THE

FREEMASONS MAGAZINE

AND

MASONIC MIRROR.

VOL. XV. (NEW SERIES) JULY TO DECEMBER, 1866.



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FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE

AND

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ADDRESS TO OUR READERS.

The opportunity afforded us at the close of each volume for addressing a few parting words to our readers is always welcomed as a fitting excuse for tendering our best thanks to those friends who, from year to year, continue to afford us their aid and support, and to those new friends who have helped to swell the numbers of our subscribers;—that element upon which all journals, and more particularly class journals, depend for their success.

To our contributors, too, it affords us the opportunity of thanking them for their zealous and kind co-operation and assistance in the conducting of the Freemasons' Magazine and Masonic Mirror; and we here take occasion to add that to those whose valued contributions to our Magazine have appeared for the first time in the present volume, as well as to those older friends,—we thank them, one and all, for the warm interest they have displayed in supporting by their contributions the only existing weekly Masonic Magazine published in Great Britain, and the only recognised organ of English Freemasonry.

We have a right to congratulate ourselves and our readers that we have recently been fortunate enough to enrol under our banner several brethren of the highest literary talent,—full of Masonic lore and of high standing in the Craft,—worthy men and zealous labourers in the good cause; amongst those brethren whose valuable aid has recently been so kindly afforded to us we number several holding under the Grand Lodges of Scotland and Ireland, as also under the several Supreme Councils and Grand Orients of France, Belgium, Holland, and Italy; and amongst our Transatlantic brethren we are fortunate enough to number not only some amongst those holding under the Canadian Grand Lodge, but also amongst the members of the several Grand and District Grand Lodges of the United States of America.

We have continued to give some attention to the state of Freemasonry abroad, by giving upon every occasion, when space permits, Masonic doings abroad, and by translating from foreign journals Masonic and other news. We do our best to keep our readers informed upon foreign as well as home topics and Masonic events and proceedings throughout the world; and the better to enable us to effect this object, we are at all times greatly obliged to brethren residing abroad, or receiving foreign journals or newspapers, for any scraps of such Masonic intelligence as they may think proper to send, whether as cuttings from papers or the newspapers intact, and they may rest assured that they will be thankfully received and properly applied. It is, of course, upon the most extended support that all journalists rely for success in their efforts to cater well for and please their readers, and in class journalism it is more especially so; and, in the conduct of a journal addressed to the "brethren of the mystic tie," as the field is more limited, and the sources from which worthy materials are obtainable are narrow, the condition of "mutual dependence" (so often referred to elsewhere amongst ourselves) is nowhere more exhibited than between the conductor of a Masonic magazine and his supporters; and whilst we think our friends amongst the contributors to Masonic literature, let us beg of them not only to continue their exertions but to redouble their energy, and we promise them they shall find their pleasure enhanced from their increased exertions in that field of labour.

Before concluding this portion of our duty, the acknowledgment of our indebtedness to subscribers and contributors, we wish specially to express our thanks to those Secretaries, Scribes, and others who have taken the trouble to bring officially before their Lodge and Chapter the circular letter recently addressed to them from the Office of the Freenasons' Magazine, and we trust that others

who have not yet had the opportunity of doing so, will avail themselves of the earliest occasion to communicate the contents of that circular letter in open Lodge or Chapter and add to our obligation by advocating its object, remembering the truth of the national Belgian motto, "L'Union fait la force."

For the twenty-third time the Right Honourable the Earl of Zetland, K.T., &c., was, at the last Quarterly Communication of the United Grand Lodge of England, held on the 5th December, nominated as the Grand Master for another year; we regret, in common with those present at the last Quarterly Communication, the unavoidable absence of his lordship.

The learned members of the committee charged with the duty of revising the "Book of Constitutions" still continue their labours, not having yet completed the task,—one which surely ought not to have occupied so much talent for so long a time, seeing that in the meantime they have deprived the Craft of that important book of laws, by which the Order is governed.

We suggest to "the powers that be," or those who regulate such matters in connection with Grand Lodge affairs that the recent decisions respecting the status of Past Grand Stewards in and out of Grand Lodge, as also concerning their clothing and jewels might, with great propriety and equal justice be reconsidered; and we commend this suggestion to their serious attention.

The various Masonic Charities are again about to be brought prominently before the members of the Order. We wish each of those deserving institutions a still greater increase to their respective funds during the next year than they obtained during the present over the preceding year, 1865, highly creditable as that was to the supporters of those noble charities; but we think it but right to add a word or two of advice, rather than of caution. Let every one who undertakes the duty of Steward to one or other of those Charities remember the nature of the obligation relating thereto and exercise his privileges and perform his duties instead of delegating them to another, however willingly the latter may be to dispense with "the interference of new Stewards who cannot know the business so well as those who have served all the Stewardships before;" to the former we say, "do your own work, and take care too that the work that is done be done fairly and in a true Masonic spirit: to the latter, the exprienced Steward, we say, "take heed in time lest ye stumble;" Masonic duties should be performed in a Masonic spirit, and the greatest circumspection, strict justice, and propriety should at all times rule and govern.

The new Freemasons' Hall and buildings may be said to be all but complete, so far as regards the lodge rooms, secretarial and other offices; most of those have been occupied for some months, and they have given general satisfaction to the brethren who have had occasion to use them. The new premises to be occupied by the tenants of the Freemasons' Tavern are progressing rapidly towards completion. The architect to the new buildings has, we understand, received very flattering testimony of professional approval of his designs, and of the style and manner of their execution. May Freemasonry continue to flourish in this great metropolis and throughout the world, and may temples dedicated to Freemasonry continue to arise throughout the land.

We perceive with pleasure the rapid extension in the number of new Masonic Halls building and projected in England, and we feel assured that the advantages to the Craft which the possession of such buildings offer, commend them to the serious attention of our metropolitan and provincial brethren as being highly worthy of support; we therefore wish all such undertakings the most complete success.

In the present volume, for the half year July—December, 1866, will be found recorded most of the Masonic events which have occurred. If some have been omitted, we may, we think, honestly attribute such omissions generally to the neglect of those who took part therein to furnish us with the requisite information to enable us to place them on record; but if in the future we are furnished with the necessary materials, we shall then be enabled to avoid the charge of apparent neglect, and, moreover, we shall feel ourselves under a still larger debt of gratitude to a still larger number of friends and supporters.

To our readers, one and all, we wish a happier and more prosperous new year than the last, or any that have gone before it; and to the world at large, as good Masons we should say we wish Peace on Earth and Goodwill toward Men.

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LODGE

LONDON, SATURDAY, JULY KASSERAND

THE LOSS OF THE "LONDON."
THE LATE BRO. THE REV. DR. WEINEY

(Continued from page 504, vol. xiv.)

But the subject opened up by the resolution was one that was so vast in its character, and so various in its aspect, that he could not possibly be at a loss for something to say. He had been much struck by an observation which had been made to him by a gentleman who had recently arrived in the colony, and who had felt no inconsiderable amount of surprise that there should be such an universal manifestation of grief at the death of Dr. Woolley. This gentleman had ventured to say that he thought that the general manifestation of grief at their brother's death had been more like that which might have been looked for, if it had been the death of some great public man-some great benefactor, or some distinguished warrior to whom the whole community was under important obligations. His (Bro. Simmons') reply was that one who was ever forward to instruct his fellow-man, and always ready to do his utmost to raise him in the social scale, was, in his opinion, quite as great a man as any successful warrior or distinguished politician. He said that he felt (and he believed all would agree with him) that if ever there was a man in this colony who had exerted himself to promote the intellectual and moral elevation of his fellow-man, Dr. Woolley was that individual. He would be missed most by the Masonic body, but he was a man beloved and regretted by all. His services to their body were of a very conspicuous and positive character; all that he did, he did well, and in obedience to an obvious sense of duty. Instances might be easily adduced to show this, if those instances were such as were ever likely to be forgotten. It might, in this way, easily be shown that their late reverend brother had not shrunk from offending those who stood high in power when the pursuance of a certain course of action appeared to him to be his duty. Every act of his Masonic life justified the high opinion they entertained of him. In the performance of his duties as Prov. Grand Chaplain, their departed brother had never shrunk from the duties of that high office. And as he had set before them a bright example in his life, so had he been equally distinguished by the manner of his death. Expected

as he was, not by his family alone but by thousands of loving friends, what must have been his feelings when he saw that the doom of the London was inevitable, when he marked the slow but certain approach of death in the waters of the dark and tempestuous deep? His death became him well, and let their duty be equally well performed to those whom he had left behind him. Let them act as if they thought that when Bro. Woolley was face to face with death it might have been some consolation to him to think that they would care for his widow and his children.

The resolution was then put from the chair and carried unanimously.

Bro. D. C. Dalgleish, P. Prov. S.G.W., moved the second resolution, which was as follows:-"That it is the opinion of this meeting, that the most appropriate and Masonic testimonial will be to raise a fund for the benefit of the widow and family of our late Bro. Dr. Woolley; and this meeting pledges itself to use its utmost endeavours to carry the above resolution into effect." Dalgleish said that in discharging the duty of moving this resolution, which had been handed to him, it was not necessary for him to insist upon the obligation under which they were to raise up such an appropriate memorial as had been pointed out, or to urge how incumbent it was upon them, as a meeting of Masons, to pledge themselves to carry out the proposition which he had submitted. It would be easy to show on many grounds why they were specially called upon to take such a course as was proposed. He remembered Bro. Woolley for many years past as a man who seemed to take a noble pleasure in devoting his time and talents and energies to the elevation of his fellowman, and to the special improvement and instruction of those very classes which were but too little thought of in every community. Dr. Woolley, although an eminently gifted man, had never thought himself above this, and now that he was dead, his good deeds should not be forgotten. Dr. Woolley was not a man who suffered himself to be ignobly trammelled by mere social distinctions of rank and standing; he recognised every man as his equal, if he had but those qualities which entitled a man to the honour of such a distinction. He was the friend of all men, in all ranks, and in all stations; but it was as the consistent friend of all the working classes that he would be best remembered. Every person in this sphere of life must feel that in losing Dr. Woolley, he had lost a

real friend. He believed that this was felt everywhere, but in no place more than in the bonds of the Order. In his capacity as Provincial Grand Chaplain of the English Constitution of the Order, Bro. Woolley, as had already been intimated, had always done his duty; a notable example of his integrity, in this direction, being his conduct on the occasion of the funeral of their respected Bro. It was a duty they owed to Robert Campbell. themselves and to the Craft thoroughly to carry out the proposition set forth in the resolution, and he did not doubt but that they would accomplish that duty. If they did not fulfil that duty what was it that would be said by the enemies of the Order? It would be said that their professions were unsubstantial and shadowy—that there was no reality in their vaunted principles. He urged them to remember this, and for every other consideration that could possibly affect them, he begged to recommend the resolution he had read to the brethren.

Bro. Moss Israel, P.M. 655 seconded the resolution, and regretted the comparatively small number of the attendance, through the inclemency of the weather. He trusted that those who had not come would be found working yet harder than those who had not stopped away. They, as Masons, were bound to do all that lay in their power for the family of Bro. Woolley; for Bro. Woolley had always done battle for them and for their Order. Why should they not? They all fixed their faith upon the same sacred volume; and upon the truths they learned therefrom they were all instructed to depend. It was to that sacred book, which all Masons had in reverence, that those who died in the London had recourse in their last hour of desolation and agony. From that Book (read and prayed over in that sinking ship) the Christian and the Jew might at all times draw instruction and consolation. The Jewish woman-for there was one of that ancient race on board-had read, they were told, the Bible with her Christian sisters before they went down together-before they appeared in the presence of that Great Being, who, for His own wise purposes, permitted this sad catastrophe. Might they be at all times as ready and willing to combat all error and ill-feeling as had been their departed brother, who had been lost in the foundering of the London. He was happy to know that the Grand Lodge had already liberally taken the initiative in the good work that was before them, and did not doubt but that considerable sums would likewise be voted by the metropolitan and different country lodges; not to speak of what would also be raised by the individual efforts of Freemasons. The memorial must be made worthy of the memory of the man for whom they mourned.

The resolution was put and carried as before.

Bro. J. A. Bird, W.M. No. 655, moved the third resolution, which was as follows :- "That the W.M., P.M., and Wardens of the different lodges in Sydney under the E.C., be a committee to receive general subscriptions; and that the W.M., P.M., and Wardens of the several lodges in the province be a sub-committee to receive subscriptions from their members." In speaking to this resolution, Bro. Bird remarked that so much had been said, and so well said already, that he did not intend to detain them by any lengthened observations. He should only say that the movement was one which obtained his warmest sympathy-his most cordial co-operation. It was their . first duty as Masons to give a substantial expression to their sympathy with the widow and the children of their deceased brother, a brother taken from them not by any lingering illness, or by one of the more ordinary forms of death, but snatched away by a sudden and appalling calamity. It behaved them to meet the exigency with more than ordinary exertions.

Bro. Dr. Brown, P.M. No. 817, seconded the resolution, which was put and carried as before.

After some observations from the Prov. G.M. relative to the mode in which it was proposed to carry out the contributions from the different lodges,

Bro. J. M. May, P. Prov. G. Dir. of Cers., in an eloquent and effective speech, moved the fourth resolution, which was as follows:—"That copies of the previous resolutions be transmitted to all the country lodges under the English Constitution in the province of New South Wales, and their hearty co-operation solicited."

Bro. Bennett, P.M., seconded the resolution, which was put and carried as before.

Bro. W. Wilkins, Prov. G. Supt. of Works, moved the last resolution, which was as follows:—
"That a Treasurer be appointed by this meeting to act in conjunction with the Provincial Grand Treasurer."

Bro. Bohrsman, W.M., Lodge Germania, seconded the resolution, which was put and carried, as were those previously agreed to.

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The Provincial Grand Master announced that the Grand Lodge would subscribe £50, and that that sum would be supplemented, he had no doubt, from all the subordinate lodges in the town and in the country who worked under the English Constitution.

The proceedings terminated by a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

RECOLLECTIONS OF THE LODGE OF FREEMASONS AT THORNHILL.

By D. Murray Lyon, one of the Grand Stewards in the Grand Lodge of Scotland.

(Continued from page 443, vol. xiv.)

If the Lodge of St. John's has shown its zeal in having taken part in the events just noticed, its public spirit has also led it somewhat to overstep the "mystical bound" of Masonic etiquette and engage in at least one demonstration appropriate enough to its members in their capacity as citizens, but certainly at variance with that principle of the Order which prevents a communication of Freemasons becoming an arena of political strife. We allude to the lodge's appearance in the public procession which took place at Thornhill, August 21st, 1846, on the passing of the Act for the Abolition of the Corn Laws. The processions to Drumlanrig, September 9th, 1851, in celebration of the Earl of Dalkeith's majority, and on the occasion of the Floral Jubilee held at Dumfries in 1862, were, strictly speaking, of a non-Masonic character, and the lodge's appearance in them was irregular, as was also its league with certain bodies in Thornhill, February, 1853, for submitting to a public meeting of the inhabitants "a series of resolutions having for their object the abolishment of the system of giving refreshments at funerals"—a movement which, however praiseworthy in itself, was foreign to the business of a lodge of Freemasons, whose teachings as to the observance of temperance must ever be regarded as antagonistic to the dogma which inculcates total abstinence from wine or other creature comforts dispensed at funereal gatherings.

Another odd resolution was that taken by the lodge in 1858, when in prospect of receiving a charter for the practice of the chair degree (proffered by the P.G.M., and unanimously agreed to be accepted), it decided that "no Master Mason

could occupy a chair unless possessed of that degree, the usual fee for which to be paid!" The offer of a gift, the acceptance of which involved the practice of a step in Royal Arch Masonry, must have been the result of obliviousness of the laws of Grand Lodge; while the resolution adopted by the Lodge St. John's in connection with the offer was about as unconstitutional as was that of Ayr and Renfrew Militia St. Paul, when, in 1799, it enacted that no brother under the degree of Knight Templar should be eligible for office in the lodge.

That other lodges in the province have entertained eccentric notions on Masonic subjects, the following extract minute will show: " . . A letter was read from the R.W.M. of — Lodge, regarding a number of young men from their locality who were proposing to join our lodge in preference to theirs; the purport of the letter being to the effect that it was contrary to the laws of the Grand Lodge; and he trusted that we (St. John's Lodge) would not encourage such 'wholesale migration from this place.' Secretary was instructed to inform the R.W.M. in question that, as soon as the petitions of the candidates referred to were laid before our lodge, they would receive due consideration." In certain parts of the United States of America there is, we believe, some rule as to restricting lodges to candidates resident within their defined jurisdiction; but under the Scottish Constitution there is no regulation on the subject, and the universal practice of the Craft is quite at variance with the idea propounded by the brethren who appear to have had such a dread of their jurisdiction being encroached upon.

Besides taking an active part in the business of the Provincial Grand Lodge of the district, St. John's has never been slow to express an opinion upon questions of importance coming before the Grand Lodge of Scotland. In 1850 the lodge is found discussing the present position of the Grand Lodge; and that St. John's might the better watch over its own interests, the commission in favour of its Proxy Master was, in 1851, withdrawn, and the R.W.M. instructed himself to represent the lodge at head-quarters. This arrangement was but of short duration, however; for at a quarterly meeting of the lodge, held in August of the same year, the R.W.M. having stated that he had attended the previous quarterly communication of the Grand Lodge in Edinburgh, and had been well received by the brethren there, but "that he considered that a Proxy Master residing in Edinburgh would be of great advantage to the lodge," the brethren agreed to look out for another. In 1853 the lodge instructed its representative strenuously to oppose the motion to compel daughter lodges to provide the members of Grand Lodge with a uniform description of clothing. In 1859, No. 252 declared against the compulsory contribution from daughter lodges to the fund of Scottish Masonic Benevolence, "in consideration that this lodge has from the commencement supported a benevolent fund of its own, and that the greatest number of applicants are from the towns—and being of opinion that every lodge is its own best distributor." And in 1862 St. John's entered a vigorous protest against the law compelling lodges to take out diplomas for intrants, and appointed a committee to communicate on the subject with the other lodges in the province.

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As was to be expected of a lodge in the position of No. 252, the Masonic press receives a liberal support at its hands; and that its members profit from an acquaintance with the Masonic literature of the day is shown by the improvements which are being gradually developed in its management. Not the least of these is the recently adopted law relative to ensuring accuracy in framing its records: on the motion of Bro. J. Smith, seconded by Bro. Robert Brown, it was agreed "that the minutes of each meeting be written in scroll during the time of the meeting, and that the same be read at the close thereof, and that if approved of, the said scroll minute be initialled by the R.W.M., and afterwards engrossed in the regular minute book." Besides guarding against errors in the construction of the minutes, the adoption and working out of this resolution will bring the brethren into better acquaintance with the business brought before them.

Under some Constitutions the working hours of lodges are regulated by Grand Lodge enactment; but in Scotland the Supreme Masonic Court takes no such cognisance. While it is mostly by night that the secret rites of the Order are performed, St. John's does not so restrict itself. In December, 1836, the following was its deliverance on the subject:—"The lodge shall not be opened for Masonic business later than nine o'clock p.m.; it shall be shut at least at

twelve p.m., and be not again opened for Masonic purposes till sunrise next morning."

Falling in with the prevailing fashion, St. John's pays, it appears, some little attention to the decoration of its hall on joyous occasions, never forgetting, however, that the moral beauty of the lodge is with Freemasons of far greater importance than its outward adornment:—

"Fair Wisdom began for to sketch out the plan By which they were all to be guided; Each order she made was exactly obey'd, When portions of work she divided.

The great corner-stone was by Charity done, But Strength was the principal builder; When for mortar they cried'twas by Friendship supplied, And Beauty was carver and gilder."

Although the solemn and impressive rite of Masonic burial has never by the Lodge of Thornhill been performed over the remains of a departed brother, on two occasions have the brethren in a body encircled the silent lodge; first, in June, 1845, at the funeral of their first Master, Bro. Robert M'Lachlan, whose remains were borne to the tomb upon the shoulders of four of their number; secondly, in January, 1853, on the demise of Bro. Thomas M'Lachlan, another of their Past Masters; and, on the occasion of Bro. the Rev. Edward Dobie's funeral, February, 1857, the members attended in large numbers, preceding the body till, when about a mile's distance from the village, they took open order, and permitted the other portion of the mournful procession to march through their ranks towards the place of interment in the churchyard of Durrisdeer. While in those rupturing of Masonic ties by the hand of death, the lodge has not only honoured the remains of departed brethren, but has also been ever ready to mingle its tears of sorrow with those of the bereaved, and to offer that fraternal sympathy which the tender heart of the widow and orphan claims from the brotherhood.

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The Fraternity in Thornhill are proverbial for their attachment to their mother lodge, the records of which trace the occasional reunion of long-separated sons of St. John's, the wandering ones being invariably treated with the most fraternal consideration, reminiscences of lodge life being recalled and dwelt upon with a zest truly pleasant to witness, as indicative of the attractive character of the communications of the Lodge of Thornhill. The reunions connected with the visits to their mother lodge of Bro. James M'Lean, in 1853,

after an absence of nineteen years; of Bro. James Kellock, from New York, in 1857; of Bro. Joseph Kellock, from Australia; of Bro. Matthew Nicholson, from Iowa, United States, and others are still fresh in the memory of many in the Lodge. Nor are their fraternal attentions confined to the transient of their own number; for in no lodge do visiting brethren experience the strength of the mystic tie in a greater degree than among the sons of No. 252. Here the worthy visitor is ever welcome—enter when he may he will find a circle of cheerful faces looking radiantly upon him, and at the proper moment a sheaf of glowing hands ready to grasp his own. It is held by Rob. Morris, an American brother of great Masonic experience, that the lodge which has the most visitors, other things being equal, is the best informed; and proof of the truth of this axiom is afforded in the case of St. John's, which, as a country lodge, profits in a high degree by the fraternal visits of wayfaring brethren - those "links that unite the ten thousand lodges of the world into one harmonious chain, and afford us the best means of testing our Masonic charity and knowledge, and the integrity of the Order in other jurisdictions."

We are free to confess that in very few of the lodges we have had the pleasure of visiting, have we observed the spirit of legitimate Masonic inquiry in such active operation as is displayed by the leading members of No. 252. In the floorwork of the lodge the officials are scrupulously exact; and in conferring the several degrees there is a total absence of that levity, of which in the work of some lodges there is too much reason for complaint, as detracting from the solemnity and dramatic effect of our secret rites. The excellence of St. John's arrangements at makings, is in a great measure attributable to the attention given to this and kindred matters by the past and present occupants of its several chairs. At divers times have lodges of instruction been formed in St. John's.

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While on the subject of refreshment, we may in a sentence advert to the custom obtaining in St. John's at toast-drinking. In the performance of this ceremony the ancient Craftsmen seem to have retained their seats, and it was only when special honour was intended to be conferred on the subject of the toast that the brethren assumed a perpendicular position. The old mode has

gradually disappeared, and Scottish Freemasons are now asked to be upstanding on every occasion of toast-drinking—a compliment which in No. 252 is accompanied with a species of Masonic fire peculiar to itself, and which we cannot here further describe than by saying that its conglomeration of movements denote the three penal signs with which representatives of the W. S. are familiar, the whole being interspersed with pedal manifestations more noisy than harmonious.

"I AM TOO OLD."

To solicit any one to become a member of our Order is highly un-Masonic. To defend that Order when unjustly assailed, to remove unfounded and childish prejudices and cavils against it, to show what it is not, to unfold its principles, its aims, and its achievements in any society in which the subject of Freemasonry may happen to be broached, is not only lawful—it is a positive duty. Such has been our procedure. We have never shrunk from speaking fully and freely on those portions of the Craft which are exoteric, and we have found that doing so has almost invariably produced very desirable effects. People have been astonished to find it so very different from what they expected. I suppose our readers are aware that the uninitiated may be divided into two great classes—those who believe Freemasonry to be wicked, and those who believe it to be silly. When they find that it is neither, that almost every jot and tittle of it is in accordance with the Scriptures of Truth, that good men have loved and extolled it, that great men have brought their powerful intellects to its elucidation, that the mighty ones of the earth, whose names are as household words, have been enrolled on Masonry's glorious scroll—a feeling akin to regret may be observed in your listeners. And this feeling is particularly discernible in the old. "How beautiful," they say, "is your Masonic system! How adapted for a world so unhinged and distracted as this! How sorry I am that I did not join it when young. I am now too old!"

We have frequently heard such expressions as these from the lips of men whom we could not help wishing earnestly to see enrolled amongst us—men of vast erudition, high and spotless character, who would shed a lustre on any society with which they might connect themselves. And yet these men, although highly appreciating

Freemasonry, shut themselves out from its benefits, through a mistaken notion that youth is a pre-requisite. Let our hoary-headed friends, provided always that they are "found in the way of righteousness," be informed that old age is no barrier to the enjoyment of the advantages and pleasures that Freemasonry bestows. They may not, indeed, become apt ritualists; they may not glibly run through a ceremony which is too frequently neither understood by the intellect, felt in the heart, nor potent as regards the life and conduct. We would not, of course, for one moment depreciate a thorough and efficient discharge of the ritualistic duties of the Order. But we all need, young and old, to be reminded that Freemasonry is something more than a series of ceremonies, beautiful and touching though these may be. It is a system of morality; it is a wondrous institution, to the elucidation of which the most profound intellect, the ripest scholarship, and the most sanctified heart may be profitably brought. And, surely, these qualifications are to be looked for rather amongst the old than the youthful candidates for participation in our mysteries.

Let, then, no man say "I am too old." A man is never too old to practise brotherly love, relief, and truth, never too old to bring a ripened judgment, a holy and consistent life to bear upon his younger brethren. In these days, when so many are thronging into our ranks, it behoves us rather to study the quality than the number of those who present themselves for initiation; and we cannot but express our regret that the "crown of glory" is not more frequently worn by those who knock for admission between the mystic pillars that guard the portals of our noble, but misunderstood Order.

MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

SOLIDARITY.

A brother writes that recent pastoral letters of Roman Catholic bishops, denouncing Freemasonry, at the same time denounce Solidarity, and he asks what is Solidarity. The following passage taken from the "Dictionnaire des Sciences Philophiques" furnishes the answer to our brother's question: "Tous les systèmes Socialistes [les systèmes des Communistes, des Phalanstériens on Fouviéristes, des Saint Simoniens, et de ceux qui, de nos jours, continuent leurs traditions sous le nom des Philosophes Humanitaires], ont également pour devise le mot 'Solidarité.' Tous également, malgré les différences qui

les divisent, malgré la guerre acharnée, qu'ils se livrent entre eux, se proposent de délivrer l'homme de sa résponsabilité, en substituant à sa prévoyance, à son industrie, à son activité, cette de la société tout entière, comme si la société était en dehors des individus dons elle est formée, ou comme si chaeun de ses membres, travaillant uniquement pour elle, pouvait lui donner plus qu'il ne donne à sa famille et à lui même."—Charles Purton Cooper.

THE VOLTAIRIANS.

The Senior Warden of a London lodge is mistaken in his notion. The religion of the Voltairians is natural religion, and natural religion is the religion of Freemasonry, taken in what is not unfitly denominated its universality. That a candidate is a Voltairian is, therefore, no ground for his rejection. My brother should read Professor Bersot's book "La Philosophie de Voltaire, avec une introduction et des notes," published at Paris in 1848.—Charles Purton Cooper.

DOUBLE TRIANGLE.

How early does this emblem appear on Mussulman edifices and coins, and from what people did the Mussulmans obtain it? Did they adopt it from the Romans?—R. A.

MASONIC CHARITIES.

Can you inform me if there is any complete list of the Masonic schools, asylums, and charities in the various countries of the world?—Enquirer.

MASONIC KNIGHTS.

I have been much struck with a remark in your columns on the inconsistency of assumed representatives of the chivalric orders being taken from individuals who bave no chivalric pretensions, thereby tending to throw the character of imposture on the credentials of many of these bodies. It might have been added that the want of scholarship is an equal bar to the recognition of many of the candidates. Indeed, it may be very shrewdly doubted whether many of these bodies, having their strongholds in Freemasonry, are not the offspring of knights of the Moon, Gregorians, Gormagens, and other sham Masonic fraternities, which in the last century liberally distributed mock decorations and mock titles.—K. T.

DEACONS AND STEWARDS.

The W.M. and Wardens are recognised functionaries of English Crafts and Companies, but whence came the Deacons—from the English or the Scotch Craftsmen? I have not been able to learn that there were ever Deacons in the Masons' Company of London, and I do not know that there are such officers in any living Company. Stewards are well known in some companies.—O.

ATHEISM

"The fool hath said in his heart—no God." His head and heart are, therefore, both at fault; his head, because he is "a fool," his heart, because it questions a self-evident truth. How, then, are we to deal with such a character? Reason can never touch a fool, and argument is not likely to tell against inclination. Is not then Freemasonry wise in excluding atheists—in other words, fools—from admission into her lodges?—M. M.

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

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

ROYAL BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION FOR AGED FREEMASONS AND THEIR WIDOWS.

It has been suggested to us that it would be well to insert, as a matter of history for reference, the names and numbers of the unsuccessful candidates for admission to the benefits of our Charities. Believing the suggestion to be a good one, we have much pleasure in acting on it, and, therefore, append a list of those to whom the result of the ballot proved unfavourable at the General Meeting of the above Institution, held on the 18th of May, 1866:—Bros. Thomas Shearer, 4,868; John Lucas, 4.413; James Davidson, 4,301; Thomas Storey, 3,388; Thomas Osborne, 3,242; John Carvell, 2,934; Edward Evans, 2,300; William Mallett, 2,080; Henry Martin, 2,060; C. Carpenter Cole, 1,840; Thomas Rounce, 1,790; Walter Spicer, 1,710; John Hole, 1,683; William Jackson, 1,334; Lewis Briveau, 1,326; John Broadbent, 1,242; John Rowe Brewer, 1,139; William Govier, 975; James Pattison Munro, 351; Henry Miller, 205; James Dack, 126; Robert Parkinson, 57; Samuel Williams, 45; Thomas Burgum, 39; William McAuley, 26, W. Myers Schofield, 20; John Watson, O. Widows: Mrs. Martha Hoskins, 3,804; Ann Harmer, 3,675; Mary Marson, 3,511; Ann Kinnear, 3,449; Rachel Mayoh, 2,309; Mary Rickards, 1,812; Mary Ann Johnson, 1,811; Mary Ann Thiselton, 1,776; Elizabeth Parish, 1,540; Eliza Mott, 818; Sarah Kauffman, 660; Elizabeth Greenhalgh, 493; Elizabeth Lyon, 127.

METROPOLITAN.

ROYAL ALBERT LODGE (No. 907).—The brethren belonging to this lodge celebrated their summer banquet on Thursday, the 28th ult., at the Greyhound, Dulwich, where a dinner of the most reckercke character was placed on table by Bro. Medlecott. The lodge mustered very strongly, and the table was graced by the presence of several visitors, among whom were Bros. Taylor, Neate, Prior, and Lloyd. The post of chairman, in the absence of Bro. T. Peters, W.M., was filled by Bro. Smith, P.M., Treasurer of the lodge, supported by Bros. Lewis, P.M., Assist. G. Purst., and Vaughan, Chap. After the cloth had been removed, the Chairman gave the usual first Masonic toast, "The Queen and the Craft," which received the usual Masonic honours. "The Grand Master of England" received equally as hearty a response, and Bro. T. Lewis acknowledged the next toast, "The Earl De Grey and Ripon, and the Officers of the Grand Lodge." Bro. Vaughan (Chap.) replied in suitable terms, when his health was proposed, and Bros. T. Lewis, and J. A. Farnfield replied to the toast, "The Past Masters." Bro. J. A. Farnfield then gave "The Health of Bro. Smith," which received a hearty response. "The Visitors" having been drunk amid acclamation, Bro. Prior (S.W. of the Domatic Lodge) responded. After the other Masonic toasts had been duly honoured, the brethren adjourned to the spacious grounds of this celebrated hostelry, to enjoy a little out-door amusement, arter which further light refreshments were served, and

At the lodge meeting held a few days previous to the banquet, at the Freemason's Tavern, Bro. T. Lewis invested Bro. J. A. Farnfield, the retiring Past Master, with a Past Master's jewel and collar which had been unanimously voted to him by the lodge on his retirement from office.

EXISTENCE OF GOD.—When the idea has been once admitted into the mind, nothing is more easy than the discovery of innumerable proofs to support it.

PROVINCIAL.

CHESHIRE.

CREWE.-Lodge of Unity (No. 321).-The quarterly meeting of this large and flourishing lodge was very numerously attended on Wednesday, June 27th. The brethren met at one o'clock. There were many provincial officers present, and two officers of Grand Lodge, Bros. Leigh, P.G.W., and Cope, G.S.B: The brethren having confirmed the minutes, passed Treasurer's accounts, made a grant on the proposition of Bro. W. J. Bullock of £1 to a very worthy old Mason; ballotted for two joining members, and received propositions for six joining members; the lodge was adjourned for half an hour for the arrival of the W.M. elect, Bro. Wilbraham Egerton, M.P., who was coming from London to be installed for the first time in the chair of K.S., and that, too, of his mother lodge. Bro. Cope performed the duties of Installing Master to the great delight of all present, the only drawback being the want of music. The Board of Installed Masters numbered over twenty, and the ceremony was very gratifying to several young Masons who had never before witnessed an installation. The W.M. having closed his lodge, the brethren to the number of nearly forty, retired to a splendid banquet, when the usual Masonic and other toasts were given. Bro. Twiss, P.G.O., presided at the pianoforte, and also accompanied Bro. Bullock in "The Miller of the Dec." The W.M. also called for one of Bro. Bullock's medleys, which he sang to his own accompaniment, and received an ovation of applause. The success of this lodge is largely due to Bro. Griffiths, P.G.S., who has been Treasurer and Secretary of it for many years.

Lodge of the Four Cardinal Virtues (979).—The monthly meeting of this lodge took place on Tuesday, the 26th ultimo, at the Crewe Arms Hotel. The W.M., Bro. Bullock, was supported by all his officers, a large number of the members, and several visitors, including the Rev. A. A. O'Neil, Prov. G. Chap. of East Lancashire. Previous to the ballot being taken for the candidate who had been proposed by a member of this lodge, and who both are residents of another town, where there is a working lodge, the W.M., Bro. Bullock, read two letters from the W.M. of the neighbouring lodge, and a discussion followed. The proposer was present, and vouched for his friend's good character and fitness. Bro. Bullock had also informed the W.M. of the lodge where the candidate resides of his proposition for initiation, and the purport of the first reply was, that the gentleman was not acceptable there. On asking for some definite reasons, none were given. The ballot was then taken, and the eighteen members present all voted in his favour. He was not present, and therefore his initiation was deferred to next lodge. A petition for Margaret Douglass, whose husband died here some two months back, was signed to be presented to the Board of Benevolence. Bro. Bullock also informed the brethren that Alfred Mould, youngest son of their first and late beloved Worshipful Master would be a candidate at the next election for the Boys' School, and he hoped each brother would secure a few votes for the orphan of so good a Mason. The brethren, after the closing of the lodge, took supper. Several songs were given afterwards, and the evening was a most enjoy-

RUNCORN.—Ellesmere Lodge (No.758).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Freemasons' Hall, on Wednesday evening, the 27th ult., at seven o'clock. The chair of K.S. was occupied by Bro. C. C. Imison, W.M., who was supported by the following brethren, viz.: Bros. W. Rigby, P.M.; R. Clark, R. Wright, J. Ward, T. Garfit, J. Taylor, R. Roberts, J. H. Beckett, J. Nichols, H. Hankinson, J. Mason, A. Caldwell, W. Garnett, J. Alexander, W. Morgan, W. Macintosh, Treas. Visitors: Bros. J, Bowes, P.M. 148, and Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; T. Davies; P. Pearse, 148; J. G. Hughes, 1055. The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed. The ballot was then taken for Messrs. Walter Hull and John Clare Ridgway, candidates for initiation, which proved unanimously in favour in each case. The two gentlemen being present, as also Mr. T. Morris Acton (duly elected at a previous meeting), they were severally introduced and initiated by Bro. J. Bowes, P.M., at the request of the W.M. The W.M. (Bro. Imison) announced that it afforded him extreme pleasure to present to the lodge the harmonium they had listened to that evening. The only condition that accompanied the gift was that it might be lent to the churchwardens during the alterations at the parish. A cordial and hearty vote of thanks to the W.M., was unanimously

agreed to on the motion of Bros. R. Rigby and W. Macintosh. There being no further business the lodge was closed with the usual solemnities, at nine o'clock.

CORNWALL.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

The annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Cornwall was held at Bodmin, on Tucsday, the 26th ult., at ten o'clock, in the Guildhall of this ancient town.

The Provincial Grand Lodge was opened by the R.W. Bro. Augustus Smith, Prov. G.M., who was supported by several Past Officers, Grand Officers of the province, and a large muster Past Officers, Grand Officers of the province, and a large muster of the brethren. The procession was formed about eleven o'clock, and when duly marshalled proceeded to the parish church, headed by the Royal Cornwall Militia Band, under the leadership of Mr. Freebairn. We are glad to state there was a large attendance at the church, and the choir acquitted themselves creditably. The prayers were read by the Rev. J. Wallis, M.A.; the first lesson by Bro. the Rev. J. D. Hawkesley; and the second lesson by Bro. the Rev. G. Ross, P.M., P. Prov. G. Chap., and vicar of Tywardreath. The sermon was preached by Bro. the Rev. F. H. A. Wright, M.A., P.M. 331, Prov. G. Chap., from the words, "Behold how good and pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity." (Psalm exxiii., 1). The Rev. Prov. G. Chap. concluded the sermon in good time, thus Rev. Prov. G. Chap. concluded the sermon in good time, thus avoiding the faults of not a few clergymen on such occasions, who extend their discourses to such lengths as interfere considerably with the arrangements and order of the day's proceedings. A collection, as is usual, was made at its close, the principal being given to the East Cornwall Hospital, and the service being ended, the procession was reformed and returned to the Guildhall, when the business of Provincial Grand Lodge was rapidly despatched, consequent upon a preliminary meeting having been held at Truro, on the 22nd May, when the various important questions affecting the interests and welfare of the Craft in Cornwall were considered and decided on, and required simply to be confirmed, which was accordingly done, and enabled the brethren to dine without that haste and discomfort frequently resulting from so much time being devoted to questions at the annual gathering, which could and should be arranged at a preliminary meeting.

The following brethren were appointed as the officers for the

present year :-

Bro. John Roscosla P.M. 121....., Col. J. W. Peard, P.M. 977 "Thomas Q. Couch of 330..... D. Prov. G.M. Prov. S.G.W. Prov. J.G.W. Rev. F. Wright, P.M. 331 .. Prov. G. Chaplains. Rev. Bannister, Chap. 1006 William Tweedy, P.M. 331 E. T. Carlyon, P.M. 331..... Prov. G. Treas. Prov. G. Sec. James O. Mayne, P.M. 331 Preston J. Wallis, Treas. 330 Prov. G. Assist. Sec. Prov. G. Reg. E. J. Worth, P.M. 893..... William Toll, P.M. 510..... Prov. S.G.D. Prov. J.G.D. Prov. G. Dir. of Cers. Prov. G. Assist Dir. of Cers. John Paull, P.M. 699 Prov. G. Supt. of Works. Captain Alms Prov. G. Sword Bearer. J. Hocking, jun., P.M. 589 ... Prov. G. Org. Samuel Harvey, P.M. 131... T. Mitchell, W.M. 589 ... Prov. G. Purst.

Prov. G. Stewards.

Prov. G. Tyler.

Prov. G. Inner Guard.

Sergeant Carron The banquet was served by Bro. Sandol in the Corn-market, which was most artistically decorated for the occasion; and the Cornish Militia Band again contributed to the enjoyment of the festival, by playing some well selected pieces at stated

William Rooks.....

The chair was taken by the Provincial Grand Master, who as usual filled that high position with dignity. The Prov Wardens occupied the "West" and "South" respectively. The Prov. G.

We can quite believe that such a large attendance at the banquet must have greatly taxed the energies and means of Bro. Sandol, who (although he did, we are persuaded, the best under the circumstances), decidedly failed to supply all the

brethren to their satisfaction and comfort. The great lack seemed to us especially to be in the "waiting" department, but feeling loath to find fault, we will forget the few mishaps in rejoicing at the success of the Provincial Grand Lodge, and thankfully looking back at the immense progress the Craft has made in Cornwall during the last few years, we will feel still more hope in the future. We regret to state that Bro. Reginald Rogers, D. Prov. G.M. for Cornwall, was unavoidably absent from the county, and at the same we must confess our inability to explain why so able and distinguished a Freemason did not receive the appointment of D. Prov. G.M. from the P.G.M. as

We have been so much in the habit of considering the office of D. Prov. G.M. in a province, almost as permanent as the higher, but not more arduous, office of Prov. G.M., that we cannot conceal our deep regret at the alteration, as anyone who has the pleasure of knowing Bro. R. Rogers must be aware that the whole fraternity in Cornwall would vote for his continuance in that office (had they the power), almost to a man. We trust however that the now P.D. Prov. G.M. will still continue to give the lodges in Cornwall the benefit of his counsel, presence, and kindly offices as usual.

CUMBERLAND.

CARLISLE.—Union Lodge (No. 310).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday evening, June 26th, and was opened in due form according to ancient custom by Bro. Rev. W. Cockett, W.M. P. Prov. G. Chap., supported by Bros. W. Murray, I.P.M.; F. W. Hayward, P.M. and Treas., P. Prov. G.J.D.; G. G. Hayward, S.W.; J. Slack, J.W.; W. H. Pulford, S.D.; J. B. Paisley, J.D.; G. T. Clark, Sec.; A. Woodhouse, I.G.; Geo. Somerville, Steward; Thos. Storey, Tyler; M. Higins, M. Fisher, J. Barnes, and visiting Bro. Rev. J. Losh, 962. The minutes of former meetings were read and passed in the usual way among Masons. The hallot how went round for the usual way among Masons. The ballot box went round for Mr. Thompson, commercial traveller, of Wolverhampton, which proved unanimous in his favour. The lodge was opened in the F.C. and Bro. W. Court, being a candidate to be raised, was tested, approved of, entrusted, retired, and was duly prepared and (after the lodge was opened in a higher degree) the candidate was re-admitted, and raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason, by F. W. Hayward, P.M., in his usual free and easy manner. The lodge was closed down to the E.A. degree, the roll called, dues received, and the lodge closed with prayer by F. W. Hayward, P.M. (Bro. W. Cockett having retired some time before). The brethren retiring to the refreshment room, where they spent an hour or so very agreeably, and parted in peace and harmony.

ESSEX.

COLCHESTER .- ANGEL LODGE (No. 51).

At a special meeting of this lodge, held at the Cups Hotel, Colchester, on Wednesday, the 27th ult., Bro. Horace Darken was installed as W.M. for the ensuing year, the ceremony of installation being very ably and impressively performed by Bro. Franks, W.M. (Perfect Friendship Lodge, No. 376, Ipswich, and P. Prov. G. Reg. for Suffolk. The following brethren were appointed officers of the lodge and invested with their respective badges, as under: -C.O. G. Becker, S.W.; J. W. Gwynn, J.W.; W. Slaney, Treas.; George Bowler, Sec.; W. Griffin, Dir. of Cers.; S. Chaplin, S.D.; W. E. Holland, I.D.; W. P. Lewis, I.G.; Witten, Tyler.

All the brethren of the province wore Craft mourning on their badges for Bro. Major Skinner, the late D. Prov. G.M.

The lodge business being concluded, at five o'clock, about thirty brethren, including visitors from neighbouring lodges, sat down to a sumptuous banquet, supplied by Bro. Salter, the host of the Cups Hotel. The W.M. presided, assisted by the host of the Cups Hotel. The W.M. presided, assisted by the officers of the lodge; and among the brethren present were Bro. Franks, the Installing Master; Bros. King, P.M., and Spalding, P.M. (376, Ipswich); S. Coppin, P.M. (433, Brightlingsea); T. L. Fysk (121, King's Lynn); A. Wolverson, J.W., C. Guiver, and W. Middleton, (United Lodge, 669, Colchester); E. S. Bean, P.M., T. Hall, P.M., R. Ellisdon, P.M., W. Griffin, P.M., A. E. Church, P.M., J. Hope, J. Salmon, R. Evans, T. Ralling, P. Hast, H. Pettitt, T. Day (Coggleshall), and J. Witten (Angel Lodge No. 51).

The loyal teasts were first duly honoured; then "The Army, Navy, and Volunteers (connected with the Healths of Bros. Wolverson, Griffin, Ellisdon, Salmon, &c.); and next "The Health of the Most Worshipful Grand Master of England, the Earl of Zetland," drank with Masonic honours. The W. Master said they had now reached their own borders,

and he was about to propose to them "The Health of the Provincial Grand Master for Essex, Bro. Robert Bagshaw." In proposing this toast it would perhaps be unnatural were he not to preface it with a few observations. He had for some years a very intimate acquaintance with the Prov. G.M. of Essex, but that was succeeded by a great variance, and he must before them all confess his belief that, had it not been for the principles of Freemasonry, Bro. Bagshaw and himself should never have exchanged another word; but he was happy to say that those principles which it was the desire of every Mason to see strengthened—the great principles of brotherly love, relief, and truth—had brought them together again; and he was happy to be able to read to them a letter from the Provincial Grand Master, upon which he placed a high value, as proving that while their estrangement was such that the world might know the cause of it, that estrangement had not withstood the ties and obligations of the Masonic brotherhood. The Provincial Grand Master wrote as follows:-

"Dovercourt, 18th June, 1866. "Worshipful Sir and Brother,-I am favoured with your polite note of invitation to the annual meeting of your lodge on

the 27th inst. in celebration of your installation as W. Master.

"At this season of mourning for the heavy loss we have sustained by the death of the deeply-lamented Deputy Granp Master, Bro. Skinner, I feel that I cannot, out of respect to his memory, so immediately after his removal, return to our usual festivities; and I must on this occasion, as I have done in the case of the Rochford Lodge, decline the obliging invita-tion of yourself and the brethren of the Angel Lodge, which, under any other circumstances, I should have had great

pleasure it accepting.
"With every good wish for the prosperity of yourself and your lodge, I am, Worshipful Sir and brother, yours fraternally,

"ROBT. J. BAGSHAW, P.G.M.

" W. Bro. Darken, "Master Elect of the Angel Lodge."

He begged to give them "The Health of the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Bagshaw. The toast was drank with honours.

Bro. Hall proposed "The Officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge," coupled with the health of Bro. Bean, whom he congratulated upon the high honour of being appointed Senior Grand Warden of the province.

Bro. Bean returned thanks.

Bro. Church begged to propose "The Health of the Worshipful Master of the Angel Lodge." It was a wholesome custom in this lodge that when a member had gone in regular succession through the various subordinate offices in a way that might do credit to himself and the lodge to which he belonged, he should after serving the post of Senior Warden be recommended to the Past Masters for elevation to the ruling position in the lodge; and he thought on this occasion the Past Masters had exercised a wise discretion in placing Bro. Darken in the honourable position which he now occamied. In the selection of installation he had been occupied. In the solemn ceremony of installation he had been much struck with the words addressed by Bro. Franks to the W. Master, that "the credit, the reputation, and the prosperity of the lodge would depend upon the skill and manner in which he performed his duties." Of course they could not at this period form any certain conclusion on that point; but from the manner in which Bro. Darken had gone through his duties hitherto, and the proceedings of that day, he was sure they all entertained the confident belief that he would conduct himself during his period of office not only to his own credit, but to the entire satisfaction of the brethren of the lodge.

The W. Master said: although not given to much speaking, he should be wanting in gratitude to the Past Masters and brethren of the Angel Lodge were he not to say how much he appreciated their kindness and confidence in placing him in a position of which every Mason ought to be proud, and which he felt to be the highest honour he had ever attained to. The world were apt to take individual cases and ask whether they were examples of Freemasonry; but his only reply to that was, if men professed principles which they did not act up to, it was no condemnation of the principles themselves. In Freemasonry, again, they had nothing to do with religious or political differences. In every-day life they professed and maintained these political or religious principles which they held to be right; but when they entered a Freemason's lodge all such matters were put on one side. By this course they avoided divisions, and kept up the ancient landmarks of the Order; and therefore he would say with the poet-

"Ah! yes, though all the world forsake, And fortune clip my wings, I will not cramp my heart, nor take Half views of men and things.

Let Whig and Tory stir their blood-There must be stormy weather; But, for some true result of good, All parties work together."

This was the real result of what brother Masons held so dearthe principles of brotherly love, relief, and truth.

The W. Master next proposed "The Health of Bro. Day," a

newly-initiated member, who duly returned thanks.

The toast of "The Visitors" was responded to by Bro. Franks, Ipswich, who said he had come amongst them that day in fulfilment of a promise to their Worshipful Master to perform the ceremony of his installation. He first made Bro. Darken's acquaintance in the Star of the East Lodge at Harwich, of which when only a young Mason he was one of the most influential members; he thought then, what had since been realised, that he would make a good man as well as a true and faithful Mason; and he felt quite sure that the members of the Angel Lodge would never regret the election of Bro. Darken to the chair of their lodge.

Bros. S. Coppin, Wolverson, and Guiver, also returned thanks for the toast.

The toast of "The Past Masters of the Angel Lodge," proposed by Bro. Becker, and drank in the "loving cup," was acknowledged by Bro. Ellisdon.

"The Health of the Senior and Junior Wardens," proposed

by Bro. Hope, was responded to by Bro. Becker.

The W. Master proposed "The Health of the Treasurer, Bro. Slaney, and of the late Secretary, Bro. Williams," with a well-deserved acknowledgment of their long and valuable ser-

vices to the lodge; and the expression of a hope for the prosperity of Bro. Williams in his new place of residence (Liverpool). The other toasts were "The Masonic Charities," proposed by Bro. Griffin; "The Press, with the Health of Bro. Ralling," proposed by the V.M.; "The Stewards" (Bros. Salmon and Hast), proposed by Bro. Hope, &c.

During the evening some excellent songs were sung by Bros.

During the evening some excellent songs were sung by Bros. Wolverson, Salmon, Bean, and other obliging brethren.

BRIGHTLINGSEA.—Lodge of Hope (No. 433).—The annual festival of St. John the Baptist was held at the Swan Inn, Brightlingsea, on the 25th ult., for the purpose of installing the W.M. elect, Bro. J. Francis, in the chair of this lodge. The chair was occupied at the opening of the lodge by Bro. Lake, I.P.M., supported by his officers, Bros. G. Riches, S.W.; H. York, J.W., Bragg, Bishop, Prov. J.G.D.; Ames and Blythe, P.M.'s; Charey, Treas.; Winter, I.G.; Harmer, Tyler; and R. and J. Salmon, Stammers, Evans, and Dove. Amongst the visitors we noticed Bros. Webb, P.M., P. Prov. S.G.W.; Bean, W.M. 51; Wolverson, S.W. 243; and Middleton, 699. The lodge was opened in the first degree, the minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed; the ballot was then taken for Mr. Frederick Pudney as a candidate for initiation, which proved unanimous in his favour, and he was afterwards initiated most impressively by Bro. Blythe, P.M. The lodge being opened in the second degree Bro. J. Francis was then presented to receive the benefit of installation from his predecessor; the usual preliminary ceremonies having taken place, a Board of Installed Masters was formed, and the new Master placed in the chair, according to ancient custom, by Bro. Bishop, P.M. The brethren were then readmitted in the several degrees, and saluted the W.M. in the usual manner. The investment of officers for the ensuing year then took place at follows: Bros. Lake, I.P.M.; Clarcy, Treas.; York, S.W.; J. C. Wiseman, J.W. and Sec.; Stammers, Assist. Sec.; Winter, S.D.; Dove, J.D.; Bragg, I.G.; Harmer, Tyler. Bro. Webb (243), then delivered the charge to the Wardens in his usual impressive manner, and the lodge was closed down to the first degree. Bro. S. Webb (243), was then proposed as a joining member by Bro. Clarey, and seconded by Bro. Bishop. Business being over the lodge was closed, and the brethren retired from labour to refreshment, at which the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured by the W.M. and

brethren, including "The Health of Bro. Pudney, the newly initiated member," to which that brother duly responded. Bro. Bishop, P.M., sang the "Entered Apprentice's Song," and several other brethren having contributed to the harmony of the evening, the brethren dispersed at a seasonable hour.

LANCASHIRE (WEST).

Warrington.—Lodge of Lights (No. 148).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Monday evening, June 25th, at the Masonic Rooms, Sankey-street. In the unavoidable absence of the W.M. (Bro. Gilbert Greenall, M.P., Senior Grand Warden of England), Bro. H. B. White, P.M., Prov. G. Steward, presided and was supported by the following brethren:—Bros. John Bowes, P.M., Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; Robert Stevenson, J.W. as S.W.; S. P. Bidder, P.M. 204, as J.W.; Rev. J. N. Porter, S.D.; William Macintosh, 753, as J.D.; Christopher Ekkert, Org.; W. Savage, Capt. Reynolds; Thos. Jones; Jabez Plinston, William Mossop, Joseph Bancroft, Parcival Pearse. Thos. Hollingsworth, 204. Rev. J. I. Dreaper. Percival Pearse, Thos. Hollingsworth, 204; Rev. J. J. Dreaper, Geo. Blackhurst, James Hepherd, Ex-Mayor; John Pierpoint; B. P. Coxon, C.E.; W. Woods, Arthur Waring, Capt. Knight, John Anderton. W. Ahern, I.G.; Jos. Robinson, and James Johnson, Tylers. The lodge was opened in solemn form according to ancient custom, when the minutes were read and confirmed. The lodge was opened in the second degree, when Bro. Anderton, being a candidate for promotion and having proved his claim, was entrusted and retired. The lodge was opened in the third degree, Bro. Anderton re-admitted and raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason by Bro. White, the latter part of the eeremony being conducted by Bro. Bowes, P.M., &c., who proposed two brethren as joining members. The lodge was now closed with the usual solemnities. Bro. Bowes now called upon Bro. White to redeem his promise by delivering his proffered lecture "On the Origin, Nature, Object, and Tendency of Freemasonry."* At the conclusion of the lecture Bro. Bowes rose to propose a vote of thanks to Bro. White for the valuable instruction he had afforded them. As Bro. White had stated at the onset he put forth his own view of the subject. He did not wish them to accept his remarks as doctrine, he simply gave his individual opinion and personal conviction. For the trouble he had taken he was sure they were all sincerely grateful, a more excellent suggestive and instructive lecture could not possibly have been delivered. Bro. Robt. Stevenson, J.W., rose most cordially to endorse the remarks of the acting W.M., Bro. Bowes. He had been thoroughly entertained and instructed; he begged to second the vote of thanks. Rev. Bro. Porter rose to support the motion as it had been put. Bro. Jas. Hepherd, Ex-Mayor, further supported the motion, which was carried by acclamation. The brethren now adjourned to Bro. Thorpe's Lion Hotel for refreshment, which was presided over by the J.W., Bro. Stevenson. After which was presided over by the J.W., Dro. Stevenson. After the cloth was drawn the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured. "The Visitors" were responded to by Bros. S. P. Bidder, P.M. 204; Rev. J. J. Dreaper, Thos. Hollingsworth, W. Macintosh, 758; Bro. Knight, proposed "The Health of Bro. H. B. White," who, after responding, gave "The Junior Warden and Organist." Bro. Macintosh toasted Bro. John Bowes. The Tyler's toast brought this happy meeting to a close. Some excellent songs were beautifully sung by Bros. Stevenson, S. Bidder, W. Woods, W. Savage, and Jos. Bancroft.

and Jos. Bancrott.

LIVERPOOL.—Lodge Perseverance (155).—The annual meeting of this lodge was held on Monday, July 2nd, at four o'clock, at the Masonic Temple, Hope-street. The lodge was opened by Bro. H. S. Alpass, Prov. G. Sec. when the minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. The installation of W. Master elect was proceeded with by the acting W.M., Bro. Alpass, assisted by Bros. Armstrong, Marsh, and Laidlaw. The W.M., Bro. J. R. Goepel, having been proclaimed, appointed his officers, Bros. Rev. J. Vernon, M.A., P.G. Chap. as P.M.; Thos. Marsh, S.W.; Laidlaw, J.W.; Alpass, Treas.; Armstrong, Sec.; Moluniex, S.D.; De la Rue, J.D.; Grimmer, I.G. The lodge was closed in due form, and the brethren adjourned to banquet in the dining-hall. Grace having been said by the Prov. G. Chap., the W. Master proposed "The Queen, Prince of Wales, and rest of Royal Family." The W. Master gave "The Health of M.W.G. Master of England," coupled with the Grand Masters

of Ireland and Scotland. The W. Master proposed "The Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, Earl De Grey and Ripon. The W. Master then rose to propose "The Health of the Right Worshipful the Provincial Grand Master." Sir Thomas G. Hesketh, Bart., M.P., said he was respected by all the brethren of the province and all Freemasons who knew him, and hoped that he would be spared many years to rule them. The Prov. G. Sec., Bro. Alpass, thanked them for the manner the brethren had received the P.G. Master's name. "The Prov. G. Master of East Lancashire" was given by the W. Master, coupled with the name of Bro. Hine, Prov. G. Treas., and Secretary to the Relief Committee of Manchester. The toast was drank with all honours. Bro. Hine said he was much pleased and gratified by his visit to Lodge 155. One great feature which had been amply exhibited to-day was that of "brotherly love." He (Bro. Hine) could not sit down without proposing the health of a brother he had known some time, and one who had done great things for Freemasonry as Secretary for the West Lancashire Relief Committee; he alluded to "Bro. Thomas Marsh." Bro. Marsh thanked the brethren for the kind manner his name had been proposed by Ero. Hine and the manner they had received it. Bro. the Rev. J. Vernon, Prov. G. Chap. and P.M. 155, proposed "The Health of Bro. Vernon, Past Master." The W. Master responded in very feeling and appropriate terms. Bro, Alpass proposed "The Health of Bro. Vernon, Past Master." Bro. Vernon returned thanks. "The Officers," "Visitors," &c. was next proposed, and responded to Bros. Hine and Marsh; and the evening was brought to a close by the crowning toast, "To all Poor and Distressed Masons."

LIVERPOOL.—Croxteth United Service Lodge (No. 786).—At the last meeting of this lodge, held at the Temple, Hopestreet, on the 18th ult., the W.M., Bro. Captain Allender, stated that it was with deep regret he had to announce to the brethren that death had removed from amongst them their worthy Bro. Horatio Gambell. It was proposed by Bro. Captain Holden, seconded by Bro. Major Boresfield, and unanimously resolved, that the Secretary be requested to convey to the nearest relative of the deceased brother the sincere sympathy of the lodge. In accordance with this resolution, the following letter was addressed by the Secretary to the brother of the deceased:—"Dear Sir,—I beg to assure you that nowhere will your brother's loss be more deeply regretted than in this lodge. By all of the members he was held in the highest esteem and respect, whilst to most of them he was endeaved by many acts of kindness and friendship during a close intimacy of some years' duration. His services to this lodge have been numerous and great; to the province of West Lancashire they have been invaluable, and with him Freemasonry has been deprived of one of its greatest ornaments. In conjunction with our late Bro. Walmsley, he was instrumental in founding the Masonic Educational Institute for West Lancashire, an institution which has already become firmly established, and has stimulated the formation of similar societies in the neighbouring provinces. I have briefly enamerated some of the great services rendered to humanity by your late brother, in the fervent hope that it may be some consolation in your present affliction to know that amidst a widely-extended circle he lived respected and died regretted, and that his memory will be gratefully preserved by the numerous widows and orphans who have already been, or may hereafter be, indebted to his philanthropy.

LEICESTERSHIRE.

LEICESTER.—John of Gaunt Lodge (No. 523.)—The annual festival of this lodge was held on Monday, the 25th ult., when, in addition to the W.M. (the Rev. John Spittal, Prov. S.G.W.), there were present, Bros. Kelly, D. Prov. G.M.; Johnson and Duff P.M.'s; Green, S.W., and W.M. elect; G. H. Hodges, J.W.; J. E. Hodges, Sec.; Moor, J.D.; Manning, I.G.; Hunt, M. Hack, Shaw, Atkins, J. C. Clarke, Bithrey, Watson, Buzzard. G. Boulton; Visitors: Bros. J. M. McAllister, No. 21; A. Wright, 687; W. Darlinton, 432; Weare, Morris, Pettifor, Marris, and Tibbit, P.M.'s; Adlard, J.W.; Stretton, I.G.; and Gosling, 279. The lodge having been opened and the minutes of the last regular lodge and of a lodge of emergency having been read and confirmed, including the election of W.M., the following gentlemen were initiated into the Order in excellent style by the Rev. W.M. viz.: George Tollery, jun., Alfred Sargeant, F. J. Baines, and P. Wardle. The charge was afterwards delivered by the D. Prov G.M. A fifth candidate was not able to attend. The lodge

^{*} We purpose giving this in our next, or the following issue.- Ep. F.M.

having been opened in the second degree, the chair was taken by the D. Prov. G.M. The W.M. then presented as his successor Bro. Henry Peake Green, to receive the benefit of installation, and he, having given his assent to the ancient charges of the Order, and having been obligated, was duly installed, received the accustomed addresses and salutes in the several degrees. The newly installed W.M., having invested the Rev. J. Spittal as The newly instance with, naving invested the devesting free the strength of the line of the strength of the strength of the line of the strength of the strength of the line of the strength of the line of the strength of the st Treasurer's accounts which, including unpaid subscriptions, showed a balance of upwards of £100 in favour of the lodge. A cordial vote of thanks having been passed to the present W.M. for his services as Treasurer, Bro. T. Sheppard, P.M., was unanimously elected to that office for the ensuing year. A vote of thanks having heap passed by accompanying to the Rev. Bro. thanks having been passed by acclamation to the Rev. Bro-Spittal, for the zealous and admirable manner in which he had performed his duties as W.M. during the past year, the lodge was closed and adjourned to the third Thursday in September. About forty brethren afterwards sat down to the banquet, at which, owing to the unfortunate absence of the new W.M. from the state of his health, the Rev. Bro. Spittal, I.P.M. presided, supported on the right by the D. Prov. G.M., the newly initiated brethren, &c., and on the left by Bros. Morris, Pettifor, Duff, Weare, Johnson, P.M.'s, and others. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts having been duly honoured, interspersed with songs; the brethren finally separated after spending a pleasant social evening, which was only marred by the absence of the W.M., whose speedy restoration to health was heartily wished by all present.

SOMERSETSHIRE.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

A Provincial Grand Lodge of the Free and Accepted Masons for the province of Somerset was held at the Town Hall, Yeovil, for the province of Somerset was held at the Town Hall, Yeovil, on Monday, the 18th ult., under the presidency of Bro. Major A. W. Adair, Prov. G. Master of Somerset, who was assisted by Bro. Capt. H. Bridges, D. Prov. G.M. Prior to the meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge, the Lodge of Brotherly Love, No. 329, Yeovil, assembled under their W.M., Bro. John Ryall, and received the members of Provincial Grand Lodge, Love, No. 329, Yeovil, assembled under their W.M., Bro. John Ryall, and received the members of Provincial Grand Lodge, who marched in in a long and highly imposing procession. The lodge was honoured with the presence of Bro. Rev. J. Huyshe, Prov. G.M. Devon; and the Prov. G.M. Glamorgaushire. There were also present Bros. R. J. F. Thomas, G. Chap. of England; Davy, P.G. Chap.; Bellerby, Prov. G. Treas. Devon, and most of the officers. Bro. Payne, Prov. G. Treas., having been again elected, the R.W. Prov. G.M. made the following appointments: Bro. Payne, Prov. G.S.W., holding this with Prov. G. Treas.; J. Whitby, Prov. G.J.W.; Martin, Prov. G. Chap.; Clutterbuck, Assist. Prov. G.C.; Stoddart, Prov. G. Reg.; Else, Prov. G. See.; Turner, Prov. S.G.D.; Malim Messiter, Prov. J.G.D.; J. Blizzard, Prov. G. Supt. of Works; E. Budge, Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; Heal, 772, Prov. G. Assist. Dir. of Cers.; Parker, 285, Prov. G.S.B.; Fawcett, 446, Prov. G. Org.; Attwell, Prov. G. Purst.; E. C. Garland, Prov. Assist. Dir. of Cers.; Helyar, Prov. G. Tyler; Hutton, Assist. Prov. G. Tyler; W. Milborne, W. Cox, Greening (41), Carpenter, Marsh, Hood, Prov. Stewards.

It was stated at the meeting, out of the expenditure of the year more than 60 per cent. has been devoted to charity.

A most sumptuous banquet was provided in the afternoon, at the Three Choughs Hotel. As usual, the excellent catering of the worthy hostess, Mrs. Bullen, elicited unqualified praise, in which those who had taken part in the preparation justly came in for a share including Mrs. Clare of Beaminster, who setted

which those who had taken part in the preparation justly came in for a share, including Mrs. Clare, of Beaminster, who acted as chef de cuisine, and her able assistant, Miss Fox, of Yeovil; also Mr. Pavitt, of Barwick, and Mr. Himbury, of Sherborne, without whose assistance no banquet or first-class dinner in this neighbourhood appears to be complete. It will be unnecessary to say anything as to the manner in which the room was decorated, or the admirable taste with which the table was laid, as Mrs. Bullen's name has long been a guarantee for perfection in these matters.

Mr. Loaring's band occupied the orchestra at the end of the room during the banquet, and performed an admirable selection

A grand public ball was held at the Town Hall in the evening. The hall presented a most lively appearance, indeed it was as

unlike the dull cheerless room with which the Yeovilians are so well acquainted as could easily be conceived. The walls were nearly covered with a splendid collection of pictures kindly lent by Mr. Seward, of Hendford, which were interspersed with Masonic emblems, &c., belonging to the Yeovil Lodge Brotherly Love, No. 329; and several large mirrors lent by Mr. Geake, who also lent the lounges, &c., which were arranged round the room. The assistance of Mr. Drummond, of the Preston Road Nurseries, had also been called in, and a splendid collection of plants in full bloom, ferns, &c., were arranged around the orchestra, and in other parts of the room, giving the hall a most beautiful appearance. In addition to the lovely perfume which was sent forth by the flowers, one of Rimmell's clever contrivances emitted a constant stream of delicious odour during the night. Festoons of evergreens and flowers depended from the ceiling, and Masonic devices composed of the same material were placed in different parts of the room. The windows were tastefully draped, and the floor was in splendid condition, having been especially prepared for the ball. Mr. F. Cox deserves no small amount of praise for the taste with which the room was prepared, and the careful manner in which he carried out the wishes of the stewards, who were most anxious that all the arrangements should be perfect One part of the council-room was tastefully prepared as a retiring room for the ladies, whilst the other portion was converted into a comfortable little restaurant, in which Mrs. Bullen had provided the usual delicacies. The tables were decorated with a splendid collection of flowers, some of which were arranged in the two large épergnes which were presented to the worthy hostess of the Choughs. The gentlemen were accommodated in the magistrates' room. There were about 70 present, and dancing was kept up till nearly five o'clock on Tuesday morning. The brethren were full Masonic costume, and several gentlemen holding commissions in the volunteer service appeared in uniform. Mr. Loaring's band was engaged for the occasion and gave great satisfaction.

STAFFORDSHIRE.

LAYING THE FOUNDATION STONE OF THE NEW NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE INFIRMANY, AT HARTSHILL, STAFFORD.

The foundation stone of the New North Staffordshire Infirmary, at Hartshill, was laid by his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, assisted by the Provincial Grand Master for Stafford, on the 25th ult. The ceremony was a most imposing one, and will long be remembered as one of the most interesting events in the annals of the county.

The Craft was represented in strong numbers. The Prov. G.M. for Staffordshire, Bro. W. K. Harvey, was supported by

the following brethren :-

Bros. Major Gough, D. Prov. G.M.; Dr. Burton, P.D. Prov. Bros. Major Gough, D. Prov. G.M.; Dr. Burton, P.D. Prov. G.M.; G. Baker, Prov. S.G.W.; Hooper, Prov. J.G.W.; Capt. Segrave, P. Prov. J.G.W.; the Rev. A. Clarke, Prov. G.C.; the Rev. B. Wilmore, Assist. Prov. G.C.; W. Howells, Prov. G.T.; Cartwright, Prov. G. Sec.; Turner, Prov. G. Reg.; Hyatt, P. Prov. G.R.; Fendelow, Prov. S.G.D.; S. Hill, Prov. G.D.C.; Sargeant, P. Prov. G.R.; Ford, and Pickett, Prov. G.S., &c. The number of brethren present from the various lodges of Staffordshire was between three and four hundred. The brethren assembled in lodge at the Town Hall and marched thence to the site in procession.

After the reading of an address to his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, by his Grace the Duke of Sutherland and his

Royal Highness having replied thereto,

The Prince then deposited in a cavity below the foundation stone two glass bottles, hermetically sealed, one of which contained a collection of the current coins of the realm, and the other copies of the Times, the Staffordshire Advertiser, and the Sentinel, and also a document, of which the following is a transcript :-

NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE INFIRMARY.

The foundation stone of this building, intended as a hospital for the sick poor of the Northern Division of the County of Stafford, was laid by His Royal Highness Albert Edward, Prince of Wales, K.G., G.C.B., on the 25th day of June, A.D. 1866, being the 30th year of the reign of Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria.

> Patron.—The Duke of Sutherland, K.G. President .- Earl Granville, K.G.

Vice-Presidents.

Francis Wedgwood, Esq., William Bates, Esq. Treasurer.—William Cunninghame Gemmell, Esq.

Trustees to the Accumulating Fund. Smith Child, Esq., Frederick Wright Tomlinson, Esq.

Trustees to the real property.

William Taylor Copeland, Esq. | Rev. Sir Lovelace T. Stamer, William Davenport, Esq.
John Edensor Heathcote, Esq. Michael Daintry Hollins, Esq.

Bart. Francis Wedgwood, Esq.

Trustees to the funded property.

James Bateman, Esq. Thos. F. Twemlow, Esq.

Francis Wedgwood, Esq. John Ayshford Wise, Esq. uditors.—Godfrey Wedgwood, Esq., Frederick Wragge, Esq.

Committee.

Taylor Ashworth. Rev. Adam Clarke. Edward Challinor. Samuel Herbert Cooper. William Keary. Joseph Knight. Rev. William Dunn Lamb. John Lamb. Charles Bower May. Thomas Fletcher Twemlow.

Matthew Folliott Blakiston, William Brownfield. Rev. E. J. J. G. Edwards. John Hallam. Rev. Sir L. T. Stamer, Bart.
Rev. Henry Sutcliffe.
William Webberley.
Enoch Wedgwood.
Clement F. Wedgwood.
Thomas Whittir gham.

Visitors.

Mrs. Arlidge. Mrs. Blakiston. Mrs. Brown. Mrs. Clarke. Mrs. Dickinson. Mrs. Garner. Mrs. W. K. Harvey. Mrs. John Harvey Mrs. Thomas Keeling. Lady Stamer. Mrs. Stewart. John Alcock.

Edwin Allbut. George Baker. Joseph Bull. William Cartwright.
Joseph Clementson. Thomas Gilman George Jones. George Sergeant. Jesse Shirley. Captain Stewart. Thomas Jones.

Surgeons Extraordinary.

James Spark, F.R.C.S., F.S.S., L.S.A. Daniel Ball, F.R.C.S., L.S.A. Robert Garner, F.R.C.S., L.S.A., F.L.S.

John T. Arlidge, M.B., A. B. Lond., M.R.C.P., A.K.C.

Surgeons.

Joseph Walker, M.R.C.S., L.S.A. W. H. Folker, F.R.C.S., L.S.A. John Alcock, M.R.C.S., L.S.A., A.K.C.

Medical Officers.

Geo. Barnes, L.R.C.P., Edin., M.R.C.S., L.S.A. Charles Orton, L.R.C.P., Edin., M.R.C.S., L.S.A.

Chaplain.

Rev. Robert Topham.

House Surgeon.

W. D. Spanton, M.R.C.S., L.S.A.

Secretary and Collector.

R. Hordley.

Dispenser.

E. H. Croydon.

Matron.

Ann Derry.

DISTRICT STEWARDS.

Longton and Fenton. Sampson Bringwood. Hampson Brothers. W. K. Harvey.

Stoke. W. W. Harlow. Ralph Smith.

Cobridge and Etruria. Edward Pearson. Jesse Shirley.

Hanley. Henry Daniel.

Elijah Jones. Edwin Powell.

Burslem. Thomas Hughes. W. H. Mayer. W. E. Twigg.

Tunstall and Longport

H. R. Haywood. Henry Meir. Joseph Shirley.

Newcastle. Joseph Baildon.

William Hargreavds. Ralph Mosley. Trentham and Barlaston.

Rev. E. J. J. G. Edwards. George Ford.

Leen: W. B. Badnall. J. Brough. J. Cruso.

A. J. Worthington.

Cheadle. William Allen. J. M. Blagg.

BUILDING COMMITTEE.

(Not members of General Committee.)

C. Coyney.
A. F. Gooday.
W. K. Harvey. W. Acton. W. Adams. G. Baker. J. E. Heathcote. J. Baildon. M. D. Hollins. W. S. Roden. J. Bateman. R. Beswick. F. Bishop.
T. C. Brown-Westhead.
C. M. Campbell
Smith Child. J. Samuda. R. Wilbraham. J. A. Wise. Rev. S. T. Nevill. H. Coghill.

Over the cavity was placed an engraved brass plate, on which was the following inscription, which was read by the Duke of Sutherland :

"NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE INFIRMARY.

"The Foundation Stone of this Building was laid by His Royal Highness Albert Edward Prince of Wales, K.G., G.C.B., assisted by W. K. Harvey, Prov. G.M. Staffordshire, on the 25th day of June, A.D. 1866, being the 30th year of the reign of Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria.

Geo. Benj. Nichols. Charles Lynam."

BUILDER. Alfred Barlow. G. M. Bates

The duke then handed to his royal highness a massive trowel, which was supplied by Messrs. Hancock and Co., of trowel, which was supplied by Messrs. Hancock and Co., of Bruton-street, London, and was a splendid specimen of the silversmith's art. On the face of the blade was the following inscription:—"H.R.H. Albert Edward Prince of Wales laid the first stone of the North Staffordshire Infirmary at Hartshill, Stoke-upon-Trent, June 25, A.D. 1866. 'Whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it." These words were enclosed most appropriately in the Staffordshire knot.) The royal arms were engraved at the back of the blade, and the handle, upon which were wrought the prince's initials in monogram, was terminated by a regal crown. The trowel was contained in a case of white satin and blue silk velvet. Taking the trowel in his hand the Prince spread a quantity Taking the trowel in his hand the Prince spread a quantity of mortar over the plinth, and the corner stone was then gra-

dually lowered to its final resting-piace.

This done, the Bishop of Lichfield read an appropriate prayer, the entire company joining reverently in the repetition of the

Lord's Prayer.

The choir having sung in very correct taste the well-known version of the hundredth Psalm, commencing "All people that on earth do dwell," the proving of the stone after the manner of the Craft, was proceeded with, and these formalities lasted some considerable time. The Prov. G.M. commenced by craving the permission of His Royal Highness to assist in the noble work, which he had companied according to the rules of the work which he had commenced, according to the rules of the ancient Craft of Freemasons, over whom he had the honour to preside in this county, to which end he would call upon his reverend brother, the Rev. Adam Clarke, to invoke the Divine blessing. The rev. gentleman having in a single fervent sentence prayed that the favour of the Great Architect of the Universe might rest on the building, the Prov. G.M. took in succession from the D. Prov. G.M., the Prov. G.S.W., and the Prov. G.J.W., distinguished members of the Grand Lodge, the square, the level, and the plumb-rule, all of which he applied to the

stone, declaring that it was proven to have been truly laid according to the rules of the Order. Then taking a mallet in his hand and striking the stone three times, he said, that in the name and by the authority of the Most Worshipful Grand Master of England, the Earl of Zetland, and in the presence of their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales, he had I roven this stone, and holding in his hand a gavel used on a similar occasion by his late Majesty, King George IV., a patron of the Order, and who was regularly initiated into its mysteries, he now declared that the stone of the new Staffordshire Infirmary had been regularly laid according to the rules of the Crat, and having been proven by the square, the level, and the plumb rule, was truly and correctly laid in every particular.

The plans and elevation having been inspected by his Royal

Highness,

The Frov. G. Master, addressing Bro. Barlow, the builder, said the erection of the building would be entrusted to his skill, care, and industry, and he hoped that neither his own reputation nor the stability of the building would suffer by the negligent or unfaithful performance of the work. He exhorted him so to fulfil his engagements as to win honour for himself and set a good example to his fellow labourers, and he prayed the Great

Architect of the Universe to prosper his handywork.

The Prov. G. Master then took from the hands of Bro. Capt. Segrave a cornucopia containing ears of wheat, which he scattered upon the stone, saying as he did so—"I scatter this corn as an emblem of plenty. May the blessings of bounteous Heaven be showered down upon us, and may our hearts be filled with gratitude." The choir then sang to the simple and sublime strains of the "Grand Chant"—"There shall be an handful of corn in the earth upon the top of the mountains; the fruit thereof shall shake like Lebanon"—Psalm lxxii., 16. The Prov. G.M. poured wine upon the stone, and said—"I pour this wine as a symbol of joy and gladness. May our hearts be made glad by the influence of divine truth, and may virtue flourish as the vine." The choir chanted—"Wine that maketh glad the heart of man, and oil to make his face to shine, and bread which strengtheneth man's heart."—Psalm civ., 15. The Prov. G.M. poured oil upon the stone, and said—"I pour this oil as a symbol of peace and comfort. May peace and happiness, goodwill and brotherly love flourish amongst us." The choir chanted—"And Jacob set up a pillar in the place where he talked with him, even a pillar of stone; and he poured a drink offering thereon, and he poured oil thereon."—Genesis xxxv., I4.

The Pro. G. Master then turned to the Prince of Wales and said he could not conclude his part in the ceremonial without offering to his Royal Highness, and to all those who were interested in the Infirmary, the hearty congratulations of the Masonic body upon the auspicious commencement of the building. It was true that the meetings of the body were separate from the outer world, but they still claimed to belong to the universal brotherhood of the race, and there were times and occasions of public need and polity when, clothed with the badge and insignia of their Order, they were permitted, without overstepping the boundaries and ancient landmarks of their Craft, to assist in the performance of good works. He had now great pleasure in directing the Treasurer to deposit their mite upon the stone, to be spent by the master builder in the refroshment and comfort of the operative masons, that their hearts, like the hearts of those present, might be glad and rejoice at the commencement of this noble work, and as an earnest of the approbation and sympathy which would be accorded to them if they faithfully performed their duty. In conclusion he begged to be allowed to wish long life, strength, and happiness to the Prince and Princess, and to the whole of that vast assembly.

It only remains to be added with respect to this part of the

It only remains to be added with respect to this part of the ceremony, that the Freemasons of Staffordshire are justified in feeling proud of the dignity with which their Grand Master

performed these elaborate formalities.

The presentation of purses followed the ceremony of laying the foundation stone, and it is highly gratifying to find, as it will to the Craft at large, that whilst the total number of purses presented was about 160, and the aggregate amount of their contents a little over £1,400, that of this amount £187 16s. was 'subscribed by the Staffordshire lodges, and £100 by Bro. Barlow, contractor, the builder for the new infirmary. These little facts reflect great credit upon our Staffordshire brethren as evidencing their appreciation of the value of that brightest ornapent, Charity which adorns Freemasonry, and showing the readiness of the Craft to support good works; especially those f r the relief of suffering humanity, and that we do not keep

our hearts and pockets shut up against those who are not of us.

WALES (SOUTH).

Cardiff.—Glamorgan Lodge (No. 36).—The installation of W.M. for the year ensuing took place at the Freemason's Hall, on Monday, the 25th ult, when Bro. R. F. Laugley, P. Prov. G.S.W., who had been unanimously chosen to preside over the lodge, met with a most enthusiastic reception. A large number of brethren attended, including Bro. J. M. Talbot, the R.W. Prov. G. Master. The ceremony of installation was very efficiently performed by Bro. D. Roberts, I.P.M., Prov. G. Reg. The W.M. appointed his officers as follows: Bros. G. E. Robinson, S.W.; R. S. Fisher, J.W.; E. J. Thomas, P.M., Sec.; E. S. Hill, S.D.; G. Robertson, J.D.; S. Cooper, I.G. Bro. D. Roberts, P.M., was then unanimously elected Treasurer. The brethren adjourned to a banquet at the Royal Hotel. The usual toasts were duly honoured, and a most agreeable evening was spent.

WORCESTERSHIRE.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

The meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge was held at the Guildhall, Worcester, on the 21st ult., when the R.W. Prov. G.M., Albert Hudson Royds, was installed. At the close of the business the brethren walked in procession to atttend divine service at the Cathedral. The service commenced at three o'clock, and was most numerously attended. An eloquent by the Rev. Sir F. A. Gore Ouseley, Bart, M.A., who took as his text the 2nd chapter of St. Paul's Epistle to the Ephesians, the 19th and following verses. The Rev. preacher commenced by stating that his text contained two metaphors, the first, in the 19th verse, and which described the wretched state of Christian men before their condition was completely changed by their admission to the fellowship and privileges of Christ's religion. All lncorporated bodies had peculiar privileges to which others and strangers are not admitted. The Jews had great privileges, but the privileges of Christians far exceed them; all things in heaven belong to believers who joined with the glorious company in heaven actually form the household of God. The second metaphor showed the surpassing privileges of Christians who, as a whole, are compared to a temple—one whole building finished and completed, having its foundation in the apostles and prophets. There were two senses in which the Church is built upon that foundation, the testimony of their lives and words, and the fact of the apostles having been the first ministers, and from them the Church having been handed down to our own day, and all resting on Christ Himself, the chief corner stone. The superstructure of the Church consists of lively stones, not all alike, but some useful, some ornamental, some visible, others hidden, but all silently performing the duties allotted to them. The preacher next reverted to the special object of that day's gathering. He did not wish to appear as an apologist for the society of Freemasons, but the society was thoroughly Scriptural, and though not occupying the same ground as religion, yet inculcates and carries with it the principles of mutual love and benevolence, and was at all times the Church's fellow-worker. He next adverted to the glorious Cathedral in which they were assembled, which was built in by-gone ages for God's glory, and for the use of His people—the builders were all Freemasons. We should, he said, all try to follow in their footsteps, all join in the work of restoring that Cathedral. In the interests of morality and religion the society of Freemasons always aided the Church, and taught the practical duty of social virtue and charity. On the one point, charity, he would say a few words to non-Masons. Let them judge the Freemasons by their works, and by the ready, helping land they always extended to alleviate distress, to all alike he would say, let all help liberally in providing funds for a new window in the Cathedral, and for which their alms were that day asked. A collection was made at the close of the sermon, and £33 obtained towards the cost of the new window. From the cathedral the brethren proceeded to the Shirehall, where a magnificent banquet was prepared for them, a la Russe, by Bro. Chalk, of the Star Hotel Company, who did himself especial honour on this occasion by the light and elegant character of the repast. The chair was occupied by the Prov. G.M.
The Prov. G. Master, in giving the first toast, "The Queen,"

The Prov. G. Master, in giving the first toast, "The Queen," said he could not do greater honour to the throne than by connecting with the toast the pleasing duty of presenting the four

Lewises—sons of Masons—who had carried the volume of the sacred law in procession that day, with a copy of that Holy Book which the Queen had well pronounced to be the secret of England's greatness.

The toast laving been duly honoured, and the National Authem sung by Bro. A. Brown, with general chorus, the four boys—Masters William Sterndale Bennett, John Edward Bristow, William Homer Caldicott, and George Pearce Baldwin -were called to the Grand Master's chair, and each presented with a bible, bearing the following inscription, in beautiful illumination:

"Presented by the Provincial Grand Lodge of Worcestershire, to a Lewis, who at a Provincial Grand Meeting held in the city of Worcester, on Thursday, 21st of June, 1866, for the installation of Albert Hudson Royds, Esq., as Provincial Grand Master, assisted in carrying the volume of the Sacred Law, in procession from the Guildhall to the Cathedral. The Provincial Grand Master, in presenting to him this the Great Light in Masonry, charges him to give it his most serious contemplation, and ever to consider it as the unerring standard of Truth and Justice, and to regulate his life and actions by the Divine precepts which it contains."

A. H. ROYDS, Prov. G.M.

The Prov. G. Master thanked the boys for their services that day, and advised them to remember this: Masons looked upon their life as a ladder, which had the bible for its base. took the sacred law as their foundation, and he hoped they would always do so; that they would never be ashamed of their profession, and he trusted they would preserve this holy book to

the latest day of their life.

"The Prince of Wales, the Princess of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family," having been duly drunk,
The Prov. G. Master, gave "The Health of the Right Hon. the Earl of Zetland, Most Worshipful Grand Master of Engage. land," which having been honoured Masonically, Bro. Fitzgerald sung an appropriate Masonic ballad.

The Prov. G. Master then gave "The Health of the Right Honourable the Earl de Grey and Ripon, Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master of England, and the Officers of Grand Lodge past and present," coupled with the name of Bro. Newall.

Bro. Sir Frederick Gore Ouseley then performed a brilliant fantasia on the piano, which elicited a loud and unanimous encore, which Sir Frederick could not resist. The second piece was of a quieter and more melodious character, giving a fine example of the performer's facile and graceful execution, his exquisite taste, and his thorough mastery of the instrument. It was a great treat to hear the composer interpret his own exquisite compositions.

Bro. Lawrence Newall having responded on behalf of Grand

Bro. Barber proposed "The Health of the Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Royds." They all knew the Master's kindness, and his industry as a Mason; they had soon learnt to respect, to honour, and to love him. Bro. Royds might well feel proud that day, not only when his brethren here evinced such desire to honour him, but when he had been followed by men from East Lancashire, his old original province. A zealous and sincere Mason, and a kindly and genial friend, Bro. Royds was worthy

of all the honour they could pay him.

The Provincial Grand Master, in replying said: ten years ago he came amongst them comparatively unknown. He did not suppose there were half-a-dozen of them at that time who knew him by name. He had, however, received not only great kindness on all hands; not only been heartily welcomed amongst them; but last year had been selected for two of the proudest offices which could possibly be filled by any man, that of High Sheriff of the County, and Provincial Grand Master of the ancient Order of Free and Accepted Masons for this province. These were marks of favour and distinction which he should never forget, and he would assure them that as a Mason he should always do everything in his power to advance the in-terests and honour of the Craft. He only wished he was worthy of half the kind things they had said of him. He would do his best to get somewhere near the mark, and he hoped, at any rate, always to maintain their good opinion.

The Past Master, in suitable terms, then proposed "The Health of the Worshipful Deputy Provincial Grand Master," coupled with the name of the Deputy Master, Bro. Barber, who responded, and expressed his sense of the honour which had that

day been conferred upon him.

The W. Master then gave "The Health of Sir Frederick Gore Ouseley," and thanks to him for his eloqueut sermon. Sir

Frederick acknowledged the toast, and spoke in high terms of the good work in which the Masons were engaged. then proposed "The Officers, Past and Present, of Provincial Grand Lodge," which was responded to by Bro. J. Newton. This was followed by a performance on the harmonium by Bro. Stanley Baldwin, who gave his brethren some pleasant bits of old English melody, nicely arranged, with effective variations, that were warmly encored. The W. Master then gave, in eulogistic terms, "The Health of the Worshipful Masters of the Lodges in the Province," coupled with the name of Bro. Newton, of the Worcester Lodge, who responded, and spoke of the progress of Masonry in this province, both with regard to numbers and proficiency. Bro. Holland (of the Semper Fidelis Lodge), in graceful terms, proposed "The Visiting Brethren." Bros. Capt. Phillips, Vigne, Rev. B. Smith, Rev. — Bluck, and Holden, severally responded. The W. Master then proposed "The Dean and Chapter, and the Mayor and Corporation of Worcester," coupled with the names of the Rev. Canon Cattley and Alderman Firkins, who duly acknowledged the toast. Bro. Blair then gave "The Masonic Charities."

Bro. Binckes, whose name was coupled with the toast, delivered a rather long address, in which he appealed for additional support to the charities, and gave some interesting statistics about them. The institution for aged and decayed Freemasons and widows was now occupied by 130 persons, and possessed a funded property of £30,000. There were 100 children in the Girls' Schools, and this Institution possessed £20,000 in funded property. The Boys' School had about 100 occupants, and they had recently erected a building for them which cost £30,000; but unhappily he was now engaged in negotiating a mortgage of £5,000 on this splendid estate. This was a subject for great regret, and he urgently appealed to the brethren for increased support. Some of them might wonder how they had got into debt again to this extent. They must remember that there was an expenditure of £4,000 a year. He trusted that there would be increased activity and unity in the support of these glorious

institutions.

The Prov. G. Master then gave "The Health of the Provincial Grand Stewards," which was acknowledged by Bro. Joseph Hatton; "The Ladies" followed, responded to by Bro. Royds, jun.; and the proceedings were then brought to a close with the good old-fashioned toast—"To all Poor and Distressed Masons, wherever dispersed over the space of land and water, and speedy relief to them.

YORKSHIRE (WEST).

BRADFORD.—Lodge of Harmony (No. 600). Festival of St. John the Baptist.

On Thursday, the 21st inst., the installation of the W.M. and

officers of this lodge took place.

Before leaving the chair the retiring W.M., Bro. T. Peel, addressed the brethren, and reviewed the history of the lodge during the past year. Congratulating the lodge on its prosperous condition, he stated that the capital of the lodge was gradually augmenting year by year, and that over £50 was the increase during the past twelve months; that the total amount of capital possessed by the lodge was over £450, and that, from the fact of only applying the interest of its funds, the lodge was progressing towards that position which would enable it to meet all the claims which might be made upon it. He alluded to the circumstance that during the past year the bye-laws of the lodge had been revised in accordance with the provincial bye-laws, and that they had been passed and sanctioned by Bro. Bentley Shaw, R.W.D. Prov. G.M. of West Yorkshire. He begged most sincerely to thank his officers in particular, and the brethren generally for their efficient and kind assistance in all the work of the lodge during his year of office, and said that he should always look had with release to the time of that he should always look back with pleasure to the time of his occupying that chair. He further had great pleasure in stating that all the debts of the lodge were discharged, the brethren's subscriptions paid, and that all the current work of the lodge was completed; he therefore had nothing further to do but, according to ancient custom, vacate the chair and hand over to his successor that office and trust which he had had the honour to hold and possess during the year then ended, and hoped their W. Master elect would experience the same prosperity and success during the coming year, which it had been his good fortune to enjoy.

Bro. J. A. Urma, S.P.M. of the lodge then installed Bro. J. R. Cordingley as W. Master in a very able and masterly manner

Bro. Cordingley expressed his thanks to the brethren for the distinguished honour conferred upon him, and said that it was with great diffidence he prepared to discharge the duties pertaining to the Master's chair after the very efficient and able manner in which his predecessor, Bro. Peel, P.M. had performed them; he, however, relied on their support and kind forbearance, and trusted that whatever might be the result of his year of office, he should be able to leave that chair unstained to his successor as it had been handed to him. He then into his successor as it had been handed to him. He then invested the following brethren as his officers:—Bros. C. Brook, S.W.; R. Johnson, J.W.; J. Beanland, S.D.; S. Pollard, J.D.; George Englehardt, I.G.; T. Fallon, O.G.; J. Denton and J. Wright, Stewards; J. Ward, P.M., Treas.; S. O. Bailey, P.M.,

Secretary.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to the refreshment room, where, according to ancient usage, they celebrated the Festival of St. John.

The lodge was honoured by the presence of twenty-one Past Masters, including the Masters of the neighbouring lodges, as well as other visitors.

ROYAL ARCH.

INSTRUCTION.

METROPOLITAN CHAPTER.—At the meeting of this chapter held last Tuesday evening, the 29th ult., at the George Hotel, Aldermanbury, there were present Comps. Stevens, Z. Penny, H. Pendlebury, J. Cox, P. S. Buss, Treas. and Assist. Soj.; Brett, and many other companions. The chapter was declared opened, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed, after which the ceremony of exaltation was rehearsed. Comp. Lemaître being the candidate, Comp. Brett, the Preceptor, then worked the third clause of the first section, and the first, second, and third clauses of the second section. It was unanimously resolved that a vote of thanks be recorded on the minutes to Comp. Stevens for the very able manner in which he had discharged the duties of his high office. The undermenthe data discharged the duties of his high office. The undermentioned companions were then unanimously elected members of the chapter, viz.: Hodges, P. Soj., and Levander of Chapter No. 720. The following companions were appointed to office for the ensuing fortnight, viz.: Stevens, Z. Penny, H. W. Turner, J. Cox, N. Hodges, P. Soj.; Smithers, 1st Assist, and Levander, 2nd Acids Soj. (The hottors of the leafung and Acids Soj.) Levander, J. Cox, N. Hodges, P. Soj.; Smithers, 1st Assist, and Levander, 2nd Assist, Sojs. The chapter was then closed and adjourned to Tuesday evening next, the 3rd July, when the working of the sections will be resumed. The chapter opens at seven o'clock every Tuesday.

CUMBERLAND.

Carlisle. - Chapter of Union (No. 310.) - The annual convocation of this chapter held at the Freemasons' Hall, was convened for Monday, the 25th ult., for the purpose of re-electing the three first principals, and appointing the office bearers for the ensuing year; the chapter was opened in due form by the M.E.C., Thomas Routledge, Past Z. of Wington, and ably supported by M.E.C., F. W. Hayward. Comps. Thomas Blacklock, H. W. Murray, J. M. Fisher, Scribe E.; J. Brown, N.; G. G. Hayward, Prin. Soj.; J. Howe, Assist. Soj.; also Comps. W. Carrick, J. Turnbull, W. Johnston, Thomas Pratchill, J. Slack, Henry Fleming, J. Barnes Janitor. Comp. W. Fisher, Scribe E., read the minutes of a former meeting, which were put to the assembly, and passed accordingly. A candidate Bro. Scribe E,, read the minutes of a former meeting, which were put to the assembly, and passed accordingly. A candidate, Bro. Arthur Woodhouse, Engineer, Lodge (No. 310), Carlisle, was in attendance, proved a Master Mason, and of due probation, was prepared and exalted in this high and holy degree; paid his fees and signified his intention of being a subscribing member Comp. Fisher proposed Bro. Baynton Hayne, of Lodge No. 339, Penrith, as a fit and proper person to be exalted in this chapter. The officers for the ensuing year are M.E.C. F. W. Hayward, Z.; Thomas Blacklock, H.; W. Murray, J. Comps. A. Woodhouse, S.E.; Henry Fleming, N.; J. Howe, Prin. Soj.; W. Johnston, Assist. Soj. Comp. M. Fisher tendered his resignation of this chapter. This convocation was formally closed, and the companions retired to refreshment, and parted in peace at an early panions retired to refreshment, and parted in peace at an early hour.

SCOTLAND.

AYR .- On Monday, the 25th June current, the Lodge Ayr

and Renfrew Militia St. Paul, No. 204, dined in the Whip Inu. and through its Chairman-Bro. D. Murray Lyon (one of the Grand Stewards in the Grand Lodge of Scotland), assisted by Grand Stewards in the Grand Lodge of Scotland), assisted by Bros. Colour-Sergeant Sim, William Guthrie, and James Houston (Secretary), as croupiers—presented Bro. William D. Chambers with a handsome gold watch, in token of the lodge's esteem for him as its thrice re-elected Master, and in appreciation of his highly successful management of St. Paul's during the four years he has held its principal chair. The gift was accompanied by a beautiful gold finger-ring for Mrs. Chambers. The strength in which brethren of the Royal North British Fusiliers attended on the occasion, recalled to mind the period of St. Paul's existence as a military lodge. The following non-commissioned efficers of the above named corps were present—Calour-Sergt officers of the above named corps were present :- Colour-Sergt. Sim (who wore quite a breastful of military decorations, including the Cross of the French Legion of Honour), Sergeant-Instructor of Musketry, Wm. M'Cowan (who returned thanks for the army), Armoury-Sergeant Dougall, Sergeants Stinchthe army), Armoury-Sergeant Dougal, Sergeants Stinencombe, Rivington (Crimean medal), Burnside, and Corporal
Harker, with Sergeant Waddell (Crimean medal) of the Army
Hospital Corps. The watch, which is of the Grand Jeweller's
manufacture (Alex. Hay, Princes-street, Edinburgh), was much
admired. The following is the substance of Bro. Lyon's remarks
on making the presentation:—"Worshipful Wardens and
Rathyan Convicted with the ledge collection of the fatting Brethren,—Conjoined with the lodge's celebration of the festival of St. John the Baptist, is its formal payment of the debt of gratitude which it owes to our Right Worshipful brother, the guest of the evening. The spontaniety of the movement which has resulted in my temporary occupancy of the oriental chair of my mother lodge speaks so forcibly of the esteem in which you hold the Master of this lodge, as to render superfluous any remarks that I, as your mouthpiece, could make at this the most in-teresting part of the night's proceedings. To advance anything in support and approval of the particular act of the lodge which has brought together so many of its sons, would be but the recapitulation of what I have elsewhere said on the subject; and having, more frequently, perhaps, than any other individual member of St. Paul's, led the lodge in its expression of regard for its present Master, little more is required of me than to place in the lands of my friend and brother on my right the testimonial which has been voted from the funds under your control. For the sake, however, of those who have but recently joined our fraternal circle, I may be permitted in a sentence to advert to the services for which our guest is about to receive the testimonial which you have delegated me to present. Called to the Mastership of this lodge at a time when its fair fame was somewhat tarnished through the disunion and discord which had to some extent usurped the place of fraternal concord, Bro. Chambers entered upon the accomplishment of no easy task, when acceding to the unanimous wish of the members he relinquished the level to assume the trowel wherewith to build up and cement the then dilapidated walls of his mother lodge. That Bro. Chambers has realised the expectations of those who at first elected him to the Mastership, is abundantly testified by the aspect of the present meeting. Not only so—but the acquisitions which have during the past four years been made to our membership—the various public appearances of the brethren during the same period-the harmony which characterises our business and social meetings, not to speak of the decorum which prevails in the lodge during the conferring of the degrees-all prevails in the todge during the conterring of the degrees—all unite in furnishing one grand proof of the success which has attended the efforts of Bro. Chambers to restore Ayr St. Paul's to its former prestige. Right Worshipful Sir,—Nearly five years ago I had the pleasure of moving your appointment to the chair of St. Paul's—during the period which has elapsed, I have had frequent opportunities for noting the mode in which you have wrought this ledge—and it now of the proof of the proof of the part of the proof of the proof of the proof of the part of the proof of the you have wrought this lodge—and it now affords me unfeigned pleasure to present you in the name of its members with this mark of their high appreciation of your Masonic labours; and mark of their high appreciation of your Masonic labours; and they desire me to accompany the act with an expression of the hope that you may be long spared to consult the dial of the watch which I now hand to you; and when you are called upon to bid farewell to this sublunary scene, may your dying couch be surrounded by sons worthy of inheriting this token of the esteen in which their father was held." Bro. Chambers's reply was chaste and appropriate. "Masonic literature" was proposed by Bro. Houston, in an eloquent speech. Many other toasts were given and responded to. Corporal Harker recited some verses of his own composition, which were really good, considering that they were written amid the din and bustle of a soldier's barrack-room. barrack-room.

IRELAND.

LIMERICK.—Union Lodge, I.C., (No. 13).—On the 28th ultthe members of this lodge celebrated the festival of St. John at Cleary's Royal Hotel, late Cruise's, George-street. Bro. J. W. Mahony, W.M., presided. A large number of the brethren were present—nearly 40. The wines were of the choicest description. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to in true Masonic style. After spending a very delightful evening the brethren separated in peace, love, and harmony.

CHANNEL ISLANDS.

JERSEY.

Yarborough Lodge, No. 244.—The usual special annual meeting of this, the oldest lodge in the island was held on Tuesday, June 26th, for the purpose of installing Bro. Tracey as W.M., who had been re-elected to the office. The early hour in the afternoon for which the summonses had been issued caused the attendance to be very limited. The duty was performed by Bro. Symes, P.M. After the ordinary preliminaries and the obligation administered to the W.M. elect, the brethren below the chair left the room, and a board of P.M.'s was constituted, consisting of Bro. Symes, Adams, Dr. Hopkins, and Long, in whose presence Bro. Tracey was again placed in the chair of K.S. On the closing of the board and the re-admission of the brethren, the ceremony was proceeded with, including the processions, salutations, and addresses. The following appointments were made—Bros. Symes, I.P.M.; Barrett, S.W.; Iggleton, J.W.; Adams, S.D.; Hobday, J.D.; Paskins, Treas.; Dawson, Sec.; Williams, I.G. After the installation the brethren adjourned to the new residence of Bro. Mann, for the annual banquet. The meetings of this lodge, formerly held at the Exeter Inn, are now held at the Masonic Temple, so that at last there is happily no exception to the adoption of this edifice as the home of all the lodges of the town of St. Helier.

LODGE LA CESAREE, No. 590.—The monthly meeting was held at the Masonic Temple, on Thursday, June 28th. The lodge was opened at 7·15 p.m., by Bro. Schmitt, P.M., in the absence of the W.M., who is on the Continent, assisted by Bro. Oatley, S.W., Bro. Viel, J.W., and Bro. Dr. Hopkins, acting as I.P.M. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the lodge was opened in the second degree, when Bro. Griffon was examined, entrusted, and dismissed for pre-paration. The lodge was then opened in the third degree, and paration. The lodge was then opened in the third degree, and the candidate was duly raised to the rank of Master Mason by Boo, C. Le Sueur, P.M. The lodge was resumed in the first degree. Bros. Gibaut and Bailey (the latter by request of the W.M. of the Mechanics' Lodge) were examined, entrusted, and dismissed for preparation. The lodge was resumed in the second degree. At this moment Bro. Brice entered, who, being nearly 8ft. in height, is no doubt the tallest Mason in Europe; naturally a little sensation was excited among the brethren, as he stalked up the room and took his seat with the visitors. A courteous letter was read, signed by some of the members of the French Lodge "Les amis de l'avenir," inquiring the circumstances under which their names had been erased from the list of members of "La Césarée," as currently reported. The Secretary was directed to reply to the same. On the proposition of Bro. Binet, seconded by Bro. C. Le Sueur, a grant of £2 was made to the fund which is being raised for a tradesman who has been ruined by the disastrous fire which destroyed several houses in St. Helier a week or two ago, and for whom public sympathy has been strongly manifested. Bros. Gibaut and Bailey having been re-admitted were duly passed to the second degree by Bro. C. Le Sueur, P.M. The lodge was resumed in the first degree. Bro. Dr. Hopkins, P.M., announced to the lodge that he should very shortly leave Jersey on account of his health, and remain in the sister isle of Guernsey for the winter with the view of returning to England next spring. He explained the circumstances under which he had rather suddenly come to this determination, and was anxious that the brethren should understand that it had been formed since he had resigned membership of lodges in the province of Jersey, and that the two were entirely unconnected and dependent on different causes. Bro. Schmitt related the circumstances which had made it impossible for any of the brethren in the Channel isles to attend the annual réunion of the lodges of Brittany held at Nantes, though many

had intended to join the party; he also read the reply he had, as Secretary, forwarded in explanation and apology for what might have appeared a breach of courtesy and a violation of a distinct promise. The lodge was closed at 9-30 p.m., and the brethren retired to the banqueting room for refreshment. At a later period of the evening it was determined to offer the use of the temple to Bro. Brize for a séance, on Thursday, July 5th, and to invite him as a guest at a supper afterwards, thus offering a compliment to our tall French brother, commonly known as the Giant Anak, who has elsewhere been received with similar marks of favour and regard.

ISLE OF MAN.

Ramsey.—St. Manghold Lodge (No. 1075.)—This lodge held its monthly meeting on the 28th ult., at the Ramsey Grammar School, having removed from the Mitre Hotel. Bro. II. Rothwell, W.M., presided. The first business after the confirmation of the previous minutes, was to ballot for Rev. W. Kermode, which being unanimous he was duly and solemnly initiated. Bro. G. Walker was examined and proved himself proficient in answering the necessary questions, was duly prepared and raised to the sublime degree of M.M. The lodge was then closed down to the first degree. Bro. Rev. W. Kermode begged leave to present the lodge with a volume of the Sacred Law bound and tooled in Masonic style, which was thankfully accepted, and the thanks of the lodge ordered to be recorded. A candidate for initiation having been duly proposed, the Secretary acknowledged donations from Bros. Goldsmith, Webb, and Walker towards the purchase of a harmonium. The W.M. proposed that a vote of thanks should be recorded in the minutes to the above brethren for their contributions. The lodge was then closed in harmony, and the brethren retired to a slight refreshment. After the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given, "The Health of the Initiate" was given. Bro. Kermode in response expressed his pleasure in being admitted to the Craft, and promised to devote himself to its workings and teachings. The brethren were then called upon by Bro. Wildus, J.W., to drink the health of the W.M. Bro. H. Rothwell responding, thanked the brethren heartily for the cordial manner they received his health, he did not flatter himself, it was owing to his exertions the lodge was prospering, but healways found that when brethren were united in their efforts to advance the Craft and conduct the ceremonies in a proper manuer it was sure to flourish. The W.M. then gave "The Visiting Brethren," his Worship the High Bailiff, Bro. Lillet, returned thanks. This lodge has only been opened about five months and has already initiated ten members.

NORTH AMERICA.

NEW BRUNSWICK. DISTRICT GRAND LODGE.

A meeting of the District Grand Lodge of New Brunswick was held at the Masonic Hall, Princess-street, St. John's, on Monday, the 11th June, the R.W. Bro. R. T. Clinch, District Grand Master, in the chair, supported by the Past Officers of the District Grand Lodge, and the Masters, Past Masters, and Wardens of many lodges in the province. The District Grand Lodge was opened in due form and with solemn prayer. The R.W.D.G.M. stated to the brethren present, that the Most Worshipful the Earl of Zetland, Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of England, in consequence of the much regretted and long continued illness of Bro. Alexander Balloch, had relieved Bro. Balloch from the onerous duties appertaining to the office of District Grand Master of New Brunswick, by revoking the patent formerly granted, and had been graciously pleased to appoint him (Bro. R. T. Clinch) to the honourable and responsible office of District Grand Master of New Brunswick; and that the fact of such appointment had been duly notified to the District Grand Secretary, and that thereupon the former District Grand Lodge had ceased to exist.

Bro. Bunting then read the notice received by him as District Grand Secretary.

The R.W. D.G. Master then read the letter of authority

received by him on Monday, the 4th day of June, inst., under the hand of Bro. W. G. Clarke, G. Sec., and the seal of the Grand Lodge of England, as follows:—

"Freemasons' Hall, London, W.C., Feb. 28th, 1866.

"Right Worshipful Sir and Brother,—I am commanded by the most Worshipful Grand Master, the Earl of Zetland, to inform you that he has been graciously pleased to nominate you to the office of Provincial Grand Master of New Brunswick, void by the supercession of the Right Worshipful Brother Alexander Balloch. Your patent will be transmitted with

the least practicable delay.

"Pending the arrival of your patent, you will, however, assume the office and exercise all the functions appertaining to a Provincial Grand Master, and which you are empowered to do by virtue of this Communication written by the Grand Master's orders and sealed with the seal of the Grand Lodge, as fully as though you were in possession of the more formal

patent.

"Having regard to the circumstances that have so recently taken place in New Brunswick, the Grand Master cannot but impress upon you the necessity of exercising great moderation in the discharge of your duties, and his Lordship enjoins you the discharge of your duties, and his hordship enjoins you to forget so far as possible, any acts that may appear to have been taken by others in opposition to you. The welfare of the Craft placed under your rule must for some time, at least, depend on the skill and ability with which you discharge the functions of the high office in which you are placed. Firmness and moderation must be so blended that the discontented, should there unfortunately be any, must be made to learn that obedience is one of the principles of our Order and must be enforced, whilst on the other hand, that conciliatory measures will have their full influence and will be your guide in

all your decisions.

"I have the honour to be, Right Worshipful Sir,

"Your faithful servant and Brother,

"(Signed) WM. GRAY CLARKE, G.S."

"Bro. R. T. Clinch,
"Provincial Grand Master of New Brunswick."
The D.G. Master then stated: that having received that authority and direction from the M.W.G.M. of England, delisectian by the Hon. Alexander Keith, D.G.M. of Nova Scotia, he had summoned this meeting of Past Masters, Masters, and present Wardens of Lodges holding their warrants from the Grand Lodge of England, and past officers of former District Grand Lodge, for the purpose of organising the District Grand Lodge of New Brunswick, and appointing and installing the officers thereof.

Before proceeding with such appointments, the D.G. Master addressed the brethren present, expressing the great regret with which they would learn that the mental and bodily health of Bro. Balloch had not improved. He referred to the Masonic wisdom and discretion with which Bro. Balloch had, during many years of bodily health and mental vigour, managed thit affairs of the Fraternity in this province, and to the respece with which he had been universally regarded as the head of the Craft, and the profound regret and cordial sympathy with which the Craft had received the intelligence of the illness which had clouded an intellect of great natural power, and had exhausted energies, which up to advanced age, and to the very day of his last violent attack in November, 1864, sustained the brother in the constant fulfilment of his social and Masonic duties.

The D.G. Master said: In accepting the appointment with which the Most Worshipful Grand Master of England had entrusted him, and in entering on the onerous and responsible duties of the office of District Grand Master of New Brunswick, he relied on the support and assistance of his Masonic brethren, without which his best efforts for the welfare of the Craft must be unavailing. That the questions of difference that had agitated the brotherhood recently, being now settled, he housed and believed that any unpleasant feelings that may he hoped and believed, that any unpleasant feelings that may have arisen during the discussions would be allayed, and that each brother of the Craft would unite with him in exertion for its maintenance and the advancement of its prosperity in this province.

The D.G. Master then directed the attention of the brethren to the greatly increased duties and responsibilities which certain changes in the Constitutions relating to Provincial Grand Lodges in the Constitutions reading to Fromman Grand Lodges in the Colonies, had devolved upon the officers and members of such lodges; and read from the circular of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of England in December last, an extract setting forth what those increased powers

were, as follows:—

1 That it is desirable to increase the powers of Provincial

Grand Lodges in the Colonies and Foreign Ports, and to provide for their continuance notwithstanding the death, resigna-tion, removal, or suspension of the Grand Provincial Master.

2. The Most Worshipful Grand Master may confer on Pro-vincial Grand Masters, in the Colonies and foreign parts, a power of dispensation, in cases of emergency, for a brother to be advanced to a higher degree, at an interval of one week, instead of four weeks.
3. Provincial Grand Masters and Provincial Grand Lodges

in the Colonies and Foreign parts are designated District Grand Masters and District Grand Lodges, to distinguish such officers and such bodies from the Provincial Grand Masters

- and Provincial Grand Lodges at home.

 4. It being necessary on account of the distance from England of District Grand Lodges, and the consequent delay in their communications with the Grand Lodge of England, that their communications with the Grand Lodge of England, man their powers should be more extensive than those of Provin-cial Grand Lodges, the Grand Lodge delegates to its several District Grand Lodges respectively meeting under District Grand Masters, duly authorised and appointed by the Grand Master of England, in addition to the powers specified under the head of Provincial Grand Lodges, the power of investigating, regulating, and deciding on all matters relating to lodges and individual Masons within their respective districts, which power they may exercise either of themselves or by a committee of their body.
- 5. District Grand Lodges have the power of expelling Masons, and erasing lodges within their districts.

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

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

- Lodge.
 8. The proceedings and decisions of District Grand Lodges, and of any such committee as aforesaid, shall in all cases be strictly governed and controlled by the laws of the Craft, as laid down in the Book of Constitutions and by the Ancient Landmarks.
- 9. District Grand Lodges may pass rules and regulations for the management and conduct of their own proceedings, and of those of any committee of their body, and may define or limit, as they may think fit, the powers of such committee; but no such rules or regulations shall be binding or in force until approved by the M.W. the Grand Master of England.

 10. In all cases an appeal lies from the decision of District

Grand Lodges to the Grand Lodge of England.

11. District Grand Lodges may fix stated times for their meetings, not exceeding four times in the year; but the District Grand Master may as at present, summon and hold a District Grand Lodge of Emergency whenever the interests of the Craft shall in his opinion require it. The particular reason for calling such District Grand Lodge of Emergency shall be expressed in the summons.

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

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

appropriate to that office.

The D.G. Master then said that in view of the greatly increased powers that had been conferred on District Grand Lodges, he considered it desirable to select the Officers of District Grand Lodge, as far as possible, from among those who are by right members of District Grand Lodge, and that, in making his appointments, it had been his aim to choose representatives from various parts of the province, and he hoped that a punctual attendance of the brethren from the country districts at the meetings of this Grand Lodge would evince their wish to support him in this endeavour and that this District Grand Lodge will receive the cordial support and

allegiance of the Craft in the province.

The R.W.D. Grand Master appointed the following brethren District Grand Officers and Stewards for the current year, who were thereupon duly invested and proclaimed according to

erii Oi	cire castom, viz—	
Bro.	B. Lester Peters, P.S.G.W	Dep. D.G.M.
"	J. Robertson, P.M. 400	S.Ď.G.W.
22	G. H. Russell, P.M. 775	J.D.G.W.
;;	Rev. W. Donald, D.D. 535	G. D. Chap.
11	W. H. A. Keans, P.M. 436	G. D. Treas.
2)	W. F. Bunting, P.M. 436	G. D. Sec.
11	J. Richards, P.M. 522	S.D.G.D.
21	B. R. Stevenson, P.M. 518	J.D.G.D.
"	A. Rowan, P.M. 400	G. D.D. of Cers.
"	J. D. Short, W.M. 436	G.D.S. Bearer.
71	J. Mullin, P.M. 1084	G. D. Purst.
7)	J. Boyer, 400	G. D. Tyler.
n	istrict Grand Stewards Bros C F Tille	av S.W. 594 · D.

District Grand Stewards:—Bros. C. F. Tilley, S.W., 524; D. P. Wetmore, W.M., 527; H. Hallett, W.M., 635; C. A. Holstead, W.M., 644; C. Kelsey, W.M., 668; O. E. Flewelling, W.M., 808.

The following brethren were appointed a committee to audit

the accounts of the D.G. Treas. and the D.G. Sec., viz.

Bros. J. Robertson, D.S.G.W.; E. J. Wetmore, P.D.J.G.W.; and E. J. Everett, P.D.G. Dir. of Cers.

The R.W.D.G. Master informed the brethren that, with a view to carry out the standing order of the District Grand Lodge, he will confer with the office-bearers relative to the necessary arrangements for holding a festival at the annual communication in September next.

The District Grand Lodge was thereupon closed in due form

and with solemn prayer.

Obituary.

BRO. JOHN O'BRIEN.

This much-respected brother departed this life on the 27th of May last, at Trividad. He was initiated in the Royal Philanthropic Lodge (No. 405) on the 22nd of April, 1835, and, until within a few weeks before his death, had been seldom absent from the meetings of his lodge, either as a simple member or officiating as W.M., to which latter office he had been elected on nine different occasions. He leaves a large number of children, principally girls, who are now orphans. Bro. O'Brien had been in the Civil Service of the island since 1831, but, from the small salary he received as a Colonial Government Officer, he was, we fear, unable to save sufficient to place his children in a condition of even modest and moderate independence.

REVIEWS.

The British, Irish, and Colonial Masonic Calendar, Pocket Book, and Diary for the Year 1866; containing List of Lodges, Royal Arch Chapters, &c., in England, Scotland, and Ireland, Canada, and the other Colonies; with a Vidimus of the Foreign Grand Lodges, &c. Glasgow: Published by Davidson and Muir, 170, Buchanan-

The usefulness of the above work will be patent on the mere perusal of the title. In addition to the usual matter of Masonic Calendars, the one under review furnishes information as to the foreign lodges, and also as to the high grades at home and abroad.

This is the eighth year of its publication, and we think we may venture to predict that the "British, Irish, and Colonial Masonic Calendar" will receive, each year of its existence, continued support from the Craft; as we are assured, from the efforts hitherto made to render it a useful vade mecum, it will deserve it.

The late period in the year at which the Calendar is issued is accounted for by the editor, from the difficulty he has experienced in getting the forms sent to Secretaries of lodges, &c., filled up and returned in time to have enabled the Calendar to be issued at an earlier date.

We find that the returns in some cases are still imperfect, more especially where the names of W.M.'s of lodges for the current year are stated, some of those officers having now vacated the chair for upwards of two years. This is to be regretted, more particularly if a systematic distribution of forms has been organised and carried out by the editor, and the brethren to whom they have been sent have failed to fill them up properly.

We ought to have stated that this work is embellished by a frontispiece, the subject of which is a Celtic memorial cross, erected to the memory of the late Duke

Athole.

THE WEEK.

THE COURT.-The Queen, with Princess Helena, drove in the Home Park on the afternoon of the 27th ult. Her Majesty, accompanied by their Royal Highnesses Princess Helena and Princess Reatrice, drove in the grounds on the morning of the 28th ult. Princess Louisa and Prince Leopold also went out driving. The Queen drove out in the afternoon, accompanied. by her Royal Highness Princess Helena. Her Majesty, with Princess Helena and Princess Beatrice, drove in the grounds on the morning of the 29th ult. Princess Louise and Prince . Leopold also went out driving. The Queen, with Princess Helena, drove in the Home Park in the afternoon. Her Majesty, accompanied by their Royal Highnesses Princess Helena and Princess Beatrice, drove in the grounds on the morning of the 30th ult. Princess Louise and Prince Leopold also went out driving. The Queen, accompanied by her Royal Highness the Princess Louise, drove out in the afternoon. Her Royal Highness Princess Helena, attended by Lady Caroline Barrington, visited the Duke and Duchess d'Aumale at Orleans House, Twickenham. The Queen, their Royal Highnesses Princess Helena, Princess Louise, Princess Beatrice, and Prince Leopold, and the Ladies and Gentlemen in waiting, attended Divine service in the Castle on the morning of the 1st inst. The Hon. and Very Rev. the Dean of Windsor officiated. The Queen, accompanied by their Royal Highnesses Princess Helena and Princess Beatrice, drove out on the morning of the 2nd inst. Princess Louise and Prince Leopold also went out driving. The Earl of Derby had an audience of the Queen. The Prince and Princess of Wales, accompanied by the Queen of the Belgians, rode out on horseback, attended by the Countess of Macclesfield and Major Grey. The Queen, accompanied by their Royal Highnesses Princess Helena and Prince Leopold, drove out on the morning. of the 3rd inst. The Queen, accompanied by her Royal Highness Princess Louise, drove out on the 4th inst. Her Majesty the Queen of the Belgians, with Princess Helena, also went out driving. Her Majesty's dinner party on the 3rd inst. included their Majesties the King and Queen of the Belgians, his Royal Highness the Dake of Edinburgh, her Royal Highness the Princess Helena, her Royal Highness the Princess Louise, his Royal Highness Prince Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, and their Serene and Grand Ducal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Leiningen.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.—Both houses met on the 25th ult. In the Lords the Royal assent was given by commission to several bills. In the Commons there was rather an amusing prelude. Mr. Baillie Cochrane, who has been one of the foremost to declare that the people do not care for Reform, was in a state of great trepidation at the meeting in Trafalgar-square on the evening of the 27th ult., and the proposed meeting in Whitehall-gardens on the 2nd inst. He wished to know whether the meeting of the 2nd inst. could not be prevented. Sir George Grey said he knew nothing of the meeting, but there was a law which prohibited meetings to petition Parliament within a mile of the Houses of Parliament. He would look into the matter. -Then the Chancellor of the Exchequer announced that he had received a communication from the Earl of Derby asking that the House might be adjourned. It seemed, however, that it was necessary the committee on the Helston petition should be sworn, and in order that that might be done the House would have to meet. Mr. Bernal Osborne took occasion on this announcement to denounce the conduct of the Government in resigning, and to proclaim that he should not for this session offer any factitious opposition to the Government which the Earl of Derby might form. Major Knox followed Mr. Osborne, in a state of wild alarm at the meetings of the people in London. Mr. Newdegate laughed these fears to scorn, and paid a compliment to Mr. Gladstone for the manner in which he had stated the determination of Ministers. Sir G. Grey said a few reassuring words to Major Knox, and then the Chancellor of the Exchequer replied to Mr. Osborne. Some formal business was transacted. and the House adjourned.- In the House of Lords on the 22th uit., Earl Russell moved the adjournment to the 5th inst. to give time for the Earl of Derby to make his Ministerial arrangements. Subsequently, after a debate, the bill of the Gas Light and Coke Company for making huge works near to Victoria Park was thrown out by 27 votes to 26 .- In the House of Commons the names of the Helston Election Committee were reported, and the House adjourned. --- The House of Commons met on the 2nd inst. in order that the Helston Election Committee might be sworn. That being done, on the adjournment being moved, Mr. Watkin called attention to the maintenance of the Bank rate of discount at 10 per cent. He thought the House ought to meet earlier than the 5th inst., in order that the Chancellor of the Exchequer might give some explanation on on the matter. Mr. Childers deprecated raising a discussion on the matter. Then Mr. D. Griffith wanted to know if steps had been taken to prevent the peace being broken by the meeting in Trafalgar-square that evening. Sir George Grey replied that they had; and the House adjourned.

GENERAL HOME NEWS .- The Registrar-General's weekly return, dated June 30, shows an increase in the number of deaths, as compared with the week before, of 205. The number is still considerably above the average of the corresponding week of the ten previous years. The annual rates of mortality per 1,000 were as follows:-Birmingham, 18; Edinburgh and Dublin, 20; Salford, 22; London and Sheffield, 24; Newcastleon-Tyne, 26; Hull, 27; Leeds, Bristol, and Glasgow, 28; Manchester, 29; and Liverpool, 35. Six deaths from cholera were registered in the week; and, for the first time for months past, none from carriage accidents in the streets. --- Ministerial rumours are still flying about. There was a meeting of the Conservative party at Lord Derby's on the 28th ult. There was a very numerous attendance, and the conference lasted for an hour. Subsequently the Earl of Derby went to Windsor and had an audience of the Queen. It is said that there are unexpected difficulties in the way of forming a Tory administration. On the one hand it is said the Tory leaders are not satisfied as to the proposed distribution of offices Another report says that the Adullamites for the most part refuse to join Earl Derby, and that his lordship does not feel able to make a Ministry without their assistance. -- In the

Upper House of Convocation a memorial from the General Convention of Bishops in the United States was read. The right reverend prelates expressed their admiration of the conduct of Bishop Gray, of Cape Town, in endeavouring to subject Bishop Colenso to the discipline of the Church. The Bishop of Oxford thought that the memorial should be taken into consideration, but the Bishop of London, while thinking that it should be received with respect, objected to the proposed discussion. In the Lower House the report on Ritualism was adopted with an important rider. The 28th was also speech day at Harrow. Earl Russell was present. The proceedings were of a most interesting character. -The Prince and Princess of Wales paid a visit to the Merchant Seamen's Orphan Asylum at Snaresbrook. Their royal highnesses met with a hearty reception. Several thousands of persons were present, and the weather was delightful. There was a dejeuner, and afterwards the Prince and Princess conjointly laid the foundation stone of a new dining hall, which is required to meet the increasing demands of the institution. It is gratifying to know that, with the patronage of Her Majesty the Queen and repeated visits of royalty, the institution is growing in popular favour, and affording educa tion to a yearly increasing number of the orphan children of merchant seamen .-- A distinguished party visited the Great Eastern to inspect the Atlantic telegraph cable and the arrangements made for laying it. At a banquet afterwards the most confident hopes of the success of the enterprise were expressed .-- There is no definite news as to the progress made with the formation of a new Ministry. The Earl of Derby is supposed to be hard at work; but there is strong reason to believe that he meets with great difficulties. One story is that he wants the co-operation of the Earl of Clarendon and Earl Granville. This is scarcely likely to be true. Moreover, if it be true, he is scarcely likely to get what he wants.---London was visited by very heavy thunderstorms on the afternoon and evening of the 30th ult. Unfortunately the storm had a fatal result. At a pigeon shooting match, near Wormholt Scrubbs, a young man was killed and three others injured .- The Great Eastern has left her moorings in the Medway, and is now on her voyage round to Valentia. In about a week or ten days she will, it is expected, be ready to start from that place on her business of laying the Atlantic telegraph cable. --- Dr. Lushington has given judgment in the celebrated Banda and Kirwee booty case. The judgment, which has been published in a Blue-book, is an elaborate examination of the claims of the various parties. Dr. Lushington awards a share to the representatives of Lord Clyde, who commanded in chief, and gives all the rest to the force under the command of General Whitlock. The claims of "constructive captors" are wholly set aside. -- The meeting in Trafalgar-square on the 2nd inst. was of giant proportions. At the very lowest computation, from 30,000 to 50,000 persons were present. Notwithstanding what has been said, no attempt was made to interfere with the meeting. The only policemen in sight were those on ordinary duty, and they interfered in no wise with the proceedings. The natural result followed The people left to themselves were most orderly. They were, however, none the less in carnest, and they spoke out plainly what are their feelings in respect to Reform. Mr. Edmond Beales presided, and briefly described the position of affairs. The meeting was altogether a remarkable demonstration. It is probably only the forerunner of others, still more numerously attended, which may be expected to be held in the same or other suitable places .-- The Helston Election Committee met

on the 3rd inst., and after hearing evidence, came to the conclusion that Mr. Robert Campbell had been duly elected .-Mr. Gladstone has written a reply to the invitation of the working men of London asking him to meet them in public The letter is one which will be read with great interest throughout the country. Mr. Gladstone cannot accept the invitation, but he writes cheerily and earnestly, and promises that the defeat of the moment shall only lead more certainly to victorys -The Gazette officially announces that Prince Christian, the intended husband of the Princess Helena, has had conferred upon the title of Royal Highness. It also announces that the Prince has been made a major-general in the British army. --- A woman named Margaret Murphy was committed for trial at Clerkenwell Police-court for throwing vitriol over a man named Maurice Murphy. The woman avowed that she had committed the offence, and declared that she had done it because the man had seduced and deserted her .-There was a meeting at the Mansion House on the 4th inst. of the new society for promoting middle-class education in the City. They have got a charter of incorporation, and have obtained suitable premises in Bath-street, City-road. It is expected that the school will be opened at Michaelmas next. A resolution was moved by Mr. S. Morley, declaring that the right of conscience and liberty of opinion should be preserved in the shools. This was agreed to, and after some formal business the meeting broke up. -- The death of the Roman Catholic Bishop of Hobart Town is announced .-- The boat race for the championship of the world came off at Newcastle-on-Tyne. The competitors were Henry Kelly (champion of the Thames) and James Hamill (champion of America).—The former won by 500 yards.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.—There is confirmation of the battle in Bohemia, and of the victory of the Austrians. It is stated that after the action the Prussians asked for an armistice-in all probability to bury their dead-but that it was refused by Marshal Benedek. The Prussians have also sustained a repulse on the south-east frontier of Silesia. They sought to enter Osweincim, in Gallicia, but were driven back with loss .-On the 28th ult., we are assured that the Hanoverian army had retreated northwards. This seems to be untrue, for a Nordhausen telegram says there was an engagement between the Prussians and Hanoverians at Langenzala, on the Unstrut, on the 21th ult. The telegram adds that the result was not known. This looks very much as if the Prussians had the worst of it. When they are beaten they fail to have news of the end of the battle.—A telegram from Florence informs us that the plan of the Italian campaign has been altered. General Cialdini is no longer to make an effort to get into Venetia across the Po. He has orders to join the King's army between Cremona and Piacenza. The army then will be one of great strength. Cialdini has nearly 125,000 men under his command at Ferrara, while the King has not less altogether than 200,000 men. Marshal O'Donnell is showing no mercy to the mutineers. Twenty-one sergeants have been shot at Bayonne-they forming only one batch out of several .-We have a variety of Prussian telegrams to hand, all claiming victories over the Austrians in Bohemia. Some of the statements relate the battle of the 27th, which Austrian telegrams have claimed as an Austrian victory. It is obvious, however, that the Prussians can have sustained no very serious reverse, for if there is a word of truth in their statements, they were again advancing and driving back the Austrians with loss on the 28th ult.--From Italy, at the time when we write, we have absolutely no news as to the war. --- The Hanovarian army

has, it seems, been compelled to surrender to the Prussians. It was surrounded, and escape was hopeless. It is an extremely difficult matter to get at the truth as to Bohemia through the conflicting telegrams which reach us from Berlin and Vienna. From Berlin we hear of nothing but victories by the Prussian troops; and from Vienna, with a single and important exception, we hear of nothing but victories by the Austrian troops. The position really appears to be this: The Prussian army of Silesia, entering Bohemia at two points by way of Trautenau and Nachod, are seeking to effect a juncture with the army of Prince Frederick Charles. This also entered Bohemia in two, if not in three columns. One under General Herrwath-Bitterfield, by way of Pirua and the valley of the Elbe, and struck in a south-easterly direction towards Munchengratz. The other column, under Prince Frederick Charles, came along the railway from Zittau to Turnau, where they found the Austrians in some force. The Prince appears to have struck them in a south-westerly direction along the road from Turnau by the Iser, and at Münchengratz joined the other column under Bitterfeld. Joined, they immediately began a march easterly, to join, if possible, the army of the Crown Prince. This latter, after severe fighting at Trautonau and Nachod, appears, beyond all doubt, to have reached Josephstadt on the railway to Pardubitz. The Austrian accounts up to Friday last claim that the juncture of the forces had been provented; and from Prague we have a story that the Prussians, under Prince Frederick Charles, have been checked. But a telegram from Pardubitz says plainly that the first corps of the Austrian army and the Saxon army combined were repulsed on Saturday, June 30, in an attack on the army of Prince Frederick Charles, and had been compelled to fall back in the direction of Königengratz on the railway about fifteen miles north of Pardubitz. There appears, therefore, no doubt that the two Prussian armies may have joined at or below Josephstadt. The stories told in the Austrian telegrams of the evacuation by the Prussians of various places simply mean that the troops General Bitterfeld left behind him to keep open his communications were withdrawn as soon as he had joined Prince Frederick Charles. It appears the Prussians, spite of momentary advantage gained by the Austrians, have pushed them steadily back until the line of communication between Vienna, Olmütz, and Prague, is directly threatened. If General Benedek is to do anything in earnest he must strike a heavy blow at once or he will be in a most critical position. The difficulties of the Prussians, of course, are not lessened as they advance; but they have the prestige of success, and unless they can be thoroughly beaten Vienna will be in danger. The next day or two must bring us news of a great battle. From Italy there is no war news of importance. We have not at the time we write a single telegram from Berlin or Vienna as to the doings of the armies in Bohemia.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

 $^{*}\!\!\!^*_*$ All communications to be addressed to 19, Salisbury-street Strand, London, W.C.

- I. G.—We fear you are but one of many who have similar cause of complaint; but we cannot add of just complaint, under the circumstances stated.
- D.—In the passage to which you refer, the abbreviation Prov. G.S.W. are correct, not P.G.S.W.; and so also P. Prov. G.S.W. instead of P.P.G.S.W.

The British, Irish, and Colonial Masonic Calendar, Pocket-Book, and Diary for 1866.—We have been unavoidably prevented, owing to great press of matter, giving the notice of the above, until in our present issue, although announced to appear in the Magazine of 23rd ult.