

LONDON, SATURDAY, JUNE 27, 1863.

### THE TOMB OF HIRAM.

By BRO. ROBERT MORRIS.

I have found but few objects in my Palestinian researches of so much interest to my mind, both in a Masonic and archæological point of view, as the great monument standing six miles east of Tyre, and designated by the natives *Kabr Hairam*, "the Sepulchre of Hiram." Travellers through Syria and Palestine have so rarely taken this route (from Tyre to Jibnin) that until 1833 there was no allusion to it in their books so far as I can discover. "Monro," vol. ii. p. 25, gives the earliest account of it, but his notice is brief. Thomson, in his "Land and Book," is more diffuse. Robinson, in "Biblical Researches," vol. iii. pp. 385, *et seq.*, goes out of his actual cold and dull manner, and really gets up a little animation, while referring to *Kabr Hairam*. Shall I quote him?—

"We came (June 23rd, 1840,) to one of the most remarkable monuments of antiquity yet remaining in the Holy Land. It is an immense sarcophagus of limestone, resting upon a lofty pedestal of large hewn stones, a conspicuous, ancient tomb, bearing among the common people the name of *Kabr Hairân*, "Sepulchre of Hiram."\* The sarcophagus measures twelve feet long by six in height and breadth; the lid is three feet thick and remains in its original position; but a hole has been broken through the sarcophagus (also the superincumbent stone or lid, R.M.) at one end. The pedestal consists of three layers (four layers, R.M.) of the like species of stone, each three feet thick (but see my exacter measurement, R.M.), the upper layer projecting above the others; the stones are large and one of them measures nine feet in length. This grey weather-beaten monument stands here alone and solitary bearing the marks of high antiquity."

During my itineracy among sacred scenes, I have visited this spot so memorable for the tradition that associates it with one of our ancient Grand Masters. On the first occasion, April 15th, I had no assistant, save some natives, who knew as little of my language as I knew of theirs. Nevertheless, I made all the measurement wanted and took occasion of the inspiration of the hour to

draft a few lines with which I will not torture your readers at present. On the second visit, May 22, I had the valued aid of my associate, D. W. Thomson, Esq., with whom I verified and corrected my former measurements, and noted down every important fact connected with this ancient relic.

The sepulchre of Hiram stands directly in the prolongation of the (original) island and (present) isthmus of Tyre upon a spur of the Lebanon at exactly the distance from that city that "lends enchantment" to the view. Originally, when Tyre was the metropolis of this coast, perhaps of the world, and the whole plain east of it was covered with the splendid edifices of Palac-Tyrus, whose ruins now compose the basis of the isthmus, the view from the top of this monument must have been grand in the extreme. Even now it tempts one to linger many an hour while the spirit drinks in the scene, upon which, however, I cannot, at this time, expatiate. Suffice, that if this is the tomb of the Tyrian monarch, as I devoutly believe, it would be difficult to find a location so well adapted to it upon all this splendid mass of hills east of Tyre.

To describe the monument itself is the chief purpose of this article, and this I do the more minutely because no author has done it justice. Bro. the Rev. H. B. Tristram in his recent admirable work upon the Holy Land deserves to be studied both in his photograph view and letterpress upon this subject, but it was not within the scope of his plan to enter into particulars. . . . The builders first laid down a substructure of grout or concrete made of rounded pebbles in fine white lime about six inches deep. Upon this they imposed the first stratum of stones whose dimensions I cannot give, as the whole layer, save a portion of one stone, is hidden under the earth; that one however is 4ft. long by 2ft. 10in. high, and extends some 8in. beyond the first stones of the tomb proper.

The first layer of stones is composed of four blocks. For want of drawings I find it difficult to describe it. Say a stone, N. and S, for the eastward of the monument; another in the same situation at the west end; and two abutting each other in the centre, to fill up the space between. The whole covers an area of 19ft. from east to west, and 8ft. 6in. from north to south. The height of this layer is four feet. The second layer is composed of five blocks, covering the same surface, and is 2ft. 10in. in height. Great pains

\* The "common people" pronounce it as if spelt *Kebber Hewran*, accenting the last word on the penult.

were used in breaking the joints in which some artistic skill is manifest. The third layer (above ground) forms a sort of cornice to the structure by jutting out on every side about 8in. It is composed of four large stones, nearly symmetrical with each other, each 9ft. 8in. in length (from N. to S), about 4ft. wide, and 3ft. 3in. high; the area covered by this tier is 15ft. 1in. by 9ft. 8in. These stones are very large, and from their relation to those below seem even larger than they are. Likewise, they give an appearance of height to the monument which adds to the grandeur of the *tout ensemble*.

The fourth layer is the sarcophagus, consisting of a single stone about 13ft. by 7, and nearly 6 feet high. I am not sufficiently conversant with architectural science to explain it, but the artist who designed this vast stone coffin has contrived to give an air of vastness to it that is in admirable keeping with his subject. He has chiselled a rude bevel upon it and to some extent shaped it, but the general idea it conveys is that of rude grandeur. The coffin, or cavity cut exactly in the top of this stone, is about 6ft. 6in. long, 2ft. 2in. deep, and 1ft. 8in. wide. Through the hole knocked out of the coffin, at its north-east corner I crept with some difficulty, and with solemn emotions superadded to considerable physical inconvenience, lay at length on the floor of Hiram's last receptacle, long since rifled of its contents.

The fifth layer is the lid of the sarcophagus, about 2ft. 6in. thick, and fitting by a shoulder into the cavity below. My associate, Mr. Thomson, climbed upon the top of this, and describes it as much grooved by the weather, and presenting no appearance of inscription or chiselling of any kind. A large piece of it was broken off at the north-east corner to come at the opening in the sarcophagus below.

The general condition of the block forming this *Kebr Huran* is good; some of them, however, are cracked in two, and many of them have their corners defaced; one of them on the north side is badly shattered. The material is the hard limestone of the country; no doubt each block was taken for some of the numerous stone-cuttings so plainly visible on the east and west of the monument. All around are strewn fragments of pillars, squared stones, stone sarcophagi, and other relics of the most ancient date. A large patch of Mosaic pavement was lately discovered about twenty rods south of the monument, and I

found two considerable patches of the same lying in good preservation within a couple of miles west of it.

Nowhere have I discovered a relic of antiquity at all resembling this, save at a point some nine miles south of Jibnin, on the road from that romantic eyry to Safir, and quite near the village of Yaron. Here is "a very large sarcophagus lying in utter loneliness," as Dr. Robinson describes it in "Biblical Researches," "the lid two feet thick, the upper side slanted like a double roof, the ends resembling a pediment." But there is another object two hundred yards west of that which Robinson did not see, and which was better calculated to remind him of Hiram's tomb than this. It is a sarcophagus cut from a rock never removed from its natural position. It is as if the artist, in a spirit of sublime boldness, selected a large commanding stone rooted at the earth's very centre, and, squaring off its top, chiselled out a coffin, placed his dead therein, shaped a fitting lid, and left his hero "alone in his glory," confident that through all time the living would respect the dead.

## THE KNIGHTS TEMPLARS.

By ANTHONY ONEAL HAYE.

(Continued from page 485).

### BOOK III.—CHAPTER IV.

GRAND MASTER—WILLIAM DE CARNOTA.

*Letter by the Grand Master to the Pope. The Crusaders attack Damietta. Take Taphnis. The Cardinal Pelagius. The Nile overflows and inundates the Crusaders camp. An epidemic rages A.D. 1217, 1218.*

A chapter general of the Order was immediately held upon the death of de Plessis, when William de Carnota was elected Grand Master.\* Upon his elevation de Carnota wrote to the Pope the following letter:

"To the very reverend father in Christ the Lord Honorius, by the providence of God, chief Pontiff of the Holy Roman Church, Brother William de Chartres, humble Master of the poor Chivalry of the Temple, proffereth all due obedience and reverence, with the kiss of the foot.

"By these our letters we hasten to inform your paternity of the state of the Holy Land, which

\* L'Art de Verif 349, Cotton MS. Nero EVI., fol. 23 I, p. 60, f. 466. Ducange Gloss Tom. vi., col. 1036. The name is sometimes written Cornuto and Chartres.

the Lord hath consecrated with his own blood, know that at the period of the departure of these letters, an immense number of pilgrims, both Knights and foot soldiers, marked with the emblem of the life giving cross, had arrived at Acre from Germany and other parts of Europe. Saif-Eddin, the great Sultan of Egypt, hath remained closely within the confines of his own dominions, not daring in any way to molest us. The arrival of the King of Hungary, and of the Dukes of Austria and Moravia, together with the intelligence just received of the near approach of the fleet of the Friths has not a little alarmed him. Never do we recollect the power of the Pagans so low as at the present time; and may the omnipotent God, O! holy Father, make it grow weaker and weaker day by day. But we must inform you that in these parts corn and barley and all the necessaries of life, have become extraordinarily dear. This year the harvest has utterly disappointed the expectations of our husbandmen, and has almost totally failed. The natives, indeed, now depend for support altogether upon the corn imported from the West, but as yet very little foreign grain has been received; and to increase our uneasiness, nearly all our Knights are dismounted, and we cannot procure horses to supply the places of those that have perished. It is therefore of the utmost importance, O holy Father, to advertise all who design to assume the Cross of the above scariety, that they may furnish themselves with plentiful supplies of grain and horses.

“Before the arrival of the King of Hungary and the Duke of Austria, we had come to the determination of marching against the city of Naplous, and of bringing the Saracen Chief Coradin to an engagement if he would have awaited our attack, but we have all now determined to undertake an expedition into Egypt, to destroy the city of Damietta, and we shall then march upon Jerusalem.”\*

The Musselmen were undoubtedly taken by surprise, and could offer but a feeble resistance to the Crusaders. It is said that on the first meeting of the hostile forces they lost a thousand men.† The disgraceful retreat from Mount Tabor, however, produced dissension, and the Christian army disbanded and hurried to the maritime towns, to seize the earliest opportunity of returning to Europe. The King of Hungary, who considered

his three months sojourn in Palestine a sufficient fulfilment of his vow, returned home, taking with him most of his stores and soldiers. The King of Cyprus was about to follow his example, when he fell sick at Tripoli and died. The Templars, with the assistance of the Teutonic Knights, Andrew d’Avesnes and the Flemish Crusaders, completed the powerful fortress Chateau Pelerin, on Mount Carmel.\*

Egypt had long been an object of cupidity to the Christians alike from its wealth, and the belief that by conquering it the Holy Land would be the speedier cleared of the Musselmen. There was wisdom in this, and had the Christians followed up their advantage the scheme would have been crowned with success. Considerable reinforcements arrived in the spring, among them Templars and Hospitallers, who during their voyage, had stopped for a short time in Portugal and done good service against the Moors. Upon their arrival it was resolved at once to proceed to besiege Damietta, which was looked upon as the key of Egypt. The fleet assembled off Acre where the Crusaders embarked, and in the month of May, led by the galleys of the Temple, they proceeded on the voyage. A favourable wind in three days brought them before Damietta, and casting anchor the troops disembarked on the western side of the Nile.†

The city of Damietta, situated at the distance of a mile from the sea, had a double rampart on the river side, and a triple wall on the land side; a strong castle called Taphnis built on a rock arose in the middle of the Nile, and an iron chain which reached from the city to the tower prevented the passage of vessels. The city contained a numerous garrison with provisions and munitions of war sufficient to sustain a prolonged siege. Damietta had already several times resisted formidable attacks of the Christians. Roger, King of Sicily, had made himself Master of it in the preceding century, but he was not able to retain and defend it against the united forces of the Musselmen.

The Templars encamped upon the left bank of the Nile, immediately opposite Damietta, while their galleys were drawn up in a line across the river. They fortified their camp by surrounding

\* Michaud, Liv. xii. Wendover A.D. 1217.

† For accounts of this expedition see Wendover, Jacques de Vitri, William of Tyre, cont. Hist., Marin Sanut, Godfrey, Monk of Alberic, Ibn. Ferat, &c.

\* Addison's Templars, 2nd Ed. p. 287.

† Labbaei Concil. Tom. xi. pp. 119.

it with a ditch and wall. During four months battles were of daily occurrence, but without any advantage being gained by the Christians. The Castle of Taphnis defied all their efforts, and without capturing it, the city was unassailable. To capture it became the absorbing endeavour of the Crusaders. The Duke of Austria and the Hospitallers constructed two scaling ladders lashed to cogs, but on advancing to the castle they were snapped in two and the attackers thrown into the water where several were drowned. The Frieslanders and Germans under the command of Adolphus de Monte, fortified a ship with bulwarks, with a small kind of castle at the top of the mast. On advancing to the attack, the Musselmen launched out destructive missiles and Greek fire, so that they were forced to retire. The Templars succeeded no better, the combustible materials proving overpowering.

At length the Germans and Frieslanders joined together two cogs with planks, and so having secured a firm footing they erected four masts and yards to the same, and on the top fixed a turret made of basket work, which they covered with hides to keep off the Greek fire.

Under the turret they constructed a scaling ladder hung with strong ropes and reaching thirty cubits beyond the prow of the vessel. On the sixth day before the feast of St. Bartholomew, the Crusaders devoutly marched forth barefoot in solemn procession to the fragment of the Cross, the clergy in advance chanting and reading the service, and humbly imploring the Divine assistance to the success of the undertaking. On St. Bartholomew's day the attack commenced, and in spite of the swollen state of the river and the fierce resistance of the defenders, the Crusaders succeeded in anchoring their machine close to the tower. A desperate assault was then made, the Patriarch lying prostrate on the ground before the Cross, and the clergy standing around him barefoot, called loudly on heaven for aid. In spite of the gallant defence the castle was stormed, the iron chain broken, and the Crusading fleet sailing up, took position opposite to Damietta. The loss on the part of the Crusaders was trifling, but one of the Templars' vessels was very seriously injured.

The brave Saif-Eddin about this time died, but the Crusaders after obtaining possession of Taphnis instead of vigorously prosecuting the war, with the advantages which such a death afforded them, at

once neglected the labours of the siege, and appear to have fallen asleep after their first victory. The Friths and the Germans, in spite of expostulations and threats returned home, but they were speedily succeeded by Genoese, Pisan and French Crusaders. The Pope sent two Cardinals with these Crusaders, Robert de Courçon, one of the preachers of the Crusade, and Pelagius, Bishop of Alban's. A more unfortunate selection could not have been made than of the latter. Imperious, vain, and ignorant, he deemed himself born to command man and control the elements. Puffed up with vanity at the council board, he threatened everyone who dared to differ with him with excommunication. If the fourth Crusade was ruined by the clergy, the sixth was equally so by Pelagius. His colleague died shortly after landing at Damietta, and this calls from William of Tyre the sarcastic remark, "Thus died Cardinal Peter, and Pelagius lived, which was a greater pity."

Malek Kamel, son of Saif-Eddin, with a large force, lay encamped opposite to the Crusaders. Seeing the supineness of the Christians, and deeming the opportunity favourable, on the 9th of September the brazen kettledrum of attack boomed, the Musselmen march to battle, while the Templars hastened to meet them. A sanguinary conflict ensued which ended in Malek Kamel forces being repulsed with great slaughter. The Musselmen were however daily receiving reinforcements, Damietta was well provisioned and garrisoned, and was in a condition to sustain a lengthy siege. The news of these roused the Christians from their state of inaction. Animated by their leaders, but more by the appearance of danger and the presence of a formidable enemy; still led by the King of Jerusalem, who had at last refused to submit to Pelagius, the Crusader resumed the siege, and made several assaults upon the city on the river side. The winter which had just set in did not stop their attacks; nothing could equal the heroic constancy with which they braved during several months, cold, rain, hunger, all the fatigues of war, and all the rigours of the seasons. On the feast of St. Andrew the Apostle, in the middle of the night, the waves of the sea rose and made dreadful inroads, extending up to the camp of the Crusaders. The waters of the Nile thus checked, overflowed and inundated the camp. The Templars lost all their provisions, arms, and baggage; and when the waters receded large fish were found in the tents. To add to the horrors of this catas-

trophe, an epidemic broke out which swept off numbers of the brethren, and other Christians, and the brave William de Carnota, struck by the malady, succumbed and died, after ruling the Order for the brief space of a year.

(To be continued.)

#### MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

##### VISHNU.

"The Craft requires in every candidate for its mysteries the tongue of good report, a belief in the Supreme Being, and of the immortality of the soul. There its requirement ends, and the candidate must then follow the faith he believes in, out of lodge, whether it be that of Christ, *Vishnu*, or Mahomet." A correspondent inquires respecting the accuracy of this passage, which he has found in Bro. Anthony Oneal Haye's letter, "Freemasonry and Christianity," page 252 of this present volume. "Aliquando bonus dormitat." The faith of Vishnu is the faith of the Hindoo, and the Hindoo must abjure his faith before he can be received into the English lodge. A correspondent may consult the following communications to the *Freemasons' Magazine*. "The Pantheism of the Hindoos," vol. xv., page 150; "The Hindoo, the Polynesian, and the English Freemason," *idid*, page 168; "Hindoos admitted into English Freemasonry," *ibid*, page 348; "Hindoos, their written declarations previously to admission into English Freemasonry," vol. xvi., page 406; "Hindoos—their admission into English Freemasonry," vol. xvii., page 70; and "Bro. Khetter Mohum Gangooly," page 5 of the present volume.—CHARLES PURTON COOPER.

##### "MOTHER KILWINNING."

As our learned Bro. Purton Cooper (page 489) seems to take it for granted that there was an "ancient Grand Lodge of Kilwinning" in the fourteenth century, can he point to any proof of, or reason for, the idea that Kilwinning Lodge had really the title of Grand prefixed to its name, or any reason why it should have it then? We know that the Kilwinning Lodge, now "Mother Kilwinning," was the parent of many lodges from the seventeenth century downwards, but that is no proof of its being so before that (*e.g.*, the Normans were established in England in the latter half of the eleventh century, but that is no proof that they were so in the first half). There were great alterations in Scotland, in many things, in the sixteenth century. I find, with many a thing that has really a respectable and venerable age, that won't do, and it often gets turned into something incongruous or antediluvian.—W. P. B.

##### "GOOD TEMPLARS" AND THE RED CROSS KNIGHTS AND KNIGHTS TEMPLARS.

The Order of "Good Templars," referred to by "An Observer," is not of a Masonic character, but a body of total abstainers from intoxicating liquors, who choose to wage war against drunkenness under such a cognomen. Surely that body cannot belong to the "Order of Fools," as their work is an excellent one, and one with which I hope Bro. Harris is a sympathiser.—W. J. HUGHAN.

ROBERT BRUCE (p. 489).

Might not King Theodore have presided over the Grand Lodge of Kilwinning, as well as well as Robert Bruce? Had not either as much to do with Masonry?—L.

#### CORRESPONDENCE.

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

#### MASONIC ORDERS.

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

Dear Sir and Brother,—As "An Observer" says in your valuable *MAGAZINE* (p. 493), I was not aware there was an ancient Masonic Order of Fools, and I will try to borrow Chambers's "Book of Days," so as to embody it in the great design. I am very much obliged to "An Observer" for this very valuable hint, having received very little assistance from brethren and much abuse. I am at present engaged in preparing the rituals, so as to give the Garter and a number of Orders all at once, instead of the candidates being put to the trouble of attending several times. The charge will be the same. When I consider the great ease and speed with which Orders, degrees, and rituals are now got up, I feel some little encouragement to proceed with my praiseworthy undertaking, although up to this time no person has decidedly come forward to co-operate with me, as I expected, from the great eagerness to take new Orders of much less antiquity and authenticity than mine, and not so learned, as I shall have the words in Hebrew.

Yours fraternally,

W. HARRIS, P.M.

#### PRIORITY OF THE LODGE OF GLASGOW ST. JOHN.

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

Dear Sir and Brother,—Bro. W. P. Buchan is proceeding with determination in his laudable task, and has made a strong claim on the gratitude of brethren by his researches and his candour.

He has disposed of the charter of Malcolm. It only remains for him to do the same with the charter of William the Lion. Professor Cosmo Innes has already raised a doubt with regard to the charter having any connection with the Lodge of Glasgow St. John; on examination he will find it has no connection with Freemasonry, even if it be genuine.

If Freemasonry be believed to be a Craft institution of the Middle Ages, there are many who will accept modern Craft details as ancient landmarks; but the features dependent on speculative or free and accepted Masonry constitute the true landmarks of our Order, namely, the moral elements, and not the external envelope—this being the shell, and the other the kernel.

I should speak with some reserve on a subject which is under the consideration of Professor Innes and Bro. Buchan, but the internal evidence is not promising for authenticity.

Yours fraternally,

R. Y.

# SONIC MUSIC.

(Continued from page 494.)

No. 6.  
C

As for me I will call upon God: And the Lord shall save me.

No. 6.  
D

I am the resurrection } saith the Lord: { He that believeth in }  
and the life, } Me, though he were } dead, yet shall he live.

No. 7.

Hear my law, O my people: Incline your ears un - to the words of my mouth.

I will open my mouth in a parable: I will declare hard sen - ten - ces of old;

Which we have heard and known: And such as our fathers have told us;

That we should not hide them } rations to come: { But to show the honour of the }  
from the children of the gene- } Lord, His mighty and wonderful } works that He hath done.

## THE MASONIC MIRROR.

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

### MASONIC MEMS.

**ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.**—The annual summer fête will take place at the Institution, Wood Green, on Wednesday, July 8th. The W. Bro. Bentley Shaw, G.S.D., D. Prov. G.M., West Yorkshire, will preside on the occasion.

**OXFORDSHIRE.**—The anniversary meeting of the Bowyer Lodge No. 1036 took place on the 1st inst., when Bro. Henry Hartley, P.S.G.D., was installed as W.M. Bro. R. J. Spiers, the D.P. Grand Master, read a report highly satisfactory to the province, from which it appeared that the amount subscribed to the three charities was £170 2s., and that the total subscribed by the Craft in the year was—for the Benevolent Institution £3,000; Boy's School £5,000; and the Girl's School £4,000.

We understand that the Capper Lodge will hold an emergency meeting on the 3rd. prox.

**THE ROYAL ALBERT IDIOT ASYLUM.**—The foundation-stone of this excellent Institution was laid on Wednesday the 17th inst., with Masonic honours, by the R. Hon. the Earl of Zetland, R.W.G.M. Particulars will be given in our next.

The adjourned meeting of Grand Lodge will take place on Wednesday next, the 1st of July.

### METROPOLITAN.

**NEPTUNE LODGE, (No. 22.)**—An emergency meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday evening, 18th inst., at Radley's Hotel, Bridge Street, Blackfriars. Bro. Charles Lewis Marshall, W.M., presided, supported by the whole of the officers, and the following P.M.s.—Goodwin, Harcourt, Pratt, Partridge, and Ashwell. There were a few visitors, and amongst whom was Bro. Thompson, P.M., of 177 and 1158. The lodge was opened in due form after which the W. Master said that Bro. Partridge was that evening a candidate to be raised to the third degree, and Bro. Partridge, P.M., had asked him as a favour to be allowed to raise his son to that degree. He had great pleasure in acceding to that request, and therefore at once invited Bro. Partridge, to occupy the chair. Bro. Partridge, jun., was then introduced and questioned as to his proficiency in the science, and his answers, readily given, were considered to be satisfactory. The lodge was then opened in the third degree, and the ceremony of raising Bro. Partridge was very ably performed by his respected father, amidst the congratulations of the lodge. There being no further business the lodge was closed in due form and the brethren retired for refreshment, and although this was not supposed to be what is called a "banquet night," the fare was of the first description, and served up in a style worthy of Bro. Hart's reputation, and which has long distinguished Radley's Hotel. The viands were of the choicest description, and the wines unexceptionable in both quality and quantity. These good things having been done ample justice to, the cloth was cleared and soon afterwards a splendid desert gave the tables a very interesting appearance. The W.M. then gave in order the usual formal loyal and Masonic toasts, which were very cordially and enthusiastically responded to, followed by a song, by Bro. Hughes, the worthy secretary of the lodge. Bro. Partridge, P.M., then in a few complimentary sentences proposed "The health of Bro. Marshall, W.M.," and alluded to the ready and cordial request to raise his son to the third degree. Their W.M. was well able to perform all the duties that devolved upon him, they had seen how he had performed them, and he trusted he might enjoy the remainder of his year of office with the same success as that portion of it which had passed. The toast was most enthusiastically received. Bro. Marshall, W.M., returned thanks, and expressed his determination to do all in his power to maintain the high reputation of the Neptune Lodge. The W.M. next gave the

health of the visitors, for which Bro. Thompson, P.M., 177 returned thanks, and said, it had been to him that night a great source of pleasure to be present to see the way in which the lodge was worked, and also the interesting occasion of Bro. Partridge, their worthy P. Master, raising his son to the third degree. That exalted degree of Freemasonry was always a most important one, but it had been rendered peculiarly interesting on that occasion, by the very able manner in which it had been performed, and also on account of the candidate for the honour being Bro. Partridge's son. He had gone through the degree in a most impressive, and he was going to say in a faultless manner, and it could not fail to make a lasting impression upon all who heard it. He thought that when it was seen that a father was ready to go almost out of way to confer upon his children the most solemn ordeal in Freemasonry, that it ought at once to silence those slanders of the outer world which were sometimes levelled against their noble order. That was his second visit to the Neptune Lodge, and from the unmixed pleasure he had enjoyed on both occasions he should always remember them with the highest satisfaction. He thanked them for the splendid hospitality with which he had been received, and he trusted that the Neptune Lodge might long continue in its present harmony and great prosperity. The W.M. gave "The health of the P.M.s. of the lodge, and coupled with the toast the name of Bro. Pratt," by whom he (the W.M.) had been initiated into Freemasonry. Bro. Pratt was a good Mason, and he felt proud of his being his Masonic parent. Bro. Pratt during the time he was in the Crimea was an eye witness of an English officer being saved from death by a Russian to whom he gave the Masonic sign, and from that very moment he determined on his return to England to become a Mason, and therefore he (the W.M.) felt proud that he was the brother by whom he had been initiated, passed, and raised, and had the greatest pleasure in proposing his health with the rest of the P.M.s. of the Neptune Lodge. Bro. Pratt, P.M., returned thanks, and alluded to the occasions upon which he had served as steward for their Masonic charities. He also took advantage of the occasion to solicit the brethren to make up a small purse for the Boy's School, which had the deserved effect, and very a handsome contribution was the result. Some other toasts were given and responded to. The Tyler's toast was then given and a very happy and harmonious meeting was brought to a close at an early hour.

**CAVEAC LODGE (No. 176.)**—The great meeting of this lodge viz., the installation one, took place at Radley's Hotel, Blackfriars, on the 13th inst. Lodge was opened by Bro. H. Dorey, W.M., supported by many influential members of the Craft, among whom we noticed as visitors Bros. J. Tanner, No. 9; W. T. Wolff, W.M., No. 49; W. A. Hinde, W.M., No. 252; F. C. Dillon, No. 252; H. Massey, S.W., No. 619; D. Fourdrinier, No. 1,216; and many others. The minutes of the former regular meeting, and the emergency meeting succeeding it, being read and duly receiving confirmation, the retiring W.M. having graciously resigned the chair to P.M. Bro., Charles Browne, Bro. C. T. Dorey presented his successor Bro. P. A. Nairne, S.W. and Master elect, to receive the benefit of installation. The ceremony was performed in first rate style, the new W.M. saluted in the various degrees, after which the Master appointed his assistants as follows:—Bro. W. Nelson Smith, S.W.; Bro. T. Quibampton, J.W.; Bro. Pemble Browne, Treas.; Bro. R. S. Foreman, S.D.; Bro. H. Besley, J.D.; Bro. F. H. Gudsell, J.G.; Bro. E. Litchfield, P.M., Sec.; Rev. Bro. John M'Allister, Chap.; and Bro. Ryley, Tyler. The usual charges were well given, and the brethren were highly gratified by the admirable way in which this interesting ceremony was performed. The W.M. inaugurated his new position in good style, prominently shewing that the right man was in the right place. He commenced his duties by raising Bro. J. F. Smith to the highest degree in Craft Masonry. The next business was the relieving of a strange brother in difficulties which was considered a deserving case. The W.M. then addressed the lodge, saying he had a pleasurable duty to perform, that of presenting a P.M. jewel to the retiring Master, making some pertinent allusions to the excellence of Bro. Dorey as a W.M. and a worthy brother. Bro. Dorey returned thanks and gave notice "that at the next meeting" he should ask the brethren for a contribution to the Palestine Exploration Fund. Bro. C. Brown, P.M., moved and, Bro. Dorey, P.M., seconded, that application be made to Grand Lodge for permission to wear a centenary jewel, this lodge having attained its 100th year. The motion was carried unanimously. Lodge was then closed.

Bro. Hart, the worthy host of Radley's Hotel, provided an excellent banquet which was duly appreciated. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts followed that of the Grand Officer's, being acknowledged by Bro. B. Head, who adverted at some length upon the merits of the Grand Officers, alluding particularly to the Earl de Grey and Ripon, the D.G.M., for his readiness at all times to become the *locum tenens* of the R.W.G.M., whenever his parliamentary duties permitted. The I.P.M., Bro. H. Dorey, proposed "The Health of the W.M.," which the W.M. replied to in feeling terms, promising to do his best to carry out all that could be desired, and expressing himself highly gratified with the progress the lodge had made in its general working. Bro. H. Dorey returned thanks for the "P.M's.," and Bro. C Dorey replied for the Charities. The S.W. for the officers and the Tyler's toast brought a pleasant evening to a close.

ROYAL ALBERT LODGE (No. 907).—The brethren of the lodge held their usual meeting on Monday, 15th inst., at the Freemasons' Tavern, under the presidency of the respected W.M.; Bro. Charles Chard, who was supported by P.M's. J. Smith, Past G. Purst; T. Lewis, G. Purst.; and W. H. Farnfield. Bro. Stepney having answered the usual questions satisfactorily was advanced to the grade of a F.C. The lodge was then opened in the third degree, and Bros. H. Howson and S. H. P. Moore, with Bro. Baker, of No. 515, were raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason. The lodge was afterwards closed after the customary formalities had been duly observed. On Wednesday the brethren according to their usual custom celebrated their summer banquet a short journey out of town, at the Greyhound, Dulwich, where Bro. Middlecott had arranged a repast that gave the utmost satisfaction. The W.M. Bro. Chard was again in his place, his wardens, Bros. H. J. Lewis and P.M. Vaughan, duly supporting. Owing to business engagements only three of the P.M's., T. Lewis, J. A. Farnfield, and W. H. Farnfield, could be present, and among the visitors were Bros. Prior, Owen, and Keep. As was fitting, a pleasant trip in the country, the speeches and toasts were very brief in order that the brethren might, under the green and leafy bowers with which this establishment abounds, there enjoy the beauties of nature and contemplate the goodness and works of the Great Architect of the Universe. Right well did the brethren enjoy themselves, till the shade evening coming on warned them that it was time to return to town.

## PROVINCIAL.

### ESSEX.

COLCHESTER—*Angel Lodge* (No. 51).—At a lodge of instruction, held on the 16th inst., at the Three Cups Hotel, Bro. C. O. S. Becker, M.D., P.M., delivered a lecture upon the three degrees of Freemasonry, philosophically and morally explained, elucidating in every particular the origin and signification of the symbols and tokens in each degree, showing those of the first to be instituted from the foundation of the world, the second from the completion of the Temple to the end of the prophets, and those of the third in accordance with the three cardinal graces of Christianity—Faith, Hope, and Charity.—The phraseology of the lecture throughout was both earnest and impressive, and elicited the unanimous expressions of delight and thanks from the brethren present.

BRIGHTLINGSEA.—*Lodge of Hope* (No. 443).—At a lodge of instruction held at the Swan Inn on Wednesday, the 17th ult., at the request of the W.M. Bro. Becker, P.M., of the Angel Lodge, No. 51, Colchester, delivered a highly interesting and instructive lecture on the three degrees of Freemasonry. It was full of instruction and generous ideas which could not fail to penetrate the hearts of all his hearers. His words, expressive of sublime truths, descriptive of the excellences of our institution and of its real tendency, were received with well merited applause by the brethren present, affording good evidence of the impression produced by them.

### KENT.

WEST MALLING.—*Malling Abbey Lodge* (No. 1063).—On the 10th instant Bro. Walter Monckton was installed as W.M. The ceremony was performed in the presence of a large and distinguished gathering of the Craft, by Bro. Nettleingham, P.P.G.S. W. for Kent. The newly-installed master, who is very popular

amongst the Craft, appointed the following officers:—Bros. Pape, P.G.S.D., P.M.; Rev. J. H. Timins, S.W.; W. Viner, J.W.; Dr. Prall, S.D.; A. Graham, J.D.; Alfred Spencer, I.G.; Rev. C. Lane, Chap.; Hon. R. Nevill, Treas.; W. Pomroy Steward; R. B. Steiman, Sec. After the ceremony, the majority of the members availed themselves of the courteous offer of the Rev. J. H. Timins, and spent the interval before dinner in the beautiful grounds attached to the vicarage. At the banquet (which was provided by Bro. Sore in a manner deserving great commendation), the chair was taken by the D.P.G.M., Bro. Dobson, whose presence afforded the highest satisfaction not only to the lodge but to the numerous visitors. The usual, loyal, and Masonic toasts were proposed and responded to; and altogether a most agreeable day was spent. A unanimous vote of thanks was passed to Bro. Page for the exceedingly valuable services to the lodge which he had rendered during the Mastership on two occasions.

## CHANNEL ISLANDS.

### JERSEY.

#### LODGE LA CESAREE (No. 590).

The anniversary meeting of this lodge took place on Thursday, May 28th, at the Masonic Temple. The lodge was opened soon after four o'clock by Bro. Le Durell, W.M., assisted by Bros. A. Viel, S.W.; G. J. Renouf, W.M., 1,003; J. W. Henry Luse Manuel, I.P.M.; A. Schmitt, P.M., Sec.; J. T. du Jardine, P.M.; C. J. Harquard, P.M.; C. Le Sneur, P.M.; P. Binet, P.M.; N. Le Gouppillot, Treas.; J. Oatley, W.M. elect, J.G.; &c. &c. Among the visitors were Bros. Dr. J. Le Cronier, S.D.P.G.M.; W. Adams, P.M.; J. O. Le Sneur, W.M., 491; Colonel Millor, W.M.; Long, I.G. The minutes of the previous lodge night were read and confirmed. The lodge was opened in the second degree, when at the request of the W.M. Bro. A. Schmitt took the chair. Bro. J. Durell, with some appropriate observations, presented to the Installing Master, Bro. J. Oatley, the W.M. elect to receive at his hands the benefit of installation. The usual proceedings having been gone through, all the brethren below the chair retired, and a board of Installed Masters having been formed, Bro. J. Oatley was impressively installed into the chair of K.S. as W.M. of lodge La Cesaree, for the ensuing year, according to ancient custom. The brethren were then admitted and having saluted the W.M. in different degrees, he appointed his officers as follows:—Bros. G. J. Renouf, S.W.; J. Le Sneur, J.W.; N. Le Gouppillot, Treas.; A. Schmitt, Sec.; G. F. Perrot, S. D.; F. F. Amy, J.D.; J. Gregg, I.G.; W. Croud, Dir. of Cers. The Installing Master delivered the usual addresses to the W.M. and to his officers in their respective duties, and at the conclusion of the ceremony he was most warmly applauded. The secretary presented now the annual report of the board for general purposes (conseil d'Administration) containing several useful suggestions and resolutions, which, on the proposition of Bros. J. T. du Jardine and P. Binet, was approved and received. The secretary in presenting the annual accounts duly audited entered into the most minute and satisfactory explanations concerning the disbursements. It was resolved by acclamation "That a cordial vote of thanks be recorded in the minutes to Bro. J. Durell, I.P.M., expressive of the entire satisfaction of the lodge for his numerous and valuable services he has rendered not only to the lodge but to the Craft in general, for his courteous and manly bearing, and especially for his earnest zeal and devotedness to the order.

An appeal from the Hon. Sec. of the Witham Lodge, Lincoln, inviting the co-operation for raising a suitable memorial in honour of our late learned Bro. G. Oliver, D.D., Past D.P.G.M., the greatest historian of Freemasonry, was read and submitted to the consideration of the brethren.

The lodge after having heard several members paying due tribute of gratitude to our illustrious instructor, and expressing so well deserved eulogiums of the immortal expounder of the true and genuine tenets of our Order, voted £1 ls. towards the projected memorial.

An application from Bro. J. K. Haire on behalf of the members of the Jersey Volunteer Fire Brigade, intending to give a grand amateur dramatic entertainment in aid of their Equipment Fund, for which occasion the corps solicits the special patronage and support of the W.M.'s officers and members of all English lodges in the island was read, and after a short dis-



cussion on the subject, it was moved and resolved: "That the members of the lodge are willing and ready to co-operate with other lodges for the purpose of patronising and supporting the projected amateur dramatic entertainment, and that they earnestly trust that Bro. J. K. Haire, the captain of the Q.Y.Z.B. will succeed in obtaining the consent of all English lodges to that effect that it might be made a truly worthy affair of the object." Bro. Capt. V. P. Poisson, of Lodge 245, was proposed as a joining member.

The lodge was then closed and the brethren retired to the large banqueting hall where a substantial dinner was provided by Bro. W. H. Long at which the W.M. presided.

On the cloth being removed the usual toasts were given, and our esteemed Bro. Dr. Hopkins (absent) was not forgotten. On the whole it was one of the most agreeable and truly fraternal gatherings we ever witnessed, and must have produced a pleasing impression on the minds of those who were present.

### MARK MASONRY.

#### DEVONSHIRE.

**TOTNES.**—*Pleiades Lodge* (No. 26).—The quarterly meeting was held on Thursday, June 18th, with a very poor attendance, which was to some extent accounted for. The chair was taken and the lodge opened at six p.m., by Bro. Dr. Hopkins, W.M., assisted by Bros. the Rev. R. Bowden, S.W.; John Heath, J.W.; &c. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Of eight candidates only one presented himself, Bro. Geo. Heath; he was duly advanced to the degree of Mark Master by the M.M., who also gave the explanatory lecture. The M.M. remarked to the brethren that they might be surprised to find him wearing a different dress, which was accounted for by a high compliment, which had been paid to the Pleiades Lodge, in his appointment at the half-yearly communication of Grand Mark Lodge, held on June 2nd, to the office of G.J.W. The S. and J.W. successively on behalf of the members congratulated the M.M. on the rank which had been conferred upon him. The W.M. observed that the furniture of the lodge is very incomplete, and that as the fees are so low, some time must elapse before sufficient funds can be accumulated to supply the deficiencies. Having assisted in forming new lodges elsewhere, his experience led him to the conclusion that, as had been done in those cases, the best plan was for each member to contribute something. In order to set a good example, he therefore presented three pedestals for the overseers, which he had had made in such a form as to be useful in making them receptacles for all the small articles and for the records of the lodge. On the proposition of the S.W., seconded by the J.W., a vote of thanks was unanimously passed to the W.M. No other business offering, the lodge was closed at 8 o'clock.

### RED CROSS OF ROME AND CONSTANTINE.

#### GUERNSEY.

Bro. Elisha W. Hutchinson, P. Prov. S.G.W., and P.G. Treas., having, on the 4th inst., been duly installed by the members of the executive committee in London as Knight of the above order with a view of assisting the formation of a conclave in Guernsey, invited, on his return, Bros. J. Gallienne, P. Prov. D.G.M.; J. Millington, and F. Clarke, to join him in that object. The brethren, having been duly installed and appointed to their offices, now wait a promised visit from Bro. R. W. Little, which is expected early in July, when the conclave will be formally opened. It is to be styled the Doyle Conclave, and the charter is to be the generous gift of a much esteemed brother (J. A. Horner, Esq., of Burgh Castle, Great Yarmouth,) in commemoration of his recent sojourn in the Channel Islands, and particularly of the pleasant intercourse he enjoyed with the brethren of Doyle's Lodge of Fellowship, Guernsey.

**ALMSGIVING.**—He that gives alms must do it with a single-minded purpose, and without desire to get the praise of men. He who hath done a good turn should so forget it as not to speak of it, but he that boasts of it or upbraids it, hath paid himself and lost the nobleness of the charity.

### MASONIC FESTIVITIES.

#### AYRSHIRE.

#### LAYING THE FOUNDATION-STONE OF NEWTON-ON-AYR PARISH MISSION HOUSE.

Like his immediate predecessor in the chair of Mother Kilwinning, Colonel Mure has inaugurated his public duties as Provincial Grand Master of Ayrshire by planting the corner-stone of a place of worship. According to the request of the minister of the parish of Newton, Colonel Mure agreed to preside in person at the ceremony of laying the foundation stone of Newton Mission House; and in order to give greater eclat to the occasion, and at the same time to have an opportunity for personal converse with the Brethren in this province, the P.G.M. requested the attendance of deputations from the sister lodges. Accordingly the Provincial Grand Lodge of Ayrshire held a communication in the Assembly Rooms, Ayr, at one o'clock on Friday the 5th inst., previous to entering upon the special Masonic business of the day—the Orient being graced with the presence of the P.G.M. supported by Past Provincial Grand Masters Robert Wylie and Hugh Conn; the Substitute P.G.M. (J. G. Halket, banker, Saltcoats); Senior P.G. Warden (D. Murray Lyon of Ayr St. Paul, one of the Grand Stewards in the Grand Lodge of Scotland); Acting Junior P.G. Warden (John M'Kay, R.W.M. No. 22); P.G. Chaplain (Rev. Alexander Inglis, Kilmaurs); P.G. Treas. (John Whinton); Acting P.G. Director of Ceremonies (F. L. Law, one of the Grand Stewards). Among the visitors present at the opening of the Provincial Grand Lodge, were—the Rev. Wm. E. B. Gunn, Acting Chaplain of Mother Kilwinning; Dr. Erskine, Ayr; Provost Barr, Ardrossan; the P.G.M.'s brother, — Mure of Houston St. Johnston; — Patrick of Mo. Kil; Rev. Robert Thomson, Chaplain, No. 126.

After an eloquent address by the P.G. Master, and the transaction of some private business, the communication was ajourned. Meantime the lodges were being marshalled in the Fauldbacks—a work that was admirably performed by the Superintendent of the Ayr Burgh Police (Bro. Captain M'Donald of Ayr St. Paul) whose arrangements for the passage of the procession through the streets were also most effective: he was assisted by Bros. Aitken and Ewart of 124, Watson and Harvey of 165, and W. Shearer and Morton of 204. The Rev. Wm. Menzies of No. 165 was in his place as chaplain of his lodge; the Senior Magistrate of Newton (Bro. James Fergusson), and the Town-Clerk of Newton (Bro. John M'Murtrie, banker), were also in the Masonic ranks; while the Missionary of Newton, Rev. Alex. M'Leod, joined the Kirk-session. The Provincial Grand Lodge—accompanied by the Ayr Volunteer Artillery Band, led by Bro. Blair of Ayr St. Paul—having arrived on the ground about half-past two o'clock, the procession, with waving banners, moved off according to the established order of precedence—the van being formed by the members of the Kirk-Session of Newton, and the Masonic body embracing deputations from the following lodges:—

- 433 Dalmellington St. Thomas Kilwinning—headed by Bro. Bain
- 320 Ardrossan St. John Royal Arch—Bro. Goodwin
- 230 Old Cumnock St. Barnadas—Bro. Rankine
- 204 Ayr St. Paul—Bro. W. D. Chambers
- 202 Riccarton St. Clement—Bro. Wm. Craig
- 201 Muirkirk St. Thomas—Bro. James Shaw
- 169 Stevenson Thistle and Rose—Bro. James Boyd
- 165 Ayr Royal Arch—Bro. A. Hunter
- 157 Beith St. John—Bro. Wm. Cochrane
- 138 Ayr Operative—Bro. Newall
- 126 Kilmarnock St. Andrew—Bro. Andrew Turnbull

- 125 Ayr Newton St. James—Bro. James Crone recently resuscitated after 20 years' dormancy  
 124 Ayr Kilwinning—Bro. R. Fergusson  
 109 Kilmarnock St. Marnock—Bro. Shaw  
 86 Troon Navigation—Bro. Auld  
 22 Kilmarnock St. John Kilwinning—Bro. Reid  
 0 Mother Kilwinning

The weather being beautiful, the route of procession—Alloway Street, High Street, New Bridge Street, Main Street—was lined with numerous spectators; and upon the head of the procession entering the parish of Newton the bells were set a ringing, and to honour the occasion the tattered banner of the ancient burgh was displayed from one of the windows of the Council-room. At the Mission-House the crowd of onlookers was immense. On arriving at the site Colonel Mure, accompanied by the Officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge, marched between the open lines to the place where the stone was to be laid, Mother Kilwinning and the other Lodges successively following in the order. The ceremony was commenced by the band playing the Masonic Anthem, after which the Provincial Grand Chaplain offered up an appropriate prayer. A glass vase containing the following articles was then deposited in the cavity of the stone, viz:—The Coins of the realm; copies of the local newspapers, a scroll of parchment containing the names of the Newton Minister and Assistant Kirk-session Magistrates, councillors, Treasurer, and Clerk; a scroll containing the names of the Prov. Grand Master and his Officers; a copy of the Church of Scotland Magazine; a copy of the London Freemasons' Magazine, containing extracts from Dr. Merzdorf's German translation of Murry Lyon's History of Mother Kilwinning; Photographs of the Rev. Mr. Gunn and Bailie Fergusson.

The Plumb, Level, and Square were then applied to the stone, and corn, wine, and oil poured upon it, whereupon the Provincial Grand Master, after invoking the Divine blessing upon the undertaking, spoke as follows: Rev. Sir, Ladies and Gentlemen,—It now devolves upon me to take a few remarks appropriate to the interesting ceremony in which we have all assisted. Rev. Sir, it was with a sense of the highest gratification and of pride that we received the invitation, which we have this day accepted, to assist yourself and your brethren in the good work which you have undertaken; and I believe I am justified in saying on my part, and that of my fellow-craftsmen, that in the promotion of works such as these, lies not only our pleasure but our bounden duty, and that we are at all times ready and willing to forward not only the intelligence and prosperity, but also the religious welfare of the community. It has long been the custom (whence it may be dated I know not) to inaugurate the commencement of any building, or the opening for the benefit of the public of any institution, with certain ceremonials, and to implore the Divine blessing on the threshold of our undertakings. But it must not be forgotten that, even when the purpose which we have in view is connected with our religion, we in this country invest our ceremonials with no superstitious attributes; and the prayers which we have this day offered up do not ask that the building itself may be made holy in its material nature, but that God will follow with His blessing the efforts of those who will officiate therein, and the prayers of those persons who therein will assemble for worship. Looking back into the history of mankind—into those remote and mysterious periods when mental darkness hovered over this beautiful and glorious world—and when we analyse the histories of men, the proof of whose very existence has been a question for inquiry, and even for doubt, to the historian and the philosopher, we cannot discover a time when, nor trace the existence of any nation by whom the mystic presence of a Supreme Being, though unseen, was not acknowledged. True it is that this acknowledgment has

been more or less-developed, according to the influences and material conditions of the countries in which those people dwelt; but it is also remarkable that, wherever the intellect of man has been most active, there this acknowledgment or religious instinct has been most pronounced and distinct; and that among those nations whose physical and mental condition more nearly approached that of the beasts that perish, the religion was either of a very undefined and shadowy nature, or developed itself in forms of worship and mystic rites so abominable and cruel, as to appeal merely to the worst and grossest appetites. Furthermore, history bears evidence that such degraded peoples either disappear altogether before the advance of civilisation, or have become the hewers of wood and drawers of water to the more favoured sections of our race. Thus I think it may be argued that a superior intellectual and physical condition have walked hand in hand with an intelligent belief in a governing Spirit at once remote, mysterious, and all-powerful. But, Reverend Sir, in those distant times we seek in vain for the beneficent influence of those religions which even the most intellectual nations then professed; and it was not until Christianity spread itself over the civilized world that the religion of love of charity, of humanity, began to influence mankind. Reverend Sir, one of the strongest evidences of presence of Christianity alike in nations and in individuals, is that sympathy which the physical wants and sufferings of our fellows enlist in our bosoms. In old days gone by, though arts and sciences even then flourished; though the ships of commerce and of war swarmed upon the seas then known; though men learnt in the schools of philosophy, prayed in the temples, assembled on the public changes, and fought in array on the battlefield, with subtle argument, earnest devotion, mercantile acumen, and many of the appliances of modern science—and therefore, it may be fairly argued, with no lack of intellectual arrangement and activity—and though as in those days famine, pestilence, and sudden calamity were even more severe and frequent than they are at present, as recorded frequently by contemporary historians, we read of few accounts of public sympathy for the sufferers, nor of patriotic and organized measures for their relief. But the religion which we happily profess not only inculcates that brotherly love, which induces one man to assist his brother in his need, but encourages likewise patriotic charity and organized public benevolence, and whatever changes, political or social, which may take place in the complex state of society in which we live, he would be a bold man who would predict a day, when would commence the decay of the spirit of public appreciation of the sufferings of our fellows. But, Rev. Sir, our assembling here to-day proves that the sufferings of the body are not the only evils which endanger the peace of, and assail mankind, and that it is as much our duty to provide for the spiritual wants of the soul, as to alleviate the sufferings, and to supply the material necessities of the body. The object of this building, whose foundation-stone we have this day laid, is to afford accommodation to the poorer inhabitants of this parish, and to enable them when their weekly toil is over, to gather together to offer up their thanks for the blessings of the past, their earnest prayers for the future, to the common Father of rich and poor, and to hear the blessed doctrine of our great salvation explained by His appointed ministers. And, Ladies and Gentlemen, when I tell you that, notwithstanding a large sum of money has already been spent by this congregation, on the repair and improvement of the Parish Church, they have deemed it right with willing heart and open hand, to guarantee to their poorer brethren the occupation of this building free of any expense whatsoever, I feel confident that there is not a heart in this assembly which will not beat with pride and satisfaction, to whatever denomination its owner may belong. Endorsing the prayer of my Rev. Brother near me, I hope that this church may

stand for many ages, and that you, Rev. Sir, may be successful in your work.

The Rev. Br. Gunn, in his own name and on behalf of the Kirk Session and the Congregation, begged most sincerely to thank Colonel Mure not only for the honour he had done them in acting as President on this occasion, but also for the kind manner in which he had accepted the invitation to grace with his presence the proceedings of the day. He could assure Colonel Mure that they were all very deeply sensible of the kindness and attention which he had displayed in so considerably coming among them that day. It seemed to him an ominous fact that the gallant Colonel should have come to Ayr for the first time in his capacity of Provincial Grand Master of Ayrshire, to lay the foundation-stone of a church which was intended for the poorer brethren. He quite believed that he could have asked him to come down to some grander occasion than that upon which they were presently convened, because they were now assembled only to plant the corner stone of a church that was designed entirely for the preaching of the gospel to the poor. They had not met to do honour to the memory of some great and good man who had left his name on the page of history. They had not met to re-erect a new Church on the ruins of another which had fallen into decay; but they had met to lay the foundation-stone of a new edifice, which was consecrated to the furtherance of Christ's gospel and kingdom. He (Br. G.) was proud to think that the Brother who had presided so auspiciously and so successfully to-day bore a high ancestral name—a name which would always be revered by those who respected scholarship and worth. To the various lodges he again desired to tender his warmest thanks, because there could be no greater evidence of the grand principles Freemasonry than that men of all denominations and classes had spontaneously agreed to assemble in order to help so far as they could a glorious cause, which had for its primary object the promotion of Christianity amongst the humbler classes of the community.

The band then played the Queen's and Masons' Anthems, and with three cheers given by the brethren the proceedings at the stone terminated. The procession then returned, in inverted order, to the Assembly Rooms, where the Provincial Grand Lodge was closed in ample form.

After the ceremony, Col. Mure, his P.G. Officers, the chief magistrate of Newton, and a number of other gentlemen, were entertained by the Rev. Br. Gunn, at dinner in the Manse, Newton. In the evening the workmen employed in erecting the Mission-house met in the council-room, and partook of refreshments which, with a liberal hand, Bailie Fergusson had provided for them. The Lodge Ayr St. Paul wound up the interesting proceedings of the day by a supper in the Whip Inn, at which the R.W.M. presided.

In none of the public Masonic demonstrations that have taken place at Ayr were the arrangements for the comfort of the brethren at the scene of their labours ever so complete as on the present occasion, where the platform was strong and capacious enough to accommodate every one taking part in the procession; and for this boon the fraternity were indebted to the spirited exertions of Bro. Bailie Fergusson, who caused the erection, too, of a platform from which about 150 ladies witnessed the ceremony. The thanks of the brethren are also due to the Rt. Wor. Bros. Robert Fergusson and Wm. D. Chambers, for their courtesy in placing at the disposal of the Prov. Grand Marshal the only band of music on the ground, and whose services had been engaged jointly by the Lodges Ayr Kilwinning and Ayr St. Paul.

There has been no similar Masonic ceremony in Newton since Wednesday, July 3, 1779, when the foundation-stone of the parish church (built as a chapel of ease to

the united parishes of Monkton and Prestwick) was laid by Patrick Douglas of Garrallan (R.W.M. of Ayr Kilwinning), who was on that occasion supported by deputations from Mother Kilwinning; Maybole No. 14; Ayr Kilwinning, 163; Newton St. James, 165; Girvan St. Andrew, 173; Tarbolton St. David, 174; Tarbolton St. James Kilwinning, 178; Ayr Operative, 182. The event was celebrated by a Masonic banquet, which was attended by upwards of one hundred brethren.

Ayr has been the scene of a great proportion of the public Masonic demonstrations in which, during the last hundred years, the sister lodges in the province have been invited to take part. In September, 1772, the foundation-stone of certain new works at Ayr Harbour was laid by Patrick Earl of Dumfries, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Scotland—seven lodges being present. There were, as already shown, eight lodges at the planting of the corner-stone of Newton Church. It was in April, 1818, that, in presence of twenty-three lodges, Col. Hamilton of Grange, Master of Mother Kilwinning, and as such Prov. Gr. Master of Ayrshire, laid the foundation-stone of the County Buildings at Ayr. In January, 1820, when Sir Alexander Boswell, Acting P.G. M., presided at laying the foundation-stone of Burns's Monument, twenty-four lodges were present. Fifteen lodges supported William Fullarton of Skeldon, Acting P.G.M., when in July, 1823, the tripod was placed on the summit of Burns's monument. The foundation-stone of the Town Buildings at Ayr was laid by Robert Montgomerie of Craighouse, P.G.M., in March, 1828, twenty-one lodges taking part in the ceremony. Sir James Fergusson of Kilkerran was supported by seven lodges when in October, 1858, he planted the corner-stone of the Kyle Union Poor-House, and by twenty-one lodges when as P.G.M. he in October, 1859, inaugurated the Neill Monument at Ayr. The inauguration of the Statue erected at Ayr to the memory of the Earl of Eglinton and Winton, October, 1865, was the occasion of the largest Masonic assemblage ever witnessed in Ayrshire—twenty-nine lodges being represented by nearly one thousand brethren: Hugh Conn of Kilwinning, P.G.M., presided at the Masonic part of the ceremony. In his first public Masonic act as P.G.M., Col. Mure has been supported by from 200 to 300 brethren, representing seventeen Ayrshire lodges—a number that, but for the Great Rifle Competition at Irvine, would have been considerably larger.

## YORKSHIRE (NORTH AND EAST.)

### SCARBOROUGH.

A grand pic-nic took place under the auspices of the Old Globe Lodge (No. 200), on Tuesday the 9th inst., and we have no hesitation in saying that it was one of the most enjoyable days ever spent by the fraternity and the fair sisterhood. The arrangements of the party were entrusted to a select committee, at whose disposal Bro. E. S. Cayley placed the lovely and picturesque grounds of Wydale, which are situate about ten miles from Scarborough. The morning broke with glorious sunshine, and by ten o'clock the high road to Wydale was enlivened by every description of vehicle full of gaily dressed ladies, and the happiest of gentlemen, in among the latter of which, the brethren were of course the majority, although it was not exclusively confined to Masons, each member of the lodge having the privilege of introducing two friends. Arriving at Wydale we found the capacious marquée placed at the top of a magnificent valley, through the vista of which a clear space of country of the most enchanting description, and of five-and-twenty miles in extent could be discerned. For a short time before luncheon the party was broken into groups, each pursuing their own course over the beautiful grounds. At one o'clock however, the stragglers were re-called by

the sound of the horn, and arranged themselves on the grass to partake of a cold collation which was provided by Bro. John Parker, of the George Hotel, in his usual bountiful style. After luncheon the health of the worthy entertainer, "Bro. E. S. Cayley," was proposed by Bro. H. A. Williamson, J.P.M., and heartily received, which having been responded to by Bro. Cayley in person, the amusements of the day commenced in good earnest, some patronizing cricket, but by far the greater part seeking the favour of a "fair lady's hand" for the dance, an admirable string band having been provided for the occasion by the committee; these and several other amusements were continued till five o'clock, when all again assembled to a substantial tea, after which several brethren enlivened the proceedings with some excellent singing. Dancing was then resumed on the green and kept up with great spirit until near nine, when the National Anthem was sung by the whole assembly, and three times three having been given for Bro. E. S. Cayley and family, the company separated to drive home, where they arrived about eleven p.m. all highly gratified with the day's excursion.

## Poetry.

### THE CROSS OF CONSTANTINE.



The monarch bowed to Heaven, and prayed  
That wisdom's lamp his path might aid,  
And truth his soul inspire.  
And Heaven in mercy deigned reply;  
For as he spake the sunset sky  
Burned quick with crimson fire.  
A blood-red cross appeared to sight,  
And filled the dying day with light.

True type of Victory, it rose,  
And round the mystic sign  
Was seen alike by friends and foes,  
A prophecy Divine.  
Unlike the wondrous scroll which told  
Belshazzar's doom in days of old,  
Its welcome tidings clear;  
For "IN HOC SIGNO VINCES" blazed,  
In fiery letters as they gazed,  
O'ercome with hope or fear!

The Roman legions trembling saw  
The vision slowly fade:  
The Emperor stood in silent awe—  
The Christian warriors prayed—  
And as the last faint glory kissed  
The skies, and mingled in the mist,  
Their loud hosanna rings:  
"Let us avow our faith," they cry—  
"An omen this of victory,  
From Christ, the King of Kings!"

Scarce had the sable night withdrawn  
Before the radiant steps of dawn,  
When o'er the field unfurl'd  
A Red Cross Banner waved in pride—  
Emblem of Him who freely died,  
To save a sinful world.

And every Christian soldier then  
Amidst that camp of warlike men,  
Commanded was to bear,  
Upon his breast and on his shield,  
The symbol of his faith revealed  
In the bright realms of air.

Soon to the battle rushed that host,  
The Red Cross flag their proudest boast—  
They conquered for the Lord!  
And all who formed the victor band,  
From Constantine's imperial hand  
Received a just reward.

"Illustrious men," the monarch cried,  
"Full oft your valour has been tried  
In battle's fiercest fray;  
But never yet did deeds evince  
Such rare devotion to a prince,  
As ye have shown this day.

Therefore to each I grant the right  
To wear the purple of a Knight  
Of Rome and Constantine!  
And may your swords for ever shield  
From perils of the battle-field,  
That Cross of love Divine,  
Whose fame shall live in history's lore,  
Till time itself shall be no more!"

R. WENTWORTH LITTLE.

### METROPOLITAN LODGE MEETINGS, ETC., FOR THE WEEK ENDING JULY 4TH, 1868.

MONDAY, June 29th.—Lodge: British Oak, 831, Bank of Friendship Tavern, Bancroft-place, Mile-end.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 1st.—Lodges: Westminster and Keystone, 10, Freemasons' Hall. Stability, 217, George Hotel, Aldermanbury. New Wandsworth, 1,044, Freemasons' Hotel, New Wandsworth. Chapter: Prince Frederick William, 753, Knights of St. John Hotel, Queen's-terrace, St. John's-wood.

THURSDAY, July 2nd.—Lodges: Yarborough, 554, Green Dragon, Stepney. Victoria Rifles, 822, Freemasons' Hall. Excelsior, 1,155, Sydney Arms, Lewisham-road. Perfect Ashlar, 1,178, Gregorian Arms, Bermondsey-road. Chapter: 742, Crystal Palace, Sydenham.

FRIDAY, July 3rd.—Chapter: High Cross, 754, Railway Hotel, Tottenham.

SATURDAY, July 4th.—Gen. Com. Boys' School, at 4, Freemasons' Hall. Lodge: Leigh, 957, Freemasons' Hall.

### MASONIC LIFEBOAT FUND.

Further Subscription received and promised:—Doyle's Lodge of Fellowship, No. 84, Guernsey, £1 1s.; Lodge of Freedom, No. 77, Gravesend, at their March meeting, voted £5 5s.

The following subscriptions have been received by Bro. A. Woodhouse, Carlisle:—Bros. E. Busher, £1; H. Woodhouse, Stafford, 3s. 6d.; J. Porter, 2s. 6d.; and a few Friends, 5s. 6d.

### TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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

ERRATA.—In Bro. Buchan's article "Priority of the Lodge of Glasgow St. John," in our last issue, on page 492 1st column, the words "which happened A.D. 1170," should have been within brackets, also the words "or hood moulding," under 2nd column should not be there, but under the first, the meaning being—dripstone or hood moulding—lastly the word Hei.j has only 4 letters in it, not 5 as given on page 493.

C. S. (Hobart Town).—Your letter received with thanks, we will answer your queries fully in our next issue.

We shall deal with the subject of your correspondence next week.

(Middx).—The brother you inquire for has not left the Masonic jewelry trade but can be still found at his old

