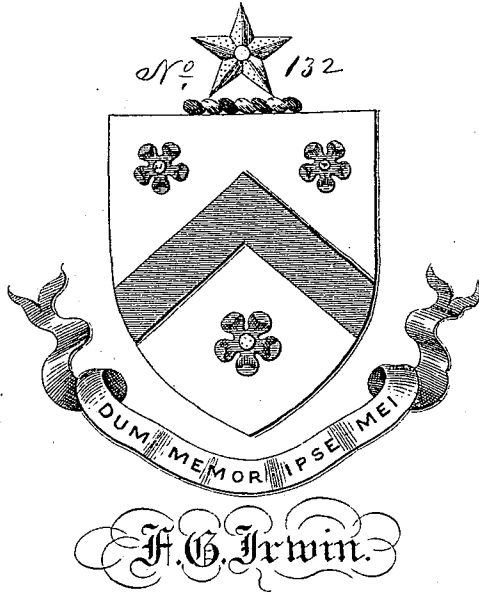


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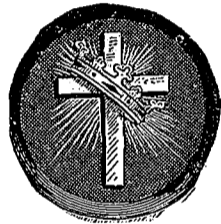
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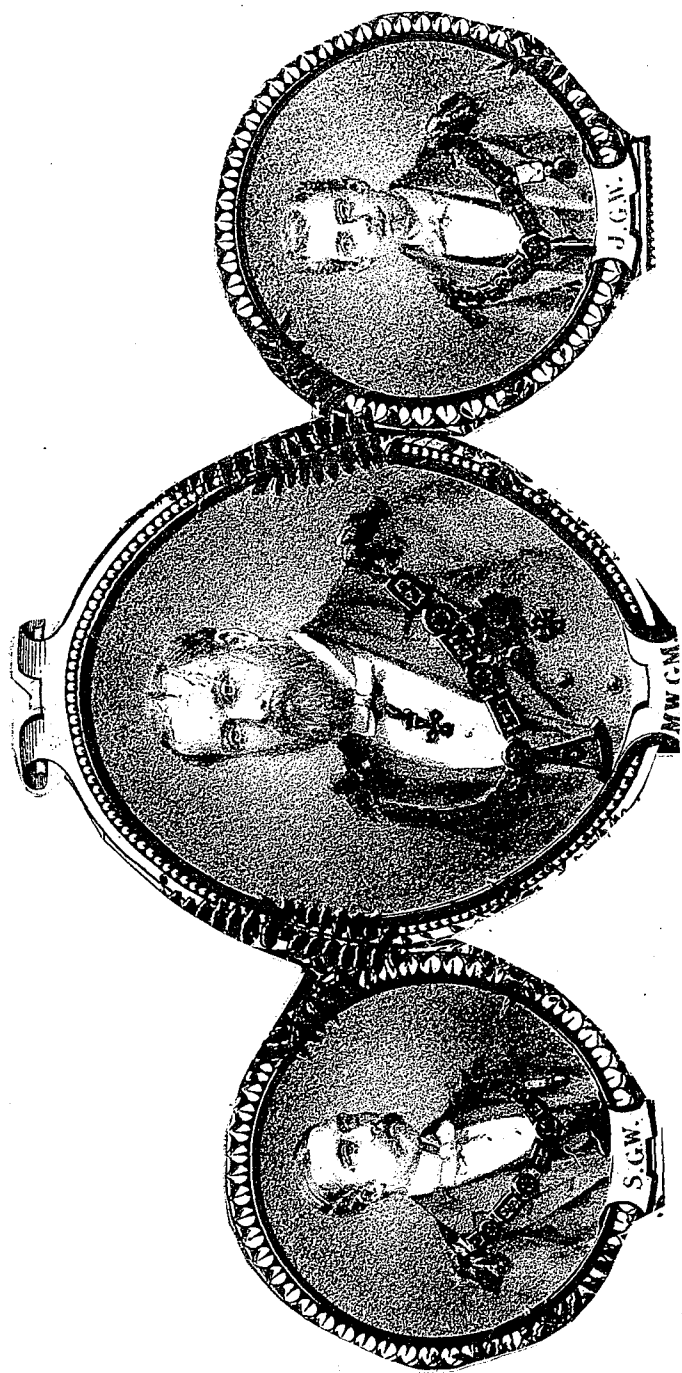
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United Grand Lodge
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A.F. & A. Masons
at
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THE
FREEMASONS'
QUARTERLY MAGAZINE
AND
REVIEW.

1852.

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FREEMASONS'
QUARTERLY MAGAZINE
AND REVIEW.

MARCH 31, 1852.

THE BOYS' SCHOOL.

THE most superficial observer of the passing events, and of the progress of affairs during the last quarter of a century, cannot fail to have noticed the growing interest, which has been taken in the better education of the working classes; while the profoundest thinkers, and the most sagacious minds, regard the subject as one of the most pressing necessities of the age. But while there is this general conviction of the necessity of a system of education, which shall embrace the whole of the children of the classes, to whom we have alluded, the most earnest spirits have been too frequently baffled, if not altogether checked, in the attempts to devise a plan, which should give practical effect to a wish, confessedly all but universal.

Divided in opinion on some fundamental principles, or on some mere matter of detail,—which has been invested by prejudice with a factitious importance,—men, who have a common conviction of the necessity of the case, have been unable to take up and occupy a broad ground, as the basis, on which they should commence their united operations against the ignorance and vice, which have reduced multitudes

of the population of this so-called Christian country to a state of semi-barbarism.

For our own part, we are convinced, that in a country like England, with its numerous free and noble institutions, giving birth to and cherishing an independence of thought and action, no system of *universal* application, kept within due limits by the authority of law, can ever be devised. And, if we look carefully at what has already been effected by the spontaneous efforts of a well-directed philanthropy, we shall be convinced that it is only on the enlargement of this field of action that the most stable hopes for the future can be built. The great want is not a combination of men of all shades of opinion, and who cannot, therefore, have a common and enduring principle of action, but of bodies of men united together by convictions, and sympathies springing out of principles common to them all, and who are prepared to move as in a compact and solid phalanx, animated by one spirit, to the accomplishment of the object, which they have set before them.

If our readers share in these views, and they,—of all bodies in the world,—have had the most indubitable proofs of the certainty of the basis, on which their principles are built, they will be prepared for the application, which we are about to make of them.

Without, therefore, any circumlocution, or labored argument, we say at once, that, in connection with the developement of the Divine principle of Charity,—a principle which lies at the very root of our Order, and by which the Fraternity has been distinguished from the earliest period to the present hour, we have at this moment a NECESSITY,—a stern, unmistakable, and peremptory NECESSITY—to contend with, and, in due time, to fulfil. That necessity, as we have indicated by the title, given to this article, is,—A SCHOOL FOR OUR BOYS!

Whilst nominally under our fostering wing, the objects of this charity, in reality—and as far, at least, as those residing at a distance from the metropolis are still concerned—have

been scattered in every direction. Until within the last year—during which period the London boys have been placed in a few carefully selected schools—they have been left to run almost wild, and neither their condition, nor their education, seemed to receive any practical consideration. The field was all barren; the spots of fertility upon it were “few and far between” indeed. Here and there “a blushing flower” might be seen striving to raise its head; but “its sweetness” was “wasted on the desert air” for want of proper culture, nutriment, and training.

The time has now, however, come when the honour of the Craft and our character, as patriots, demand that we should provide a common HOME for these hitherto comparatively neglected offspring of our indigent Brethren, where they may not only receive an education, in an intellectual point of view, suited to the advanced intelligence of the age,—and which, we repeat without fear of contradiction, they have not hitherto had,—but be brought under a system of moral training, which, under the blessing of the G. A. O. T. U., shall lay the basis of a character, by which they shall reflect honour upon our ancient Craft, become in after life its brightest ornaments and most steady and consistent supporters, fulfilling with integrity all the personal, relative, and social duties of life, and intelligently and uncompromisingly discharging their obligations as patriots and friends of the whole family of man.

We have said, that there is a NECESSITY for such an establishment as that to which we are alluding. That we are speaking the “words of truth and soberness” is well known to every one, who has taken the slightest interest in the subject, or is acquainted with the real facts of the case.

As, however, it is very probable that many of the Brethren, especially those residing at a distance from the Metropolitan “head quarters,” are ignorant of these facts, we ask their attention to the following passages from the Annual Report of the School Committee, which has recently been issued, and circulated.

“The Committee during the past year have anxiously

endeavoured to bring into efficient operation the new regulations, adopted by the Governors and Subscribers, for rendering more effective the education, and improving the general condition, of the boys, and it is with great satisfaction they express the belief that much good has been effected. The London boys, who have been hitherto scattered over all parts of the town, have now been placed in a few selected schools, chosen after the most careful personal inquiry, and an increased rate of payment for their tuition has been accorded, in all cases which gave hope that the boys would derive adequate benefits from such advances. By these means, MANY ADDITIONAL BRANCHES of USEFUL INSTRUCTION have been opened to the boys, especially FRENCH AND BOOK-KEEPING; and at the same time, the Committee have been enabled to exercise a much greater degree of superintendence over their conduct and progress.

The reports which the Committee have received as to the conduct of the boys, has, with few exceptions, been satisfactory; and especially a great improvement has taken place in the regularity and punctuality of their attendance at school; whilst the Committee are satisfied that the clothes now allowed are fully adequate to their comfort and respectability of appearance.

The periodical examinations of the London boys have taken place regularly, and the result may be considered as giving evidence of satisfactory progress, whilst in some cases a proficiency has been exhibited highly creditable, not only to boys under 14, but to their instructors, who have shown every desire to meet the wishes of the Committee, and forward the objects of the Governors and Subscribers.

The Committee gratefully acknowledge that the liberality of their Brethren has fully kept pace with the increasing wants and expenses of the Charity. In proof of which they subjoin a comparative statement:—

Donations (1850-1), £251. 8s. 6d.; (1851-2), £472. 10s. 0d., *being an increase of* £221. 1s. 6d. Annual

“Subscriptions (1851-2), £220. 10s. 0d. ; (1851-2), £247.

“16s. 0d., *being an increase of* £27. 6s. 0d.

“From this result, the Committee derive the confident belief that they may rely on the support of the Masonic body, in carrying out the system of the Institution to the fullest extent, and that they may be enabled to effect substantial good to the objects of its care. But while the Committee have the gratification to feel that much good has been effected, they cannot disguise from themselves, that
“MUCH MORE REMAINS TO BE DONE.

“Notwithstanding the improved arrangements which have been made in the case of the London boys, MANY CASES have occurred in which the want of *centralization* and of UNIFORM DISCIPLINE HAS BEEN SEVERELY FELT: and as regards the country boys, the Committee have found it *wholly impracticable to establish anything like an efficient system of general superintendence*, whilst they have with pain remarked *many instances of very defective education*, and some, of *exceedingly imperfect discipline*. In one case, indeed, they have been compelled to resort to the extreme measure of expulsion for misconduct, which, however culpable in itself, could scarcely have occurred *in a well-managed establishment*.

“The Committee desire to express *their deliberate opinion*, founded on *practical experience*, that NOTHING BUT THE FOUNDATION OF AN ESTABLISHMENT FOR BOARDING, as well as Clothing and Educating the Boys, or, at least, a large portion of them, can enable the Charity to keep pace with the increased educational demands of the present time, or to satisfy the reasonable expectations of the Craft.

“The Committee have seen with heartfelt pleasure, that the principle of such an establishment has been adopted by the General Court. They believe that the plan suggested for carrying out this principle, is well adapted to its object, and will not impede the present operations of the Charity. They now respectfully but confidently appeal to their

“Brethren, and the Craft at large, for such additional
“liberality in their contributions, as may enable the Com-
“mittee, with the least possible delay, to take measures for
“establishing such a school, as may be at once honourable to
“the Masonic body, satisfactory to the Governors and Sub-
“scribers of the Charity, and a source of permanent advantages
“and blessings to the children of those less fortunate Brethren,
“who are, or who may be, hereafter, entrusted to their care.”

Here is our apology, and justification—if any were needed—for calling the attention of the Brethren to a subject, which lies near to our heart, and which, we feel confident, will commend itself to their warmest sympathies. We repeat it, that the great and urgent want, in reference to the sons of our poor or deceased Brethren, is, a HOME—a place where the heart shall be cared for as well as the intellect; where, under the guidance of competent teachers, our boys shall receive a sound, liberal, and thoroughly practical education, fitting them for posts, where skill and intelligence may be required, and not merely for those situations, in which they would remain as “hewers of wood and drawers of waters” all the days of their life; and at the same time so training their moral and spiritual natures, that they shall comprehend the way, by which they may ultimately reach the sublimest point, to which humanity, sanctified by the power of truth, and the spirit of love, can attain.

For the accomplishment of this design, only one difficulty has met the Committee, and that is, with reference to the education of the children of our Jewish and Roman Catholic Brethren. But this obstacle is not insuperable. We cannot expect that the relatives of these children will desire to place them in an Institution, where religious principles, contrary to their faith, would be inculcated. Neither ought they, nor will they be asked to do so. For them the same freedom, which they have hitherto enjoyed, may still be extended. The means, by which they may receive instruction, can be just as easily afforded as they now are, whilst the requisite

supervision, and the assurance that the benevolence extended towards them is not abused, can remain just as they are at present. There is the same NECESSITY to extend the growing improvements of education to these children as to the others under our care ; but, since "Masonry is free," if the conscience of their relatives will not allow them to assort with the other children under one common roof, it is at once our bounden duty to do the best for them we can, under the circumstances in which they are unavoidably placed ; but, it were the height of absurdity, because these children cannot, on account of religious scruples, partake of the benefits which the others would enjoy, under the superintendence of an Institution, to deprive the greater number of benefits which are incalculable, and of privileges, the worth of which few will fail to appreciate. The extraordinary progress which the boys, residing within the London district, have made since they have, by the regulations of the Committee, been concentrated in several well-selected Schools, is clear evidence that, if the NECESSITY, which has thus far been met, be carried out to its full and imperative developement, "THE BOYS' SCHOOL," will also soon take an equally high position with THE GIRLS' SCHOOL, and be no less an honour to the Craft, than the latter Charity has ever been from the time of its foundation.

Here, then, is our case, which we place in broad outline before the Brethren. On a future occasion, and when the plan of operations is fully matured, we may plead with them on the ground of detail, if it should be found necessary to do so. We fervently trust, however, that that moment will never come. The spirit, which animated the Brethren at the recent Festival, and their unprecedented liberal Contributions, are earnest to our minds, that they will, with a promptness and a generosity, in harmony with their acknowledged principles, continue, as they have begun, to prove to those, to whom they have committed the management of this department of their affairs, how fully and thoroughly they place Masonic confidence in their integrity and intelligence. The assurance is fixed and

strong, that they will not suffer the Committee, for want of ample means, to falter for a single moment in the prosecution of a work destined to enrich the children of poverty, and to "cause the widow's heart to leap for joy," as she sees her fatherless boy safely housed beneath the hospitable roof—raised by the hands of the fraternal love—and rescued from the snares, from which her scanty means are too feeble to secure him.

GRAND LODGE FOR MARCH.

It is not often that we call especial attention to the proceedings of the Grand Lodge. The intelligence we regularly furnish from the *authenticated* publications of the Report, issued from Freemason's Hall, is to our minds generally sufficient to make the Brethren cognisant of what is going on at "head quarters." We cannot, however, allow a portion of the proceedings of the last Grand Lodge to pass "without note or comment," inasmuch as a matter, which occupied the attention of the few remaining members at its close, seems to us to be of such paramount importance as to demand especial remark.

During the four last meetings of the Grand Lodge, viz. those for the Masonic year 1851-1852, the absence of the Grand Stewards has been both singular and unusual. Out of the *eighteen* appointed at the last Grand Festival, the greater number have never been *once* present at the Grand Lodge Meetings, and on the last occasion *two* only were found in their places upon the floor of the Grand Lodge during its proceedings. Whether any were employed "without the porch of the Grand Lodge" we cannot say; but certain it is, *if they were so*, they never showed themselves to the assembled Brethren, or entered "the Temple" after assisting the Grand Pursuivant. From the repeated and continued interruption at the porch of the Grand Lodge, we can but infer that they were also absent from their post of duty here, as elsewhere.

We thank Bro. Havers for calling the attention of the Grand Lodge to this singular omission of duty, and hope to find it corrected on future occasions, no less than to see that the Brethren themselves, who attend the Grand Lodge, remain to the close of the proceedings, and not act as on the last occasion, rushing in long after business was commenced, and rushing out again before they had been present half an hour. The repetition of such unseemly and un-Masonic conduct will certainly insure a more strict "tyling" than has hitherto ruled under the present M. W. G. M., which will fall severely in many cases, where such a punishment would be unmerited. We hope that the "word" we here speak will be "sufficient to the wise," and that this abuse of patience and of privilege may be at once corrected.

THE REVELATIONS OF A SQUARE.

BY THE REV. GEORGE OLIVER, D.D.

CHAPTER THE FIFTH.

ENTICK, HESLETINE, CALCOTT, HUTCHINSON.

FROM 1760 TO 1775.

“Maçonrye beeth the skylle of nature, the understandyng of the myghte that ys hereynne, and vis sondre werkynges.”—*OLD MASONIC MS.*

“She knoweth the subtilties of speeches, and can expound dark sentences; she forseeth signs and wonders, and the events of seasons and times.”—*SOLOMON.*

“Some folks have with curious impertinence strove,
From Freemasons’ bosoms their secrets to move,
I’ll tell them in vain their endeavours must prove;
Which nobody can deny.”
MASONIC SONG.

“IN revealing some of the peculiar practices of Masonry in the eighteenth century, which I am persuaded are not clearly understood,” continued the Master’s Jewel, “I must caution you against confounding the pursuits of labour with those of refreshment, for they were perfectly distinct. Labour was an exclusive employment practised by Masons alone, while the amusements which attended the latter were common to many other convivial societies, and were regulated in accordance with the customs of the day. Grave business being closed, wit and good humour reigned triumphant, and the Brethren indulged themselves with a zest and freedom which distinguished no other community. Amongst free and accepted Masons, harmony and brotherly love were alike cherished and enforced; and disputes and quarrels seldom deformed the chaste enjoyments of the festive board. But I am truly concerned to say, that in some of our Lodges, Masonry was deformed by the unnatural attempt to blend these two divisions of Masonic employment, which were never intended to coalesce; and the fatal consequences of such a course will too

plainly appear by sundry revelations which I shall feel bound to make in the period now under consideration.

“ In the eighteenth century the Lodge expenses were constructed on the most economical scale. The initiation fees ranged from one to two guineas, exclusive of the registration fee; and the quarterages were from 2s. 6d. to 5s., including suppers. Under these circumstances, it required the exercise of great caution and discrimination to prevent the introduction of improper persons. And, accordingly, we had a clause in our Bye-Laws,—which indeed was pretty general amongst the fraternity,—to the following effect:—‘ And whereas the Craft hath suffered greatly in its reputation and happiness by the admission of low and inferior persons, no ways fit to become members of our ancient and honourable institution, whereby men of rank, quality, knowledge, and education, are often deterred from associating with their Brethren at their public meetings: it is hoped that every Brother who is desired to propose any person will be particularly careful that he is one in all respects suitable to the Venerable Society he is to become a member of; one whose temper and disposition may cement the harmony of the Lodge, and whose conduct and circumstances in life are such as may not tend to diminish the credit of it.’

“ In the choice of a Master, it was recommended in the Bye-Laws, that abilities should be preferred to seniority or station in life; but this rule was not always observed, and hence the Lodges occasionally fell into inefficient hands, to the depreciation of their character, and the diminution of their numbers. In many Lodges it was the practice to elect the Master, Treasurer, Secretary, and Tyler, by ballot; nor did the former possess the privilege of nominating any officer, except his senior Warden, lest he should possess an undue authority over the Brethren; and therefore the senior Warden appointed his junior, and both were then invested by the Master. Decorum was enforced by a rigid exaction of fines, which were frequently directed to be paid in wine or spirits, to be consumed then and there by the Brethren present. And as the Lodges were generally held at an inn or tavern, the landlord, to whom the furniture usually belonged, possessed considerable influence in the Society, and was in a position to subject the Brethren to great inconvenience if they presumed to interfere in the slightest degree with his views of profit or emolument. From these causes, added to the universal license of the times, they were induced to in-

dulge in excesses which transgressed the bounds of moderate conviviality, and brought discredit on the Order. This compulsory practice became at length so burdensome, that a clause was introduced into the Bye-Laws, by direction of the Grand Lodge, that 'no landlord or master of the house where a Lodge shall be held shall be permitted to have any other share in the furniture and property of the Lodge than as an individual member.' By the genial operation of this rule the above nuisance was considerably abated.

"The period I have rapidly passed over in the preceding chapter produced several authentic publications on the subject of Masonry, which were read in the Lodges for the edification of the Brethren.* The 'Ahiman Rezon' was also published for the use of the seceders, and was adopted by the schismatical Grand Lodge, as its Book of Constitutions.† At this period our Rev. Bro. Entick engaged in the laudable design of counteracting the repeated attempts that had been made to throw Masonry into confusion, and contributed several valuable additions to Masonic literature. He was, in his turn, the Master of our Lodge, and I glittered on his breast for three consecutive years. His habits were

* These were—"A Charge delivered at the King's Arms, in Helston, Cornwall, on Tuesday, April 21st, 1752, by Isaac Head." "A Search after Truth; a Sermon, delivered at Gloucester before the Lodge, No. 95:" 1752. "A Pocket Companion, and History of Freemasonry, containing its Origin, Progress, and Present State; the Institution of the Grand Lodge of Scotland; Lists of the Grand Masters and other Officers of the Grand Lodges of Scotland and England; an Abstract of their Laws, Constitutions, Customs, Charges, Orders, and Regulations, for the Instruction and Conduct of the Brethren." By Jonathan Scott. London, Baldwin, Davey, and Law, 1754; Second Edition, 1759; Third Edition, 1764. To this latter Edition were appended many other particulars for the use of the Society.

† "Ahiman Rezon, or a Help to a Brother; showing the Excellency of Secrecy, and the First Cause or Motive of the Institution of Masonry, the Principles of the Craft, and the Benefits from a Strict Observance thereof; also the Old and New Regulations. To which is added, the greatest Collection of Masonic Songs." By Bro. Dermott. London, Bedford, 1756; Second Edition, London, 1764; Third Edition, London, Jones, 1778; Fifth Edition, Dublin, 1780; Sixth Edition, by Bro. Harper, London, Burton, 1800; Seventh Edition, London, 1807; Eighth Edition, London, 1813; Ninth Edition, London, Asperne, 1836. "The Mariland Ahiman Rezon; containing the History of Masonry, &c." Baltimore, 1799. "Freemasons' Library, and General Ahiman Rezon." By Samuel Cole. Baltimore, 1817. "Ahiman Rezon abridged and digested." By W. Smith, D.D. Philadelphia, 1783. "Charges and Regulations of the Society of Free and Accepted Masons; extracted from Ahiman Rezon, under the Sanction of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Halifax, in New Scotland." Halifax, 1786. It was answered in a book called "A Defence of Masonry, as practised in the Regular Lodges, both Foreign and Domestic, under the Constitution of the English Grand Master. In which is contained a Refutation of Mr. Dermott's absurd and ridiculous Account of Freemasonry, in his book entitled 'Ahiman Rezon,' and the Several Queries therein reflecting on the Regular Masons considered and answered." London, Flexney and Hood, 1765.

grave and sober; but he was a good Master, and a fair disciplinarian, popular amongst the Craft, an expositor of Masonry in many printed works, and at the same time he preserved his status in the Grand Lodge, which is more than Capt. Smith, Preston, Whitney, and some other popular Brethren, were fortunate enough to accomplish at a subsequent period. He published two several editions of the Book of Constitutions,* and preached many sermons on Freemasonry, which ought to have been preserved, as they did honour both to his head and his heart.†. I must confess I had a great respect for Bro. Entick. He was an active man, and a dear lover of Masonry; and I was exceedingly sorry when fate, in the shape of a vote of the Lodge, threw me into other hands.

“After this I passed two years of severe probation, for the Masters were inefficient, and the Brethren began to be very slack in their attendance; in fact, at the close of the year our Lodge was *hors de combat*. The latter of these worthies was inordinately addicted to the prevailing convivialities of the age, and introduced amongst us the exploded custom of drinking and smoking in open Lodge; an evil practice, destructive of all scientific investigation. I admit that he was not a solitary exception to the standing order, that no Brother do presume to come into the Lodge intoxicated, or on any account whatever to call for wine or liquors in open Lodge, but to address himself to the stewards or wardens, who, if they think it necessary, will give their orders accordingly; for there were many existing Lodges whose sole business appeared to be sensual indulgence, but they were carefully avoided by every sincere friend of the Order. Many protests were entered against the practice by the remaining few discreet members of

* “The Constitutions of the Ancient and Honourable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons; containing their History, Charges, Regulations, &c. Collected and digested by Order of the Grand Lodge, from their Old Records. For the Use of the Lodges. By James Anderson, D.D. Carefully revised, continued, and enlarged, with many Additions, by John Entick, M.A.” London, Baldwin, Davey, and Law, 1756. “The Constitutions, &c.” By J. Entick, M.A. A new Edition, with Alterations and Additions, by a Committee appointed by the Grand Lodge. London, Johnston, 1767. Appendix to the Constitutions of the Society of Free and Accepted Masons,” 1776.

† “The Free and Accepted Mason described, in a Sermon preached at St. Stephen, Walbrook, June 25, 1750, by John Entick, A.M.” London, Scott, 1750. “The Free and Accepted Mason truly stated.” Preached by J. Entick from Acts xxviii. 22. “A True Representation of Freemasonry; in a Lecture delivered at the King’s Head Lodge, in the Poultry, London, March 20, 1751, by J. Entick, A.M.” “A Caution to Free and Accepted Masons; a Sermon preached at St. Mildred, in the Poultry, Oct. 26, 1752, by J. Entick, A.M.” London, Scott, 1752.

our Lodge without effect ; the nuisance was not abated ; and even the lecture—when we had the good fortune to hear one—was delivered amidst volumes of smoke, which rivalled in intensity the reeking impurities of a burning prairie, and interrupted by frequent calls to the landlord for beer and strong waters, and the jingling of pots and glasses ! Forgetting the *favete linguis* of the old mysteries, the enjoyment of every Brother seemed to centre in himself alone ; and this unhallowed triad of lecturing, smoking, and drinking at one and the same time, bestrode the Brethren like the old man of the sea on the neck of Sindbad, and they possessed no means of liberation but by dissolving their connection with the Lodge ; and thus the institution was deprived of some of its most valuable members.

“ This R. W. M., whose name, for various reasons, I have purposely omitted to mention, as if determined to give the Lodge its *coup de grâce*, introduced a contest for superiority between the old and several young members who understood very imperfectly the true principles of the Order, and entered warmly into the dispute for the sake of excitement and mischief. The juniors were at first always defeated in the numerous motions and subjects of discussion which they nightly poured forth upon the Lodge with as little judgment as Sancho Panza exhibited in the application of his proverbs ; but being encouraged by the Master, they succeeded in procuring an accession to their numbers by the introduction of candidates for initiation, till, at length, the old members were in a minority. The undisguised marks of triumph which the juniors displayed, so disgusted their more sedate Brethren, that they dropped off gradually, until the Lodge was left to the sole management of the injudicious Master and his superficial associates. I need not tell you the result. After the pæans of victory had subsided, and the excitement of the contest was at an end, these boon companions found Masonry but a dull affair, and soon followed the example of those worthy brethren whom they had driven from the Lodge, by discontinuing their attendance ; until, at length, we received a summons, dated 17th October, 1766, and signed ‘ Samuel Spencer, Grand Secretary,’ requiring us, under the penalty of erasure, to show cause, at the ensuing Quarterly Communication, why the Lodge had not been represented in Grand Lodge for the last two years, and no subscriptions paid. Fortunately, the remaining few members who had faithfully adhered to the Lodge amidst all its fluctuations, — if not by actual attendance, at

least by continuing on the books,—interfered, and by inviting an active and scientific member, Bro. James Hesletine, who had served the office of Warden under Bro. Entick, to take the chair, restored the peace and unanimity of the Lodge.

“ Many of the continental fancies and innovations, extracted from the Jewish Talmuds, and introduced into their surreptitious Masonry, were much talked of in our Lodges at this period ; and some of them were absolutely incorporated into our symbolical ritual, which was one reason why an authorized mode of working was considered by all genuine Masons to be essentially necessary. The rage for *something new* in England, as formerly in Athens, was not easily suppressed, and a knowledge of these traditions was deemed indispensable for every Brother who was ambitious of enjoying the reputation of being an adept in Masonry. One of these traditions you will like to hear, as it continued for a great length of time a cherished figment amongst us. It refers to the history of the Foundation Stone of Solomon’s Temple, which was traced in the legend from Enoch through Noah, Abraham, and Solomon to the apostate Emperor Julian by the following process. They described it as a double cube, every side, except the base on which it stood, being inscribed. The first face of the cube was said to have been engraved by Noah with an instrument of porphyry when the Ark was building ; the second, by Abraham with *the horn of the ram*—credat Judæus !—which was substituted for his son on Mount Moriah ! the third, with a porphyry tool by Moses ; the fourth, by Joshua ; and the fifth by Hiram Abiff, before it was deposited in its final bed at the north-east angle of the Temple. Placed by Enoch in the basement of his subterranean edifice, it was discovered by Noah, and used as an anchor to fix the Ark on Mount Ararat. Abraham took it thence to Mount Moriah, where it constituted the altar on which he offered Isaac. It formed the pillow of Jacob when he saw his celestial vision of the ladder, and accompanied him in all his wanderings. He bequeathed it to Joseph in Egypt, who directed it to be placed over his grave. Moses took it with him, at the great deliverance, into the wilderness of Arabia. He stood upon this remarkable stone when the Red Sea was divided, and when the Amalekites were defeated ; knelt on it when the Tables of the Law were delivered on Mount Sinai ; and finally commended it to the care of Joshua, who built his altar on it at Mount Ebal. It was deposited in the Sanctuary at Shilo until the Temple was erected at Jerusalem, when Solomon

directed it to be placed in the foundation as the chief cornerstone. Here it remained undisturbed either by Zerubabel or Herod, as it was destined to defeat the insane attempt of Julian to rebuild the Temple, which it effected by destroying his workmen through the agency of fire.*

“ A similar fiction about the Rod of Moses was also imported from the Continent, which was traced from the Paradisiacal Tree of Knowledge; † another about the institution of Templary, which, as it was said, had its origin in Egypt before the Exodus; ‡ that Moses and Aaron, having been initiated into its mysteries, brought it with them into Judæa; that thence it passed through the two St. Johns to the Crusades, &c.; and a fourth, about the imaginary travels of Peleg, and the erection of his triangular Temple. § We had another, which recounted the pseudo history of Hiram Abiff; and many similar ones, which it would be a waste of time to mention. It may be necessary to add, that these fables were not countenanced by any but some young and inexperienced Brethren, who were ambitious of being accounted cleverer and brighter Masons than their fellows. And you would have been astonished to see the absurd airs of importance, which the possessors of these fabulous conceits assumed when the conversation of a Lodge happened to turn upon the abstruse subject of cabalistical acquirements.”

My tongue itched to inquire into the particulars of the history of Hiram Abiff, and I had some difficulty to restrain my curiosity. My companion observed the movement, and interpreted it correctly. “ You wish to learn something of the reputed private history of this eminent Freemason,” he said; “ but I am not quite sure that I shall be able to gratify your curiosity, for conjecture, after all, is no great authority. You

* These legends are equally apocryphal with those of the Scottish fabulists about the same stone. They feign that, from the time of Jacob, who used this stone for a pillow, it was preserved in Spain till Gathol, king of the Scots, ruled over Galicia, and that he used it for a throne. That Simon Brech, another Scottish monarch, about 700 years before Christ, or about the time when Rome was built, conveyed it into Ireland, where it remained for three or four centuries before it was translated into Scotland. When there, it was installed in the Abbey of Scone, as a palladium, and enclosed in an oaken chair by king Kenneth, on which the following verse was engraven:—

“ Ni fallat fatum, Scoti quocunq; locatum.

Invenit lapidem, regnare tenentur ibidem.”

This stone and chair were deposited in Westminster Abbey, A.D. 1296, where they still remain. *Utrum horum major accipe!*

† This legend may be found in the Hist. Landmarks, vol. ii. p. 599.

‡ Ibid. vol. ii. p. 24.

§ Ibid. vol. i. p. 63.

shall hear some of the legends, however, if it will afford you any satisfaction. Our continental brethren identified Hiram Abiff with Jesus Christ, and endeavoured to prove that his history was an allegory of the Crucifixion. They contended that the word היה meant, *He that existed from all eternity*—T. G. A. O. T. U.—Christ; and asserted that in ancient times seven days was the legitimate interval between the ceremony of raising a candidate, and communicating to him the secrets of a Master Mason, in allusion to the period of mourning for his death, which amongst the Jews was seven days, as in the recorded instance of the lamentations of Joseph for his father Jacob; and the same period intervened between the resurrection of Christ and his public appearance to his disciples to remove the unbelief of Thomas. And in recounting the history of Masonry, they feigned that the art and mystery of the Order was first introduced at the building of the tower of Babel; and from thence handed down by Euclid, a worthy and excellent mathematician of Egypt; that he communicated it to Hiram Abiff, under whom, at the building of the Temple of Solomon, was an expert architect called Mannon Grecus, who, travelling westward after the Temple was completed, taught the art of Masonry to Carolus Marcel, King of France; from whence it was transplanted into England in the time of Athelstan, who commanded the Brethren to assemble annually in the city of York!

“ “ They further stated, that the Stylus with which Hiram Abiff drew his plans and designs, and engraved that mysterious diagram on the foundation-stone of the Temple, which is now known as the 47th Proposition of Euclid, was found on his person at his raising, and was ordered by Solomon to be placed in his monument. I omit the fable of his marriage with the sister of prince Adoniram, his death, burial, monument, obelisk, with its circles, squares, and columns, and Solomon's bitter mourning; together with the distraction and suicide of his widow; because I dare say you are heartily sick of this absurd jumble of truth and fiction, where Euclid is made contemporary with the dispersion from Shinar, and Hiram Abiff brother to the Carthaginian Hanno.

“ “ Our brethren, however, amidst all their fondness for continental innovations and Jewish legends, were not so ungallant to the softer sex as to introduce that graceless illustration of the Valley of Jehoshaphat, or the holy ground on which the Lodge is placed, that was used by the French Masons, viz., as “ a place of peace, harmony, and concord;

where cock never crows, women never brawl, nor lion ever roars.' " *

Here I was about to violate our compact by repudiating the application of these puerilities to the Masons of the present day, when my mentor hastily moved one of his limbs forward, with an admonitory swagger, and cried out, "Hold! speak not, answer not; the sound of the human voice will annihilate my colloquial powers! I acquit you of any participation in these fabulous inventions. They were excusable a century ago, when the million could neither read nor write, and were obliged to take on credit every vague assertion of those who had the advantage of mental culture; and, therefore, you need not wonder that in times when the fables of King Arthur and his Raven, the Seven Champions, Mother Shipton, and the Predictions of Nostrodamus and the double-thumbed Miller, were implicitly credited, there should be found many believers in the spurious legends of continental Masonry.

"I have taken the liberty of digressing at this particular period," continued the Square, "because I have nothing favourable to reveal respecting the transactions of our Lodge under an inefficient Master; but when I passed to Bro. Hesletine, our numbers were soon recruited. It is true, Masonic impostors and Masonic pretenders were numerous and active; but our R. W. M. was ever on the alert, and knew all the vulnerable points of the enemy's position. Thus he was able, by a series of judicious and well-timed exposures of the iniquity of the one and the moral degradation of the other, to silence the gainsayers, and put the scoffers to open shame. He made them feel that men who are willing to prostitute their time and talent for the questionable purpose of gratifying a prurient curiosity, are open to the operation of public opinion, which, when rightly directed, is sure to cover them with shame and confusion.

"Bro. Hesletine was extremely anxious that the Craft should enjoy the blessings of uniformity in discipline and work. And to contribute to the accomplishment of so desirable an end, he spared neither time nor expense; and not only visited every London Lodge, but made excursions to the most distant parts of the island. Wherever he heard of a

* The ladies of France amply revenged themselves by instituting a Freemasonry of their own, and every principal town in France soon exhibited its Lodge of Adoption.

Lodge which was celebrated for either the one or the other, that Lodge was certain of a visit from him. He became acquainted with all the different systems of work which presented themselves to his notice, accompanied by their respective Tests or Examination Questions, and he found that every variety of lecture was in practice which had been used from the time of Desaguliers and Anderson to the moment of inquiry. A collection of the Tests would, I should think, be a great curiosity; and if you will listen attentively, I will repeat them from Bro. Hesletine's notes."

Observing that I took up my pen to jot them down, the Square hastily added, "Hold, hold! my good friend! mind what you are about! I feel myself authorised, without any indiscretion, to communicate to you *vivâ voce*, both the questions and the answers of these curious Tests, but whether, consistently with your O. B., you can commit to paper anything more than the simple questions, which, of themselves, convey no information, is for you to determine, when you have taken a deliberate view of the moral responsibility attached to such an act."

Having said this, my strange companion receded a few steps to allow me time for deliberation; and the wisdom of his remark appearing incontestible, I determined to act on his advice, and take down the questions only. The Square then proceeded.

"The Tests of Masonry were at that time generally denominated Examination Questions, and may be considered, not merely as curious illustrations of individual feeling at the consecutive periods of its onward progress, but as absolute landmarks to distinguish true from pretended Freemasonry, which were periodically considered necessary by the Master-minds who successively appeared on the Masonic stage; and being arbitrary in their character, were occasionally changed, that the impostor might be more easily detected, and the cowan more effectually exposed.

"The first Lodge Lectures introduced into Masonry were the work of Doctors Desaguliers and Anderson; and though not destined to a very long reign, they were perspicuous and expressive, and a brief summary of their contents was embodied in the following Tests: 1. I. T. B. G. C. T. H. A. T. E. 2. What is the place of the senior apprentice? 3. What are the fixed lights? 4. How ought the R. W. M. to be served? 5. What is the punishment of a Cowan? 6. What is the bone bone-box? 7. How is it said to be opened? 8. By what

is the key suspended? 9. What is the proper clothing of a Mason? 10. What is a Mason's brand? 11. How high was the door of the middle chamber? 12. What does this stone smell of? 13. Can you tell me the name of an E. A. P., of a F. C, and of a M. M.? 14. H. T. W. P. O. T. T. P. O. T. T.

“The Lectures having been remodelled about the year 1730 by Martin Clare, he thought it expedient to alter the Tests; and his category was approved by the Grand Lodge. It was as follows:—1. Whence came you? 2. Who brought you here? 3. What recommendation do you bring? 4. Do you know the secrets of Masonry? 5. Where do you keep them? 6. Have you the key? 7. Where is it deposited? 8. When you were made a Mason, what did you consider most desirable? 9. What is the name of your Lodge? 10. Where is it situated? 11. What is its foundation? 12. How did you enter the Temple of Solomon? 13. How many windows did you see there? 14. What is the duty of the youngest apprentice? 15. Have you ever worked as a Mason? 16. What did you work with? 17. Salute me as a Mason.

“This arrangement lasted ten years, and was superseded by an improved series of Examination Questions promulgated by Dr. Manningham, and adopted by most of the metropolitan and several provincial Lodges. Be careful that you take them down correctly, for they are so ingeniously constructed, that the omission or alteration of a single word may cause a mystification that will not be easily unravelled. 1. Where were you made a Mason? 2. What did you learn there? 3. How do you hope to be rewarded? 4. What access have you to that Grand Lodge? 5. How many steps? 6. What are their names? 7. How many qualifications are required in a Mason? 8. What is the standard of a Mason's faith? 9. What is the standard of his actions? 10. Can you name the peculiar characteristics of a Mason's Lodge? 11. What is the interior composed of? 12. Why are we termed Brethren? 13. By what Badge is a Mason distinguished? 14. To what do the reports refer? 15. How many principal points are there in Masonry? 16. To what do they refer? 17. Their names? 18. The allusion.”

These Tests continued unaltered down to the period, of which I am speaking. A very talented Mason was now rising into notice, who was destined to effect organic changes in the system. I shall reveal his improvements in due course; and he is introduced here simply because he was the author

of a brief paper of questions which he considered more characteristic than any that had preceded them. I allude to Bro. Dunckerley, a name which will live as long as Masonry shall endure. His Tests were only ten in number, but each possessed a significant reference to some important landmark of the Order. 1. How ought a Mason to be clothed? 2. When were you born? 3. Where were you born? 4. How were you born? 5. Did you endure the brand with fortitude and patience? 6. The situation of the Lodge? 7. What is its name? 8. With what have you worked as a Mason? 9. Explain the Sprig of Cassia. 10. How old are you?

“About this period,” the Square proceeded to say, “a young man named Preston appeared in town from the north, and was initiated in an Athol Lodge, where he displayed such extraordinary intelligence and zeal as elicited the applause of all classes of the Fraternity. Our R. W. M., Bro. Hesletine, heard of his fame, and sought his acquaintance. An attachment sprang up between them, which produced some extraordinary results. Bro. Hesletine induced him to dissolve his connection with the Athol Masons, and to legitimize himself in a constitutional Lodge. This young man, as the first fruits of his labours, placed in the hands of our R. W. M. a new arrangement of the Tests, which, though not actually introduced till a later period, were read in the Lodge, and highly approved by the Brethren. He divided them into three sections of seven questions each, and they contained, as you will hear, some novelties. *First Section.*—1. Whither are you bound? 2. Are you a Mason? 3. How do you know that? 4. How will you prove it to me? 5. Where were you made a Mason? 6. When were you made a Mason? 7. By whom were you made a Mason? *Second Section.*—1. From whence come you? 2. What recommendation do you bring? 3. Any other recommendation? 4. Where are the secrets of Masonry kept? 5. To whom do you deliver them? 6. How do you deliver them? 7. In what manner do you serve your Master? *Third Section.*—1. What is your name? 2. What is the name of your son? 3. If a Brother were lost, where should you hope to find him? 4. How should you expect him to be clothed? 5. How blows a Mason’s wind? 6. Why does it thus blow? 7. What time is it?”

“In this country, in accordance with ancient practice, we admit only three degrees; but on the Continent the list was swelled out to the enormous category of twenty degrees of

Apprentice,* twenty-three of Fellowcraft,† and sixty of Master.‡ Although such innovations were prevalent in France and Germany, and found their way secretly amongst ourselves, yet they received no sanction from the Masonic authorities; and the Fraternity were cautioned to beware how they introduced any of the foreign fallacies into their Lodges. In many cases, however, curiosity prevailed over expediency, and individuals received them as genuine Masonic truths, and had no little pride in their acquisition.

About this time a remarkable Essay, on the application of Geometry to the requirements of moral duty, was circulated amongst the Lodges.§ It was adapted to symbolical Masonry alone, and was generally attributed to the pen of Bro. Dunckery. But in 1768 a severe attack on Masonry was commenced by an anonymous writer, who published a pamphlet under the extraordinary title of "Masonry the Way to Hell," || which created some sensation amongst the Metropolitan Craft, and produced a paper-war. I remember hearing a discussion

* These were, besides the simple E. A. P. of primitive Masonry, an Apprentice Architect; App. Perfect Architect; App. Prussian Architect; Cabalistic App.; Coen App.; App. of Paracelsus; Egyptian App.; Secret Egyptian App.; Female Egyptian App.; Scotch App.; Scotch Trinitarian App.; Hermetic App.; Male App.; Female App.; Adoptive App.; Mystical App.; App. Philosopher of the number nine; App. Hermetic Philosopher; App. Philosopher of the number three; and the Theosophic App.

† For the second degree they admitted a Fellowcraft Mason; F. C. Architect; F. C. Perfect Architect; F. C. Prussian Architect; Cabalistic F. C.; F. C. Coen; F. C. of Paracelsus; Scotch F. C.; Scotch Trinitarian F. C.; Egyptian F. C.; Hermetic F. C.; Mystic F. C.; F. C. Hermetic Philosopher; F. C. Philosopher by the number three; F. C. Sublime Philosopher by the number three; F. C. Philosopher by the number nine; F. C. by the number fifteen; Theosophic F. C.; Biblical F. C.; Discrete F. C.; Female F. C.; Female Egyptian F. C.; and Obligated F. C.

‡ And as a corollary to these fictitious degrees, they had an English Master; a Little English Master; Ancient M.; Grand Architect M.; Perfect Architect M.; Prussian Architect M.; M. by the number fifteen; M. of all degrees; Cabalistic M.; Coen M.; Crowned M.; M. of the Key of Masonry; M. of English Lodges; M. of French Lodges; Mark M.; M. of Paracelsic Masonry; M. of Neapolitan Chapters; M. of Legitimate Lodges; M. of Masters; Most High and Puissant M. of Masters; Perfect M.; Perfect M. of Secrets; Perfect English M.; M. of Egyptian Secrets; M. of Hermetic Secrets; Scotch M.; Egyptian M.; Elect M. of nine; Little Elect M.; M. in Israel; M. in Perfect Architecture; Hermetic M.; Illustrious M.; Illustrious M. of the number fifteen; Illustrious M. of the Seven Cabalistic Secrets; Irish M.; Perfect Irish M.; Puissant Irish M.; Provost Irish M.; Symbolic M.; Mystic M.; M. by Curiosity; Perfect Hamburg M.; Particular M.; Past M.; M. of Hermetic Philosophy; Philosophical M. by the number three; Philosophical M. by the number nine; Pythagorean M.; Four Times Venerable M.; Royal M.; Wise M.; Secret M.; Illustrious Symbolical M.; Sublime Ancient M.; Theosophic M.; M. ad Vitam; True M.; and Absolute M.

§ See the Golden Remains, vol. i. p. 15.

|| "Masonry the Way to Hell; a Sermon, wherein is clearly proved, both from Reason and Scripture, that all who profess the Mysteries are in a State of Damnation." London, Robinson and Roberts, 1768.

on the subject in our Lodge. Some Brethren were inclined to understand it as a serious attack on the Order, while others considered it only as an ill-natured joke; however, it was concluded that the only way of ascertaining the real sentiments of the author would be to feel his pulse by a reply. Bro. Thomson was therefore deputed to answer it, which he admirably effected;* and another reply came from a quarter with which our Lodge had no connection.† The author of the obnoxious pamphlet did not respond, and it was believed that his conscience accused him of having basely slandered a benevolent institution, and that he thought it expedient to atone for his calumny by silence; and the controversy—if it may be called by that name—terminated with a pamphlet bearing the triumphant title of “Masonry the Turnpike-Road to Happiness in this Life, and Eternal Happiness hereafter.”‡

“Amidst all this trifling, the age was not barren in legitimate and well-authenticated publications on pure Masonry.§ But the gem of the period was the Candid Disquisition of Wellins Calcott,|| in which he has traced primitive Masonry from its origin;—explained its symbols and hieroglyphics, its social virtues and advantages; suggested the propriety of building halls for the peculiar and exclusive practice of Masonry, and reprehended its slanderers with great but judicious severity; for the unprincipled charlatans were still working at their masked battery, catering for the morbid curiosity of the profane world, and their shafts flew in clouds about our heads.**

* “Remarks on a Sermon lately published, entitled ‘Masonry the Way to Hell,’ being a Defence of that Order against Jesuitical Sophistry and Calumny. By John Thompson.” 1768.

† “An Answer to a certain Pamphlet, lately published under the solemn Title of ‘A Sermon, or Masonry the Way to Hell.’ By John Jackson, Philantropos.” 1768.

‡ London, Bladon, 1768.

§ “Love to God and Man inseparable; a Sermon before the Masons.” 1765. “Charge to the Wolverhampton Lodge.” 1765. “Masonic Sermon, by the Rev. Thomas Bagnall.” 1766. “On the Government of the Lodge; delivered before the Brethren of St. George’s Lodge, No. 315, Taunton. By John Whitmarsh.” 1765.

|| “A Candid Disquisition of the Principles and Practices of the Most Ancient and Honourable Society of Free and Accepted Masons; together with some Strictures on the Origin, Nature, and Design of that Institution. By Wellins Calcott.” London, 1769.

** The following spurious publications were supplied about this time to gratify the curiosity of the uninitiated:—“The Secrets of Masonry revealed; by a disgusted Brother. Containing an ingenious Account of their Origin, their Practices in the Lodges, Signs, and Watchwords, Proceedings at the Makings, &c.” London, Scott, 1759. “Allegorical Conversations organized by Wisdom.” “Hiram, or the Grand Master Key to the Door of both Ancient and Modern Freemasonry; being an accurate Description of every Degree of

"In 1769 our R. W. M. was appointed to the office of Grand Secretary by the Duke of Beaufort, and in that capacity I accompanied him on a visit of inspection into the north of England; and we found considerable variations in the several systems of working amongst the brethren of different localities. At the Lodge No. 209, holden at the Plume of Feathers, Bridge Street, Chester, we inspected a curious floorcloth, which had been painted only a short time previous, and contained some reference to the Masonic innovations of France and Germany. It consisted of a Mosaic pavement, accessible by three steps, marked *VIDE, AUDI, TACE*, with the five-pointed blazing star in a circle occupying the centre, flanked by two Corinthian pillars, on the summit of which were placed the sun and moon. The plinth of the sinister column was charged with a diagram, representing, probably, the Mark key-stone, while that on the dexter-side of the pavement was occupied by a ladder in clouds. Each of these pillars was attended or guarded by a naked sword, the one pointed and the other flaming, to represent Justice and Mercy, together with a Level and Plumb. Over the pavement, and resting on the pillars, was an arch inscribed *SIT LUX ET LUX FIT*, with a double key-stone supporting a sphere, and upon it the head of the Redeemer, as *T. G. A. O. T. U.*, surrounded by a nimbus; beneath which was an altar supporting the Holy Bible, placed on a cushion, flanked by Masonic emblems. Amongst the clouds above the arch, there appears a radiated triangle, with the word *יהוה*. At the base of the floorcloth are three objects; the one an oblong square chest or lodge,

the Brotherhood, as authorized and delivered in all good Lodges. Containing more than any Book on the Subject ever before published. By a Member of the Royal Arch." London, 1764. Second Edition, London, Griffin, 1766. "An Institute of Red Masonry." 1764. "Shibboleth; or every Man a Freemason." 1765. "Solomon in all his Glory, or the Master Mason; being a true Guide to the inmost Recesses of Freemasonry, both Ancient and Modern. Containing a minute Account of the Proceedings. By T. W. Translated from the French Original, published at Berlin, and burnt by Order of the King of Prussia at the Intercession of the Freemasons." London, Robinson and Roberts, 1766. Second Edition, London, 1768. "The Three distinct Knocks, or the Door of the Ancient Freemasonry opened to all Men, neither naked nor clothed, barefooted nor shod; being an universal Description of all its Branches, from its first use to this present time, as it is delivered in all Lodges. By W. O. V. M." The sixth Edition. London, Sergeant, 1767. Seventh Edition, London, 1768. Eighth Edition, Clench, 1811. Ninth Edition, London, Hughes, 1825. "The Freemason stripped naked; or the whole Art and Mystery of Freemasonry made Plain and Easy to all Capacities, by a faithful Account of every Secret, from the first making of a Mason till he is completely Master of every Branch of his Profession. By Charles Warren, Esq., late Grand Master of a regularly constituted Lodge in the City of Cork." London, Isaac Fell, 1769.

with an endless serpent on its lid, and the word ABPAΞΑΣ in front; the centre, a cube, with the three Masonic colours, and the word אגלא (AGLA), one of the cabalistic names of the Deity; and the other, a tumulus, with the sprig of Cassia. Above them, the following inscription, ΘΕΟΝ ΣΕΒΟΥ ΞΕΝΟΥΣ ΞΕΝΙΖΕ. I remember this floorecloth distinctly, for it underwent a very particular examination;* and Bro. Hesletine took a sketch of it, and delivered a lecture on its peculiarities when he returned to town.

“From Chester we proceeded to Barnard Castle, in the county of Durham, where we found Masonry shining with unsullied lustre under the active superintendence of Bro. Hutchinson, who worked the details after a perfect model. He delivered his own Lectures, Charges, and Orations, strictly adhering to the ancient landmarks of the Order; and his example was followed by the Masters of other Lodges, who visited the Barnard Castle Lodge for the advantage of his instructions. Many of these detached pieces appeared in print,† and were so much admired for the pure principles of Masonry which they enunciated, that the fraternity at length requested Bro. H. to make a selection from his Lectures, and publish them in a permanent form. He complied with the request, and produced a volume of such surpassing interest, that after going through many editions,‡ it still retains its value, and is read with avidity by all who are desirous of information on the sterling and unchangeable doctrines of the Order. §

* This floor-cloth is now in the Cestrian Lodge at Chester; of which my friend, Bro. Willoughby, of Birkenhead, has kindly favoured me with a sketch.

† See my edition of the Spirit of Masonry, which includes all the works of Bro. Hutchinson.

‡ “The Spirit of Masonry, in Moral and Elucidatory Lectures, by W. Hutchinson.” London, Wilkes and Goldsmith, 1775. Second Edition, Carlisle, Jollie, 1795; Third Edition, Carlisle, 1802; Fourth Edition, Edinburgh, MacEvan, 1813; Fifth Edition, Carlisle, 1814; Sixth Edition, London, 1815. Other Editions have been published, and the last contains all Bro. Hutchinson’s detached Pieces. London, Spencer, 1843.

§ In an Address prefixed to the Second Edition, he says, with his usual benevolence of character, “I have been induced to give this edition to the press for the purpose of relieving the family of a worthy but indigent Brother, by the whole profits of the subscription and sale; and doubt not that the motive to the present publication will procure it the attention of the Brethren of this excellent institution. . . . It is hoped that these Lectures may serve to detect the wretched artifices used by wicked men to impose upon the world; and may also excite in the fraternity the due exercise of those moral works which our profession enjoins.”

“ITS PRECEPTS ARE ETERNAL;”

OR,

THE PRACTICE OF A FREEMASON'S DAUGHTER.

BY THE AUTHOR OF

“STRAY LEAVES FROM A FREEMASON'S NOTE-BOOK.”

It was the close of a busy day. The ever-recurring appeal to the memory,—the continuous and wearing strain upon the judgment,—the rapid and exhausting effort inseparable from mental calculation, were each and alike suspended. The foreign letters had been signed and posted. Heavy payments had been made. Large remittances had been despatched. Orders to a considerable amount had been received. To all outward seeming, the house of Heathfield, Magens, and Craster was holding on a prosperous course—the same course which had enabled previous members of the firm to retire from the uncertainties of commerce with solid and substantial recompense.

And yet, in that dark, wainscotted room in Austin Friars, where sat the acting members of the firm—the master spirits who controlled that vast machinery—there was slight evidence of exultation or success. Anxiety which could not be disguised, disappointment which defied concealment, marked the features of the senior partner and his son, as they paused in their conversation, and steadfastly eyed each other.

The elder, after no slight mental struggle, seemed to recur to some unwelcome theme. There was a hesitation in his manner, and a faltering in his tones which indicated distress.

“It cannot be, Maurice; it cannot be. I must negative this indiscreet arrangement—negative it positively, peremptorily, finally.”

“Oh, father!” exclaimed the younger man, “could you but see Helen, beautiful, and intelligent, and estimable as she is——”

“But portionless,” interposed the other firmly—“portionless!” and he laid strong emphasis on the word.

“True!” said Maurice, sorrowfully. “I admit it; and

yet, sir, that is the very last objection I should have expected to have fallen from your lips."

"Why?"

"For countless reasons! How often have I heard you reprobate interested marriages! With what scorn have I heard you dwell on the servile homage paid by abject minds to mere wealth! How repeatedly have I heard you advert to the fact that gold has, again and again, been heaped by the Great Supreme upon the meanest and basest of his creatures, and draw from it as an unassailable inference the estimate which HE places on wealth! How often have I listened to your emphatic declaration that an intellectual and immortal being should be measured by mind, not means!"

"Admitted all!" was Mr. Heathfield's prompt rejoinder.

"And now, father," continued Maurice, with kindling eye and quivering lip, "that from you should come the unexpected and inconsistent objection that Helen Tyrawley's poverty is to bar our union, grieves me to the very soul!"

The party so addressed seemed stung by this appeal. He rose wildly from his seat, and advanced rapidly towards his son, as if with the intention of addressing him,—checked himself, moaned piteously, and then buried his face in his hands. But no common emotion stirred that usually resolute and self-possessed man. His features were hidden from observation; but his massive chest heaved irregularly and spasmodically; and his whole frame seemed under the influence of palsy.

At length, as if he had taken his resolution, he looked up abruptly, and speaking with a degree of calmness frightful to witness, because it was evidently forced, proceeded.

"Maurice! Suppose I were to say that I am not rich; that all about me is a mockery and a sham; that I have no right to any one of the many luxuries that surround me; that it is questionable whether the firm is solvent; that the slightest breath of suspicion may destroy it; and that it hangs together by the merest peradventure—how then? Should I be right in allowing you to marry a portionless girl under the idea that ultimately wealth must to a certainty be your lot; or Helen Tyrawley to unite her fate to yours under the impression that whatever trials might assail her wedded life, poverty would not be one of them? Let me have your answer."

"You are jesting, sir," said Maurice, faintly.

"Never more in earnest than now," was the rejoinder.

“But your speculations are carried out as boldly, firmly, and widely as ever?”

“Yes,” exclaimed the elder gentleman, with a laugh, in which there was nothing of merriment, but much of scorn—“yes! our credit is untainted. We stand high in the commercial world; are believed—ha! ha! ha!—are believed to have ample resources. Wondrous the power of manner! marvellous the gulls a man may gather round him who gives out that secret and substantial means are his, and spurns his fellow-worm accordingly!—ha! ha! ha!”

The agony endured by the younger man during his father’s recital was painfully apparent; but no syllable escaped him.

“You are silent, Maurice: if I construe your look aright, you discredit my statement?”

“Were you not my father,” gasped the young man, with tremulous articulation, and a countenance pallid as that of a corpse, “I could not—I would not believe it.”

“Hush! not another word!” cried the other, “we are observed—*no scene*—we are men of business, not actors, remember.”

The door opened; a mining-broker made his appearance; Heathfield talked of “The Great Devon Consols;” “Polgooth;” “Great Sheba;” “Herodsfoot;” the “adventurers who without a shilling of capital infested the mining market;” the “exposure such parties merited;” discussed the offer made to him; declined it; and bore throughout his part in the negotiation as bravely and decidedly as though there was not a single care on his mind, or a passing cloud on his prospects.

Ah! who shall limit his triumphs, — who shall say how potent he may become for good or evil who can chain down all the softer passions of his nature, and can subject every feeling, and every sympathy, and every emotion to the mastery of his own iron and inexorable will!

II.

THOSE were three wretched days,—the longest, the dreariest, the most trying that Maurice had ever known,—which intervened between his father’s partial disclosure of the perils of the firm, and his reluctant recurrence to the subject.

“Foolish boy!” he commenced abruptly,—“I see by your abstracted air and wearied eye, that you are feverishly awaiting further insight into matters which can but grieve you,—

which can but confirm my view of the inveterate folly of that engagement into which you have so rashly entered."

"Never!" was the son's instant response. "Never: I abide by it now and always."

"But, if its fulfilment be impracticable, how then? Now, listen. Years ago, before I had any voice in the transactions of the firm,—when it could meet all its engagements at any moment,—when its assets far outbalanced its liabilities,—Sir Simon Magens controlled its operations. Magens—one of those prodigiously far-sighted men who are never content with moderate profits, and the evil genius of all with whom they are connected—entered into a speculation with a German house, the results of which were to place our firm first on the roll of British merchants. On *paper* Sir Simon's scheme looked magnificent. His array of figures was most imposing. Credit *them*, and you would have no difficulty in coming to the conclusion that Rothschild's star was on the wane and ours in the ascendant. My father, cool, cautious, penetrating, distrusted the judgment of this specious knight, and contested, day by day, his conclusions. In vain. Sir Simon's figures triumphed. One advance of fifteen thousand pounds was followed by another, and another, and another, till, at length, two-thirds of the entire capital of the firm was in the custody of a German financier. Of this sum, not one shilling, either by way of principal or interest, has to this hour been repaid us. It is true we hold securities, of most questionable value in my judgment, and it is no less certain, that assurances have been given us that part of our money has gone to meet royal exigencies, and will be forthcoming on the faith of the royal word; but all this I doubt, and have done from the first. Meanwhile, our operations are crippled, we are existing upon credit,—are carrying on our business on the faith of assets which we no longer possess. The failure of any one of our correspondents, an unlooked-for stoppage or disaster in any quarter would prostrate us. The slightest blow would be sufficient. Let pressure come from any point, and the house of Heathfield, Magens, and Craster goes into the Gazette. Now, madman, marry if you will."

Maurice sighed deeply: then, with brightening features, exclaimed, "I will not give up Helen."

"You will not?"

"No: but with life."

"Your obstinacy is very edifying," said Mr. Heathfield, sarcastically: "would that your judgment was as apparent."

“Test it, father, test it,” said the young man, earnestly; “let me go to Vienna, and on the spot institute inquiries, and ascertain the value of the securities we hold. The experiment shall be made at my own risk and cost exclusively.”

“That proposal is worth considering,” said the elder gentleman, musingly.

“Define the terms I am to accept, and the terms I am to reject: entrust me with certain powers, and rely upon it I will not exceed them.”

“Your project shall be submitted to the combined opinion of the house,” was Mr. Heathfield’s deliberate conclusion; “but hark ye, Maurice, you are about to sojourn in a land where all secret societies are held in abomination,—that of the Freemasons among the rest; heed what you say and do, and do not be taken up as one of the *Carbonari*. Masons, forsooth! You know how I dread that brotherhood. I wish you would abandon it altogether.”

“I will the moment I am persuaded its aims are evil.”

“Aims!” exclaimed the father, testily, “it has no aims; it is a phantom, a mockery, a shadowless non-entity!”

“It is a reality,” cried the young man, warmly; “the day will come when you will acknowledge its beneficial tendency; meanwhile, credit me its aims are noble and its principles are eternal.”

“Oh!” cried the old gentleman, and, with an impatient gesture, strode away.

III.

Vienna is the Paris of Germany—the gay city of perpetual pleasure. Its inhabitants, apparently, view life as one continuous holiday. Eating, drinking, smoking, dancing, and music make up their round of enjoyments. The semi-barbarism of Asia they have passed. Of the over-refinement of Europe they have stopped short. And their city itself, how striking! with the houses of the nobility occupying, in some instances, half the length of a street; its noble Glacis; the gardens that intersperse it; the unrivalled Prater spreading far and wide, and as it were encircling it; the picturesque groups of foreigners seated at the doors of various coffee-houses and hotels; the throng in the streets variegated with the costumes of Turks, Albanians, Tyrolese, Wallachians, Armenians, and Italians; the fronts of the shops painted

with bright figures in fresco or oil as signs, by which they are to be known, indicative of the trade carried on within; the dash, the stir, the bustle that greet you in every direction; and last, though not least, the strains of delicious music heard of an evening in every quarter, warrant the Viennese proverb, "Ah, there is but one WIEN!"

Into this intoxicating capital Maurice plunged, — not to partake of its gaieties, or to gaze on its gems of art, but to ascertain, once for all, whether the firm he represented was solvent or beggared. His mission, to be successful, must be secretly carried out. Needless publicity and needless expense must be avoided. Shunning all hotels, he took up his abode at the house of an elderly German lady, Frau Pfeffer, who with her son resided in the suburbs. Frau Pfeffer was a character. She had lived four years in Paris, and could speak French. Part of her life had been passed in Bristol: she could speak English. Neither Spanish nor Portuguese puzzled her. But to what country she belonged by birth was matter of guess-work. For a being who wore caps and aprons her creed was marvellous. She had a great talent for silence, and held this opinion firmly — "Many words, much sin." Oh rare and wonderful Frau Pfeffer!

Maurice listened to her curt replies to his many and ardent questions—sometimes she would vouchsafe no answer at all—and then gave her up in despair.

But though Frau Pfeffer "knew nothing, heard nothing, understood nothing," and could, when she was closely questioned, assume an air of the most stolid indifference that would drive any inquisitive man mad, Maurice contrived to trace out Herr Grüt, Sir Simon Magens's crony, and to learn certain particulars respecting him.

Herr Grüt, advanced in years, was said to be a very close but warm and thriving man—likely enough, thought Maurice, with fifty-five thousand pounds of our money in his coffers, and paying not one shilling of interest. Herr Grüt was a banker, — was understood to be in the confidence of the Emperor Francis, and to dabble not unfrequently in money-matters in which that royal speculator and sharp calculator would deign to take—a profit.

Nevertheless, and notwithstanding all such high and dignified associations, chattering people did say that Herr Grüt might—be better.

Ascertaining the hour when the banker was accessible, Maurice, without divulging his purpose, obtained an inter-

view. To do the old gentleman justice, he exhibited no symptoms of rapturous joy when his visitor announced his name and object in repairing to Vienna. Herr Grüt's features that morning wore at no moment the aspect of a delighted listener.

"The securities," pursued Maurice, after having fairly opened his case, "are so much waste paper: that I have ascertained."

"The fault is not mine," observed the German capitalist; "political changes have brought with them unexpected commercial embarrassments."

"Of that I am sensible," continued the visitor; "but the securities being worthless, we must now look to repayment of our advances from you."

"From me! why—on what grounds?"

"Your name appears prominently in every stage of the negotiation; and we conceive your credit pledged to the reimbursement of the moneys we have remitted."

"No tribunal in Germany will bear out such a conclusion. Monstrous! Is it possible, worthy Mr. Heathfield, that a gentleman of your undoubted commercial experience should have travelled from London to Wien for the purpose of indulging in such an absurd menace!"

And the old gentleman got up, very successfully, a contemptuous chuckle.

"Bravo, sir! bravo!" rejoined Maurice, returning to the charge with unruffled mien; "it is well when merry mirth tempers the dry details of business; but in your merriment, remember that another name besides your own is mixed up in this business."

"Whose? I remember none. Come, out with it! Another surprise! Perhaps another joke in store for me?"

"That must depend," returned Maurice drily, "on the amount of reverence and loyalty with which in your bosom the mention of that name is associated. In Germany, in former times, the name of the Emperor Francis called forth only one feeling, that of affectionate respect."

Herr Grüt drew a long breath before he proceeded to reply.

"The emperor's name! — the emperor's! That cannot appear in this transaction?"

"Pardon me; it does again and again; and in one portion of the correspondence with emphatic meaning. Failing of redress from you, Herr Grüt, we shall appeal to his Majesty. We have no doubt of the issue."

The banker was visibly disturbed. Whatever was the nature of his monetary relations with his sovereign, the idea of an appeal to that high personage was evidently distasteful. The German paused for some moments evidently annoyed. At length, in his blindest tones, he resumed—

“These transactions are of a magnitude that cannot be lightly discussed, and names have been introduced that should not be idly mentioned; I wish for time to deliberate. The correspondence you refer to is, I presume, in your possession?”

“All of it.”

“And is now in Vienna?”

Maurice assented.

“I infer, moreover, that you have regarded your mission as of a strictly private character?”

Maurice bowed.

“And that no one is privy to it,—not even your own ambassador?”

“Your conclusion is correct,” returned the Englishman firmly. “I have letters of introduction to his lordship, but have not delivered them.”

A look of peculiar satisfaction, a gleam of innate cunning lighted up the withered, time-worn features of the scheming foreigner. In after-days Maurice often recalled this expression, and could accurately explain it.

“Give me,” cried Herr Grüt, in his most deferential tones—“give me—no unusual request—eight and forty hours for consideration: I ask no more. Those expired, you shall have my decision; the interval may possibly suggest terms of accommodation.”

Maurice sincerely hoped so, and withdrew.

On returning to his temporary home, Frau Pfeffer presented herself with a letter, which her inmate well recollected having carefully closed, and secured with a seal bearing a Masonic emblem. The letter was not opened. That extremity appeared to have been avoided. But nearly every particle of wax had by cautious fingers been picked off. Maurice eyed the letter in silence. He was somewhat astonished, and “very considerably ryled.”

The lady commenced, every feature the while perfectly impassive—

“It is usual for parties to seal a letter.”

“I have sealed it. I did so this morning, with one of three seals which I use at random; who has tampered with the impression?”

“Letters go best when sealed,” was the imperturbable German’s rejoinder.

“Madam, I thus guarded mine.”

“With us,” persisted the Frau, the features of her face firm as marble, “it is the practice to send letters closed.”

“I tell you I did so; but some meddler has picked off the wax.”

“It is the safest course to seal letters,” persisted the lady.

“I’ll end this colloquy at once,” murmured Maurice, “by resealing my letter.”

But, lo! the means were wanting: his seals had disappeared.

Now these missing seals bore each and all of them Masonic emblems; were tokens of personal regard from brethren in the Craft; and on them Maurice placed high value. No inquiry, no search threw light on their sudden disappearance;—sudden, because their wondering owner distinctly remembered having left them on his dressing-table, previous to sallying forth on his visit to Grüt.

The Frau Pfeffer looked on, immoveably stolid, and delivered her sentiments with her accustomed brevity.

Maurice’s suggestion that the seals might possibly have been stolen, she met by replying,—

“Oh, no! that cannot be. No one has access to your apartment but myself.”

“Then they are *lost*?”

“Nothing is lost in *this* house. *Nothing!* Everything is always forthcoming in God’s good time.”

“But my seals—”

“‘Many words, much sin,’” struck in the lady; “shorten discussion by using a seal of mine; *the wisest course*, as in forty minutes from this the post leaves Wien.”

Maurice mechanically adopted his hostess’s suggestion; sealed, and posted his letter. But the perplexities of his position haunted him. “All this,” said he, by way of soliloquy, as he wended his way homewards, “is vastly disagreeable, and inconceivably odd. My letters are tampered with; my seals are stolen. And if the idea were not absurdly extravagant, I should say that my movements are dogged. This is the third time this morning that I have found that villanously ugly fellow, with the scarred face, lingering in my wake. He is a government spy, I am thoroughly persuaded. What may all this mean?”

The following day passed off without any marked event; but at noon, on the next, when he presented himself at the banker's house of business, he was civilly told by Herr Grüt's head clerk, that his master was "extremely sorry to break his appointment with the English gentleman, but that he had been compelled to go into the country, and that his return was uncertain."

"Ho! ho!" thought the visitor, "this is tantamount to a declaration of hostilities, or, at all events, is a broad hint that compromise is at an end. What may be the *next* move?"

That he was not long in ascertaining. In the entrance-hall of her dwelling stood Frau Pfeffer: her features impassive and apathetic as usual. The tidings she announced were startling enough: but to do that worthy lady justice, she detailed them with the same frigid indifference as she would have said, "Your dinner is waiting," or, "Your coffee will be cold."

Addressing Maurice specially, she said slowly, deliberately, and distinctly, "The emissaries of government have visited your apartment. The strictest search has been made. Your papers are seized."

"Why?"

The Frau shook her head, but spoke not.

"On what grounds? For what object?"

Another shake of the head, accompanied by the same silence, and the same hard, passionless expression of countenance.

"What have I done? Of what am I accused?"

"I have no idea."

"You never have on *any* point," said Maurice, peevishly. His heart smote him as he spoke; and still more severely on gaining the door of his apartment, at which the Frau intercepted him, and accosting him in faultless English, and with an earnestness and vivacity of which he had believed her incapable, exclaimed,—

"See your ambassador without delay. Place yourself at once under his protection. You are a *suspected person*. Here,—wrap yourself in this disguise which I have provided. My son will conduct you to his Excellency's hotel. Stay not to parley, but away. Let the peasant's hat slouch more over your brow. So,—better. And now away. Delay not, or you are lost."

And the Frau Pfeffer, with a low whistle, summoned her son Fritz to her side ; and with many an earnest and anxious caution, addressed to him in German, bade him “ not lose sight or grasp of the English gentleman till he had seen him fairly *within* the English ambassador’s mansion.”

(To be continued.)

AN ADDRESS TO THE FREEMASONS.

BY ELIZA COOK.

A RICH man lived ’mid all that Life could know
 Of Peace and Plenty in our lot below ;
 His wealth was ready and his hand was kind,
 Where friends might sue or rigid Duty bind.
 He gave to kindred, and bestowed his aid
 Where Right could sanction the demand it made :
 But there he paused—his bosom never felt
 Compassion’s impulse kindle, rise, and melt.
 With stoic ease he turned from every cause
 That had no claim except through Mercy’s laws ;
 And coldly good, he measured out his span,
 An honest, moral, true, and prudent man.

The rich man died—and cleansed from earthly leaven,
 Upward he sprang on pinions stretch’d for Heaven.
 Onward he soared, and well-nigh reached the gate
 Where Angel sentries ever watch and wait ;
 But there he fluttered—just below the place
 Where Bliss and Glory pour their crowning grace ;
 Striving with hope to gain the eternal height,
 And weakly drooping as he sought the flight.
 “ ’Tis vain,” the Angel Keeper cried, “ ’tis vain ;
 Thou must return and dwell on earth again ;
 One feather more thy ample wings must wear,
 Ere they will bear thee through this ambient air ;
 Good as thou art, go back to human dust ;
 Man to be godlike must be *more than just.*”

The humbled Spirit took its downward way,
 And here resumed its working garb of clay ;
 For threescore years and ten it stemm’d Life’s tide,
 And breathed and thought—the trying and the tried,
 Still was he honest, still he loved the best
 The ones who claimed the kindness in his breast,
 Still was he trusted as the type of truth,
 The moral oracle of age and youth.
 His love began with mother, wife, child, friend ;
 But there he found Affection must not *end.*

His gentle sympathy now turned to heed
 The stranger's sorrow, and the stranger's need ;
 With right good will he ever sought to dry
 The tear that dimmed the lonely orphan's eye ;
 He gave his pity, and bestowed his gold,
 Where want abided with the poor and old ;
 He burst the bonds of duty's narrow thrall,
 His soul grew wider, and he felt for *all*.

The rich man died—again his spirit flew,
 On through the broad, Elysian fields of blue ;
 Higher—still higher—till he saw once more,
 The crystal arch he failed to reach before :
 And trembling there, he feared to task his might,
 To travel further in the realms of light.

“ Fear not,” the Angel Warder cried, “ I see
 The plume that now will waft thee on to me ;
 Thy wings have now the feather that alone
 Lifts the created to the Maker's throne.
 'Tis Mercy—bounteous Mercy—warm and wide,
 That brings the mortal to the Maker's side ;
 'Tis dove-eyed Mercy deifies the dust ;
 Man to be godlike must be *more than just*.
 Up to thy place.” The Spirit soon obeyed
 The Angel's word—a tone of music played
 In melting murmurs round the field of blue,
 As cherubs came to lead the Spirit through.
 The crystal portal opened at the strain,
 The Spirit passed—the Angel watched again,
 Still crying to the short-winged sons of dust,
 “ Man to be godlike must be *more than just*.”

Ye,—willing workers in a sacred band,
 Among the noblest in our noble land ;
 Ye, gladly build, in Charity's blest name,
 The Christian altars raised to England's fame ;
 Altars that serve to break the storms that rage
 In fearful gloom round poverty and age.
 Ye help the helpless with a cheerful zeal,
 Ye feel for want as man should ever feel ;
 Ye shed the essence of your God around,
 For God is seen where Charity is found.

Fear not to die, for freely do ye spare
 Some of the “ talents” trusted to your care ;
 Well may ye hope to gain the highest flight
 Toward the portal of celestial light,
 For if that portal Mercy's plume can win,
 Ye bear the pinions that shall let you in.

MASONIC SKETCHES,

BY BROTHER CHARLES MACKIE.

BROTHER JAMES BURNES, K.H., LL.D., F.R.S., the subject of this notice, is the son of a worthy gentleman, once Provost of Montrose. His great-grandfather was the eldest brother of William Burnes, the father of Scotia's immortal bard, *Robert Burns*; * and his grandfather was the relative to whom the poet appealed for pecuniary relief while on his death-bed; which was generously responded to by his kinsman.

Bro. Burnes was educated at the University of Edinburgh, and was a cotemporary of Dugald Stewart, Leslie, Playfair, and Gregory. He afterwards studied the medical profession at Guy's and St. Thomas' Hospitals, in London. In 1821, he, along with his brother, the late Sir Alexander, joined the East India Company's service at Bombay. The brilliant and early career of Bro. Burnes belongs not to the present Masonic sketch; suffice it to say, after having been successively surgeon to the artillery at Matoonga, the convalescent hospital at Severndroog, the Madras infantry, and the 24th regiment Bombay, he was posted to the 18th regiment, and chosen superintendent of the institution for the check of that awful pestilence—the cholera.

In 1824, he was appointed surgeon to the Residency in Cutch. As a volunteer, Bro. Burnes accompanied the field-force, which expelled the Scindians in 1825. And in 1827, the Ameers of Scinde, between whom and the British Government a very uncordial feeling had subsisted for years, unexpectedly solicited his services, sending an envoy to invite him to their capital, where he remained some months, and was only finally allowed to depart on a promise of his early return. In 1830, the same reputation on the north-western frontier, which had attracted the Ameers of Scinde to invite Bro. Burnes, led to the Cutch Regency, bringing his conduct and services specially before Government. During his residence

* From this it might appear that the poet was the first who altered his name from *Burnes* to *Burns*; but from ancient records I find the name is sometimes spelt without the "e."

there he wrote a history of Cutch ; but he figured chiefly as an accomplished politician, in which capacity he amply evinced the greatest zeal and ability for public service.

In October, 1833, Bro. Burnes was obliged to quit Cutch on a sick certificate, and in February following he embarked for Europe. His route was through Malta, Sicily, Naples, Florence, Venice, Geneva, and Paris. While at home he was created a Doctor of Laws, Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons ; and on being presented at Court by the Earl of Dalhousie, he received the Guelphic honour of knighthood from his Sovereign. In 1837, the Doctor returned to Bombay. And now to our more immediate task.

Bro. Burnes, who from the beginning was a good Mason, held the office of Provincial Grand Master of Western India, and is noticed in a variety of papers, and other documents, collected by his countryman, Bro. Laurie, of Edinburgh, from Bombay, the most remarkable of which is a Memoir, published in 1840, by Dr. Grant, who states, that the reception of the Provincial Grand Master of Bombay by his "Brethren of the mystic tie" in Calcutta, was worthy both of him and them ; a round of banquets having been given to mark how welcome was his arrival among the Fraternity of Bengal. His reception by the officers of the Grand Lodge was not only remarkable for its brilliancy, but as being the first occasion in India, on which a Grand Master of the Province had the opportunity and gratification of officially welcoming his Brother, a colleague of a sister Province, and between whom the greatest cordiality and friendship existed.

In 1843, Bro. Burnes had the honour to be called upon to lay the foundation-stone of the Jamsetjee Jeejeebhoy hospital at Bombay, in presence of its noble founder of the same name, and of his Excellency the Governor. He was designated on the plate as James Burnes, K. H., Provincial Grand Master of Western India.

His address to Sir Jamsetjee Jeejeebhoy is worthy of record ; but we have only room for the following extracts :—

"Many and memorable have been the occasions, on which the deeds of charitable and philanthropic men have been consecrated by the ancient rites and ceremonies of our Masonic Craft ; but never have those ceremonies been employed to aid a purpose more congenial to the feelings of the upright Mason, or the true-hearted lover of his species, than the present. The splendid structure, which you here propose to dedicate to the relief of your fellow-creatures, as well as the many other transcendant acts of benevolence that have characterized your career, are like our Masonic Institution itself, kindred

and goodly fruits of the most generous emotion that can swell the bosom of man towards man,—the desire to succour his brother in distress, and to give free scope to that ever-hallowed charity—

‘Which droppeth as the gentle rain from heaven,
And blesseth him that gives, and him that takes.’

“It is with cordial sympathy, therefore, as well as with sincere pride and gratification, that the Masonic fraternity of Bombay have responded to your summons, and borne their emblems to this spot to-day. And when the record of the proceedings shall be read within the houses of our Order, dispersed over the civilized world, our Brethren also of every tongue and nation will rejoice that we have been aiding you in this good work; and will participate with us in exultation, that by far the foremost man for deeds of true wisdom in this portion of the globe, has also been giving effect to the munificent designs of *love and charity*, and been the first of his tribe and country to solicit the countenance of our Brotherhood on any occasion.

“It has been usual to explain these ceremonies of ours, and in this, the first instance of their being practised at Bombay, it is essential, at least, that I should guard against their being misinterpreted. There is one portion of them, which will awaken a sympathy in the bosom of every reflecting individual even of this vast assemblage, composed though it be of men of all varieties of sects, customs, and habits of thought; since no condition of society exists in which—at the season of doubt and anxiety, but especially at the commencement of a *momentous undertaking*, the plan of which he may conceive, but the execution of which depends on a far mightier than he—man cannot but feel his absolute dependance on the Omnipotent Creator, and by a natural instinct turn to His throne as his stay and support.

“But the impulse, which prompts this appeal, acquires intensity, when the frail and transitory being contemplates the erection of an enduring and stupendous structure, which may rear its stately dome for centuries after he is mouldering in the dust; and hence, from the remotest ages, and in almost all countries, the *foundation-stone* of important edifices has been deposited with an impressive solemnity, indicative of the founder’s humble trust and fervent prayer, that the Almighty Architect of the universe may prosper his work, and ever shower down His bounty and blessings upon it. As visible types of these blessings, we pour forth, with a spirit of hope and thankfulness, the abundant fruits of the earth on the first corner-stone, in the corn of nourishment, the wine of refreshment, and the oil of joy. Such, then, is the simple origin of one portion of these ceremonies, which so far will be recognized as analogous to those performed by one of our most distinguished Parsee families, in laying the foundation keels of some of those superb vessels, which of late years have brought Great Britain and India into closer and dearer connection.”

* * * * *

“You have seen me apply certain implements of operative architecture to this stone, in accordance with the ancient and immemorial usage of our Order at the foundation of all great edifices. But you are too enlightened to suppose that the essence of Freemasonry lies in a mere formality like this, or that those about me and myself have linked ourselves together in an indissoluble tie only to practise

ceremonial or display. No! as the corn, the wine, and the oil were symbols of God's bounty and providence, calling forth reverence and gratitude to the Creator, so also even this stone and those implements are emblems conveying to the enlightened Mason pure and precious precepts of his duty to his neighbour. They are, in truth, tokens of a great and practical system of universal good-will and benevolence, which establishing moral worth as the standard, welcomes to its bosom the *good* of every colour, clime, or creed that acknowledges God,—which binds you, sir, whose name and deeds fill men's mouths as those of the 'Benevolent Parsee of Bombay,' and *longo intervallo*, myself the child of northern Europe, and all who are willing to work with us to 'mitigate the sum of human woe,' into one vast chain of fraternity and love,—which, while it enforces devout reverence to the Supreme Architect, and duty to our earthly rulers, peremptorily excludes all discussions on points of faith, state politics, or other questions likely to excite the angry passions of man against man; and which, in short, is founded on the glorious principle that

'God hath made man one mighty Brotherhood,
Himself the Master, and the world their Lodge.'

"Through the mercy of Providence, from the earliest period, the system I have described has been in operation, assuaging the horrors of strife, and encouraging the spread of civilization; and while your remote forefathers were bowing with adoration to the glorious orb of day, the visible source of light, heat, and productiveness, our ancient Brethren, if they were not identical with them, were also, by the symbols of the sun, moon, and the starry firmament, inculcating the mighty truths of God's power, omnipresence, and divinity, and of man's responsibility, hope, and final destiny; thereby evincing their sympathy and connection with those

'Who, morn and eve,
Hail their Creator's dwelling-place
Among the lights of heaven.'

"I have said that your life and character afford scope for illustrating our system; and I now turn to my Masonic Brethren, and present you to them as a Brother, who has practically attained the summit of the Masonic structure, which is CHARITY. Never forgetting that you commenced, and must end upon the level,—following the plumb-line of rectitude,—acting on the square with your fellow-men,—circumscribing your own wants within compass, but extending your benevolence to a circle which, if it depended upon you, would evidently embrace all mankind,—we need not wonder that you have attained the highest elevation of moral worth,—that the love of your family, the respect of your fellow-citizens, the applause of men, and rewards from your Sovereign, have flowed in upon you; and that, above all, you enjoy the serenity of mind arising from the inexpressible delight of having succoured the distressed,

'Which nothing gives or can destroy.'

And although, my friend, it has not fallen to us, who are after all but 'Nature's journeymen,' to initiate you into our mysteries, we cannot doubt, after the splendid deeds of love which you have achieved, that you are a wise Master-builder,—a living stone, square, polished, fashioned and proved by the hand of the Great Master

Himself,—that your patent is from the Grand Chancery above, and that you need neither sign nor token, warrant nor diploma, password nor grip, to ensure you a welcome to the heart of every honest Mason.

“May you, Sir Jamsetjee, like the foundation we have laid, long be stable and secure;—may you for years be spared as the cornerstone of Charity, the prop and support of the widow and the fatherless;—may your good deeds form a constant source of enjoyment to yourself while you remain amongst men; and when the time does come that overtakes us all, and the solemn *Tyler* Death must raise the curtain of a new existence, may it be to usher you in as an accepted and exalted companion to the Supreme Chapter on high, there to take your place under the all-seeing eye of *HIM* who seeth not as man seeth, but will undoubtedly pay the workman his wages according to his work.”

Sir Jamsetjee expressed himself gratified beyond measure at the honour conferred in the foundation of the hospital by the ceremonial performed.

Three cheers having been given in honour of the illustrious founder, the procession returned to their Lodge, when it was unanimously resolved that Bro. Burnes be requested to permit the publication of his speech, that it might be widely circulated for the benefit of the Craft.

On the hospital is the following inscription :—

THIS EDIFICE

WAS ERECTED AS A TESTIMONY OF DEVOTIONAL LOYALTY TO
 THE YOUNG QUEEN OF THE BRITISH ISLES,
 AND OF UNMINGLEED RESPECT FOR THE JUST AND PATERNAL
 BRITISH GOVERNMENT IN INDIA ;
 ALSO IN AFFECTIONATE AND PATRIOTIC SOLICITUDE FOR THE
 WELFARE OF THE POOR CLASSES OF ALL RACES
 AMONG HIS COUNTRYMEN,
 THE BRITISH SUBJECTS OF BOMBAY,
 BY
 SIR JAMSETJEE JEEJEEBHOY, KNIGHT,
 THE FIRST NATIVE OF INDIA HONOURED
 WITH BRITISH KNIGHTHOOD, WHO THUS HOPED TO PERFORM
 A PLEASING DUTY TOWARDS HIS GOVERNMENT,
 HIS COUNTRY, AND HIS PEOPLE,
 AND, IN SOLEMN REMEMBRANCE OF BLESSINGS BESTOWED,
 TO PRESENT THIS,
 HIS OFFERING OF RELIGIOUS GRATITUDE, TO
 ALMIGHTY GOD,
 THE FATHER OF HEAVEN,
 OF THE CHRISTIAN, THE HINDOO, THE MAHOMEDAN,
 AND THE PARSEE,
 WITH HUMBLE AND EARNEST PRAYER
 FOR HIS CONTINUED CARE AND BLESSING UPON
 HIS CHILDREN, HIS FAMILY, HIS TRIBE, AND HIS COUNTRY.

A NIGHT IN THE ÆGÆAN.*

EARLY in the summer of 182—, the port of Athens was visited by the beautiful yacht *Violante*. Its owner, an English gentleman of fortune, had been for some time cruising in the Mediterranean, and was then making preparations for his return to England. After bidding adieu to his numerous friends on shore, Mr. N— went on board, and with a fair breeze the little *Violante* stood out of the harbour. England was the word, and it fell not ungratefully on the ears of the crew.

When they had made some leagues, one of those beautiful nights, for which the Mediterranean is so celebrated, began to close upon the scene. The outline of the distant hills and little islands which stud the Ægæan, became less and less distinct, and the ripple of the waves against the vessel alone broke the solemn silence which prevailed. It was just the night to make one muse of home, and all its sweet associations. This, at least, seemed to be the chief occupation of the two young men, who were gazing over the bulwarks on the deep blue sea.

“ Well, N—,” at last exclaimed the younger of the two, “ I suppose, like myself, you are thinking of Old England, and the changes which two years may have made at home ? ”

“ You are not far wrong, Ernest,” replied his companion, “ and I fancy our little crew are just as anxious as we are to be again in Plymouth harbour ; old Morgan there has been pressing me to sail these last three weeks. He does not seem to wish to share the fate of his two messmates whom we buried, poor fellows, last month.”

“ By the way,” returned Ernest, “ who is that intelligent-looking sailor you sent on board yesterday ? ”

“ His name is Morris,” replied Mr. N— ; “ I met him in Athens, and recognised him as a Brother. He was in great distress, as the ship he came out in had been wrecked, and

* Founded on fact, and communicated to the writer by a relative of the chief person engaged.

only three of the crew were saved. His replies to my questions proved to me that he was a worthy Mason, and I accordingly did not hesitate to engage him. He will, I am sure, be a great assistance to Morgan and our five other men."

"I dare say you expected a little bantering from me on the subject," answered Ernest, "and I must say your Masonic notions appear rather quixotic. Here is a man, of whose character you know nothing, who may work himself into your confidence to rob and plunder you, and you offer him every opportunity, merely because he is one of the Craft, as you call it."

"On my own head be the risk," replied his friend; "I am bound to help my brethren in distress, and I always will endeavour to do so."

"Well, as you like," said Ernest; "it is, in truth, a fine thing for a poor fellow like that to be a Mason, if he can obtain such help from his rich brethren; but what good are you ever likely to get from the Order?"

"The pleasing consciousness of benefiting my fellow-creatures," was the reply; "but it is getting late, suppose we turn in."

Mr. N— was just going down, when an exclamation from his companion caused him to turn round. By the light of the moon, which was then shining most brilliantly, they observed a long dark vessel bearing down upon them. It was rigged like a lugger, and Mr. N— at once pronounced the terrible words, "a pirate."

Knowing well the speed which the Greek piratical vessels possessed, Mr. N— at once called up his little crew to make all sail. Resistance he well knew would be hopeless, for what could seven men, almost unarmed, do against probably four times the number of armed desperadoes? The little vessel was accordingly put under all the sail she could carry, and apparently gained slightly on the pirate. The breeze, however, was so faint, that neither vessel made much way, and about daybreak it dropped altogether.

Hope now began to dawn upon the crew of the *Violante*, but it was quickly dispelled by the appearance of two enormous sweeps, or long oars, which projected from the sides of the pirate. Urged on by them, the lugger was soon alongside, and a gruff voice hailed the yacht in French, and demanded her surrender.

"We must make the best terms we can, Ernest," said Mr. N—, in assuring tones, though his blanched cheek

showed how well he knew their peril ; “ these ruffians, though furious if resistance is offered, will often show mercy to those who surrender at discretion.”

Calling his crew around him, he awaited the pirate captain, who sprang on deck, followed by a body of determined-looking ruffians, armed to the teeth.

There was something, however, in the appearance of the leader, which distinguished him from his men, more than the mere exercise of power could confer ; something of the “ face that had not yet lost all its original brightness.”

“ At any rate it is worth trying,” muttered Mr. N—, as he stepped forward ; and looking earnestly at the pirate captain, made the sign of the Masonic Order.

IT WAS RETURNED.

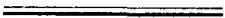
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“ I have now fulfilled one part of my obligation,” said the pirate to Mr. N—, as his men were unlashng the vessel, having first received a considerable sum of money, and a cask of wine, as a compensation for the loss of their prize, “ may I ask you to exercise another ? Think of me charitably, as of one driven by circumstances to this terrible course of life, which I loathe and detest, and I will take the first opportunity of quitting.”

“ And now, Ernest,” said Mr. N—, as under a fair breeze they were fast leaving the object of their fears, “ what good have I obtained from being a Freemason ?”

Ernest was initiated within a month after his return to England !

SIGILLUM.



THE SEKLER IN TRANSYLVANIA.

AMONGST the various races that have been rendered conspicuous by the recent war in the East of Europe, and whose history and present state have acquired an interest from their share in late occurrences, one of the most remarkable is that of the Seklers. Their antiquity as a race, their primitive and rude mode of life, and their peculiar national characteristics, invite us to give a brief sketch of this people.

The Seklers are said to be the remains of the Hunnish race,—a small nation, which has kept unmixed with any other, in the lonesome mountains of ancient Dacia. The discipline and regulation which, as far as we are acquainted with it, existed in the Hunnish army, is now carried over into the conduct of the state; free choice prevails in every department, whilst the kingdom of St. Stephen manifested efforts to concentrate the ruling power in one person, and to make it hereditary. After the extinction of the race of Attila, in the fifth century, the little state became a republic, and was separated into divisions of from three to four thousand men, called Szek (Seat), of whom there were formerly six, and there still are five. The head of each race, who takes the lead, both in peace and war, together with his inferior officers, is chosen by the people. Every citizen is a soldier. The men of each Seat assemble several times in the year, to investigate the administration of the civil officers, and to elect judges. When any question arises in which the whole body of the people take part, the old men alone consult and vote, whilst the young men stand around in a circle, with drawn swords, and listen to the proceedings.

When Stephen I. founded his kingdom, he permitted the continuance of the Seats; but, in order not to make any exception to the form of government he had adopted, he formed their country into a single *Gespanschaft*, or county. The highest officer in the Seat,—the royal judge, is now chosen by the prince from those candidates who are proposed

to him by the people. Each Seat is divided into circles, at the head of which are royal subordinate judges, whilst these are again subdivided, and placed under commissioners. The royal tax-gatherers collect the taxes, and notaries have the care and superintendence of the archives. According to the provisions of the laws, all these civil officers are to be elected with a perfectly free choice by the people; but the Government has by degrees assumed to itself the right to confirm or annul the popular election. The general assembly of the Seat,—“*Marcalis Sessio*,” is summoned every three months; receives from the civil officers a report of their administration, and nominates the jury, whose office lasts till the next assembly. One judge and twelve jurymen form a village court, or tribunal,—“*forum pagense*,” which adjudicates in matters of minor importance up to the amount of 24 florins. There is also a court or tribunal of the circle,—“*Sedes Partialis*,” formed of seven jurymen, under the royal subordinate judge; and likewise the Seat court,—“*Sedes Generalis*,” composed of twelve jurymen under the royal judge. From hence there is an appeal to the “*Royal Table*,”—the state counsellor, and in the last instance to the prince. These institutions have existed for thirteen centuries; the most perfect equality prevails in them,—freeman and nobleman, or *Freiherr*, are synonymous, as was formerly the case in Hungary. The Sekler noble is not allowed to have either title or armorial bearings; and families who have inherited any wealth or reputation from their forefathers are, in the eye of the law, perfectly equal. The nobles of the first class are designated *Primores*, and in the event of a war they are each called upon to equip several soldiers. Next in rank come the *Primipili*, who fight on horseback; and, lastly, the *Pixidarii*, or foot-soldiers. These names are explained by the military constitution of the race; all the Seklers are, in time of peace, obliged to guard the frontier; and in war, to furnish a certain contingent of troops. Every man arms himself as he best can, and thus all the arrangements are determined by property. As a recompense for this military service, the kings of Hungary granted to the Seklers various privileges, and, among the rest, exemption from taxation.

Such is strictly, and, in the eye of the law, the civil constitution of the Seklers; but, in fact, it has undergone material changes since the fall of the Hungarian monarchy. In 1562, the Seklers revolted, in consequence of an infringement of their privileges; and upon the suppression of the revolt,

many who had been implicated lost their freedom, and became the vassals of those magnates (*Primates*) who had remained faithful. In the seventeenth century, when Transylvania fell to Austria, the emperor refused to grant the privileges of nobility to the whole nation. The rights of the *Primates* were respected, but the second and third classes were subjected to taxation, which, in 1842, amounted to 124,324 florins, and likewise to furnish soldiers. Notwithstanding the inroads on their constitution, the Seklers are still always called *Nobiles*, and enjoy the privileges of the Hungarian nobles,—*Jagd* and *Hut-recht*,—freedom from socage to the state: they can only be tried in their own courts, and are not subjected to inquisition. In default of male heirs, the daughters inherit the property; and when there are no heirs, the neighbour comes into possession.

The Seklers have always preserved their martial spirit. During one of the invasions of their country by the Tartars, a bloody sword was carried from cottage to cottage, and the militia assembled under leaders chosen by themselves. In the revolution which broke out in 1562, forty thousand men were under arms — one-fourth of the entire population. In the war with the Turks in 1692, they voluntarily offered the contribution of 22,000 florins, and in the following year double that sum.

Besides their warlike propensity, the Seklers have a very litigious spirit; and we may remark that, in like manner, the ancient Romans had the most celebrated code of laws, and the present Normans are remarkable for their litigious character. So early as the fifteenth century, the Hungarians had their national code of laws, which has force and effect down to the present day; and the science of jurisprudence constitutes a part of general education, and is taught in the public schools. Thus it appears that the warlike propensity of nations has early created the want of a settled system of law, to supersede, as it were, the necessity of an appeal to arms.

The Seklers are tall, well-built, and strong; they have black moustachios, and their features are regular, with less of the oriental cast than those of the Hungarians. Their hair is either worn short, or plaited and hanging down upon one shoulder. They wear linen dresses, in the Hungarian fashion, and are neat and cleanly in their domestic arrangements. They have a strong feeling of nationality, and are with difficulty persuaded to learn a foreign language. In other parts of Transylvania, the Wallachs persist in not learning Magyar,

while the Saxons and Hungarians are obliged to converse in the Wallach language. There are at present a considerable number of Seklers who profess the Greek faith, — these are merely unnationalized Wallachs.

The Seklers are in constant communication with the Magyars, and number about 50,000, who reside in Moldavia, of whom 15,000 are Cumanians, and 35,000 Seklers. In the Middle Ages, Moldavia was called Cumania, from the circumstance that a Magyar tribe—the Cumans— took possession of this district, whilst the Magyars of Arpod settled on the banks of the Theiss. After the conquest of the country, the Cumanians were in continual warfare with the neighbouring princes, and even made incursions into Transylvania. After Robert, bishop of Gran, had converted them to Christianity, in the beginning of the thirteenth century, they were conquered by King Louis, and remained subject to Hungary until the battle of Mohatsch. Moldavia then fell under the power of the Turks. During all these years the Cumanians were outnumbered gradually by the old possessors of the country, with whom they had become mixed, and they would perhaps have disappeared entirely, had it not been for continual accessions of Seklers from Transylvania: these immigrations, indeed, have continued uninterrupted, partly from political, partly from economical causes; and many passed on into Bessarabia.

The Hungarians in Moldavia are for the most part artisans, and distinguished from the Moldavians by their activity, cleanliness, hospitality, and public spirit. They live and dress better, and generally marry Transylvanians. They have, at the same time, adopted many rites of the Greek Church from the Wallachs: for instance, they carry the bodies of the dead upon an open bier, and place bread, wine, and tapers upon the grave, which fall to the share of the priests. The number of Hungarians in Moldavia is decreasing, they have but few schools, and their priests are sent from Italy. The latter, who will not take the pains to learn the Hungarian language, are neither able to instruct or preach to the people—they can only read the mass. They are lazy and greedy, demanding double the fees due to them for marriages and baptisms, and will frequently desire dying persons to be brought to them from a great distance, on some miserable cart, to receive extreme unction. The Wallachian priests take advantage of this negligence: they visit the villages, which lie distant from the parish church, whither the Roman

priests rarely come, and endeavour (often with success) to persuade the peasants to change their religion; whilst the latter, together with the Greek faith, adopt the Wallachian language, and thus lose their nationality.

The principal town in the country of the Seklers, Marosch Vasarhely, contains 10,000 inhabitants, and has a genuine Magyar appearance, with large squares, wide streets strewn with sand, or badly paved, and low houses. Numbers of oxen and buffaloes are seen walking about the streets. A few palaces, built by the nobles before their emigration, call to mind the ancient splendour of the town. Vasarhely has neither the aristocratic character of Klausenburg, nor the civic appearance of the small Saxon towns. It lies partly on a hill, and has a citadel (no longer garrisoned), several churches, and a public library of 60,000 volumes, which Count Samuel Teleki, chancellor of Transylvania at the beginning of the present century, presented to the town, accompanied by a bequest, providing for its support, and for the payment of a librarian. The only condition attached to the gift was, that the library should always be open to the public.

Marosch Vasarhely has a large Calvinistic lyceum, to which the Government refuses to contribute any support; it is therefore wholly dependent on the contributions of the Sekler and Hungarian Calvinists. Amongst other studies, natural history and jurisprudence are taught there. This institution was originally founded in 1550 in Sarosch Patok, in Hungary, and flourished about 1611, under the patronage of George I. (Rakotzi); but on the death of his son, George II., it fell into decay, and at last the Jesuits succeeded in effecting its overthrow. The masters and students wandered about Transylvania, and after a time a large number of them settled in Fejerver (Carlsburg); there they remained about eight years, when they were a second time compelled to emigrate. They departed 350 in number, and went to Kaschau, where they resumed their studies. The insurrection under Rakotzi, however, once more turned them adrift, and in 1705 they fled to Sarosch Patok, from which place their predecessors had been banished thirty-four years before.

Marosch Vasarhely is the seat of the highest legal tribunal in Transylvania, called the "Royal Table," which is also a court of *première instance*. It consists of a president, three judges, chosen by the King from a list furnished by the Diet, of twelve assessors, and as many supernumeraries, whom

the King appoints upon the recommendation of the Government of Transylvania. The supernumerary assessors have only one vote in council; but in the absence of any of the actual judges, one of them takes his place. In the election of the members of this Court, the four creeds recognised by the State are always equally represented. An attorney-general and chancellor complete the "Royal Table," from which tribunal an appeal lies to the Transylvanian Government in Klausenburg, and thence to the King. Cases of high treason are brought before the Diet.

The chief town, or rather the only town, of the Haromsek, —a fertile plain which comprises the three southern seats of the Sekler country,—is Kesdi Vasarhely, situated upon the site of the Roman colony of "Prætoria Augusta." The name Vasar-hely signifies *market-town*. This place has only 4,000 inhabitants, and contains nothing remarkable, except the military school, which was established by Francis II.; it receives a hundred boys, the sons of soldiers, who are maintained and educated free of expense, and are afterwards drafted into the border regiments. The school is well disciplined and supported; the rooms are clean and airy, and there is a library for the children, of Hungarian and German works. History, geography, mathematics, drawing, &c. are taught in these two languages, together with fencing and military training.

The Seklers who dwell in the Haromsek cultivate the land with great industry, and are breeders of horses. They have also large herds, which, during the summer, graze in Transylvania, and at the approach of winter are driven across the Danube upon the Turkish soil. They have possessed this right of pasturage since the peace of Carlowitz. A similar practice was formerly in force among the Transylvanian nobles, at times when the country was exposed to the invasions of the Tartars. Their herdsmen left their retired valleys, and drove the herds into Wallachia, returning to Transylvania when the war was ended, and the roads were again safe, and rendering to their masters an account of their gains. Frequently they would be absent for years; but as soon as ever peace was restored, they presented themselves without fail at the castle, and not a single instance of dishonesty is on record.

The herdsmen in each valley formed a kind of small republic; the head of each family was at the same time priest and judge; for although belonging to the Reformed

Church, they had no stated clergymen. When they married their daughters, they would frequently repair to the castle of their lord, and there celebrate the wedding. Their diet consists chiefly of milk and cheese; they make their own garments of sheepskins, and they dwell in caves.

THE AGNOMEN OF "BROTHER JONATHAN" OF MASONIC ORIGIN.

GEORGE WASHINGTON, commander-in-chief of the American army in the revolution, was a Mason, as were all the other generals, with the solitary exception of Arnold, the traitor, who attempted to deliver West Point, a most important position, into the hands of the enemy. It was this treasonable act on the part of Arnold which caused the gallant André's death, and ultimately placed a monument over his remains in Westminster Abbey. On one occasion, when the American army had met with some serious reverses, General Washington called his *brother officers* together, to consult in what manner their effects could be best counteracted. Differing as they did in opinion, the commander-in-chief postponed any action on the subject, by remarking, "Let us consult Brother Jonathan," referring to Jonathan Trumbull, who was a well-known Mason, and particularly distinguished "for his sound judgment, strict morals, and having the tongue of good report."

George Washington was initiated a Mason in Fredericksburg, Virginia, Lodge No. 4, on the 4th of November, 1752, was passed a Fellow Craft on the 3rd of March, 1753, and raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason on the 4th day of August, 1753. The hundredth anniversary of this distinguished Mason's initiation is to be celebrated in America throughout the length and breadth of the land.

W. W.

La Valetta, Malta.

—*Notes and Queries*, Feb. 14, 1852; Vol. V. p. 149.

THE MASONS OF THE MIDDLE AGES.

CHAPTER I.

THE CATHEDRAL OF STRASBURG.*

THE attention and curiosity of the good people of Strasburg was attracted on the 18th of January, 1318, by a herald, attended by serjeants-at-arms, bearing silver maces, who traversed the narrow and dark streets of that city, about eight o'clock in the evening.

As may be supposed, a crowd rapidly collected around him, and the honest burghers leaned out of their casements on their elbows, or hastened to their door-steps. Questions rapidly passed, to which none received a satisfactory reply, while the curious and eager concourse followed the authorities, impatiently awaiting the explanation of the enigma.

Unmoved by the sarcasms which reached him, the herald moved on at the slow pace which suits the representative of authority, the serjeants restraining the most pressing among the people, and the trumpeters sounding a flourish at short intervals.

Suddenly, all came to a stand-still. They had reached the grand square of Strasburg. The pressure from the crowd, to which every street and lane had now contributed its contingent portion, having been repressed by the serjeants, and the trumpets having once more sounded, a solemn silence succeeded to the tumult which had prevailed the instant before.

The herald then slowly unfolded a parchment, to which the seals of the magistracy were appended; and after casting a dignified look on the bystanders, he commenced reading what proved to be a decree of the Council of Strasburg, in the following terms:—

“ In the name and by the will of the mighty and powerful Prince Rodolph, emperor of Germany, the Council of Strasburg, considering that, by the death of Erwin Steinbach,

* From the French.

Master of the Works, the post he so worthily filled is vacant, and that it concerns the dignity of our city without delay to appoint a successor capable of directing the works of our holy cathedral,—that, in addition, it is impossible to exercise too much care in the selection of a person, to whom to intrust the same: It is therefore made known to the masters, fellow-crafts, and apprentices of the association of *Freemasons*, that it (the council) has come to the following resolutions:—

“1st. That after this said 18th of January, a competition shall take place in our good city of Strasburg, in which all masters, fellow-crafts, and apprentices, are invited to take part.

“2nd. That all works of art which they intend to exhibit, shall be deposited at the Town Hall, within a month, for the inspection and examination of the council.

“3rd. That he whose work shall be adjudged the best shall be constituted Master of the Works, the continuation of which shall be confided to his direction. Farewell.”

Among the eager crowd who pressed around the herald, two individuals appeared to listen most attentively to the reading of the proclamation. One, of slender figure, with long black hair, cast an absent look around, and seemed rather to be absorbed in the sweet but sad emotions of his own soul, than in the various resolutions of the council. This young man, who might have been thought a mere child, but for a small black moustache which turned gracefully on his upper lip, was about 22 years old, and was habited in a brown velvet dress, which gave expression to a form, vigorous but slight; and indeed, his attitude bespoke a decision and energy by no means common. His features were regular; and, without being precisely handsome, his countenance possessed the charm of youth and great intelligence. This young man was a native of Silesia, named Bernhard Saunder.

The other person was tall, robust, and his capacious shoulders supported a well-formed head; but nature had set the seal of audacity and insolent haughtiness upon his countenance in a manner not to be mistaken; the man was called Polydore, and was born at Boulogne-sur-Mer.

Both these persons belonged to the craft of artisans attached to the works of the cathedral. Bernhard was yet but an *apprentice*, and had but recently been initiated in the lodge of *Freemasons* at Strasburg; but Polydore had long been a Craftsman, and was on the point of being raised to the degree of Master. It was curious to observe the different effects of the

proclamation upon the two men ; for while each had eagerly made himself acquainted with the steps about to be taken by the council, the communication caused Bernhard to turn deadly pale, while Polydore's countenance beamed with joy and pride, and haughty and impious words escaped from his disdainful lips.

The reason of this was, that Bernhard, still little skilled in the science of architecture, could not conceal from himself his want of power ; whilst Polydore, who was the best workman of the body, knew well that none would dare to dispute the prize with him ; and he accordingly tasted by anticipation the joy of becoming *Master of the Works*.

The crowd now dispersed, and noise and tumult straightway ceased. But few remained, save Polydore, surrounded by a small group of craftsmen and apprentices, and Bernhard, alone, pale, and still absorbed by the painful feelings caused by the reading of the resolutions. For a moment the eyes of Bernhard and Polydore met, and a glance of hatred flashed forth from the encounter.

“ Oh ! ” murmured the younger, “ if he triumph, woe to him ! — woe to me ! ”

Thus saying, he withdrew in despair, not daring to cast a second glance in the same direction, where the craftsmen were standing, and who were staring at him ; while Polydore, shrugging his shoulders, and observing his retreating steps, thus addressed himself to his companions :

“ I know not, my masters, if success may be reserved for me ; but assuredly, if not, I shall lose the pleasure of chastising that young puppy, whose looks by no means please me. ”

This derisive speech aroused shouts of laughter from his companions, and, with Polydore at their head, they directed their steps towards a neighbouring tavern, singing a chorus then in vogue amongst the Masons.

In the mean time Bernhard had gone towards the cathedral ; his eyes bent upon the ground, and his heart full of sad misgivings, for Polydore and old Erwin Steinbach, and even the cathedral of Strasburg, were not everything to him ; his whole soul was concentrated upon Sabina. But we must explain : Erwin de Steinbach had left two children behind him ; each, doubtless, worthy of the interest of the city, but unequal, — at least so it was thought, — to continue the work so gloriously begun by their father.

The elder had taken an active part in the works of the cathedral, and was already a distinguished Freemason. As-

sisted by the directions of his father, the intelligence, with which he was endowed by nature, was rapidly developed, and induced the hope that he would one day become an excellent artist. But his father being no more, John, possessing nothing but the elements of an imperfect education, discovered that he was altogether isolated, and lost amidst the immense works of the cathedral. Sabina was likewise an artist, and handled the sculptor's mallet and chisel with remarkable skill; but she had neither the genius to create, nor the power to execute. She was pale and fair, and she was discovered, in her sixteenth year, working under the direction of her father, absorbed in her love for him, and in no way moved by the cares of the world.

Bernhard Saunder had loved Sabina ever since he first beheld her; her modesty and beauty had enslaved the young apprentice with an all-absorbing passion. Such was the intensity of his love, that it stimulated him to accomplish all that he undertook. He had not taken the distance into account, which separated one who was but an apprentice, from Sabina, the daughter of a Master Mason; he had rather encouraged himself with the idea that the apprentice might one day become a Craftsman, and the Craftsman, in due time, a Master; and that when once he was raised to the sublime degree of a *Master* Mason, he might have some pretensions to the hand of Sabina. On that account he considered nothing impossible, which fostered the hope of his becoming one day the husband of Erwin's child. So long as doubts disturbed the heart of the young man, he quieted himself by saying, that, after all, love not only commands everything, but even in spite of the length of the road that still separated him from the rank of Master, he would content himself with the possession of the heart of Sabina, whilst he waited for her to grant him her hand. It was thus that he silenced his fears, and deceived his better judgment.

"But did Sabina love him? had she even noticed him?" These were questions which, in spite of all his hopes, Bernhard had never been able to answer to his own satisfaction. When mounting the frail scaffolding which alone separated him from destruction, and working with an indefatigable zeal upon the most common details of the building, he fancied that he had more than once detected kind glances from the young girl. These glances affected him with inexpressible joy, and often threw him into the most delightful reveries. But, again would he ask himself, were they addressed to him?

was her regard peculiarly expressed towards himself, in this manner? Sabina maintained the same attitude, the same dreamy looks, whilst she viewed with evident admiration the elegant statues, the wonderful arches, and the exquisite sculptures which decorated the western porch of the building. Sabina was also an artist, and might she not more frequently be regarding the sculptures than the sculptor?

Thus Bernhard wavered between a thousand contrary hopes and fears; although he always preserved a strong confidence that no doubts could disturb, loving always with a firm and holy affection that nothing could extinguish; yet one thing had singularly troubled the poor apprentice in his love for Sabina. On a certain day, a young man came between Sabina and himself, and this apparition had thrown a shadow over his happiness. Polydore was a clever sculptor, and skilled in a different branch of his profession to that of the Silesian; and Polydore published, from the commencement of his engagement upon the works, his positive pretensions to the hand of Sabina. Sabina had not encouraged the Boulognaise, but she had not repulsed him. The love of Polydore had not awakened any sympathy in the heart of the young girl; but Bernhard feared, and with some reason, that old Erwin might be beguiled by the talent of the artist, and compel his daughter to contract a marriage, which might reflect greater glory upon his name.

In passing the cathedral, Bernhard perceived that the chamber of Sabina was lighted. His heart beat, and a tear trembled for an instant upon his eyelid. Whilst he dreamed of love, and hoped for the future, the daughter of old Erwin wept beside the grave of her father. In her mind, at this moment, neither Bernhard nor Polydore any longer existed; the grand and magnificent work of the cathedral had disappeared; her father had just died, and she thought on him and wept.

“Poor Sabina,” murmured he, stopping short; “what destiny will be thine? To whom will the council give the office of her father? What will become of her, should Polydore obtain it?”

Bernhard shuddered at the thought, and tore himself away from a spot, which inspired him with such gloomy reflections.

The north wind blew sharp and keen at each corner of the street; he therefore gathered the loose folds of his cloak tightly round him, pulled his hat over his eyes, and quickened his steps, taking the direction of the Jews' quarter.

The night was dark, the moon, hidden by dense and heavy grey clouds, threw only here and there an uncertain light. Bernhard had the greatest difficulty in going eastward. Owing, however, to his indecision, several hours had elapsed before he quitted the place ; the streets became gradually deserted, and he only met now and then a few persons who were hastening homeward.

Just as he had reached the Jews' quarter, he heard heavy steps upon the pavement behind him. He turned quickly round, and saw at a short distance the shadow of a man reflected on the wall. Bernhard was no coward ; nevertheless, a strange terror oppressed him. The shadow stopped at the same moment he had halted, and in an instant he beheld two glaring eyes in the distance lighted up and fixed upon him. A death-like horror seized him, but he continued his course with an activity almost superhuman, resolutely threading the crooked streets and alleys of the Jews' quarter.

In a few minutes he stopped in front of a dilapidated house ; he knocked, and the door opened almost instantly.

Before entering, Bernhard turned round, and threw a hasty glance into the street. The two eyes had followed him, and shone at some distance with the same fire and the same threatening brilliancy.

CHAPTER II.

THE JEWS' QUARTER.

THE part of the town, into which Bernhard had entered, was dirty, offensive, and of the most repulsive appearance ; it was called in the middle ages,—the Jews' District.

These outcasts had arrived in the country "poor and penniless," hiding their humility with grief under the tatters of their clothing. They lived alone and tranquil in the midst of a population of enemies, occupying themselves in traffic in spite of the universal hatred, of which they were the objects. They were compelled to live in a separate part of the town, called the Jews' district, to be at home before nightfall, and, in certain countries, in order that no one might come in contact with them unawares, they were made to wear upon their backs a round patch of yellow cloth. They were, in fact, the subjects of a continual humiliation, but they bore it without complaining, and worked without relaxation, extending each

day their commerce, doubling their connection, and establishing their influence. By degrees their fortunes increased. At first they trafficked in merchandise, but soon they dealt in money. The Jews became the bankers of the middle ages. When once their wealth was known, and they imagined they could reckon on the future, their jealousy and avarice combined to destroy their work; they were driven from place to place, and their wealth was confiscated. The banishment of the Jews became at one period quite a resource—it was a simple means of coining money. There have been kings, who drove them out of their territories, and then recalled them no less than six times. In Spain, the civil power was not contented with banishing them—it positively massacred them Such conduct was assuredly most inhuman, but, after all, it was the least dangerous, since the Jews perceived, the moment the alternative was given them of being converted or burnt, that it were wiser to prefer conversion. It is reckoned that in the twelfth century more than a million of Jews renounced the law of Moses to embrace the faith of Jesus Christ. For the most part their conversion was only feigned, as almost all returned to Judaism at the first opportunity. After having been *baptized*, they were *unbaptized*, and there the matter ended.

Bernhard was received by an old woman, who, without asking him what he wanted, conducted him across a long, straight corridor into a vast and spacious room, which was lighted by a single lamp. A smouldering fire burnt in the chimney; the floor was composed of black earth, which damp had rendered soft and slippery. From one end to the other of the apartment a chilliness prevailed, which pierced and froze the very bones.

The old woman begged Bernhard to wait a few minutes, and disappeared, leaving him a prey to an indescribable terror, which had been inspired by the recollection of the capricious phantom which had dogged his steps to the Jews' quarter, the recollection of which was by no means dispelled by the aspect of the large and desolate chamber. He feebly drew a chair near to the fireplace, and sat down. As his courage at length returned, he began to look about him, and to endeavour to distinguish the various objects through the gloom, by which he was surrounded.

The lamp was placed upon a miserable worm-eaten table in the middle of the room; on the right and left stood several large carved cabinets, such as were made at that epoch, when the richness and finish of such work were only ex-

ceeded by the beauty of their design. Enormous vases of terra cotta ; various articles of Bohemian glass ; elegant antiquities, of divers forms, were scattered here and there upon the ground ; shelves of white wood were ranged round the room about the height of a man, and upon these shelves a thousand birds and insects, in spite of their being dead and stuffed, nevertheless seemed — thanks to the flickering light of the lamp—to be executing a fantastic dance in honour of their new host. It was the first time Bernhard had witnessed such a scene, and all the superstitious ideas, with which his infancy had been tutored, recurred to his already excited imagination. He had often been told that the Jews held unlawful intercourse with the inhabitants of the lower world, and at this moment nothing appeared to him impossible. Besides, to him a thousand strange noises seemed to proceed from the corridor, for which he vainly sought a reason ; neither could he persuade himself but that some one was hidden there, who was watching his movements, and even his looks. Bernhard, for the second time, felt a shudder pass through his frame, and he was on the point of flying from this abode of evil, when a side door opening, a girl presented herself, whose beauty was of the most dazzling description. Her tall and elegant figure was attired in a robe of velvet, and her movements were graceful and majestic. Hers was the beauty of the Jewess most charmingly developed. Her large black eyes were soft, yet animated ; her cheeks were tinged with the colour of the rose, whilst a smile played on her lips, of benevolence or coquetry, as it suited the humour of the owner. She wore a rich turban ornamented with large pearls, which completed the charm of her appearance.

Bernhard was quite dazzled by this unexpected apparition, and, having risen, bowed gracefully, as he would have done to a queen.

The young girl smiled, and invited the apprentice to be seated, herself taking a high-backed chair, that stood near to the fireplace. The old woman, who accompanied her, threw some large logs upon the fire, and placing more lights in the apartment, retired by the door leading to the corridor.

The young girl looked after her, and when she had disappeared glanced at Bernhard, who was lost in a thousand conjectures. Accustomed to the soft beauty and repose of Sabina, he could not but feel a strange curiosity regarding the somewhat eccentric movements of the handsome Jewess. He was also embarrassed by the manner with which she regarded him,

and he felt a kind of mysterious sensation again creeping over him, which had been partly dispelled by her sudden appearance. Nevertheless, he could not remain silent in company with so charming a companion ; so, raising his eyes, he said, with a voice slightly trembling,—

“ You desire to speak with me. Unknown as I am, and living retired from the world, is it not possible that you have made a mistake ? I hasten to correct it.”

“ It is no mistake,” interrupted the Jewess.

“ Is it to me, then, that you would speak ?”

“ Yes ! to you.”

“ To me, Saunder ?”

“ To you, Bernhard Saunder, the Silesian.”

The voice of the young woman was firm ; no blush mounted to her forehead, as she looked steadily at him.

“ I have desired for a long time to see you,” she replied, after a short silence ; “ and it has become imperative that we should meet.”

“ But why ?” interrupted Bernhard, looking quite bewildered.

“ A powerful motive,” answered the Jewess ; “ because, upon our meeting to-day depends your good fortune and my happiness.”

Bernhard looked at the young woman with astonishment.

“ I cannot understand you,” said he, vainly seeking a meaning to the words he had just heard.

“ You do not know me,” continued his questioner ; “ but I have known you for some time. I have seen you often ; I have met you in the streets, at the market, at the cathedral, —even in the church, whither I have followed you.”

“ But from what interest ——”

“ No matter ; you passed on indifferent to my presence, and did not know that behind you, by your side, by day and night, at all hours, there was a person—a woman—who watched all your movements, listened to all your words, and commented on all your actions.”

“ But why ?” asked Bernhard.

“ I have seen, and I have understood ; I know that in your heart you have other hopes than your profession I understand what you would hide from all eyes, and this secret—I have guessed it.”

“ What would you say ?”

“ You love !”

“ I !”

“ You love, I repeat !”

“ But who, then ?—her name”

“ Ah ! she is beautiful,—she is good She is courageous ; and perhaps she also loves.”

“ It is false !”

“ And why should she not love ?”

“ Polydore ?”

“ And when that happens”

“ Oh ! I will kill him !”

At this exclamation, a sudden change spread itself over the countenances of both speakers. The Jewess grew pale, and her eyes flashed, whilst Bernhard suddenly stopped, as if afraid of having permitted his secret to escape him, and he hastily passed his trembling hand across his forehead.

“ Then you love her ?” continued the young girl, — “ you love her ! and the bare idea of losing her deprives you of reason ?”

“ Pardon me,” interrupted Bernhard, who had regained his composure ; “ I came here to ask what motive made you wish for my presence to-night. I beg to observe, that I am still ignorant of your purpose, and I await your communication.”

The Jewess bit her lips, and impatiently beat the floor with her tiny foot.

“ You are right,” she replied ; “ I have an important communication to make to you.”

“ To whom does it relate ?” asked Bernhard.

“ It relates to Sabina.”

“ To Sabina ?”

“ The decision of the Council of Strasburg opens a competition which commences from to-day ; this competition will be fatal to Sabina and her brother.”

“ Who informed you of this ?”

“ My art.”

“ It is unholy.”

“ It is infallible.”

“ And when that happens, what means shall I have to save Sabina, if Providence has already condemned her ?”

“ There is yet one.”

“ Who will give it to me ?”

“ I can.”

Bernhard was superstitious, as we have already said ; there was so much assurance in the manner of the young Jewess ; such firmness in her voice, so much authority in her gestures and her looks, that the Silesian was for an instant unsettled in his convictions.

“And to what compact shall I have to subscribe to know *this* means?” asked he, in stammering accents.

“None,” replied the young woman.

“But on what condition?”

“One only.”

“What will that be?”

“Promise never again to see the daughter of Erwin Steinbach.”

Bernhard started at this answer, and instantly rose from his chair.

“I ought to have suspected this,” said he, in a lofty tone, all traces of emotion having disappeared; “Sabina is now alone, without a guide, without a protector; you desire to make her more desolate, to take from her the only friend that remains to her in her misfortunes. But those who have cherished this hope are mistaken; to the latest hour I will remain faithful to her; to the last moment I shall be ready to devote to her all I have, my time, my life, my very blood, drop by drop.”

“Then you refuse?” demanded the young woman, though tears were in her eyes.

“I refuse,” answered the sculptor.

“And you do not fear?”

“I fear nothing.”

“I can be avenged.”

“God is with us; we shall conquer,” said Bernhard, in a solemn tone.

A shout of derisive and mocking laughter followed these words.

The door opened, and Polydore entered the apartment.

(To be continued.)

WAIFS AND STRAYS.

'Tis a good age when men will heed
The sanctities of Nature's creed,
And own her truth in thought and deed.

We build our faith with patient art,
We trust and live with valiant heart,
And give our praise in church and mart.

Time passes, and our hope is good,
Age cometh, be it understood,
We pine not for youth's sunny mood.

Time passes, with his rusty scythe,
It is not wise for us to writhe,—
Oh, rather let our songs be blithe,

That all our music may accord
In harmony, both lute and word,
And hymn Thy love, O gracious Lord.

Youth passes,—who would stay his flight?—
His wings are ever all too light ;
He mocks, yet bears Time's oversight.

Amid his smiles lurk woes and cares,
Grief stealeth in, and unawares,
His wheat is ever sown with tares.

Youth passes,—let him pass, if so
He finds a large account of woe
In the world-flowers that round him grow.

Age cometh,—he is ever cold,
And weariness the limbs enfold ;
Yet all his faith is firm and bold.

Age cometh,—and our joys are slack ;
We creep upon Life's narrow track,
Foreseeing Death, and looking back.

Recount the roses, one by one,
Whose beauty by our pathway shone,
But sigh not for their fragrance gone.

Death passes,—and we rest in peace,
All discontent soon finds release,
The murmurs of the spirit cease.

So take the staff, true heart, and be
Erect in Death's staid company ;
He will not bend to you or me.

Nay, look him proudly in the face,
As one would greet with gentle grace,
The last descendant of a race.

He wanders from an unknown shore,
Where earth-born troubles harm no more ;
Why offer him our mandragore ?

With cypress' wreaths and sad farewells,
Funereal urns and solemn knells,
As if Grief lived in stones and bells.

Aye, heed the warning, list the chime,
That minds us of a state sublime,
And wait God's own appointed time.

Blot out all tears, thou Sovereign Light,
Quench sorrow, and the gloomy night,
And lead our thoughts to Thee aright.

W. BRAILSFORD.

A FOREST INVITATION.

Up in the forest glades am I,
Seeking light in the cowslip's eye,
Looking for love where love is met,
In the lids of the fragrant violet,
Blooming beneath the hawthorn tree,
Simple as all true love should be.

Here, through the leafy ways I pass,
Over the flowers and dew-filled grass ;
Music, where'er I chance to go,
In trees above, and rills below,
Over the pebbles, one by one,
The babbling brook moves gently on,
And glides a silvery stream away,
To greet the face of blushing day.

High in the oak the merlin sings,
And fondly plumes his glossy wings.
Softly I tread, for mosses grow
In cheerful verdure, still as snow.
The springs, the leaves, the gentle flowers,
Awake kind thoughts, when fleeting hours
Bring evening's shades and dusky night,
And stars in gleaming radiance bright.

Here in these sylvan wilds am I,
Keeping very good company :
Bees their busy quest pursuing,
Butterflies, who sport in wooing,
And birds who fill the air with song,
Greet me with gladness all day long.
Ever I live, content indeed,
Having no worldly want or need ;
Far from haunts of human folly,
Here exists no melancholy,
Love in these shades holds court and sway,
And decks his pomp in green array ;
Won from the ivy-clustered stem
Of trees, who form his diadem.
Hither I roam, by tangled brake,
By fairy rings, and wood-girt lake,
Up with the lark, to bed with the bee,
Where is the life more joyous and free ?

Ah ! my friend, what avail your looks,
Busts of Platos and dusty books ;
Gold and silver, and all things rare,
Won by toil in that murky air ;
Volumes and volumes, truths and lies,
Mixed like common hypocrisies,
Drest in learning's eloquent guise ?
Pining away in solemn state,
Is't for ever to be your fate ?
Prythee forswear such dolorous dread,
Learn new hope from my country creed.
Here in this dell, where roses meet,
Round the belt of a time-worn seat,
Made in the cleft of an old elm-tree,
Haunted by many a roving bee ;
Here you shall taste fresh joys, and feel
The bliss that leafy charms reveal ;
Forget the din, the frets, and strife,
That circle round your city life ;
Tumult and clamour have no part
In this favourite forest's heart ;
Peace is found where she is woo'd,
In Nature's gentle solitude.
Nay, good my friend, do close that tome,
Come to me in my forest home.

W. BRAILSFORD.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[THE EDITOR *does not hold himself responsible for any opinions entertained by Correspondents.*]

TO THE EDITOR OF THE FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE AND REVIEW.

MASONRY IN SCOTLAND.

"A Lodge consisting of a dozen scientific members would be more respectable, more useful, and more popular, than if it were filled with an uncounted number of sots, or even with dull prosaic Brothers, who are indifferent to the poetry and philosophy of the Order."

"One great cause of the overwhelming influence of transatlantic Masonry, is the extensive encouragement given by its Grand Lodges to publications on Masonic Lodges. Their language is unanimous on this point."—DR. OLIVER.

Edinburgh, Feb. 1852.

SIR AND BROTHER,

In my last "Quarterly Communication," I promised to explain the ceremony of Installation into the Chair of a Lodge, as practised in Scotland. There may be said to be three methods, which we will class under the following titles: First, the legitimate; second, the illegitimate; and third, the "*just what you please.*" The first system is slightly hinted at in the Laws and Constitutions, Rule XII., Chap. xxi., where it is stated, that "the Installation of the whole of the office-bearers of a Lodge, including the Master, shall be held in a just and perfect Lodge, opened in the Apprentice Degree; whereat, at least, three Masters, two fellow Crafts, and two Apprentices, must be present; or, failing Craftsmen and Apprentices, the same number of Masters, who, for the time being, shall be held of the inferior Degrees." Such is the law directing the Brethren to install. The ceremony is as follows: a charge from Ashe or Preston is given to the W. M. elect, and the oath of fidelity is administered; he is decorated with the insignia of office, and takes the Chair; if he has "common politeness," he will then return thanks, and the ceremony is thus completed. Such is the legitimate drama, as required by the law. The second method, or illegitimate system, is not conferred on the W. M. elect in the Lodge, or rather in the presence of the Brethren, unless all present are Past Masters. It is usually given by the Past Masters who are present, who retire with the W. M. elect into another room, and there install him; and if time should not allow of this arrangement, the W. M. elect does not take the Chair that evening; but, by the next meeting, we are sure to find

that he is fully qualified to sit therein, *as in the interval he has been duly installed by a Lodge of Chair-Masters!* As to the third system, the W. M. elect takes the Chair, *and that is all.* Every Brother, who has been elected W. M. of a Lodge, and has served his twelve months of office, has been placed in the Chair in either of these three methods, and can append to his signature the expressive symbols, P. M.

The true value of this distinction will best be shown by an examination of the ceremonies; the first and third systems explain themselves; they do "little ill and little good" to the W. M. elect; if they confer no honour upon him, they certainly do not add much to his Masonic knowledge; they are, however, not very much in use amongst the Lodges, the second system being acted upon by the greater number of them. And this deserves more especial mention, from the circumstance, that careless, slovenly, indifferent, and ignorant as Scotch Masons are, in many respects, they maintain this point, and act upon it, as a great principle, not allowing a Master to preside over them, unless he has been duly installed; whilst some of the Lodges, by their rules, insist that the W. M. must be a Royal Arch Mason. It is curious, that in the midst of so much indifference and want of precision on many and important points, on this so much strictness obtains.

The name given to this ceremony is varied apparently according to circumstances. It is called "Past Master;" "Chair Master;" "Passing the Chair in due form;" "Installed Master;" "Chairing Installation;" but, whatever be its name, the ceremony is one and the same; it is, in fact, the same as the Installation of a W. M. into the chair of an English Lodge, with a slight difference which is quite immaterial, and of little consequence to be remarked upon; as it is rather with the working of the Lodges that we have in the mean time to do. It might naturally be supposed, that the Lodges, which are so particular in maintaining this principle, would be equally so in choosing their "Pillar of Wisdom," inasmuch as it is on this *support* that the stability of the Lodge mainly rests; but while we must honestly and sincerely accord all due credit for the maintenance of *this principle*, we fear that we cannot express our praise or admiration in the same terms for their selection of *that Pillar*, upon which the prosperity of their Lodges depend.

Dr. Oliver has given a beautiful sketch of what character "the Pillar of Wisdom" should be, and an idea of what it very frequently is. The latter description, I regret to say, but too frequently applies to "the Pillars of Wisdom" in this quarter. If the Brethren were at all careful to select their candidates for this office,—those alone who are best qualified to carry on the Masonic work,—there would be far less reason to complain of the working, and there would be a prospect of speedy improvement. With Dr. Oliver's "Hail-fellow-well-met" W. Master, it is not to be expected; the pleasures of "refreshment" are of more importance to him than the working of the Lodge; he is a most persevering and industrious canvasser for candidates for Masonry; none can escape his importunities; the "means," by which they are initiated, I have already shown, whilst the pleasure and amusement of refreshment is *the end*. In such Lodges there is very little hope of improvement. If we take the case of a "Pillar of Wisdom," who is anxious to carry on the work as it ought to be performed,

or, at all events, better than it has been previously promoted, what is the result? In the first place, *he does not know how it should be carried on*; and, in the second place, he does not obtain a sufficient number to form a Lodge, the attendance being invariably deficient, unless there is a *making*, — on which occasions we must give the Brethren credit for turning out. If, however, meetings are called for instruction, and for the improvement of the office-bearers in their respective duties, or the members in what pertains thereto, we are bound to say, the attendance is far from creditable either to members or office-bearers; there is apparently no anxiety to foster or encourage the promulgation of the true principles of the Order, notwithstanding the many professions, which Brethren, in moments of excitement (at “refreshment time,” for example), make; and very often it happens, that the Lodges are swayed and governed, not by the *three principal office-bearers*, but by one or two old hands, who occupy the position of “the immovable jewel,” mentioned in my last, and manage the affairs of the Lodge under the titles of Secretary, or Clerk, or Treasurer, as we find to be the case in the Grand Lodge.* The consequence of this system is, that any W. M., who wishes to carry out the principles of the Order, is thwarted in every possible manner, and obtains little or no support. How is it, then, to be wondered at, that one who wishes properly to discharge his duties, and is not permitted to do so, should cease to take an interest in the affairs of the Lodge? Many, very many, instances of this kind might be adduced.

But “why are Masonic matters so carelessly managed?” may be, and has often been asked by more intelligent Brethren. The answer is very simple,—“Because there is no regularity in the Lodges, and there is no compulsion used by the Grand Lodge to enforce anything like regularity on any point, save and except,—‘SEND UP THE MONEY!’” The Lodges may work any way they like; use any method of entering, passing, or raising they please; and certainly they avail themselves of this privilege to the fullest extent; for there will not be found three Lodges working exactly in the same way. The whole matter depends upon the taste, fancy, or ability of the presiding W. M., and whether he be long or short-winded (as the three ceremonies are given in a space of time varying from three hours to half an hour†) the ceremony will be cut short, either to suit the convenience of the candidate, or, as is more frequently the case, to prevent *the cooling of the supper!* Hurry is the order of the day, or rather night; until the Brethren get fairly settled down to the business of the table, the real making has scarcely commenced—not the making of Masons (that they neither care for, nor cultivate, nor are very capable of proceeding with), but the making of whisky-punch, at which ceremony we will back them against all the Orientals in the universe, aye, and at the drinking of it too!

But if there be little regularity in what are more properly called the Masonic ceremonials, there is still less in bringing forward candidates. The ballot is scarcely known; — even the proposition of a

* Is not this too much the case in many English Lodges? — ED. F. M. Q. M. & R.

† Of course, these are emergency cases,—*they are all emergent!*

candidate is continually omitted. As to inquiry being made respecting the moral character of those to be initiated, that is out of the question. The only chance the Brethren have of knowing who is to be initiated, is when they see him enter the Lodge for that purpose. They receive no notice of a Lodge meeting; they have only heard *by chance* that there is to be a making. The W. Master, in all probability, knows nothing about it; an officer just left word at his house that such was to be the case. The Secretary only knew of it two hours previously, and how could he be expected to write and issue cards to the Brethren in that time? Who the candidate is, nobody knows; this one thinks he is a friend of Brother A.'s; the next one that it is Mr. B., who has always been speaking to Brother C. about joining the Lodge, and as he, Mr. B., is going to Hull, he wishes to be made, as it will be so much cheaper to be made in Scotland than in England. Brother D. thinks this must be the case; and so, when all is ready, in comes the candidate, without ever having been nominated, proposed, ballotted for, or recommended. The minutes of the former meeting are not even read; and unless the newly-made Brother wishes for a certificate, it is a chance if the Grand Lodge ever hear anything of the making, or see the five shillings and sixpence of the Initiation dues. We cannot, however, expect regularity, or even an approximation to anything like it, so long as the Grand Lodge is at no trouble to inquire into the working of the Lodges, or the manner in which they are conducted. Unfortunately her own example, which is much more effective than any precept, instructs the Brethren to do just as they please in their respective Lodges with constitution, laws, and regulations; and it is but natural that the parent's example should be imitated by the children, and in some instances even exceeded. The Grand Lodge is indeed an indulgent parent, and her children take ample liberties on account of her kindness. It is true that she will sometimes turn round and administer a few stripes, when she thinks the ordinary Lodges are going too far—as in the case of the MASONIC CLUBS—and then her anger finds vent in a circular to her erring “bairns,” couched in language as heartless as was ever penned by a superior, while dismissing a subordinate for faults, in which both equally participate. But can it be other than a difficult task for the Grand Lodge to attempt to improve the private Lodges, unless she first begins to show that she is in earnest, by rectifying the gross abuses which abundantly flourish within herself? Unless she rectify her own offences, any advice she may tender to her daughters will come with a bad grace, and as such, we fear, will be treated with that contempt, which their imperfect education (through her own neglect), may lead her to expect.

We will now briefly advert to a few points in the conduct of the Grand Lodge, to show how indifferent that body is to anything like improvement or consistency. We have no hall or place of meeting—not even a rented room—that we can call our own,—nay, not even a closet that can hold the books of Dr. Morrison's library. Why? *Because, it is said, we cannot afford it!* But we pay two officers, a Secretary and Clerk, to carry on the business of the Grand Lodge, *when there is not sufficient work for one to transact!* To furnish the necessary expences, and form a test of membership, in addition to

what the members already pay, *five shillings* have to be annually remitted by each member of Grand Lodge. We cannot afford to pay the rent of a place of meeting, in order to have the use of it, when we require it (mark the consistency)! but we are spending *five pounds* each for a *silver-gilt medal*, to be given to every honorary member of the Grand Lodge! There is surely room for improvement here. Again, look at the costume, which is tolerated in Grand Lodge. There is nothing regular either in the cut or colour of the coats; and here, as well as in private Lodges, there is no regularity as to badges or jewels. The taste and fancy of the wearer is the sole guide; and it is no uncommon event to see a pocket-handkerchief, not over clean, used as a badge side by side with the more aristocratic productions of a "ROBINSON," or an "EVANS!" Let the Grand Lodge show that she is in earnest, and anxious to redeem the character of Scotch Masonry. Let her do away with one paid officer, and let the person, who does the work, be properly remunerated. Let her rent a place, which she may at all times command, for meetings and other business. Let her exercise a kind and faithful control over the Lodges, and urge them affectionately to be more regular and orderly in conducting Masonic business, and, above all, strive to inculcate some sort of regularity into the degrees for the entering, passing, and raising of candidates. If this be done in a truly Masonic spirit, we are convinced that the Lodges and Brethren generally would support her, and would not grudge the additional *five shillings* which has been recently *imposed* upon them, even although it may be spent upon *silver-gilt* badges to decorate honorary Brethren, who, I am sure, if they knew the present "rotten state of Denmark," would decline to receive them.

In your retrospect of Masonic proceedings for the year 1851, you express a strong hope that improvement may take place in Scotland. In that wish I join most heartily and sincerely, and trust that it will not be long, ere some energetic and influential Brethren may be more thoroughly interested in the welfare of our ancient Order. As an earnest towards such improvement, there is a motion on the table of Grand Lodge at present to this effect:—"That a Committee be appointed to consider the propriety of sending deputations to the Sister Grand Lodges." The long and the short of this is, that we in Edinburgh are hoping to visit you in London, and our Brethren across the Irish Channel. This, I have no doubt, will be at once agreed to, as deputations are now the order of the day. And if they can only be carried forward for truly Masonic purposes, and for the benefit of Masonry, they cannot but be productive of much good to the visitors; but there must be no mere reciprocity of idle compliment, or bandying high-flown eulogiums betwixt the Lodges;—no, no!—that will not do! If we go to London, headed by our Grand Master, let us say to your G. M. and G. Lodge, "We come that we may see your work, and how you conduct your Masonic proceedings." If this be done with the desire of obtaining information, and of applying it when anything commendable is found, then there will be a chance of improvement, and we may expect to see our venerable institution, within a reasonable period, restored to that respected character, which many, in their blindness, believe she still holds in the eyes of the Masonic world. But if the deputation, or

those who propose it, expect to be *flattered and feasted* in Great Queen Street, and return to continue the abuses, which so much stand in need of reform at home, we can only anticipate a still longer continuation of the gross evils which at present obtain.

I am not without hope that the *best results* will flow from the visits of the Grand Lodge of Scotland to those of England and Ireland. If the first deputation visit London, it will surely draw a full house, and put all the English Brethren "on tiptoe expectation" to see the lions of the north; and from all the Craft, from the Earl of Zetland downwards, we are sure, they will secure a most fraternal reception. We should be sorry, if any false delicacy should restrain English Brethren from expressing their opinions to the deputation, in a truly Masonic and fraternal spirit, of what they have seen practised in Scotland. When the Grand Lodge of Scotland does visit the Grand Lodge of England, we also trust that the members may not think it beneath their dignity to visit as many of the private Lodges as they can. It is their duty to see what is doing and what has been done. Let them travel *East* in pursuit of knowledge and instruction, and they will obtain information; their reception will gratify, and the entertainment delight them. But when the Grand Lodge return, let us hope that its members will in good earnest set their house in order, scrub it up and repair it, so that they may expect—if they have heart to invite a deputation from the Grand Lodge of England to visit our venerable parent—that the results of their journey may be both evident and permanent. *Much, very much, however, will have to be done in the meantime!*

Yours fraternally,

FELLOW CRAFT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE AND REVIEW.

SIR AND BROTHER,—Belzoni, in his narrative of his operations in Egypt and Nubia, on opening the second Pyramid, found in the principal chamber an Arabic inscription, the translation of which he gives as under. Your readers will perhaps remember, that this Pyramid had not been opened for some hundreds of years.

"The *Master* Mohammed Ahmed *lopicide* has opened them, and the *Master* Othman attended, and the King Alij Mohammed, at first to the closing up."

And in Vol. I., pp. 398 and 412, he says he got a clue to the entrance by certain marks on the outer stones of the Pyramid. Can any of your readers inform me what those marks were, and where any account is to be found of them? I apprehend they must have been some Masonic marks of the builders.—Yours,

SEGO.

MONSIEUR ET TRÈS CHER FRÈRE,—Dans votre revue rétrospective du 31 Décembre dernier, vous rapportez un article de *l'Univers Religieux* contre la Maçonnerie, et vous imputez aux Jésuites les persécutions dont nous avons toujours été menacés. Il entre dans

la loyauté qui distingue le véritable Maçon de repousser tout ce qui peut porter atteinte à la réputation d'autrui, et je m'empresse de remplir ce rigoureux devoir.

L'article de *l'Univers* a été provoqué par l'imprudence du chef du Secrétariat du Grand Orient de France, qui, trop jeune Maçon pour apprécier suffisamment ce qui convient à notre situation, avait entamé une polémique avec ce journal. Il a été blâmé nécessairement, car l'essence de notre institution veut que nous évitions toute controverse politique et religieuse.

Quant aux Jésuites, dont on prononce souvent trop légèrement le nom, et auxquels on impute toutes les mauvaises actions, parce qu'on confond malheureusement le Jésuitisme religieux avec le Jésuitisme social, loin de chercher à persécuter la Maçonnerie, ils paraissent très disposés à la servir en l'affranchissant des entraves que les pontifs de Rome ont jusqu'à présent apportés à son exercice.

Je sais de science certaine que les chefs de cet ordre ont demandé un Mémoire sur la Maçonnerie, afin de le mettre sous les yeux du Pape et de l'engager à révoquer les Bulles que ses prédécesseurs ont fulminées contre notre société inoffensive à toutes les religions. Ce mémoire a été fait par l'un des Maçons jugé le plus propre à l'œuvre ; il est entre les mains des Révérends Pères, et j'ai l'assurance qu'ils accompliront religieusement la mission humanitaire dont ils se sont chargés.

Veillez, en insérant cette planche dans votre prochain numéro, me croire,

Votre tout dévoué F.

LEBLANC DE MARCONNAY,

Memb. du G. O. de France.

Le F. Lépée aura la complaisance de traduire cette lettre.

O. de Paris, le Février 1852, C. V.

[Translation.]

SIR AND DEAR BROTHER,—In your number of *The Quarterly Magazine and Review* for December 31st, 1851, you have given an article from *l'Univers Religieux* against Masonry, and you attribute the persecutions, of which we have always been threatened, to the Jesuits. It becomes the loyalty which distinguishes the true Mason to repel everything that prejudices the reputation of others, and I hasten to fulfil this rigorous duty.

The article of the *Univers* has been provoked through the imprudence of the chief of the secretary's office of the Grand Orient of France, who being too young a Mason to sufficiently appreciate what belongs to our situation, had commenced a polemical contest with that paper. Of course, he has been blamed ; for the essence of our institution forbids us to enter into any kind of controversy, either political or religious.

As to the Jesuits, whose name is too often lightly mentioned, and to whom all kinds of evil actions are imputed, because people unfortunately confound religious Jesuitism with social Jesuitism, so far from their endeavouring to persecute Masonry, they appear much disposed to serve it, by freeing it from the shackles which the Pontiffs of Rome have hitherto imposed on its exercise.

I know it for certain, that the chiefs of that order have requested (to be furnished with) a memoir on Masonry, in order to place it under the eyes of the Pope, to engage him to repeal the Bulls which his predecessors have fulminated against our Society, which is inoffensive to every religion. This memoir has been drawn up by one of the Masons who are considered as the most competent for that task. It is in the hands of the Reverend Fathers,

and I am confident that they will religiously accomplish the mission of humanity, which they have undertaken.

Please to insert this letter in your next number, and believe me,
Your affectionate Brother,
LEBLANC DE MARCONNAY,
Memb. of the G. O. de France.

Bro. Lépée will have the kindness to translate this letter.

O. de Paris, February 1852.

[We cannot but admire the truly Masonic spirit exhibited by Bro. Marconnay, which exemplifies the truth—"love thinketh no ill to his neighbour;" nevertheless we take leave to doubt the sincerity of Jesuitism, or any honest intention of its "Reverend Fathers" to aid the Craft. We trust we may be mistaken.—*Ed. F. Q. M. & R.*]

Obituary.

BRO. JAMES KENNY.

Died, on Sunday, the 29th ult., at his residence, Merrion-square, Dublin, Bro. James Kenny, 33rd Degree (France), highly esteemed and deservedly regretted by the entire Masonic body, of which he had long been a distinguished member, having attained its highest honours and degrees.

BRO. SIR CHARLES FORBES.

At his residence, Argyle-street, on the 22nd March, Bro. Sir Charles Forbes, K.C.H., in the seventy-fourth year of his age. This distinguished Brother was a member of the Prince of Wales Lodge, No. 324, as well as of the Prince of Wales Chapter, No. 324. He had also proceeded to the 30th Degree in the higher Masonic Orders. In his public capacity he held the appointment of Deputy Inspector of Military Hospitals; he was also a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians, a Knight Commander of the Guelphic Order, and a Knight of the Crescent. Sir Charles Forbes entered the medical service of the army in May, 1798, was appointed Staff-Surgeon in 1808, and became Deputy Inspector in 1813. He accompanied the expedition to Ferrol in 1800, was in Egypt in 1801, was present at the capture of St. Lucia and Tobago in 1803, and served through the whole of the Peninsular campaigns.

MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

SUPREME GRAND CHAPTER OF ROYAL ARCH MASONS OF ENGLAND.

QUARTERLY CONVOCATION, *February 4, 1852.*

Present.—M. E. the Earl of Zetland, as Z.; Rowland Alston, as H.; Thomas Henry Hall, as J.; W. H. White, as E.; W. F. Beadon, as N.; F. B. Alston, P. Soj.; R. Davis, Assist. Soj.; Thos. Tomblison, Assist. Soj.; H. J. Prescott, P. Assist. Soj.; C. Baumer, P. Assist. Soj.; R. G. Alston, P. Assist. Soj.; F. Pattison, P. Assist. Soj.; A. Dobie, Registrar; Thos. R. White, Sword Bearer; H. B. Webb, P. Sword Bearer; B. Webster, Standard Bearer; E. G. Giles, P. Standard Bearer; John Havers, P. Standard Bearer; J. H. Goldsworthy, P. Standard Bearer; M. Costa, Organist; Geo. Biggs, Dir. of Cerem.; L. Chandler, P. Dir. of Cerem.; A. Leveau, P. Dir. of Cerem.; and the Principals and Past Principals of several subordinate Chapters.

The G. Chapter was opened in ancient and solemn form; and the minutes of the last Quarterly Convocation were read and confirmed. The Report of the Committee of General Purposes, stating the amount of receipts and disbursements of the last quarter, was read and approved.

After the dispatch of the ordinary business, the Grand Chapter was closed.

UNITED GRAND LODGE.

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION, *March 3, 1852.*

Present.—R. W. Rowland Alston, P. S. G. W., Prov. G. M. for Essex, in the Chair; A. Dobie, G. R., Prov. G. M. for Surrey, as D. G. M.; R. Davis, J. G. W., as S. G. W.; Hon. G. O'Callaghan, P. J. G. W., as J. G. W.; Chevalier B. Hebel, P. S. G. W. and Rep. from the G. L. of Berlin; J. C. Morris, P. S. G. W.; R. G. Alston, P. J. G. W.; F. Pattison, P. J. G. W.;—Prescott, P. J. G. W.; Revs. J. E. Cox and E. Moore; G. Chaps;—Hayes, P. G. C.; W. H. White, G. S.; H. L. Cröhn, G. Sec. for German Correspondence, and Rep. from the G. L. of Hamburg; T. R. White, S. G. D.; G. W. K. Potter, P. J. G. D., as J. G. D.; J. H. Goldsworthy, P. S. G. D.; J. Havers, P. S. G. D.; J. Nelson, P. S. G. D.; B. Lawrence, P. J. G. D.; S. C. Norris, P. J. G. D.; C. Baumer, P. J. G. D.; L. Chandler, P. J. G. D.; J. Par-

kinson, P. J. G. D. ; L. Thompson, P. J. G. D. ; B. King, P. J. G. D. ; T. Chapman, G. D. of Cerem. ; R. J. Spiers, G. S. B. ; J. Mas-son, P. G. S. B. ; De Rhe Philippe, P. G. S. B. ; B. Webb, P. G. S. B. ; J. L. Evans, P. S. S. B. ; E. H. Patten, P. G. S. B. ; M. Costa, G. O. ; F. Breitling, G. Pursuiv. ; Rev. J. W. Carver, Rep. of G. L. of Massachusetts ; the Grand Stewards of the year ; the Master, Past Master, and Wardens of the Grand Stewards' Lodge ; and the Master, Past Masters, and Wardens of many other Lodges.

The Grand Lodge was opened in form and with solemn prayer.

The Grand Secretary, previously to reading the minutes of the last Quarterly Communication, by the command of the M. W. the Grand Master, submitted a letter from his Lordship, expressing his regret at not being able to attend this meeting, and observing that since the last Grand Lodge, he had been in communication with the Prov. G. M. for Devon, on the subject of the appeal made on that occasion by Bro. Chas. Jackson, upon a decision of the Prov. G. M., Devon ; in consequence of which, the G. M. had directed inquiry to be made, whether the appellant had given the notice required by the law in cases of appeal ; and that Bro. Chas. Jackson having admitted he had not furnished a copy of that statement, the G. M. therefore recommended the G. L. not to confirm such part of the minutes of the last Quarterly Communication as related to the appeal against the decision in question.

The minutes of the last Grand Lodge were then read, when, on a motion duly made, it was resolved, "That it appearing, by the admission of Bro. Chas. Jackson, of the Brunswick Lodge, No. 185, Devonport, that the notice required by the law in cases of appeal was not given to the R. W. the Prov. G. M., or his Dep. Prov. G. M., or Prov. G. Sec., the decision of the G. L. on the 3rd of Dec. last on the subject of Bro. Jackson's appeal must be considered *ex parte*, and therefore must fall to the ground, and consequently that the minutes of proceedings on that part be not confirmed."

The remaining portion of the minutes were then confirmed,

The Right Hon. Thomas Dundas, Earl of Zetland, Baron Dundas of Aske, in the county of York, &c. &c. &c. was unanimously re-elected Grand Master, proclaimed and saluted according to ancient form.

Bro. Samuel Tomkins was unanimously elected Grand Treasurer for the year ensuing, and proclaimed accordingly.

The G. S., by command of the M. W. the G. M., laid before the G. L. communications which his Lordship had received from M. W. Bro. Oscar Coles, the G. M. of the G. L. of the State of New York, in relation to the unhappy differences which existed between the two Grand Lodges, expressing his thanks in behalf of the Fraternity of New York for the consideration given thereto by the M. W. G. M. and the Committee of the G. L. of England, hoping that it would be the means, at no distant period, of restoring harmony amongst them, and suggesting the advantage which would accrue from an interchange of Representatives between the G. L. of England and the G. L. of the State of New York.

A similar communication from the G. Sec. of New York, addressed to Bro. White, the G. S., was also read, when it was moved and seconded,—

"That it be recommended by this G. L. that, under the circum-

stances of the Masonic differences in the State of New York, and there being two Grand Lodges in that State at litigation, it is essential that no Representatives be received from, or sent to that State while these differences are existing."

Upon which the following amendment was moved:—

"That this G. L. entirely concurs in the conclusion, to which the G. M. has come on the differences existing among the Freemasons of the State of New York."

This amendment having been seconded, the question was put thereon, and carried with only two dissenting voices.

The Report of the Audit Committee of the past year was read, and ordered to be entered on the minutes.

The Report of the Board of Benevolence for the months of Dec. 1851, and Jan. and Feb. 1852, was read.

On the recommendation of the Board of Benevolence of Dec. 1851, and on motion duly made and seconded,

IT WAS RESOLVED,—“That the sum of £50 be granted to the widow of the late Bro. Morris Sloman, of the British Lodge, No. 419, Cape of Good Hope.”

The Report from the Board of General Purposes was read, approved, and ordered to be entered upon the minutes, which Report contained the following resolution upon the announcement of the death of the R. W. Richard Percival, Grand Treasurer, which occurred on the 23rd Dec. 1851.

“RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY, — That the Board have received with the deepest regret the intelligence of the decease of their highly respected friend and R. W. Bro. Richard Percival, P. S. G. W., the Grand Treasurer, an office which he had held for a period of nearly fifteen years, and the duties of which he had discharged with a liberality and kindness that gained the esteem of all.”

After several observations by Bro. J. Havers, P. S. G. W., as to the absence of the Grand Stewards of the year from the G. L. on that evening, and by Bro. the Rev. J. E. Cox, upon the conduct of Brethren in leaving the G. L. during the transaction of business, thereby causing interruption to the proceedings, and considerable confusion, the Grand Lodge was closed in form, and with solemn prayer.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

THE Anniversary Festival of this excellent Institution was celebrated at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Wednesday, March 16. Before reporting the proceedings at this Festival, which possessed more than usual interest from the exertions now making to extend the usefulness of the Institution, and establish it on a basis more worthy of the Craft, we may be allowed briefly to allude to its objects and present position. The Institution was founded in the year 1798,—ten years after the establishment of the Girls' School,—to educate and clothe the sons of indigent and deceased Brethren,

who had been duly registered in the Grand Lodge books for three years, and been subscribing members to a Lodge not less than two years. The Institution is open to children of all religious denominations, who have usually been educated at some school in the immediate vicinity of the residences of their parents or guardians. Of late, however, an attempt has been made to systematize and improve the education of the London boys, by bringing them together in five or six establishments, instead of having them scattered about all over the town, though it has been found impossible to get anything like a proper superintendence over the education of the country boys. The Committee of the School have just issued a Report, in which they speak very favourably of the results of the new system, so far as it has gone, but "express their deliberate opinion, founded on practical experience, that nothing but the foundation of an Establishment for Boarding, as well as Clothing and Educating the Boys, or, at least, a large portion of them, can enable the Charity to keep pace with the increased educational demands of the present time, or to satisfy the reasonable expectations of the Craft." To enable them to found such an Institution, in compliance with the Resolutions adopted by a General Court, the Committee "respectfully but confidently appeal to their Brethren and the Craft at large, for such additional liberality in their contributions, as may enable the Committee, with the least possible delay, to take measures for establishing such a school, as may be at once honourable to the Masonic body, satisfactory to the Governors and Subscribers of the Charity, and a source of permanent advantages and blessings to the children of those less fortunate Brethren who are, or who may be hereafter, entrusted to their care." To enable the Committee effectually to carry out the building of a School, and founding a suitable establishment for the reception of the boys, it was resolved, at the Quarterly General Court of the Governors and Subscribers, held in January last, "That in the present and every future year, at the period when the annual accounts of the Institution are made up, the surplus of income over expenditure, if any exist, shall be divided into two equal portions,—one half to be invested, as heretofore, for the general fund of the Institution, the other half to be paid to the Trustees of the Building Fund." The Court, however, very properly guarded the resolutions for founding the School, by one, wherein it is declared, that it being a fundamental principle of the Institution, that the children of all Brethren are entitled to its benefits, without regard to religious belief or other circumstances, "the benefits offered by the existing system of the Institution shall be continued to the children of Brethren who, for good and sufficient reasons, may object to their being placed in an establishment."

Up to the present time, 732 children have been clothed and educated by the Institution, and 70 are now enjoying its benefits. The total revenue for the last year (including a balance in the banker's hands, at the close of the year 1850, of £146. 13s. 4d., and dividends on funded property of £337. 16s. 2d.) amounted to £1,361. 19s. 9d.; and the expenditure to £1,031. 8s. 6d., leaving a balance in hand of £330. 11s. 3d.

At the Anniversary Festival the chair was ably filled by the Right Hon. the Earl of Yarborough, D. G. M. (in consequence of

the unavoidable absence of the G. M.), supported by several of the Grand officers, and about 140 of the Brethren.

Brother the Rev. J. E. Cox, Grand Chaplain, having most impressively said grace, the Brethren sat down to an excellent dinner, the serving and superabundance of which reflects great credit on the liberality and perseverance with which the new lessees of the tavern, Brs. Watson, Coggan, and Banks, have entered on its management.

Upon the removal of the cloth, grace was sung by Bros. Ransford, Holmes, J. Binge, W. E. Ransford, T. Williams, and Lawler, and the Misses Williams and Ransford, Br. G. Lichtenstein presiding at the pianoforte.

The M. W. Chairman then rose to propose a toast, which was always peculiarly acceptable in all assemblies of Freemasons, than whom her Majesty did not possess a more loyal body of subjects,—“The Queen”—(cheers).

The national anthem having been sung, the toast of H. R. H. Prince Albert, Albert Prince of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family, was proposed, and cordially responded to.

The M. W. CHAIRMAN then rose, and said he deeply regretted that the M. W. G. M. had been unfortunately prevented from attending that Festival, and he was sure that every Brother present would be glad of the opportunity of testifying his regard for the noble Earl, and acknowledging the deep obligations they were under to him for his unwaried exertions to promote the interests of the Masonic charities, and conduce to the prosperity of the Order (cheers). He was sure *no one could more deeply regret the absence of the G. M. on the present occasion than the noble Earl himself*; and that the Brethren present would joyfully take the opportunity of testifying their acknowledgments, that the noble Earl was very justly placed in the distinguished position he had the honour to fill (cheers). He would give them the health of “The Earl of Zetland, President of the Boys’ Masonic Institution, and M. W. Grand Master of the Freemasons of England” (cheers). He might, at the same time, be permitted to state, that the Worshipful Master proposed upon that occasion to double his usual contribution to the Institution (cheers).

Br. R. GARDINER ALSTON, P. J. G. W. then rose, and stated to the Brethren, that he was now about to ask them to perform a duty which he was sure they would all readily respond to, in order to mark their sense of gratitude due to the Earl of Yarborough, for the inestimable services he had given to their various charities, as well as for his having kindly consented to preside over their meeting that evening (cheers). It would ill become him, in the presence of the noble Earl, to descant upon the high and estimable qualities which had endeared his Lordship to all who were honoured with his acquaintance, and which had secured for him the esteem, confidence, and affections of his Brother Masons (cheers). He believed that there was no Brother who took a deeper interest in the prosperity of the Institution which they were, on that occasion, called upon to support, than their noble Chairman; and nothing could more clearly show that interest than the readiness with which the noble Earl, though absent from London, had responded to the appeal of the Stewards, to take the chair on that occasion,—he having immediately hastened to town, at personal inconvenience, to be present at the Festival (cheers). The presence of the noble Chairman was to him the more gratifying, and he was sure would be so to the Brethren, inasmuch as this was no ordinary festival, but one upon which he might fairly state they were engaged in laying the foundation-stone of a totally new structure (cheers). The plan was laid down,—the lines drawn,—the foundation prepared,—and it now only remained for the Craft to raise and complete it (cheers). He would now call upon the Brethren present, to join him with heart and voice, in drinking—“Long life, prosperity, and every happiness to the Earl of Yarborough, D. G. M. of the Freemasons of England” (loud cheers).

This toast having been most cordially responded to,

The noble EARL rose and said, he felt sure they would believe him, when he stated that he was deeply grateful for the way in which their worthy Bro. Alston had proposed his health, and equally so for the kind manner in which the Brethren had responded to the toast (cheers). He could assure them that Bro. Alston had not over-rated the deep interest which he took in everything relating to Freemasonry; but he felt that their worthy Brother had dwelt somewhat too much on his merits, and the services he had it in his power to perform to the Order. In proposing his health, Bro. Alston had alluded to the short notice upon which he had consented to preside on that occasion, when it was found that the Grand Master would be unable to attend. He could take little merit to himself on that account, for he would honestly tell them that it was previously his intention to be present, to mark the interest which he felt in the progress and success of the Boys' Institution (cheers). He was sure he could not be better engaged than in supporting so good a charity, from the endeavours to benefit which he always derived the greatest and most heartfelt pleasure (cheers).

The M. W. CHAIRMAN said the next toast he had to propose was "The Past and Present Grand Officers," to whom they were greatly indebted for the eminent services they rendered the Craft (cheers). He was happy to find the Institution supported upon that occasion by the presence of so many of the Grand Officers, and it therefore gave him the greatest pleasure in asking them to drink to "The Provincial Grand Masters and the Past and Present Grand Officers" (cheers).

Bro. ROWLAND ALSTON, P.G.M. for Essex, as the oldest Provincial Grand Master present, had great pleasure in acknowledging the toast just drunk, though he felt that age and other infirmities had deprived him of the power of expressing himself so well as he might have done in his younger days. He might be allowed to assure them, however, that he had attended that Festival with the greatest pleasure, feeling how important it was that the boys of their poorer Brethren should be provided with the means of procuring a good and sound education — and how intimately it was connected with the exertions now making for the foundation of an Institution which might prove as extensively useful to the boys as the girls' school had to the children of the opposite sex. He had read the report of the Committee relative to the present position of the Institution and their recommendations thereon with the utmost interest; and he felt assured that the Committee would be enabled to overcome all the difficulties by which they were surrounded, and hereafter enjoy the gratification of practically carrying out an object on which they had devoted so much labour, anxiety, and exertion (cheers). He would be happy to do all in his power to promote the object they had in view, and would only further detain the Brethren by once more returning them his thanks for the honour conferred upon himself and the Grand Officers for the compliment paid them (cheers).

The M. W. CHAIRMAN had great pleasure in proposing the health of the Treasurer of the Masonic Institution for Boys, Bro. Benj. Bond Cabbell, M. P. (cheers). They were all greatly indebted to Bro. Cabbell not only for the great care he took of their funds, but for his liberal support of the various Masonic charities (cheers). Bro. Cabbell had always shown the utmost interest in everything relating to the Boys' Institution, and he therefore felt they would all cordially join with him in drinking that worthy Brother's health (cheers).

Bro. BENJ. BOND CABELL, M.P., P.J.G.W., rose to acknowledge with the greatest pleasure the compliment just paid to him, though he could not help feeling that it was a compliment due more to the office he had the honour to hold than to the officer (cries of "No, no!"). He might assure them, however, that he would always endeavour to perform the duties of the office to the utmost of his ability, and so as to merit a continuance of their good opinion (cheers). He had always taken the greatest interest in the success of the Boys' Institution, and was most particularly gratified by the numerous attendance on that occasion, when they were assembled together with a view of assisting in the efforts now making to extend its usefulness (cheers). Nothing was now more important to assist a youth in his progress through life than a good and sound education, and it was self-evident to all that the education, which was formerly sufficient to fit a person for a respectable position in society was now of very little avail. Society was now in a state of progress, and it must be evident that they alone could not afford to stand still. Indeed, were they to

attempt to do so, they would soon be left behind all similar institutions as regarded their utility (cheers). He fully agreed with the propriety of an endeavour being made to found the Boys' Masonic Institution on a wider basis, by which the boys should be secured the advantages of a more regular and extended education, and at the same time be brought more immediately under the control of the Committee (cheers). In providing an establishment for the reception of the boys, however, he was happy to remark that it was not in any way intended to limit the usefulness or the universality of the Institution, but that the benefits as at present enjoyed by the boys in the Institution were still to be extended to those whose fathers or guardians might object to their being brought up in a public school. He begged once more to thank them for drinking his health, and to express his best wishes that the Institution might long continue to flourish, and prove of extensive use to the children of the members of the Craft (cheers).

About thirty of the boys at present educated and clothed in the London district at the expense of the Institution, were here brought into the hall, and having been drawn up before the Chairman,

Bro. R. G. ALSTON said he had now great pleasure to bring under the notice of the Worshipful Chairman those boys who, after undergoing a most strict examination by the Committee in various branches of education, were deemed most worthy of receiving the prizes to be awarded to them. It gave him great gratification in being enabled to state, as the result of the examination, that the Committee were much pleased with the progress the boys had made in various branches of knowledge, which reflected alike the greatest credit on their teachers and their own industry and talents (cheers). After much and careful consideration, the Examiners had adjudged the prizes as follows:— Writing, William Joseph Caseley; 1st history, Alfred George Wyatt; 2nd or junior ditto, John William Hill; 1st geography, Henry Vine; 2nd or junior ditto, Nathaniel Gray. In both history and geography, the answers of Goodrich, Holt, and Stringer gave much satisfaction. In the higher branches of arithmetic, Robert Shackell and Joseph Stringer were so nearly equal, that they recommended a prize to be given to each of them. The answers of N. Gray and Holt gave great satisfaction; Caseley, Crichton, Goodrich, M' Candlish, O'Brien, Speight, and Vine also acquitted themselves very creditably. In the junior class, the prize for arithmetic was adjudged to Henry James Timbs; Deighton, Howlett, and Thiselton acquitted themselves very creditably. The prize for French had been adjudged by Bro. E. Lépée, W. M. of the Lodge La Tolérance, No. 784, to George Henry Joseph Holt. Bro. Lépée was also well satisfied with O'Brien, Robert Smith, and Speight. Of the boy Holt he wished to make especial mention, for while he had attained the prize for French, he had entered into honourable competition for the prizes in many other classes.

The first boy, William Joseph Caseley, was then handed on to the table, in front of the Chairman, and presented to the noble Earl, who, addressing him, stated that

It gave him the greatest pleasure to hear the Report of the Examiners, as to his proficiency in writing, for which he was to be presented with a prize, which he (the noble Chairman) had now the pleasure to hand to him, but for his general good conduct. It must be extremely gratifying to all the officers and subscribers to the Institution to have the opportunity or knowing that the boys so conducted themselves as to deserve these rewards, as it must be to the boys themselves to show by their conduct that they duly appreciated the advantages which they derived through the Institution. He trusted that the medal, with which he was about to present him, would be a stimulant to future exertions, and not only to him, but to all the other boys, who by attention and exertion might hope to be as fortunate at a future examination. He now presented him with the medal, and he trusted that he (Caseley) would, whilst he wore it, be desirous, by strict attention to the discipline of the school, to set such an example to the other boys as would redound at once to his own honour and the credit of the school.

Caseley having bowed and retired, the other boys who had won the prizes, consisting of handsomely bound books, were one by one intro-

duced to the noble Lord, who addressed them separately in similar and most appropriate terms.

The boys having retired,

The M. W. CHAIRMAN said,—It now becomes my pleasing duty to propose the toast which I am sure is anticipated by you all as being more immediately connected with the cause which has brought us together this evening. You, Brethren, are no doubt all aware that in obedience to a general feeling which appears to prevail throughout the Craft, that the time has arrived when an endeavour ought to be made to extend the operations of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys; it has been resolved, on the recommendation of the Committee to build, at the earliest possible period, a school-house, and thus put the Institution on an equality with the girls' school (cheers). I have no hesitation in avowing my belief that with such a building, in which the boys could be brought under one management, and insured the advantages of one system of education, a great and permanent good may be effected, and the charity much raised in estimation (hear, hear). It will not do, however, to carry out such a project too hastily; but I am happy to state that already large sums have been promised to the building-fund, and that the success of the project is insured (cheers). I am sure that I may add that the whole of the Brethren are deeply grateful to the Committee for the care and attention they have paid to the subject; and I can confidently assure the Brethren that in their future operations the Committee will take no step in any way involving any of the interests of the Institution without the most careful and calm deliberation (cheers). Already great improvements have been made in the management of the Institution; and here I may be allowed to direct your attention to those parts of the recent report of the Committee in which they speak of the results of those improvements, and allude to the desirability of building a school-house. The Committee say, "The London boys, who had hitherto been scattered over all parts of the town, have now been placed in a few selected schools, chosen after the most careful personal inquiry; and an increased rate of payment for their tuition has been accorded, in all cases which gave hope that the boys would derive adequate benefits from such advances. By these means, many additional branches of useful instruction have been opened to the boys, especially French and book-keeping; and at the same time, the Committee have been enabled to exercise a much greater degree of superintendence over their conduct and progress." After a few observations in regard to the progress made in their education by the boys, and the necessarily increased support required from the Masonic body to secure the continuance of these advantages, the Committee proceed to say, "Notwithstanding the improved arrangements which have been made in the case of the London boys, many cases have occurred in which the want of centralization and of uniform discipline has been severely felt; and as regards the country boys, the Committee have found it wholly impracticable to establish anything like an efficient system of general superintendence." I believe that this efficient superintendence can only be gained by bringing the boys together in one establishment, though there can be no doubt that the alterations lately introduced into the management of the Institution have effected a great improvement both in the education and moral deportment of the boys as compared with what could be effected under the old system; and though the expenditure is necessarily somewhat higher than formerly, it is gratifying to know that the money has not been spent without our gaining a corresponding advantage for those children of the Brethren whom we have taken under our care (cheers). In the first place, those alterations have insured the adoption in the various schools to which the boys are sent of a more regular and uniform system of education; and the whole of the London boys are, as far as it is possible to do so in different establishments, brought up and educated under one system, instead of, as formerly, under many systems (cheers). It was long felt as a desideratum that the boys should be educated under one system instead of under five or six; and though this has in some measure been accomplished, I must be permitted to say with the Committee that I do not think the Institution has yet had a fair trial of the system; neither do I think that its advantages can be fully and properly developed until the boys are brought together in one establishment under an undivided and efficient management (cheers). We must recollect that though the want of a school-house has long been felt, the

Committee have not hitherto felt themselves justified in taking any steps towards obtaining a building for the purpose, feeling that the funds of the Institution were not in a position that would enable them properly to carry out such a design. It is now, however, felt that the time has arrived when they may fairly make an effort to obtain the necessary funds. And I am now most anxious to draw your attention, and through you that of the Brethren absent on the present occasion, to the great importance of endeavouring to extend the influence and operations of the Institution (hear, hear). In doing so, I may be allowed to say how glad I am to see so many of you present this evening, as it evidences to me the interest you take in the subject, and makes me hope that the time is not far distant when the Institution will be conducting its operations in a properly-appointed and convenient school-house (cheers). Whenever that day arrives, I am certain that I am not wrong in expressing my conviction that the Institution will not only be increased in usefulness, but that it will be increased in popularity with the Craft (cheers). I was happy to observe that amongst the children introduced to me there was only one who looked at all delicate or in ill-health; but, gratifying as that circumstance is, I cannot but feel that the advantages offered by a school-house would be of inestimable value to the children, not only as regards their education, but as respects their health, comfort, and general welfare (cheers). When we consider the extent and importance of our body, and the various casualties to which we, in common with all mankind, are subjected, I am sure I need not ask you whether we are not justified in increasing the usefulness of the institutions connected with the Craft, and in giving our best support to the erection of a school-house for the boys (cheers). I am sure that I need not longer detain you on this subject, and therefore, hoping that you will this evening show how deeply you value the proposed alterations and improvements in the constitution of the Institution, I will now ask you cordially to join with me in drinking "Prosperity to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys" (loud and long-continued cheers).

The M. W. CHAIRMAN had now to propose a toast, which he was sure would be most cordially responded to. They would all acknowledge that they were under deep obligations to the Auditors for the anxious care and attention they bestowed on the investigation of the accounts, and to the Committee for the general management of the affairs of the Institution, and more especially for the manner in which they had devoted themselves to the task of considering and maturing the proposed alterations in its constitution. In bringing this toast before them, he must be allowed to say, that there was one Brother to whom they were the more particularly indebted, not only for the attention he gave to the affairs of this Institution, but the deep interest which he always took in every matter appertaining to Freemasonry; and it was but due to that Brother to state, that whatever advantages might be derived from the Boys' Institution in future, would be mainly owing to the intelligence, exertions, and ability of their esteemed Brother, Rowland Gardner Alston, whose health he had the pleasure of proposing in connection with the Auditors and the members of the Committee of the Institution (cheers).

Br. R. GARDINER ALSTON could scarcely have expected that his name should have been so kindly mentioned in connection with the toast just drunk; and in acknowledging it, he had great pleasure at having the opportunity of expressing his gratification at the proceedings of the evening. He had always felt the deepest interest in the prosperity of the Boys' School, and had devoted a great deal of attention to it, with a view of promoting and increasing its efficiency. He trusted that he might be ere long repaid for all his exertions by the gratification of seeing the boys assembled together in a suitable building, where the whole could be brought under efficient and proper control; and when that time arrived, he was sure that there was no member of the Committee who would look back with regret at the trouble he had taken to insure so desirable an object (cheers). He had no doubt that the School would be built, and that then all that had been anticipated from it would be realized, and mark a new and bright epoch in the history of the Institution (cheers). Should it please God to prolong his life, and endue him with health, until the completion of the Institution, he should feel that he had not lived in vain; and he was sure that it would be always most gratifying to him that he would be enabled to reflect with pride on the support he had given it (cheers).

Br. THISELTON, the Secretary, next read a list of subscriptions

and donations to the Institution, amongst which we observed, Her Majesty the Queen, £10 10s.; the Earl of Zetland, M. W. G. M., £21; Earl of Yarborough, D. G. M., £10 10s.; ditto (for the Building Fund), £10 10s.; Lodge of Fidelity (No. 3), £10 10s.; Lodge of Friendship (No. 6), £10 10s.; British Lodge (No. 8), £28 11s.; Lodge of Antiquity (No. 2), £52 10s.; Royal Somerset House and Inverness Lodge (No. 4), £37 17s.; St. George and Corner-Stone Lodge (No. 5), £76 13s.; British Lodge (No. 8), £27 6s.; Enoch Lodge (No. 11), £58 14s.; Tuscan Lodge (No. 14), £35 3s.; Lodge of Emulation (No. 21), £43; Robert Burns' Lodge (No. 25), £11 11s.; Mount Moriah Lodge (No. 40), £41; Ionic Lodge (No. 275), £34 13s.; Pilgrim Lodge (No. 289), £23 2s.; Prince of Wales Lodge (No. 324), £5 5s.; Old King's Arms Lodge (No. 30), £28 7s.; Eastern Star Lodge (No. 112), £32 11s.

The whole amount of subscription being rather better than £890, the D. G. M., Earl of Yarborough, announced his intention of making it £900, amidst loud cheers.

The M. W. CHAIRMAN then called upon the Brethren to drink to "The Royal Freemasons' Girls' School," and the other Masonic Charities, reminding them, that though he had on that occasion made an urgent appeal on behalf of the Boys' Institution, it was not less their duty to render all the aid that fairly lay in their power to the other Masonic Charities.

This toast having been cordially responded to,

The noble EARL proposed "The Ladies who had honoured that Meeting with their presence." If the ladies usually shed a lustre on the festivals of the Girls' School by their presence, they had equally done so on that occasion; and he trusted that they would lend them a helping hand in making the Boys' School worthy of the Masonic body, and equally efficient with the Girls' School, in which they had always evinced so deep an interest (cheers).

The last toast of the evening was "The Board of Stewards," which having been duly honoured, the noble Earl quitted the chair, and the Brethren having partaken of tea and coffee, proceeded to join the ladies in the glee-room, where the vocalists, whose names we have given in the early part of our report, and who added most materially to the enjoyments of the evening (the more especially Miss Ransford, by her rich soprano voice, and Miss Williams, by her beautiful contralto, and thorough appreciation of all she sings), detained the company until past the witching hour of night listening to their dulcet strains.

Bro. Harker officiated as toast-master with his usual efficiency; and the whole of the proceedings of the evening passed off with the utmost harmony.

ROYAL FREEMASONS' GIRLS' SCHOOL.

A very interesting ceremony took place at the School-house of this Charity, on Thursday, March 25, a testimonial of the respect and esteem of the Committee of Management and of the love of the children being presented to Mrs. Frances Crook, who on that day

completed the fiftieth year of her connection with the school as its Matron and Governess—during the whole of which lengthened period she has never been absent from the house twenty-four hours at a time.

Shortly after two o'clock a large number of the Brethren, consisting of the Committees and their friends with several ladies, were conducted to the school-room, which was very tastefully decorated with flowers and hangings; on the latter of which were displayed several mottoes in white rosettes, such as "Our dear Governess's Jubilee," "Hail Masonry," &c. Along the centre of the room was a table plentifully supplied with wine, cake, fruit, &c., and decorated with artificial flowers—little worked flags—&c., the whole being, as we were informed by an inscription around the centre ornament, "A Tribute of Love in honour of our dear Governess's Jubilee"—the whole of the ornaments being the work of the children; the refreshments being supplied at the expense of the House Committee, who, whenever they give a little treat to the children, always do so from their own pockets, not allowing the funds of the Institution to be under any circumstances diverted from their legitimate purposes.

The children, sixty-five in number, were all ranged on one side of the room, wearing on their bosoms a white rosette, and on their heads a circlet of white roses—made by themselves—according to the ancient custom on occasion of celebrating Jubilees, whilst the visitors occupied the other portions of the apartment.

Bro. Benj. Bond Cabbell, P. J. G. W., M.P., the respected Treasurer of the Institution, having been requested to take the chair, the proceedings were commenced by the singing of a hymn.

Ellen Gemauf, one of the pupils, whose time of residence at the school expires in July next, was then called forward, and with much modesty of behaviour and good emphasis spoke the following address:—

Gentlemen, patrons, and benefactors, I feel it a great honour to be selected, on the happy occasion of our dear Governess's Jubilee, to express, in the names of my schoolfellows, our high gratification at being permitted to witness the celebration of this joyful day,—the day which heralds in the completion of the 50th year of her devoted services to this Charity. Surrounded as we are by kind and generous friends, wishing to contribute to our happiness, and testifying how much we are the objects of their kindest solicitude, our hearts are filled with emotions too big for utterance, as we render up the fervent prayer that Heaven's choicest blessings may descend on you, our generous patrons and benefactors. In turning to our dear and beloved Governess, who for 50 years has laboured in every season to train up the children of this Institution in the way they should go, how numerous are the pleasing recollections which crowd upon our memory; we think of the many youthful minds which, in times past, attended to that kind instructing voice, when it endeavoured to implant in them that beautiful admonition,—“Remember thy Creator in the days of thy youth;”—that voice which has sought to inculcate industrious habits, truthful convictions, and grateful sentiments in the minds of the many dear ones who have found a home,—a happy, happy home within these walls. Our hearts are drawn forth in grateful admiration of that Divine Providence which guided our footsteps hither, and made us the favoured ones to celebrate her Jubilee. My dear Governess, may the remnant of your days yet unconsumed be fraught with peace;—the remnant of your journey, like the path of the just, be as the shining light that shineth more and more into perfect day, and the end thereof be peace! Many of us, ere long, must quit this home of our childhood, but rest assured thy precepts will go with us. Finally, in the name of all, I repeat, the Lord bless thee; the Lord cause his face to shine on thee; the Lord give thee peace.

The children here all turned towards their Governess and reverently bowed.

Bro. Crew, the Secretary of the Charity, here read letters from the Earls of Zetland, M. W. G. M., and Yarborough, D. G. M., expressive of their full concurrence in the testimonial, and their deep regret that absence from town would prevent their enjoyment of the gratification of taking part in the ceremony of its presentation.

The children having sung the Jubilee Anthem, Mrs. Crook was conducted by Bros. Lee and Crew to the seat of the Chairman, who said :—

Ladies and Gentlemen,—I must be allowed to express my deep regret, that the duty, which I am now about to perform, has not fallen into the hands of the Grand Master, or Deputy Grand Master, whom I am sure, could they have been present, would most gladly have undertaken its performance. At the same time allow me to say, that I speak from my heart when, in the words of the little girl, who just now addressed us, I say I feel great pleasure in being selected as the humble individual this day to present a testimonial to Mrs. Crook, on the completion of her fifty years' employment in the Institution. I can assure you, Mrs. Crook, that the Committees have ever seen with satisfaction the anxiety and love for the children committed to your charge, which you have ever mixed up with your duties as a Governess. You have ever displayed towards them so much of maternal care, combined with the discipline of the school, as while it has tended to their future welfare, has secured for you the gratitude, love, and respect of the children. I wish particularly to be allowed to refer to that circumstance, because I think the welfare of the school must in a great measure depend on the character of the Matron and the Governess appointed to preside over the establishment; and because during the whole course of years you have presided over it, we cannot trace one child, brought up within its walls, who in after life has departed from the paths of duty; all of them have gone into society bearing with them the blessings of that education, founded on religious principles, which is the sure guide to contentment in this life, and to happiness hereafter. I shall not attempt to look into futurity,—it having been said that blindness to the future has been kindly given us that we may the better fulfil our duties; but seeing how, for fifty years, you have conducted this Institution, I may be allowed to look forward to the prospect hereafter of the celebration of another Jubilee-day, when—though I trust the day is far distant when you shall be taken from amongst us—I hope the lady who may be called to preside over this establishment will be found to have so followed in your footsteps as to have secured, as you have, the respect and confidence of the Committees, and the love and esteem of the children. It is highly pleasing and satisfactory to look around this room and know that the decorations are all the work of the children,—all a balm of love; and when I look behind me, and see the words "Our dear Governess's Jubilee," I feel that they only express the sincere feelings of their hearts. It is pleasing to me to see in this room to-day some of the young women who have been formerly in the school, evincing, by their presence on this interesting occasion, the love they bear towards you. Your interest in the children brought up in this school has never ceased to manifest itself towards them, even in after life. Your doors have always been open to them,—you have always been ready to encourage them with your counsel and advice, when they have met with any little difficulties; and your counsel and recommendations have, I believe, very often led to the accomplishment of the ends they had in view. It is not necessary that I should say more; for all here, I am sure, know how much and deeply you are respected, and all are gratified at seeing this mark of respect paid to you. I can assure you, we are all deeply obliged to you for the manner in which you have conducted the school, whilst it has been under your guardianship, as we feel that the character maintained by the school is bound up with our own characters as well as with yours. We thank you for the character which under your care it has always maintained, reflecting alike honour on the charity, upon you, and upon us; and I am sure, that whilst you continue to preside over it, it will always maintain that proud and honourable character.

The honourable gentleman here presented Mrs. Crook with a handsomely emblazoned testimonial, framed and glazed, bearing the following inscription, which he proceeded to read:—

ROYAL FREEMASONS' SCHOOL FOR FEMALE CHILDREN.

Testimonial

FROM THE
PRESIDENT, VICE-PRESIDENT, TRUSTEES,
AND THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE
OF THIS INSTITUTION,
TO THEIR MOST RESPECTED
MATRON,
AND OF THE CHILDREN IN THE SCHOOL TO THEIR MUCH-BELOVED
GOVERNESS,
MRS. FRANCES CROOK,
ON THE JUBILEE OF HER CONNECTION WITH THE INSTITUTION.

March the 25th, 1852.

THE HOUSE COMMITTEE,

Deeply sensible of the Advantages which this Establishment has enjoyed in the Personal Superintendence of Mrs. FRANCES CROOK, the Matron, beg to present her this Testimonial of their unqualified Esteem and Approval. They accord to her the Praise so justly her due, for the exemplary manner in which, during the period of fifty years, her onerous duties have been surpassingly fulfilled, both with regard to the ability with which she has conducted the Household Department, and the judicious skill and unflinching assiduity which she has evidenced in the Management of the Children entrusted to her charge.

THE CHILDREN

In the School also desire to offer to their esteemed Governess their most affectionate thanks for the loving tenderness, which has guided and controlled them in health, nursed and watched over them in sickness, and taught them to find in her a Guide, Companion, Friend, and almost Mother. They earnestly pray that her declining years may be tended with the same unwearied love which she has lavished upon them, and that, after enjoying every comfort which this world can bestow, she may "rest from her labours," whilst her "works do follow her unto a blessed and glorious Immortality."

Mrs. Crook, who on receiving the testimonial was deeply affected, expressed her regret that her emotions prevented her expressing her gratitude in suitable terms, and requested that Miss Jarwood might be allowed to read a few observations, which she had committed to paper.

Miss Jarwood, the Assistant Governess, accordingly read the following address, during which most of the children shed tears and sobbed audibly, whilst the constant application of handkerchiefs to the faces of many of the ladies present showed that they deeply sympathised with the feelings expressed, and were affected by the interesting ceremony, in which they were taking part:—

Gentlemen,—I cannot sufficiently express the deep gratitude I feel for the uniform kindness, with which you have honoured my feeble exertions to discharge the numerous duties of my responsible position in your Institution. In numbering fifty years in your service, I have had on many occasions to require

your patient and kind support, but I cannot recollect one instance in which I had to lament the want of either. Allow me to assure you, that as long as my feeble energies remain, they will ever be at your disposal. In returning you, gentlemen, my sincere and best thanks for this and the many past proofs of your condescending respect for my humble services, allow me to add my fervent prayer that the Great God of Providence may bless your future exertions with increased success in the cause of the Freemason's orphan. I will now, with your permission, address myself to the children before you.

My dear Children,—I receive with unmingled pleasure your affectionate address. It is true, fifty years have witnessed the anxiety of my mind to promote your welfare, but great has been the reward I have received, in the assurance that my humble efforts to advance your interests have been crowned with success in most cases. I thank you sincerely, as I feel sensibly your affectionate regard, and your pious wishes, and your Scriptural benedictions: God bless you, my dear children! May the Freemasons' School never want a warmer friend than is your affectionate Governess.

Bro. Dr. Moore being at this period about to leave the room,—

Bro. CREW said, he was sure he should not be doing his duty if he did not acknowledge, on behalf of the Committee, how deeply indebted they were to the worthy doctor for his attendance and general attention to the interests of the children in the school.

Bro. Dr. MOORE acknowledged the compliment, and expressed the gratification he felt at the interesting events of the day. He regretted that he was compelled to leave, but could assure the ladies and gentlemen present, he would at all times be happy to do his best in support of the interests of the Institution.

The CHAIRMAN begged to apologise, in consequence of a pressing engagement, at having to leave the company, whom he hoped would continue to partake in the happiness of the day.

Bro. CREW was sure they could not let their worthy Treasurer depart without expressing their thanks for his presence that day, as well as for the deep interest, which he had taken in this charity for the last twenty or thirty years,—an interest indeed which he took in every charitable institution, Bro. Cabbell's name being known all over the world as synonymous with charity. (Applause.) He had managed the whole of the money affairs of the Institution, in a manner to entitle him to their gratitude, which he now begged to express to him in the name of the Committee and of the ladies who had honoured them with their presence. (Applause.)

Bro. CABBELL begged to acknowledge the kindness with which his name had been mentioned by Bro. Crew and responded to by the ladies and gentlemen present. He had always had the greatest pleasure on all occasions in visiting that Institution, in the success of which he should ever take the deepest interest. Before he left, though perhaps a little out of order, he might be allowed to propose one toast—"Health, long life, and happiness to Mrs. Crook." (Applause.) She had been with them fifty years, and he trusted she might be yet spared many years to continue her valuable services to the Institution; and when it should please the Almighty to take her to Himself, he was sure she would carry with her not only the respect of the subscribers and Committee, but the love and esteem of all the children. (Applause.)

The toast having been drunk, Bro. Cabbell retired, and, at the request of the Brethren present, Bro. Beadon assumed the chair.

The children were then supplied with wine, and the healths of "Her Majesty," (followed by the singing of the National Anthem), "H.R.H. Prince Albert," "Albert, Prince of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family," followed by "A Song for Merry England." The Queen and Prince Albert were drunk with great zest.

Bro. CREW then begged to be allowed to introduce to the Chairman Miss Jack, who having been educated in the school, had been apprenticed to it, and had up to the present time conducted herself with the utmost propriety.

The CHAIRMAN kindly shook Miss Jack by the hand, and assured her that it would at all times give the Committee and himself the greatest pleasure to hear

so good a report of her, and whilst she conducted herself properly, as he had no doubt, following the bright example before her, she ever would, to do all in their power to promote her interests.

Bro. CREW said that the programme of the proceedings of that day had been drawn up by one whom they all honoured and respected, but who, with the modesty peculiar to herself, had forgotten to include her own name within it. Miss Jarwood, their Assistant Governess, had remembered her respected superior, the Committee, the Treasurer, and in fact everybody but herself. She had been brought up in the school, had ever been distinguished for her talents and amiable temper, had followed closely in the footsteps of Mrs. Crook, and had secured the respect and esteem of the whole of the Committee, and he need not say the affection of the children. He did not know who Miss Jarwood took as her guide, but he believed it was one on high, whom they all revered, and that she well understood the nature and importance of her duties.

The CHAIRMAN would assure Miss Jarwood that both he and the Committee had always the greatest pleasure in meeting her, knowing as they did that, next to Mrs. Crook, they were indebted to her for the good management of the Institution. She had been brought up in the school. They looked upon her as one of their own children, and placed the utmost confidence in her. They had now placed under her another of the pupils of the school, who he trusted would follow in her footsteps, and secure, as she had done, the love, regard, and esteem of all with whom she had come in contact.

Miss Jarwood having curtsayed her thanks, the Chairman gave "The Health of the Earl and Countess of Zetland," which was followed by another song from the children.

The healths of the Chairman and the ladies, who had honoured the company with their presence, was then drunk, the Chairman especially thanking the ladies, in the name of the Committee, for their frequent visits to the Institution, and valuable suggestions from time to time given to the Committee relative to its management.

The various fruits, &c. were then distributed amongst the children ; and some of the company having stopped to take tea and coffee, a very happy evening was spent in witnessing the enjoyments of the children, amongst whom the day was kept as a complete holiday.

Great credit reflects on those parties who had the management of the arrangements on this happy occasion, which Bro. Crew informed the company had been conducted entirely within the school, the Committee having had nothing to do with the preparation of the children's address, which they had never heard until delivered in that room, or of any of the other arrangements, beyond the preparation of the testimonial to Mrs. Crook.

THE 33RD DEGREE FOR ENGLAND AND WALES, AND
THE DEPENDENCIES OF THE BRITISH CROWN.



A SOLEMN Convocation of the Ancient and Accepted Rite, under the sanction of the Supreme Council for England and Wales, was held at their Grand East, Freemasons' Hall, London, on Tuesday, the 17th of February, 1852, on which occasion several distinguished Brethren were advanced to the rank of the 30th Degree of the Order. After the Convocation had been opened, according to the ancient usages, and the Brethren, who had been elected and admitted,

declared Grand Elected Kts. K. H. of the Order, the members of the High Grades Union banquetted together, being presided over by the Most Puissant Sov. Grand Commander Dr. Leeson, supported by the Ill. Grand Treasurer Gen. H. E. Henry Udall; the Ill. Grand Almoner, H. E. William Tucker; the Ill. Sov. Grand Inspector-General, Henry Emly; the Ill. Sov. Grand Inspector-General J. A. D. Cox; the Ill. Bro. Col. Vernon (32nd); and about thirty other illustrious Brethren of the Order. The Sov. Commander proposed "The Healths of His Grace the Duke of Lancaster, and the Members of the Supreme Council of Ireland;" "His Grace the Duke of Athole and the Members of the Supreme Council for Scotland." He also proposed "The Healths of the Most Puissant Commanders, and the Members of the Supreme Councils for the Northern and Southern Divisions and Jurisdictions of the United States of America;" all of which toasts were received with great fraternal respect.

The Ill. Treasurer General proposed "The Health of the Most Puissant Commander Bro. Leeson," who acknowledged the honour in a speech that was received with great applause.

During the evening, it was stated that the Supreme Council had before them applications for Chapters of Rose Croix from several parts of England, and that the whole proceedings of the Order are progressing in a most satisfactory manner. It is expected that the annual meeting of the Order will be held earlier than usual, perhaps about the end of April, that being found more convenient than later in the summer. Whenever the annual meeting takes place, the Degree of Rose Croix will be given with all the musical adjuncts, which render so great attraction to the interesting ceremony.

METROPOLITAN.

GRAND STEWARDS' LODGE.—This Lodge held its public meeting for the delivery of the Lectures in the 1st degree on the 19th of March, when the W.M. Bro. Emly was ably assisted in the working by the following members of the Lodge,—Bros. Giraud, P.M. ; J. A. D. Cox, P.M. ; Tonkyns, Blake, and Burgess. We were happy to see that a large body of the Brethren availed themselves of the privilege liberally afforded by this Lodge of hearing the lectures of the various degrees worked in so perfect and instructive a manner. Amongst the members of the Lodge we observed Bro. Vinson, now in his eighty-eighth year, and who has been a member nearly half a century.

OLD CONCORD LODGE, No. 201.—The members of this Lodge held their fifth annual ball on Thursday, the 4th of March, at the Queen's Concert Rooms, Hanover-square, under the direction of Bro. T. Bohn, W.M., assisted by the Officers of the Lodge. The arrangements were excellent, the attendance of the friends of Masonic charity numerous and fashionable, and we have to congratulate the Stewards upon the success attending their exertions. The supper-table was ably presided over by the W.M., and it was at a late hour when the company reluctantly retired. The charitable funds of the Lodge will be considerably augmented by the proceeds of the ball.

UNIVERSAL LODGE, No. 212. — A very numerous meeting of this Lodge was held in the Temple at Freemasons' Tavern on Friday, Jan. 23rd, to assist at the Installation of the W.M. elect, when W. Bro. E. M. Attwood having vacated the Chair, Bro. Thomas Naghten, S. W., P. G. S., was duly installed as W. M., and immediately proceeded with the business of the Lodge.

Seventy-three of the Brethren subsequently attended the banquet, and separated highly gratified with the evening they had spent, as well as with the very excellent culinary arrangements of the new lessees. Amongst the long list of distinguished visitors we noticed Bros. A. Campbell, P. S. W. ; Pattison, P. S. W. ; White, Grand Sec. ; Bazellgette Pattison, Jun. ; Sigrist, S. Noble, R. P. Noble ; Mustapha Yusuf (of a Lodge in Algiers) ; Connell, Curtis, Graves, Sapte, &c. &c. &c.

UNIVERSAL LODGE OF INSTRUCTION, No. 212 (established 1808). —The forty-fourth anniversary of this Lodge of Instruction was celebrated at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, on Tuesday, the 3rd of February, when nearly forty Brethren partook of a banquet at once elegant and substantial, provided by the excellent landlord, Bro. Frank Clemow.

The Chair was admirably filled by the W. Bro. Thomas Naghten, P. G. S., W. M. of the parent Lodge, ably supported by the W. Bro. Barrett, W. M. 188, and the W. Bro. Henry Wilkin, W. M. 228, and a numerous and efficient board of Stewards.

In the course of his eloquent remarks, whilst proposing the toast of the evening, "Prosperity to the Lodges of Instruction," the Chairman took occasion to congratulate the Lodge—nearly the oldest existing—upon its present flourishing prospects and high working order. For his own part, he freely admitted the great advantage he himself had derived from his attendance there, not merely in qualifying himself for the position he at present filled, but as a means of affording him greater light, whereby to contemplate the sublime mysteries of the ancient Order. Bro. Naghten concluded an address replete with Masonic feeling, by an energetic appeal to his younger Brethren to avail themselves of the numerous channels of Masonic information afforded by the Lodges of Instruction in London, for which many of our provincial Brethren must wish in vain.

Bro. Crawley, the Secretary, whose name was most properly coupled with the toast, briefly returned thanks, and the festivities, conducted in a truly Masonic spirit, were prolonged till a late hour.—N.B. The Lodge meets every Tuesday, at eight.

ST. ANDREW'S LODGE, No. 281.—On Thursday, Feb. 6th, the Installation of Bro. G. G. Hooper as W. M. of this ancient Lodge took place in the Freemasons' Tavern under the most pleasing auspices. The ceremony was most ably and impressively performed by Bro. Levick. After the Installation, the W. M. initiated Bro. King, and went through the whole business of the Lodge in the most correct and efficient manner, so much so as to receive the unqualified approbation of nine Past Masters, who honoured the ceremony with their presence. Bro. Mills was appointed S. W. and Bro. Glendenning, J. W. The Secretary, in allusion to the annual report, congratulated the Lodge on its progressive prosperity, and from the large accession of members, there was every expectation of the St. Andrew's Lodge standing high in the estimation of the Craft. About twenty-eight of the Brethren and visitors sat down to a magnificent banquet, furnished by the new proprietors of the tavern, which included every delicacy of the season, and the wines were excellent. The harmony and conviviality of the evening were much enhanced by the well-told tales of Bro. Cubeson, and the rich and racy comic singing of Bro. Moodie.

BANK OF ENGLAND LODGE, No. 329.—The Brethren of this Lodge held their Installation meeting at Radley's Hotel on the 8th of Jan. last, when Bro. M. Costa (Grand Organist), the W. M. elect, was duly installed in the Chair by Bro. Past Master Whitmore, whose admirable performance of this beautiful and impressive ceremony is a great Masonic treat, and worthy of all praise.

Bro. Costa, on his Installation, presented to the Lodge three elegant and costly carved oak chairs, with velvet cushions, &c., and elevated platforms for the same, all designed and made expressly for the occasion; also, a polished oak case, *en suite*, containing three pair of richly silver-laced gauntlets, embroidered with Masonic emblems; and a complete set of very handsome collars for the Officers of the Lodge. These magnificent gifts were greatly admired, and the liberality of the donor duly appreciated by the Brethren, who immediately passed a vote of thanks to the following effect:—"That the Brethren have

great pleasure in accepting these valuable presents, from the kind and unostentatious spirit in which they are given by Bro. Costa,—the generous desire they evince on his part to add to the comfort and respectability, and to promote the prosperity of his mother Lodge,—and, more especially, from the gratifying evidence which they will afford to after-times of the Bank of England Lodge having been presided over by a Brother so eminently distinguished for his professional attainments, and so justly beloved for his personal worth.”

A numerous attendance of visitors, including Officers of the Grand Lodge, Provincial Grand Officers, and other distinguished members of the Craft, assembled to do honour to Bro. Costa, and added to the brilliant *tout ensemble* which the Lodge presented when its elegant furniture was properly arranged, and the Officers invested.

A handsome jewel was presented to the Immediate P. M. Bro. R. Costa, for his services in the Chair, and “as a token of the sense entertained by the Brethren of his high Masonic attainments, and his truly amiable and generous character.”

After the business of the day was finished, the Brethren sat down to a very *recherché* banquet provided by Bro. Holt, the liberal and spirited host of Radley’s Hotel.

Among the visitors were Bros. Rowland Alston, P. G. M. for Essex; F. B. Alston, P. S. G. W.; G. K. Potter, P. J. G. D.; C. E. Deacon, P. D. G. M. for Hampshire; Colonel Vernon, P. M., St. Peter’s, 607; Under-Sheriff Hopwood, P. M. Royal Lodge Perseverance; J. Lee, W. M., Bedford; W. Anderson, P. M. Royal Jubilee; S. B. Wilson, P. M., Cadogan; H. F. Cameron, St. John’s, Kilwinning, &c.; H. Faudel and B. L. Phillips, P. M.’s, Burlington; L. Myers, W. M. ditto; R. Paddison, Ionic, &c. &c. &c.

ROYAL YORK CHAPTER, No. 7.—This Chapter held a meeting on the 24th of February, for the election of Officers for the ensuing year, when Comp. Barnard, H.—P. M., of the Ionic Lodge, 275, a Brother not more known than respected,—was unanimously elected to the first Principal’s Chair. Between twenty and thirty Companions afterwards sat down to an excellent banquet, presided over by Comp. Harrison, Z., who has ably and admirably ruled the Chapter during the past year.

During the meeting, Comp. G. Muggeridge, Treasurer, to whose exertions the Chapter owes much of its present prosperity, moved the following munificent donations to the various Masonic charities, viz. — Girls’ School, £10. 10s.; Boys’ School, £5. 5s.; Benevolent Institution, £15.; and £3. 3s. were afterwards voted to the Prayer Fund. Such an example is well worthy of imitation, and we wish every success to the Chapter. It comprises about thirty-five members, of which number, nearly one-third consists of P. Z.’s.

The Installation of the newly-elected Officers will take place on Tuesday, the 27th April.

ROYAL YORK CHAPTER OF IMPROVEMENT.—This R. A. Chapter of Improvement was held at the Freemasons’ Tavern on Saturday, the 20th of March, at seven P. M., and we understand will hold its meetings weekly at the same place and hour, till further notice, when the ceremonies will be worked by the following E. Comps.—W. Evans,

Z. ; A. King, H. ; R. A. Graham, J. ; W. Jones, P. S. Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*

CROSS OF CHRIST ENCAMPMENT.—A meeting of this venerable and well-conducted Encampment was held on Friday, March 19, at Radley's Hotel, when Sir Kt. M. Costa, 30°, was duly installed E. C. for the ensuing year. The ceremony was performed in the most impressive manner by Sir Kt. Lieut.-Col. Vernon, M. E. C. for Staffordshire, P. A. D. C. of the G. C. of England and Wales, who had come to town from Staffordshire expressly to do honour to the distinguished Sir Kt., who now presides over the Cross of Christ Encampment. Sir Kt. Vernon was assisted in the ritual by Sir Kt. the Rev. J. E. Cox, E. C. of the Croydon Encampment, and A. D. C. of the G. C. of England, who also desired thus to testify his regard for Sir Kt. M. Costa, not only as a Templar and a Mason, but as a man. The Encampment was attended by Sir Kts. Goldsworthy, Baumer, Spencer, Moulsworth, R. Costa, Giampietro Castellan, and several others. Comps. Foster, White, and Fooks were also exalted in this degree on the occasion.

PROVINCIAL.

CAMBRIDGE.—*Masonic Ball.*—On Thursday, February 14th, the Annual Ball in connection with the Scientific Lodge of Freemasons took place at the Lion Hotel, Petty Cury, and was attended by upwards of 170 persons. The large room was most tastefully decorated upon the occasion. The orchestra was erected at one end, and at the other two large banners were suspended ; on either side were several chandeliers with wax-lights, prettily decorated with artificial flowers, as were also the two large chandeliers in the centre of the room. Various emblems of Freemasonry hung around the walls ; and altogether the taste displayed by Mrs. Waller and the W. M. in decorating the room for the occasion was worthy of all the praise bestowed upon it. Weippert's band was engaged for the occasion, and about quarter past nine dancing commenced, and was kept up with great spirit until twelve o'clock, at which hour supper was announced, when about half of the company partook of it first. Ample justice having been done to an elegant and substantial repast, Bro. Rowe gave "The Queen," and afterwards "The W. M. of the Scientific Lodge, Bro. H. E. Chisholm," who he said was worthy of all praise for his indefatigable exertions in bringing about this assembly. The second part of the company were now admitted, and after justice had again been done to the viands, the W. M. again gave "The Queen," and "The Dep. Pr. G. M., Bro. H. F. Rowe," who had used his best exertions to give *éclat* to the proceedings. Bro. C. E. Brown, P. M., then gave "The Ladies," and the party again returned to the ball-room "to trip it on the light fantastic toe," and waltzes, polkas, &c., succeeded each other with the greatest

rapidity, until six o'clock, when Sir Roger de Coverly concluded one of the most pleasant and agreeable assemblies that has taken place in Cambridge for many years.

CORNWALL.—FALMOUTH.—John Ellis, Prov. G. Sup. of R. A. M. and D. P. G. M. of Cornwall, was elected Mayor of the Borough of Falmouth, at the last election, having already filled that office on two previous occasions, as well as having been an alderman for twelve years. Bro. Ellis was also qualified as a magistrate of the district on the 5th inst.

Bro. William Rufus Ellis has received an appointment as Post-master of Falmouth.

DORSET.—WEYMOUTH.—At a Convocation of the All Souls Chapter, held at the Masonic Hall, Friday, Oct. 24, the following Companions were elected to fill the several offices of the Chapter for the ensuing year :—Comp. T. H. Harper, Z. ; Comp. A. S. Samson, H. ; Comp. Maunders, J. ; Comp. J. Tizard, E. ; Comp. J. Harvey, N. ; Comp. T. Robinson, A. S. ; Comps. Popplewell and Farwel, A. S. : and on Wednesday, Nov. 6, a Board of Installed Principals was held, at the above Chapter, for the purpose of installing and investing the Principals elect. The ceremony of Installation was ably and efficiently performed by Comp. W. Hancock, P. Z. The Companions dined together on the following day.

ESSEX.—CHELMSFORD.—On Monday evening, February 9th, the Dep. Pr. G. M. (Capt. Skinner) visited the North Essex Lodge, at the White Hart Inn, Bocking, attended by six Past Masters of the Lodge of Good Fellowship, No. 343, Bro. Surridge, W. M., of 817 Lodge, and several members of other lodges in the province. The Dep. P. G. Master was received with great enthusiasm, and the evening was spent with that harmony which always characterises the Masonic Craft.

EAST LANCASHIRE.—OLDHAM.—On Thursday, the 18th of December last, a Grand Masonic Ball was held in the Town Hall, Oldham, in aid of the funds of the Female Orphan School, on a scale of magnificence seldom equalled, and perhaps never surpassed, either in this or any other province, the room being very tastefully decorated with banners, Masonic devices, &c. The gay and elegant dresses of the ladies, with the costly clothing and glittering jewellery of the Brethren, formed a dazzling spectacle, while the beautiful music, most admirably and tastefully executed by the excellent quadrille band, under the direction of Bro. Jones, bandmaster of the 16th Lancers, constituted a *tout ensemble* more like the scene in some Arabian fairy tale than a veritable reality. A selection from the splendid band of the regiment played some beautiful airs in the hall during the arrival of the Brethren, thus contributing to render the approach scarcely less enchanting than the elysium itself. Peace, harmony, and brotherly kindness reigned supreme throughout the evening ; not a single circumstance occurring to interrupt the pleasure of the meeting, which was honoured by the presence of Bros. S. Blair, M. P. D. P. G. M. E. L., Jno. Bell, P. S. G. W. E. L., A. Rhoys, Esq., P. J. G. W. E. L., several others of the P. O., and

many Brethren of distinction from Liverpool, Manchester, and neighbouring towns. The worthy D. P. G. M. expressed himself highly gratified with the arrangements and proceedings throughout, and the ladies were delighted.

Lodge of Friendship, 344, Oldham:—

The following are the officers for the year 1852:—W. H. Fletcher, W. M.; J. Gaitskell, P. M. and Lect. Master; J. Bamford, S. W.; D. Evans, J. W.; J. S. Hague, S. D.; R. Bradbury, J. D.; T. Mattinson, Treasurer; Rev. J. G. Blackburne, Chaplain; W. Hudson, Secretary; W. Wainwright, I. G.; J. P. Brierly, J. Lees, Stewards; R. Greaves, Organist; U. Shaw, Tyler.

The Lodge is in a very prosperous state, not fewer than thirty most respectable members having been admitted during the past year. The Brethren are deeply indebted to their worthy D. P. G. M. for his desire at all times to further their prosperity, and desire sincerely to tender their thanks for his kindness.

On Monday, Jan. 26, 1852, the new R. A. Chapter, named "The Tudor Chapter," attached to the Lodge of Friendship, Oldham, was constituted and consecrated in due form by the Provincial Grand Superintendent, S. Blair, M. P., assisted by J. Moody, P. P. S. G. W. C. and P. Z., and others. The ceremony was beautifully performed, and was most solemn and imposing, and made an impression which will not speedily be effaced upon those who were fortunate enough to be present. There is every likelihood that the Companions will very soon be both numerous and respectable. The three principals are—J. Gaitskell, Z.; W. H. Fletcher, H.; S. Brown, J.

WEST LANCASHIRE.—*Lodge of Faith, No. 711.*—ASHTON, near WARRINGTON.—The Annual Festival of St. John was celebrated on Tuesday, Dec. 28, at the Lodge Room, Gerard's Arms Inn. The Lodge duties were first performed, and the Officers for the ensuing year appointed; Bro. James Billinge being installed W. M. by Bro. Thomas Johnson, P. M., who conducted the ceremonial with fitting solemnity, and faultless working. After the W. M. had appointed his Officers, Bro. John Knight, as S. W., and Bro. Dr. J. F. Pennington, as J. W., &c., the Lodge was regularly closed, and the Brethren proceeded to the banquet. The cloth being removed, the W. M. proceeded to remind the assembled Brethren, that the loyalty of the Fraternity was no lip-service, but being ever strongly felt, was not less energetically expressed when requisite, because it was a Masonic duty, to pay allegiance to the "civil powers;" not only to fear God, but to honour the king, and never to be concerned in plots and conspiracies against the peace and welfare of the nation. He therefore proposed "The Queen! the Duchess of Lancaster; a Mason's daughter and a Mason's niece."—"God save the Queen."

The W. M. had no apology to make for introducing the next toast. Prince Albert had won golden opinions from every one, and, perhaps, might yet serve his apprenticeship to Masonry.—"Prince Albert, Albert Prince of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family."

The W. M. prefaced the next toast in the following terms: "Having, as Masons are ever anxious to do, recorded our loyalty to the crown, we have now to express our allegiance to the ruler of the Craft. The noble individual, whose health I am about to propose,

has obtained the unanimous good opinion of those who know him intimately ; that he is actuated by an anxious desire to promote, to the utmost of his power and influence, the best interests of the Order, and is most indefatigable in his exertions to subserve the good and welfare of Masonry, no one can dispute:—The Earl of Zetland, M. W. G. M.”

The next toast was,—“The Earl of Yarborough, M. W. D. G. M.,”—a Mason in heart and soul, whose every endeavour it is to promote, extend, and support the principles of Masonry with untiring energy and zeal.

“The M. W. G. Masters of Ireland and Scotland, the Dukes of Leinster and Athol.”

The toast of “Brother Le Gondre N. Starkie, R. W. P. G. M. West Lancashire,” was then given;—“a man,” observed the W. M., “whose beneficence is only bounded by his means ; but to whose highly meritorious exertions to do good to his fellow-creatures it was unnecessary to refer, since his benevolence needed not the aid of embellishment to render the mention of his name welcome.”

Bro. KNIGHT, S. W., proposed, in a neat, earnest, and telling address, “The Earls of Ellesmere and Mexborough, and Lord Combermere, R. W. P. G., Masters for East Lancashire, West Yorkshire, and Cheshire.”

“The health of Bro. the Rev. Gilmour Robinson, R. W. D. P. G. M. West Lancashire,” was next given, and warmly welcomed.

Bro. THOMAS JOHNSON then proposed “Bros. S. Blair, Charles Lee, and Finchett Maddock, R. W. D. P. G. Masters for East Lancashire, West Yorkshire, and Cheshire—a constellation of Masonic worthies.”

Bro. SHAW, being called upon by the W. M., prefaced in an appropriate and impressive manner, “The memory of our departed Brethren.” (Drank standing, and in silence.)

Bro. DR. PENNINGTON, J. W., proposed, in a neat and effective speech, “The Provincial Officers of West Lancashire,” not previously mentioned.

The W. M. then requested Bro. Shaw to present Bro. Thomas Johnson, on behalf of the subscribers, as a testimony of their regard, with a P. M. Jewel, Collar, and Apron. Bro. Shaw remarked, that he esteemed it a high honour to be selected by the W. M., although he must confess that he was somewhat unexpectedly called upon to embody and express the feelings of high regard which were entertained for their respected Brother. He could not for a moment suppose that he could do justice to those feelings. Bro. Johnson was essentially the father of Lodge No. 711 ; to him the Brethren were mainly indebted for their knowledge, working,—in fact, for everything. The position it occupied was, for so young a Lodge, highly creditable, and must be ascribed solely to Bro. Johnson, to whom their gratitude was eminently due.

Upon the Jewel is engraved,—“Presented to *Brother* THOMAS JOHNSON, P. M., in testimony of his Masonic labours, and as a token of their appreciation of his Masonic virtues, and of their fraternal regard, by subscribing Officers and Brethren of the LODGE OF FAITH, No. 711, of *Free and Accepted Masons*, 23rd December, 1851.”

Bro. JOHNSON rose and was warmly greeted, and offered his thanks in a speech replete with true Masonic feeling.

“The West Lancashire Institution for the education and advancement in life of children of distressed Freemasons;” and with this, “Prosperity to all Masonic Benevolent Institutions;” was admirably supported by the W. M. and Bro. P. Boardman. A spirited appeal from the chair speedily originated a respectable list of annual subscribers; after which, the usual collection was made for the assistance of poor and distressed Freemasons.

“The Worshipful Master” was then proposed by Bro. Harriott, who responded in most appropriate terms.

“The Visiting Brethren” was acknowledged by Bro. Clarkson, supported by Bro. Fowler, who gave—“The Sister Lodges; may they all flourish in Masonic excellence.”

The healths of the Wardens, Deacons, Inner Guard, and Tyler, were then duly honoured, as well as the absent Brethren, and the Ladies.

The W. M. then gave the toast, which forms the solemn conclusion on all festive occasions, and the brethren separated, delighted in the participation of those fraternal feelings and that comprehensive charity by which the festival was so eminently characterized.

MANCHESTER.—A very interesting event took place in the Lodge of Virtue, at the monthly meeting on Tuesday evening, the 16th of March, 1852. It having been intimated by Bro. Moody, that Bro. Captain Childs, of H. M.’s 46th Reg. of Infantry, had in his possession the Bible used on the initiation into Freemasonry of the celebrated George Washington, in the Lodge of Social and Military Virtues, No. 227, of the said regiment, the Chaplain of the garrison, Bro. the Rev. P. C. Nicholson, a member of the Lodge of Virtue, No. 177, kindly undertook to be the bearer of a letter from the W. M., Bro. Thomas Chadwick, to Bro. Captain Childs, and the other officers of the Regiment, members of the Order, to the following effect :—

“Rev. and dear Sir and Brother,—The very interesting fact of the volume of the Sacred Law, upon which the great General Washington was obligated into the mysteries of Ancient Freemasonry, being in the possession of the Masonic officers of H. M.’s 46th Regiment of Infantry, having come to my knowledge, I shall esteem it a favour if you, as the Chaplain of the regiment here, accompanied by the Chaplain of the Lodge over which I have the honour to preside, and of which you are a member, will do me the favour of presenting my fraternal regards to all the officers of the regiment who are Masons, and say what delight it will give to me, and the Brethren of the Lodge of Virtue, if they will visit our Lodge on Tuesday evening next, and how much that delight will be increased by their bearing with them that sacred volume, to which must be attached reminiscences most dear to every Masonic heart.”

The following is an extract from Mr. Nicholson’s reply :—

“Dear Brother and W. M.—According to your request, I this day called at Salford Barracks, and was fortunate enough to meet with Captain Child and Dr. Franklin, both Brothers of the 46th Regiment. Captain Child immediately produced the hallowed book, which he never permits to be far from his sight; it having been placed in his company when the Lodge of the 46th Regiment was dissolved some years ago, in Halifax, N.S. My eyes were gladdened by the ancient and venerable appearance of the Bible, twice taken in war, and carried off with the baggage of the 46th Regiment, by the enemy—once by General Washington, in command of the American army, in 1777, and once by the French, at Dominica, and each time honourably restored to the Lodge of

the 46th, with a military escort, colours flying, and music, borne aloft on the shoulders of the enemy under a magnificent canopy. Captain Child and some other Masonic officers will attend our Lodge next Tuesday, and Captain Child will bring the noble volume himself, and give the Brethren the privilege of viewing it. I doubt not, dear Brother, that under your presidency this Book of books will be received with true Masonic honours, and a ceremonial solemnized worthy of so memorable an occasion."

The Military Brethren promptly and politely complied with the request, and attended the Lodge with the Bible, when the W. M., in a neat address, explained to the Brethren the reasons, which induced him to address the Military Brethren respecting the Bible, and their courteously and fraternally complying with the request.

Bro. Captain Childs, during the evening, gave an interesting account of the Bible; its loss and recovery, on two different occasions, from the fortune of war; the circumstances which led to his possession of it,—the gift of the Masonic jewels belonging to the Lodge, to Brethren in Canada.

The Bible was printed in London, "by the assignees of Thomas Newcomb and Henry Hills, deceased, Printers to the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty, MDCCXII," and contains the Apocrypha, the New Testament, Index, the Psalms to be read during the year, the Thirty-nine Articles, select Forms of Prayer at the Healing, and Table of Kindred.

The Bible appears to have been in possession of the regimental Lodge since the 4th of March, 1752, namely, a hundred years. It has been recently elegantly bound in purple morocco, and the covers are ornamented with appropriate gilt Masonic devices. It was an object of intense interest to the Brethren, who carefully inspected it. The Brethren afterwards sat down to refreshment, and the evening was spent in "peace, harmony, and Brotherly love."

Presentation of a Floorcloth to the Lodge of Virtue, No. 177.—On Tuesday Evening, the 17th of February, at the regular monthly meeting, Bro. Charles Agar, artist, presented the above Lodge with a Floorcloth, designed and painted by himself, as a mark of his regard for this highly prosperous Lodge, in which he was initiated into Freemasonry. The time bestowed upon the painting of the Floorcloth,—its intrinsic worth as a work of art,—the elegance of its design and execution,—and the liberality of its donor, the completion of whose numerous commissions absorbs the whole of his professional time, greatly enhances the value of the gift,—the latter fact being an additional reason for rendering to Bro. Agar the warmest thanks of its present possessors. We regret that our space will not allow us to give an elaborate account of this Cloth, which we have received, from a valued correspondent.

LIVERPOOL.—*Ancient Union Lodge, No. 245.*—The Brethren of this Lodge held their usual Annual Meeting on the 15th of January, at the Royal Hotel, Dale Street, for the Installation of their W. M., Bro. W. B. Hooper. The Installation was performed by Bro. R. H. Hartley, P. M., whose delivery and correct working did full justice to this very interesting and beautiful ceremony. At this meeting, Bro. W. B. Hooper, W. M., appointed and invested the following as his Officers for the year:—Brs. Chas. Hand, S. W.; Slack, J. W.; Betterley, S. D.; Richard Williams, J. D.; John Leah, Junr. Sec.:

Richard Shaw, Junr. J. G. ; and J. Berry Tyler. After the business of the Lodge was concluded, the Brethren sat down to refreshment prepared for the occasion. When the usual toasts had been drunk, Loyal and Masonic, each departed to their respective homes, highly pleased with the proceedings.

OLDHAM.—*Consecration of the Royal Tudor Arch Chapter, No. 344.*—This novel and beautiful ceremony took place in the newly-formed Chapter in this town, on Monday, the 26th January, 1852, the Most Excellent the Pr. G. S. for East Lancashire, Stephen Blair, M. P., having kindly consented to be present on the occasion ; he deputed the arrangement of the ceremony to the M. E. P. Z., No. 404, and member of the Chapter of Virtue, No. 177, Manchester, J. J. Moody, and he requested the E. C., the Rev. Moses Margoliouth, B. A., of No. 177, to undertake the onerous duties of Chaplain.

P. Z. J. J. Moody installed the E. Comp., William Henry Fletcher, as 2nd Principal, and F. Z. Samuel Brown, as 3rd Principal of the Tudor Chapter, No. 344, the M. E. Z. elect being unavoidably absent from illness.

Six candidates were proposed for exaltation at the next meeting of the Chapter, which, from the well-known zeal and activity of its members, promises to become one of the most influential in the Eastern Division of Lancashire.

LINCOLNSHIRE.—SPALDING.—*The Members of the Hundred of Elloe Lodge, No. 690, met at the Masonic Hall, Bank Passage, to celebrate the Festivity of St. John, on the 29th of December last, and to install the W. M. Elect. P. M. Williamson presided as the Installing Master. Bro. J. W. H. Fidswell, the W. M. Elect., was duly installed by the Board of Installed Masters, and then appointed his Officers, and invested them with the insignia of office ; viz., Bro. F. J. Lindy, from No. 833, Canada, S. W. ; Bro. Jno. Clark, J. W. ; Bro. Willmot, S. D. ; Bro. Chas. Ramiz, as J. D. ; Bro. Draper, Treasurer ; Bro. Edw. Gentle, Secretary, and Bro. Briggs, J. G.*

MONMOUTHSHIRE.—NEWPORT.—*Silurian Lodge, 693.*—The Installation of Bro. Cornelius Evans, as W. M. of this Lodge for the ensuing year, took place on the 31st ult., at the Masonic Hall, High Street. The following appointments were also made:—S. W., Bro. Hallen ; J. W., Bro. West ; Tr., Br. Wells ; Sec., Bro. W. Williams ; Deacons, Brs. Collier and Whitechurch ; J. G., Bro. Kelly ; Tyler, Bro. Frenburg. The Brethren afterwards dined together at the Westgate Hotel, when a splendid Tea Service and a R. A. Jewel was presented to Bro. Samuel Coombs, “as a small token of gratitude for his past services.”

The W. M., in presenting the Testimonial, feelingly alluded to the many years Bro. Coombs had devoted to Masonry ; to the number of Brethren he had from time to time initiated ; and to the very many acts of kindness always evinced by that Brother to the Craft in general.

Bro. Coombs, who was much affected by the presentation, briefly, yet eloquently, returned thanks for the unexpected present thus made to him. The Brethren separated at an early hour. We are happy to add that Masonry is gaining ground rapidly in Newport,

and during the last twelve months, some good men and true have joined this Lodge.

OXON.—OXFORD.—The annual meeting of the Pr. G. L. of Oxfordshire was held in the Masonic Hall, in this city, on Thursday, Feb. 19, when a large number of the Fraternity attended. The Pr. G. M., Bro. Rev. C. J. Ridley, of University College, addressed the Brethren, and congratulated them on the progress of Masonry in the Province, and the large accession of members during the past year. He expressed the gratification it afforded him to see the Churchill Lodge re-established, and that a new Lodge, called the Cherwell Lodge, was about to be opened at Banbury. He exhorted the Brethren to carry out the principles of Masonry in all the relations of life, and thus testify to the world that they were founded on truth, justice, and mercy.—The accounts were audited and passed, and the following subscriptions voted:—2*l.* to the Masonic Annuity and Building Fund; 2*l.* 2*s.* to the Masonic Girls' and Boys' School; 3*l.* 3*s.* to the Radcliffe Infirmary; 1*l.* 1*s.* to the Oxford Medical Dispensary; 1*l.* 1*s.* to the Oxford Blue Coat School; and 1*l.* 1*s.* to the Anti-Mendicity Society.

The Dep.-Pr. G. M., Bro. S. Burstall, moved, in eloquent terms, and Bro. Blake seconded, that the Pr. G. L. should present to Bro. Ald. R. J. Spiers, G. S. B. of England, some acknowledgment of the many and valuable services which he had rendered to Freemasonry, and for the very efficient manner, in which he had promoted its advancement and success.

The motion was carried by the unanimous voice of the Lodge, and the Pr. G. M. stated that, having anticipated such a result, a token in the form of a silver goblet had been provided, which he begged to present in the name of the Lodge to Bro. Spiers. The goblet, which is of an elegant design and exquisite workmanship, bore the following inscription:—

“Presented by the Provincial Grand Lodge of Oxfordshire to Bro. R. J. Spiers, P. P. G. S. W., P. M. of the Alfred Lodge, and Grand Sword Bearer of England, in grateful recollection of his various and valuable services in the cause of Freemasonry. Feb. 19, 1852.”

Bro. Spiers returned thanks in appropriate terms, and was greatly applauded by the Brethren.

The P. G. M. then appointed the following brethren to be his officers for the year:—Bros. F. Symonds, S. W.; R. St. John Tyrwhitt, Christ Church, J. W.; Rev. C. J. Paul, Exeter College, Chaplain; G. W. Latham, Brasenose College, Registrar; J. Martin, Sec.; W. Beach, Christ Church, S. D.; Ald. Dudley, J. D.; J. H. Isles, Lincoln College, Sup. of W.; T. Joy, Dir. of Cer.; O. Ogle, Wadham College, Assis. ditto; S. Elvy, O; J. Thorp, S. B. Stewards—Brs. J. Prior, Frazer, A. Joy, Harrison (Brasenose College), Still (Exeter College), and Malcolm (Christ Church). Bro. Bossom was re-appointed Pursuivant, and Bro. Tipton, Tyler. Bro. Blake was re-elected Treasurer by the unanimous vote of the lodge.

Apollo University Lodge.—In the afternoon of the same day the Brethren of the Apollo University Lodge assembled for the purpose of installing their newly-elected W. M., Bro. W. Beach, of Christ Church. The ceremony was performed by the

Dep. Pro. M., Bro. Burstall, in a very masterly and impressive manner; after which the W. M. appointed the following Brethren to be his officers:—Brs. J. H. Isles, Lincoln College, S. W.; Still, Exeter College, J. W.; Rev. C. J. Paul, Exeter College, Chaplain; O. Ogle, Wadham College, Sec.; Malcolm, Christ Church, S. D.; Harrison, Brasenose College, J. D.; Hansard, Dir. of Cer.; S. Elvey, O.; Fullarton, Christ Church, I. G. Stewards—Brs. Goodlake, Balliol College; Hon. Fiennes, Christ Church; and E. J. Parry, University College. Br. W. Thompson was re-elected Treasurer by the unanimous voice of the Lodge.

In the evening the annual banquet of the Apollo Lodge took place, when about 90 of the Fraternity were present. The W. M. of the Apollo Lodge presided, and was supported by the P. G. M. for Oxfordshire, Bro. Rev. C. J. Ridley; Brs. S. Burstall, D. Pr. G. M.; Rev. J. W. Hayes, P. G. C.; Tucker, D. P. G. M. for Dorsetshire; Bernardi, D. P. G. M. for Monmouthshire; Moore, G. C. of England; Spiers, G. S. B.; Capt. Bowyer; Evelyn, M. P.; E. A. H. Lechmere, P. S. G. D. for Worcestershire; Crew; A. Thiselton; Hartley, Liverpool; Bradshaw, Manchester; Rev. G. R. Portal; Alpass, Liverpool; C. J. Paul, Rev. R. C. Pettat, W. K. R. Bedford, Wyndham Portal, W. Lechmere, Alderman Dudley, &c., &c. The addresses by various Brethren were of an eloquent and heart-stirring character.

On Friday, February 20th, a meeting of the Knight Templar Encampment of Cœur de Lion was held, and numerous attended.

BANBURY.—A desire having been expressed by many influential members of the Masonic Order, for the establishment of a Lodge at Banbury, and several of the principal inhabitants of that town having promised to render every assistance in carrying out this object, a petition to that effect was transmitted to the Grand Master of England, the Earl of Zetland. The prayer of the petition was granted, and a warrant of constitution issued, authorising the formation of a Masonic Lodge, to be called "The Cherwell Lodge." The Pr. G. M., Bro. Rev. C. J. Ridley, fixed Monday, Feb. 23, as the day of consecration of the Lodge, and Installation of the W. M.; a large number of the Fraternity assembled at the Red Lion Hotel, where the new Lodge is to be held.

About two o'clock in the afternoon the Lodge was opened by the D. P. G. M., Bro. S. Burstall, assisted by the Pr. Grand Officers. The Pr. G. M., Bro. Rev. C. J. Ridley, was present at the ceremony, with Brs. R. J. Spiers, G. S. B., and G. D. Philipe, P. S. B., Crew, Spencer, Owen, Blake, and Martin, from London.

The Pr. G. C., Bro. Rev. C. K. Paul, having opened the Lodge with prayer, the constitution and warrant were read, and the selection of Br. Paul as W. M. having been approved, the G. S. B. then presented the collars and jewels of the new Lodge to the D. P. G. M., and afterwards introduced to him the W. M. elect.

The consecration then commenced, the Lodge was uncovered, and the Pr. G. Chaplain offered up the usual prayer; after which the G. S. B. and the two Pr. G. Wardens took corn and wine and oil, and sprinkled them on the Lodge, and the D. Pr. G. M. scattered incense round the Lodge. After prayers and sacred music, the Lodge was covered, and the Pr. G. C. dedicated the Lodge to T. G. A. O. T. U. and His service. The Brethren then formed in procession, and

passing round the Lodge, saluted the Pr. G. M. and the D. Pr. G. M. with the usual honours.

The Brethren then chanted the 133rd Psalm, accompanied on a fine-toned harmonium by Bro. Harrison, Organist. The Lodge was then duly constituted with the grand honours.

The ceremony of Installation then succeeded, and after the usual forms, Bro. Paul, W. M., appointed the following Brethren to be his officers:—Bro. J. H. Iles, Pr. G. S. W., Oxon, S. W.; Brs. H. H. Still, Pr. G. S., J. W.; Rev. D. E. Dewer, Chaplain; C. H. D'Aeth, S. D.; C. S. Palmer, J. D.; O. Ogle, T.; F. Terry, S.; R. J. Hansard, Dir. of Cer.; J. G. Fullarton, I. G.; Tyler, Bro. Bull.

The W. M. then addressed the Brethren in appropriate terms, and having taken his seat of office, proceeded to the election of joining members and candidates.

The following Brethren were then elected joining members:—Brs. W. Beach, G. F. Druce, F. W. Simmons, W. A. Tattersall, E. Brockliss, E. Bevels, J. Smith, Rev. D. E. Dewer, H. Alington, W. W. Harrison, T. B. Norton, J. G. Fullarton, W. T. Short, W. C. Gainer, Hon. Powys, E. Palmer, Jones Parry, H. Kingsley, C. H. D'Aeth, T. and A. Joy.

The following candidates for Initiation were balloted for and elected:—Revs. V. Blake, M. Skipworth; Messrs. B. W. Aplin, J. Gardiner, W. Floyd, H. Rolls, T. B. Looker, C. Fowler, of Banbury; H. Churchill, Deddington; and W. R. Roberts, of Pembroke College, Oxford. All the above candidates, with the exception of Messrs. Gardiner and Looker, who were absent from Banbury, were initiated, as well as T. Moss, a serving Brother.

The following gentlemen were proposed as desirous of being admitted into the Order:—Messrs. W. Perry, Stutterd, and F. Taylor, of Banbury.

A vote of thanks was given to the Brethren, who had made presents to the Lodge, and a special vote of thanks was recorded to Mrs. Wilson and Miss Corbett for the kind services rendered by them towards the decoration of the Lodge. The ceremony of consecration and installation was performed by Brs. Burstall and Spiers, assisted by the Rev. Br. Paul, in a most effective manner. The various charges and addresses were given most impressively by these Brethren, and every minute form required by the constitutions was strictly observed and carried out most successfully. In his capacity as W. M., the Rev. Br. Paul was particularly successful, and evinced his peculiar fitness for the important post assigned to him.

The business of the day having been concluded, the Brethren formed in procession, and went to refreshment.

The W. M., the Rev. Bro. Paul, presided, and was supported by the Pr. G. M., Bro. Rev. C. J. Ridley; D. Pr. G. M., Bro. Burstall; Brs. R. J. Spiers, G. S. B.; Philipe, P. G. S. B.; Crew; Spencer; Martin, W. M. of the Alfred Lodge; Beach, W. M. of the Apollo Lodge; Owen, P. M.; Thompson, P. M.; O. Ogle, Hansard, Terry, Iles, Still, D'Aeth, Harrison, Tattersall, Fullarton, Hon. West, Pickard, W. St. Aubin, G. F. Druce, Naghten, A. Joy, Ravenshaw, Sidebotham, Biber, Alington, Gainer, Joseph Plowman, Rev. V. Blake, Rev. M. Skipworth, Aplin, Floyd, Rolls, C. Fowler, Churchill, Roberts, Bossom, H. Floyd, &c.,—in number about fifty.

On the removal of the cloth, the W. M. proposed, as the first toast, "The Queen and the Craft."

The national anthem was sung by Mrs. Spencer, Plowman, and Crew, the Brethren joining in the chorus. The toast which followed was "The G. M. of England, the Earl of Zetland."

The W. M. then proposed "The Earl of Yarborough and the Grand Officers of England," and remarked that the G. S. B. of England, Bro. Spiers, whose name was received with respect, not only in this but in every Province, had rendered most essential service in establishing and consecrating the Cherwell Lodge. (Cheers.) He was also happy to see present on this occasion the P. G. S. B., Bro. Philippe, who, nine years ago, consecrated the Churchill Lodge, and he was sure that the Brethren would duly appreciate and acknowledge the valuable services which those two distinguished Brothers had rendered to Masonry generally, and to this Province in particular.

Bro. SPIERS responded to the toast, and assured the Brethren that the G. L. of England looked with great solicitude to the proceedings of the Masonic body in this Province, and when he presented to the G. Sec. the petition for the Cherwell Lodge, it was most cordially received, and afforded infinite delight to all the Grand Officers present. For his own part, he was most anxious, during his year of office, to render some permanent good to the Province; and he had been enabled to do so by the part which he had taken in establishing and consecrating this Lodge. It might be interesting to them to know the history of Masonry in Banbury. Having examined the records of the G. L., he had ascertained that there was formerly a Lodge held here, at the sign of the "Three Lions," about the year 1780, for about 30 years previously, but he was unable to find traces of its existence after that date. Another Lodge was formed in 1828, which met at the sign of the Cock, but, for want of support, did not exist beyond 1831. When looking out for a hostelry for the Cherwell Lodge, they sought for the "Three Lions," but they sought in vain, for when the mystic bond of Masonry was broken, the "Three Lions" became also disunited, and each set up a separate den for himself. (Laughter.) It was true that the Cock Inn was still in existence, but the emblem was not a favourite one with them; for, like their neighbours over the water, they might well fear that if they met one month under the sign of the Cock, at their next meeting they might find it exchanged for the Eagle, and soon afterwards there might be no sign at all. Delighted, therefore, were they to range themselves under the banner of the "Old Red Lion" of England, and, from the admirable manner in which they had been accommodated and entertained under its auspices this day, they had good reason to be satisfied with their choice. Most sincerely did he hope that Masonry had now taken a firm and deep root in the important town of Banbury, that it was the commencement of a long reign, and that it might confer great and lasting benefits on that place where it had found a home. Among the various institutions which tended to elevate the character of the inhabitants, it was a source of much gratification to see a temple dedicated to brotherly love, relief, and truth. He should attend the B. of G. P. of G. L. on the following day, when he should not fail to communicate the successful result of their labours, and their progress in that Craft which they all had so much at heart.

Bro. PHILLIPS said that having been a Mason for 26 or 27 years, he could not permit the present opportunity to pass without expressing the extreme gratification, which he had derived from this meeting. He had attended, during the course of his Masonic career, a large number of Lodges, he had consecrated two, and assisted at the consecration of others, but he was bound to say that he never saw any thing so beautifully done, or so successful in every respect, as the ceremony of this day. He could not withhold his meed of praise from Bro. Spiers for the admirable, beautiful, and impressive manner, in which he had conducted the consecration, and he only regretted that there were not more Grand Officers present to participate in the gratification which he had experienced. The present was an occasion, in which they, as Masons, felt deeply interested, for they had constituted a Society calculated to do good to mankind, uniting men of all politics and creeds, furnishing them with neutral ground, on which they might meet as Masons and as men, and breaking down those barriers which separated man from his fellow-man, and checked the flow of kindly feeling. In conclusion, he begged to be allowed to bear testimony to the admirable manner in which the W. M. had conducted the initiations ; it afforded him great pleasure, as well as to witness the efficiency of his officers, who, he thought, must have been well drilled to fulfil their duties so successfully. (Loud cheers.)

Bro. JOSEPH PLOWMAN, being called on, sung a song entitled "The Cherwell and her Crew," which he had written for the occasion, every verse of which was received with the greatest applause.

The W. M. then proposed "The health of the Pr. G. M. Bro. Ridley," to whom, he remarked, the Province were deeply indebted for the interest which he felt in all that related to the advancement of the Order, and the great services which he rendered it. (Loud cheers.)

Bro. RIDLEY said that he would not detain them more than a few minutes, because he was aware they had not so much time at their disposal as they wished, but he could not refrain from expressing his thanks to them for the very cordial manner in which they had received his name ; he could only say, in the spirit of that excellent song which they had just heard, that he sincerely wished them every success, and that the Cherwell Lodge might long be a credit to Banbury and to the Craft. He had been anxious that the name of Cherwell should be connected with this particular branch of Masonry, and adopted as its title, because the river Cherwell, running as it did from Banbury to Oxford, connected the two towns, and was emblematical of Masonry, which would unite them by one continuous link. In the same way as it flowed through smiling valleys and quiet fields, and fertilized as it glided on, so he hoped that the peaceful flowing of Freemasonry might unite them in closer ties, and diffuse those mutual benefits which might be considered to be represented under the name of Cherwell. It was with that feeling that he looked upon the establishment of this Lodge, and, among the many pleasant associations of this day, he doubted not that they would regard, in years to come, as one of the most agreeable, that they had been brought into closer connection with the inhabitants of Banbury, many of whom they were happy now to call by the endearing name of Brother. He trusted that when they visited

Oxford, they would find that they had a tie upon their Brethren there, which they would be too willing to acknowledge, and that they would receive them with that spirit of hospitality which was the characteristic of the Order. He had never attended any meeting, where he had derived a larger amount of gratification, for the arrangements were perfect, and with the Lodge itself he was particularly struck, presenting as it did certain marks, squares, and lines, which were so emblematical of Masonry, and rendered it so peculiarly fitted for the purpose. The consecration of the Lodge had been under his sanction, and he had availed himself of the opportunity of calling in the assistance of Bro. Burstall and Bro. Spiers, who had so beautifully performed the ceremony, and to whom he felt specially indebted. The occasion had been to him one of un-mixed enjoyment; he thanked the Worshipful Masters, the Officers, and Brethren, for the admirable manner in which they had fulfilled their duties, and he should regard the constitution of the Cherwell Lodge as a great epoch in Masonry, and one of which himself and his Province might be justly proud. (Loud cheers.) Before sitting down, he begged to propose "The health of D. Pr. G. M. Bro. Burstall;" he would not allude to his many valuable services, but to the great assistance which he had rendered on the present occasion, which they had all witnessed, and could duly appreciate. (Loud cheers.)

Bro. BURSTALL returned thanks, and said that as they were pressed for time he should content himself by simply assuring them that any duties which were imposed upon him he fulfilled with great willingness, and to the best of his abilities, but he could on the present occasion take credit only for a certain part, because he had been assisted in an eminent degree by Bro. Spiers and Bro. Paul. He had had the pleasing duty of installing the Rev. Bro. Paul, and was happy to congratulate him on taking to a Lodge in a most prosperous condition, for he had never heard of any Lodge starting under such auspicious circumstances; he had also never heard of a Master being called on at the onset to initiate ten members. He begged to propose "The W. M. of the Cherwell Lodge," and he should do justice to his feelings by saying but little in his presence; he had known him as a man and a Mason for many years, and having seen his working in the Lodge of which he was a member, he could truly say that no man was better qualified to take the office of Master. He rejoiced in seeing him assisted by such competent officers, for he had strong claims on their support, and he doubted not they would do their duty, well knowing that the Master of a Lodge could not carry out his plans successfully unless he was well supported by his officers. In conclusion, he congratulated them on having such an efficient Master, and he felt assured that, under his auspices, Masonry would attain a high position in the town of Banbury.

The W. M. acknowledged the compliment, and remarked that he thought few men could point to a single event in their lives which had not some drawback; but he was enabled to do so on this occasion, for it had been a source of unalloyed pleasure to him and without a circumstance to mar it. It was true that he had taken some pains and trouble to establish a Lodge at Banbury, but had he not met with such cordial co-operation and assistance from his friends at Oxford, he would not have been able to accomplish his object. He

had had qualms as to whether the undertaking would not have been too much for him, but the kindness of his friends had smoothed his path, and cleared away many difficulties; to them he tendered his warmest thanks, and to the newly-initiated Brethren, for having responded to the call and seconded his efforts in founding the Lodge. While he had the honour to preside over the Lodge, and ever after, no effort on his part should be spared to render the Cherwell Lodge an honour to Masonry, and to the Province of Oxfordshire. (Cheers.)

The W. M. then proposed "The health of the W. M. of the Alfred Lodge, Bro. Martin." (Cheers.)

Bro. MARTIN returned thanks, congratulating Banbury on the establishment of a Masonic Lodge.

The W. M. proposed "The healths of the Visiting Brethren."

Bro. PHILIPPE briefly returned thanks, and said it would afford him much pleasure to receive at the Lodge over which he presided any Brother from the Province of Oxford.

The W. M. proposed "The health of the W. M. of the Apollo Lodge, Bro. Beach."

Bro. BEACH, returning thanks, observed that although he was prepared for an interesting ceremonial, not having witnessed a consecration before, yet it far exceeded his expectations, and it was made the more striking and impressive by the admirable manner in which it had been conducted by the D. Pr. G. M. and Bros. Spiers and Paul. (Cheers.)

The meeting broke up early, and shortly after the greater portion of the party returned to Oxford by a special train.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.—PETERBOROUGH.—The Brethren of St. Peter's Lodge, 646, assembled on the 29th December, at Bro. Binney's, Crown Hotel, for the purpose of installing Bro. John Hervey as W. M.

Bros. Compton and Robt. Taverner having been raised, the W. M. was proclaimed and saluted in the usual manner, and appointed the following Brethren as his Officers: viz. John Fox, S. W.; Robert Richardson, J. W.; Thomas Brainsby, S. D.; William Bodger, J. D.; and M. W. Hart, J. G. Bros. Royce, Treasurer elect, and Buckle, Secretary, were absent; the former from a domestic affliction, the latter from illness. Bro. Willmott, P. M., however, fulfilled the duties of both offices in a most admirable manner. The former Tyler was re-elected.

The business having been concluded, and the Lodge closed, the Brethren adjourned to an excellent banquet, served up with Bro. Binney's usual taste.

The W. M. was supported on his left by Bros. the Earl of Aboyne, P. G. M., the Rev. Birch, Willmott, P. M., &c.; on the right, by Bros. Ewart, D. P. G. M., Rule, P. G. Pursuivant, Fox, Pl. G. Reg., &c. The Vice-Chair was occupied by the S. W., Bro. John Fox.

The usual loyal toasts having been given, the W. M. called upon the Brethren to charge their glasses, and said, they would readily understand that the toast he was about to propose was the health of the P. G. M., the noble Lord on his left. He was quite prepared for the enthusiasm with which the toast was received, and congratulated the Lodge on the honour conferred upon it by the P. G. M.'s presence that day; indeed, he himself considered it a

great personal compliment, that on taking the Master's Chair for the fifth consecutive year, and at his second installation as W. M. of St. Peter's Lodge, the noble Earl had kindly accepted the invitation of the Brethren. The P. G. M. had not attended the Lodge for some time; but he hoped the same favour, which had been vouchsafed to him, would be extended to his successors in that chair. No man was more generally respected than the P. G. M., whose excellent qualities, residing as he did amongst them, were well known to all present. He experienced some difficulty in saying all he felt before his Lordship; but he called upon the Brethren to recollect, that since his appointment as P. G. M. he had never refused holding the P. G. L. annually in person; and his kindness, affability, and condescension were proverbial. He begged to thank the Earl for his presence, and called upon the Brethren to drink the health of the P. G. M., the Earl of Aboyne. The toast was most enthusiastically received.

The Earl of ABOYNE, who was greeted with the strongest demonstrations of affection, said, before he thanked the W. M. for the complimentary way in which he had proposed his health, he must apologise to the Brethren for his late arrival. It had been his full intention to have been present in the Lodge in time for the work; but unfortunately the fox never would run the right way, and at two o'clock he found himself at Thrapston, twenty miles off. He was always happy to meet the Brethren whenever circumstances permitted, and was delighted to see so large and respectable an assemblage around him. He experienced very great pleasure in seeing Masonry so flourishing, and trusted St. Peter's Lodge would continue to prosper as it had recently done. He thanked the Brethren most heartily for the cordial and warm-hearted reception they had given to his health.

The W. M. next gave the D. G. M., and the rest of the Grand Officers, coupling with it the health of Bro. Rule, P. G. Pursuivant.

Bro. RULE, in briefly returning thanks, complimented the Lodge on the excellent working he had witnessed.

The next toast was the D. P. G. M., Bro. Ewart, a Brother than whom, the W. M. observed, none was more universally loved and respected. He also took occasion to advert to the leading part which Bro. Ewart had taken in the formation of a "Widows' Annuity Fund for the Province," which without his aid would never have been effected. This Society had already been productive of great good, as, had it not been established, the widows of several Brethren would have been left totally without the means of existence. He had great pleasure in giving Bro. Ewart's health.

The D. P. G. M. took no credit to himself for what he had done; for, despite any effort of his, the Annuity Fund must have been unsuccessful but for the active support of the P. G. M. and the Brethren of the Province generally. He entertained the most fervent desire and hope for its success, and exhorted the Brethren to afford all the aid in their power. He thanked them most warmly for the honour they had done him.

The Earl of ABOYNE called on the Brethren to drink a bumper to the health of the W. M., on whom his Lordship was pleased to pass a very high eulogium.

The W. M. returned thanks to the P. G. M. for the distinguished

honour he had conferred upon him, and to the Brethren for their warm response to the toast. He alluded in very feeling terms to his first arrival in Peterborough, friendless and a stranger; he however visited the Lodge, and was warmly received,—became a member, and in time had attained, by the kindness of his Lordship and the Brethren, the high honour of being S. G. W. of the Province, and for the second time W. M. of St. Peter's Lodge. He regretted very much that his avocations did not permit that regular attendance which he desired, and should have been glad had they elected a Master who could be more punctual, and do them more justice. Judging, however, from the number of initiations (13) during the past year, he trusted the interests of the Lodge had not suffered. This was especially owing to the attention and efficient exertions of the Past Masters, to whom he tendered his best thanks, and concluded by thanking the Brethren most gratefully for the invariable kindness he had received on that as well as on every other occasion, when he had had the pleasure of meeting them.

The next toast was "Success to the Socrates Lodge, Huntingdon," coupled with the health of Bro. G. M. Fox, who briefly replied.

"The British Lodge, 419, Cape of Good Hope, and the health of Bro. Buckle," who expressed his thanks for the unexpected compliment.

The P. G. M. gave the health of the P. G. Officers, thanking them for their excellent services, without which he should not be able to get through the duties of his office. He saw several around him to whom he was particularly obliged for their punctual attendance, and mentioned Brs. Ewart, D. P. G. M., Hervey, S. G. W., Strickland, G. S., and Fox, G. R.

The toast having been suitably acknowledged, the W. M. next gave the health of the Past Masters, to whom the Lodge was so deeply indebted, and he himself especially so, for active and continuous services.

Bro. Willmott replied in appropriate terms.

"The health of the Countess of Aboyne" was most warmly received, and acknowledged in a humorous speech by the Earl.

"The Board of Management of the Northamptonshire and Huntingdonshire Widows' Annuity Fund, and success to the Masonic Charities generally," was responded to by Bro. G. M. Fox.

"The Officers of the St. Peter's Lodge" was replied to, on behalf of himself and the rest of the Officers, by Bro. R. Richardson, W. J.

"The health of the Ladies" was responded to, on their behalf, by the Rev. Bro. Birch, in an amusing address.

The last Masonic toast, "To all poor and distressed Masons," being given, the P. G. M. retired amidst loud applause, accompanied by the W. M., but the major part of the Brethren continued the festivities of a happy evening for a considerable time longer.

Some excellent singing, by Brs. Strickland, Fox, Chadwell, Richardson, R. Taverner, Arnold, &c., added much to the general enjoyment.

SALOP.—SHREWSBURY.—*Masonic Banquet and Ball.*—Among the events which have transpired in this neighbourhood during the season, none have excited so large a share of public interest as the Grand Masonic Banquet and Ball, which took place on Monday, January 19, which was attended with the most brilliant success.

The ball took place in the Lion Assembly room, which was most superbly decorated for the occasion with Masonic and other devices. At the top of the room, on a raised platform, were displayed the insignia of the Craft; comprising the Worshipful Master's pedestal, supporting a triangle, from which was suspended a perfect ashler, surrounded by compasses, hour-glass, and other emblems; royal arch polished marble pedestal, mounted on a velvet stand; the Senior and Junior Wardens' pedestal; globes, tracing boards, and Corinthian, Doric, and Ionic columns and lights. Above the platform was displayed a circular design, representing the sun rising in the East, with the following inscription:—"Sit lux, et lux fuit." In front of the orchestra was a device, comprising the royal arch, with intersected triangles, on which were inscribed "Si Talia Jungere Possis sit Tibi Scire Satis," and "We have found Wisdom, Strength, and Beauty." In front of the gallery was displayed an ingenious device, containing in the centre, "We meet on the Level, and part on the Square," and on either side of the above "Lux e Tenebris" and "Vide, Audi, Tace." The arms of the Provincial Grand Lodge for Staffordshire, with the inscription "Audi, Vide, Tace," together with the following mottoes, were displayed around the room:—"Faith, Hope, Charity," "Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth," "Temperance, Fortitude, Prudence, Justice," and in Greek, "Know Thyself." The decorations were under the superintendence of Bros. Birch and Jones, and presented a pleasing appearance. The stewards of the ball were Bros. W. J. Clement, R. Haycock, J. L. Rowland, and J. W. Towers; and the whole of the arrangements gave general satisfaction. The ball was opened at half-past nine o'clock by the W. M., J. N. Heathcote, and Miss Leighton, of Cardiston, at which hour the attendance was considerable; and from that time up to twelve o'clock a continuous stream of carriages furnished accessions to the party, till at length the number of visitors reached nearly two hundred, and presented a brilliant appearance. The floor was crowded with groups of dancers, all intent upon seizing the pleasures of the hour. The orchestra was occupied by an efficient band, under the direction of Bro. G. E. Hay; and the gallery was crowded with spectators. At one o'clock the party retired to the supper-room, where an elegant repast was provided, comprising every delicacy of the season.

SALOP AND NORTH WALES.—SHREWSBURY.—*Inauguration of Sir W. W. Wynn, Bart., as Grand Master for the Provinces of Shropshire and North Wales.*—The long looked for and anxiously anticipated auspicious day, when Shropshire should rank on a level with other counties of equal standing, by its being placed under the guardianship of a Provincial Grand Master, has at length taken place. Many attempts have been made to remedy the obstacles which each time presented themselves, but it was not till the present year that the Craft practically confronted the differences and obstacles, the result of which has been that the deficiency has been remedied, and on Tuesday, March 9, Shropshire and North Wales were united by one bond of fraternal union under one banner, and as one Province, under the happily-chosen leadership of Sir W. W. Wynn.

The Brethren from all parts of the county and the principality mustered in the Assembly room of the Lion Hotel, where the Very

Worshipful Master of No. 328 opened the Lodge. Upon the arrival of Sir Watkyn, the Earl Howe, Prov. G. M. for Cheshire, and the Installing Master upon the occasion, accompanied by a numerous retinue of Officers from the Grand Lodge, entered the Lodge-room, and, having taken his seat, proceeded to open the Prov. G. L., assisted by the following Brethren as Officers:—the Rev. Dr. Bowles, D. P. G. M. for Herefordshire, D. G. M.; Bro. A. R. Martin, P. G. J. W. for West Lancashire, G. S. W.; Bro. Moss, P. G. J. W. for Cheshire, G. J. W.; Bro. Rampling, P. G. S. W. for Cheshire, Standard Bearer; Bros. the Rt. Hon. Lord Dungannon; the Rev. J. O. Dakeyne, Past G. Chap. of England; Lewis, G. S. D. for Cheshire, &c. The ceremony of presentation having been gone through, Earl Howe expressed his high gratification at having been deputed by the G. M. of England to perform the ceremony of inauguration of his esteemed friend and Brother, whose Masonic conduct he greatly eulogised. Sir Watkyn was then introduced and presented by Bro. Col. Burlton, C. B., G. M. for the Prov. of Bengal, and was duly installed, the Brethren doing him the customary homage. The noble Earl, accompanied by Sir Watkyn, the Grand Officers, Masters, and Past Masters of the various Lodges in the newly-appointed Province, repaired to the ante-room, where the inauguration took place, upon the conclusion of which they returned into the Lodge-room, which presented a truly imposing scene, from the assemblage being very great, dressed in the paraphernalia of the various degrees. The recognition by the Brethren of Sir W. W. Wynn as their future P. G. M. then took place, when Earl Howe again addressed them at considerable length.

Sir W. W. Wynn, having replied, invested the following Brethren as his Officers:—Bros. Dymock, D. G. M.; J. W. Clement, S. G. W.; J. N. Heathcote, J. G. W.; Onions, G. R.; the Rev. J. G. Guise, G. C.; the Rev. P. G. Bentley, G. C.; Wigan, G. Sec.; Pritchard, S. G. D.; Stevenson, J. G. D.; Ware; Rowland, G. D. C.; J. Broughall, G. S. B.; H. Bloxon, G. O.; Towers, G. P.

P. M. Brother Martin, as W. M. of the St. David's Lodge, Bangor, proposed a vote of thanks to the Right Hon. Lord Combermere, which was received and carried with acclamation, and presented an address to the R. W. G. M. from St. David's Lodge, No. 540; after which the V. W. Master, J. N. Heathcote, accompanied by the Brethren of the various Lodges in the county, also presented the P. G. M. with an address, both of which were listened to by him with marked attention, and were very graciously received.

The P. G. Lodge then adjourned.

At six o'clock the Brethren, to the number of 100, assembled to partake of an entertainment in the long room of the Raven and Bell Hotel. Among the Brethren present were the following:—the Earl Howe, Sir W. W. Wynn, Bart.; the Viscount Dungannon, Sir A. V. Corbet, Bart.; the Viscount Seaham, Sir W. Cunliffe, Bart.; Rev. J. O. Dakyene, J. Bentley, C. Guise, Dr. Bowles, Hon. W. Cotton, M. P.; W. J. Clement, W. Willoughby, C. B. Teece, J. N. Heathcote, W. Cooper, W. H. Cooper, J. B. Minor, C. Wigan, Col. Burton, J. Walford, Wem; H. Barker, — Wilson, H. Bloxam, — Stephens, Bangor; S. Wood, Rev. H. Bluck, W. H. Nicolls, J. Hamer, C. Sparling, E. H. Dymock, J. L. Rowland, W. Brightwell, J. Broughall, W. Patchett, G. Gordon, J. P. White, R. Hay-

cock, J. Bratton, — Wace, Col. Hogg, W. Austin, J. Watton, J. Knowles, — Rollings, — Greene, J. Cartwright, G. S. Barnett, S. Scoltock, T. Onions, S. Roberts, L. Meredith, J. Humphreys, J. Evans, H. Shaw, J. Taylor, J. White, H. Smith, — Stephens, N. Pritchard, G. Hay, J. Martin, — Davies, W. Burr, — Lee, H. Evett, H. Edwards, E. H. Griffiths, E. Tench, H. M. Jones.

After the cloth had been withdrawn, the R. W. G. P. M. for Shropshire and North Wales gave the usual loyal toast—"The Queen and the Craft," &c. &c. The usual routine of Masonic toasts followed—"The Earl of Zetland, G. M. of England;" "The Earl of Yarborough, D. G. M.;" "The Grand Officers;" for which toast the Past Grand Chaplain, Bro. Dakyene, returned thanks in very pleasing terms for the honour conferred on the Grand Lodge. "The Pr. G. M. for Cheshire, Lord Combermere;" which was enthusiastically received and responded to. "The Health of Dr. Bowles" was then proposed by the Noble Chairman, to which

Dr. BOWLES replied in most appropriate terms, and concluded by proposing "The health of Sir W. W. Wynn, Bart., Pr. G. M. of Shropshire and North Wales." The Rev. Doctor was loudly and enthusiastically cheered.

Sir W. W. WYNN rose amidst deafening applause to return his most grateful thanks to the company for the honour they had conferred upon him by nominating him as one worthy to govern their Order in that Province, and to the noble Earl, who had so admirably performed the extremely beautiful and impressive ceremony on that day. He assured them he felt deeply the honour they had done him, and sincerely trusted that the Craft would not in any degree suffer from its government being committed to his charge. It was the earnest wish of his heart, that Freemasonry should flourish as well in this as it had done in other Provinces; that it might, all he could say was, that nothing on his part should be wanting to deserve their good wishes, and further the prosperity of the Order,—for he confidently believed that no other communion of assembled individuals could boast of the power which Freemasonry had. It bound all men together in one common tie of universal brotherhood and friendship;—all met on the same level, at the same board, united by one and the same mysterious tie of friendship and brotherly attachment, and whatever might be the differences in their political or religious opinions, in their dealings with the world, once having met within the tyled precincts of a Lodge, every discordant feeling and every political difference dwindled away and were forgotten. Again thanking them for the kindness shown towards him in exalting him to the position he then occupied, the Pr. G. M. proposed "The Visiting Brethren," coupling with the toast the name of a nobleman who was not more known by his long residence in the county, than for the urbanity of his manners and the truly Masonic virtues which adorned his heart, Lord Dunganon.

Lord DUNGANON thanked his friend the R. W. G. M. for the high terms with which his health had been proposed. He had been twenty-seven years a member of the Fraternity, and although his duties had prevented his paying the attention due to the Order, he hoped he had not for a single moment ever lost sight of its best principles, which were founded upon everything the Bible teaches us, and duty leads us to perform. The noble lord paid a just eulogy

to the P. G. M., but thought it was impossible for any expression he might use to raise him in the estimation of those around him.

The Noble CHAIRMAN then gave "Sir A. V. Corbet," to which the worthy baronet replied.

Dr. BOWLES then rose again, and proposed "The healths of the Dep.-Pr. G. M., E. H. Dymock, Esq., and Bro. William Clement." Upon the conclusion of Dr. Bowles' address, loud and prolonged cheers burst from every part of the room.

The proceedings elicited universal approbation. The attention and courtesy given and received was unceasing, and the recollection of the day's proceeding will be long remembered, and form a bright era in the annals of the Shropshire and North Wales Provincial Grand Lodge.

SOMERSET.—TAUNTON.—*Presentation of a Masonic Testimonial to Bro. Stradling.*—The R. W. the P. G. M. of the Province, Col. C. Kemeys Tynte, assembled his Grand Lodge at Bridgewater on Friday, the 6th of Feb., which was attended by most of the distinguished Grand Officers of the Province, both past and acting. The P. G. M. was in excellent spirits, and went through the gratifying duties of the day with his accustomed ability and kindness. Among the Grand Officers were Bros. Randolph, D. P. G. M.; Revds. Bythesea, Trewman, and Brande; Maher, W. and R. Stradling, Phillips, Eales White, Symes, Gooding, Trevor, Reed, Francis, Knight, Dinham, Abraham, Waghorn, Taylor, and others.

The Lodge of Perpetual Friendship having opened their Lodge, the G. L. formed in procession, and proceeded thither in Masonic order, where they were received with all the honours.

The R. W. the P. G. M. having taken the Chair, addressed the assembled Brethren with much feeling, and expressed his satisfaction at meeting them; "but," said the worthy chief, "I lament that I cannot see you substantially, yet I derive pleasurable sensations from being able to behold you in my mind's eye. To greet you in all affection, I have deemed it my duty to call you together for the purpose of carrying out a very laudable desire of the Province,—namely, to present this testimonial of our esteem for long and faithful service to a Brother whom we highly value. I present to Bro. William Stradling, then, this appropriate offering, in the name of the Province, and with the affectionate regards of all. My pleasure therein is twofold. I present it to an old friend, a descendant of one of the oldest and most honoured families in the west,—remarkable for his uniform kindness of heart, and his desire to keep up, in remembrance, the better portions of the manners and customs of the olden time. I trust that the possession of this humble acknowledgment of his services will often remind him of his happy intercourse with his Brethren and friends, and that he will estimate it as an earnest of their best and warmest wishes for the health and happiness of all his family." [The testimonial was here handed to Bro. Stradling. It consists of a massive silver centre-piece, of elegant Masonic and foliated design, supporting a cut-glass plateau, filled for the present with models of flowers in wax, contributed by the daughters of Mr. Eales White, one of the oldest Masons in the Province. The base is triangular, and presents three shields, on which are engraved the arms and quarterings of this ancient and distinguished family, the inscription and the jewels of the various offices which Bro. Stradling has served.]

BRO. STRADLING, with much emotion, said, "Rt. W. Sir and Brethren, I am unable to recollect any circumstance of my Masonic life that would entitle me to be the recipient of so splendid a gift as you have this day done me the high honour to present to me. I had considered that the gratification of being chosen by ballot as your Treasurer for twenty-two consecutive years was an ample honour, and an abundant testimony of how my poor services had been estimated. The Rt. W. P. G. M. has been pleased to revert to my endeavours to advance the progress of Masonry. I admit my zeal herein, and I doubt not but one or two of my ancient Brethren will vouch for my endeavours in early years to make this, my mother Lodge, a working and a prosperous Lodge. We struggled against the stream for some years,—indeed, until the beloved individual who is now our honoured chief was initiated in this Lodge. This was a gratifying era, from which we may date the resuscitation and ascendancy of Masonry in the West of England, more especially in this Province. (Hear, hear.) Brethren, for this magnificent gift, enhanced as it is by the sources from which it comes, and the hand that has presented it, I thank you from my heart: it shall live among my best affections, and it shall descend to my son, and I pray God to his son, as among the richest of my bequests. I am most anxious for the time when my son shall be of Masonic age, so that he might have the proud privilege of being initiated by the Rt. W. Brother who honours my humble self with his friendship, and my son by condescending to be his godfather. I have many, to whom I feel bound to try to express my gratitude; and I should be ungrateful indeed if I did not assure the fair modellers of those exquisite flowers which surmount the elegant tribute how much this pretty contribution has gratified me. I know it is to their father, my excellent friend—and, indeed, the friend of the Province—Bro. Eales White (cheers), that I am indebted for the proposition and completion of this gift. It is an honour to know him; afflicted as he is, yet such is his active and energetic mind, and such his rare benevolence of heart, that he is ever ready when he can accomplish a benefit to others. (Cheers.) The young ladies, then, will assure themselves of my best wishes, that good Masons may have the good fortune to make them good husbands, and that

‘No mortal can more the ladies adore
Than a free and an accepted Mason.’

To Bro. Abraham, also, I feel grateful for the taste and beauty, which are so happily mingled in the design and execution of the superb piece of workmanship. (Hear.) Brethren, allow me to repeat my cordial thanks, my unfailing gratitude, to all. Your over-kind estimation of my services may be useful,—it may induce fraternal attention to many Brethren infinitely more useful than myself, and will teach the outer world that generous liberality is among the more prominent attributes of a true and worthy Mason."

The Brethren then repaired to the banquet-room, when about forty sat down. Some charming glees and vocal music, by Bros. Knight, Eales White, Francis, and Butler, added much to the character of the dessert. The music was wound up by the well-known "Tom Moody" of Bro. Sutton, with a chorus, which would have honoured any "crack pack." The Colonel kindly remained at the table till about nine o'clock. His departure was the signal for the

dispersion of the party, who were unanimous in voting it a "red letter day" in their Masonic diary.

SOMERSET.—YEOVIL.—*Masonic Ball*.—Yeovil has never been favoured with a more brilliant *soirée dansante* than that of Tuesday, Feb. 10. Arrivals commenced at ten o'clock, and by twelve the noble room presented an appearance which will not be soon forgotten. Nearly 240 of the *élite* of the neighbourhood, and those from distant parts of the Province, were seen winding in the graceful evolutions of the waltz, whirling a polka, or more steadily pacing the quadrille. The Brethren were arrayed, by desire, in full Masonic clothing and jewels of office, which, with the sumptuous and tasteful dresses of the ladies, and officers in uniform, presented a truly brilliant scene.

The room was decorated with the handsome banners of the Lodges and Chapters of the Province, to which was added that of the Pro. Grand Master, sent with his accustomed kindness.

The supper-rooms were also arrayed with floral wreaths, and appropriate banners and mottoes intermingled, and abundant refreshments were provided, giving a most agreeable and acceptable finish to the whole.

SOUTH WALES.—CARDIFF.—*Glamorgan Lodge, No. 43*.—On the 12th January, this Lodge held its meeting, and after the business had been concluded the Brethren sat down to "refreshment," provided by Bro. John Woods, of the Cardiff Arms Hotel, at whose house the Brethren assemble. After the removal of the cloth, and the usual Masonic and loyal toasts had been done justice to, a P. M. jewel and a pair of massive Corinthian silver candlesticks were presented to Bro. William Bird, P. M., bearing a suitable inscription. Some idea of the estimation in which Bro. W. Bird is held may be gleaned from the following remarks, which fell from the W. M. Bro. Thomas Hodge :—

"It is at all times a pleasure to meet together as Masons, but this gathering brings with it a pleasure, which is not of ordinary occurrence. We are mutually drawn together, as it were, on this occasion, by feelings which perhaps none of us can properly express, for the purpose of carrying out an object which, must be truly gratifying to all who are engaged in it. It is well known that for many years the most important and arduous duties of this Lodge have been performed in a way, which has given entire satisfaction and called forth the admiration not only of its members, but also of its visiting Brethren. One might have thought that the frequent and oftentimes unreasonable calls for his valuable services would have tired his patience, but no; he studied our mysteries, not only from a desire of knowledge, but also to become more useful to his Brethren in Masonry. A short time since several of the Brethren of this Lodge, almost simultaneously, felt that they ought to show in some outward and visible way their gratitude so justly due to him. This feeling rapidly spread: a Committee was formed, the members were called upon, and they responded to the call immediately. Those separated from us by distance expressed themselves as happy as ourselves in having such an opportunity of showing their sincere appreciation of his worth. It is now my duty, as W. M. of this Lodge, to bring the Committee's arrangements to maturity, by presenting to Bro. W. Bird a small token, simply expressive of the brotherly love entertained towards

him by its members. It is not for its intrinsic value, for his services to Lodge No. 43 cannot be measured by any such standard."

After the presentation, Bro. W. Bird acknowledged the compliment in the most feeling manner, and promised a continuance of his services, as long as his attainments in Masonic science might be available for the good of the Craft. The Brethren parted, highly gratified with the pleasures of the evening.

On the 5th February a Masonic Ball, under the patronage of the members of the Glamorgan Lodge, No. 43, was held at the Assembly Rooms, at the Cardiff Arms Hotel. Permission had kindly been granted by the R. W. D. P. G. M. Bro. Geo. G. Bird, in the absence of the R. W. P. G. M., for the Brethren to appear in Masonic costume. Several Brethren from neighbouring towns attended, including several of the P. G. Officers. The number assembled to do honour to Lodge No. 43 was about 180. Dancing commenced at nine o'clock, to the enlivening strains of Strong's well-known Clifton band, and was kept up with unabated spirit. After supper, dancing was resumed for some hours, after which the company separated, delighted with the treat afforded them at the first Masonic Ball that has taken place in the town. The whole of the arrangements reflected the greatest credit upon the Committee of Management.

SURREY.—CROYDON.—*The Masonic Ball.*—The fourth of these most agreeable Annual Assemblies was held at the Greyhound Hotel, on Thursday, the 29th of January, under the direction of Bros. Alexander Dobie (the R. W. Pr. G. M.) and W. J. Evelyn, M. P. for West Surrey.

These balls have been instrumental as one of the sources of augmentation to the Masonic Charities—the particular one, in the present instance, being the "*Fund of Benevolence of the East Surrey Lodge of Concord.*"

The band was under the direction of Mr. Weippert.

Dancing commenced at half-past nine, and all was soon animation and pleasure. Quadrilles, polkas, and waltzes, were kept merrily going until one o'clock, when the supper-room was thrown open; after which, dancing was resumed until four o'clock, when the National Anthem warned the company to depart.

Among the visitors, we noticed—Bro. and Mrs. Dobie, Mr. Wm. Dobie, Trinity College, Cambridge; the Hon. F. E. Plummer, do.; and the Misses Dobie, Bro. Evelyn, M. P., and his brother, Captain Evelyn, Captain James, &c., &c.

The rooms were elegantly decorated, and the refreshments plentiful and excellent. The Chair was ably filled by Bro. Dobie, and the Deputy Chair by Bro. Evelyn. After the customary loyal toasts,

The CHAIRMAN proposed the health of "The Committee of Management," making especial mention of Bro. George England (the Master of the Lodge), and also of Bros. Price and Penfold, the latter of whom he welcomed after his long and painful illness.

Bro. ENGLAND, in responding to the toast, expressed the pleasure he felt at seeing such interest manifested towards the cause of charity, which was one of the noblest objects of the Craft.

Bro. PENFOLD, who was most warmly received, expressed his thanks for the sympathy and kind expressions evinced towards him. He had suffered a severe trial since last they met, but, thanks to

Providence, he had been sustained through it, and he now appeared among them in renewed health. He trusted that Masonry might be more largely diffused in the land, feeling assured that it would tend to promote general happiness and prosperity.

The CHAIRMAN having called on the company to fill bumpers, proposed, in a most eloquent speech, the health of "The Ladies," without whose presence the Annual Meetings would be of no avail, and without whom, it was of no use denying it, Masonic Festivals would lose their greatest charm; to their presence they were indebted for this evening's delights. He could not expect one of them to acknowledge this toast, but he would call on a bachelor, Bro. Thomas Weller, to respond to it.

MR. WELLER had hoped that the mantle of honour might have descended on the shoulders of a member of the Masonic Order, feeling confident that it imparted so much that was excellent, as to better qualify a member of the Craft to do justice to the toast. The Masonic Order boasted, and deservedly so, of its charities, they were large and extended, and in them he was certain the ladies fully sympathised; but there was one part of the Masonry in which that fair community did not at all participate. The Craft prided itself on its antiquity, and he must say on that point he could not discover any reciprocity whatever. Were all the ladies' "most sweet voices" blended in one, he believed thus it would respond—that they had found attentive and gallant partners in the ball-room—every comfort and luxury at the supper-table from their excellent Chairman, and that they thanked the gentlemen present, and especially the Masons, for passing a most delightful evening.

BRO. GEORGE PRICE said, that having the Chairman's permission to propose a toast, he requested them, in bumper glasses, to drink the healths of the Stewards, "Brs. Alexander Dobie and Evelyn." Bro. Dobie had been a warm supporter of the ball from its first establishment to the present moment; he not only attended himself, but he brought with him his excellent lady and family, and the Brethren felt extremely obliged to him for his kindness upon this and many past occasions. To Bro. Evelyn their best thanks were also due for the kind interest he manifested in the ball. On the last occasion he was prevented attending by his Parliamentary duties; on the present they were more fortunate in having the pleasure of his company, and they would join him in giving Bro. Evelyn a hearty welcome.

BRO. DOBIE, after a few graceful words of acknowledgment on his own behalf, called on his Deputy (Bro. Evelyn), as being more accustomed to public speaking, to respond to the toast.

BRO. EVELYN said, that the Chairman erred in supposing that he was more accustomed to public speaking; his duties in Parliament were of a rougher character than that of addressing so fair an assemblage as the present. It had been already advanced by a former speaker that the Masons were distinguished for their gallantry; he need not, therefore, enlarge on that topic. He could assure the company that so far from feeling he had conferred any honour by his attendance that evening, he felt that he had been personally honoured by the invitation, and he might say that he had found a really selfish pleasure in his attendance. He would not detain the company any longer, because he was sure that they would all prefer

adjourning to the ball-room, where other and more agreeable duties awaited them (cheers).

A parting toast from the Chairman echoed Bro. Evelyn's opinion, and in a few minutes the banquet-hall was deserted for the poetry of motion.

WARWICKSHIRE.—WALSALL.—On Friday, January 30th, a Masonic Ball was held at the Guildhall Assembly Room, Walsall, being the first given in that town, the profits arising from which will be devoted by the Brethren of the Lodge of St. Matthew to the Freemasons' Girls' School. The room was tastefully decorated with Masonic emblems and banners, those of the Knights Templars of the Beauséant Encampment adding considerably to the brilliancy of the scene. The display of beauty and fashion, combined with the various decorations worn by the Brethren, gave to the *tout ensemble* a grand and imposing appearance.

Shortly after nine o'clock, dancing commenced to the enlivening strains of Hayward and Tilley's band, and continued without interruption till six o'clock next morning. The Stewards were unceasing in their exertions to promote the enjoyment of all assembled, and they found a very able and efficient coadjutor in Bro. Ridgway, the Master of the Ceremonies. Upwards of 200 were present, and the success of their first effort inspires the Walsall Brethren with a hope, that their endeavours to aid the Masonic charities will on future occasions be as well rewarded.

WILTS.—SALISBURY.—The Installation of Bro. James Smith at Salisbury, W. M. of the Lodge of *Elias de Derham*, took place at the Lodge-room in the White Hart on the 13th of January. The ceremony was very impressively performed by the Rev. Bro. G. R. Portal (P. G. Warden of Oxfordshire), Bro. Matthew Lush, Mayor of Wilton, Bro. Slade, of Southampton, and Bro. Naish, of Winchester, who constituted a board of Installed Masters on the occasion; after which the following official appointments were made for the current year:—Bros. H. R. Hodding, S. W.; P. P. Cother, J. W.; T. Pain, Treasurer; T. Slade, Secretary; Dr. Hewson, S. D.; T. J. Holloway, J. D.; and Beverley Robinson, I. G. At the termination of the business of the evening, the members of the Lodge, joined by some visiting Brethren from Winchester and Southampton, partook of an excellent "banquet," all the appointments of which were very creditable to the hotel, and gave great satisfaction to the assembled Brethren. The customary loyal and complimentary toasts were drunk with Masonic honours, and the evening was spent in that cheerful and harmonious intercourse which always characterises the reunions of the members of this ancient Order.

YORKSHIRE.—SELBY.—On Friday, March 19, the members of the St. Germaine Lodge of Freemasons dined together at Armitage's George Hotel, on the occasion of the Installation of the W. M. Bro. R. J. Parker. The chair was taken by the W. M., who was supported on the right and left by Bros. the Earl of Londesborough; A. Bannister, Mayor of Hull; G. P. Dawson; the Rev. C. Sutton; Capt. Campbell; E. Parker; M. Pearceival; T. M. Weddall; T. Hawden; and several others, chiefly members of the Lodge,

besides other Brethren from Hull, Leeds, York, Sheffield, &c. The duties of Vice-Chairman were ably fulfilled by Bro. W. Dobson. The number present was about fifty. The proceedings throughout the evening were of a most satisfactory character.

YORKSHIRE, WEST RIDING.—HALIFAX.—On Monday, Jan. 5, the quarterly meeting of the Pr. G. L. of West Yorkshire was held in this town, and attracted a large assembly of Brethren from various parts of the Province, to take part in the interesting proceedings of the day; which embraced, in addition to the usual dispensations of Masonic benevolence and charity, a variety of business affecting the Craft generally, as well as the Province in particular. The Pr. G. L., presided over by the R. W. D. P. G. M., Bro. Charles Lee, was held in the Lodge-room of the Lodge of Probity, No. 73, at the Old Cock Inn; the latter having been opened, and a goodly muster of the Brethren assembled, to greet the R. W. D. G. M. and the numerous staff of Pr. Grand Officers, by whom he was supported. The duties of the Lodge, which occupied several hours, having been discharged, the Brethren re-assembled in the large room of the Royal Hotel, to partake of "refreshment," provided under the auspices of the Lodge of Probity by Bro. T. W. Nicholson. The large hall was elegantly decorated; appropriate emblems of the Craft being tastefully displayed in various parts of the room. A very harmonious and happy evening was spent by the Brethren, whose enjoyments, if at all incomplete, were prematurely cut short by the departure of railway trains, on which many were dependant for reaching their homes at considerable distances from Halifax.

MANCHESTER.—*Installation Meeting of the Jerusalem Encampment, No. 9.*—The meeting of this Encampment was held on Friday, the 27th of February, 1852, for the purpose of installing the E. C., by the M. E. P. G. C., Sir Kt. M. Daves. The P. G. C. was received into the Encampment, preceded by Sir Kt. Clay, the Expert, under an arch of steel.

Amongst the visitors present were Sir Kts. Hartley, Liverpool; F. Dee, Wandsworth; A. Royds, Littleborough, Yorksh.; H. Whitmore, Cheshire; H. Hooper, Dukenfield; Hinxman, Bury, &c. &c.

Sir Kt. V. Scaramanza, C. K. H., also took part in the business of the day.

The Ceremony of Installation was most ably and impressively performed by the P. G. C., supported by the Prelate, the Rev. Sir Kt. Margoliouth.

The following Officers were appointed for the ensuing year:—Sir Kt. the Rev. M. Margoliouth, Prelate; J. J. Moody, 1st Capt.; G. Bolf, 2nd Capt.; P. Scaramanza, R.; C. Affleck, T.; C. Clay, M.D., E.; T. Scattergood, 1st S. B.; J. Hulme, 2nd S. B.; F. Hahnel, 1st H.; M. Ellis, 2nd H.; S. Smith, Capt. of the L.

This Encampment has been established 57 years, but for the last six years it has been in abeyance, until resuscitated a few months since.

After a sumptuous banquet, the Sir Kts. separated, highly gratified with the proceedings of the day, which will be long remembered by those who had the good fortune to be present.

SCOTLAND.

THE following Brethren have been nominated Office Bearers of Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Scotland :—

Comp. John White Melville, of Mount Melville, Most Excellent Grand Principal Z. ; his Grace the Duke of Athole, Past Grand Principal Z. ; George Walker Arnott, of Arlary, LL.D., Deputy Grand Principal Z. ; James Graham, of Leitchtown, Grand Principal H. ; Sir James Walker Drummond, of Hawthornden, Bart., Grand Principal J.

Provincial Grand Superintendents.—W. R. Burton, Jamaica; Hon. W. Stephenson, Grenada; John Willis, Nova Scotia; Alexander Bulloch, Esq., New Brunswick; Robert Ramage, Grand Scribe E.; William Gaylor, Grand Scribe N.; Daniel Robertson, Grand Treasurer; Sir William Miller, of Glenlee, Grand Chancellor; Edward Main, Deputy Grand Chancellor; Dr. W. D. Mac Ritchie, First Grand Sojourner; Patrick Deuchar, R.N., Second Grand Sojourner; Thomas Coates, Third Grand Sojourner; Thomas Boog, Grand Recorder; T. B. Douglas, Grand Sword Bearer; Christian Jockell, Grand Standard Bearer; David Bryce, Grand Architect; John Law, Grand Jeweller; William Donaldson, Grand Clothier; James McLean, Grand Janitor.

Standing Committee of Grand Chapter.—The Grand Principal Z., the Grand Principal H., and the Grand Principal J., *ex officio*; George Walker Arnott, Deputy Grand Principal Z.; Robert Ramage, William Gaylor, Daniel Robertson, Thomas Boog, Andrew Murray, John Henry, Morris Leon, George Edge (Chairman of the Committee), David Dobson, Patrick Deuchar.

IRELAND.

WE are glad to devote a portion of our pages to the dissemination of such intelligence as appears to indicate the spreading of the true principles of Freemasonry in any nation, but especially in our own country. The Brethren of our great family can never be uninterested in that which concerns each other. It is well known that for many years the zeal of the Masonic spirit had greatly declined in Ireland. The higher classes had begun, with some distinguished exceptions, to look with apathy upon those ties which, nevertheless, were still as much prized as ever among those who hold a lower position in the social scale. Yet, however zealous might be its supporters among the peasantry, artisans, and humbler tradespeople, it is easy to conceive that a certain degree of error and deterioration would be apt to infuse itself among the practices of the Craft, and that its high and refined moral and literary tone would soon become lowered, if the more highly educated and more influential classes ceased to take an interest in its meetings, its charities, and its extension. A good example is always readily followed among zealous

Masons : all men are apt to degenerate for want of proper example, and the stimulus of a generous emulation ; and such, we believe, was the fact, within the memory of most of our readers, who are familiar with the Masonic condition of Ireland during the last twenty or thirty years. A great change, however, has taken place. No longer degraded by vulgar associations, or perverted to improper, if not illegal ends, Freemasonry is now in Ireland what it ought to be everywhere,—a bond comprising *all* classes ; uniting the highest with the humblest, raising the lowly to the Masonic level of their superiors, teaching the highest to feel a practical, present, and fraternal concern in the wants and concerns of the lowly, and infusing amongst all the beneficial results that must necessarily follow when men of exalted worth,—wise and studious men, men of profound experience and of acknowledged abilities,—are found lending their aid to the great cause of charity, union, and brotherly love.

We have lately received from Dublin some very gratifying communications, proving, we think, the truth of what has been just said. Amongst several Lodges which, within the last twenty years, have been established in that city, the Leinster Lodge, No. 141, has been long known and respected. Its records of this year afford a pleasing instance of the results of the Masonic fraternity and the warmth of Masonic feeling. In the month of January last, at the Installation of the Officers of that Lodge for the current period, that opportunity was taken by the members to present to their Secretary, William Thomas Lloyd, Barrister-at-Law, a costly and elegant service of plate,—a token of their appreciation of his services, and their high estimation of his individual character. The chair on that occasion was filled by the respected Representative in Ireland of the Grand Lodge in England, the R. W. Godfrey Brereton, R. N. (33rd degree). A number of visitors of high Masonic rank and distinction were likewise present,—the Deputy Grand Master, the Grand Treasurer, and others of the Grand Officers, with several members of other Lodges. An elegant entertainment was given by the Lodge to their distinguished friends. In the course of the evening, Bro. Brereton presented their gift (consisting of a tea and coffee service, which had been at the Exhibition, and manufactured by T. Bennett, of Grafton-street, Dublin) to Bro. Lloyd, with this short but kind and cordial address :—

“Brother Lloyd,—As the official head of this Lodge, a very pleasing duty devolves on me, accompanied, however, with a feeling of regret that it has not fallen to the lot of some one more competent than I am to give expression to the sentiments which, I know, actuate every Brother present.

“During a period of unexampled difficulties you have filled the office of our Secretary ; and to show that you have done so to the perfect satisfaction of the Brethren, I have but to point to this tribute, which it is now our privilege to present to you.

“By your untiring zeal, and your skilful management of our pecuniary resources, you have kept us together hitherto, and we still can point with satisfaction to the motto of our Lodge,—*Inter utrumque tene*,’—as the expression of our principles. I now, on the part of our Brethren, beg your acceptance of this service of plate, heartily wishing that you may live long and happily to enjoy it.”

The answer was in the same fraternal spirit :—

Bro. LLOYD acknowledged, he said, with pride and pleasure, the distinguished compliment that had been paid him ; but no expressions of his could convey as he could wish the sentiments of his regard for the members of that Lodge, in which he had first seen the light of Freemasonry,—the Leinster Lodge. To promote its welfare had been his most anxious wish, but he did not deserve a recompense so splendid ; for, he thought, all who enter the Order are bound to exert themselves to the utmost for its advancement and benefit. But the gift would prove to all, whether within or without the Masonic body, what are the sentiments which its true members entertain to each other,—sentiments which enhanced the value even of that very handsome present. After some allusions to a very liberal collection of money that night made in the Lodge for the relief of an unfortunate gentleman who had been compelled to seek their assistance, Bro. Lloyd said he trusted that, as he had that night been re-elected to his office, there would be no separation between him and those with whom he had so long been associated in the closest ties of mutual friendship and regard, and assured them that their good opinion and the welfare of the Order were equally dear to his heart.

These are incidents—not rare ones, we hope—which prove the real existence of those feelings of which Masons boast. A more pleasing scene can hardly be contemplated than a number of men associated together for charitable purposes, fulfilling them liberally and cheerfully, and terminating their praiseworthy exertions by this delightful display of reciprocal good feeling and pure social enjoyment.

Bro. Brereton, on his part, took occasion, on his Installation, to present to his Lodge a silver column, the badge of the Junior Warden, for which the thanks of the Lodge were unanimously voted to that very zealous and efficient friend and member of the Order. It would be unjust to omit all notice of this further instance of the feeling which animates the Leinster Lodge.

We can also point with pleasure to a still more general striking proof of the prevalence and extension of the true Masonic principle in Ireland. The Female Orphan School for the Daughters of deceased Freemasons has participated in the good results to be expected when men who hold an influential position in society exert themselves to carry into practical use the various elements of power, which are contained in a body so widely extended and so wealthy as that of the Freemasons. It is needless to recur to the various circumstances through which that charity, so worthy in every respect of attention and support, had, in late years, been somewhat neglected by the Order in general in Ireland. Some, however, (foremost amongst whom, in Masonic feeling and generous liberality as in rank, stood the Duke of Leinster, G. M. of the Order), continued to support an institution the value of which was too little appreciated. By the munificent aid of the noble Duke, and the judicious management of the other governors, the school was preserved. In it about sixteen orphans find a home, and are clothed and educated. They are all the children of parents who had held a respectable position in life—some of them an affluent one. The calamities of the last five years in Ireland will render this fact but too easily intelligible. The number is small—too small for the

necessities of the case; but that admirable institution has already participated in the good results of the resuscitation of the Masonic spirit. A sufficient sum having been placed in the hands of the governors (by a bequest and some other means), they have determined on building a new school-house, on an improved and extended scale. The present school-house, however well managed the establishment may be, is unworthy of the purpose and of the Order. The Right Hon. Sidney Herbert has granted a site adjacent to one of the best quarters of the south side of Dublin, and the new work has already been commenced on it with cheering prospects. But the governors are still trusting—and we confidently hope that the expectation will not be disappointed—to the exertions of their Brethren to add a sum of 400*l.*—a very insignificant one compared to the value of the object—to the funds already in their hands. They have appealed to their Brethren in Ireland to come forward to aid in this good, and Masonic, and Christian work. The opportunity—in itself a privilege—the opportunity of *doing good*, is now offered to all. It is not confined to our Brethren in Ireland; it is the cause of universal charity and humanity, and will, we doubt not, be responded to *here* as cordially as if it were made for ourselves. The smallest amount, we are informed, will be thankfully received in aid of the subscription. A contributor of 10*l.* to the fund will entitle the donor to the privileges of a governor of the institution for life. It may be well to state that the Grand Chaplain, the Rev. Henry J. Westby (Grand Secretary's Office, Freemason's Hall, Dame Street, Dublin), will receive the contributions of any who may be inclined to aid in this work of mercy, to which we cordially wish the success which it deserves.

A recent announcement has appeared in a Dublin paper, that his Grace the Duke of Leinster, Grand Master of the Order in Ireland, has been pleased to signify his acceptance of the invitation of Lodge 12 (of which the present Master is his Grace's son, Lord Otho Fitzgerald) to an entertainment on the 22nd instant.

It may be interesting to those who have attained the highest degrees of the Masonic scale to know that the meeting of the Illustrious College of Philosophical Masons was held on the 12th of February last, when Bro. Godfrey Breerton, 33rd degree, was installed into the Chair of that Order as the Illustrious Commander; Sir Knt. George Rankin was at the same time installed as Senior Warden, and Sir Knt. William Thomas Lloyd as Junior Warden. About fourteen Members of that high degree of Freemasonry were present on the occasion, who afterwards partook of the banquet.

BELFAST.—*Provincial Grand Lodge.*—The Pr. G. L. of Belfast and North Down held its ordinary quarterly meeting, at Freemasons' Hall, Donegal Place, Belfast, on Wednesday, the 10th December, 1851, and was opened in due form, at high noon, by the Venerable and R. W. Archdeacon Mant, Pr. G. M., assisted by Bro. W. S. Tracy, P. Dep. P. G. M. of N. Munster, and the Pr. Grand Officers of the Province. Besides the ordinary routine business, the P. G. M. announced to the Brethren that he had received and accepted the resignation of his office by the Deputy P. G. M., and that he had nominated to the vacancy thus made Bro. S. G. Getty, of Cromac Park, P. M. of Lodge 40. Bro. Getty, being present, was accord-

ingly invested, installed, and saluted by the Brethren as D. P. G. M. This being the time fixed by the Constitutions for the appointment of Officers for the ensuing year, the following Brethren were elected and installed into the different offices: H. Russell, S. G. W.; J. A. Henderson, J. G. W.; Rev. H. M'Sorley, G. C.; W. J. Young, S. G. D.; L. Clark, J. G. D.; Pelan, G. R.; G. A. Carruthers, G. Sec.; C. Duffin, G. T.; W. S. Tracy, G. D. of Cer.; J. Moore and H. Murney, *M.D.*, P. G. Stewards; J. Johnston, G. Sup. of Works; J. G. M'Gee, G. O.; and M'Fall, G. Sword Bearer.

The Lodges in this town are proceeding satisfactorily since the end of the summer season, during which the meetings are generally slack. In particular, the three Lodges which jointly occupy the Freemasons' Hall in Donegal Place, "The Ark," No. 10, "The Lodge of Concord," No. 40, and "The Prince of Wales's," No. 154, are increasing in numbers and efficiency. These Lodges met together, as usual, on the 29th December (St. John's day, the 27th, falling on a Saturday), and after some candidates had been initiated by Bro. Henderson, W. M. of 154, the Pr. G. M., the Venerable the Archdeacon of Down, opened a Pr. G. L. of emergency, for the purpose of installing the Masters elect, and Wardens of Lodges No. 40 and 154, who come into office at this season. The Brethren afterwards dined together, to the number of about fifty, the Pr. G. M. presiding.

Lodges of Instruction continue to be held weekly at the Freemasons' Hall, in connection with Lodges 40 and 154, and are well attended by the Brethren.

Royal Arch Chapter.—The Ark of Concord Chapter, comprising the Royal Arch Masons of Chapters 10 and 40, held its quarterly meeting on the 12th of November, 1851. The business consisted only of the election of Officers for the ensuing year.

Knights Templars.—The Lagan Valley Encampment of Knights Templars, comprising the Knights Companions belonging to the Lodges 10 and 40, has held two meetings during the winter. The Encampment met in considerable strength on Wednesday, November 26th, under the able presidency of E. C. Samuel G. Getty. The publication, sanctioned by the S. G. Encampment of Ireland, containing the Service Book of the Encampment and Rev. Bro. Mant's History of the Order, was laid before the meeting.* It was ordered, that copies be presented to the M. E. Grand Master of Ireland, the Duke of Leinster; to the S. G. Encampment of Ireland; to Bro. Fowler, G. S.; to Bro. Quinton, of the Kilwinning Encampment, and also to the M. E. Bro. Col. Tynte, Grand Master of the Templars of England. Two Brethren were admitted, and installed with the usual solemn ceremonies; Basil Geo. Brooke, Esq., of Moyaver, near Ballymonry, and John Craig, Esq., of Downpatrick. The Encampment proceeded to elect Officers for the ensuing year, and Bro. Houston Russell, C. G. of the Encampment, was unanimously elected E. Commander. The other offices were supplied by the election of able Brethren.

* We avail ourselves of this opportunity to call attention to this ritual, which deserves the warmest approbation, and is, in every respect, a most valuable form of Templar services.—ED. F. M. Q. M. & R.

Another meeting of the Encampment was held on the 28th January, 1852, at which Bro. Sir H. Russell was installed E. Commander, and some other routine business transacted.

South-Down.—The first meeting of the Pr. Grand Lodge of South-Down was held on Tuesday, the 17th February, 1852, in the Market-house, Downpatrick, for the purpose of witnessing the Installation of the new Pr. G. M., W. B. Forde, and of appointing the different Officers. At two o'clock, p.m., a Pr. G. L. was opened in due form, by the R. W. Bro. Archdeacon Mant, P. G. M. of Belfast and North Down, acting by virtue of a commission from his Grace the Duke of Leinster, G. M. of Ireland. The G. M.'s Commissioner was assisted by the W. Masters of Lodges 77, Newry, and 86, Downpatrick, as S. and J. G. Ws., and by the Masters and Wardens of several Lodges in the new Province. The patent of appointment and the G. M.'s commission having been read, Bro. W. B. Forde was presented by Bro. P. M.'s W. Henry, of No. 13, Newry, and Brabazon, of 86, Downpatrick, and was installed and invested, proclaimed and saluted R. W. Pr. G. M. of South-Down. The Pr. G. M. then proceeded to announce to the Brethren, that, in exercising his prerogative to appoint a Deputy, his choice had fallen on Bro. Wm. Henry, P. M. of Lodge 18, who was accordingly installed, invested, and saluted as Dep. P. G. M.

The Pr. G. M. then proceeded to the appointment of Officers for the ensuing year, when the following Brethren were invested with the insignia of office, viz. : Brs. P. E. Brabazon, S. G. W. ; Demay, J. G. W. ; Elmes, P. S. G. D. ; J. Cunningham, J. G. D. ; W. Keown, I. G. The R. W. Pr. G. M. then nominated Bro. G. Eclin, to be Pr. G. S., and the Revs. J. C. Quin and J. Ford, Pr. G. Cs.

The Pr. G. L. met again in the evening for "refreshment," and dined together in the apartment of Lodge 86. The R. W. P. G. M. presided, and was well supported by the Brethren. After the customary and appropriate toasts had been given and responded to, the P. G. L. was duly closed, and the Brethren separated at an early hour.

The establishment of this Provincial G. Lodge, under the presidency of a well-known and esteemed Brother, is hailed by the Freemasons of South-Down as an event likely to be followed by much benefit to the Society. It is the intention of the Pr. G. M., as his district embraces the two important towns of Downpatrick and Newry, to hold the meetings of his P. G. L. alternately at each town, so that the advantages may be equally shared by Brethren of both parts of the Province.

NORTH MUNSTER.—The Brethren of the Desmond Masonic Lodge, No. 202, Newcastle, held their first half-yearly festival on Wednesday, January 14, Bro. Duncan, W. M., presiding. The vice-chair was filled by Bro. Pierce, S. W. The hall, used many centuries ago by the chivalrous Templars for Masonic purposes, was on this occasion restored to its original use by Brethren of a kindred Order. The usual loyal toasts were given and responded to, and the utmost harmony prevailed.

COLONIAL.

ANTIGUA.—The annual festival of St. John was commemorated by the members of the Fraternity of Freemasons, in this community, in a manner creditable to them in the highest degree as an association, and in strict accordance with the great principles of their Order. At half-past nine o'clock in the morning, the Brethren of the St. John's Lodge, No. 723 (on the registry of the Grand Lodge of England), together with several unattached Brethren, resident and strangers, assembled at their rooms—and having invested themselves with their regalia, according to their office in the Lodge or rank in the Order, took their positions and proceeded with the opening ceremonies. These having been concluded, the Brethren emerged from their Lodge rooms, and descended to the street, where the band of the 69th Regiment—which, by the kind permission of Colonel Paxton, had been placed at the disposal of the Brethren for the occasion—was in waiting. A large crowd of spectators had also assembled near the entrance—but the utmost decorum prevailed. A suitable detachment of the Police force, under Mr. Superintendent Shordiche, was also in attendance; and their efficiency in adopting measures to prevent the Brethren from being jostled by the multitude was deserving of all praise. Having descended to the street, the Brethren placed themselves under the command of Bro. Serjeant-Major Creech, of the 69th Regiment.

The various instruments and emblems of the Order were conspicuously borne by the Brethren appointed to the service; and the whole formed in procession, and preceded by the band playing a slow march, moved up High Street to Temple Street, into which they turned, and proceeded to the church-yard gate opening to the south front of the cathedral. At this point the procession halted; the band divided on either side of the gate steps, and continued playing; and the Brethren formed themselves into lines, between which, and under the Tylers' swords, they passed in reversed order through the church-yard, into the cathedral—where a crowded congregation had already assembled. The Brethren arranged themselves upon seats prepared for their accommodation extending across the transept, from the north to the south doors—the Master and Officers of the Lodge taking their positions in the centre. Several pews in the immediate vicinity were politely relinquished by their occupants to the use of several of the Brethren, who were unable to obtain sittings upon the special seats.

Of the exercises in church, we regret that our limits will not permit us to make more than a hasty mention. His lordship the Bishop was assisted in the service by the Rev. Mr. Warner, rector of St. John's, and by Bro. the Rev. Mr. Curtin, rector of St. Mary's. The absence of Bro. Martin from his place at the organ was supplied by the Rev. Mr. Baum, Moravian Missionary—and the musical performances were altogether of a highly creditable order. The text chosen by his lordship for the subject of his discourse was selected from the 16th verse of the 4th chapter of the first epistle of Saint John—"GOD IS LOVE." The sermon has been highly and justly eulogised in private circles as an able and instructive production. It was exceedingly applicable to the occasion, and contained, in addition to its general application, several appropriate allusions to

the benevolent character of the ancient Fraternity, of which the distinguished preacher is a member. At the close of the discourse, a collection was taken by the officers of the Lodge, in aid of the charitable institutions of the island;—the sums thus contributed amounted to £13. His lordship then pronounced the benediction; and the congregation dispersed.

The Brethren retired from the cathedral through the north door; and, having formed themselves in their original order, the procession proceeded eastwardly—passed around Government House—and descended St. Mary's Street to the Parade, and to the Lodge-rooms, which they entered in Masonic reversed order. At the rooms they were met by his lordship the Bishop, who, on account of physical debility, had preceded the procession in his carriage. An interval having been allowed for refreshment, the doors were closed, and the Brethren retired within, to the performance of the interesting and impressive ceremonies attending the Installation of Bro. Richard Dowse as Master for the ensuing year. The W. M., Bro. Joseph Shervington, upon relinquishing the chair, which he had so honourably and profitably filled for the last two years, gave the following address:—

“BROTHER OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THIS LODGE,—When, two years ago, you spontaneously installed me in this Chair, I took the seat with fear and trembling, dreading the disappointment it might occasion to the Brethren, in selecting one, who feared lest his want of that sufficient experience which he considered essential to the efficient discharge of the duties devolving upon him should tend to the disadvantage, and possibly be a check to the prosperity, of the Lodge.

“My deficiencies, Brethren (as no doubt they became apparent from time to time), you considerably attributed to a want of that extended knowledge of the Craft, which one can only become conversant with where Masonry happens to be more in the ascendant than it was here at that time, rather than to any lack of desire on my part to use my best efforts to merit the reliance you were pleased to place in me. This, indeed, was sufficiently tested at the expiration of my first year's presidency, on which occasion you unanimously re-elected me your Master for the ensuing year, thereby affording the utmost limit, in that exalted station, which is allowed by our Constitution.

“Under these circumstances, Brethren, I cannot, on leaving this Chair, be otherwise than grateful for those instances of consideration,—and for such kindness and fraternal feeling, I therefore pray you to accept my best acknowledgments and thanks with the same willingness of mind as the sincerity of that heart which prompts the offering.

“However unnecessary perhaps it may be, Brethren, to make allusion to any portion of your Masonic duties, yet allow me to remind you of the constant necessity imposed upon us of guarding the land-marks of our Order; remembering, too, the union which should bind us together, the harmony which should be inculcated among us, and that benevolence towards all mankind which our principles demand.

“Since the obtaining of the Charter which constitutes this Lodge, there has been no circumstance on which you could with equal propriety be congratulated, as on the happy selection you have made of the worthy and highly-esteemed Brother who has been unanimously elected my successor. Under his administration, Brethren, the Lodge must prosper; his ability and his zeal, I feel convinced, will greatly contribute to our advancement; and I sincerely trust that each of us will individually profit by his instruction.

“On entering upon the control of the Lodge, it counted at that time but eighteen worthy Brethren,—on retiring from it this day, that number has increased to forty. No better proof, then, can be adduced of the advance which our principles are making than this—increased, too, as that number has been by such intelligent friends;—and it is my anxious wish, Brethren—as it indeed must be the wish of every individual Brother—that with such present favourable auspices, the Craft in Antigua may continue to go forward, proceeding on their way rejoicing, and

' May this fraternal band
Now congregated—rest,
In union all distinguished stand,
In purity be blest.'

To this address, Bro. Junior Warden McDonald, on behalf of the Officers and Members of the Lodge, moved the following reply :—

" WORTHY SIR,—For the fraternal address with which you have favoured us, and for the genuine and sincere expression of brotherly love contained therein, we pray you to accept the assurance of our warmest acknowledgments and cordial reciprocation.

" Two years have passed since, with harmony, you have ruled this Lodge ; and during that time the responsible and important duties which devolved upon you have been discharged with the same degree of talent, courtesy, zeal, and fidelity, which has ever characterized you in the respective relations of public and social life, and to the exercise of which estimable qualities are to be mainly ascribed the increase and the increasing prosperity of the Saint John's Lodge, more particularly when compared with the period at which you were unanimously and auspiciously elected its Master.

" We fully concur in the deserved and gratifying tribute which you have paid to your successor in office, our worthy Master Elect, and we are convinced that under his administration the welfare of the Lodge will be continued.

" We will, however, always look back with pleasurable emotions to this period of our Masonic existence, pregnant as it is with events which we confidently believe may be relied on as an earnest of the present and future permanent foundation of Freemasonry in Antigua."

The reading of these addresses was succeeded by the ceremony of Installation and the appointment of Officers.

At the conclusion of the ceremonies attending the Installation of Officers, the W. M. delivered an inaugural address to the assembled Brethren. It was our intention to have inserted this address in this place ; but its elevated order as a production, and its merit as an exposition of the great principles of Freemasonry, were such as to elicit from the Brethren a solicitation for its appearance before the public in a more enduring form than in the columns of a public journal :—it will, therefore, shortly be issued from the press in pamphlet shape. The proceedings occupied the time until about half-past 4 o'clock in the afternoon. His lordship the Bishop manifested a deep interest in the ceremonies, and although somewhat enfeebled by recent illness, remained until their termination. Previous to his departure, a resolution was unanimously adopted, in which the cordial thanks of the Brethren were communicated to his lordship, for the kind manner in which he had responded to their application for his distinguished services, and for the fraternal interest which he had manifested in the observances of the day, and in the welfare of the Order. His lordship acknowledged the compliment in a courteous and highly appropriate manner. The Lodge was then closed, and the Brethren separated.

In the evening a grand banquet was given by the Brethren in the great hall at the Lodge-rooms—at which were present several invited guests, among whom were his Excellency the Governor-in-Chief ; the Hon. the Attorney-General ; Hon. William Lee, Member of Council ; Rev. S. A. Warner ; Hon. T. Shervington, and Messrs. John Bennett and William Thibou, Members of the House of Assembly ; Lieut. Strickland, of the 69th Regiment, and others. The great hall was decorated with the flags of all nations. The number that sat down was, altogether, about sixty.—The President's chair was filled by W. M. Dr. Dowse ; his Excellency the Governor sitting on the right, and the Attorney-General on the left. P. M.

Shervington sat as Vice, supported by the Hon. Wm. Lee, and the Rev. Mr. Warner. The fare was excellent; and the arrangements reflected much credit upon Bro. P. P. Walter, to whose supervision they had been entrusted.

HALIFAX (NOVA SCOTIA).—The R. W. Pr. G. L. of Nova Scotia assembled at Masonic Hall, in Halifax, on St. John's Day, 1851, for the Installation of Officers, R. W. Hon. A. Keith, Pr. G. M., presiding. The attendance of Members and visiting Brethren was large, affording a most gratifying proof of the healthy and flourishing condition of Masonry in Nova Scotia. The R. W. Pr. G. M. addressed the Brethren in his usual pointed and happy manner, alluding to the unanimity which pervaded all the Lodges under his jurisdiction during the past year.

The Officers for the ensuing year were then installed in ancient and regular form, and after an appropriate address from the V. W. the G. C., Rev. Dr. Twining, the Pr. G. L. closed, to meet again at six o'clock, at refreshment.

The company assembled at the banquet was large, and highly respectable. Several officers of the 42nd Highlanders and some of the first citizens and members of the Provincial Parliament were present, and never did the banquet-room of the Masonic Hall present a nobler or happier company than there greeted each other. After the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, Capt. Drummond, of the 42nd Highlanders, and P. M. of the Malta Lodge, rose, and in a neat and highly complimentary speech, proposed the health of the R. W. the Hon. A. Keith, Pr. G. M.—Drank with all the honours.

The response of the Pr. G. M. was one of his happiest efforts. He thanked the Brethren present for the honour and compliment so handsomely bestowed, and drew a most eloquent and pleasing picture of the moral and social results which Freemasonry is calculated to produce. The speech was received with great enthusiasm, and called forth repeated applause.

Other excellent speeches followed, filled with true Masonic sentiment. At eleven o'clock, the Pr. G. M. left the chair, and the Brethren dispersed.

MALTA.—On the 27th December, 1851 (the Festival of St. John the Evangelist), the Brethren of St. John and St. Paul's Lodge, No. 437, assembled for the Installation of the W. M. Bro. W. Winthrop, United States Consul. After the Lodge had been closed, the Brethren, to the number of forty-two, adjourned to the "Malta Union Club," and sat down to refreshment. During the evening, the usual Masonic toasts were given. The St. John and St. Paul's Lodge, No. 437, under the Grand Lodge of England, or the Mother Lodge of the Island, and established by that distinguished and accomplished Mason, the late Judge W. R. Wright—is in a most flourishing condition. The Officers for the current year are Brs. W. Winthrop, W. M.; Maj. MacBeath (68th Lt. Infantry), S. W.; Lieut. R. Boyle (R. Artillery), J. W.; Milrea (Commissariat Depart.), S. D.; Capt. Forbes (76th regt.), J. D.; Dobbs (Ordnance Depart.), I. G.; B. Douglas, Sec.; Hadley (68th Lt. Infantry), P. M.; Capt. Ewart (Royal Navy, "Expert"); and the Rev. J. S. Robson. Br. Ewart fills the J. W. chair during the absence, on leave, of Bro. Boyle. Br. Admiral Sir L. Curtis, *Barz.*, late Pr. G. M. for Hampshire, has recently joined the St. John and St. Paul's

Lodge, as has Bro. Maj. Nelly, P. M., and several other Brethren, who take a deep interest in the success of the Craft. St. John and St. Paul's Lodge may be truly called a Naval and Military Lodge, as its Members have almost always been composed of the garrison and fleet of Malta. Within the last five months, upwards of fifty Brethren have become initiated or joined as subscribing Members.

The Union Lodge, No. 588, and Zetland, No. 756, both under the Grand Lodge of England, are also working steadily onward, and doing good service to the Craft.

FOREIGN.

FRANCE.—*Installation of Prince L. Murat.*—Since the empire, the Chair of the Masonic Order has not been filled in France; King Joseph, the Emperor's brother, having been the last Grand Master. Considerable interest has, therefore, been excited by the installation of Prince Lucien Murat as Grand Master. St. Bartholomew's Hall, transformed as by enchantment into a Masonic temple, and resplendent with allegorical decorations, amidst which shone conspicuous the cypher of the Grand Orient, the only Masonic power of France, was on Thursday, Feb. 26, filled by upwards of three thousand Masons from all parts of France, and many distinguished foreign Brethren.

Nearly three hundred deputations of Lodges, and two hundred deputies of the Grand Orient, were present on this memorable occasion. The altar, near which the Prince was to stand, was surmounted by a rich dais of red and orange, bordered with gold.

The ceremony of Installation was commenced at four o'clock, under the presidency of M. Berville, Premier Avocat Général of the Court of Appeal of Paris, and lasted nearly three hours. M. Berville installed M. Bugnot as President of the Grand Orient, and the Prince Lucien Murat as Grand Master of the Order.

The speech of Prince L. Murat drew down the loud plaudits of the auditory, for the eminently philanthropic views it developed, and for his expression of confidence in the protection assured to the Order on the part of the existing Government.

Four hundred guests sat down to the banquet, which followed upon the ceremony of Installation. Toasts were drank with enthusiasm to the Prince President, the Grand Officers of State, Masonry, &c.; and a productive collection was made in aid of suffering Brethren.

From the long and brilliant speech of the Prince we can find only room for the two following paragraphs:—

“I conceive that, in times of revolution and trouble, such as we have just passed through, there are many evils to rectify and sufferings to assuage; and that, if Masonry continues to fulfil its mission, the moment has arrived for us, in making an appeal to the workers in our *ateliers*, to render great services to humanity. If, in the secular world, justice ought to be severe against disorders and culpable attempts, let us never forget that Masonry is Charity, whose ear is ever open to the cry of the unfortunate, and whose hand is always extended to save and succour.

“By your respect for our laws you will render easy of exercise the authority you have confided to me, and the Government, whose unresting solicitude requires, with just title, to know what we are and at what we aim, will only see in our lodges and workshops a noble exercise of the highest prerogative of human reason—the right to do well!”

Bro. Leblanc de Marçonnay, a member of the G. O. de France, honorary member of the French Lodge la Tolérance, No. 784, has favoured us with the following intelligence, which we gladly communicate to our readers:—

“SWITZERLAND.—The G. Lodge, Alpina, and the Supreme Helvetic Roman Directory, have addressed several serious expostulations to the G. O. de France, on the existence of the Lodges, which it had constituted in Switzerland, whilst that country composed a part of the French territory, and which have continued to remain under its obedience. Those Lodges, being uncontrolled, create disturbances in the Swiss Masonry by initiating candidates, who are unworthy of the Masonic mission. The G. O. had issued a solemn order, which has enjoined the duty of those Lodges to re-enter the jurisdiction of the national powers. This resolution has not been attended to; so that the Swiss authorities complain, with just cause, of a negligence which is very prejudicial to the Order.

“The Supreme Helvetic Roman Directory has just appointed, as an honorary member of its Masonic Senate, Bro. Le Blanc de Marçonnay, to whom the Masonic insignia are about to be sent.”

PARIS. — *Clément-Amitié*. — This Lodge, which continues at the head of French Masonry, and is distinguished by its correspondence with every part of the globe, elected its officers in January last; Resp. Bro. de Sanlis, late President of the G. O., has been appointed Master of the Lodge, and Bro. Leblanc de Marçonnay re-elected as General Secretary. This Lodge has added to its numerous alliances several Lodges of Switzerland; *l'Hospitalité Grenadienne*, O. de Carthagène (New Grenada); the Ionic Lodge, London; *La Chrétienne des Alpes*, O. d'Aigle (Suisse); Kosmos, O. d'Elseneur (Denmark). Prince Murat, the present G. M. of the order in France, is a Member of this Lodge, as well as the ex-King Jérôme Napoléon. The Feast of the Order was celebrated with the greatest solemnity on the 17th of February. Amongst the guests invited was the Resp. Bro. Dr. A. Normandy, a Member of an English Lodge, who replied to the toast given to our English Brethren.

DENMARK.—A new Lodge has been founded at the O. of Elsenore, under the title of Kosmos, and under the jurisdiction of the G. L. of Denmark. It was opened and consecrated on the 9th of April, 1851, with a grand ceremony by the Resp. F. Levetzan, the Resp. Bro. Tuxen, President of the Masonic Directory, &c., and the Resp. Bro. K. Gad, a most distinguished Mason.

NEW GRENADA.—A Grand Lodge has been founded in the Republic of New Grenada, at Carthagena, since 1822. This power, which holds a large number of Lodges under its obedience, has recently asked for recognition from the G. O. de France, under the title of G. O. and Supreme Council of New Grenada. The G. M. is the Resp. Bro. Francisca de Zubiro.

LITERARY NOTICES.

The Riches that breed no Sorrow. By the Rev. ERSKINE NEALE, M.A.,
Rector of Kirton, Suffolk, and Chaplain to Earl Spencer, &c.
London, Longman and Co.

The title of this volume is at once original and appropriate, containing, as it does, an alternate series of biographical sketches of extraordinary characters, who have contributed, more or less, to the godlike cause of Charity, and have left behind "riches that breed no sorrow," and of those who, possessing the largest earthly means, have hoarded them to their own disgrace and misery. The author sets out with the history of Bryan Blundell, a fatherless boy, afterwards a rich merchant seaman, who gave one-tenth of what he acquired towards the noble foundation of the Blue Coat Hospital in Liverpool. Then follow, in pleasing succession, spirited sketches of "Jemmy Wood, the miser of Gloucester;" Rev. William Hetherington, who conceived and matured the charity for the blind, after having himself for some time been deprived of sight. "Morgan Jones, the Miser of Blewbury;" "Betton, the Turkey merchant;" "Cavendish, the philosopher;" "Bancroft, the Lord Mayor's footman;" "The Marquis of Hertford;" "Lawyer Brame, of Ipswich;" "William (first) Earl Nelson;" "Christopher Tancred, of Whixley;" "The Duke of Queensberry," "Edward Wortley Montague;" "Henry Welby;" "John Stock, of Hampstead;" "Ostervald, the banker;" and "Mrs. Elizabeth Prowse, of Wicken Park," are all noticed in the work. In introducing the history of the penurious Morgan Jones, curate of Blewbury, Bro. Neale remarks on the character of clergymen generally, that

"Some who give, give 'of their abundance,' others of a mere pittance. It is true there are exceptions; so large a body will have members who do not act up to their professions, and Mr. Jones, of Blewbury, was one. This Rev. gentleman held the curacy of Blewbury for five-and-forty years. His stipend at no period of his professional career exceeded thirty guineas per annum; and yet, by habits of parsimony which would sustain comparison with those even of the celebrated Elwes, he left behind him, in 1827, 1,500*l.* Those who remember him in his ministerial capacity, describe him as a man of good natural powers, and by no means deficient in scholarship. It admits of proof, that in early life he was deceived by a party whom he had essentially served. Thenceforth he distrusted all the world; and throughout his subsequent career, attached the most overweening and undue importance to money. The death of a relative made him owner of a little property, which produced 30*l.* per annum. This, with his stipend and the interest of his savings for the previous year, he regularly invested in the funds. His surplice-fees, as curate, amounted on an average to half-a-crown a week: upon this he contrived to live. Sometimes, indeed, so successful was he in the management of his pittance, he made it yield him the surplus of a few pence at the end of the week. He kept no servant, allowed no 'womankind' to clean his rooms, or to assist him in any of his domestic arrangements. He was himself his whole retinue,—discharged the duties of housemaid, chambermaid, and cook, and officiated as his own washerwoman and tailor."

Now for his portrait:—

"In appearance he was a walking scarecrow; the hat which hung upon his head, and the rags which he wore upon his back, were enough to frighten all the birds in the neighbourhood. The same hat and coat had served him

during the entire forty-five years that he lived at Blowbury. As specimens of industry and curious stitching, they were wondrous articles of wearing apparel. The brim of his hat on the left side was, by dint of constant handling, entirely worn away. Crossing the fields one morning from Compton, he had the good fortune to espy an old hat stuck upon a pole in a corn-field to frighten away the birds. The prize was instantly captured and disported; the brim was immediately tore away, and joyfully appended to his own hat, sewing it on carefully with a piece of twine. It may be doubted, after all, whether the addition was an improvement; for the new brim was a jet black, whilst the other weather-beaten crown was of a most dingy brown. His coat might be pronounced a miracle of art, from the variety of its colours, and the multiplicity of its patches; there never was a coat so twisted and turned, so doctored and repaired, so altered in its fashion, or so metamorphosed in its shape, as the coat of the penurious Mr. Jones. Pity that it could not have written its own history! It would have taught those who wish to make a surtout do double duty how to effect their purpose. When the miser came first to Blowbury, it was then the worse for wear; and after some considerable time, when it had become threadbare and of a russet lue, he had it turned inside out, and converted it into a dress-coat. Ere long the napless garment became dangerously thin, and subject to incessant rents, which kept the needle of its anxious owner continually employed. *His* needle it were wrong to call it; the practice of the thrifty curate was to borrow needle and thread, on these trying occasions, of the neighbouring farmers; since to have sunk his own capital in the purchase of such articles would have been the height of inexcusable extravagance. But at length, in despite of the most diligent care and curious patching, pieces fell off, and were lost. To repair these dilapidations, the vigilant owner cut fragments off the tail, and sewed them in neatly himself. At last this expedient of robbing one part to repair another became so frequent, and the tails were so clipped and shorn of their original dimensions, that the coat became a jacket; and so much mirthful comment did this tailless garment excite, old cronies used to regard it as the *ne plus ultra* of ingenious patching; and mystics spoke of it as a legacy from Bamfylde Moore Carew, that the owner was reluctantly compelled from wearing it when he appeared professionally before his flock. Public railery could effect this, and no more. The mutilated Benjamin was still carefully cherished, and constantly decorated the owner's lank person when at home."

We regret that our space will not permit our following out the racy description of this extraordinary divine. Bro. Neale, after summing it up, adds—

"His coat, slippers, neckerchief, inkstand, and pen, are still in existencce. I have seen them. No beggar on the high road would own them. They are positively wondrous. That they ever should have been worn or owned by a clergyman seems past belief. . . . Among his sermons, which bore such palpable testimony to the penuriousness of the writer, was a letter from his bankers, Messrs. Child & Co., dated April 4, 1804, in which they acquaint him that they had credited his account with 56*l.* 10*s.*, just received, and that the stock then standing in his name runs thus :—2,200*l.* Consolidated Three per Cents., annual interest 66*l.*; 1,200*l.* Consolidated Four per Cents., annual interest 48*l.* He died as he had lived, isolated and comfortless. The delusion is now over: he is awaiting his final reward."

In taking leave of Bro. Neale's highly interesting and instructive book, we would confidently commend it to the perusal of our readers.

Holmsfirth's solemn Voice. A Sermon preached in St. Bartholomew's Church, Salford, on February 15th, in behalf of the Holmsfirth sufferers. By the Rev. MOSES MARGOLIOUTH, B.A. London, Wertheim and Macintosh, Paternoster-row.

This pious effort on behalf of the sufferers from the recent calamitous event is only one of the many charitable deeds performed by our Reverend Brother, and, apart from that, a discourse pregnant with deep interest. The text is from Luke xiii, 1—5. In alluding

to the carnage of the Galileans under Pilate, and the eighteen upon which the tower in Siloam fell ("who were *not* sinners above all men that dwell in Jerusalem"), he aptly compares that event with the recent awful visitation, and in the most impressive manner exhorts all Christians, in the words of the text, "except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish." The profits of the book are applied to the same charitable object for which the sermon was preached; and we say that every Christian, and Masons especially, ought to purchase it for their souls' sake, and for the cause of charity.

Genuine Freemasonry indissolubly connected with Revelation. A Lecture. By Bro. the REV. MOSES MARGOLIOUTH, B.A. London. Spencer.

We have been favoured with the first part of this Lecture. The subject itself must always prove one of deep and solemn interest; and being illustrated by the master-mind of one well versed in the mysteries of the Craft, is likely to prove an important addition to Masonic literature.

In introducing the subject, our Rev. Bro. gives the following "bird's-eye view of the ceremony of Initiation," showing how beautifully and indissolubly are Revelation and Masonry conjoined:—

"The candidate who has not been as yet admitted as a child of LIGHT is, as a matter of course, represented in a state of darkness, just as chaos was before 'the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.' The poor candidate in that state obtains the most practical view of himself, without the benign influence of that spirit; and when he makes the confession that he stands in need of the blessing of light, all the Brethren join in the ceremony * * * * * which gives a fair notion of the statement made by the inspired recorder:—'And the earth was without form and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.'* And whilst the Brethren are in the act of representing the operation of the Spirit, the W. M., in some Lodges, repeats:—'And God said, Let there be light: and there was light. And God saw the light, that *it was* good: and God divided the light from the darkness.'†

"The new Brother is thus at once informed why we think it meet and right to be separated from the uninitiated, for God himself 'caused a division between the light and between the darkness,' which is the literal translation of the sacred chronicle.

"In other Lodges, again, the W. M. repeats, during the representation of the operation of the Spirit,—as was the case in the Lodge in which I was made—'In him was life; and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not. *That* was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world.'‡

"The W. M. then proceeds with his lecture, and points out the doctrine of our Grand Master, Solomon, that 'God made man upright.'§ You know, Brethren, the allegory in which this doctrine is veiled, and the symbol by which it is illustrated.

"The Brother is then clothed with the badge of purity and innocence. The senior Warden's instructive and impressive charge is not so much to our present purpose; but the additional exhortation of the W. M. is most apposite, as it illustrates my position most happily. I need not repeat the exhortation alluded to;—you all know it. But is it not a beautiful paraphrase of our Lord's exhortation in his sermon on the mount?—'But I say unto you, that whosoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment; and whosoever shall say to his brother, Raca, shall be in danger of the council; but whosoever shall say, Thou fool, shall be in danger of hell-fire. Therefore if thou bring thy gift to the altar, and there rememberest that thy

* Genesis, i. 2.

‡ John i. 4, 5, 9.

† Genesis, i. 3, 4.

§ Eccl. vii. 29.

brother hath ought against thee, leave there thy gift before the altar, and go thy way; first be reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift. Agree with thine adversary quickly, whiles thou art in the way with him, lest at any time the adversary deliver thee to the judge, and the judge deliver thee to the officer, and thou be cast into prison. Verily I say unto thee, thou shalt by no means come out thence, till thou hast paid the uttermost farthing.*

"At the third degree, you remember, a badge, somewhat different from that of the first degree, is presented to the Brother. The W. M.'s charge on the presentation is as significant as his exhortation on the former occasion alluded to, though it is taken from a different portion of Scripture, which is the following:—'And the Lord spake unto Moses, saying, Speak unto the children of Israel, and bid them that they make them fringes in the borders of their garments throughout their generations, and that they put upon the fringe of the borders a riband of blue. And it shall be unto you for a fringe, that ye may look upon it, and remember all the commandments of the Lord, and do them,'† &c. Examine carefully your aprons, and see that they are not mere childish inventions, but have their origin from Revelation."

He goes on to state that

"The fundamental principle of genuine Freemasonry is a separation from darkness, for there must be no communion between light and darkness, hence our Brethren have always maintained a most jealous seclusion from a world that lieth in darkness, and adhered to a divine command by not communicating the mysteries of the Order indiscriminately to all. The divine behest is—'Give not that which is holy unto the dogs, neither cast ye your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn again and rend you.' It shall presently be made apparent that the 'dogs' spoken of are none other than the 'covans and intruders to Masonry;' the first word being evidently derived from the Greek *oi κυνες*."

We look forward with much interest to the conclusion of this very interesting Lecture.

The Dictionary of Domestic Medicine and Household Surgery. By SPENCER THOMSON, M.D. L.R.C.S., Edinburgh. London: Groombridge and Sons, Paternoster-row.

The first number of this cheap medical dictionary bids fair to supply a desideratum which has long been wanting in medical literature. The alphabetical arrangement of the numerous subjects renders the work at once convenient, simple, and highly instructive, and in point of plainness and perspicuity is, so far as we have seen, superior to more voluminous works on the same subject. This number contains 48 pages, with 24 wood-cut illustrations, price only Sixpence.

The Cherwell and her Crew; a Song, composed for and sung at the Opening of the Cherwell Lodge, Banbury, by Bro. JOSEPH PLOWMAN, Feb. 23, 1852. Oxford: Bro. Joseph Plowman.

The pretty trifle before us is in a true nautical strain—air, "With helmet on his brow,"—and cannot fail to prove one of great local interest, the names of the Master, Officers, and Brethren, being all *spun into the same yarn*. The following is a specimen:—

"Come now, we've launch'd '*The Cherwell*,'
Let's toast our gallant crew;
For never was a vessel mann'd
With hearts more tried or true.
O, proud must be our *Admiral*,
Who well sustains the fame,
Which Englishmen will e'er attach
To *Ridley's* honor'd name."

* Matt. v. 22—26.

† Num. xv. 37—40.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

THE EDITOR requests that all original articles for *approval*, and for which *remuneration* is expected, may be sent to him at 74, 75, Great Queen-street, Lincoln's Inn-fields, by the *first weeks* in the months of FEBRUARY, MAY, AUGUST, and NOVEMBER; all Correspondence and Masonic Intelligence must be transmitted by the *tenth day* of MARCH, JUNE, SEPTEMBER, and DECEMBER, at *latest*, to insure its insertion. The attention of Contributors is earnestly requested to these directions, who are also desired to retain copies of their MSS., as the Editor does not pledge himself to return those which are not approved.

IRSWICH.—W. T. E.—All the Lodges of Instruction work upon the ritual of 1813. A list of those Lodges is given in the Calendar.

Φ.—Thanks for the communication, of which use has been made.

DEVONSHIRE.—“Has any Brother a right of access to the Minute Book of his Lodge, and can he take any extracts from it that he is desirous of possessing, in case he is refused on applying for a copy of the same to be supplied him?”—Any Brother has the right of inspecting the Minute Book during Lodge hours; as for taking extracts, probably yes, unless the W. M. has special reasons for deeming it objectionable.

PLYMOUTH.—“Is a Brother who is initiated, and expresses his intention of belonging to the Lodge, liable to pay the usual monthly subscription from the date of his initiation, or from the date of his taking the 3rd degree?”—From his initiation, most certainly.

“Is a Brother, who is initiated, and who expresses his intention of not belonging to the Lodge, or is not certain, considered a member? Is he eligible to vote in the Lodge? and is he liable to pay the usual monthly subscription during the time it takes to pass and raise him?”—Under the circumstances stated, the Brother does not become a member of the Lodge, and is therefore neither eligible to vote, nor liable to the monthly contributions at all, though he is entitled to his 2nd and 3rd degrees in due course.

PLYMOUTH.—J. J. J.—“In case any Brother intends to appeal against the proceedings of his Lodge, can he himself insist on entering his protest in the Minute Book of the Lodge, or only make the protest, requesting the Secretary to enter it, and trust to him for its fulfilment?”—If a Brother wishes to appeal to higher authority, and for that purpose wishes to enter a protest (*vide* Constitutions, page 82), he should hand that protest in writing to the W. M., stating the purpose for which he does so. The W. M. is then bound to cause it to be entered on the minutes. But the protesting Brother cannot enter it on the minutes himself, except by the W. M.'s consent.

INQUIRER.—“In a private Lodge, what is meant by confirming the minutes? Under what circumstances are they not confirmed? and in case they are not, what effect does that have upon present business or previous resolutions? Is any Brother eligible to perform the ceremonies of Initiation, Passing, and Raising, provided he has thoroughly made himself acquainted with them, or only those who fill a certain office, or have attained a certain rank? Has a private Lodge the power to admit to the Lodge Brethren who belong or have belonged to other Lodges as honorary members, independent of those who are honorary members by virtue of their office in the Lodge; and if so, are they eligible to hold offices and vote in the Lodge, and intitled to the same privileges as those who pay the regular dues?”—These questions are much too large and indefinite to be answered satisfactorily under the head of our “Notices to Correspondents.” They are clearly such as *ought* to be put to the G. S., and not to ourselves.

TEMPLAR.—Our publisher has on sale the Belfast K. T. Service noticed in this number.

CORK.—We regret that the unusual pressure upon our columns prevents our being able to give a most interesting correspondence, which has lately taken place between Col. Chatterton, M.P. and the Youghall Lodge, 68, which affords an additional proof, if any were wanting, of the high estimation in which that R. W. Brother is held.

OXFORD.—We are quite aware that a *Crewian Oration* is delivered every alternate year at the Encenia of patrons and founders before this University; but we were not cognizant that a similar oration had been recently established in the Lodges of this Province. The zeal which has called it forth is most commendable, but it too frequently outstrips the judgment.

NOTICE TO LODGES.—Bro. Ed. Lépée, W. M. of the French Lodge la Tolérance, No. 784, has communicated to us a list of the following Lodges, placed under the obedience of the *Masonic Rite of Memphis*, which are recognized neither by the Grand Orient of France, nor by the United Grand Lodge of England:—

PARIS	. . .	The Grand Lodge des <i>Philadelphes</i> , holding no meetings at present.
	„	The Learned Chapter, L. des <i>Sectateurs d'Isis</i> , Bro. Manganant, W. M., Fred. Mayer, Sec.
	„	The Learned Chapter, L. des <i>Gymnosophistes</i> , Bro. Netter, W. M., Alfred Mayer, Sec.
	„	The Resp. L. Chap. des <i>Disciples of Zoroastre</i> , Bro. Bruyer, W. M., Boucault, Sec.
	„	The Chap. L. des <i>Sages d'Héliopolis</i> , Bro. Martin, W. M., Vignier, Sec.
BRUSSELS	. . .	G. L. de la <i>Bienveillance</i> , Bro. Vanjeun, W. M., de Poëderlé, Sec.
LONDON	. . .	G. L. des <i>Sectateurs de Ménès</i> , Bro. Berjeau, W. M., J. Philippe, Sec. This L. meets on the 1st Monday of each month.
SMYRNE (Asia Minor).		G. L. du <i>Rameau d'Or d'Eleusis</i> , Bro. Barbier, W. M., de Savigny, Sec.
BUENOS AYRES.		G. L. Sabéique des <i>Enfants d'Hermès</i> , Bro. Emono, W. M., Hip. Boyer, Sec.

We strongly recommend the Masters of Lodges, under the Constitutions of the United Grand Lodge of England, to be exceedingly careful, not to admit any persons, who venture to visit English Lodges by the production of spurious certificates from the above Lodges. There is no other regular French Lodge in London than the Lodge la Tolérance, No. 784. It would be well, if every London Lodge would furnish its T. with a List of these spurious Lodges.

ST. HELENA.—*Presentation of Testimonial to Bro. Woollard.*—The Report forwarded to us is so indefinite and imperfect, that we can make no use of it, which is the more to be regretted, inasmuch as the subject ought to be recorded. If a better account be sent, we will gladly make room for it in our next number.

ASHTON.—“D. S.”—Thanks for the Report. We would gladly have availed ourselves of it without curtailment; the pressure upon us *alone* prevented its *entire* appearance. We shall be but too thankful to hear as frequently as possible from our worthy Brother.

TRINIDAD.—“D. H.”—The correspondence so kindly forwarded is unsuited to our columns. It shows the *animus* of Popery; till which be changed, Abp. Smith appears to have had no other alternative. That which remains to Bro. D. H. is to shake off the trammels by which he is bound, and to become a free man. In one sense he is already “A PROTESTANT!”

CIRENCESTER.—*Cotteswold Lodge, No. 862.*—Had we room, we would give the address, which is admirable, and worthy of the Order it is intended to illustrate and support.