

LONDON, SATURDAY, JUNE 16, 1866.

### ANCIENT ARCHITECTURE.

*A Lecture delivered to the Lodge St. John's, Galashiels (No. 262), by Bro. ADAM THOMSON, P.M. of that lodge.*

Brethren: You may think it strange that I should address you for the fourth time upon the subject of ancient architecture, but I have several reasons for doing so. The first is, that I am passionately fond of the subject myself. I never look upon a magnificent building, whether ancient or modern, without inspiring feelings of awe, wonder, and admiration. In surveying ancient architecture, the mind naturally reverts to the architect. You contemplate with wonder and amazement the godlike powers that fashioned into shape and form the magnificent pile upon which the eye is gazing. Here is the building, but where are the builders? Here is the architecture, but where is the architect? Gone, alas! to that country from which there is no return, and which ought to stimulate all of us to be up and doing all the good we can, for even the longest life is comparatively short, and verifies that saying of the wise man, that man goeth and cometh, but the earth abideth for ever. The works of a man's hands will long outlive him, and the poet says a thing of beauty is a joy for ever; so also, the good that a man does can never die. It will reproduce itself in a thousand different forms, as wave follows wave on the rippling of the waters.

The next reason I have for bringing this subject again before you is, because it is one intimately connected with Freemasonry. I think it would be a mighty advantage to all of us if we would study carefully and practically the subject of architecture. If our tracing boards were more fully and more frequently covered with geometrical and mathematical subjects, we would soon find our minds developed, our thoughts extended, our ideas strengthened and multiplied, and ourselves made wiser and better men; and as Freemasons, instead of wasting our precious time bantering about some trivial matter that should never have crossed the threshold of a Masonic lodge, we should set ourselves to work out these immortal principles so emphatically taught by Freemasonry.

Another reason why I cling to this subject of ancient architecture, as the ivy clings to the moss-covered tower, binding together in its fond embraces the crumbling ruins—is, that we are often

called upon as Freemasons to take a part in laying foundation-stones of important buildings; and by studying architecture and operative Masonry both in practice and theory, it would tend to give us a higher appreciation of the origin of our Craft, the study of which would impart much varied and useful information.

I intend to-night, with your permission, to direct your attention to that important period when Freemasonry, or rather operative Freemasonry, or both combined, dates its origin into an organised system, having its regular lodges and its official office-bearers for initiating, passing, and raising, and for transmitting its secrets and mysteries from generation to generation. I mean from the date of the building of King Solomon's Temple at Jerusalem. The subject of my address to-night will therefore be "King Solomon's Temple."

At the outset, I need not say that I differ entirely with Richard Carlyle, who maintains that such a building, as Solomon's Temple, or that such a people as the Israelites, never existed upon earth. Facts, stern, historical facts, are all against Carlyle in this particular case. Had no temples been built by peoples and nations to the many gods worshipped in ancient times, then we might have had some doubt of the existence of Solomon's Temple; and had no small states ever existed, under laws and a polity of their own, then we might have doubted the existence of the Israelites as a nation. But as temples and small states both existed in ancient times, there is nothing either in history or the nature of the case to lead to the conclusion that Solomon's Temple did not exist.

David, father of Solomon, the anointed of God and King of Israel, lived in troublous times, and being assailed by enemies both within and without his own dominions, he was during his reign almost always at war, which prevented him from commencing or carrying on any work of great public importance. But about the year 1047 before Christ, having taken from his enemies the city of Jebus and stronghold of Zion, he set the Craft about repairing and embellishing the walls and public edifices, especially in Zion, where he had fixed his residence, and which was by him called the City of David, and also by him, or in his time the city of Jerusalem. About the year 1015 before Christ, David, finding his personal strength rapidly failing, and his end drawing near, assembled the chiefs of his people, and

informed them of his intention to have built a magnificent repository for the ark of God, and had made great preparations for it, having laid up immense quantities of rich materials; as also plans and models for the different parts of the building with many necessary regulations for its future establishment; but found it was the Divine will that this magnificent structure should not be erected by him, but by his son Solomon. He requested them to assist in so noble an undertaking, and they were not backward in fulfilling his request. In a very short time there were collected large stores of gold, silver, copper, brass, precious stones, marble, porphyry, and other rich building and embellishing materials from all parts of the kingdom. King David, although he did not live to see the famous temple of Jerusalem, which was to be the admiration of surrounding nations, had the pleasure of seeing before his death a large portion of the materials collected with which the temple was to be built and adorned. He died shortly after, in the seventieth year of his age, and Solomon his son reigned in his stead.

Hiram, King of Tyre and neighbouring potentate was upon the most friendly terms with King David, and on the ascension of King Solomon to the throne of his father, he sent ambassadors to Jerusalem, congratulating him upon his succession to the throne, and the royalty continued in the family, and assuring him of a continuance of that friendship which had so long been cherished between him and his late lamented father. Solomon received the embassy graciously, and on their return sent the following letter to Hiram, King of Tyre, which shows that he embraced the very first opportunity of commencing the great work that was left to his care:—

“King Solomon to King Hiram greeting.

“Be it known, O King, that my father David had it a long time in his mind to erect a temple to the Lord; but being perpetually in war, and under a necessity of clearing his hands of his enemies, and making them all his tributaries, before he could attend to this great and holy work, he hath left it to me in time of peace, both to begin and finish it, according to the directions as well as the predictions of Almighty God. Blessed be His great name for the present tranquility of my dominions! And, by His gracious assistance, I shall now dedicate the best improvements of this liberty and leisure to his honour and worship. Wherefore I make it my request, that you will let some

of your people go along with some servants of mine to mount Lebanon, to assist them in cutting down materials towards this building; for the Sidonians understand it much better than we do. As for the workmen’s reward or wages, whatever you think reasonable shall be punctually paid them.”

King Hiram appeared to be very highly pleased with this letter, and replied in very complimentary terms as follows:—

“King Hiram to King Solomon.

“Nothing could have been more welcome to me than to understand that the government of your blessed father is devolved, by God’s providence into the hands of so excellent, so wise, and so virtuous a successor; His holy name be praised for it! That which you write for shall be done with all care and good-will, for I will give orders to cut down and export such quantities of the fairest cedars and cypress trees as you shall have occasion for: my people shall bring them to the sea-side for you, and from thence ship them away to what port you please, where they may lie ready for your own men to transport them to Jerusalem. It would be a great obligation, for all this, to allow us such a provision of corn in exchange as may stand with your convenience, for that is the commodity we islanders want most.”

Solomon was greatly delighted with this answer of the Tyrian king, and a friendship of the most tender and enduring nature sprang up between them, which only terminated with their existence. For this generous offer made by Hiram, King Solomon ordered him an annual present of 20,000 measures of wheat, and 20,000 measures of fine oil for his household, besides the same quantity of wheat, barley, wine, and oil, which he engaged to give to Hiram’s Masons, who were to be engaged in the intended work of building the temple. Hiram, king of Tyre, engaged to send cedars, firs, and other wood upon floats or rafts to Joppa, there to be delivered to whom Solomon might direct, in order to be carried to Jerusalem. He also sent him a man of his own name, a Tyrian by birth, whose mother was a Jewess, and his father a man of Tyre, who was a second Bezaleel, and honoured by his king with the title of father. This inspired workman was without doubt, the most curious, cunning, and skilled artist that existed in these parts at that particular time; and his talents were not confined to architecture, but extended to all kinds of curious work, whether in gold, silver,

brass, iron, wood, or stone; whether in fine linen, tapestry, or embroidery; whether considered as an architect, statuary, founder, or designer, separately or together, he equally excelled. From his designs and under his direction, all the rich and splendid furniture of the temple—that is, all the ornamental part, and its several appendages—were begun, carried on, and finished. Solomon appointed him, in his absence, a Deputy Grand Master; and in his presence Senior Grand Warden, Master of Works, and general overseer of all the artists, not only those he brought with him from Tyre, but also over those who during the reign of David had come from Tyre and Sidon, as well as the native artists of Jerusalem; showing at once his skill and superiority over every man engaged in the building of the temple.—*Scottish Freemasons Magazine.*

*To be Continued.*

#### A GOOD WORK.

Whatever may be the faults of Freemasons, it cannot be laid to their charge that they are unwilling in general to aid any work that has for its object the spiritual or temporal well-being of their fellow-men. We shall, therefore, make no apology for bringing before our readers the claims which a brother, the Rev. J. M. Vaughan, who is labouring in the East of London, has upon our sympathy and pecuniary assistance, should we be in a position to afford it. Bro. Vaughan (as appears from the prospectus which we append) is curate in charge of St. John's District, in the parish of St. George's-in-the-East. Any one acquainted with that portion of the metropolis will be ready to re-echo the words of Mr. Cook, preacher of Lincoln's Inn, who stated in a recently-published volume of sermons that the clergy who were toiling in the East of London year after year seemed to him to evince somewhat of the spirit of the early martyrs. Sincerely do we trust that good will result from our publication of the Rev. Bro. Vaughan's "Voice from the East End of London."

"The district of St. John is part of the large and necessitous parish of St. George's-in-the-East, and contains a population of 6,000 souls, chiefly poor.

"It abounds with the children of dock labourers and others connected with the shipping and wharves of the Thames, of those employed in the

sugar refineries, of coal whippers, needlewomen, &c., many of whom are growing up in ignorance and vice. There is no church or national school at present, but in consideration of the numbers unprovided for in spiritual things, the Committee of the Bishop of London's Fund has secured a site for a school-church, and made the exceptional grant £1,200 towards the erection of the same (estimated cost £1,500).

"A ragged school, with the assistance of the Earl of Shaftesbury, the Marquis of Westminster, the Ragged School Union, and other friends, was established in February, 1865, at a cost of £300. The school became so crowded after six months, that it was found absolutely necessary to erect an additional room for further accommodation, which is also full, although only opened on the 1st of January last. *Four hundred and fifty children are being educated in these schools free of charge.*

"To raise the needful funds to settle the builder's claim and extricate the school from debt, every exertion was made at Christmas last, but only half the required sum was subscribed. To meet this deficiency the present appeal is made, in the earnest hope that it may please the Giver of every good and perfect gift to dispose the hearts of many of His children to help on, and that without delay, this work of faith and labour of love.

"One hundred pounds (in addition to the further sum which is being expended on these appeals) is urgently needed, and shall the success of the schools be crippled for want of this?

"Operations also consist of services (Sundays and Thursdays), Sunday school, men's class, singing class, women's meeting, penny savings' bank, penny readings, lectures, &c."

Contributions will be most thankfully received by any of the following gentlemen:—Rev. J. M. Vaughan, No. 33, Nassau-place, Commercial-road East; Rev. T. B. Hill, No. 8, St. George's-place, St. George's-in-the-East; Dr. Tripe, 7, King's-place, Commercial-road East; Mr. Henry Mosely, 9, St. George's-place, St. George's-in-the-East; Mr. F. Warskitt, Cannon-street-road, E.

Cheques may be crossed "East London Bank, White-chapel Branch." Post-office Orders to be made payable at the Eastern District Post-office, Commercial-road East. Collecting cards to be returned to the Hon. Sec., Rev. J. M. Vaughan, 33, Nassau-place, Commercial-road, East.

Annual subscriptions are much needed to carry on the work, the district being almost entirely poor.

"That the soul be without knowledge it is not good."  
"Freely ye have received, freely give."

J. M. VAUGHAN,  
Curate in charge of St. John's District,  
and Hon. Secretary.  
33, Nassau-place, Commercial-road, East.

## MASONIC GLEANINGS.

By Bro. the Rev. J. KINGSTON.

*(Continued from page 426.)*

The eighth volume of "Notes and Queries" contains the following extracts, which will be interesting to brethren belonging to the R. A. and Rose Croix degrees:—

## "CURIOUS DECORATION."

"A decoration was lately brought to me for interpretation; but I could make out nothing of its mysterious characters. I will describe it, in hopes that some reader of "Notes and Queries" may favour me with an explanation. It is a star of seven points, the place of the eighth, at the top, being inelegantly supplied by a loop; from which it is to be suspended on a ribbon or chain. The material is only brass, yet the engraving is remarkably well executed. It displays a shield divided quarterly by an upright crosier, and a transverse spear. In the dexter chief is a lion rampant and a sceptre before him. In the sinister chief appears a well under a tree, an arrow by its side, and a bull underneath. The dexter base has a man in a kind of frock coat, with both hands lifted up, as if preaching or exhorting. In the sinister base is a spread eagle. The supporters are two harpies, each extending one wing over the escutcheon, and with the other partly covering her body. Above the shield is a star, with the letter J in the centre; and above all is the eye of Providence. The motto is KODES LA ADONIA. At first I thought it might have some reference to the *Koddes*, who founded the sect of *Collegians*; but the person who brought it said that he understood it to be the decoration of some society, which he called the Order of Stagorians. I confess I am all in the dark about this singular motto and coat of arms. and shall be thankful if any one can give an explanation of it."

"F. C. H."

To this query Bro. T. J. Buckton thus replies:—

"Although I have not attained the degree in Freemasonry to which this decoration appears to me to belong, I can yet explain it partially. There is a degree in Masonry of Knights of the White Eagle or Pelican, to which this may appertain. I conceive the lion and sceptre to indicate the royal house of Judah. The eagle is the symbol of supreme power. 'The harpies' are, I suppose, the cherubim. The letter J. is the initial of 'Jehovah,' and the motto correctly put, 'Kodesh l'Adonai,' means 'Holiness to the Lord.' The correct explanation, I conceive, is known to very few persons, and these would not furnish it. I can form no conjecture as to the meaning of the crosier, the spear, the tree, the well, the arrow, or the bull. But, on the contrary, the blazing star with its seven points is clearly Masonic; so is the man in the attitude described."

"My thanks to Mr. Buckton for his partial

explanation of the symbols on this decoration. The degree of Freemasonry to which he alludes is, I presume, that of *Rosa Crucis*, the jewel of which is a pelican, which also appears upon the seal of the Order, with a rose-coloured ribband. But none of the other figures on the decoration are connected with the Order of *Rosa Crucis*. If I may hazard a conjecture, I think the lion and sceptre symbolise the kingly power, while the crosier and spear represent the clerical and military authorities. But beyond this I do not see my way. The motto may be intended for the Hebrew words, as given by Mr. Buckton; but it is distinctly engraved in bold Roman capitals, as I gave it—KODES LA ADONIA. And this puzzled me. I was of course aware that the sacred name ADONAI is used in various Orders of Freemasonry; and I know that KADOSH appears on the mystical ladder of the Masonic Knights Templar; but it was difficult to suppose that on a decoration with engraving of superior execution these words should have been so completely perverted as above. I have since ascertained that the owner of the star was formerly a member of the society called Stagorians, and that he wore this as such. The society certainly did exist in the city where he resides. I shall make further inquiries, and may have more to communicate later on.—F. C. H.

Our indefatigable brother, Matthew Cooke, thus explains the decoration:

"Mr. T. J. Buckton is not quite correct in apportioning the medal described by F. C. H. (who, I presume, from the initials and his Bristol recollections has seen such a specimen before), to belong to the Knights of the White Eagle, or Pelican. It is an old jewel belonging to the Order of the Holy Royal Arch before the union of the two Grand Lodges in 1813. Its principal points represent the leading standards of the four divisions of the army of Israel, which make the compound figure of the cherubim, and are composed of a man, a lion, an ox, and an eagle. A man to personify intelligence and understanding; a lion to represent strength and power; an ox to denote the ministration of patience and assiduity; and an eagle as the figure of that promptness and celerity with which the will and pleasure of the great I AM is always executed. The other emblems refer to the bearings of some of the principal tribes of Israel. The motto, 'Holiness to the Lord,' is that of the Supreme Chapters of Royal Arch Masons everywhere. The crosier is emblematical of the officer Jeshua, the son of Josedech, the high priest, who wrote it. The spear, now superseded by the sword, which every companion will recognise as one of the necessities of the builders who returned with Zerubabel; and the tree alludes to the burning bush, seen by Moses on Mount Horeb, in the Wilderness of Sinai. From the peculiarity of its bearing an arrow, now disused with us, I infer that the medal in question was made previous to the year 1775."

“Mr. Buckton having read correctly the first part of the symbolic matter, let me point that the tree, the well, and the arrow, will be found in Gen. xlix. 22, 23. The bull also belonging to Joseph, Deut. xxxiii. 17. The reading of the whole matter is this: When the lion of the tribe of Judah, to whom belongs the morning star, is reconciled with the house of Joseph (the ten tribes), then the power of the Spirit, or eagle, will return, and holiness to Jehovah the Lord will be the rule; the kingly (spear) power and the priestly (crosier) will then be wielded by one who has the secret of those seven. The decoration then refers to the fulfilment of Zech. iv. 10, and vi. 13; and also to Amos v. 15, ix. 11, &c.

“LE CHEVALIER AU CIN.”

WAS WASHINGTON AN INFIDEL?

In the same volume a correspondent, signing himself “Cyril,” asks the above question. Lord Lyttelton, referring to the query, writes thus:—“The Rev. Dr. Miller, of Birmingham, some years ago, published a lecture on Washington, in which he said that his researches did not enable him to affirm that Washington, on his deathbed, gave evidence of Christian belief. ‘Cyril’ would, no doubt, hear from Dr. Miller on this point if he wrote to him.”

Bro. Matthew Cooke, however, triumphantly shows that our illustrious brother was a true believer in Jesus Christ and His divine revelation. He writes thus:—

“It was with feelings of the deepest regret that I saw so good a churchman as Lord Lyttelton quote the Rev. Dr. Miller, of Birmingham, as a competent authority to decide the question of General Washington’s belief or unbelief. Whatever may be the value of the research instituted by Dr. Miller I shall not take upon myself to determine, but I think I may claim for an American rector a more likely knowledge of the facts of the case, and an equal authority on the other side. Bound as I am by Masonic vow to maintain a Master Mason’s honour, and carefully to preserve it as my own, not to injure him myself, nor knowingly suffer it to be done by others if in my power to prevent it, and boldly to repel the slanderer of his good name, I feel called upon, in the absence of a reply from brethren of greater dignity than myself, to adduce some reasons why one among the greatest of the thousands of great and good men we can enumerate as brethren should not suffer, and go down to posterity in the pages of ‘Notes and Queries’ with the brand of infidel attached to his name.

“I have before me the following pamphlet by the rector of St. George’s, New York, and I fearlessly pit his knowledge, and that of the hundreds who heard it delivered, and the thousands who have read it, against the researches of the Rev. Dr. Miller. It is entitled ‘Washington, an Exemplification of the Principles of Free-

masonry: an Oration delivered in the Metropolitan Hall, in the City of New York, Nov. 4, A.D. 5852, at the Centennial Commemoration of the Initiation of George Washington into the Order of Free and Accepted Masons, by Stephen H. Tyng, D.D., together with an Account of the Proceedings. Published by order of the M.W. Grand Lodge. New York: Printed by Robert Macoy, 1852.’

“The pamphlet occupies thirty-two pages, which are thus filled—one page, title; verso, blank; one page, dedication; verso, blank; one page, the request of the Grand Lodge to Bro. Tyng, and his reply, for leave to print; verso, blank; six pages of proceedings, followed by the oration, commencing p. 13, and ending p. 31.

“Confining myself strictly to the matter in hand, I extract the following from the Rev. Bro’s. oration:—

“‘Of his own position in the unfortunate battle of that day (General Braddock’s defeat) he says, ‘By the all-powerful dispensations of Providence.’ Ah, beautiful illustration of the way in which, from the very beginning of his glorious career, he was accustomed to acknowledge and reverence the Divine presence and the Providence of God! ‘By the all-powerful dispensations of Providence, I have been protected beyond all human probability or expectation.’”—p. 19.

“Quoting from the General’s farewell address, Dr. Tyng cites these words:—

“‘Though, in reviewing the incidents of my administration, I am unconscious of intentional error, I am nevertheless too sensible of my defect not to think it probable that I have committed many errors. Whatever they may be, I fervently beseech the Almighty to avert or mitigate the evils to which they may tend.’”—p. 26.

“Towards the close, Dr. Tyng enters more fully on the immediate matter under consideration, and says:—

“‘Permit me to adduce one more illustration of Washington’s Masonic greatness. It is his distinct and constant maintenance of the authority of religion. Our honoured Society maintains this open profession in carrying ever before us and in our midst with solemn reverence the Holy Bible—an open Bible. We have in our midst this day, guarded by soldiers who look as if they had lived from Washington’s time to ours, the very Bible over which our exalted Washington uttered his first obligation of conformity to the Constitution of his country as the chief magistrate of this Union. This venerated Bible is in the possession of St. John’s Lodge in this city—who never allow it to leave their lodge but with a committee of their body, and a suitable guard of Continentals, whose privilege it is always to attend it, which guard you see before you here.\* And, as his

\* The Continentals, a military company of New York, in the ancient military dress of the American army.

whole life illustrated and displayed our other principles with constancy and power, so did it also this—Masonic reverence for the Divine revelation, and maintenance of the precepts and obligations of religion. From the commencement of his military career, a youth of twenty-one years old, he constantly maintained the services of eligious worship in his camp. He remonstrated against the neglect of Virginia in providing chaplains for his army, and insisted with success upon their appointment. Among the first orders of that early campaign was his solemn prohibition of all profanity in the army. The same order he frequently repeated in the subsequent campaigns of the revolution. His habitual regard for the Sabbath and the public worship of God, and his own private personal worship, were amongst the most prominent facts of his character. When the burgesses of Virginia appointed a day for fasting and prayer, in May, '74, to implore the Divine interposition in their heavy calamity, Washington records in his diary—little imagining that, four-score years after, this diary would remain a striking evidence of his religious spirit—that he went to church, and fasted all day.

“The same member of his family from whom I have already quoted says of him :—

“He never omitted attending church in the morning, unless detained by indisposition. The afternoon was spent in his own room at home, but visiting and visitors were prohibited for that day. No one in church attended to the services with more reverential aspect.’

“How valuable the example to all rulers of the nation who have come after him! Ordering attention to the services of the appropriate chaplains, he says to his army :—

“The blessing and protection of Heaven are at all times necessary, but especially so in times of public distress and danger. The General hopes and trusts that every officer and man will endeavour to live and act as becomes a Christian soldier defending the dearest rights and liberties of his country.’

“Again :—‘That the troops may have an opportunity of attending public worship, the General in future excuses them from fatigue duty on Sundays. The General is sorry to be informed that the foolish and wicked practice of profane cursing and swearing—a vice heretofore little known in an American army—is growing into fashion. He hopes that the officers will, by example as well as influence, endeavour to check it, and that both they and the men will reflect that we can have little hope of the blessing of Heaven on our arms if we insult it by our impiety and folly.’—pp. 27, 28.

“Dr. Tyng says he could multiply these examples, and quotes from one of his letters :—

“The hand of Providence has been so conspicuous in all this, that he must be more than an infidel that lacks faith, and more than wicked that

has not gratitude enough to acknowledge his obligations.’

“Further on Dr. Tyng adds :—

“Well does Mr. Sparks say of him, “If a man who spoke, wrote, and acted as a Christian through a long life, who gave numerous proofs of his believing himself to be such, and who was never known to say, write, or do anything contrary to his profession—if such a man is not to be ranked among the believers in Christianity, it would be impossible to establish the point by any train of reasoning. He was educated in the Episcopal Church, to which he always adhered; and my conviction is that he believed in the fundamental doctrines of Christianity according to his understanding of them, but without a particle of intolerance or disrespect for the faith and modes of worship adopted by Christians of other denominations. Rarely was there ever a more perfect illustration of the great Masonic principle upon this subject, a principle which may well be summed up in the two great commandments of the Divine Author of Christianity : ‘Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and mind, and strength, and thy neighbour as thyself.’

“I have transcribed the above literally and without a single alteration, and am led to hope the majority of readers of ‘Notes and Queries’ will agree with me that, because a great and good man did not glibly rattle off such a profession of faith as would satisfy the sensational readers of deathbed scenes—such as used to appear in the so-called ‘Evangelical Magazine’—he, who passed through a long life as a Christian gentleman and a soldier, ought not to be stigmatised as an infidel; for, finite creatures as we are, it is rather too much to expect that the only test of a Christian life is to depend, not on the favour, mercy, and love of a most gracious Saviour, but on the utterances of a man in his last moments.”

(To be continued).

## MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

### TOLERATION IN FREEMASONRY.

In answer to the letter from Potsdam, I say that in true Freemasonry there can be no toleration of opinions inconsistent in any material degree with its great and essential doctrines concerning God, man's duty, and a future state.—CHARLES PURTON COOPER.

### “DRIVING OF PILES” AND “SHOCKS.”

The now obsolete ceremony of pile driving was introduced into Ayrshire by Irish Masons early in the present century, but, being looked upon with disfavour, was only adopted by lodges in which Hibernian influence predominated. There seems to have been a want of uniformity in this as in other so-called customs of the Craft, for while, according to the mode noticed by Bro. J. F. Spurr, driving of piles was done standing (and that previous to calling off from labour

to refreshment), pile drivers in this district were seated during the operation, which was performed in course of refreshment, but only when the toast drank to was one meriting more than ordinary honour. There was no joining of hands; each brother piled for himself, the hands and feet moving up and down in unison with the time given by the Master, whose caprice also regulated the duration of the ceremony. The importers of the custom alluded to designated themselves "high" Masons, and in reply to queries as to what connection it bore to Freemasonry, said it referred to the driving of piles necessary in the formation of the viaduct connecting the Temple with Mount Zion. The existence of such a bridge is, if we remember rightly, noticed by Josephus; but supposing it to be the case that in order to the completion of the fabric in question piles had to be driven in the valley (Tyropœon) spanned by the bridge, where, in the history, traditions, or symbolism of Freemasonry, do we find "driving piles" associated with its rites? Echo answers "Where?" As to "shocks," these, in former times in the west of Scotland, were practised by brethren who found amusement in the shocking treatment to which candidates were subjected at initiation, and are, we presume, referred to in old diplomas as among the "wonderfull tryalls" which all had to sustain ere the topmost round in the mystic ladder was reached. The shock experienced by the candidate on entrance was mild compared with that received by the F.C. in the tragic encounter which preceded his raising.—D. MURRAY LYON.

#### THE POSITIVISTS.

A correspondent makes two inquiries: the first relates to an alleged improvement (of late) in the philosophy of the Positivists. The next relates to their present notions of the Deity. Passages from Professor Paul Janets' little book, "La Crise Philosophique," published last year furnish apt answers to these inquiries. First inquiry:—"Il est juste de reconnaître que la Philosophie Positive s'est beaucoup améliorée dans ces derniers temps." Next inquiry, "Tantôt les Positivistes se contentent de dire que l'homme ne peut rien savoir des causes premières et des causes finales; tantôt ils nient toute cause première (en dehors du monde) et toute cause finale. Tantôt il semble que, pour eux, Dieu soit un inconnu, qui échappe à toute définition et à toute détermination scientifique (ce qui n'en exclut pas la possibilité); tantôt ils déclarent expressément qu'il n'y a rien en dehors de la Nature et de ses lois." My correspondent may consult my communication, "Positivism and Freemasonry," FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE, Vol. XII., page 57.—CHARLES PURTON COOPER.

#### WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

The following extraordinary letter appeared in the *Scottish Freemasons' Magazine* for this month.—J. KINGSTON.

Hobart Town, Tasmania,  
23rd March, 1866.

Sir,—For some time past my friends have endeavoured to draw the attention of the Grand Lodge of Scotland to certain Masonic discoveries made by me during the last thirty-five years; but their letters, as well as my own, have met with silence, no notice whatever having been taken of the communications.

From the tenour of the writings in your magazine, it is evident the Order generally is desirous of information. It is an admitted fact, that the Masonic mysteries are lost, and that it would be beneficial to the Order could the brethren re-discover them. I am in possession of them, but it is supposed, because I am in the Antipodes, I cannot by any means know anything respecting the great northern lights of Masonry.

Persons in England not connected with the Order, having heard of my Masonic discoveries, have sent for me desiring my attendance in London. I have consented to visit them conditionally, that all my expenses are paid, and that before divulging the Masonic mysteries to the public, I am to offer them to one of the grand lodges in Great Britain, and should the brethren refuse them, then it will have to be decided in what manner they are to be dealt with. The knowledge was not communicated to me Masonically, and therefore I am not bound by any obligation, and can reveal the secrets if I think proper. As a Mason, however, I am induced to offer the knowledge to the Order, and if the mysteries are preserved among intellectual brethren, then will Masonry be regenerated to its former standing, causing its leaders to be 'the chiefs of enlightened men,' and rulers of the world.

I have just addressed a letter on the subject to the Grand Secretary of Scotland. I shall probably arrive in England a month or so after this reaches you, and will write to you; in the meantime, make what use you think proper of this letter.

Your humble servant,  
HENRY MELVILLE.

#### FINDEL'S HISTORY OF FREEMASONRY.

Is this work considered reliable by the Craft? I have observed a great many errors in it. In this month's number of the *Scottish Freemasons' Magazine* we read as follows:—"The same work ('Findel's History') informs us that in 1861 they (the Freemasons of Scotland) even so far lowered themselves as to introduce the Adoptive Masonry, invented by Bro. Robt. Morris, in Louisville, and were not ashamed to intrude an exclusive degree for women, the 'Eastern Star.'" Can any of our readers inform us where this degree is wrought?"

J. KINGSTON.

#### CORRESPONDENCE.

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

#### IS MR. CHARLES DICKENS A MASON?

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—A correspondent inquires in your last impression but one if Mr. Charles Dickens is a member of our ancient Fraternity. Not to my knowledge, but his brother the late Alfred Lamert Dickens was initiated in the Universal Lodge, 181, then 212 in April, 1865, and continued a member thereof until his decease, which occurred during the time he accepted the position of W.M. of that lodge. Two of his children have been placed in the Royal Freemasons' School for Female Children.

Yours faithfully and fraternally,  
CORNER STONE.

## THE MASONIC MIRROR.

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

### METROPOLITAN.

#### INSTRUCTION.

**METROPOLITAN CHAPTER.**—On Tuesday, the 5th inst., the usual meeting of this chapter was held at the George Hotel, Aldermanbury, the three chairs being filled by Comps. Little, Pendlebury, and Turner. Comp. Brett most ably worked the three first sections. Comp. Blackburn promised to deliver a lecture on the mystic principles of Royal Arch Masonry on Tuesday, the 19th inst., when it is hoped a great many Comps. will be present, as no doubt it will be very interesting and instructive. Comp. Spencer having presented the chapter with a splendid copy of the sacred readings, a vote of thanks was awarded to him for the present, and ordered to be entered on the minutes. The chapter then closed, the officers retaining their respective chairs for the ensuing week. The chapter meets at the above address every Tuesday evening at seven o'clock, when Royal Arch Masons are invited to attend.

**CRYSTAL PALACE LODGE (No. 742).**—The regular meeting of this prosperous lodge was held at the Crystal Palace on the 7th inst. The chair of K.S. was occupied by Bro. J. Bertram, W.M., assisted by his officers. The first business was the raisings, which were ably and impressively done. Bros. Clewlow, J. W. Saunders, W. A. Saunders, Sarson, and Price were interrogated for passing, after which they were intrusted and withdrew. The minutes of the former meetings were read and confirmed. Candidates for passing were then admitted, and received the F.C. degree. Bro. G. Palmer then took the chair. Bro. S. P. Acton, S.W. and W.M. elect, was presented to the W.M. to receive, at his hands, the benefit of installation. The Board of Installed Masters was duly formed, and Bro. S. P. Acton duly installed W.M. for the ensuing year. He appointed all his officers, viz:—Bros. Bertram, I.P.M.; W. Davison, S.W.; T. Foxall, J.W.; Handford, P.M. Treas.; H. T. Thompson, P.M. Sec. Ballots were taken for Messrs. Baxter, Lyon, and Allsop. Four gentlemen being in attendance, were ably initiated by the new W.M. The report of the Audit Committee was read and confirmed. Bro. J. Bertram the retiring W.M. was presented with a beautiful P.M.'s jewel, which had been voted from the lodge funds at the previous meeting, for which he returned thanks. Two gentlemen were proposed for initiation. The lodge was then closed. There was a very full attendance of members and visitors. The banquet which followed, served by Bros. Bertram and Roberts, was all that could be desired.

### PROVINCIAL.

#### DURHAM.

**HARTLEPOOL.—St. Helens Lodge (No. 531).**—On Thursday, the 7th inst., the usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Hall, under the presidency of Bro. A. Nathan, W.M., assisted by Bro. S. Leigh, S.W., and Sec.; L. M. Hill, J.W.; T. Forbes, Treas.; and others, the attendance of the brethren being but moderate. The first business after the confirmation of the minutes, was to pass a candidate to the degree of F.C., which was done by the W.M. in a workmanlike manner. It was then resolved, on the motion of the J.W., seconded by the Treasurer, that on account of the unsatisfactory state of the funds of the lodge, the expenses of the usual slight refreshment in future be defrayed by the members present, visitors, of course, being always excepted. Heartly good wishes having been proposed, the lodge was closed, and the brethren retired at half-past nine o'clock, p.m.

**WEST HARTLEPOOL.—Harbour of Refuge Lodge (No. 764).**—The annual meeting of this lodge and installation of W.M. elect, took place at the Freemasons' Hall, on Tuesday the 12th inst., when there was a large number of brethren present, including the following visitors:—Bros. Wrightson, 111; Best,

P.M., P. Prov. J.G.W.; Cadle, W.M. 509; Dr. Moore, P.M. 764 and 531, P. Prov. J.G.W.; A. Nathan, W.M.; Stonier Leigh, S.W. and Sec.; Hill, J.W. and Forbes Treas., 531; and Bowron, W.M. 940. The lodge having been opened and the minutes confirmed, two brethren were unanimously accepted as joining members. Bro. Dr. Moore, who was appointed W.M. at the consecration of the lodge then took possession of the chair and proceeded to install the S.W., Bro. R. B. Harpley, on whom the selection of the brethren had fallen, as W.M. for the ensuing year, the ceremony being performed by the Installing Master, in a most impressive manner giving evidence of elocutionary powers of a high degree. The W.M. then invested his officers: W. W. Brunton, I.P.M.; W. C. Ward Jackson, J.P., S.W.; S. Gourley, M.D., J.W.; J. Bird, Treas.; J. B. Watt, Sec.; W. Park, S.D.; W. Farrar, J.D.; J. Salmon, and W. Sadler, Stews.; J. Millar, I.G.; and Atkinson, Tyler. The banquet was held at Bro. Sadler's Ship Hotel, and reflected credit on his arrangements as a caterer. The usual toasts followed, interspersed with songs and recitations, contributed by Bros. Wilmot, Moore, Macdonald, Miller, Farrar, until about eight p.m., when the Tyler's toast brought the proceedings to a close.

#### HERTFORDSHIRE.

**WALTHAM CROSS.—Gresham Lodge (No. 869).**—On Saturday, the 9th inst., the members of this lodge held their second meeting of the season at the Four Swans Hotel. There was a full attendance of the brethren, and several visitors, it being the day for installing Bro. Edmund Farthing, P.M. 101, P.G. Supt. of Works, and W.M. elect. The lodge was opened by the W.M., Bro. H. J. Thompson, P. Prov. S.G.W. Herts. The usual business being disposed of, Bro. C. Swan, P.M., P. Prov. G.D., proceeded to install Bro. E. Farthing into the chair of K.S., which ceremony he performed in his usual quiet and easy manner. The W.M. then appointed his officers as follows:—Bros. C. Rook, P.G.S.B., S.W.; R. Mitchell, J.W.; O. F. Valentine, P.M., P.G.D., Treas.; H. J. Thompson, P.M., P. Prov. S.G.W., Sec.; Fox, S.D.; Gompertz, J.D.; R. Bruce, I.G.; C. Swan, P.M., P. Prov. G.D., Dir. of Cers.; Chamberlain, Steward; Forsythe, Org.; and Hoare, Tyler. The ballot having been taken for, and proving unanimous in favour of, Mr. J. J. Fox, he, being in attendance, was initiated into Freemasonry in a very impressive manner by the W.M. A joining member having been balloted for, and other business disposed of, the lodge was closed, and the brethren retired to the banquet, which was supplied by Bro. Hunt in a style that reflected great credit upon him. The cloth having been removed, and the usual loyal and Masonic toasts given and responded to, the W.M. rose and said he had now arrived at a very pleasing part of the day's business, and that was to present to Bro. H. J. Thompson, P.M., a testimonial in the shape of a silver goblet or loving cup. A sum of money had been voted by the lodge for this purpose, and the brethren had kindly increased the amount. On one side of the goblet was engraved the following inscription: "Presented by the members of the Gresham Lodge (No. 869) to the W.M., Bro. H. J. Thompson, P.M. and P. Prov. S.G.W. Herts, as a mark of their esteem for his valuable services as one of the founders of the lodge, also as the W.M. for the year 1865. June 9th, 1866." On the reverse side are engraved Bro. Thompson's arms accompanied with the Gresham arms, the lodge being named after Sir Thomas Gresham. The W.M., in presenting the cup, spoke at some length as to the various services rendered by Bro. Thompson, not only to the lodge, but to Freemasonry in general. The cup was richly chased and engraved, and is the first testimonial given to any brother from this lodge. Bro. Thompson rose, and in a short but impressive manner thanked the brethren most sincerely for the very handsome present he had just received. The remaining toasts having been given and responded to by the various officers and visitors, the brethren separated, expressing themselves much pleased with the proceedings of the day.

#### KENT.

**CONSECRATION OF THE CORNWALLIS LODGE (No. 1107), BELVIDERE.—INSTALLATION OF THE W.M.**

The R.W. Bro. Dobson, D. Prov. G.M. for Kent, accompanied by V.W. Bros. Waite, Prov. G. Sec.; Rev. W. A. Hill, Prov. G. Chap.; Snowden, Prov. G.W.; with other members of the Provincial Grand Lodge (together with a considerable number of the members of various lodges) assembled at Belvidere, on

Friday, the 1st inst., to consecrate this new lodge, and to install Bro. C. S. Sutton, P.M., Prov. G. Dir. of Cers., the W.M. Designate. Special permission had been obtained to hold this meeting in one of the once palatial and magnificent saloons of Belvidere Castle, a venerable mansion, beautifully situated upon the summit of the hill, some half mile distant from the Belvidere station; a somewhat steep and circuitous, but charmingly rural, walk of half-an-hour brought the visitors to this lovely spot, "exempt from public haunt." By the command of the R.W. Bro. Dobson, Bro. Henry Muggeridge, P.M. 198, the Preceptor of the Stability Lodge of Instruction, performed the ceremonies of consecration and installation in his wonted, perfect, and impressive manner, ably seconded in the former ceremonial by the highly esteemed and distinguished Bro. W. A. Hill, Prov. G. Chap. The music of the ceremonial was conducted by Bro. G. Tedder, in his usual efficient manner. After the installation, the W.M. invested the following brethren as his officers:—Bros. H. Muggeridge, P.M.; Phipps, S.W.; Atkins, J.W.; Henderson, Sec.; Snow, Treas.; F. H. Sutton, S.D.; Lilley, J.D.; Bloomfield, I.G. After which, Bro. Muggeridge delivered the usual address to the Master, Warden, and brethren.

The thanks of the lodge having been voted to Bro. Dobson, to the Rev. Bro. W. A. Hill, and to the installing Master, the lodge was closed in due form, and the brethren adjourned to the Belvidere Hotel, where an excellent banquet was provided, at which the D. Prov. G.M. presided.

After grace was said, the CHAIRMAN proposed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, to which due honour was given by the brethren.

In proposing "The Health of the Provincial Grand Master," the CHAIRMAN said: We who live in Kent know how great is the kindness and courtesy of Lord Holmesdale in all his communications with the Craft in the province, and I very much regret that his Lordship could not be here to-day at the consecration of this lodge. Your Worshipful Master received a note from his Lordship, saying that he would have come but that he was then away in Scotland. I the more regret that his Lordship is not here to-day, as he is better able to explain points in connection with Masonry than I can. Lord Holmesdale deserves our especial commendation. He was appointed Provincial Grand Master in 1859, since which time Masonry has made wonderful progress in this province; whereas, at the time of his appointment there were but sixteen lodges in the province, there are now twenty-six, in which there are more than a thousand contributing members, an increase of more than one hundred per cent. This I can say most distinctly, without fear of contradiction, that the province of Kent is not behind any in assisting the great Charities of the Order, and though we may not be able to attribute all the success to the Provincial Grand Master, still without a good head neither Masonry nor anything else goes on well.

Bro. SNOWDEN, Prov. G.W., then said: I am told that it is my duty to propose "The Health of the Deputy Provincial Grand Master." I was here early this morning, and from what I then heard, was afraid that we should not have the pleasure of seeing him amongst us, and when his name was announced, it was to me, individually, a matter of great gratification to know that he was present. Bro. Dobson on this, as on other occasions, has added *éclat* to the consecration, and I feel that this meeting would have gone on with *éclat* in his absence. I call upon you to drink his health with due honour.

Bro. DOBSON, in reply, said: I am extremely obliged to Bro. Snowden for the compliment he has paid me, but he has attributed more to me than I deserve, in saying that the ceremony of consecration would not have gone off with *éclat* without me. With regard to my part of the duty, it consisted in directing Bro. Muggeridge to perform his part of the ceremony, and it could not have been better done, neither could the duties of Provincial Grand Chaplain have been more ably performed. In all the provinces in the country the ceremony of consecration and the service of the lodge could not be better performed than they are in Kent. Much of the impressive character of the ceremony must be attributed to the solemnity with which Bro. Hill invests it, and to his *bonhomie*, courtesy, and his general knowledge of the human heart and of human nature. As to the ceremony of refreshment, I am always happy to join my brother Masons. Masonry and hospitality go hand in hand together, and Masonry is the right hand of hospitality. It is no use for people to say that we only meet to eat and drink; it is not the truth. There may be some lodges where personal gratification is too much attended to, but this I do

say, without fear of contradiction, it is not the way with the lodges of Kent. It is a fact that no better assistance can be rendered to a lodge than by the Treasurer paying particular attention to his duties, and acting upon the principles upon which Bro. Snow does. Of your contributions to the Charities, one portion is necessarily appropriated by the Grand Lodge of England, and the other portion by the Provincial Grand Lodge, and the Provincial Grand Lodge is always ready to attend to the claims of every man, woman, and child who has a legitimate claim to the Charity. I can appeal to my friend Bro. Muggeridge, or to the Secretaries of any of the Charities, if there is any province that performs its duty to the Charities better than we do. In Kent we do carry out the first principles of the Order to the utmost extent. There are no three Charities better sustained than our three Charities; and, as to charity in general, we can well afford to laugh at all the sneers that we "only meet to dine." We do meet to dine, and upon the simple English principle that a good dinner is not only a good thing in itself, but it opens the breeches pocket. There are no better men and better supporters of charities generally than Masons. There is one little point of difficulty in discharging my functions; it is the little matter of difference between purple and blue. We very easily distributed the offices formerly when the lodges were fewer in number, but the difficulty increased with the increase in the number of the lodges, and, as my facetious friend on my right once observed, there are now "more pigs than teats." The officers are too few, for there is a man in every lodge well worthy of the purple. I endeavour to distribute the offices to the best of my power, and, although the distribution is apt to make more enemies than friends, I do not succeed in making enemies. I am surrounded by so many friends that it always makes these meetings most agreeable to me.

Song—"Bonnie Ellerslie," Bro. G. Tedder.

Bro. DOBSON next proposed "The Health of the Provincial Grand Chaplain, associated with the Provincial Grand Officers of Kent," and observed: That the Provincial Grand Chaplain was ready to do good suit and service at all times, and to add solemnity to every ceremony at which he assisted. The Provincial Grand Chaplain (continued Bro. Dobson) brings his mind to bear upon the ceremony, and the able manner in which he to-day expounded the portions of Scripture, off hand, is merely a repetition of many other performances of a similar character, and whether in Provincial Grand Lodge, or at the consecration of lodges; he is always ready to perform his duties with accuracy and ability. With him I have also to associate two Provincial Grand Officers, viz., my friend Snowden, who came up last evening from Ramsgate expressly that he might be here to-day. It is a great compliment to the Cornwallis Lodge. And my facetious friend in the corner, who holds what may be called permanent office in the province, as the Provincial Grand Secretary. The laborious duties, with the enormous pay attached to the office of Provincial Grand Secretary and Provincial Grand Treasurer, are no joke, whether in Provincial Grand Lodge or in private lodges. If you had not your circulars regularly the Secretary would be called "a nasty, disagreeable fellow," and you would be very apt to growl and grumble if the duties were not properly performed. You would scarcely believe the duties he has to perform. He has not only to take the names and addresses of all present and past Grand Officers, but he has to send out 250 circulars; and there are other matters which require due attention and preparation. If each officer does not get his circular regularly he considers he is overlooked. He has also to attend the meeting of the Charity, as well as that of other committees,—which he has never omitted attending; and I can assure you he has to give up something to come among you.

The Rev. Bro. HILL in reply to the last toast said, I cannot help thinking that I should be very thankful to have the same gift of utterance as that possessed by our distinguished brother in the chair. I think this has been a very pleasant and satisfactory gathering, and satisfactory entertainment. With regard to the good old mansion where the lodge was held, I visited it with feelings of pain and melancholy; a stranger could not look at it without reverence and respect, and no man could enter into that room without thinking that it was fit for the reception of lords and ladies, and I hope that brighter days and commercial prosperity may still restore its former beauty. Let us cast our eyes beyond and congratulate the brethren on the formation of this lodge which started so well to-day, must become an important one. So long as I live I shall always entertain an affection

for the Masonic body, and I hope that the young will carry out the principles of the Order, and I wish that prosperity may attend you and the lodge.

The W.M., Bro. SUTTON, then proposed "The Health of Bro. Muggeridge the Installing Master," and said I am sure you will heartily join with me in drinking his health and may he be spared many years to visit this lodge, he had done his work well and never did it better. We are deeply indebted to Bro. Muggeridge for consecrating this lodge, more especially to-day, as Friday is one of the days when he is more particularly engaged in attending to the interests of the Girls' School. Bro. Muggeridge is well known amongst us; we have only to ask Bro. Muggeridge and he is ever ready to do anything to promote the prosperity of Masonry. It would be superfluous to add more than to ask you to drink this health success and long life to him.

Bro. MUGGERIDGE, in reply, said: W.M. and brethren, I rise on the present occasion with feelings of very great pleasure to thank you for the very kind reception you have given me this day. I have always been treated by the Kentish Masons with very great consideration and kindness, and I always feel a particular pleasure in coming amongst them. This is the fifth lodge that I have had the honour of consecrating in Kent. (In the lodge I said fourth, but I had for the moment forgotten the Royal Engineers Lodge which I consecrated at Chatham.) I have been associated in Masonry with the county of Kent for many years. I was first connected with the county of Kent at Woolwich in 1848, and was a constant attendant of the lodge of instruction there, and afterwards with the Union Waterloo Chapter, in which I passed the different offices and filled the office of First Principal two years in succession. I was also connected with a lodge at Dartford, also with Deal and Dover, &c. I feel very great pleasure in performing any work in Masonry in the county of Kent, where I am treated with such extreme kindness. Our Bro. Sutton has alluded to my connection with the Freemasons' Girls' School. On Tuesdays and Fridays I am generally at the office of that Institution in Great Queen-street. Most of you, brethren, are aware of the great success of the last festival in aid of that institution, when the large sum of £3,700 was contributed by the Craft. Our highly respected Bro. John Havers, Past Grand Warden, presided, and any one who was present on the occasion and listened to the appeal which he then made, must have been highly gratified. The late Deputy Grand Master, Lord Dalhousie, was present, and his Lordship expressed his pleasure in the highest terms. There was also a marked improvement in the tavern keeper's arrangements; many of you will say, perhaps, there was quite room enough for that. On the last occasion an excellent dinner was provided. In mentioning the sum contributed, I am quite sure you will not lose sight of what the D. Prov. G. Master has told you "to support the Charities." They all require support.

The PROV. G. MASTER said: Worshipful Master and Brethren, I thank you most heartily for the kind reception you have given me, and if my services have met with your approbation, I am much pleased.

Bro. DOBSON proposed "The Health of the W. Master, Bro. Sutton, and observed that great praise was due to him for the exertions and zeal he had displayed in the formation of this new lodge, and after dwelling *seriatim*, upon the difficulties in the way of instituting a new lodge, the Chairman said: with what success my friend on my left has worked in its behalf, we have an ample proof in the fact that there are already twenty-nine members of this lodge, and others will be glad to join. The lodge is well supported. The prosperity of the lodge depends on the efforts of the W. Master.

Song, Bro. WESTCOMBE.

In reply to the last toast, the W. MASTER said: I beg to express to you, brethren, my best thanks for the kind manner in which you have drunk my health. As Master of this lodge, I feel it to be my duty to do all in my power to further the interests and prosperity of Freemasonry in the county of Kent. I started with the intention to carry out the landmarks of Freemasonry to the fullest extent, and to make this lodge a household word of love and harmony. We do not want a large number, but we want to meet here in that manner as brothers, loving one another. I trust by next June to be able to show that I have done my duty as Master of Cornwallis Lodge. All who have been connected with me in the formation of this lodge, have done all in their power to assist. I must say that I felt much depressed until I heard that Bro. Dobson had

arrived at the railway station. I beg to tender to you, Right Worshipful Sir (addressing Bro. Dobson), my heartfelt thanks for honouring us with your presence, and I hope to prove by acts that we are worthy of the interest you have shown towards this lodge. Words cannot do so, but let my actions prove that there is something more in Masonry than in words.

Bro. SNOW then rose and said: No doubt I have taken you all by surprise, and you are wondering what it is possible for me to be about. I have something to say, but I hardly know at which end to begin; but I have a toast to propose, which is "The Health of our Visitors." I can assure them that no one can be prouder than I am to see them here to-day. We have not many left, but those who are left, will, I have no doubt answer for those who have left. We are proud to see the brother visitors amongst us. I came into the lodge a total stranger to them, and I am proud to make their acquaintance; and I trust it will not be long before they come to see us again.

Bro. GOLD returned thanks for the visitors.

Bro. DOBSON then proposed "The Health of the Officers of the Cornwallis Lodge," and said: As to the officers of the lodge, they can render very essential service to the Master. Your meetings are not so frequent in the year but you can manage to attend them; it is your duty to promote the prosperity of the lodge, and to make its working a credit to the Craft in general. The two officers, viz., the Treasurer and the Secretary, are generally permanent members. Were I speaking to an old lodge, I should say it is always desirable to fill those offices by Past Masters. There are many things which a Master has to do, which can be done equally well by the Treasurer and Secretary without troubling the Master. When you take young members into these offices, the lodge does not do so well as when these offices are filled by an old member. If you take an old Mason for Treasurer you will always find hospitality well carried out, and he always looks after the main chance,—he looks after the money. I give you "The Health of the Officers, and with that toast the name of Bro. Snow."

"The Balaclava Charge" (Tennyson)—Bro. MUGGERIDGE.

Bro. SNOW replied for the officers, and said: I hope that in the trust you have reposed in me you will never find me wanting. You, Sir, have thought proper to make a facetious remark about my looking after the dues. It is my duty to do so, and I shall do it. With regard to our Bro. Secretary, Bro. Henderson has been called away to the Florence Nightingale Lodge. I can assure you, had he been here this evening, he could have said more on the subject of Masonry than I can. This I can certainly state, that I will give way to no one in sincerity of heart in Masonry. I believe in charity, and no brother can say that I have not carried it out. You may depend upon this, that you shall never be able to say that I threw away one farthing of your funds.

The final toast having been given, the brethren separated, highly delighted with the auspicious proceedings of the day.

#### LEICESTERSHIRE.

LEICESTER.—*John of Gaunt Lodge* (No. 523).—A lodge of emergency was held at the Freemason's Hall, on Thursday, the 7th inst., when, in addition to the W.M. (Bro. the Rev. John Spittal), there were present, Bros. Kelly, D. Prov. G.M.; Brewin, P.M.; Green, S.W. and W.M. elect; J. E. Hodges, Sec.; Moor, J.D.; Boulton, Bithrey, Barfoot, Barber, M. Hack, W. H. Lewin, Hunt, Rome, Atkins, Shaw. Visitors: Bros. E. Johnson, P.M. 491, and P. Prov. S.G.W. of Jersey; L. A. Clarke, S.W.; A. O. Davies, I.G.; and Gosling, No. 279. The lodge having been opened to the second degree, Bros. E. A. Spencer and J. W. Ladkin were examined as F.C.'s, and having then retired, the lodge was opened in the third degree, and they were duly raised to that sublime degree by the D. Prov. G.M., assisted by Bro. Brewin, Bro. C. Johnson presiding at the organ. The lodge having been lowered to the first degree a ballot took place for five gentlemen as candidates for initiation, who were all elected, preparatory to their admission into the Order at the festival on the 25th inst. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to refreshment.

#### YORKSHIRE (NORTH AND EAST).

BRIDLINGTON QUAY.—*Londesborough Lodge* (No. 734).—The regular monthly meeting of this flourishing lodge took place on Tuesday afternoon, the 5th inst., when there were present Bros. Robert Wrangham, W.M.; George Fox and George Furby, P.M.'s; George Symons, S.W.; D. R. W. Porritt, J.W.; John

Rennard, S.D.; Sherwood, J.D.; Wilson, Org.; Newcombe, Sec.; Brockwell, I.G.; Kemp, Tyler; and about twenty-five other members, amongst whom, as visitors, were Bros. John Pearson Bell, D. Prov. G.M. North and East Yorkshire; Hunt and M. C. Lee, P.M.'s from Hull; Dr. W. F. Rooke, P. Prov. J.G.W., and James F. Spurr, P.M., from Scarborough; D. Hornby, W.M.; Dr. Scotchburn; A. O. Piercy and Forge, from Great Driffield. The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes read and confirmed. Mr. Charles Stubbs having been balloted for and accepted, was regularly initiated into the Masonic Order. The installation of W.M. for the ensuing year then took place. The lot having fallen upon Bro. D. R. W. Porritt, he was placed in the chair of K.S. The ceremony was very ably performed by Bro. George Fox, P.M., who afterwards delivered a lecture. The newly-installed Master addressed the brethren, and proceeded to elect and invest Bros. Captain Knocker, S.W.; John Rennard, J.W.; E. R. Harding, Treas.; and the other newly-appointed officers. The lodge was closed in harmony at half-past six o'clock in the evening, after which the brethren dined together at the Britannia Hotel, where a sumptuous banquet was provided for the occasion by Bro. Harrison.

## ROYAL ARCH.

### LEICESTERSHIRE.

LEICESTER.—*Chapter of Fortitude* (No. 279).—A quarterly convocation of this chapter was held on Thursday the 31st ult., at which there were present Comps. Brewin, M.E.Z.; Kelly, P.G.H. and Treas., as H.; Weare, J. Green, E.; Manning, as N.; Underwood, P.Z.; Pettifer, P.Z. as P.S.; Stretton, Bethrey, J. E. Hodges, and Moor. The chapter having been opened in solemn form, a ballot was taken for Bro. Joseph Barrett Jacques, of the Middle Temple, and of lodge No. 279, as a candidate for exaltation and who was duly elected, but was prevented attending by professional engagements. Bro. Leonard A. Clarke, who was balloted for at a previous chapter, was then exalted in admirable style by the M.E.Z. and the acting P.S., the M.E.Z. also delivering the historical and mystical lectures, and Comp. Kelly the symbolical lecture. Comp. Goodyer, H., was prevented attending by absence from home; Comp. the Rev. J. Spittal, E., by his clerical duties; and, Comp. H. J. Davis, P.S., by the state of his health, greatly to the regret of the chapter. Business being concluded the companions adjourned to refreshment and spent an hour or two very pleasantly.

### YORKSHIRE (NORTH AND EAST).

SCARBOROUGH.—*Old Globe Chapter* (No. 200).—The companions of this chapter were bailed to meet at the Freemason's Hall, Scarborough, on Wednesday evening, the 6th inst. Present: Comps. E. W. Richardson, M.E.Z.; W. Bean, H.; J. F. Spurr, J.; W. Cowling, P.Z. of the Zetland Chapter, York; Major J. W. Woodall, S.E.; the Rev. D. L. Alexander, S.N.; Dr. W. P. Rooke, P.S.; Dr. Armitage, S.S.; W. H. Garnett, J.S.; R. H. Peacock, Janitor; G. Knight, J. Webb, R. Dobson, T. Farthing, J. Chapman, &c. The chapter was only opened at seven o'clock in the evening, and the minutes read and confirmed, after which Comp. Cowling, P.Z., proceeded to instal Comp. Spurr as H., and Comp. Major J. W. Woodall, J. for the ensuing year, in the presence of Comps. Richardson and Bean, P.Z.'s the other companions having retired, and on their return a vote of thanks was given to Comp. Cowling, for the valuable services he had rendered on the occasion. Comp. Symons having declined to accept the office of Scribe E., on account of his inability to attend to its duties, Comp. H. C. Martin was unanimously elected in his stead. The other officers of the chapter were also invested with the insignia of their respective offices, after which the chapter was duly closed, and the companions adjourned to refreshment.

## MARK MASONRY.

GRAND LODGE OF MARK MASTERS OF ENGLAND AND WALES, AND THE COLONIES AND DEPENDENCIES OF THE BRITISH CROWN.

The summer half-yearly convocation was held on Tuesday, the 5th inst., in the Grand Hall, Masonic Union, 14, Bedford-

row; present—Bros. J. R. Stebbing, G. Treas. (P.G.W.) as M.W.G.M.; G. R. Portal, G. Reg., D.G.M.; J. Udall, G.S.W.; W. E. Gumbleton, G.J.W.; J. Hamer, G.M.O.; R. Spencer, P.G. Steward, as G.S.O.; T. Meggy, P.G. Steward, as G.J.O.; the Rev. D. Shaboe, P.G. Chap, as G. Chap.; F. Binckes, G.S.; J. Nunn, as G.S.D.; E. Turner, as G.J.D.; J. H. Wynne, G. Purst.; F. Davison, G. Org.; C. Swan, P.G.S.B.; W. J. Meynott, and E. S. Stillwell, P.G. Stewards; and many Masters, Past Masters, Wardens, Overseers, and brethren of private lodges. Visitor, Bro. J. S. Brownrigg, Lodge No. 12, I.C.

Grand Lodge was opened in form with solemn prayer. The minutes of the last convocation were read and confirmed. Letters from Present and Past Grand Officers expressive of regret at their inability to attend were read.

The report of the General Board was read, received, and ordered to be entered on the minutes, viz.:—

The General Board have to report, for the information of Grand Lodge, six additional warrants of constitution have been granted, viz.:—Nos. 87, Cornubian, Hayle, Cornwall; 88, Star of Burmah, Rangoon, British Burmah; 89, Umballa, Bengal; 90, Sirius, Bombay; 91, Hynshe, Devonport; 92, Walpole, Norwich. While 194 certificates have been issued, evidencing a continuous steady progress in every respect satisfactory.

By the terms of the warrants now in force the period of election of a Master is fixed to take place within one month of the Autumnal Equinox.

Representations from many quarters have been received urging the inconvenience of the observance of this regulation, and requesting that the election and installation of master may take place at the expiration of twelve months from the date of the warrant, irrespective of any stated period of the year, and so on from year to year. The Board, not recognising any particular advantage as accruing from the practice hitherto observed, recommend a compliance with the prayer of the memorialists.

Objections have also been made to the annual due, payable from every member, viz., two shillings for the whole or any portion of the year from the 1st of June, and a quarterage of sixpence has been suggested. The Board, however, taking into consideration the moderate amount of the fees payable on advancement, joining, &c., do not feel themselves justified—having regard to the finances of the Grand Lodge—in recommending Grand Lodge to accede to this request; but with a view to meet the wishes of a number of lodges, upon the resources of which the present annual dues are felt to press somewhat heavily, they are prepared to recommend a half-yearly due of one shilling, and they hope this arrangement will be accepted as satisfactory.

It had been hoped that the regulations as to clothing, &c., recently established would have been acceptable to brethren at home and abroad. From our distant possessions, however, memorials have been received asking that officers of Provincial Grand Lodges may be allowed to wear gold lace on their aprons and collars. The ribbon now allowed to these officers is of the same colours and width as that worn by the officers of Grand Lodge, and therefore the compliance of this request would have the effect of destroying the distinction now existing between the two classes of officers, a course which the Board are not prepared to adopt. Anxious, however, to gratify their wishes, the Board recommends an addition of gold cord on each edge of the collars and on the aprons of officers of Provincial Grand Lodges in the Colonies and Dependencies of the British crown.

Communications have been opened having for their object a union of interests between a large association of Mark Masters in the northern provinces and this Grand Lodge, which it is hoped may result successfully, the details of which will be submitted for the approval of this Grand Lodge as a substantive motion; while letters requesting information as a prelude to intimate relationship have been received from influential brethren in Turkey, by whom the Mark Degree is highly appreciated.

The memorials on the subject of recognition addressed to the Grand Lodges of Scotland and Ireland, unfortunately delayed by circumstances beyond control, are in course of preparation, and will very shortly be forwarded, to be followed, it is hoped, by personal interviews between members of the various executives in the hope of a favourable issue.

The Board is also of opinion that pending that full Masonic inter-communication, which is so highly desirable, it is essential to the maintenance of the dignity of this Grand Lodge, and of the rights and privileges of the brethren hailing under its banner, that the General Board should be empowered to pro-

hibit the admission into any of the lodges under its jurisdiction of any brother whose lodge, or whose Grand Lodge, shall refuse admission to any Mark Master hailing under this Grand Lodge, such prohibition to be in all cases reported to the next meeting of Grand Lodge.

The reports from our distant possessions continue to be of a gratifying character, eminently so from the Indian Presidencies. In Madras the unabated energy of the Provincial Grand Master, Colonel Greenlaw, is productive of the happiest consequences. In Bombay, the labours of the Provincial Grand Master, the Hon. Mr. Justice Gibbs, bid fair to be attended with similar success, and in Bengal, under the rule of Bro. Hugh David Sandeman, who has been appointed Provincial Grand Master, there is every probability of the attainment of equal prosperity.

The duties in the Grand Secretary's office have been considerably increased, necessitating for some time since the employment of assistance which has been obtained without any additional tax upon the resources of Grand Lodge. In fairness to the Grand Secretary, the Board considers that Grand Lodge should take some portion of this burden upon itself, and therefore recommends that a grant of £15 per annum be made to that officer in aid of the remuneration of the requisite assistant. In the event of the minutes of the last Half-yearly Convocation being confirmed by this Grand Lodge, the necessary steps will be immediately taken for the formation of the "Fund of Benevolence."

(Signed) G. R. PORTAL, V.P.

Masonic Union Hall, London, 5th June, 1866.

The G. Registrar proposed the adoption of the recommendation of the Board, as to the alteration of the time of election of W. Masters of lodges.

Bro. John Udall, G.S.W., seconded; and Bro. W. J. Hughan, W.M., No. 78, supported the proposition, which was carried unanimously.

The G. Registrar proposed the alteration of the dues payable to Grand Lodge from each subscribing member, from two shillings payable for the whole or any part of a year, to one shilling payable for each half-year.

Bro. Thomas Meggy, M.O., Kent Lodge, seconded the proposition, which was carried unanimously.

The G. Registrar proposed that the recommendation of the Board allowing officers of Provincial Grand Lodges in the colonies and dependencies to wear gold cord on their aprons and collars be adopted.

Bro. W. E. Gumbleton, G.J.W., seconded the proposition, which was carried unanimously.

The G. Registrar, in moving the adoption of the recommendation of the Board as to the non-admission to English Mark Lodges of the Members of any lodge hailing from another jurisdiction, to which Lodge Mark Masons under this constitution were refused admission, said he thought it only fair that the members of a lodge to which admission was sought by our own brethren and refused, should be prohibited from being received into our lodges. He did not wish to extend this prohibition to every lodge holding under the jurisdiction with which a lodge so refusing admission was connected, but only to apply it to individual lodges so acting.

Bro. W. E. Gumbleton, G.J.W., seconded the proposition.

Bro. James Hamer, G.M.O., detailed the circumstances and position of the lodges at Liverpool, and stated that it was within his knowledge that the Scotch lodges in the neighbourhood of Liverpool had received instructions prohibiting the visits of English Mark Masons.

Bro. Joshua Nunn, W.M. No. 8, could not support the adoption of this recommendation of the Board. He advocated a policy of conciliation—to open their doors and freely admit all Mark brethren who might desire to visit them—not to shut them closely and exclude all but members under their own constitution. He would show that they were animated by a better spirit than their friends on the other side in opposition to the feeling manifested by them.

Bro. A. D. Loewenstark, W.M. No. 86, agreed with Bro. Nunn. If the spirit embodied in the recommendation of the Board had originally prevailed, this Grand Lodge would have not have been so successful as it had been. All the Scotch lodges in London had either ceased to meet, or had transferred their allegiance to this Grand Lodge—with one exception, and he had every reason to believe that the lodge in question would very soon follow the example of the others and join them. This happy condition had been, and would be, brought about mainly in consequence of the friendly feeling existing between that Scotch lodge and one of the lodges under this jurisdiction, which

feeling could not have existed, had the present proposition been in force, nor could it be maintained should it now be adopted.

The Acting M.W.G.M. hoped their R.W. brother would not press this recommendation of the Board. He quite concurred with the three last speakers. They were a powerful and increasing body, whom a policy of conciliation would best become. Let them get at the heart of Scotch Masonry by manifesting in their own persons the civilising tendencies of conciliatory legislation.

Bro. W. J. Meymott, in the absence of those means of information in possession of the Board, spoke with diffidence, but still would add his support to that of those who were in favour of a friendly policy.

Bro. Rev. D. Shaboe, P.G. Chap., although labouring under the disadvantages alluded to by the last speaker, entirely agreed with him, and would move an amendment, "That the question embodied in the recommendation of the Board on the relations between other lodges and those under this jurisdiction be referred back to the General Board."

Bro. Joshua Nunn, W.M., No. 8, seconded the amendment.

The G. Registrar, on behalf of the Board, would accept the amendment, simply expressing his conviction of the necessity of maintaining those who were firm in their loyalty to this Grand Lodge. The amendment was put *pro forma* and adopted.

The G. Registrar moved that the recommendation of the Board for increased remuneration to the Grand Secretary, with a view to his providing more competent assistance, be approved.

Bro. E. S. Stillwell, W.M. elect No. 3, seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

The G. Registrar then explained the suggested articles of agreement between their Grand Lodge and the association of Mark Master Masons in East Lancashire and Cheshire, a deputation from which body had recently met the Grand Secretary at Manchester. The principal articles were—To grant a warrant of confirmation enabling the associated body to hold its meetings alternately at the places of meeting of the various lodges from which its members were drawn; To admit members of the associated body down to the date of the warrant of confirmation as members of this jurisdiction on the usual terms, viz., payment of one shilling by those brethren wishing to take our certificates; Brethren advanced subsequently to the date of the warrant to pay the full fee of eight shillings and sixpence for registration and certificate, and all members, new and old, to pay from that date the half-yearly due of one shilling during their continuance as subscribing members; The title and description of the benefit fund in connection with the associated body to be changed so as to bring it in accordance with Masonic usage. The articles of agreement were severally proposed, seconded, and approved.

Bro. Joseph Rankin Stebbing was, on the nomination of Bro. W. E. Gumbleton, G.J.W., seconded by Bro. F. Davison, unanimously re-elected Grand Treasurer.

Bro. Stebbing feelingly acknowledged the renewed mark of their confidence and esteem, and assured the brethren that he highly appreciated the compliment paid to him.

Bros. John Udall and Thomas Meggy were appointed to audit the accounts of Grand Lodge.

The M.W.G.M. Lord Holmesdale, M.P., being unavoidably prevented from attending, had deputed Bro. J. R. Stebbing to perform the ceremony of installing his successor, to whom Bro. the Rev. G. R. Portal, G. Reg. presented Bro. W. W. Beach, M.P. D.G.M. and G.M. elect, for the purpose of being installed as M.W.G.M. of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales, and the colonies and dependencies of the British Crown. The Grand Master elect having advanced to the pedestal, was in ancient form installed and placed on the throne. Having been proclaimed and saluted, the M.W.G.M. addressed the brethren, assuring them of his continued interest in the well being of Masonry generally, and especially of his unabated regard for the degree over which he had that day been called upon to preside. He congratulated them upon their continued prosperity abroad and at home. This was the result of a well considered policy of liberality and conciliation, and he doubted not that a continuance of that policy would conduce to still more gratifying results. They would ever find him determined to uphold the interests committed to his care, and anxious to discharge the duties he had undertaken with zeal and fidelity. The Grand Officers for the year appointed and invested are as follows:—Bros. the Rev. George Raymond Portal, D.G.M.; Viscount Kenlis, S.G.W.; Col. Meehan, J.G.W.; Vincent Bird,

G.M.Ov.; Edward S. Stillwell, G.S.Ov.; W. J. Hughan, J.G.Ov.; Rev. T. F. Ravenshaw, G. Chap.; W. H. Skilton, G. Chap.; J. R. Stebbing, G. Treas.; W. J. Meymott, G. Reg.; F. Binckes, G. Sec.; Joshua Nunn, S.G.D.; Edward Turner, J.G.D.; W. Birch, G. Inspector of Works; A. M. Loades, G. Dir. of Cers.; Alfred E. Hardy, Assist. G. Dir. of Cers.; Richard Spencer, G.S.B.; Frederic Davison, G. Org.; J. Pepper, G. Purst.

Grand Stewards:—Bros. Magnus Ohren, Bon Accord; W. H. Warr, Kent; H. Barber, Fortitude, 78; Dibdin, Carnarvon, 7; Henry Carpenter, Thistle, 8; Churchill, Key Stone, 3; Thompson, University, 55; A. D. Loewenstark, Samson and Lion, 86.

The General Board was constituted as follows:—Nominated by M.W. Grand Master:—Bros. Rev. G. R. Portal, D.G.M.; Viscount Kenlis, S.G.W.; Colonel Meehan, J.G.W.; F. Davison, G. Org.; W. J. Meymott, G. Reg.; J. R. Stebbing, G. Treas.; R. Spencer, G.S.B.; F. Binckes, G. Sec. Elected by Grand Lodge:—Bros. T. Meggy, W. H. Warr, M. Ohren, J. Nunn, W. E. Gumbleton.

The D.G. Master proposed the motion, of which notice had been given at the last Grand Lodge, viz.—“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.’”

Bro. Rev. D. Shaboe, P.G. Chap., seconded the resolution, remarking that from the manner in which the business had that day been conducted, there could be no doubt of the wisdom of the proposition.

The motion was carried unanimously.

Bro. J. R. Stebbing, G. Treas., could not allow Grand Lodge to be closed without asking permission from the G.M. to propose a resolution of thanks to the excellent nobleman whose term of office, as wisely fixed by their constitution, had that day expired. Lord Holmesdale had presided over them as Grand Master during the last three years with all kindness and urbanity, and had ever shown himself watchful of their interests and anxious for their welfare. Under his rule Mark Masonry had considerably increased; and regarding him as they did, he was sure he should carry them with him when he proposed that the warmest thanks of this Grand Lodge to Lord Viscount Holmesdale, M.P., P.G.M., be recorded on the minutes, and that a suitable letter be addressed to his Lordship embodying the terms of this proposition.

The proposition having been seconded, was put and carried by acclamation. Grand Lodge was closed in ample form with, solemn prayer, and adjourned.

CARLISLE LODGE (No. 60).—On Tuesday, the 5th inst., a Lodge of Mark Masters held a meeting at the Freemason's Hall, for the purpose of advancing four brethren, when the chair of K.S. was occupied by Bro. John How, W.M., supported by Bros. G. G. Hayward, S.W.; W. Irwin, M.O. as J.W.; F. W. Hayward, P.M., Dir. of Cers., as M.O.; G. Turnbull, S.O.; J. B. Paisley, J.O.; A. Woodhouse, Sec.; G. Armstrong, I.Z.; T. Storey, Tyler; and T. Harris, and opened the lodge in due form according to ancient custom. The Secretary read over the minutes of a former meeting, and balance sheet for past year, both receiving the approbation of the brethren. Fortunately the candidates did not turn up, there not being sufficient number of officers present to advance them. No other business presenting itself the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the refreshment room. At the request of the W.M., Bro. J. B. Paisley gave the lecture peculiar to this degree, and which was not only a credit but an honour to him. A vote of thanks was given, and in returning thanks, Bro. J. B. Paisley said that he only got his third degree last February, and was advanced to a Mark Master on May 1st, and so long as he continued a member of any lodge of Masons he would endeavour to do his duty. Other speeches were made, pointing out that if a brother gives his heart to Masonry, he will be richly rewarded in studying its lectures; after which the brethren retired at an early hour.

## CHANNEL ISLANDS.

### JERSEY.

LODGE LA CESAREE (No. 590).—The first meeting under the new W.M. and officers was held at the Temple, St. Helier, on Thursday, May 31st. The lodge was opened in the first degree

by Bro. H. L. Manuel, W.M., assisted by the Wardens, Bros. Oatley and Viel, and Bro. C. Le Sueur, I.P.M. The minutes of the last regular meeting, as also those of one of emergency, were read and confirmed. The chair having been taken by the I.P.M., Bros. Le Griffon and Ph. Messervy were examined as to their knowledge of the previous degree, and, having satisfied the brethren on that point, were entrusted. They then retired for preparation. The lodge was opened in the second degree, and the candidates were readmitted, and duly passed to the degree of P.C. The lodge having been reopened in the first degree, the W.M. again took his chair. The Secretary read the circular of summons for a meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge, to be held on Tuesday, the 12th inst. He afterwards read the following letter from Bro. Dr. Hopkins, P.M.:

“To the W.M., officers, and members of Lodge  
La Césarée (No. 590).

“Worshipful Sir and Brethren,—Having for some years been accustomed to regard your lodge as a home in which I could invariably calculate on a warm and happy reception as a brother, it is not without a pang that I now feel called upon to announce the severance of the tie which has so long united us, and to request the withdrawal of my name from membership. Unable from my limited acquaintance with the French language to take any active part in your proceedings, my resignation will not be felt in so numerous a lodge, containing many zealous and distinguished members: The loss is all on my side, and, believe me, it is one which I deeply feel, after having received so many acts of kindness at your hands, of which I shall ever retain a most grateful sense. Be assured that I shall still be at your call under any circumstances in which I can be permitted to be useful, or to advance your interests. I do not think it prudent to explain my reasons for the course I have adopted, but leave the vindication of it in the hands of those among you who know my opinions and motives, especially the retiring W.M., if any explanation be thought desirable. I shall feel obliged if you will favour me with such a document as will enable me to prove that I leave the lodge honourably, and thus to rejoin the Craft in a province where its principles and its claims are better understood and practised than with many bright exceptions they appear to me to be generally in Jersey. With best wishes for your continued prosperity,

“Believe me, yours most faithfully and fraternally,

“HENRY HOPKINS, P.M., &c.

“Richmond Place, St. Laurence, Jersey. May 15th, 1866.”

On the proposition of Bro. C. Le Sueur, I.P.M., seconded by Bro. A. Schmitt, P.M., the following resolution was passed unanimously:—

“That the resignation of our estimable Bro. Dr. Hopkins, P.M., cannot be received but with deep and sincere regret, considering the great loss which the lodge and the province must sustain, in consequence of his involuntary withdrawal, a step which the abnormal condition of the province has imperatively compelled him to take.”

On the proposition of Bro. Binet, seconded by Bro. Oules, it was resolved unanimously and with acclamation:—

“That the members of the Césarée Lodge cannot, and ought not, to pass by in silence the numerous beneficent services which this worthy and zealous brother has rendered to the lodge and to the Craft in general, as well by his literary exertions as in many other respects; that, therefore, the members desire to offer some tangible mark, however feeble and modest, of their esteem, their gratitude, and their fraternal affection for him; and that the Board of Management be requested to carry this resolution into effect.”

On the proposition of Bro. C. Le Sueur, P.M., seconded by Bro. Schmitt, P.M., it was unanimously resolved:—“That the library of the Césarée Lodge be transferred, as a fraternal gift, to the Board of Directors of the Masonic Temple, in addition to that of 120 volumes already presented from his private collection by Bro. Dr. Hodkins, to form the nucleus of a public Masonic library.”

The Secretary read the following letter specially communicated to La Césarée and to the English lodges of the Channel Isles, by the Lodge “Mars et les Arts,” held at Nantes, inviting the members to the solemn solstitial festival of fourteen united lodges of Brittany, to be celebrated on the 24th of June:

“To the glory of the G.A.O.T.U., and in the name of the Grand Lodge of France.

“The Lodge of St. John, under the distinctive title of “Mars et les Arts,” to its beloved sister lodge, La Césarée.

"Nantes, May 26th, 1866.

"Dear Brethren,—Five lodges of Brittany having agreed to unite once in each year on Midsummer-day, the Lodge "Mars et les Arts" will have the honour, on the approaching 24th of June, of receiving the members of the Breton lodges. The object of these ré-unions is not only to bind more closely the Masonic ties by holding a kind of family festival, but we propose also to discuss questions of morality, or of philosophy, not in the abstract sense of merely paying due homage to truth, but rather with the more practical view of rendering good service to the cause of humanity. The subject to be discussed this year is one of order. To popularise Freemasonry, that is, to consider the means of spreading and propagating its principles, of freeing it from the trammels of the early periods of its history, to ascertain if its forms and ceremonies are not an obstacle to its full development, to see if something more cannot be effected than the preservation of the primitive legend of Hiram, and the symbolism which are connected with the Masonic art, by making them subservient to the dignity and honour of the labours in which it is engaged.

"We have then much pleasure, dear brethren, in requesting you to come and enlighten us with your knowledge and experience on these questions, and we trust that you will respond to our invitation by sending a deputation on the occasion. The Lodge "Mars et les Arts" will be happy to receive at its meeting the members of distant lodges, to offer them the right hand of fellowship, to extend and to knit more closely the Masonic chain by which we are already bound together. Herewith we enclose the programme which has been drawn up for our guidance at this annual fête. Receive our most cordial salutations." (Here follow the names of the W.M. and officers of the lodge).

Bro. C. Le Sueur, after having expressed the intimate bonds of reciprocal friendship which exist between us and the Breton lodges, stated his opinion that it is indispensable on the part of the Lodge La Césarée to send a warm reply to this fraternal appeal from the lodge at Nantes, by appointing as large a deputation as possible to attend the Masonic festival on June 24th. He entreated all the brethren who could make it convenient to undertake the journey on this auspicious occasion, to give their names to the Secretary, and with this view he proposed the following resolution, which was seconded by Bro. J. Durell, and carried unanimously: "That Bro. Schmitt, P.M., be deputed as the official representative of the Césarée Lodge at the imposing annual festival of the lodges of Brittany."

The W. Master referred with grief to the loss which the lodge had sustained by the death of Bro. Thomas Gallichan, architect. "Permit me," said he, "to occupy a short portion of your time by offering some remarks appropriate on the melancholy occasion." The W.M. then gave the following biographical sketch of the late lamented architect of the Masonic temple.

"Brethren, this day, as citizens and as brethren, we have taken part in the funeral obsequies of a man who had laboured well and constantly for the public and for us. This day we have deposited in their final earthly resting place, the remains of him who was Thomas Gallichan, during his lifetime the director of public works in this island, the architect of the temple in which we are now assembled, and superintendent of works in this Masonic province.

"As he was found dead under peculiar circumstances, in justice to him, it became a duty on our part to ascertain how the death of our late brother was caused. An inquest on the deceased was indispensable. I therefore thought, not only as W.M. of this honourable lodge, but as a simple Mason, that a duty devolved upon me. I conceived, that in the name of our common fraternity, I was bound to see that justice was rendered to him who had been so suddenly surprised by the grim enemy. Under these circumstances, I requested to be allowed to take part as a member of the jury on the inquest, and the deputy viscount not only acceded to my wish, but evinced his interest in, and consideration for, the character of our Order, by appointing me foreman of the jury.

"The verdict given on the inquest you know. Our brother met with his death by accident. You are aware, too, that a rumour had been spread, that in a moment of despair Bro. Gallichan had designedly put an end to his existence. It was not so. Poor brother! he was very unhappy. His mind was much distracted. His brain was greatly excited. But his courage, though put to the most severe test, never abandoned him. Our brother did not yield to the weakness, at once

terrible and deplorable, which had been at first imputed to him. The unfortunate man, I repeat it, fell a victim to accident. With your permission, brethren, I will now submit to you a brief biographical sketch of the deceased.

"Thomas Gallichan belonged to a family honourable but with limited pecuniary resources. He was naturally endowed with an intellectual organisation of a superior order. If this man had been enabled to receive an education in accordance with his mental capacity, he would have shone, not in Jersey, but in the world. This was the deliberate opinion of Mr. Fowler, President of the Society of Engineers, the successor to Brunel and the Stephensons. Speaking of our departed friend, he said to me, 'You little know what sort of a man you have among you; what a pity it is that he was not brought up in London!' But, notwithstanding his imperfect education, by the natural energy of his mind and character, Thomas Gallichan was enabled to create for himself a high position among his fellow citizens, and obtained the appointment of Director of Public Works in our island. I must, however, in candour confess, that some of the structures which he designed or superintended are susceptible of improvement, or of a greater amount of finish and completeness; but I conscientiously believe, that a large majority of them are really admirable. The system of sewerage, the hospital, this temple, the plans which his pencil has drawn with a view to the improvement or embellishment of the town, are only some of the evidences of his skill and talent which do honour to him.

"His zeal was incontestible, and, if I may so express myself, his local knowledge was marvellous. He had a thorough acquaintance with everything that related to the drains, the roads, the tides, and the levels of the surface. He had become almost indispensable to the local authorities. He had succeeded in gaining the confidence of all the successive constables of St. Helier, from the time of Le Sueur to the present day, and, almost to a fault, he deserved it. But, my brethren, what was that fault?

"I do not wish to cast the least shade on a coffin which has but just been placed in the tomb. God forbid. On the contrary, over the grave of every brother I would desire to shed a tear of regret and of friendship—to sow the seed of a flower—to plant a token of affectionate remembrance. But duty and truth alike impel me to make a sad and painful confession. Our deceased brother had one terribly fatal fault. He had no system. He failed in that great essential point of an active and struggling career, order.

"Without system and order, brethren, complete success is by no means possible. The statesman or the agriculturist—the commercial man or the artist—the warrior or the artizan, he who fights or works in defiance of this grand principle, is destined from the outset to be checked, to be disappointed, to be defeated, in vain to strive against difficulties.

"So it was with our lamented brother. I say so, while humbly bending in fond remembrance of him. I say it too, because I desire to extract a moral from the career of this man, namely, that our brethren, especially those who are still young, should shun this terrible fault, which has been so fatal to him. With order and regularity he might have attained an admirable position. Nothing but that was wanting in him, and that was precisely the point which he neglected. Alas! he has bitterly expiated this defect. Embarrassment where there ought to have been ease and comfort; an overwrought mind, a feverish and excited life; darkness and difficulty on all sides; lastly, a premature death.

"But, brethren, he possessed a quality which did much to counteract this grand mistake. He possessed a spirit essentially kind and fraternal. His disposition was remarkably charitable. I doubt whether any one ever heard him speak evil of another person. He was also one of the least egotistical men I ever knew. One of the great pleasures of his life was to work gratuitously for his friends. We, my brethren, have good reason to be aware of this fact.

"Let us hope, then, that when his soul, wending its way through the immensity of space, presents itself at the portals of the Grand Temple above, his charity will be remembered, and that even now, our deceased brother, having his faults pardoned by the mercy of the Eternal, on account of his active and charitable disposition, has learnt the grand secret, and has entered into the presence and the glory of the Great Architect of the Universe."

On the proposition of Bros. Schmitt and Binet, it was determined that the address now delivered be entered on the minutes of the lodge. Bros. Oules and Durell proposed, and it was

resolved unanimously: "That an address of condolence on the sudden death of our Bro. Thomas Gallichan be presented to the bereaved widow and children, by a deputation consisting of the W.M., the Wardens, and the mover and seconder of the resolution. Also that the lodge be put in mourning for the period of three months." The lodge was closed at nine o'clock, in perfect harmony, and with solemn prayer, after which the usual adjournment for refreshment took place.

The correspondent who furnishes the preceding report feels it incumbent upon him to call especial attention to that portion of it which expresses the kind feeling existing between the English lodges in the Channel Isles, and the French lodges in the neighbouring country of Brittany. It furnishes clear proof that the Masonic ties are understood and carried into effect on both sides of the Channel so far as regards the universality of the system, the fraternal spirit which it creates among men between whom there is a broad line of demarcation, and its superiority to all distinctions of country, creed, and language. These meetings have now been continued for some years in succession, and on each occasion the kind sympathy and efforts to promote harmony and brotherly love by an interchange of courtesies and a display of generous liberality, the attempts to render the ré-unions subservient to the cause of humanity and rational progress, by the discussion of subjects selected with that view, appear to increase and to become more and more enthusiastic, in proportion as personal acquaintance and mutual esteem bind the links of the chain more closely. The example is a noble one, worthy of all consideration, and which may with advantage be followed by our brethren in England. In each summer the number of foreigners visiting London is immense, and is steadily on the increase. Advantage might be taken of this to hold a Masonic Congress of men of all nations, which would undoubtedly tend to practical benefit, to the settlement of many interesting points connected with the Order, to a closer assimilation in the methods of carrying out our peculiar observances, to the more complete development of our principles, to the strengthening of Masonic ties and obligations, to the advancement of the cause of morality, charity, and benevolence.

## INDIA.

### BOMBAY.

LODGE STAR OF INDIA (No. 1062, E. C.)

#### *Installation Meeting.*

The annual meeting of this lodge was held at the Freemasons' Hall, on Thursday, the 5th April, at five o'clock p.m. Present: Bros. the Rev. J. J. Farnham, P.M. 757, D. Prov. S.G.W. of Bombay, W.M.; Alfred King, P.M. 757, D.S.G.W. of Bombay, as P.M.; T. Diver, M.D., P.M. 549, 757, D.J.W. of Bombay; A. C. Gumbert, W.M. 549; W. C. Penson, S.W.; H. T. Binks, J.W.; J. Thomas, Sec.; F. D. Parker, S.D.; Trenn, J.D.; W. Colclough, I.G.; and J. Duffey, Tyler, with about seventy members and visitors from all the Bombay and some other lodges.

The lodge having been opened in due form, the minutes of the last regular meeting were read and confirmed, the summons convening the meeting was also read.

The brethren then proceeded to ballot for Mr. John R. Rae, (Purser, P. and O. Company's S. Ship "*Malta*," ) proposed by the W.M., and seconded by Bro. J. R. K. Johnson, as a candidate for initiation. The ballot was clear. The lodge was then opened in the second degree, when Bro. W. H. Hussey was examined as to his proficiency as a F.C., and having passed a very satisfactory examination, was passed out for preparation.

Bros. King and Diver then presented Bro. W. C. Penson, S.W. and W.M. elect to the W.M., for installation. The preliminary part of the ceremony usually performed in the second degree was then proceeded with, and Bro. Penson having given his assent to the ancient charges and regulations, and having also taken an obligation as to the government of the lodge, resumed the chair of S.W.

The lodge was then opened in the third degree, and prepared for the ceremony of raising, when Bro. W. H. Hussey was admitted, and raised to the sublime degree of M.M.

All brethren below the rank of installed Masters were then requested to retire, and the W.M. having requested Bros. King and Diver to occupy the Wardens' chairs, opened the board of installed Masters, when Bro. Penson was admitted, and solemnly installed into the chair of King Solomon, with all the ancient

rites and ceremonies. The board of installed Masters was then closed, and the M. Masons having been re-admitted, saluted the newly installed Master in the usual way, and the installing Master proclaimed him in the East. The ceremony was then proceeded with, and the W.M. appointed and invested the following officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. Rev. J. J. Farnham, P.M. and Treas. (elected); E. W. Keily, S.W.; F. D. Parke, J.W.; John Thomas, Sec.; S. Trenn, S.D.; A. Swift, J.D.; J. R. K. Johnson, Org.; R. T. Light, D.C.; W. S. Wetherell, I.G.; J. Duffey, Tyler (elected).

The appointments gave evident satisfaction to the brethren.

The W.M. having finished the investment of his officers, expressed his regret that the probable departure of Bro. Binks to England in a few months, which had prevented him from standing for election as W.M. had also prevented him from appointing so able an officer to the chair of S.W. He thought it right to give this explanation to the brethren, lest it might be thought that he had, without good cause, passed over a worthy brother. He felt less regret, however, than he would have felt otherwise, from the fact that Bro. Binks having occupied the J.W.'s chair for a year, would at any time be eligible for that of W.M.

The lodge was then closed in the third degree, and the Fellow Crafts were admitted, the whole of the brethren saluting, and the P.M. proclaiming the W.M. in that degree. The lodge was then closed in the second degree, and the same formalities gone through in the degree of E.A. The Installing Master then gave the usual addresses to the W.M., to the Wardens, and to the brethren in general.

Two joining members were then proposed for ballot at the next meeting, and the lodge was closed in due and ancient form at a quarter to eight o'clock, p.m.

The brethren afterwards sat down to a sumptuous banquet, after which some time was spent in social harmony. "The Queen and the Craft," and the "Grand Masters," were proposed by the W.M., when Bro. Gumbert, in a speech characterized by that eloquence for which he is so well known, proposed "The Health of the District Grand Master of Bombay," with that of "The Provincial Grand Master of Western India." He pointed out the great inconvenience of having a divided rule, and expressed a hope, which doubtless was shared by all present, that the day might come when there would be no such distinction as English, Irish, and Scotch in Masonry, but when the Masons of this Presidency would all be under one head and one banner.

Bro. FARNHAM then rose to propose the toast of the evening, "The Health of the Worshipful Master of Lodge Star of India." He alluded to the fact that Bro. Penson, now W.M. of this young but already distinguished lodge, was the oldest friend he had in Bombay, inasmuch as he had made his acquaintance on the morning of his removal here on board the mail steamer. He had kept up a steady friendship with him ever since, and a year ago he had requested him to become the S.W. of the Lodge Star of India then being formed, in the hope that this would lead to his elevation to the Eastern chair. He was proud to have placed him there this evening; he was sure he would be found to be the right man in the right place. He had no doubt that with so able a W.M. and with such officers as he had this evening appointed, the lodge would continue to prosper, as it had done during the past year.

Bro. PENSON returned thanks, and the P.M. proposed, "The Sister Lodges of the Provinces."

Bro. PENSON then rose and proposed "The Past Masters," speaking in especially flattering terms of the I.P.M. Bro. Farnham. He alluded to the fact that when he was last in England, he had visited Bro. Farnham's mother lodge, the Jordan, in London. As soon as he delivered his letter of introduction, he was received in the kindest and most hospitable way, and it was impossible for him to describe the esteem in which their late W.M. was held here, or the enthusiasm with which almost every brother who proposed a toast during the evening, spoke of their absent brother.

Bro. FARNHAM then briefly returned thanks, and proposed "The Past Officers." In doing so, he felt that he would be wanting in his duty did he not speak of the punctual and regular attendance, as well as the admirable working of his officers for the past year. It would be an affectation of modesty in him to deny that Lodge Star of India had attained a high standard of excellence; but that was mainly owing to the manner in which all the officers of the lodge had pulled together and shown a determination that Lodge Star of India should be

noted for its excellence in every way. He thanked them now most heartily for their past work; most of them were now in higher offices, and he had no doubt that the same standard of excellence would still be maintained.

Bro. ALFRED KING then proposed "The new Officers of Star India."

"The Visiting Brethren," was proposed by the S.W. "The Masonic Charities," by Bro. Diver, who made a very eloquent speech.

Several other toasts were proposed, and the proceedings of the evening were enlivened by some of that excellent singing for which this lodge has become so justly famous. The proceedings terminated with "Happy to meet, sorry to part, and happy to meet again," at about half-past eleven o'clock.

#### LODGE CONCORD (No. 757).

The regular monthly meeting of the above lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Baboolah Tank, on the 21st April. Present—Bros. G. Taylor, D.G.M.; T. Diver, W.M.; E. Parker, S.W.; H. H. Avron, J.W.; J. Poyntz, Treas.; H. Prescott, Sec.; H. Freeman, S.D.; H. E. Gabler, J.D.; W. G. King, I.G.; C. Burden, Tyler. Members—Bros. W. Cambridge, S. Trenn, W. G. Rogers, T. Ford, A. Baillie, F. Heselton, J. Fallas, R. Dryhurst, D. Young, J. Reeves, J. Henderson, T. Mills, W. C. Barnes, G. Giffert, W. H. Goode, W. H. Dwyer, J. M. Fleming, C. Beard, R. W. Bourne, W. Whittaker, J. Jones, J. Weddle, G. Freeman, G. N. Marley, John Duffy, F. Walker, J. Lockley, G. W. Grant, J. Hughes, H. B. Salisbury, J. Harker, W. T. Jervis, A. Colby, H. James, and others. Visitors—Bro. A. C. Gumpert, Bros. J. Speirs, J. Murray, W. Sutherland, J. Burn, R. Taylor, and others.

The lodge having been properly tyled, was opened in the first degree, the minutes of the last regular meeting were read and confirmed.

The ballot was then taken for candidates for initiation, and the result was announced that Messrs. Higgins, Moorhouse, and Nelson were declared elected. Mr. A. S. Moorhouse being in attendance was properly prepared, introduced, and initiated into the secrets of the Order—the charge being given by Bro. Taylor in a most impressive manner. Bro. Alfred King, P.M., was elected an hon. member of the lodge by acclamation.

Bro. G. Taylor, D.G.M., then said:—"Worshipful Sir and Brethren, I have this day a most painful duty to perform, which is to inform you all of the death of a very highly distinguished brother of the Order, one with whom I had associated in Calcutta for nearly twenty years; he was during life universally beloved and esteemed, and his death has cast a gloom on all who knew his good qualities; he was indeed a most active and a zealous Mason. I am told by Bro. Prescott, that the late Bro. Hoff was an honorary member of this lodge; I therefore propose a vote of condolence to be placed on the records of the lodge, and that a letter of condolence be sent to the late brother's son, Bro. Hoff, at Simla." The proposition having been seconded by Bro. Prescott, was carried in solemn silence, the brethren standing to order as Masons in token of respect.

Bro. Prescott then said, it was with unfeigned regret he had to inform the brethren that Bro. G. Waller, a member of the lodge, was removed to the Grand Lodge above on the 18th instant.

The Secretary then reported that a donation of 100 rupees was sent for the Charity Fund of this lodge by the Masonic Bail Committee. Ordered that the same be accepted with thanks. The revision of the By-laws was postponed to a future date.

Bro. Diver then proposed, and Bro. H. Prescott seconded, that Bro. J. Gibbs, D.G.M., and a member of this lodge, be elected an honorary member, to mark the very high respect the brethren of this lodge have for that distinguished brother. The proposition was put and carried.

Bro. E. Parker, S.W. in charge, then proposed, and Bro. H. Prescott seconded, that owing to the expected departure from Bombay of Bro. J. Poyntz, the Treasurer of the lodge, Bro. J. Thomas be appointed Treas. The proposition having been put to the vote was unanimously carried.

Several brethren were proposed as joining members, and some candidates for initiation.

There being no other business before the lodge, it was closed with solemn prayer in perfect love and concord, at eight p.m.

The brethren then adjourned to the banquet table, when, after having partaken of the good things of this earth, and the

cloth having been removed, Bro. Diver rose and said: Brethren, let us as men and Masons show our loyalty by drinking to the "Queen and the Craft;" the toast was drunk with honours, and the National Anthem was sung.

The next toast of obligation was then proposed, "The Three Grand Masters." This was also drunk with honours.

Bro. Diver then proposed. "The two Provincial Grand Masters, Bros. George Taylor and R. B. Barton. This toast was drunk with enthusiasm and with hearty cheers.

Bro. G. Taylor then rose and said: "Brethren, I thank you for the manner in which you have received the toast of obligation. As I said before, I say it again, that I cannot be often with you, and when I am with you, I would rather be silent; however, since I must speak, I must say that your fraternal regard and brotherly love I very much admire. I am, as your District Grand Master, pleased to see all working in love and harmony, the officers doing their duty satisfactorily. I must take this opportunity to mention, that I wish every Mason to improve in Masonic knowledge and attainments, brethren must remember that they will be rewarded for the trouble; you having among you a worthy brother, I mean Bro. Avron, he will shortly preside over a lodge of his own, so I must ask you once more to remember your duty as Masons, and to cultivate your Masonic powers that you may be of service to others. I take this opportunity of stating, that all the Worshipful Masters should ask their respective Wardens to do a portion of the work of the Worshipful Master, *i.e.*, what they can constitutionally perform in lodge. I must not take up your time, so before I conclude, I must say I am obliged to you for the kindness you have evinced towards me, I am also delighted to see such a large gathering this evening, and I hope and trust Concord Lodge will continue to flourish."

Bro. Diver then said: "Brethren, charge your glasses and fill a bumper. I now rise to propose the health of your highly esteemed and popular Master, Bro. Henry Wickham. I know you all love him, for he deserves your esteem and regard; he has done his duty in this lodge, and the good of the Craft has been his continual aim; I am sorry he is not among us this evening; however, he may be, let us wish him prosperity. (The toast was drunk with all honours).

Bro. E. Parker, the Senior Warden, said: "As the representative of the Worshipful Master, permit me, Bro. Diver, to return you thanks for your kindness in proposing the health of Bro. Wickham. I only wish he was present to propose the toast I am about to do. I ask the brethren to drink the health of Bro. Diver, wishing him health and prosperity. (Honours, and the grand chorus. "He is a jolly good fellow.")

Bro. Diver said: "Brethren, I thank you from my heart for the kindness you show me from time to time. I have had, and shall ever have, the good of this lodge at heart. I love and esteem you all highly, and indeed I must say I am thankful to spend such truly Masonic evenings with you. I am glad that I am once more among you, and have the good fortune to preside over you. I hope and trust Lodge Concord will continue flourishing and prosperous. Before I sit down, permit me to ask you to drink to the health of the officers, to whom great praise is due for the success of the lodge."

Bro. PRESCOTT rose and said: Worshipful Sirs and Brethren, I thank you all for the toast just proposed; I am sorry that Bro. Senior Warden has deputed me speak; to you, Worshipful Sir, for proposing, and to the brethren for responding, permit me to tender you on behalf of the officers our grateful thanks. You were pleased to attribute the success of the lodge to the officers and their work in lodge; we are grateful to you for the compliment; we have endeavoured to do our duty, indeed, I fear often we should have come short of what is required of us had it not been for the co-operation of the brethren of this lodge. For years this lodge has been in able hands, and the officers have followed the noble example of their rulers; they have endeavoured to be regular and faithful to their post, and, having a sound head presiding over the lodge from year to year, the officers as the members of that head did their best. We are proud and thankful to see our poor efforts so much spoken of and so far recognised. We say Amen to the words we have heard regarding the prosperity of Lodge Concord; permit me once more to thank you all.

Bro. DIVER then said: In Concord Lodge it was customary to make "The Visitors" almost a constitutional toast; he would beg of the visitors to come more frequently; he was proud and thankful to see Bro. Gumpert, the Worshipful Master of Lodge St. George present; he must ask the brethren

of the lodge to drink the toast with all honours. (This was done in true English style.)

Bro. GUMPERT rose and said: Worshipful Brother Diver and Brethren, I rise bidden to speak, I would rather have listened to a speech, because I am wholly unprepared; I must confess I have learned much by being upstairs with you. I, as a Worshipful Master, say, that I admire the working of this lodge, and as your hospitality is great, I here take the liberty of stating that, as a Mason, I should like to see a Benevolent Fund established for the Masons of Western India; the widow, and the orphan, and the destitute would then have to go to one place for help, when they would receive such help as their cases may deserve. I hope the time is not distant when this will be carried out by those who have authority in our Order. Brethren ought not to forget the lesson of the evening, Charity, which is so properly taught in the first degree. I hope those who can will show that they are Masons by attending at the meeting in the Town Hall, on Wednesday, 25th April, for the Strangers' Society; our good Governor, who is a Mason at heart, will preside; let us convince those around that we are not forgetful to entertain strangers. I again thank you on behalf of the Visitors.

Bro. Diver then proposed "The Health of the Newly-Initiated," to which Bro. A. T. Moorhouse responded.

The DISTRICT GRAND MASTER then rose and said: Before we part, I have a few words to tell you, indeed, I have a pleasing task to perform; had it been an unpleasant one I would not have shrunk from it, but would have told you your faults. However, on this occasion, I have to congratulate the Worshipful Master, Officers, and Brethren of this lodge for the good working of the lodge, for the brotherly love pervading among you all, and for the respect you show to those high in the Order. I am delighted to see such a large gathering. I am sorry I have not been oftener with you; it was because I was not certain that my stay in India would have been long, but as I now intend to remain so long as health is spared to me, I hope to see you oftener. Brethren, let me now propose the last toast, "Happy to meet, sorry to part, and happy to meet again." The brethren sang, "Auld Lang Syne" in honour of the distinguished guest and visitor, the District Grand Master.

The excellent singing of Bros. H. Dwyer, Bourne, Burton, W. G. King, D. Young, and others, added greatly to the pleasures of the evening, and the happy band of brothers separated at 10 p.m.

### MASONIC STATISTICS.

[The following was sent to the *National Freemason* by our Bro. Brown, of Turkey in Europe:]

In a work entitled "A General History of Freemasonry," published in Paris, there is an interesting account of our Order, from which the following has been extracted. It says that, from the most recently obtained information, there exists at the present time, some 5,000 lodges in all parts of the world, comprising 500,000 active members, and that the full number of the brethren is some 8,000,000:—

"Freemasonry is spread over the five parts of the globe, viz: over Europe, Asia, Africa, America, and Australia. In Europe it flourishes almost everywhere, protected and respected. England, Scotland, Ireland, Sweden, Denmark, Holland, Saxony, the minor German States, France, Switzerland, and a part of Protestant Bavaria, contain about 3,000 lodges, governed by twenty-one Grand Lodges.

"In Africa, lodges are found in Algeria, Egypt, Senegal, Senegambia, Guinea, the Cape of Good Hope, Mozambique, the Canary Islands, the Marquesas, at St. Helena, and at the islands of Renmin and Maurice.

"In America the prosperity of the Order is immense, and there is no State but has its Grand Lodge. Freemasonry has reached the very extremity of this vast continent. Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, as well as Newfoundland, have erected temples to the Great Architect of the Universe. Mexico and California have now more than one hundred lodges. The great Antilles, Cuba, Porto Rico, and Jamaica have each a lodge, and Hayti has one Grand Lodge and fifteen lodges. As to the Antilles, some of them have no lodge, whilst others have two. Although but recently introduced into South America, it has there spread with wonderful rapidity; for not only the French, English, and Dutch Guiana, the Republics of Venezuela,

Guatemala, Colombia, Bolivia, Peru, the United Provinces of La Plata, Uruguay, Paraguay, &c., possess lodges, but Rio Janeiro, the capital of Brazil, has its Grand Lodge and some twenty dependent lodges.

"In Asia, for more than a century, Hindostan has received Freemasonry. There are lodges at Bombay, Pondicherry, Allahabad, Singapore, the Carnat, Darraly, Concan, Fettiaghur, &c. A Grand Lodge exists at Agra, in Bengal; there are two lodges in Canton (China) and in the Islands of Ceylon and Prince of Wales, at Teheran (Persia), and several in Turkey." (In the latter there is a Grand Lodge at Constantinople, and several lodges dependent upon the Grand Lodges of England, Scotland, the United States, France, and Italy, all working in the various languages of those and other countries. There are several lodges at Smyrna, Beyroot, and Alexandria, and there will soon be a Grand Lodge in Greece.)

"In Oceania Freemasonry was introduced in 1730, in the Island of Java. At the present time there are lodges at Sunatra, New Holland, New South Wales, New Zealand, and Van Diemen's Land.

"Thus in the course of a century Freemasonry has spread over the whole globe, sowing in its path the seeds of civilisation and progress. The ameliorations which have been made in the ideas and manifested in the acts of a vast number of men during this period all come from the mysterious teachings of Freemasonry, and the principles and usages contracted in the lodges have been carried into ordinary life by the brethren.

"Of the 5,000 lodges in existence, 3,000 are in Europe, 1,400 in America, and 600 in Asia, Africa, and Australia."

The writer adds:

"Freemasonry was not publicly known in Italy previous to 1859, except in Piedmont, where, in 1848, the lamented and distinguished Bro. Cavour, the Grand Master practiced it. In 1854 the Italian lodges mostly were of the Scotch rite; some few were of the French, dependent upon foreign Grand Lodges. The first independent lodge, called the 'Ansonia,' was founded in Turin in 1859, and its first W.M. was the aged and highly respected Bro. Delfine. Soon after this others were founded dependent upon the former, which is the present lodge. In 1861 twenty-nine lodges met in convention for the purpose of forming by-laws, &c., and voted a medal of honour to the illustrious Bro. Garibaldi, with the title of the "First Mason of Italy." Soon after, it entered into correspondence with, and was recognised by, through the missions deputed by it, the lodges of Portugal, Belgium, &c. The Grand Lodge was established at Turin, and now there are lodges there, at Milan, and, indeed, in most of the larger cities of Italy. Italian Masonry has, since 1859, been widely extended, and there are other lodges dependent upon its Grand Lodge at Athens, Syra, Constantinople, Alexandria, Cairo, Tripoli, and Tunis."

He thus concludes his interesting statistics of Freemasonry:—

"Our reader may draw his own conclusions as to how much the Sovereign Pontiff of Rome obeyed a holy inspiration when he formally denounced to the world the perils of Freemasonry, in his recent 'Consistorial Allocution.' The animadversions of *Le Monde* (a French Catholic organ) were certainly well founded if it be judged by the number of lodges and Freemasons now in existence, and it is high time that these perils of mankind and to religion were taken into serious consideration! It may here be added that Freemasonry exists even in Rome, under the very beard of its uncompromising foe, Cardinal Antonelli!"

### REVIEWS.

*A Century of Sonnets: Lines on the Burns Commemoration of 1859. The Funeral of Canning, and other Verses.* By JACOB JONES, author of "Rural Sonnets," &c. London: Alfred W. Bennett, 5, Bishopsgate Without. 1866.

We have been very much pleased with this volume. It contains real poetry. Let the following be taken as a specimen. The subject is one ever welcome to the true Mason:—

#### SYMPATHY.

In others' joy I take unfeigned joy;  
In others' happiness I find a balm;  
So that the first be pure, without alloy,  
The latter equable, benign, and calm.

By others' griefs my spirits are oppress'd ;  
 And, when I witness pain, myself am pain'd ;  
 Therefore, I'm fain to comfort the distress'd,  
 And to sustain, as I would be sustain'd.  
 Let the unfeeling hug themselves in pride,  
 Nor show the sympathy some day they'll need ;  
 For me, such selfish conduct spurned aside,  
 My sympathy shall dwell in word and deed ;  
 I'll strive to do my duty by my kind,  
 Hoping for one reward—tranquillity of mind.

"Give to the poor, and lend unto the Lord,"  
 Thy God who giveth thee the power to give ;  
 By whom thou art—by whom his creatures live—  
 Give gratefully, and wait for thy reward.  
 Remember who it is that saith "The poor  
 Always ye have with you," and guard the heart,  
 Lest pride or condescension bear a part  
 In acts, by sympathy alone, kept pure.  
 Be thy whole soul by charity refin'd  
 From impulse less than sense of duty sprung ;  
 Haste to bind up the wounds thou'rt called to bind,  
 And soothe the aching hearts that grief hath wrung.  
 By charitable sympathy possessed  
 In blessing others, thou shalt ever be thrice bless'd.

O land of sympathy, large-hearted land !  
 Britain, my country, model to the earth,  
 In works of true philanthropy, that stand  
 An ever-giving record of thy worth.  
 Thou aggregate of individual zeal,  
 Leav'ning the mass, and rousing it to feel !  
 By sympathy, in gen'rous deeds we share,  
 And thrill with pleasure when the good succeed.  
 With godlike aim, and persevering care,  
 To serve their fellow-creatures at their need.  
 By sympathy with virtue, love, and truth,  
 Our minds, whate'er our years, enjoy unfading youth.

In his preface Mr. Jones lays down a canon which, if attended to, would have saved the world from a mass of trash, dignified with the name of poetry. "I think," he writes, "all poetry should be tested in the *cui bono* crucible, and if it cannot be certified as calculated, directly or indirectly, to elevate or improve, or, at least, to innocently amuse its readers, it should be pronounced worthless, if not mischievous." Believing that Mr. Jones's volume answers all the requirements of this canon, we heartily wish it an extensive circulation.

## Poetry.

### THE TRIPLE TIE.

(From the Heart to the Heart).

By REV. HENRY G. PERRY, A.M.

'Twas on the street two strangers met, in a city far away,  
 (The sun, long past meridian height, left but the ghost of day ;)  
 And one was strong and brisk of step ; but the other, stoop'd  
 and slow  
 Made him a motion level and true, true and level, you know.

Then he (the strong and brisk of step) at cue of such language  
 dumb,  
 Came to a half halt, dead stop next, and still a living plumb,  
 And stroked his face, and spied again, and again 'twas surely  
 so—  
 Some sign of a thing, both fair and square, certainly strange,  
 you know. \* \* \* \*

"If you're weary and wanting, sojourner," quoth he, "why not  
 rest?"

"Ah, brother ! I'm worn and ailing enough ; but, leaving the  
 West,  
 I'm bound, I fear to that uttermost bourne, whither we all  
 must go ;  
 For methinks the Master's calling, and I must obey, you know."

They first took hands in a wordless way ; then spake they each  
 with care  
 In old-world words, with *that* for this, and a something *here* and  
 there ;

It was thus began, but afterwards *done*—in deathless glow  
*Mysterious*, of genuine Fellow-Craft spirit, you know. \* \* \* \*

And there sought him soon three faithful men, under a triple tie,  
 Who all were sad, for well they saw he was about to die.  
 So circling round, and (his *secret* apart) then to *them*, more'er,  
 He told of his distant home and wife, and little children four.

Now I've none to trust in all the world, but you good brethren  
 here,

In what I, dying, bespeak of you for wife and children dear ;  
 For the world is wicked, and I'm away, *travelling* hitherto—  
 Death's gavel sounds, and all I have for *them* I confide to you.

And, tried and trusty, those men *did*, as just for themselves they  
 would :

Unto the last by his dying side one or another stood,  
 And wiped the death-damp off his brow, and eased his pillow of  
 pain,  
 Bidding him fix his faith in God as never besought in vain.

He died at high twelve—hand upon heart—just as would you  
 or I !

His left hand suppliant raised (as if in prayer) on high ;  
 But the Master took them tenderly, and "palmed" them on  
 his breast,

While the brethren said, "So mote it be !" God give his soul  
 good rest !

\* \* \* \* \*

Thence, from the lodge, his confined form passed under the archi-  
 trave,

With the Craftsmen mutely following, two by two, to the grave—  
 Where they gave their solemn service, and his *badge* upon the  
 lid,

And sprigs of acacia, one by one, over their brother's head.

Ah ! little he thought such parting *last*, from home and babes  
 and wife,

To roam and *not* return, and *thus* in a strange land end his life ;  
 But the friends he found forgot neither *orphans* nor *widow* lone,  
 Since Masonry's care is *ever*—"dead or alive"—for its own.

## MEETINGS OF THE SCIENTIFIC AND LEARNED SOCIETIES FOR THE WEEK ENDING JUNE 22ND, 1866.

Monday, June 18th.—ROYAL UNITED SERVICE INSTITUTION at 8.30.

Wednesday, June 20th.—GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON, at 8.

Thursday, June 21st.—CHEMICAL SOCIETY, at 8.

## THE WEEK.

THE COURT.—The Queen, with Princess Helena, arrived at Windsor Castle, on the 6th inst., at half-past seven o'clock, from Buckingham Palace. Her Majesty, accompanied by her Royal Highness Princess Louise, drove in the grounds on the morning of the 7th inst. The Queen went out in the afternoon with Princess Helena. Her Majesty drove in the grounds on the morning of the 8th inst., accompanied by Princess Louise. The Queen, accompanied by her Royal Highness Princess Helena, drove in the grounds in the afternoon. Her Majesty, with Princess Helena, Princess Louise, and Princess Beatrice, drove in the Home Park, on the morning of the 9th inst. The Queen, accompanied by their Royal Highnesses Princess Helena and Princess Beatrice, drove out in the afternoon. The Hon. and Very Rev. the Dean of Windsor performed the service on the 10th inst., before her Majesty the Queen, and their Royal Highnesses Princess Helena, Prince Louise, Prince Leopold, and Princess Beatrice.

The Queen, with Princess Helena and Princess Louise, drove in the grounds in the afternoon. Her Majesty held a council on the 11th inst. at one o'clock, at which were present Earl Granville, the Duke of Somerset, and the Right Hon. Sir George Grey. The Queen, with Princess Helena, drove out in the afternoon of the 11th inst. The Duchess of Wellington arrived at the Castle, and had the honour of dining with the Queen and the Royal Family. Her Majesty, accompanied by their Royal Highnesses Princess Helena and Princess Louise, left the Castle on the 12th inst. at ten minutes past eleven o'clock, and drove to the station of the South Western Railway and proceeded to Kew station, from whence her Majesty and the Royal Family drove to Kew Church, and were present at the marriage of her Royal Highness the Princess Mary of Cambridge with his Serene Highness the Prince of Teck. The Queen drove out in the afternoon of the 12th inst., attended by the Dowager Duchess of Athole. Her Majesty drove in the grounds on the 13th inst. accompanied by their Royal Highnesses Princess Helena and Princess Beatrice. Her Majesty the Queen, with Princess Helena, Princess Louise, Princess Beatrice, and Prince Leopold, left the Castle at a quarter before seven o'clock in the evening for Balmoral.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.—In the HOUSE OF LORDS on the 7th inst., there was a lengthy discussion on the Crown Lands Bill. Eventually, however, it was read a second time. On the motion for going into committee on the Companies' Act (1862) Amendment Bill, Lord Overstone opposed it. After some discussion the bill was rejected by 17 votes to 14. The House adjourned at 20 minutes to eight o'clock.—On the 8th inst., at four o'clock, the Lord Chancellor took his seat on the woolsack. The Duke of Edinburgh was introduced by the Prince of Wales and the Duke of Cambridge, and took the oaths and subscribed the roll. Their Royal Highnesses were attired in their robes of State. After taking the oaths and subscribing the roll, the Duke of Edinburgh took his seat in a chair of State, covered with velvet and ornamented with gilding. The chair was placed for the occasion on the left hand side of the chair of the late Prince Consort. A few peers and the following official personages were present at the ceremony:—Lord Edward Howard, Deputy Earl Marshall; Lord Colville, representing the Lord Great Chamberlain; Sir William Young, Garter King at Arms; Sir Augustus Clifford, Usher of the Black Rod; and Colonel Clifford, Yeoman Usher of the Black Rod. Soon after the termination of the ceremonial, the Duke of Edinburgh, accompanied by the Prince of Wales and the Duke of Cambridge, retired.—The debate in reference to the issue of a commission to inquire into corrupt practices at elections at Lancaster was resumed. After a lengthy discussion, the motion was carried by 77 votes to 17. Similar commissions in the cases of Yarmouth, Reigate, and Totnes were carried. The other business had no public interest.—On the 11th the chief topic of the debate was the proposed amendment of the Burial Service. Lord Ebury moved for a Royal commission to revise the Lectionary of the Church of England, and to inquire into the steps necessary to be taken for the amendment of the Burial Service. The bishops generally opposed the motion, and the Bishop of London intimated that the bishops would have plenty of work to do to put down ritualistic practices in the Church without going into any question of the revision of her Liturgy. Eventually the motion of Lord Ebury was negatived by 66 votes to 20. The house soon afterwards rose.—The Marquis of Westmeath occupied the greater part of the sitting of the house on the 12th inst. with a severe denunciation of the ultra-ritualistic practices of many of

the clergy who are playing at Roman Catholicism. His lordship described several of the ceremonies to which he objected, and demanded that some steps should be taken to prevent the Church from being unprotestantised in this fashion. The bishops did not appear to be greatly interested in the question, for during the greater part of the time the noble marquis was speaking only two of them were in their places. The marquis complained of this, and his complaint was endorsed by Lord Ravensworth, who declared that seeing their inattention in such a matter it would be difficult to resist a motion that they should not have seats in the House. Earl Beauchamp defended the bishops. They would have in all likelihood to sit as judges on the practices complained of, and therefore they ought not to take part in such a discussion as that which was proceeding. The Bishop of Cashel and the Bishop of Carlisle denounced ritualism, while the Earl of Carnarvon thought much was to be said on both sides. When the discussion dropped the House adjourned.

In the HOUSE OF COMMONS, on the 7th instant, the Chancellor of the Exchequer proposed that an additional annuity of £2,000 a year be granted to the Princess Mary of Cambridge on her marriage with Prince Teck. Mr. Disraeli gave the proposal his hearty concurrence, and it was carried unanimously. The House then went into committee on the Reform Bill. The first two clauses were agreed to with verbal alterations. The third was postponed. On the fourth, relating to the county franchise, the Chancellor of the Exchequer spoke in vindication of the moderation and wisdom of the proposed £14 franchise. Then another Opposition trick was tried on. Lord Stanley moved that the franchise clauses of the bill be postponed until the distribution clauses had been dealt with. This led to an animated debate. Evidently the Tories expected to snatch a majority, as they did on Sir R. Knightley's bribery clauses. They were mistaken, however. Mr. Bright warmly denounced their unworthy tactics, as did the Chancellor of the Exchequer. On a division the Government found themselves with a majority of twenty-seven, the numbers being 287 to 260. Mr. Walpole then moved his amendment on the clause to substitute a £20 rating franchise for the proposed £14 rental franchise. A long and interesting debate followed, but eventually Mr. Walpole's amendment was defeated, the numbers being, for the Government 297, against it 288. After some further discussion, progress was reported, and the bill is to be proceeded with in committee.—On the 8th inst., on the motion for going into committee of supply, Mr. Disraeli replied to the remarks of Lord Clarendon in the House of Lords on Tuesday night. He contended that though the noble lord did speak against interference with the press, he signed a protocol declaring that under certain circumstances interference might be necessary. Mr. Disraeli read a passage from the protocol to this effect, and then quoted comments made at the time by Mr. Gladstone, in which the proceedings were spoken of as a blow aimed at a free press. Mr. Disraeli contended that he was justified in the observations he had made. Mr. Layard replied, and contended that none of the charges which had been made against the Earl of Clarendon were well founded. He read other extracts from the protocols in support of this statement.—Subsequently a most successful effort was made to prevent the Reform Bill from coming on. A number of motions on a variety of subjects had been put upon the paper by Tory members, and though some of them have been debated before, there were gone into with as much zest as if they were wholly new. The result was, that the Reform Bills could not be brought on until so late an hour as to make progress impossible.—On the 11th inst., the Govern-

ment was prevented from bringing on the Reform Bill early in the evening, by a series of questions put by Mr. Kinglake. In order that he might raise a discussion on the subject, Mr. Kinglake moved the adjournment of the House. The questions related to the course taken by the Government in reference to the impending war. In effect he wanted to know whether the Government had either by official despatch, or by the action of any of its members, given countenance to the demand of Italy that Venetia should be conceded to her by Austria. He denounced the demand of Italy, and declared that by her very position she must be the disturber of the peace of Europe. The possession of the Quadrilateral by Austria he regarded as essential to the peace of Europe. The Chancellor of the Exchequer deprecated the speech with which Mr. Kinglake had accompanied his questions. He denied that the Government had made any representation of their views as to Venetia to Austria. There was no necessity, for Austria knew very well what those views were. Many years ago Lord Palmerston had declared there could be no settled peace in Europe until Italy had possession of Venetia, and the Government remained of that opinion. On the other hand, the Government most heartily disapproved of the conduct of Prussia as to the Duchies, and thought Austria was in that matter morally right. A long debate ensued, evidently intended for the most part to delay the Reform debate. The discussion was chiefly remarkable for the declaration against Italy of Sir Robert Peel, and for the curiously inconsequential speech of Sir George Bowyer. The majority of those who spoke censured the Government for not giving more assistance to Austria, but to these members brief but strong reproofs were administered by Sir John Hanmer and other gentlemen. At last, shortly before ten o'clock, the debate died from want of more Tories to take part in it, and the House was free to go to the orders of the day.—The House then went into committee on the Reform Bill, and Mr. Hunt proposed an amendment to Clause 4, the object of which was to make the £14 country franchise a rating and not a rental franchise. The Chancellor of the Exchequer opposed the amendment, and after a lengthy discussion it was moved that progress be reported. The Government opposed the motion, and on a division the numbers were—for the Government, 303; against them, 254. The debate was resumed and continued for some time, when again a similar motion was made. This time the numbers were—for Government, 254; against, 212. The Tories still refused to allow the business to proceed; and the Chancellor of the Exchequer, protesting against the tactics pursued, consented to progress being reported. On the 12th inst., an attempt was made to defeat the bill of the gas company which seeks to erect works at Hackney Wick, near the Victoria Park. The proposal led to a long discussion, but finally the Bill was advanced a stage by 169 votes to 138. Among the questions was a curious if not an impertinent one by Mr. Cavendish Bentinck. He complained that both Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Layard were out of the House for "a considerable time" during the debate on foreign affairs on the previous evening; and he wished to know whether the Chancellor of the Exchequer thought that a convenient thing or courteous to independent members. The Chancellor of the Exchequer declined to criticise the question, though strongly tempted to do so. He replied in effect that he heard all the debate (of which he had no previous notice), save for about half an hour, and during his absence he requested the Home Secretary and the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster to take notice of what passed. While he was absent they never left the House.—Subsequently an interesting debate took place, on a proposal of Mr. Hussey Vivian, for a royal commission to inquire into the state and prospects of our coal supply. Mr. Vivian brought forward the proposal in an exceedingly able speech. The discussion afterwards was highly interesting.—

On the 13th inst., on the motion for going into committee on the Oxford Tests Abolition Bill, Mr. Neate moved by way of amendment that a royal commission should be appointed to inquire into the whole subject. The amendment was opposed and subsequently withdrawn. The House went into committee on the Bill, and Sir William Heathcote proposed an amendment to Clause 1, which would have had the effect of neutralising the the intended operation of the Bill. A long discussion ensued, chiefly remarkable for the opposition given to the Bill by the Chancellor of the Exchequer. Finally, the amendment was negatived by 245 votes to 172, and the Bill passed through committee.—Mr. C. R. Barry moved the second reading of the Poor Relief (Ireland) Law Amendment Bill. Mr. Gregory moved the rejection of the measure, and a debate ensued which lasted until a quarter to six o'clock, when it stood adjourned.

GENERAL HOME NEWS.—The Duke of Edinburgh on the 7th inst., received the freedom of the city of London. The ceremony was one of much state, and a subsequent banquet in the Guildhall was one of the pleasantest affairs of the kind that has been seen of late. The Lord Mayor made a stately and gracious host, and the proceedings altogether were of a most delightful character.—The festival of the charity children took place at St. Paul's. It is unnecessary to say that it is a most interesting spectacle, and that, thanks to the absence of rain during the hours the children were collecting, its success yesterday equalled that of any preceding year. The sermon was preached by the Bishop of Rochester.—On the 8th inst., a meeting of the creditors of Messrs. Peto, Betts, and Co. was held at the London Tavern. A statement of accounts was submitted to the meeting by Mr. Coleman. This document was of a most satisfactory character, and the utmost confidence was expressed in the firm. Formal expression was given to this feeling in the resolutions, by which it was determined that the concern should be liquidated by Messrs. Peto and Betts themselves.—The annual dinner of the Newspaper Press Fund took place on the 9th inst., at Willis's Rooms, Earl Granville presiding. The attendance was numerous, the proceedings interesting and the subscriptions announced exceeded the sum of £850.—An extraordinary accident happened in the Welwyn Tunnel on the Great Northern Railway. Shortly after midnight the engine drawing a train of empty trucks broke down in the tunnel. The guard ought to have gone back to warn other approaching trains, but he apparently failed to do so, and has paid a fearful penalty for his rashness. Shortly afterwards a heavily-laden goods train dashed into that which was stopped, and the guard of the first train and a man whom he had with him in his van were killed. By this collision the trucks were thrown across the line and smashed up. But worse was to come. The Scotch goods train, bringing meat for Monday's market, dashed into the two disabled trains, and a fearful scene was presented. The fire from the engines ignited the goods and trucks, and for some hours the tunnel was a huge furnace. Fortunately the drivers of the trains escaped.

#### TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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

"CASE IN POINT" (CEYLON).—No, he cannot; we refer you to the "Book of Constitutions," a copy of which we recommend that you and every office-bearer should possess for reference in such cases as those which you mention. The matter is not one upon which any opinion of ours would apply.

ERRATA.—In the report of Lodge La Césarée, p. 435, of the present volume, 2nd column, line 26, read thus:—"On the condition and prospects of the lodge, comprising the prominent events within it," &c. And at p. 436, 2nd column, line 25, for *departed*, read *despaired*.