burning and decomposing power sulphur, amber (hence called electron), pitch, tar, petroleum easiest absorbs, which is the cause why grass, turf, straw, wood, coal ignite and burn, while earth, stone incapable to hold electricity, cannot, except impregnated with the above or similar chemical elements. Magnetism (loadstone is the essence of it) radiating a cold sensation, prevents the miasmatic tubers to develop into ripeness, and the electricity (mechanical, while galvanism represents chemical electricity—a clumsy distinction, both being chemical), if applied in large quantity locally—prevention localising the corrupt material—electricity develops, ripens, and brings to decay the mass within short time, and thus makes it ever after innocuous.

Charcoal, the finer the more effectual, strewed on a heap, or over the contents of a sewer or cesspool, forms such a medium, preventing the nauseous and dangerous effluvia, and if electricity, or cheaper, a more effectual galvanism, is brought to act by a ramification of its poles beneath the carbon, the decomposition is accelerated. Quicklime does both.

Electro-magnetism is the vital fluid—death the conquest of magnetism over electricity. If, then, the hospitals are hermetically closed against electrical air, (sunny atmosphere), such a magnetic conquest is assisted instead of prevented. Cholera patients ought to be exposed to the early sun of spring in the public parks, only to prevent the wet of the ground to give them rheumatic diseases. The patients ought to be laid on endless gutta percha rugs. When the atmosphere is more equally heated in the warmer season, in case the cholera continued into mid-summer, the cure ought to be just the reverse: cold-water washings, lying in the shade, and even the use of magnetised water, inwardly, and of ice-water, would prevent the further development of the disease, and give the organism time to overcome the crisis. Any food which grew in the sun is a conveyor of electricity, while food grown in shade, and in or near the ground, contains more magnetism, as seen in the crystalline texture of such food. Salt and every acid contains magnetism. Thus, in early spring, fruit will be recommendable, in the heat of summer it becomes dangerous. Besides, it was found that all produce grown and matured in the cholera season propagates the disease.

Let our professors of chemistry, repeating and confirming, or refuting the Viennese Professor Reichenbach's confused researches of the magnetic (crystalliform), or electric (amorph), character of the elements of chemistry, and some drugs for the further elucidation of the question say what chemical elements and what food is magnetic or electric, so as to find its application as preventative, medicine, or food for the benefit of our brethren at large.

Hoping you will find a space for this, my new, and I hope not last, work of love,

I am, dear Sir and Brother,

Yours faithfully and fraternally,

JULIUS ALBERT ROCHLITZ.

3, Guilford-place, Russell-square, W.C.

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

* * * All communications to be addressed to 19, Salisbury-street, Strand, London, W.C.

MASONIC MEM.

A new lodge has been opened at Munora, in Kurrachee, to be called the Delhi Lodge, under a dispensation from the Provincial Grand Master of Western India under Scotland, the first W.M. of which is Bro. A. E. F. Morris. There are now in Sind two English and two Scotch lodges, and three Scotch Royal Arch Chapters.

GRAND LODGE.

The quarterly communication of the United Grand Lodge of England took place on Wednesday evening, Dec. 6, in Freemasons' Hall; the Right Hon. the Earl of Zetland, G.M., on the throne; Bro. Sir Michael Hicks Beach, M.P., G.S.W.; Bro. Williamson, G.J.W.; and there were on the dais—Bro. the Right Hon. Earl de Grey and Ripon, Bro. Major Adair, Prov. G.M. for Somersetshire, and the following brethren:—Bros. W. Young, P.G.S.B.; Perkins, P.G.W.; Hopwood, P.G.D. and President of the Colonial Board; Colonel Browning, P.G.W.; Gregory, P.G.D.; Daly and Sedgwick, G. Chaps.; Woodford, P.G. Chap.; Potter, P.G.D.; Huyshe, P.G. Chap. and D.P.M. for Devonshire; Le Veau, P.G.S.B.; Patten, P.G.S.B.; Spiers, P.G.S.B. and D. Prov. G.M. for Oxfordshire; Nutt, P.G. Dir. of Cers.; J. W. Hayes, P.G. Chap.; E. Phillips, P.G.D.; Merryweather, P.G.D.; Emmens, G. Purst.; Lewis, Assist. G. Purst.; Stebbing, P.G.D.; Wheeler, P.G.D.; A. Woods, G. Dir. of Cers.; Francis Danday, P.G.W.; Evans, P.G.W. and President of the Board of General Purposes; A. J. McIntyre, P.G.D. and G. Reg.; Fenn, Assist. Dir. of Cers.; Farnfield, Assist. G. Sec.; Hervey, P.G.D.; Havers, P.G.W.; Stimpson, P.G. Org.; Stephen Barton Wilson, P.G.D.; Nelson, P.G.D.; Bradford, P.G. Assist. Dir. of Cers.; Symons, P.G. Dir. of Cers.; Tomkins, G. Treas.; Creaton, P.G.D.; Savage, P.G.D.; Cox, G.D.; Pullen, G.D.; Maudslay, P.G.D.; Head, P.G.D.; Roxburgh, P.G. Reg.; and T. R. White, P.G.D.

The Grand Lodge having been duly opened, the Grand Chaplain offered up the following prayer:—"O, Almighty and Most High God, look down with favour on this our solemn convention. Bless our efforts to do good to all men, and especially to those who are united with us in the mystic bond of ancient Freemasonry. Grant that our souls and bodies may be devoted to Thy service, and that in all our thoughts and words and works we may consecrate ourselves to the honour and glory of Thy holy name.

MINUTES OF THE LAST QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION.

The GRAND SECRETARY then read the minutes of the Quarterly Communication of September 6, which were unanimously confirmed.

NOMINATION OF THE GRAND MASTER.

BRO. CLABON, Vice-President of the Board of General Purposes, said, Most Worshipful Grand Master, I have now the honour to nominate you for re-election to the office of Grand Master for the twenty-second time, and I will venture to say in your presence that by the dignity, urbanity, and judgment with which you have filled that chair, that you have won for yourself the respect and esteem of the entire Craft, and I am sure that will be the unanimous feeling of the brethren when the time shall come for your re-election. (Hear, hear.)

A BROTHER, whose name we were unable to learn, said he had much pleasure in seconding the nomination.

HONOURABLE DISTINCTIONS TO PAST GRAND STEWARDS.

The G. MASTER laid before Grand Lodge a report he had received from the Board of General Purposes, with suggestions as to the future status and privileges of Past Grand Stewards. The suggestions were as follow:—

1. Past Grand Stewards, so long as they continue to subscribe to some lodge, shall have the right to wear red collars, distinguished from those of Grand Stewards for the year by a silver cord on either edge of the collar, to which shall be suspended the jewel of a Past Grand Steward; such jewel to be oval in form and of the same device as the jewel of a Grand Steward, but on crimson enamel instead of the irradiated plate.

2. In Grand Lodge, Past Grand Stewards, being members of Grand Lodge, shall have set apart for them the front benches on either side in the body of Grand Lodge.

3. In public processions and ceremonies, Past Grand Stewards, not being members of the Grand Stewards' Lodge, but being subscribing members to some lodge, shall immediately precede the members of the Grand Stewards' Lodge.

4. Masters, Past Masters, and Wardens of Private lodges, being Past Grand Stewards, must in Grand Lodge wear the collar and jewel of their lodges and offices respectively, in right of which they attend as members of the Grand Lodge, under the collar of the Past Grand Steward.

The PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES said this report had been submitted to the Most Worshipful Grand Master, and they trusted that their suggestions would meet with the approbation of Grand Lodge. The reason of the suggested alteration was, that as the Grand Stewards entered upon that office at a great expense, and particularly that which they had to bear at the Grand Festival, that they should not on their departure from the office lose all distinctions. The Board of General Purposes, therefore, thought it was only right, and hoped it would meet with the views of Grand Lodge that those who had become Grand Stewards should have some distinction on quitting the office to show that they had served the Craft. He begged to move the adoption of the four resolutions given above.

BRO. WHEELER, P.G.D., while approving of what had been recommended, suggested that instead of Grand Stewards wearing silver tassels, that they should be silver-gilt, which would be more in harmony with the rest of their clothing.

BRO. WARDEN, P.G.W., supported the resolution, and hoped that Past Grand Stewards would take their decorations in the same way as other Past Grand Officers.

BRO. GREGORY, P.G.D., submitted to his lordship and to the Board of General Purposes a question as to whether the resolution proposed went far enough. For his own part, he thought that Grand Lodge and the Council should only regard what was then proposed merely as an instalment, and afterwards that they would do something more. His lordship's predecessor, in selecting the lodges that were to send Grand Stewards, no doubt selected lodges of high repute, feeling assured that the members of them would not recommend any one but was respectable, and who would do honour to the lodge to which he belonged. In all these lodges there existed either an absolute or tacit understanding that no brother should be recommended to serve the office of Grand Steward unless he had distinguished himself not only as a good Mason but as a charitable Mason. He would therefore submit to his lordship, without at all trenching upon his prerogative, which was the fountain of honour, whether the Past Grand Stewards should not have something more than that which was then proposed, that they

should have some substantial rank, and especially so if they had served the office of Master of a lodge and wore the most honourable badge in Masonry, which was the Charity Jewel.

Bro. CLABON suggested that Grand Lodge should give power to the Board of General Purposes to carry out the details. If they were all agreed that the Past Grand Stewards should have some distinction, then, he thought, it would be well to leave it to the Board of General Purposes to say what that decoration should be.

The motion was then put and carried unanimously.

THE BOARD OF BENEVOLENCE.

The following Past Masters who had been nominated, were elected to serve on the Board of Benevolence for the ensuing year:—

Bros. Adlard.....	7	Bros. Gale.....	19
„ Brett	177	„ G. Lambert ...	198
„ Clabon.....	235	„ M. Levinson ...	19
„ Cottebrune.....	733	„ J. Nunn	134
„ E. Cox.....	657	„ J. R. Sheen ...	201
„ J. N. Frost.....	704	„ T. Tyrell	144

These twelve are in addition to the W. Masters of the different lodges.

The report of the Board of Benevolence for the last quarter was presented, which contained a recommendation for a grant of £30 to the widow of the late Bro. Joseph C. B., of the Lodge of Regularity (No. 91), London.

Bro. SAVAGE, P.G.D., moved that the recommendation of the Board be agreed to. He said the brother was well known to the Craft.

Bro. UDALL seconded the motion, which was put and agreed to.

THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES.

The following report of the Board of General Purposes was presented:—

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES.

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

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

1. A complaint was preferred by the Board of Benevolence against the Lodge Prince George, (No. 308), Bottoms, in Stanfield, for having certified that a brother had been a contributing member for fifty-two years, whereas the Grand Lodge dues had been paid for him for thirty-seven years only. The lodge having been called upon for an explanation, it was admitted by the Master that an error had been committed in not having carefully examined the lodge books prior to making the return; and that, in fact, the brother had been a contributing member for thirty-seven years only, and he submitted to the judgment of the Board. On considering the matter, and it appearing that no moneys of Grand Lodge had been kept back, and that the error was not intentional, the Board accepted the explanation.

2. The lodges in the subjoined list having failed for some time past to make the prescribed returns to Grand Lodge, in spite of repeated summonses so to do, the Board recommend for the adoption of Grand Lodge the following Resolution:—

“That the undermentioned lodges having failed to make returns to Grand Lodge, in disregard of repeated summonses, be respectively summoned to attend the quarterly communication of Grand Lodge in March, 1866, to show cause why they should not be respectively erased, and their warrants declared forfeited,” viz:—

Lodge of Loyalty, 86	Prescot
Derbyshire Lodge, 122.....	Loughnor.
All Saints Lodge 138	Wooler.

St. David's Lodge, 366.....	Milford.
Foresters' Lodge, 456.....	Uttoxeter.
Cambrian Lodge, 464.....	Haverfordwest.
Lodge La Tolerance, 538	Freemasons' Hall.
Samares Lodge, 559.....	Jersey.
Dalhousie Lodge, 865	Hounslow.

3. The Board have further to report that, finding the whole impression of the “Book of Constitutions,” that was published in 1863, has been disposed of, they have ordered a reprint of a limited number of copies to be prepared in order to meet the frequent applications that are made by lodges and brethren for the same, embodying in such reprint the alterations that have been made by Grand Lodge.

4. The Board have now to call the attention of Grand Lodge to the important questions of increasing the powers of Provincial Grand Lodges in the Colonies and Foreign Parts, and of giving them continuous existence, notwithstanding the death, resignation, removal, or suspension of the Provincial Grand Master. The Board had had this matter under consideration long prior to the quarterly communication in June last, consequent on a communication from the M.W. the Grand Master, with the view of devising a remedy for the inconveniences which undoubtedly attend the present state of the law. At the June communication a memorial was presented from the Provincial Grand Lodge of South Australia, setting forth the great injury to the interests of the Craft in the Colonies and Foreign Parts which resulted from the present state of the law in relation to Provincial Grand Lodges, and praying that District Grand Lodges might be assimilated in their functions to the Grand Lodge, that they should not cease to exist on the death or resignation of the Provincial Grand Master, and that they should have the power of investigating, regulating, and deciding all matters relative to the Craft, or to particular lodges, or individual brothers, within their respective districts, which they might exercise either of themselves or by some delegated authority, their decisions in all cases to be regulated by the “Book of Constitutions,” and to be subject to appeal to Grand Lodge. This memorial was referred to the Board for consideration and report, and the President and Vice-President of the Colonial Board were requested to give their advice and assistance to this Board in dealing with these important questions. The Board would have been prepared to recommend alterations in the laws to the extent of those comprised in the following proposed resolutions irrespective of the said memorial. The Board have given the utmost attention to the consideration of the matter so referred, and have had the advantage of the aid and experience of the President and Vice-President of the Colonial Board, and are jointly quite agreed that the alterations in the laws suggested by the prayer of the memorial ought to be made, and that of course such alterations should include all Provincial Grand Lodges in the Colonies and foreign parts. To this end the Board recommend for the adoption of Grand Lodge the following resolutions, viz:—

1. That it is desirable to increase the powers of Provincial Grand Lodges in the Colonies and foreign parts, and to provide for their continuance notwithstanding the death, removal, or suspension of the Provincial Grand Master.

2. That Article 1, p. 55, of the “Book of Constitutions,” under the head of “District Grand Lodges,” down to the words “appeal to the Grand Lodge of England, and” be repealed, and that in lieu thereof it be declared and enacted as follows, under the head of “District Grand Lodges.”

3. Provincial Grand Masters and Provincial Grand Lodges in the colonies and foreign parts are designated District Grand Masters and District Grand Lodges, to distinguish such officers.

and such bodies from the Provincial Grand Masters and Provincial Grand Lodges at home.

4. It being necessary on account of the distance from England of District Grand Lodges, and the consequent delay in their communications with the Grand Lodge of England, that their powers should be more extensive than those of Provincial Grand Lodges, the Grand Lodge delegates to its District Grand Lodges respectively meeting under District Grand Masters duly authorised and appointed by the Grand Master of England, in addition to the powers specified under the head of Provincial Grand Lodges, the powers of investigating, regulating, and deciding on all matters relating to lodges and individual Masons within their respective districts, which power they may exercise either of themselves or by a committee of their body, provided that nothing herein contained shall in any way interfere with the powers of the District Grand Masters.

6. All powers given by the "Book of Constitutions" to the Board of General Purposes in cases of Masonic complaint or irregularity, may be exercised by District Grand Lodges, or by such Committee as aforesaid.

7. Complaints against lodges or brethren may be preferred either to the District Grand Master or to the District Grand Lodge.

8. The proceedings and decisions of District Grand Lodges, and of any such committee as aforesaid, shall in all cases be strictly governed and controlled by the laws of the Craft, as laid down in the "Book of Constitutions," and by the Ancient Landmarks.

9. District Grand Lodges may make rules and regulations for the management and conduct of their own proceedings, and of those of any committee of their body, and may define or limit the powers of such committee, and may from time to time alter such rules and regulations as they may think fit; but no such rules or regulations shall be binding or in force until approved by the M.W. the Grand Master of England.

10. In all cases an appeal lies from the decision of District Grand Lodges to the Grand Lodge of England.

11. District Grand Lodges may fix stated times for their meetings, not exceeding four times in the year, but the District Master may, as at present, summon and hold a District Grand Lodge of Emergency whenever the interests of the Craft shall in his opinion require it. The particular reason for convening such District Grand Lodge of Emergency shall be expressed in the summons, and no other business shall be entered upon at that meeting.

12. In the event of the death, resignation, removal, or suspension of the District Grand Master, the District Grand Lodge shall continue to exercise its functions, and the Deputy District Grand Master, if there be one, and if not (or in the event of his being absent from the district, and until his return), the District Grand Officer, or Past District Grand Officer next in rank then in the district, shall assume and exercise the functions of District Grand Master until another District Grand Master shall have received his patent of appointment from the Grand Master of England, and shall have notified the same to the District Grand Secretary.

13. The brother so exercising the functions of a District Grand Master shall not assume that title, nor shall such brother, in consequence of his so acting, be entitled to rank as a Past District Grand Master, or to wear the Masonic clothing appropriate to that office.

Should the above resolutions be adopted and confirmed, it will then be the duty of the Board to ask that it be referred

back to the Board of General Purposes, to cause the proper insertion thereof in the "Book of Constitutions," and to make such formal alterations in such book as may be necessary.

(Signed) J. LLEWELLYN EVANS, President.

Freemasons's Hall, London, Nov. 22.

On the motion of the PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD, the Report was taken as read, and it was afterwards received and ordered to be entered on the minutes.

BRO. LLEWELLYN EVANS said he had then to move that as the Derbyshire Lodge (No. 122), All Saints' Lodge (No. 138), Foresters' Lodge (No. 456), Cambrian Lodge (No. 464), Lodge La Tolerance (No. 538), and Dalhousie Lodge (No. 865) had failed to make returns to Grand Lodge, having disregarded repeated summonses, be respectively summoned to attend the Grand Lodge in March, 1866, to show cause why they should not be respectively erased and their warrants declared forfeited. He was happy to say that, since the Agenda had been published, the Lodge of Loyalty (No. 86), St. David's (No. 366), and Samares (No. 559) had made the proper returns.

The motion was put and agreed to.

BRO. EVANS said that the greater part of the Report was taken up with recommendations for extending the existing powers of Provincial Grand Lodges. At the present time the powers of Provincial Grand Lodges, in some cases, were corresponding, and extensive as those of the Grand Lodge, while in others they are very feeble, and therefore a necessity had arisen for some alterations in the "Book of Constitutions" in regard to them. At first the laws worked very well in respect to Provincial Grand Lodges, as access to the Metropolis was easy, and any difficulty could be met when it should arise: but with regard to Provincial Grand Lodges in India, Australia, and China, the greatest difficulty was felt whenever there was a resignation or removal of the Provincial Grand Master. The alteration of this law was brought under the attention of Grand Lodge in June last, when they received a very temperate and well-written communication from the Provincial Grand Lodge of Australia setting forth the difficulties under which they laboured in that colony, and asking for redress. That communication was referred to the Board of General Purposes, and the principle was one upon which Grand Lodge was called upon to legislate. That Grand Lodge was almost bound to follow the example which was set by Government in respect of their colonies by allowing them to make their own laws, and only retaining the power to appoint their governors. He proposed, in the first instance, to take the opinion of Grand Lodge whether or not it was desirable that these alterations should be made, and if he found that No. 1 resolution was agreed to, then he would submit the others in a body, or in detail, as the Grand Lodge might see fit. He begged now to move the first resolution, which was put and agreed to.

BRO. L. EVANS said he had then to propose the second resolution which was for the purpose of repealing so much of Article I., page 55, of the "Book of Constitutions" as was contained under the head of "District Grand Lodges," down to the words, "appeal to the Grand Lodge of England, and," with the exception of the words which empowered District Grand Lodges to erase lodges and expel members.

BRO. WHEELER wanted to know why these lodges were designated District Grand Lodges instead of Provincial Grand Lodges?

BRO. LLEWELLYN EVANS said if Bro. Wheeler would read the "Book of Constitutions," he would there see why they were called District Grand Lodges. He wished to mention that in the Agenda paper the fifth article of the recommendations of the

Board of General Purposes had been accidentally omitted, although it was contained in the report presented to the Committee of Masters.

The resolution was then put and agreed to.

Bro. L. EVANS then moved the third resolution.

The G. REGISTRAR seconded the motion, which was put and carried unanimously.

Bro. LLEWELLYN EVANS in moving the fourth resolution, said it was necessary that District Grand Lodges should have the same powers for regulating all matters relating to their own body and in their own district.

The G. REGISTRAR seconded the motion.

The G. MASTER put the question, and the motion was unanimously carried, with the exception of the last clause which was "provided that nothing herein contained, shall in any way interfere with the powers of the District Grand Masters."

Bro. L. EVANS said that clause 5 had been omitted, which re-enacted the law which had been repealed by article 2, and which gave to District Grand Lodges the power of erasing lodges or expelling Masons within their respective districts. He moved that those words be re-enacted, as that article was contained in the report read to the committee of Masters.

Bro. CLABON seconded the motion.

The D.G. MASTER said he had no doubt upon this point, as it appeared the President of the Board of General Purposes had submitted this clause as a part of his motion, and in that state it came before the committee of Masters. All, therefore, that they had to do was to re-enact that part of the rule which was repealed by the first resolution, and not wait until the next Quarterly Communication.

The G. REGISTRAR said he wished to make a few observations before the resolution was put to Grand Lodge, and to call the attention of the Grand Master to the subject which was before them. It was the theory that every lodge was represented at the committee of Masters, and thus that everything that would be brought before Grand Lodge was known throughout the Craft. It was deemed essential to the interests of the Craft that every matter that was to be brought before Grand Lodge should be known to the members of lodges; and it was the duty of Masters of lodges to communicate the business to them, so that they might not be taken by surprise as to what was to be transacted. The Report having thus been read to the Board of Masters, it was a notice to the whole Craft. That being so, as all the business to be transacted was laid before the Board of Masters, everything to be done in Grand Lodge was known to all lodges through their representatives.

Bro. HAYERS, P.G.W., said he could not agree with the ruling of the Grand Registrar, although he was no lawyer, and perhaps he ought to be thankful that he was not so, and was only a man of plain common sense. They were not informed of all that took place in the Committee of Masters, and therefore it was that the paper of business was placed in their hands. The occasion of the fifth clause was a clerical error in the Grand Secretary's office, for he held in his hand the original report, in which he found the fifth clause, and as they had taken it as read and received it, they had bound themselves to it. Had the report been read, they would have found in it the fifth clause.

The GRAND REGISTRAR said it was a notion that everything proposed in Grand Lodge should be communicated on the paper of business.

Bro. SAVAGE, P.G.D., said, if they considered everything that was not on the paper of business, it might lead to a very dangerous practice, unless Grand Lodge declared that it should not form a precedent. As they were only asked to re-enact what had been the law, he should offer no opposition to it,

but he trusted it would not be made a precedent on any future occasion.

Bro. STEBBING P.G.D., objected to laws being altered without notice on the agenda. If the reading of a Report before a committee of Masters was sufficient, then it was not necessary that the members of Grand Lodge should have the paper of business at all, and they ought to do away with it altogether. For his part he urged that they ought to put up with any inconvenience rather than break a law to alter a law. He should protest against it, for it was ruled that a business paper should be sent to every lodge, so that they might know what was to be done and they felt safe, but he objected altogether to that *hoous poens* which went on in small rooms up-stairs, by which the laws of the Craft might be altered without notices to the lodges being received.

The G. REGISTRAR explained.

Bro. STEBBING said he held that if the ruling of the Grand Registrar was right, the business paper was not necessary.

Bro. LLEWELLYN EVANS said the fifth clause was inserted in the report which he had signed, and it was read to the committee of Masters, and on that ground he contended that all the requirements of the "Book of Constitutions" had been complied with.

The G. MASTER said, he thought as Grand Master he should state his opinion before he put the question to the Grand Lodge. He confessed that they were in a difficulty, but they would be in a still greater difficulty if they refused to adopt the resolution moved by the President of the Board of General Purposes. They should recollect that by the first resolution they had repealed a portion of the "Book of Constitutions," which they would not have done unless they were prepared to re-enact it by a fresh clause. It appeared that there had been an irregularity on the part of the printer in omitting a paragraph read before the committee of Masters contained in the report, and which had been taken as read. They were not about to enact any new law, but to re-enact a portion of a law which had been repealed that night. He thought, as it was a difficult matter, he should recommend them to pass the resolution moved by the President of the Board of General Purposes, after that to pass a resolution stating that it was an exceptional case, and all the circumstances which had taken place through the omission of the clause by the printer. Also because the clause re-enacted what was a portion of the law of the Grand Lodge, and only repealed that night. He would then put the clause, "That District Grand Lodges shall have the power of erasing lodges and expelling members within their respective districts."

Bro. STEBBING said he should move an amendment. It was not in the power of the Queen of England to alter the laws of the country except in a constitutional way, and he hoped that the irregularity of the Grand Lodge would not be brought up against them on some future occasion. Let them have a special Grand Lodge to consider it rather than do anything contrary to the law, and he hoped that Grand Lodge would hesitate before they proceeded in the matter, and whatever the inconvenience might be, to put up with it rather than strain the laws. He moved, as an amendment, that the further consideration of this clause be deferred to the next Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge.

The G. MASTER said he had no desire to dictate in any way but having stated his opinion he would leave the matter in the hands of the Grand Lodge, and however they might decide he was sure they would do that which was right.

Bro. MAUDSLAY seconded the amendment.

The D.G. MASTER said these colonial questions had led to

considerable discussion; and they had recently been pressed upon them in a very temperate and well-written communication which they must all regard as affecting their interests. He felt as strongly as Bro. Stebbing the importance and necessity of adhering to a clear and intelligible notice of the business to be proceeded with in Grand Lodge; but he did not believe that the Grand Registrar intended to lay down such a sweeping doctrine that a mere notice given to a Committee of Masters would be sufficient for the usual notice given in the paper for those who came there as to what business was to be transacted. At the same time, he thought they ought not to be the slaves of their printers. He was obliged to Bro. Stebbing for moving his amendment, as it gave him (the D.G.M.) an opportunity of again speaking on the subject; and he thought, as the circumstances were peculiar, they might get out of the difficulty by the constitutional way suggested by the Grand Master, in regard to the motives of their proceedings, and showing the grounds for having done so. He thought that it was possible for them to take the course which Bro. Evans had pointed out to them in his opening address. He told them that when article 5 was moved, it would be open to any one to move it as an amendment to the first resolution; and, when No. 1 was moved, there was a tacit understanding that something should be done to connect the two articles, so that the law might not have a wider scope than was intended. He thought the case was an exceptional one, and, by adopting the view of the Grand Master, no real danger would follow. As their colonial brethren were not present, if they were to omit to pass this resolution, in consequence of the mistake of the printer, they would say Grand Lodge had repealed their compulsory powers, and, instead of conferring a benefit upon them by the alteration of these laws, they had done them an injury. He hoped they would still find their way out of the difficulty.

Bro. HAVENS said, while the D.G. Master was speaking, he had dotted down a resolution which he hoped would meet the difficulty, although he could not see that it was such as pointed out by Bro. Stebbing. After a few other observations, he said he should propose the following resolution:—"Whereas it has been satisfactorily proved to this Grand Lodge that the clause, in the Report of the Board of General Purposes, duly signed by its President, was read to the committee of Masters, and whereas by an oversight in the Grand Secretary's office, this clause was omitted from the agenda paper, and as it does not enact a new law, but re-enact an old law, which is rendered necessary by the repeal of another law this evening, this Grand Lodge deems it to be an exceptional case, and resolves to insert the clause."

Bro. STEBBING withdrew his amendment.

The G. MASTER then put Bro. Havens's resolution, which was carried.

The rest of the resolutions were then put together and carried without discussion.

To the report of the Board of General Purposes was subjoined a statement of the Grand Lodge accounts at the last meeting of the finance committee, held on the 17th inst., showing a balance in the hands of the Grand Treasurer of £1,290 10s. 3d., and in the hands of the Grand Secretary for petty cash £50.

REPORT OF THE COLONIAL BOARD.

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

The Colonial Board report that its attention has been drawn to the fact of some Provincial Grand Masters of colonies and foreign parts neglecting to return lists of certificates sent to them in blank, to be issued in due and regular course under the provisions of Articles 3 and 4, p. 57 of the "Book of Con-

stitutions," and of others who do return such lists without remittances for registration fees.

The Board regret that the concession of Grand Lodge under these Articles, which was intended for the advantage and convenience of brethren residing abroad, should have been productive of irregularity and much inconvenience. It appears that Grand Lodge certificates are in the hands of brethren whose names have not been returned for registration, whilst in some cases names have been returned without the regulated fees, and therefore in such cases registrations are incomplete.

The Board are enabled to report that in one province the names of upwards of 270 brethren have recently been returned as initiated, whilst of that number the registry fees for only 133 have been paid.

The Board further report that blank certificates were first issued in June, 1858, and that out of 4,626, which have been sent, those accounted for and on which Grand Lodge dues have been paid do not exceed 3,187. It may be added, that returns, when made, have in many instances been imperfectly done. In proof of which the Board need only refer to one case—the widow of a deceased brother petitioned the Lodge of Benevolence for relief in December, 1864. On the case being considered, the petitioner produced her husband's Grand Lodge certificate, which appeared to have been issued by a Provincial Grand Master in November, 1861; that the petitioner's husband had been initiated in the previous month of April, and the fee for registering his name in the books of Grand Lodge was not received till February, 1865, three years and nine months after his initiation, and three months after his widow had obtained relief. Under these circumstances, it appeared to the Board advisable to direct the attention of Provincial Grand Masters to whom blank certificates had been sent to the subject, and this has accordingly been done.

The Board having directed that the issue of blank certificates shall be suspended to such Provincial Grand Masters as neglect to make correct returns.

(Signed) J. S. S. HOPWOOD, President,

Freemasons' Hall, London, 7th November.

The Report was received and adopted without discussion.

THE BELVEDERE LODGE, MAIDSTONE.

A letter was read from Lord Holmesdale, Provincial Grand Master for Kent, stating that he had reversed the suspension of the Belvedere Lodge (No. 503), Maidstone, and it was now restored to its Masonic privileges.

There being no further business, the Grand Lodge was closed in due form, and with solemn prayer.

METROPOLITAN.

LODGE OF FINSBURY.—On Friday, the 24th ult., the second meeting of the season of this highly prosperous lodge was holden in the lodge room of the Prince of Wales Tavern, Banner-street, St. Luke's, when there were present—Bros. Mackey, W.M.; G. Leach, P.M.; Purdy, S.W.; R. Leach, J.W.; Day, P.M. and Treas.; Bond, P.M. and Hon. Sec.; Hayho, S.D.; Hamer, J.D.; Sinclair, D.C.; Betty, Organist; Davey, Steward; Watson, J.G.; Vesper, Tyler; and about 30 members. Amongst the visitors we noticed Bros. Heath, W.M. Percy, and Prov. G.D., Herts; Goodwin, P.M., Prosperity; Steele, 248, &c. The W.M. (ably assisted by his officers), in a most impressive style, initiated into the Order Messrs. Williams, Payne, and King, and conferred the second degree on Bros. Benjamin, Weeks, and Elliott. Mrs. Sinclair supplied a very liberal and capital banquet, after which the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given, several good songs were sung and ably accompanied by the respected organist on the piano, and this very happy meeting finished in a most harmonious manner.

INSTRUCTION.

WHITTINGTON LODGE (No. 862).—On Thursday, the 30th November last, at seven p.m., this Lodge of Instruction, lately revived from the Old Kent Hotel, Brownlow-street, met at Bro. Quelch's, Dick's Coffee House, Fleet Street, under the presidency of Bro. Brett, P.M. 177 and 862, who had kindly responded to the invitation to work the fifteen sections. Bros. S. B. Wilson, P.G.D.; Alexander, P.M. 188; Frances, P.M. 211; Thompson, P.M. 862; and many other distinguished brethren were present. The fifteen sections were worked in a most admirable manner by the brethren. After the election of several new members to the lodge, Bro. S. B. Wilson proposed a vote of thanks to Bro. Brett for his kindness in undertaking the duties of W.M. that evening, and the great ability he had displayed in their performance, which was carried by acclamation. —Bro. Brett, in reply, thanked the brethren for their kind appreciation of his efforts, and assured them that having been one of the founders of this Lodge of Instruction, he was extremely delighted to see the position it had attained, it now being one of the best attended and best working lodges. All business being ended, the lodge was closed in perfect harmony at ten o'clock.

PROVINCIAL.

CUMBERLAND AND WESTMORELAND.

CONSECRATION AND DEDICATION OF THE UNDERLEY LODGE (No. 1074), AT KIRBY-LONSDALE, AND THE INSTALLATION OF THE W.M., LORD KENLIS.

Wednesday the 29th of November last was a proud day for the Craft in Kirby-Lonsdale. A new lodge was opened, its first Worshipful Master, being the genial and kind-hearted Lord of Underley. At high twelve the brethren assembled at the public room which had been prepared for their reception, under the immediate superintendence of Bro. Henry Davis, Hon. Sec. designate. The chair of K.S. was occupied by the R.W. Prov. G.M., Bro. F. L. B. Dykes, who was supported on the right and left respectively by the R.W. D. P.G.M., Dr. Greaves, and the consecrating officer, Bro. W. Savage, P.S.G.D. of England. Bro. H. B. Gibson, Prov. G.S.W., occupied his proper place, while Bro. Morton, Prov. G.S.D., presided in the south. Among the other brethren present were:—Bros. Rev. Curwen, as Prov. G. Chaplain; Rev. James Simpson, Vicar of Kirby-Stephen; John Witwell, Prov. G. Registrar; Edward Busher, Prov. G. Sec.; John Bowes, Prov. G. Dir. of Cers. (who discharged the duties appertaining to his office); Capt. Hansbrow, Prov. G.S.B.; West Lancashire; James Hamer, Prov. G. Treas. West Lancashire; H. Fisher, Prov. G.J.D.; Lord Kenlis, H. Wilson, and Capt. Braithwaite (W.M. and Wardens designate) Saunders, H. T. Wilson, Capt. Morland, R. Atkinson, Thomas Atkinson, Henry Davis, Hon. Sec.; Dr. Allison, Henry Cragg, Albus Wilson, John and Edward Medcalf, F. Binckes, (Sec. of the Boys' School), Pearson (Cockermouth), M. Redhead, Jones, Taylor, Boulton, (Keswick), Butterwith, James, &c.

A lodge was then opened in solemn form according to ancient custom at command of the R.W. Prov. G.M., by the R.W.D. Prov. G.M., assisted by the officers named above. The brethren of the new lodge were arranged according to custom, and the lodge worked up to the 3rd degree. The R.W. Prov. G.M. then called upon Bro. Savage to perform the ceremony of consecration who, at once assumed the chair of K.S. and proceeded to address the brethren on the nature of the meeting. The Prov. G. Sec., Bro. Busher, having explained what steps had been taken, was requested to read the warrant of constitution. The brethren of the new lodge having signified their approval of the officers named in the warrant, the Rev. James Simpson was requested to deliver an oration on the duties and advantages of Freemasonry. We regret that we cannot give our readers a report of it, but must content ourselves with observing that it was marked by deep Masonic learning and great good taste. Then followed the anthem 133rd Psalm. The Chaplain then offered the first prayer, which was followed by the singing of the Sanctus. All the brethren then turned to the east, and the presiding officer gave the invocation. Now followed the process of uncovering the lodge; the corn, wine, and oil was borne and scattered thrice round the lodge by Bros. Busher, Binckes, and Dawes.

Anthem—"Glory to God on high, peace on earth, good will towards men."

The Chaplain, the Rev. Bro. Curwen, having taken the censor three times round the lodge during solemn music, and offered the second prayer, "So mote it be" was sung by all present. After the singing of another anthem, the presiding officer declared the Underley Lodge (No. 1074) to be dedicated and constituted according to ancient custom, and thereby entitled to the privileges and rights conferred by the Grand Lodge of England.

Anthem—"God save the Queen."

In the absence of the Prov. G. Org., Bro. Butterwith, Org. Union Lodge (No. 129), assisted by Bros. Boulton, H. Davis, and James conducted the musical portion of the ceremony.

The lodge was then closed in the third degree, when Bro. Lord Kenlis was presented in the east for the benefit of installation, whereupon the presiding officer commanded the Prov. G. Sec. to read the summary of ancient charges, to which the W.M. designate signified his assent in due form. All M.M.'s below the degree of a Master in the Chair now retired, and a Board of installed Masters (fifteen being present) was opened, and Bro. Lord Kenlis was duly and regularly installed in the Chair of K.S. for the ensuing year as W.M., and was saluted in ancient form. The M.M.'s being admitted, and having saluted the W.M., the lodge was closed in the third degree. The F.C.'s were also admitted, and, after the usual salutation, the lodge was closed in the second degree. The E.A.P.'s were then admitted, and saluted the W.M.

The W.M. then appointed and invested his officers. Several brethren were proposed as joining members, and several gentlemen as candidates for the mysteries and privileges of ancient Freemasonry.

The whole of the business being concluded, the lodge was duly and solemnly closed.

The proceedings having terminated, his lordship courteously invited all who were present to partake of his hospitality at a sumptuous banquet, provided at the Royal Hotel.

THE BANQUET.

The chair was of course occupied by the W.M., who was supported on the right by the rulers of the Craft present, Bro. John Bowes, Prov. G. Dir. of Cers., having charge of the arrangements.

At the close of the repast the Prov. G. Chaplain returned thanks, when the brethren were invited to charge their glasses. This done, the W.M. proceeded with the first toast, "The Queen," a name honoured among Masons, not less from inclination than from duty. He should make it a double toast by coupling therewith, according to custom, their honoured Craft. (Cheers.) "The Queen and the Craft," with all the honours.

The W. MASTER next proposed "His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales, the Prince of Prussia, and the rest of the Royal Family." We all esteemed most highly the Royal Prince, and if anything could increase that esteem it would be whenever he should become a Freemason. (Cheers.) They would all wish him happiness with his royal bride. The Prince of Prussia was an honoured member of their Order in his native country.

The toast was drunk with enthusiasm.

The W. MASTER then proposed "The Earl of Zetland, Most Worshipful Grand Master of England; Earl De Grey and Ripon, Deputy Grand Master, and the Present and Past Officers." They respected and admired their Grand Master most highly; he had done them good service for a lengthened period, and they prayed that his valuable life might long be spared to the Craft. He (the W.M.) thanked Bro. Savage, who was a Past Grand officer, for coming amongst them on this occasion, and for the very efficient services he had rendered in consecrating the lodge and installing him as Master. He had been much gratified at the manner in which Bro. Savage had conducted the interesting ceremonies of the day. (Cheers.)

Bro. SAVAGE thanked them for the enthusiastic reception which they had given to this toast. The Earl of Zetland stood very high in their esteem, for he had served them long and faithfully, and he was supported by a deputy second only to himself, a nobleman who, from his great talent, had been called to occupy a proud position in her Majesty's councils, and the Grand Officers had therefore two noble examples constantly before them. He (Bro. Savage) also thanked their W.M. for the kind remarks he had expressed towards him. The work he had performed that day was a labour of love, not only because he was at all times happy to render assistance in the

cause of Freemasonry, to which he felt much attached, but because the county of Westmoreland had especial claims on him as one who had long been connected with it by many ties of friendship and regard. The brethren of the lodge had been fortunate in prevailing on the noble lord in the chair to accept the office of their first W. Master, for though young in the Craft, he had shown his zeal for Freemasonry in other places, and had already convinced his brethren that he would ably fulfil his duties as their W.M. He could not conclude without wishing prosperity and perpetuity to the Underley Lodge (No. 1074), which he had that day the especial honour of consecrating and dedicating. (Cheers.)

Lord KENLIS, in proposing "The Health of the Provincial Grand Master, the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, and the Provincial Grand Officers," said that Bro. Dykes had only recently accepted the office of Prov. G.M., but now that they were becoming better acquainted with him they were discovering his virtues, which were many, and he trusted he would long continue to preside over the United Provinces. (Cheers.)

Bro. DYKES expressed the great interest he always felt in attending to his duties. (Cheers.) He had much pleasure in deputing to Bro. Savage the imposing ceremonial of the day, and it had given him great satisfaction to witness the manner in which the work had been done. He sincerely thanked them for so cordially responding to the toast, and he hoped to have again the pleasure of meeting them in their newly-constituted lodge.

Bro. GREAVES, D. Prov. G.M., thanked the W.M. for connecting his name with the toast, yet he would not detain them by any lengthened remarks, for, in the presence of their Prov. G.M., he only looked upon himself as the shade of that much-respected brother, but he would sincerely wish prosperity to the Underley Lodge (No. 1074).

Bro. DYKES, Prov. G.M., proposed the next toast. He had never attended a lodge on a more auspicious occasion than the present, and it foreboded the greatest advantages for the prosperity of Freemasonry in the province of Westmoreland. It augured well that a nobleman, who had already in his early career proved himself a kind neighbour, should have undertaken the office of first Master of their lodge. As he begins, so will he go on. We owe great obligations to one who, possessing many advantages, renders such services to Freemasonry. The more the Order spreads the greater will be the benefits to society. When he first entered the Order, more than thirty years since, Freemasonry was in a different state, both in Cumberland and Westmoreland; it was, in fact, at a low ebb, but now it has received a new impulse, especially in this county, and the occurrences of this day were proofs of it. He hoped the day was not far distant when the county of Westmoreland might have a separate jurisdiction and manage its own affairs; nor should he feel shorn of his fair share of honours if the two counties were divided into distinct provinces. He begged to propose, as a toast, "Lord Kenlis, W.M., and the Underley Lodge: Prosperity to the Lodge while time shall last." (Loud cheers.)

Bro. Lord KENLIS rose amid much cheering, and said he had always endeavoured to uphold Freemasonry, and to give it every attention, because he thought it inculcated everything that was good. We all revolve in spheres great or small; high or low, we can all render some services according to our respective positions and abilities. He had visited some of the Italian lodges where good and free government is struggling to be established. (Cheers.) There they are most particular in making Masons, and before they will initiate anyone, a select number of their body are appointed to make the strictest inquiries as to character and other requirements. He would wish it to be so here, for though it was well to initiate, he was against taking great numbers, but he would infuse a spirit of Freemasonry into those who were initiated, and so fit them for the discharge of the responsibilities they had voluntarily taken upon themselves. He thanked the brethren of the Union Lodge (No. 129), Kendal, and others who had assisted them in establishing their new lodge, and expressed the great gratification he felt at having his health so kindly proposed and responded to by all present. The noble lord was warmly cheered throughout.

Bro. SAUNDERS proposed a toast, and said, I am told that brethren ought to take pity on each other; yet how was I struck with horror at seeing my name put down to propose a toast! You might have knocked me down with one of the feathers of the pheasants which have made such excellent food

for us to-day. (Laughter.) But when I found who was to respond to the toast, I plucked up and my courage returned—(Cheers)—for I saw that the breast of the brother was covered with medals, and I thought the toast would not be difficult to propose. To be serious, then, I am very glad to find that we have such virtuous and worthy individuals amongst us. I have much pleasure in proposing "The W.M.'s, Wardens, and Officers of the Lodges of the Province, coupled with the name of Bro. Edward Busher, W.M. of the Union Lodge, Kendal (No. 129)." (Cheers.)

Bro. EDWARD BUSHER thanked his worthy Brother for proposing the toast; but as he should have to address them again immediately, he would call upon Bro. Whitwell, S.W. of 129, to respond.

Bro. WHITWELL said his indifferent state of health, and the fatigues of the last two days, prevented him saying more than two or three words. It was with most heartfelt pleasure that he had come to see the seed planted to-day; he trusted it would grow to a goodly trunk, and even outlive the oldest tree in Underley Park. He wished every prosperity might attend them.

Bro. E. BUSHER proposed "The Masonic Charities," and great success to them. After a few suitable remarks on this interesting subject, Bro. B. concluded by saying:—"Go to Wood Green and inspect the Boys' School; go to Clapham and visit the Girls' School; go to Croydon and see the Asylum for Aged and Decayed Freemasons and their Widows—noble institutions—and the last the brightest pillar of our Charities.

Bro. BINCKES, the secretary of the Freemasons Boys' School, returned thanks for the charities, and then bore testimony to the zeal of their W.M. in the cause of Freemasonry. Though he ought not to speak there about the Templar's degree, he might, in parliamentary phrase, without hurting the susceptibilities of anyone, say that Bro. Lord Kenlis had acquired fame in "another place," and even this had reached the ears of Bro. Savage. (Laughter.) The worthy Bro. Binckes in a lengthened address, descanted upon the value of the charities, and solicited the support of those present on their behalf, and of the Boys' School in particular, concluding by recommending that charity which "beareth all things: believeth all things: hopeth all things: endureth all things." (Cheers.)

The concluding toast, proposed by the W.M., was "All poor and distressed Freemasons."

The party then broke up at half-past five, after partaking of his lordship's splendid hospitality, during the three hours of which they had enjoyed the "feast of reason and the flow of soul."

We cannot conclude our report of these interesting proceedings without mentioning that the W.M. and J.W. presented the lodge with a complete set of collars and jewels, while the S.W. provided a beautifully bound copy of the volume of the Sacred Law. Nor must we omit to note the energetic exertions of Bro. H. Davis, the Hon. Sec., every requirement was anticipated so that nothing was wanted to render the meeting a perfect success. We should be guilty, too, of an act of gross injustice if we did not accord an unqualified praise to the worthy host and hostess of the Royal Hotel, for the manner in which they carried out the wishes of the W.M.

The banquet was replete in every respect, and was served in an excellent manner which the comfort of all was studiously cared for by Mrs. Dawson and her amiable daughters.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

TEWKESBURY.—*St George's Lodge* (No. 900).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Friday, the 1st of December, at the Town Hall, Tewkesbury, Bro. Nathaniel Treasure, W.M. The lodge was opened in due form, according to ancient custom, when the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. William Allard, a candidate for preferment, proved himself thoroughly efficient, and was passed to the second degree. The lodge then proceeded to elect a W.M., when Bro. Frederick Moore was duly elected W.M. for the ensuing year, Bro. William Brydges, Treasurer; and Jasper Fowler, Tyler. The new by-laws were then discussed and approved, and ordered to be sent to the R.W. Provincial Grand Master, Lord Sherborne, for confirmation. The business of the evening being ended the brethren sat down to an excellent repast. The W.M. gave the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, which were heartily repended to.

ROYAL ARCH.

CUMBERLAND AND WESTMORELAND.

CONSECRATION AND DEDICATION OF THE KENDAL CASTLE CHAPTER (No. 129).—CENTENARY FESTIVAL OF THE UNION LODGE (No. 129).

A petition for a new chapter to be attached to the Union Lodge of Kendal having been presented to the Grand Chapter, and a warrant of Constitution having been granted by the supreme body, Tuesday, the 28th of November, was fixed for opening the same in due form. Kendal had formerly boasted of a Royal Arch Chapter, but it had for many years been dormant and its powers were probably spent, thus rendering it advisable to apply for a new warrant.

No better time could have been chosen than the occasion of celebrating the centenary of the Union Lodge, and so rendering that interesting event all the more note-worthy. Accordingly at noon, on Tuesday, the Kendal Castle Chapter was solemnly consecrated and dedicated at the Masonic Hall by Comp. John Savage, a past officer of the Grand Chapter of England and a First Principal of the Order, who had come from London to perform this ceremony, having been requested to do so by the R.W. Prov. G. Master.

At high twelve the Principals *pro tem.*, and other visiting Principals, opened the chapter. Comps. John Savage, P.Z., as Z.; Hayward, P.Z., as H.; Banister, P.Z., as J. Among the other companions present were Comps. James Hamer, P.Z.; E. Risher, H. (designate); John Bowes, E. 220, J. (designate); M. Fisher, Rev. — Cockett, H. Fisher, W. B. Gibson, C. Morton, Dr. Allison, T. Wilson, — Carlisle, F. L. B. Dykes, Prov. G. Master. The chapter being duly opened, the companions of the new chapter were arranged in order, and addressed by the consecrating officer, Comp. Savage, on the nature of the meeting. He then called on the acting E. to state the wishes of the companions, and the proceedings they had taken with respect to the chapter. This having been done, the M.E.Z. inquired if his companions still approved of the officers named in the warrant, and having been answered in the affirmative he delivered a most eloquent oration. The companions then united in singing an anthem taken from the 133rd Psalm. Comp. Rev. Cockett then offered the first portion of the consecration prayer. The companions then sang a *sanctus*. All then turned to the E., and the M.E.Z. gave the invocation. So mote it be. The pedestal was then uncovered, and three Past Principals bore the corn, oil, and wine to solemn music. This ceremony being completed, the companions sang a gloria.

The proper officer then carried the censor three times round the chapter, and halted in the E. The consecration prayer was then concluded. The following anthem, composed by Comp. J. A. Baker, was then sung:—

“Glory to God on high,
Let heaven and earth reply.
Praise ye His name,
Masons His love adore,
Arch’d in their mystic lore,
And cry ever more,
Glory to God.”

The consecrating officer then dedicated and constituted the chapter, and the singing of the Hallelujah Chorus completed the ceremony.

The ceremony of the installation of Principals was next proceeded with.—Comp. W. T. Greaves, R.W. D. Prov. G. Master, as M.E.Z.; Comp. E. Busher, Prov. G. Sec., as H.; and Comp. John Bowes, Prov. G. Dir. of Cers., as J. Six brethren were then exalted in a most able manner by Comp. Savage, Comp. James Hamer acting as P.S., viz.:—Bros. John Whitwell, Prov. G. R.; Rev. Thos. Simpson, Sam. Gawith, John Medcalf, A. K. Wood, and Edward Hibbert.

A hearty and unanimous vote of thanks was then passed to Comp. Savage for his able services, and the brethren adjourned to the

CENTENARY BANQUET.

This was held in the Town Hall, and was presided over by Bro. John Whitwell, S.W. 129 and Prov. G. Reg. The vice-chair was filled by Bro. Busher, W.M. 129 and Prov. G.S. Among the company present, numbering about seventy, were Bros. F. L. B. Dykes, R.W. Prov. G.M.; William Wilson, John Savage, P.G.S.D. of England; Captain C. W. Braithwaite, T. K. Atkinson, Revs. J. Simpson, T. Simpson, and W.

Chaplin; J. Harrison, John Hudson, W. Bowness, J. Bentley, S. Gawith, W. Cartmel, G. Cartmel, T. Atkinson, T. Wilson, J.W. and Treas.; H. Davis, John Mann, Sec.; John Medcalf, R. Hodgson, Jones Taylor, T. Busher, J. Barrett, E. Hibbert, R. Winder, M. Redhead, R. Gibson, W. Hartley, A. K. Wood, H. Cragg, E. Medcalf, jun., J. Barrett, W. Tattersall, J. Gibson, John Bowes, Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; &c. The company was graced by the presence of several ladies.

Grace before meat was said by the Rev. Bro. Curwen, Assis. Prov. G. Chap.

At the conclusion of dinner, Messrs. Winn, Coates, and Land, of the London Glee and Madrigal Union, sang “Non nobis Domine.”

After the tables were cleared, the Prov. G. Dir. of Cers., Bro. John Bowes, announced all the toasts.

The CHAIRMAN, in proposing “The Queen and the Craft,” said that, if in every assembly of Englishmen this toast was warmly received, by none was it received more heartily and earnestly than in an assembly of Freemasons (applause), who felt bound to the Queen by every possible tie, as the daughter of an old Freemason, as endeared to us by the exercise of all the beautiful and holy affections, as the mother of our future princes, and as a pattern for all the daughters of England. (Applause. Drunk with three times three.)

“God save the Queen”—Messrs. Winn, Coates, and Land, the company joining in the chorus.

The CHAIRMAN, in proposing the next toast, “Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales, the Prince of Prussia, and the rest of the Royal Family,” said that the health of the Prince of Wales, under Providence their future ruler, and of the Princess of Wales, who was endeared to the nation by charms both of person and character, ensured their attention and applause. They would observe in the toast some departure from the ordinary form. The name of the Prince of Prussia, who, as they all knew, had married the Princess Royal of our own favoured isle, had been added to the list, because he, like several other German princes, was enrolled among their own brotherhood (cheers); and he (the Chairman) trusted that the beautiful principles of charity and love which he would learn as a Mason, might bring about a better state of things in Prussia when he ascended the throne. (Loud applause.)

Glee—by Messrs. Winn, Coates, and Land.

The CHAIRMAN, in proposing the next toast—“The M.W. Grand Master of England, the Right Hon. the Earl of Zetland, K.Z., the R.W. Deputy Grand Master, the Right Hon. the Earl de Grey and Ripon, and the Grand Officers past and present,” said that as in the preceding toast the company had expressed their loyalty to the Queen and throne of the country, so were they now, as Masons, called upon to express in the second place their loyalty to their officers—the Most Worshipful Grand Master of England, the Right Hon. the Earl of Zetland; the Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, the Right Hon. Earl de Grey and Ripon, and the Grand Officers past and present. All Masons knew that their highest officer was distinguished whenever he came before the public, and that in whatever he did, private or public, he was entitled to their respect and esteem. (Loud applause.) And after him they owed respect and esteem to the Grand Officers who were included in the toast. After some complimentary remarks in alluding to the name of Earl de Grey and Ripon, the Chairman concluded by cordially proposing the toast, which was coupled with the names of Bro. Savage, P.G.D., and Bro. Bannister, P.G.S.B. Drunk with all the honours.

Air by the Band.

Bro. SAVAGE said he remembered an old story about the advantage of having two strings to one’s bow, but the fact of there having been two strings to the bow, that was to do duty in responding to the toast so ably proposed by the chairman, had not been any great advantage to him (the speaker) on this occasion, for he was sorry to say the best string was absent in his Bro. Bannister—(laughter)—who they all knew would very much regret his inability to be with them at this most interesting celebration. (Applause.) If Bro. Bannister had been here the brethren all knew how he would have interested and instructed them—(applause)—and he (Bro. Savage) felt more than ever that his Bro. Bannister ought to have been here on this occasion when he would have had the pleasure of meeting the ladies connected with their meeting. (Laughter and applause.) However, he would certainly be wanting in respect to the chairman and the brotherhood if he did not cordially respond for the toast so ably proposed and so warmly received.

It ought not to be a difficult task for any Mason to respond for this toast, for it was a testimony to the estimable qualities and labours of one who deserved it at the hands of one and all of the brotherhood—(applause)—for his heart was with the interests of all. He had served three apprenticeships to the office and they had asked him to serve a fourth. He (Bro. Savage) remembered when they had a Prince of the Royal blood at the head of their lodges, and that Prince was worthily succeeded. Bro. Savage then spoke warmly and eloquently of the merits of his brother officers of the Grand Lodge, and sat down amid loud applause.

Air by the band.

The CHAIRMAN gave as the next toast, "The Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master, the Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, and the Grand Officers of the Province, Past and Present." The progress which Freemasonry had made in the province of Cumberland and Westmoreland during the period in which their worthy brother, the Provincial Grand Master, had held office, was very great. He regretted that the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, and the Provincial Grand Chaplain, were unable to be present, but they had a worthy representative in the Assistant Chaplain, the Rev. Bro. Curwen. (Applause.)

Glee, by Messrs. Winn, Coates, and Land.

Bro. DYKES, in responding, said that no one could look upon the proceedings upon this occasion with greater pleasure than he did. The manner in which everything had been arranged hitherto reflected the greatest credit upon the Masonic body at Kendal. There had been a Masonic zeal and ability manifested, which could not but redound very much to the advantage of the Order in the province, and therefore to the benefit of society generally, which could receive no more beneficent influence in its social progress than the efficient carrying out of the principles of Freemasonry, and the increased influence and position of the Masonic body. (Applause.) Freemasonry was so extending in Westmoreland that he thought the county might soon have a fair claim to conduct its own affairs, and have its own separate establishment. (Cheers.) He for one did not see the slightest reason why the county of Westmoreland should not hold a position to which its Masonic rank seemed fairly entitled. (Cheers.)

The toast was also acknowledged by the Rev. Bro. Curwen.

The CHAIRMAN rose and said, that with reference to the next toast, which he thought could more suitably be proposed by the Provincial Grand Master, but which in the list had been delegated to him, he had been requested to prepare on paper some introductory remarks. Considering the circumstances of the case and the short time at their disposal, he thought, and perhaps all would agree with him, that reading the paper had better be omitted.

This, however, was overruled, and Bro. Whitwell read as follows:—

"Ladies, gentlemen, and brethren, on this occasion we recognise the fact that our lodge has been in existence one hundred years, for it was on the 31st day of July, in the year 1764, that the Grand Lodge of England granted a warrant, under the hand of Viscount Blaney, then Grand Master, authorising the establishment of this lodge at the Swan Hotel. As the warrant is issued to no less a number than eighteen brethren, there is every reason to believe that several Masons existed in Kendal before then. At any rate, the one hundred years (which it is believed constitute this lodge the oldest in the province) have passed and gone, and we form part of a venerable structure, now, we trust, renewing again its ancient youth, and taking a new lease, we hope, of good works, high hopes, and noble actions. Remember, our lodge is not one of those structures that, built by the hands of our ancient Freemason brethren, seem to defy time with their beauty and stability, yet even the lofty cathedral and the frowning tower must in the end crumble and fall; but our mansion is one of living stones, built up of life, and partaking of all the joys and woes of humanity.

In looking at the names which have been inscribed on the roll of this lodge, I can scarcely find one of any well-known Kendal family absent. Earlier or later, one or other member or connection seems to have been a member of our Order. I find more than one Swainson, Moser, Bellingham, Yeates, Fell, Holme, Fenton, Berry, Halhead, Shepherd, Jackson, Lonsdale, de Fleming, Wilson, Busher, Ireland, Lambert, Goff, Braithwaite, Masterson, Whitwell, Atkinson, Webster, &c. (Applause.)

"Thus the records of our lodge recall that stream of living time that is ever flowing past us, stimulating us to works of

benevolence and labours of love. Perhaps it may not be uninteresting to add that when the lodge was at its highest position of prosperity in olden time, it numbered fifty-one members, and contained men of the first distinction in the town or neighbourhood. I see three clergymen, one or two physicians, several surgeons, a baronet, lawyers, merchants, shearmen, &c., and for the number in the lodge a remarkable number of 'mariners.' Whether a larger number of the population were engaged in maritime pursuits, or whether the advantages of Freemasonry made every Kenal captain of a vessel seek to enter the lodge, I cannot say—but he who meets with many strangers is wise to do so. (Applause.) I merely state the fact.

"Before I leave these old records, I will give my brethren present the most profitable conclusions I can draw from the ancient journals of the lodge, and that is, that so long as I traced the entries on the debit side of the cash book—so much for relief of a distressed brother, line after line; so much to Grand Lodge for charity; so long as I found Mr. So and So applied to be admitted to the privileges of Freemasonry, was balloted for and rejected, even one, two, and three times, and these rejections frequently occurring; so long as I found a very considerable entry, but yet such an entry exists, that Bro. So and So, from his conduct, is deprived of the privileges of the Order—so long the lodge throve, increased, and prospered. (Applause.)

"But when the contributions to Grand Lodge Charities cease to appear, when the rejection of candidates became few and ceased, when no record of expulsion appears, then the lodge became less prosperous, the applications for admission came from a different class, and the minutes and accounts look less systematic and more loose. The lodge began to decay in numbers and strength. Let us, brethren, gather up the experience of grey hairs—the wisdom of a century—and let caution, charity, and nobility of aim animate our new course. (Applause.)

"We have grand examples before us. The Jew may take up his records and believe in his ancient lineage, but where are his monuments? Ruins in the hands of the heathen. The Freemason takes up his records, and he finds the lineage of his Order rivalling that of the Jew; but the monuments of those who have gone before him are everywhere. And now, ladies and gentlemen, were I to go far away up into the stream of time, I might tell you of the early records of Freemasonry, but that I leave to others, or a more fitting opportunity; sufficient is it to speak of the wonderful organisation, the very same as that which now exists, by which only could have been erected those splendid temples of worship built in the middle ages.

"When the Cathedral of Cologne, the wonder of Germany, had to be erected, it was entrusted to Gerhard, Master of the Cologne Lodge of Masons, who commenced the work in the middle of the thirteenth century. Survey Germany in that period. Whence could such an exquisite and remarkable a structure have sprung up had it not been accomplished by a regular organisation of men infinitely more intelligent, aye, intellectual, than those around him? (Applause.)

"So also at St. Owen, at Rouen, where every sculptured stone seems the work of an artist. So also at the church at Strasburgh, with its spire nearly 500ft. high, in the building of which the Master of the lodge educated so many Masons that they branched off in various lodges, and in a variety of directions, under the headship of Masters appointed over them, to build new churches and cathedrals in Germany, France, England, and other parts of Europe; that the German lodges alone became sufficiently numerous as to assemble in vast numbers at Ratisbon, in 1459, and united themselves under a German Grand Master, by an act of fraternity, which received the sanction of the Emperor Maximilian, in 1498. Although we know that so early as the ninth century this country imported Freemasons from France to erect our ancient ecclesiastical structures, yet we also know that lodges were early established in England; and it may interest some present, who have gazed with admiration on St. Paul's, that that ornament of London was erected by Wren, the great architect and builder, himself the Master of the lodge, whose members were his subordinate agents. The records of the Freemasons' lodge over which Wren presided are still preserved. Now, ladies, I have spoken only of the pure practical lodges of Masons; but without revealing more secrets than I think my brethren will allow me to communicate, I may tell you that there are other branches of our brotherhood who turn their attention to high antiquarian and intellectual themes.

"For instance there are the Mark Masons, who may be termed the philologists of Masonry. They go to a ruined abbey or temple, and they find on some carved or important stone the initiated name or mark of the Mason that worked on it; thus they trace its age and its architect. This language requires deep study and collaboration, and is read in books of stone in all countries in Europe or Asia which have had an historic existence. Take, for instance, the tomb of Solon, the great Greek legislator, who died some hundred years before the Christian era, on his tomb you find plainly cut by the builder the sign of a Freemason. Then there are other branches of our brotherhood whose organisation is characteristic of the feudal and chivalric periods in which they took root. I allude to the Knights Templar.

"These knights, whose knighthood compelled them to liberate Jerusalem, and especially the Holy Temple, had in their ranks many Freemasons, for Freemasonry even then numbered amongst its members men of distinction, rank, and wealth; and who more likely to join the crusade against the Saracen than the Freemason, whose predecessors had built the sacred temple, which they were called to rescue from Moslem sway?

"The Knights Templar mustering from different kingdoms and of different tongues would soon have become disorganised and at discord, like the other crusaders, had not the Freemason element amongst them introduced the bond of brotherhood, which united them as one man, and enabled them, though of different lands, to know a brother under all circumstances.

"Thus bound together for a long time, they resisted all opponents, and it was only after all hopes for the liberation of the East had passed away, that the Popes on one hand, instigated by the malignant and false charge that with Freemasonry, the Templars had relinquished the Christian religion, and on the other hand, that kings and emperors coveting the estates which opulent brothers of the Order and their friends and admirers had bequeathed to the fraternity, resolved to crush the Templars, and despoil them of their possession, that they succumbed. Against such combined force they could but struggle in vain; and many a fair hospice built by their working brother Masons, and other noble structures, such as we find at Konigsburgh and elsewhere, tell in their ruins of the hospitality and magnificence of this chivalric branch of Masonry.

"Deprived of their temporal possessions, they still maintained their secrets and their faith, and succeeded by successive affiliated members year after year the order of Knights Templar as a branch of Masonry, upholding the Christian standard of the earliest chivalric founders of the brotherhood, and exalting those sacred principles which were promulgated through the successive temples that were erected by Freemasons on Mount Zion, and those principles which were finally expounded in all their spirituality on Calvary.

"As a branch of the Order, the Templars are now spread in large numbers over Europe, wielding a power unseen but not unfelt.

"Ladies and Gentlemen,—Let me now regret that I can only speak to you of the outside of the building; I cannot invite you to enter its portals, but assuring you, as I can, with a clear conscience, that you would find the sacred principles within, if thoroughly worked out and maintained, calculated to adorn the individual, bless the social circle, comfort the suffering and benefit the community, I can unhesitatingly ask you to wish a prolonged and prosperous career to the United Lodge of Freemasons, in Kendal, in the toast which the Provincial Grand Master will propose for acceptance."

"Bro. Whitwell, who was frequently applauded in the course of his reading, sat down amidst loud cheers.

Bro. DIXES proposed "The Union Lodge (No. 129), and may it celebrate its next Centenary with as great success as the present." He would only say to the lodge *maeste virtute*, proceed as you have begun, and there could be no doubt the wish expressed in the toast would be fulfilled to the fullest satisfaction of those who would come after them and celebrate another Centenary. He begged to couple the toast with the health of Bro. Busher. (Applause.)

Glee,—By Messrs. Wynn, Lane, and Coates.

Bro. Busher, in responding to the toast, returned thanks to the company present for the hearty way in which they had supported the Union Lodge on this occasion, and particularly to the ladies who had honoured them with their presence. This last circumstance—the inauguration of the second centenary with the attendance of ladies—would stand as a landmark in their history, for he could not record of a lodge here where

ladies had been admitted. He hoped, however, it was only the first beginning of the admission of ladies on such occasions. The speaker then drew the attention of the ladies to the fact that Bro. Lord Kenlis, who would on the morrow be installed the first Worshipful Master of the Underley Lodge at Kirby-Lonsdale, was a connection of the Hon. Mrs. Aldworth, the only lady Freemason on record. Bro. Busher then tendered his warm thanks to the officers of the lodge for the exertions they had made in promoting and carrying out the centenary festival, particularly to Bros. Atkinson and Titus Wilson. He then touched upon the responsibility of the Grand Master, especially on the great fidelity with which the records ought to be kept, as they would find exemplified in the excellent paper just read by Bro. Whitwell, and concluded by thanking them for the very cordial way in which they had received the toast. (Applause.)

Bro. SAVAGE rose to propose Prosperity to the Kendal Castle Chapter, (No. 129,) consecrated this day. Every building must have a foundation and a top stone, and the royal arch chapter which they had consecrated that day might be called the top-stone of Freemasonry in Kendal. He was not so well read in the history of Freemasonry in Kendal as their worthy President had shown himself to be in the paper which he had read. It appeared from that paper that Kendal did possess a royal arch chapter, but that having fallen into neglect, it was thought better instead of restoring it to ask for a new warrant. The new chapter was now alive and vigorous, and additional vigour would, he was sure, be given to it by the proceedings of the present day. (Applause.) As the humble individual who had constituted that chapter, he had the honour of proposing the toast, and he did most cordially hope that every prosperity would attend the Kendal Castle Royal Arch Chapter. He would connect with the toast, in the unavoidable absence of the R.W.D. Prov. G.M., the name of Bro. Bowes who that day had been installed as one of the principals of the chapter. (Applause.)

Bro. Bowes expressed the pleasure it afforded him to be present that day to respond to the toast proposed by their most excellent companion, Savage. He regretted the absence of Dr. Greaves because he would have done justice to the toast. He, however, would bow to no one in the great interest he felt in the success of the Kendal Castle Chapter. He felt proud of the fact that, under the direction of his superior officer, Bro. Busher, he had had something to do with originating the present warrant, that the chapter which had been so auspiciously inaugurated that day, would prosper, he had not the slightest doubt. (Loud cheers.)

The Rev. Bro. SIMPSON said he had much pleasure in proposing the next toast, the health of their worthy Chairman, a gentleman well known as an active magistrate, a good townsman, and a most useful and benevolent gentleman—(hear, hear)—and well known to Masons as a workman well skilled and a brother to be trusted and esteemed. (Applause.) He was only just recovering from a severe illness, and he felt sure every one there present would most heartily join him in his expression of joy and pleasure to have him so far restored, and most sincerely wished that his health may very speedily be fully re-established, and pray the Great Giver of all good long to prolong the life of one who was so active and so useful to his fellow-men, and such an example to be followed by brother Masons. (Great applause.) But in connection with this toast, he (Bro. Simpson) had been commanded by an authority to which he owed obedience to give a brief sketch of that fraternity to which they had the honour and advantage to belong. He regretted that a more skilled workman had not been selected for this important labour, but as obedience was one of the first principles of Masons he must obey the orders, and to the best of his ability and his knowledge do the work which the Master had assigned him. (Hear, hear.) At that time of the evening the description could only be as that of a guide who hurries you rapidly along the lofty and far-reaching aisles of a stately edifice and directs your attention only to objects most prominent and most striking. He could not pretend to explain the deep sound principles that guided the great geometrician in setting out its metes and bounds, nor the labour bestowed upon their well-squared stones built up on the sure foundation, nor the skill exhibited in fashioning its well-polished pillars, nor the artistic taste displayed in its beautiful chapters; and he might not speak of that mystic ornamentation that adds gracefulness to stability, beauty to strength. (Applause.) The pillars of that temple are garlanded with the flower Shushan, and the flower is the symbol of secrecy and silence; and

secrecy and silence are amongst the most highly prized ornaments of a true Mason. (Applause.) It were indeed tedious to give full details of the buildings of that glorious temple upon which and about which we are, if true and faithful Masons, labouring and striving to fulfil our daily task of work, and forming and fashioning each one himself to become a living stone in its everlasting walls. (Applause.) Suffice it to say, that its foundations were laid in the remotest ages of antiquity, and it will only receive its cope stone when the Great Architect of the Universe shall come to judge and to approve of the work of his faithful servants, and time shall be no more. (Applause.) Nor could he do more than allude to those secret associations of old that seemed to have so much in common and so many points of resemblance to themselves. The learning of the Egyptians, in which Moses was well skilled; the Tyrian knowledge of architecture and art, in which Hiram was a master; the philosophy of Pythagoras, learnt by himself from secret associations, and in secret expounded and taught, and that straitest sect of the Essenes to which John the Baptist and the holy Apostle St. Paul are said to have belonged. (Hear, hear.) Suffice it to say that they met on the level and parted on the square; that they had for their object the discovery of truth, the study of science, and the cultivation of art, and inculcated the practice of virtue and the exercise of brotherly love. They were faithful to the trust reposed in them; never revealed the secrets into which they had been initiated, and would brave perils by sea or land to aid and succour a distressed brother. (Hear, hear.) And though they existed amidst ignorance and gross darkness, in their secret inner chamber the lamp of knowledge was ever burning, and they left behind them a line of light. (Applause.) But it was with Masonry in their own native country they had next to do, and though he could not adduce what would be called historic proof, there was reason to believe it existed at a very early period of England's history. Tradition had it that the first Christian martyr was, at the time he was done to death by the savage persecutors of our holy religion, the Grand Master of the Masons. He, as is well known, brought upon himself a martyr's death by fidelity to his friend, and if he were indeed one of our brotherhood, we need not ask where and how he had learnt the fortitude and truth which enabled the martyred St. Albans to protect and defend his friend Amphibalus to his own great peril, and even in death itself to be his brother steadfast and true. (Applause.) And when Alfred the Great had delivered his subjects from the Danish yoke, and was anxious to disseminate knowledge and cultivate the arts of peace, there was no wonder he should seek the aid of such a fraternity as that to which they belonged. Masons could aid him in the great work which he set himself to do, and he would find their associations well fitted to spread knowledge, study science, foster art, and elevate the social and moral habits of his people. (Hear, hear.) As he had observed, this was tradition; but when they came to a later period the evidence was of a different character. About the year 927, in the reign of Athelstane, the Masons assembled at York, and brought with them many documents in Greek and Latin and other languages containing their laws and constitutions, and Prince Edwin, their Grand Master, procured for them a charter, giving them power of "correction among themselves." And there is in existence an old manuscript which is said to be not later than the fourteenth century, containing the laws and constitutions agreed upon at this assembly, in the reign of Athelstane. It contains fifteen articles and fifteen points to be observed by Masons, and is full of instruction and good counsel. In the first article it is taught that—

The Mayster Mason moste be ful securely
Bothe steadfast, trusty, and trewe,
Hyt shal hym never thenne arewe.

And again it is advised—

That no werke he undurtake
But he conne both hytende and make.

And another most important principle of the Craft is thus taught—

He schal not hys felaws work deprave,
Yef that he wol hys honeste save.

And secrecy is just as strongly inculcated in these ancient records as amongst ourselves—

The prevyste of the chamber telle no man,
Ny yn the logge whatever they done;
Whatever thou heryst, or syste hem do,
Telle hyt no man, whersever thou go;

In the reign of Henry VI. the civil power seems to have become jealous of the power and influence of the Masonic brotherhood, and an Act was passed by what is called the Butt Parliament forbidding their assemblies or congregations. The clergy of the period seem to have been jealous because they would not reveal the secrets of the Craft in the confessional, and Cardinal Beaufort exercised much influence during the minority of the king. He was not one whose good opinion was worth much. His deathbed is described by the immortal Shakespeare who makes the king visit and thus address him—

Lord Cardinal, thinkst thou of heaven's bliss,
Lift up thy hand, make signal of thy hope.
He dies and makes no sign.

But what more concerned them was the fact that Henry, when he came of age himself, joined the society, examined for himself its principles and its objects, their charges and their laws, and pronounced them "right good and reasonable to be holden." There are some questions and answers said to have been copied from a manuscript in the handwriting of the king, one of which without revealing our secrets, I will read. Question—"What mote it be?" Answer—"Ytt beeth the shyld of nature, the understandyng of the myghte that ys hereyane, and its son-drye werkynge: sonderlyche the skylle of rekenyngs, of waightes and metynges, and the true manere of faconnyng al thynges for mannes use; headlye, dwellinges, and buildynges of alle kindes, and all other thynges that make gudde to man." (Applause.) Having mentioned some other incidents in history connected with Masonry, Bro. Simpson went on to describe what were called the Ancient York Masons, and how the Queen's father, the late Duke of Kent, had successfully laboured to bring all the lodges in England under one constitution, and had thus promoted and encouraged that harmony and brotherly love which were the great ornaments of the fraternity; and after some further remarks upon the principles and objects of Freemasonry as now practised, he concluded by again calling upon them to join him in wishing Bro. Whitwell perfect restoration to health and length of days. (Hear, hear.) As a brother Mason they had for him the deepest respect and esteem, and he was sure every Mason there present most heartily wished that he might be blessed in the work which he had to do, might long be an example and a guide to his fellow Craftsmen, and might aid others, and himself be aided, in building up that glorious temple designed by the Great Architect of the universe, upon which it was their duty daily to labour, and in which they hoped as lively stones to find their place when their work was ended and they were called to refreshment and rest. (Applause.)

The CHAIRMAN, who was received with the warmest applause, said before replying for the honour done him by the toast he wished to thank his brother on his right (the Rev. James Simpson) for the kind way in which he had referred to his (the chairman's) efforts, and it was a matter of regret that they had not already availed themselves more freely of the great industry and ability which his Rev. brother brought to bear on everything that he took in hand. But he (the chairman) hoped that the research so manifest in the able speech to which they had just listened would not be lost, but that Bro. Simpson would give them more of it at some future time at their lodge meetings. (Applause.) Bro. Whitwell then referred to the great—he might say the aristocratic—antiquity of the Order, and concluded by stating that he had joined it because he believed it to be his duty to do so, and because he deemed its principles pure and ennobling. (Cheers.)

Rev. Bro. COCKETT proposed "The Masonic Charities," and after referring to the important place which they held, coupled the toast with the name of "Bro. Binckes, the Secretary of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys."

Bro. BINCKES returned thanks. He felt highly gratified at having his name coupled with the magnificent Charities of the Order. He briefly adverted to some of them. They included a School in which 100 girls were maintained; another School in which 80 boys (soon to be increased to 100) were brought up; and an Institution which protected and fostered in the decline of life something like 130 persons of both sexes. These Charities were supported by the voluntary contributions of a body numbering not more than from 25,000 to 30,000 persons, who raised from £10,000 to £15,000 per annum for these purposes, besides what they contributed to other charities unconnected with Freemasonry. In the course of his speech, Bro. Binckes alluded to the innocuous thunders which had recently been launched

against their brotherhood from the Vatican. They had been denounced in the commination from the Seven Hills of Rome, as a body of bad men banded together to promote crime, to subvert thrones, and to destroy religion. For a substantial answer to those denunciations he might refer to their Charitable Institutions. It was thought possible that in the vicissitudes of human life and political prosperity, the sovereign pontiff himself might have to vacate the banks of the Tiber, and find a home on the banks of the Thames. Should that circumstance ever occur he would be glad to form one of a deputation to wait upon the venerable and respected sovereign pontiff, to ask him to visit some of their great Charitable Institutions, and convince him of the real nature of their society, by showing the principles on which they taught their sons and daughters. (Applause.)

Air by the Band.

The CHAIRMAN then rose to propose the last toast, "The Mayor of Kendal, Visitors, and Ladies." Bro. Whitwell jocularly said that when he was able to attend to business, after a period of illness, and heard that ladies had been introduced into the programme, he thought the Prov. Grand Secretary had at last made a great innovation (laughter), and that after this would come a deluge. (Renewed laughter.) But, on consideration, he did not hesitate to say that in the ladies a most valuable addition had been made to the meeting of that day (applause), and he could only hope that on some future occasion they might be trebled in number; he for one certainly returned the ladies his best thanks for their presence on this occasion. After some further remarks, the Chairman concluded by proposing the toast, coupled with the name of Bro. Captain Braithwaite.

The toast was received with cheers.

Bro. Captain BRAITHWAITE responded in some humorous remarks. He went on to say that he quite agreed with the Chairman that the ladies were a valuable addition to their meetings. No Mason, he was sure, would think of indulging ever so little in excess in the pleasures of the table when the ladies were present. (Laughter and applause.)

The company then broke up, the hour for the commencement of the concert being too near to admit of much further delay.

GRAND CONCERT AT THE ALBERT BUILDINGS.

At half-past seven on Tuesday evening a grand concert was held in the upper floor of the large wool warehouse of Bros. Whitwell, Busher, and Co. which was well lighted and comfortably fitted up for the occasion, and afforded room for the largest audience which has for many years back attended a concert in Kendal. The fact of nearly every seat being filled, long before the time of commencement, attested the expectations which the public had conceived of the attractions of the entertainment, which were fully borne out by the effect of the performances. By a very happy combination the services of Mr. Charles Halle the eminent pianist, with M. De Jong, solo flute, and M. Lavigne, solo oboe had been retained along with those of the London Glee and Madrigal Union, Miss J. Wells, and Messrs. Baxter, Coates, Land, and Winn. The result was a concert which for a union of popular attractiveness and excellence of music, left nothing to be desired. The programme was as follows:—

Part I.

Glee—"Where art thou, beam of light."—Sir H. Bishop.—Miss J. Wells, Mr. Baxter, Mr. Coates, and Mr. Winn.
Glee—"When the wind blows on the sweet rose tree."—W. Horsley, M.B.—Mr. Baxter, Mr. Coates, Mr. Land, and Mr. Winn.
Sonata Pianoforte.—In A flat, Op. 26, (with Funeral March).—Beethoven.—Mr. Charles Halle.
Song—"Sweet Spirit, hear my Prayer."—Wallace.—Miss J. Wells.
Solo Oboe.—Fantasia on "La Traviata."—Lavigne.—M. Lavigne.
Glee—"By Celia's Arbour."—Horsley.—Mr. Baxter, Mr. Coates, Mr. Land, and Mr. Winn.
Solo Flute.—On Scotch and Irish Airs.—De Jong.—M. De Jong.
Naval Song—"The Brave old Temeraire."—Hobbs. Mr. Winn.
Humorous May-Pole Ditty of the olden time.—"Strike t up, neighbour."—From Thomas Weelke's Ayres and Phantastic Spirits, A.D. 1608.—Mr. Baxter, Mr. Coates, and Mr. Winn.

Glee—"When winds breathe soft."—Miss J. Wells, Mr. Baxter, Mr. Coates, Mr. Land, and Mr. Winn.

Part II.

Madrigal—"Now is the month of Maying."—T. Morley.—The London Glee and Madrigal Union.
Solo Pianoforte.—Gavottes and Musettes.—Bach.—"The Harmonious Blacksmith."—Handel.—Mr. Charles Halle.
Ballad—"The bloom is on the rye."—Sir H. Bishop.—Mr. Coates.
Four-part Song—"I know a maiden." J. L. Hatton.—Mr. Baxter, Mr. Coates, Mr. Land, and Mr. Winn.
Grand Duet, Flute and Oboe.—Demereiman.—Messrs. De Jong and Lavigne.
Madrigal—"Who should win my lady fair."—R. L. Pearsall.—The London Glee and Madrigal Union.
Solo Pianoforte.—"Home sweet home."—Thalberg.—Mr. Charles Halle.
Catch—"Would you know my Celia's charms."—S. Webbe.—Mr. Baxter, Mr. Coates, Mr. Land, and Mr. Winn.
Finale Madrigal—"Down in a flowery vale."—Festa.—The London Glee and Madrigal Union.

No less than eleven of the above pieces were rapturously re-demanded, and the performers were as kind and obliging in complying with the encores, as the audience were enthusiastic, we had almost said exacting, in making them. Among the favourites were Mr. C. Halle's magnificent performance of Thalberg's "Home, Sweet Home; Miss Wells's "Sweet Spirit;" the very brilliant flute solo of M. De Jong; the duet, flute and oboe; the quaint and humorous may-pole ditty; Bishop's admired Ballad; the spirit-stirring naval song, "The Brave Old Temeraire;" and the laughable catch, "Would you know my Celia's charms," which was given with capital effect. Mr. Charles Halle accompanied on his pianoforte, an instrument of superb tone and power, the performances of Messrs. De Jong and Lavigne. It was half-past ten before the concert terminated. It was attended by from 780 to 800, and some time elapsed before the long line of carriages cleared away from the neighbourhood of the building.

THE BALL.

The ball took place on Wednesday night, in the large and handsome auction room of the Albert Buildings, which is admirably fitted for such a purpose. The ball is said to be the best that has taken place in Kendal since the opening of what was then called the Whitehall Buildings, now the Town Hall. Previous to the commencement of the ball a procession of grand officers of the Masonic Order, about twenty in number, in the splendid decorations and insignia of the Order, walked through the ball-room to the upper end, to pay their respects to the lady patronesses present. The ball-room was very tastefully decorated, and the jewels and rich costumes worn by the visitors high in the Order contributed very much to enhance the effect of the charming and varied dresses of the ladies. The supper, &c., provided by Mr. and Mrs. Barrow, of the Commercial Hotel, was choicely purveyed, and beautifully laid out. The band was Smith's Kendal quadrille band, and their performance gave entire satisfaction. Dancing was kept up until nearly four o'clock a.m.

We cannot close this report without complimenting Bro. Busher, W.M. of Union Lodge (No. 129), Kendal, and Prov. G. Sec., and those who were acting with him, on the perfect success which attended their united efforts. So mote it be!

MARK MASONRY.

GRAND LODGE OF MARK MASTERS OF ENGLAND AND WALES, &c.

The Half-yearly Communication of the Grand Mark Lodge was held on Tuesday last, the 5th December, in the Large Hall of the Masonic House, Bedford-row, London. Present, Bro. W. B. Beach, D.G.M., as G.M.; Bros. G. R. Portal, M.A., G. Reg., as D.G.M.; John Udall, S.G.W.; Rev. D. Shaboe, P.G. Chap., as G.J.W.; Sir E. Lechmere, Bart., P.S.G.W.; Jas. Hamer, G.M.O.; W. Barrett, P.G. Supt. of Works, as G.S.O.; H. J. Thompson, P. Assist. G. Dir. of Cers., as G.J.O.; Rev. Walter Short, G. Chap.

Rev. J. W. Laughlin, P.G. Chap.; J. R. Stebbing, G. Treas.; F. Binckes, G. Sec.; G. W. Mobbs, G. Dir. of Cers.; Swan, P.G. Sword Bearer; F. Davison, G. Org.; W. J. Meymott, J. Crispe, E. Turner, and Shuttleworth, G. Stewards; Spencer, Stillwell, and Meggy, P. G. Stewards; and many W.M.'s, P.M.'s, and Wardens of lodges; and amongst the visitors present were the following:—Bros. W. Smith; Chas. Leedham, No. 65, Liverpool; C. Allen, No. 8 Lodge; W. H. Warr, Kent Lodge.

The Grand Lodge was opened in form with solemn prayer.

The minutes of the last half-yearly communication were read and confirmed. Numerous letters of apology and regret were read from Grand Officers, explaining cause of absence, several of whom expressed their readiness to pay any fines the Grand Lodge might impose for non-attendance of officers.

The report of the General Board was then ordered to be read. The following is the report:—

In meeting the members of Grand Lodge at the close of the year 1865, the general board are able to report the continued success and prosperity of the order during the past six months. They desire, however, to give prominent notice to the propagation of the Mark Degree in the Presidencies of India, where it has been largely practised, though to the regret of English Masons, they have until lately been compelled to obtain the degree through the medium of lodges or chapters under the jurisdiction of Scotland and Ireland. The appointment of R.W. Bro. James Gibbs, as Prov. G.M. for Bombay, was the step first taken to extend the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge to our East Indian possessions and though circumstances of a political and commercial nature interfered to some extent with Masonic progress generally, and retarded the success of the Mark Degree, the report from R.W. Prov. G.M. of Bombay as to the work performed in the Lodge Holmesdale-in-the East is very encouraging, in fact so numerous does he represent "the application for admission to be as to necessitate very speedily the establishment of a second lodge, the advent of the Holmesdale Lodge having been hailed with much satisfaction by the English Masons."

In the Presidency of Madras and British Burmah, the exertions of Bro. Colonel Greenlaw, who took with him his patent of appointment as R.W. Prov. G.M. of these districts, have been crowned with unexampled success. Seven new warrants having been already granted, with the intimation of numerous applications being about to be forwarded, and the reports of the proceedings of the opening of the various lodges, and of the first Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Masters in India have been received, and are of the deepest interest to all concerned in the prosperity of the Mark Degree.

In the Presidency of Bengal lodges are about to be established under the rule of Bro. Hugh D. Sandeman, who has been affiliated in one of the lodges in Madras, and who has accepted the appointment of Prov. Grand Master of Mark Masters. From the influence of Thomas Sandeman who is Prov. Grand Master of Bengal under the United Grand Lodge of England, there can be no doubt that there a similar amount of success will be attained as that already enjoyed in the sister Presidencies.

The progress made may be thus stated; 255 Certificates issued during the past six months. During the same period the following warrants have been granted:—

WARRANTS OF CONSTITUTION.

Cape Stone, 80.....	Calcutta.
Keystone, 81	Bellary, Madras.
Hiram, 82.....	Baugaloue.
Astrœa, 83	Thayetnyoo, Burmah.

Stanley, 84	Meerut.
Figs, 85	Akyab, Burmah.
Samson and Lion, 86	London.

The Abbey Lodge, No. 59, has petitioned for removal from Tewkesbury to Worcester, the propinquity of the lodge at Cheltenham being found to render unnecessary a lodge at the former town, while in Worcester there is a growing requirement for the establishment of a lodge, Sir Edmund Lechmere, Bart., P.G.W., having consented to occupy the chair on its removal to that city.

Our relations with the authorities of the Mark Degree in Scotland must naturally be a subject of great interest. A formal communication from the Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland has been received, containing the reply from the United Grand Lodge of England to the former body as to their refusal to recognise this Grand Lodge, and declining on the part of the Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland to recognise the body "styling itself the Grand Lodge of Mark Masters of England and Wales, &c." Representations as to the desirability of an amicable understanding with the Scottish authorities have since then been interchanged between them and members of this Grand Lodge, and the friendly offices of a distinguished brother, temporarily resident in Edinburgh, have been exerted to bring about a policy of conciliation. No definite result having accrued, save the evident increase in good feeling, the Grand Secretary visited Edinburgh last week, and had personal interviews with the official authorities of the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter of Scotland. This visit was of an unofficial character, and the whole of the discussions were entirely without prejudice. The Board have every reason to be satisfied with the result of that visit, and are prepared to do all in their power to render it entirely successful. In pursuance of this object, they have determined on memorialising other supreme bodies by whom, as with them, the Mark degree is regarded as an essential portion of ancient Masonry, and to continue the negotiations so auspiciously commenced.

Under these circumstances, and pending these negotiations, the Board abstain from recommending the adoption of the policy enforced by a regulation of the Grand Chapter of Scotland, viz., that of forbidding the interchange of visits between Mark brethren under the two jurisdictions. At the same time, should the overtures now made fail in producing the desiderated results, the Board will be quite prepared to recommend the necessary steps for maintaining and upholding the dignity and position of this Grand Lodge.

The Board recommends a grant of £3 to the widow of Bro. —, advanced in a Mark lodge at Gibraltar, now resident at Plymouth, and who has already been relieved from the Fund of Benevolence attached to the United Grand Lodge of England.

The petition in this case suggests the consideration of the advisability of the formation of a benevolent fund, and this the Board unanimously recommend for the sanction of Grand Lodge; the funds to be raised by an annual payment of 6d. from every subscribing member of a lodge. To this fund also may be devoted the fines for non-attendance of Grand Officers.

	£	s.	d.
The Treasurer's report shows Receipts during the			
six months as per list.....	193	0	6
Balance in hand, July 1, 1865	88	9	10
Total	281	10	4

Disbursements.

Royal Masonic Institution for Boys'	£	s.	d.
Building Fund	10	10	0
FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE	2	3	0

Rituals.....	2	5	0
Masonic Union (limited), rent half quarter to March, 1865.....	10	0	0
Engrossing Warrants.....	7	14	6
Grand Secretary's salary, half a year to Dec. 1, 1865.....	50	0	0

82 0 0

£198 17 10

The Board are happy to announce improved regularity in forwarding the returns from the several lodges, but regret that "in this praise they cannot include all the lodges, upon many of which they desire again to impress the absolute necessity of punctuality in this respect."

Some discussion ensued as to the order of proceeding in connection with the reception and adoption of the Report. It was ultimately resolved that the Report be received and entered on the minutes,

It was proposed by Bro. John Udall, P.S.W., seconded by Bro. G. R. Portal, G. Reg., and resolved, "That the recommendation of the Board for a grant of £3 to the widow of the late Bro. — be approved."

It was proposed by Bro. J. R. Stebbing, G. Treas., that the recommendation of the Board for the establishment of a fund of benevolence be approved.

Bro. Rev. D. STRABOE, P.G. Chap., suggested that the annual payment of each subscribing member be one shilling instead of sixpence.

Explanations were given of the reasons for recommending the lower amount, in which Bro. Straboe concurred; the proposition of Bro. Stebbing being then seconded by him and carried unanimously.

The report was then adopted.

Bro. Rev. G. R. Portal, G. Reg., with reference to the point of order arising out of the discussion on the reading of the report of the General Board, gave the following notice of motion for the meeting of Grand Lodge in June next:—

"After the report of the General Board has been read, motion shall be made that it be received and entered on the minutes; on which motion discussion may take place on any portion of the report that does not subsequently form part of a "substantive motion."

He then addressed Grand Lodge on the matters which had that evening engaged its attention with special reference to the visit of the Grand Secretary to Scotland.

The GRAND SECRETARY having been called upon, entered into full details of the circumstances in connection with his visit to Edinburgh. He particularly mentioned the extreme kindness and courtesy with which he had been received by Bro. Mackersey, the Grand Scribe E. of the Supreme Grand Chapter; by Bro. Laurie, Grand Secretary; and Bro. Stewart, Grand Clerk of the Grand Lodge of Scotland; by Bros. Hay, Law, and other members of the Grand Committee, all of whom paid great attention to his representations. The conciliatory disposition manifested by all, and the assurances he received of the gratification with which the object of his visit was regarded, led him to entertain sanguine anticipations of the accomplishment of the result they desired. At the same time it was impossible to forecast the definite issue of the negotiations which were alluded to in the Report, and which Grand Lodge had this evening sanctioned.

The Most Worshipful GRAND MASTER, and other members of and Lodge, expressed themselves as highly delighted with account they had just heard, and hoped they might ere long

congratulate themselves on the success of their efforts at conciliation.

Bro. W. W. Beach, M.P. of Oakley Hall, Basingstoke, Hants, D.G.M., and Prov. G.M. for Berks and Hants, was then nominated for election as Grand Master for the year 1866-7.

Grand Lodge was closed in form with solemn prayer.

Poetry.

EARTH'S HARVESTS.

"Peace hath her victories, no less renowned than war."—
MILTON'S *Sonnet to Cromwell*.

Two hundred years ago,* the moon
Shone on a battle plain;
Cold through that glowing night of June
Lay steeds and riders slain;
And anisies, bending 'neath strange dew,
Wept in the silver light;
The very turf a regal hue
Assumed that fatal night.

Time past—but long, to tell the tale,
Some battle-axe or shield,
Or cloven skull, or shattered mail,
Were found upon the field;
The grass grew thickest on the spot
Where high were heaped the dead,
And well it marked, had men forgot,
Where the great charge was made.

To-day—the sun looks laughing down
Upon the harvest plain,
The little gleaners, rosy-brown,
The merry reaper's train;
The rich sheaves heaped together stand,
And resting in their shade,
A mother, working close at hand,
Her sleeping babe hath laid.

A battle-field it was, and is,
For serried spears are there,
And against mighty foes upreared—
Gaunt hunger, pale despair.
We'll thank God for the hearts of old,
Their strife our freedom sealed;
We'll praise Him for the sheaves of gold
Now on the battle-field.

SHADOWS ON THE STREAM.

Summer evening shadows
Thickly falling round;
Summer beauties blossoms
Strawing all the ground.

Leaning o'er the buttress,
Ruined, grey, and old;
Looking into waters,
Silent, still, and cold.

When our bright reflections
Dance its surface o'er—
When like ceaseless music
The distant torrents roar,

And the rocks before us
Kiss the water's brim,
Flinging a reflection
Between myself and him:

* Naseby, June 14th, 1646.

As we stood together,
Whispering soft and low,
Flinging harebell blossoms
On the waves below.

Laurel leaves were gleaming
Round his shaded hair,
While the rocks were frowning
O'er mine cold and bare!

Flowing like those waters,
Life's rough pathway down;
Bringing fame's fresh leaflets
From his laurel crown!

By the grey old buttress
Lonely now I dream;
Shortly sadly watching
Shadows on the stream.

MEETINGS OF THE SCIENTIFIC AND LEARNED SOCIETIES FOR THE WEEK ENDING DECEMBER 16TH.

Monday, December 11th. ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY, at 8.30. 1. "On Ankova, the Central Province of Madagascar, and the Royal or Sacred City." By the Rev. W. Ellis. 2. "A Boat Journey along the Coast Lakes of East Madagascar." By Capt. W. Noake, R.N.

Tuesday, December 12th. INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS, at 8.

Wednesday, December 13th, SOCIETY OF ARTS, at 8. "On London Milk." By J. Chalmers Morton, Esq.

THE WEEK.

THE COURT.—The Prince and Princess of Prussia left Windsor Castle for the Continent on Saturday last. The Queen, with their Royal Highnesses Princess Helena, Princess Louise, Prince Arthur, their Serene Highnesses Princess Hohenzollern and Prince Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, and the Ladies and Gentlemen in Waiting, attended Divine service on Sunday morning in the private chapel. The Rev. Stopford A. Brookes, M.A., late Chaplain to the Embassy at Berlin, preached the sermon. Her Majesty held a Council on Tuesday at one o'clock, at which were present Earl Granville, the Lord Chancellor, the Earl of Clarendon, the Right Hon. Sir George Grey, and the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone.

GENERAL HOME NEWS.—The birthday of her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales was celebrated with all loyal demonstrations in London and its neighbourhood, Windsor, and elsewhere. Flags were flying through the day, and royal salutes were fired at the usual places. In Windsor every house in the principal streets was gay with flags and decorations. At Sandringham the Prince and Princess kept the day with much state: a ball took place in the evening, to which the rank and fashion of the neighbourhood were invited, and the tenantry and servants on the estate were not forgotten.—Luby, the Fenian, has been found guilty of all the counts charged against him. He addressed the Court, indignantly denying the charges of assassination or rapine. The judge sentenced him to 20 years' transportation, and he was immediately removed under a strong guard to Mountjoy prison.—At the Marlborough-street Police court, on Monday, one Timothy Hegarty was brought up on a warrant, charging him with making pikes for a Fenian society in Cork. The prisoner was handed over to the proper officers for conveyance to his own country.—Mrs. Jane Woodward, a respectable married woman, was

put upon her trial on Monday, at the Surrey Sessions, on a charge of shoplifting. It was alleged that she had endeavoured to steal a velvet mantle from a draper's shop in Newington Causeway, and that being detected she dropped it on the floor. The defence was that the mantle was accidentally knocked down. The jury returned a verdict of not guilty.—A fellow named William Singer was charged at Middlesex Sessions on Monday with brutally ill-treating a horse. He was driving the animal, which was overweighted, and as the poor beast could not get on Singer drove a bar of red hot iron into its body. The brutal fellow whined out that he was drunk when he committed the offence. This, however, was disproved. He pleaded guilty, and the Court sentenced him to five years' penal servitude.—Tuesday night's *Gazette* contains an official notice proroguing Parliament to the 1st of February, then to meet for the despatch of business.—More Fenian leaders are being captured. The last to fall into the hands of the police is one Alfred Aylward, clerk to the Sessional Crown Prosecutor for Tipperary. Aylward, it seems, was foolish enough to appear drunk in the public streets, and at the same time to carry about with him documents which established his connection with the movement. When his office was searched, of course all sorts of things tending to inculpate him were discovered. The fraternity save the police a great deal of trouble by taking care to put themselves in the way of capture, and by furnishing all the evidence which their prosecutors could possibly require to ensure their conviction.—An action for libel, *Brown v. Richardson*, was tried in the Court of Exchequer on Tuesday. The defendant is the proprietor of local papers at Croydon and Sydenham, and in these a paragraph was inserted in which the plaintiff Brown and his wife were charged with gross cruelty to a little boy the son of Mrs. Brown. The defendant, on learning that the story was untrue, inserted an apology, and offered to pay the plaintiff £3 for damages. The plaintiff, however, refused this, and the jury gave a verdict against the defendant with £100 damages.—Great meetings on the Jamaica question have been held in Leeds and Bradford. At both the most influential persons in the respective localities took part in the proceedings, and memorials praying for inquiry were adopted.—The case of Mrs. Longworth Yelverton against the *Saturday Review* for libel was brought to a close on Wednesday at Edinburgh. The jury, after three hours' deliberation, were equally divided in opinion. After five hours they returned a verdict for the defendants by a majority of nine to three. The verdict was received with hisses.—George Cole, the man charged with the abduction of a little girl named Mary Ann Humphreys, was re-examined at the Mansion House on Wednesday. He appears to have walked about with the child all day, giving her little or nothing to eat; and she owed her ultimate escape to the suspicious and generous indignation of a low lodging-house keeper. When she got into the hands of the police she was in a complete state of stupor. The prisoner was again remanded that the contents of her stomach might be analysed.—In the Court of Queen's Bench on Wednesday, a special jury was called upon to assess the damages claimed by a French gentleman, named Landour, who was injured by the Staplehurst accident. The South Eastern Railway Company admitted their liability, the only question being as to the amount. The case was one of considerable public interest. The jury finally awarded Mr. Landour £1,500.—A Middlesex jury delivered themselves of a singular verdict on Wednesday. They found one prisoner "guilty" and another "not guilty" of a charge of stealing, but they wished his lordship to "caution" the man they had acquitted. The fore-

man subsequently explained that they had such serious misgivings about the innocence of the second prisoner, that although they had given him the benefit of a doubt they wished him to be strongly reprimanded. This Mr. Payne proceeded with all gravity to do; while, after listening to the admonitory lecture, he acquitted party politely expressed his obligations to the worthy judge.—“Anak,” the French giant, otherwise called Mr. Joseph Brice, was on Wednesday brought up at Bow-street Police-office to answer a charge of assault committed on the person of Urban Brijard, a French tailor. M. Brijard stated that two and a half years ago, when “Anak” was at Cremorne, he, complainant, had made certain articles of clothing for the giant, the bill for which had never been paid. On Mr. Brice’s reappearance in society, M. Brijard called with his little bill at the giant’s house, and in reply to his request Anak seized him by the throat and thrust him out of the house, making use of the expression “*Voleur!*” The dwarf who accompanies Anak, and who was present at the time, denied every one of these statements, and said the unfortunate tailor was civilly requested to leave the house, as nothing was owing to him. In presence of such conflicting evidence the presiding magistrate dismissed the summons.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.—A Madrid paper asserts most positively that Spain will not accept the mediation of a neutral Power in the Chilean difficulty. Orders have been given by the Minister of Marine to have the repairs and building of all war vessels now in course of construction pushed on vigorously.—The September patent has failed most egregiously to conciliate the Austrian provinces. We now learn that the Constitutional Committee of the Diet for Upper Austria have drawn up an address in which they unreservedly declare themselves opposed to the patent, and demand the re-establishment of a constitutional state of things.—The *Constitutionnel* notices a report that General Schofield has arrived at Paris charged with a mission from the United States. The paper says the French Government have no knowledge of any such mission, and the writer adds that he believes the news to be a pure invention. The other papers, however, persist in asserting that General Schofield is entrusted with a mission.—Sweden is in the throes of a great constitutional crisis. A Reform Bill has been submitted to the various Houses of Parliament. In the Chamber of Peasants it was voted by acclamation. The Chamber of Citizens adopted it by sixty votes to five. The clergy postponed its consideration until after the House of Nobles had decided upon the bill. The nobles have not concluded their debates, but the probability is that they, too, will adopt the Reform.—The latest bulletin of the health of the King of the Belgians says that his Majesty recovers his strength very slowly.—It seems that a contagious disease has appeared amongst the animals at the Jardin d’Acclimatation at Paris. The Minister of Agriculture announces that the disease has been brought over by two gazelles imported from England. In consequence an Imperial decree has been published prohibiting the importation into France of certain domestic animals. Later and important news from Cape Hayti has been received. The commander of her Majesty’s ship *Galatea* had issued an ultimatum, demanding that Salnaves and all the members of the revolutionary committee should surrender unconditionally on board that vessel. In case of refusal the *Galatea* and *Lilly*, after a delay of twelve hours, would bombard the forts. The French vessel which brought the news from Cape Hayti left just three hours before the term had expired.

AMERICA.—The *Cuba* reached Queenstown on the 1st inst. from New York on the 23rd November. The news of the

surrender of the Shenandoah and the liberation of her crew had been received. The *New York Herald* says that the Government must demand the delivery up of the crew under the Extradition Treaty. All the other papers are silent on the subject, but the liberation of the crew is said to have created a hostile feeling towards England in Washington. It is reported that on the meeting of Congress a Republican Bill will be presented for the Government of the rebellious States and their ultimate admission into the Union under special acts of Congress. The Commander in Chief in Canada had called out six companies of volunteers, and ordered the whole number of volunteers to hold themselves in readiness to oppose any Fenian raids during the winter.—The principal news from Mexico is that the Republicans have raised the siege of Matamoros in consequence of the Imperial forces marching from Monterey to attack their rear. In their retreat the Republicans were sadly cut up by the Imperialists.—The American Minister has made public a dispatch recently received from Washington, which purports to be a general acknowledgment of the numerous addresses of condolence that were addressed to the Washington Government on the assassination of the late President Lincoln. Mr. Seward alludes delicately to his being laid aside in consequence of the attack made upon him as the reason for these addresses not having been acknowledged separately, and at an earlier date; and he trusts that the signers of those addresses will accept this general answer.

INDIA.—A telegram of Bombay news, dated Nov. 14th, has been received. It states that the campaign against Bhootan had commenced, and that Dewangiri had been occupied. Now we had a fortnight ago news that a treaty of peace with Bhootan was signed on the 11th of November. It is not difficult, perhaps, to reconcile the two statements. The telegram now to hand is made up from the Bombay papers of the 14th, and it is probable that they were not on that day aware that a treaty of peace had been signed, and were reporting the events which immediately preceded the signature.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

* * * All communications to be addressed to 19, Salisbury-street, Strand, London, W.C.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS IN ARREARS.—Subscribers who are in arrears are requested to forward without delay the amounts due from them by Post-office Order, payable to the Proprietor, Bro. William Smith, C.E., 18, Salisbury-street Strand, W.C.

NOTICE.—From the great length to which the report of the meeting of Grand Lodge extends, and from the general press of matter this week, we are unavoidably compelled to exclude numerous reports of Masonic meetings, letters from correspondents, and other communications of interest, as also to defer our remarks on the meeting of Grand Lodge till next week.

P.Z.—The following are the Past Masters of Lodge No. 26 (Castle Lodge of Harmony) who are still subscribing members of the lodge:—

J. Nelson, Doctors’ Commons, 1826 and 1827.

J. H. Law, 8, New Square, Lincoln’s Inn, 1851.

R. W. Wheeler, University Club, Pall Mall, 1856.

Thos. Hill, 1, Sussex Terrace, Hyde Park, 1857.

W. R. Wood, Carlisle House, Brighton, 1859 and 1860.

C. C. McDonnell, 2, Plowden’s Buildings, Temple, 1862.

E. J. Fraser, 26, Craven Street, W.C., 1863.

R. Spencer, Great Queen Street, 1864.

William Smith, C.E., Salisbury Street, 1865.

The W.M. elect for 1866 is Bro. John Richardson, of Swansea, P.M. of a lodge in that town. The lodge is a red-aproned lodge, and sends a Grand Steward every year to the Grand Festival.