

LONDON, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1881.

HONORARY GRAND OFFICERS.

We respectfully direct the attention of the M.W. Grand Master to the fact that at the last meeting of the District Grand Lodge of Bengal, the officiating Prov. Grand Master, Bro. J. J. L. Hoff, conferred the honorary rank of Past Prov. Grand Deacon, on no less than five brethren—all of whom, we doubt not, are worthy of this, or perhaps even higher distinction, if bestowed legally, which we maintain, under the present law, cannot be the case so far as Provincial or District Grand Masters are concerned.

We are aware that the power of granting honorary rank has long been claimed, and acted upon, by the District Grand Masters and their deputies in India, though not justified by the *Book of Constitutions*, the power of granting honorary rank having been especially reserved to the United Grand Lodge itself until within the last few months, when it was extended to the M.W. Grand Master; and that the power was never intended to attach to Prov. Grand Masters was all but unanimously affirmed by Grand Lodge last week. Prior to the resolution granting the power to the Grand Master, there could be no pretence whatever for Prov. or District Grand Masters claiming the privilege, they being clothed by their appointment with similar powers within their districts to those possessed by the Grand Master over Masonry in general; but having none of the privileges reserved by the *Book of Constitutions* to Grand Lodge, which has no voice in the appointment.

We repeat what we have before stated, that if there is any portion of the English Masonic Jurisdiction where the power of the Grand Master to create honorary members might fairly be extended to the District Grand Masters, it is in India, in consequence of the distance of the outlying stations, and the want of those facilities of locomotion which we possess in this country; but the privilege, before being acted upon, should be asked for and obtained—as it no doubt would easily be—from the Grand Lodge of England, and we trust the M.W. G. Master will cause a communication to that effect to be addressed to his representatives in our distant possessions, so that the practice throughout the Craft may be well defined and understood.

A SUSPENSION IN INDIA.

We publish in another page from the *Indian Freemason's Friend* a rather fuller account of the District Grand Lodge of Bengal than we should otherwise be induced to do, because we conceive that an injustice has been done to a brother, and we believe it to be our duty to endeavour to protect a brother from injury, however distant he may be from the parent Grand Lodge to which he owes allegiance; and the more especially so in

the present instance, as in India there is no independent organ of Freemasonry to lift up its voice on his behalf. We are as great sticklers for the maintenance of the laws laid down in the *Book of Constitutions* as any brethren can be, but we are also bound to look not only at the exact letter of the law, but the manner in which it is carried out in the Grand Lodge of England; and with the recollection that if one of our cardinal virtues be justice, we are also taught to temper it with mercy. From the proceedings of the District Grand Lodge it would appear that Lodge 740, Kilwinning in the East, was, for some cause unknown to us, extinguished some time since, and the warrant returned to the District Grand Lodge; and Bro. Douglas, who had been Master of the lodge, is now summoned for arrears of dues under the law in the *Book of Constitutions*, which says—

“The fees or dues received on account of, and payable to, the Grand Lodge and Provincial Grand Lodge, shall be kept separate and distinct from the moneys belonging to the Lodge, and shall be deposited in the hands of the Master instead of the Treasurer of the Lodge, and shall be transmitted to the Grand Lodge and Provincial Grand Lodge at such times as the law requires.”

We all know that, notwithstanding the law, the usual practice is for the Treasurer to keep the funds; and the separation only takes place when the accounts are made up prior to the retiring Master making his returns, either personally or through the Treasurer or Secretary, to Grand Lodge, on handing over his gavel to his successor; and that there must have been some laches here is evident; but it would appear to us that the Prov. Grand Treasurer is certainly quite as much to blame as Bro. Douglas, and therefore the penalty should not fall altogether on the head of that brother; for Bro. Douglas explains that before surrendering the warrant of the lodge he called upon Bro. Clark and enquired whether anything was due to the District Grand Lodge, and was informed that there was not, and Bro. Douglas was further confirmed in the impression thus created, that there was nothing owing, by Bro. Clark, writing to Bro. Clinger, the Secretary of the lodge, “that there were two classes of bad paymasters, namely, those who were too slow and those who were too quick,” and that Bro. Clinger belonged to the latter class. To this statement Bro. Clark replies that he does not know what is due by the lodges until they have furnished returns to the Prov. G. Secretary. That is, no doubt, true enough; but instead of telling Bro. Douglas that there was nothing due, he should have told him to what date the dues were paid, and the surrender of the lodge warrant should not have been accepted without the returns, and Bro. Douglas being informed what was then due, as up to that period he was clearly liable, and might, perhaps, before the surrender of the warrant, have been enabled to obtain the dues from the brethren. But when the District Grand Lodge had accepted the surrender of the warrant, and the brethren were dispersed, Bro. Douglas was placed in a very different position, and, to our thinking, morally, if not legally, released from his obligations with regard to the lodge dues. But on Bro.

Douglas being applied to for these dues, what does he do, he endeavours to collect them, and remits eighty rupees—more than half claimed—to the Prov. G. Treas.; and, moreover, he asserts that, previous to applying to Bro. Clark to know whether anything was due “I paid the arrears of dues for the time I was Master.” If this be so, we cannot see what claim the District Grand Lodge has upon him; and, moreover, having done his best to collect arrears from the members of a deceased lodge, we think District Grand Lodge should be satisfied. But no, Bro. Douglas is charged with contumacy in not attending District Grand Lodge when summoned to do so, to which he replies that he was informed by brethren, whose names he gives, that, having paid over what he could realise, it would be unnecessary for him to attend. District Grand Lodge, however, took another view of the matter, and he was again summoned to the next communication of the Grand Lodge, which he attended; and it is from what then took place we gather the facts on which this article is founded, the result of the discussion being that Bro. Douglas is “suspended from his Masonic privileges for six months, and further until he has paid his dues,” or, in other words, he is expelled the Order, unless he chooses to pay the amount claimed out of his own pocket, at least so far as English Masonry is concerned, for we cannot believe that such a decision will be allowed to affect his position in Scotch Freemasonry, of which he is also a member. And here we must be allowed to say we do not altogether hold Bro. Douglas blameless in his conduct towards the District Grand Lodge. He was summoned to appear as an English Mason in an English lodge, and it was not respectful to appear in other than English clothing; but here again the officers of the Prov. Grand Lodge were also in the wrong in admitting him when he was not properly clothed.

But let us see what is the practice with regard to this law in England. Whilst a lodge is at work the Master is held responsible for the payment of the dues, and in case of non-payment he would have to answer for the neglect to the Board of General Purposes, but when a lodge has ceased to work no attempt is made to compel the last Master to continue to pay dues, though legally we believe that he might be so called upon, until the lodge is erased. But after the lapse of some four or five years the lodge, not the last Master, is called upon to show cause why it shall not be erased and its warrant returned to Grand Lodge, and failing a satisfactory answer, the erasure is proceeded with. Some seventy lodges were so erased a short time since (many of them lodges abroad it is true, including those in Canada which had withdrawn their allegiance), but we heard of no attempt to make the last Masters responsible for dues in arrear, or suspend them from their Masonic privileges. We consider Bro. Douglas has good cause of complaint against the District Grand Lodge, and can scarcely believe that, should he appeal to the authorities at home, that the decision of the District Grand Lodge will be sustained.

THE MASON'S LAST REQUEST.—A SKETCH OF THE BATTLE-FIELD.

By EDWARD Z. C. JUDSON.

It was a very hot day in the summer of 1778. The British General, Clinton, with a formidable army, was hastening across the sandy plains of New Jersey to join the forces of General Howe, at Sandy Hook. And Washington, with an army once more regenerated into life, determined, if it lay within the bounds of possibility, to prevent that junction; and, to effect this purpose, sent on a large detachment of light troops, under General Lee, to harass their movements and retard their progress until he could come up with the main force and effect their capture or destruction.

The British were overtaken by Lee, whom I have more than once said, and now repeat it, only needed Arnold's temptations, and Arnold's wrongs, to have been all or more a traitor than was the latter. The will was in him, but opportunity did not serve.

But to return to my story. As soon as the American sharpshooters, in the van of Lee's division, began to annoy the British, the latter drew up in order of battle and prepared for defence. The Americans boldly pushed on, and were driving all before them, when to their utmost astonishment, and to the deep mortification of their gallant officers, who were flushed with the hope of a victory almost in their hands, General Lee ordered a retreat.

Shame mantled many a brow then as there; and, in spite of discipline, angry words broke from many a lip; for even then, as now, the word retreat sounded strangely, aye, almost harshly upon an American ear. But the order had been given by him who had command, and he must be obeyed. But so angry and unwilling were those who thus fell back, that they did not preserve the order they would have done had they only been yielding to stern necessity.

And the British, overjoyed at a victory so easy, were pushing their advantage, as they ever did, mercilessly, and our brave men were falling fast before them, when suddenly dashing forward upon a horse which was white with foam, rode that matchless man upon whom a nation's fate depended.

“What means this cowardly retreat? Who dared to order it?” he thundered.

“I did!” was the angry response of General Lee.

“Rally your men, coward, or go hide your face in shame!” cried Washington, that day giving full vent to a passion which, hitherto, under all circumstances, he had managed to control.

“Halt and form!” he cried again, in a voice so loud that it fell alike upon the ears of friend and foe.

And, though the bullets fell like hail about him, and brave men dropped upon his right hand and upon his left, he sat unmoved upon his horse, stemmed there the tide of retreat, and checked the advance of the triumphant foe.

The carnage was terrible. Bayonet clashed against bayonet, sabre met sabre, while the sulphurous smoke almost hid the combatants from view; and they sprang at each other like fiends, lighted by the flashes of cannon and the blaze of musketry.

One gallant officer, whose gray hairs had become tinged with blood, fought directly under the eyes of Washington, whom he loved not only as a general, but as a *brother*, bound by that mysterious and holy tie which equalises a peasant with a prince. By his side three sons of lesser rank, the youngest scarce eighteen years of age, fought all as bravely as himself.

It was at that moment when, with Washington at their head, the Americans drove back the foe at the bayonet's point, that he whom I call Major Carroll, who was leading his battalion on, himself on foot (for two horses had already gone down under him on that day), and to whom I just alluded, saw a British officer fall, who had, with heroic gallantry, striven to stem the changing tide.

Though wounded and down, the brave officer still struggled, and, drawing a pistol, disabled a man whose bayonet was at his breast. Major Carroll's sword was raised above his head, but quickly a sign, a word, and the

"widow's son" was safe, for the sword which would have slain was now a shield—the foe whose arm had just been raised was now a *brother*, whose extended hand was ready to lift him who lay upon the earth in such distress.

But ah! fatal pause! that generous bosom, so full of fraternal love, which did not forget duty even there, amid the wild carnage of battle, was pierced by a bullet; and the brave Carroll sank, dying, by the side of him who had called for help and had not been refused.

Washington's eyes were on him—he knew who and *what* he was, for he had sat with him in a place where light abounded; but he could not wait—the enemy are flying and must be pursued.

"On!" cried the dying hero to his men. "Forward!" he shouted to his boys. "We are victorious, and I am content."

The battle was over. The British had been swept back over the gory field which they had taken, and night had drawn its mantle over the horrors which the day had exposed.

And by Major Carroll's side knelt the only one of his race that was left to life—his youngest born. His two oldest sons had fallen on the dear-bought field—like himself contented that they died for their country, and fell in the hour when victory was theirs.

"Father, what can I do for you?" said the boy-hero, as he grasped his dying sire by the hand, and sustained his head upon his breast.

"Be a man, and do your duty to your country first, and to your mother next. And lad, save my Masonic regalia. He, our nation's father, invested me with it! Save it, and act so worthily, that when you are of full age you may become entitled to wear it. It is my last request!"

And soon the noble spirit of that brave, good, man, left his body, and went to dwell with the Great Architect of the Universe.

And, years after, when peace smiled on our land, the son fulfilled the father's request, and that cherished regalia is yet in the possession of his descendants.—*Masonic Casket* (Collinsville, U.S.)

ARCHITECTURE AND ARCHÆOLOGY.

GENERAL ARCHITECTURAL INTELLIGENCE.

A memorial window has been put up in the nave of Lincoln Cathedral, by the Revs. A. and F. Sutton. The window contains twelve subjects from the life of Joshua, and is the companion window to that recently put up, containing scenes from the life of Moses; the two being a memorial to the late Sir Richard Sutton, Bart., and Lady Sutton. Beneath the window is a small mural tablet in brass, with the inscription.

The work of restoration in Wellingborough Church commenced in 1850, under the advice and direction of Messrs. G. G. Scott and E. F. Law, and the chancel and chancel aisles were then re-seated with open oak seats: the oak screen, and the stone work of the pillars, arches, and windows were restored, and two unsightly galleries were removed from the aisles, at a cost of about £1,250, the whole of which was defrayed. Last year it was resolved to finish the work so commenced. The restoration of the nave and aisles is now completed. The plaster ceiling of the nave has been replaced by a new panelled roof: two galleries at the west end of the nave have been removed; the whole nave and aisles re-seated with oak to correspond with the chancel; the tower arch thrown open and restored; the woodwork of the western wheel-window replaced by stone tracery and filled with stained glass; all the other windows restored and re-glazed; and many other improvements made. The works have been executed at a cost of about £1,500, of which about £600 remains as a debt.

The new Wesleyan chapel at Hampton has been formally opened for divine worship. The chapel (erected from the designs of Mr. M. P. Manning), is in the Gothic style. It is about 50ft. in length, and 25ft. wide, and is capable of accommodating above 200 people. At present a portion of

the chapel is used as a school-room, but it is intended, as funds accrue, to complete the gallery and add the staircase turret, increasing the number of sittings to between 300 and 400.

Holy Trinity Church, Trowbridge, which has been closed for some months past, for the purpose of undergoing repairs and renovation, has been re-opened by the Bishop of Salisbury. The church, which is Early English in style, has been renovated in the interior. The organ has been freshly stained, and the pipes adorned with gold and blue. The pulpit is new, and of Bath stone. A carved oak lectern has been presented to the incumbent, the Rev. Digby Walsh, M.A., by the Rev. Edwin Palmer, Fellow of Balliol College, Oxford. The church provides sittings for 1033 persons.

Lady Huntingdon's Connection Chapel, Basingstoke, has been opened for divine service. The new pews, which are of an ecclesiastical design, are deal, stained and varnished. The whole of the interior has been altered to accord with the pews.

The Bochym aisle of Cury Church, Cornwall, has been lately decorated with two painted Gothic windows, at the expense of Mr. S. Davey.

A few members of the Independent denomination, with the assistance of friends, have purchased a site at the corner of Norwood Grove, and West Derby-road, Liverpool, and are about to erect upon it a chapel and schools, which are estimated to cost, with the land, about £7,000. It is expected that the foundation-stone will be laid early in the coming spring.

St. Mary's Church, Lowton-common, Manchester, has been consecrated by the Bishop of Chester. The want of a church having been much felt, Miss Leigh, of Hale, gave £1,000 towards a building and endowment fund, and Mr. W. J. Legh, M.P., and Mr. T. Brideoak, gave the land. The church cost about £2,000.

A memorial window has just been placed in the church of St. Thomas, Winchester, by Miss Lavie. It consists of two lights; the subjects being the Good Samaritan and Abraham entertaining the three angels; the inscription beneath being as follows:—"Be not forgetful to entertain strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares." Beneath the subjects are panels containing tracery and foliage on a highly-coloured ground. At the base of the memorial is the text, "Be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only." The quatrefoil in the head of the window contains a cross surrounded with grapes and vine-leaves. A brass plate runs along the base of this and the next window, which was put up in 1858, and bears the inscription:—"In memory of Augustus Lavie, who departed this life January, 8, 1861." Beneath the adjoining window, put in about three years back, a brass label bears the following words:—"In memory of Elizabeth Lavie, who departed this life December, 29, 1857."

MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

THE DOCTRINE OF PYTHAGORAS.

Can you give an account of Pythagoras's doctrines, and oblige.—W.W. ?—[The following, translated from Lenning's *Cyclopaedia of Freemasonry*, will no doubt answer our querist's purpose:—

"It were sad, indeed, if nature, in obliging us to battle with such innumerable evils, had not also, in her motherly lap, prepared for us consolation, comfort, and the means of defense. Fortunately, however, for us, she has not only laid in death the germ of life, but also in corruption the germ of purification. Even the civilization of man, the unfolding of his social disposition and inclinations, the refining and multiplying of his needs, exhausting enjoyments which weaken his race, deprive him of health and strength, courage, and contentedness, of his pure blood and of his truth, which will reduce him to a cowardly tenderling, a sickly weakling, and to a degraded egotist; even these unfold in him impulses and capabilities which no one would expect to have found there. Tyranny brought forward saviors of their country; oppression, noble redeemers; and increasing vice, friends of virtue

—who, being allied by nature, drew still closer to each other, tightening the bands of their union; and the more dangerous and unequal the conflict appeared with which they had to wage against vice, the greater the force and energy they employed in influencing their contemporaries. There have existed, in all ages, alliances of noble minds, whose aim was to counteract the evils which the human race, in the course of its revolutions, were continually originating, and to guide the erring out of the flowery image of self-deceit, and place them in the straight, but somewhat more rugged path of human bliss. But as far back as history reaches, there never was such a union as that of Pythagoras. In confirmation of this, we may be allowed to introduce a few remarks by one of our shrewdest authors,* and thereby set up a point of view through which the purpose and benefit of this much misunderstood society should be judged:—

“The institution of the Pythagorean school is, in my judgment, the most elevated and wisest system of law-giving that ever was introduced for ennobling and perfecting our race,—a system established upon the purest and most disinterested virtue, and designed to promote the felicities of whole countries; it does honour not only to its framer, but to human nature itself; but, of course, it can only be followed by a few chosen men. According to the laws of the union, which Pythagoras instituted for himself and friends, no faculty or talent could remain unimproved, and no fault or bad habit unremarked or undiminished in those living in conformity with them. The code of Pythagoras was (if I may be allowed the expression), so perfect, that, according to it, not an hour of one’s life, while waking, would be unoccupied, not a duty indeterminate, nor a good pleasure unweighed.

“Conformably to the principal articles of the same, his friends became more intimate with each other than their fellow-citizens, not with the intention of estranging themselves from them, nor operating against them, but to be enabled by their united forces to work more briskly and actively for their welfare. These very laws further appointed their truest and most worthy followers as chiefs and leaders of others, not to oppress or plunder them for their own benefit, but, with their own life and property, to protect the freedom, right, and safety of their fellow-citizens, and either to keep off or annihilate all those who attacked the same. The founder of this union was Pythagoras. It is to be regretted that history has preserved so little that can be depended upon concerning this wonderful man. His birth-place is the island of Samos, and the time of his birth about the sixth century before the birth of Christ, between the forty-fifth and fifty-second Olympiade. In Phœnicia he is said to have been instructed and initiated into the secrets of the religion of the country by Pherekydes. Thence he went to Egypt (as was the custom of the age), the seat of ancient wisdom; there, also, he took part in the academy of mysteries. From Egypt he returned to Samos, intending to render his talents serviceable there; the people, however, took little pleasure in his symbolical method of teaching, which he had borrowed from the Egyptian priests. He, therefore, set off again on his travels, and wandered for a time among the islands. Wherever he went, he endeavoured to become acquainted with the priests, their teachings, and the arrangements of their religious ceremonies. He also cultivated an intimate connexion with the greatest men of his age. Enriched with so much experience and knowledge of mankind, he once more tried his fortune at Samos. It is said that on his second visit his project succeeded tolerably well, nevertheless he afterwards left his birth-place, probably because he perceived that the seeds of wisdom which he had sown in Samos would not flourish; so he journeyed, by water, past Greece, and landed at Crotona in Lower Italy, one of the most corrupted and thickly populated cities of that country. The reputation of his travels, his secret wisdom, and his god-like virtue had prepared a favourable reception for him wherever he went. The gifts with which nature had endowed him he used in a masterly manner, in order to attract the respect and attention of the people, and to consummate in their imaginations the high idea they had conceived of him as a friend of the gods and a worker of miracles. He was handsome, and of tall stature; his voice sweet, and his eloquence highly attractive; his countenance, full of dignity and softness, commanded reverence. In short, nature seemed to have imprinted the signs of his mission upon his forehead. He extracted from the religious prejudices of the day everything which was necessary to him, in order to raise his reputation to so high a standard that in its assistance might be found in the carrying out of great projects. To find a reformer playing his part under a mask, throws, of course, an unfavourable light upon him; one must, however, consider, that Pythagoras, in this respect, had the example of all the great teachers of the people in his favour, or did Zerduscht, Orpheus, Moses, Numa, &c., work on any other plan? Besides, none of his regulations were superfluous, in order to influence such a people as

* Meiners.

the Crotonians. Lower Italy (at that time it was called Great Greece, and was surrounded by a number of Grecian colonies), was then at the summit of its prosperity. Superfluity had produced there (as it does everywhere), a total corruption of morals. The luxurious arts, the refinement of sensuality, and the effeminacy of the Sybarites, became a by-word, (Sybaris was one of the most flourishing cities of Great Greece, and the rival of Crotona.) It was in the midst of such a people that the sage of Samos took up his residence. He at first gave public lectures to the people in the gymnasiums, temples, and town-hall; to the youth, even to the senate, and (by their own request) to the matrons of the city. By this means he effectuated in many simplicity of manners and dress, for which he received the public acknowledgments of the senate. After this, all were anxious to approach him; youth and old age sought his acquaintance and instruction. Thus brought into more intimate connexion with them, he had an opportunity of investigating their talents and minds, of finding out their circumstances and connexions, and of connecting himself more closely with those, whom (on account of their excellent characters) he had chosen as assistants in the execution of his grand projects. These he persuaded to live together in the closest fraternity, under his guidance and according to his precepts. Thus originated the Pythagorean order or union, which the Christian ascetics of the first century set up as an example to similar unions, and to conventual life. Pythagoras distinguished himself and friends from the multitude by wearing a particular kind of long white robe, a mixture of Egyptian cotton and fine linen, with purple-coloured stripes, after the fashion of the Egyptian priests, whose appropriate costume gave them a most reverend appearance. In this cotton linen he not only clothed his disciples while living, but also after their death, a custom which he borrowed from Orpheus’s mysteries. Pythagoras was extremely particular about the cleanliness of the body, as well as of its covering; his friends had therefore to bathe, shave, and anoint themselves frequently. He did this partly for the sake of health, and partly because uncleanness causes loathing and aversion, and would have offended the eye of the shrewd Greek; partly, also, because the people everywhere are inclined to consider outward an emblem of inward cleanliness. This may be perceived by the christening of the Jews, the bathing of the Mahometans, and other religious washings. The Pythagoreans observed a particular order of the day. Each, upon awaking, immediately wandered forth alone, with his lyre on his arm, towards some retired temple or grove, there to collect his thoughts and rouse his spirits by the lyric tones; whereupon he commenced an inward examination of everything that he had done or thought of the previous day, or some time before, and prepared his mind for the business of the day. After their walk they sought each other, and dedicated the firstlings of their renovated faculties to instructive and intellectual conversation. Then followed bodily exercise, which included anointing and rubbing; they ran, danced, wrestled, threw at marks, &c. They, by these means, sharpened their understandings, increased their strength and activity, and fortified their health. By this time the hour for dinner approached. This meal consisted, however, solely of bread and honey. After dinner, public affairs were attended to. In the evening they wandered forth two or three together, when the subject of their morning’s conversation was again discussed; they then took a cold bath, after which they immediately assembled in their common dining-rooms, and partook of a supper consisting of nourishing and various kinds of food. Sacrifices were made before and after the meal, and sometimes they sung. In order to increase their familiarity, not more than ten of the brothers ate together. The youngest among them had to read aloud after the meal; the eldest presided, and had the right to choose the subject of the reading. At their separation, (which always took place before sunset,) the eldest, in a few words, reminded them of the most important duties of life, and of the principal precepts of their order. Pythagoras’ pupils never forget to end the day as they had commenced it; that is to say, before, as it were, unstraining their minds and rocking their senses to repose by the tones of their lyres, they thought over everything that they had seen, heard, or done during the day. Great wisdom may be perceived at the basis of this order of the day. The proportions of rest and work, of eating and drinking, and of mental and bodily exercise, are so equally balanced, that spirit and body are necessarily retained in the most blooming state of health and strength. Self-examination morning and evening for instance. What an admirable method of obtaining self-knowledge! How glorious to become aware of, (and thereby obviate while there is yet time), every false step, every by-path, every inclination to vice, be it constitutional or proceeding from want of foresight! What an unimprovable means of bringing mankind to consideration and toleration! What a masterly exercise of the memory! Besides this, Pythagoras directed particular attention to frugality. Firstly, because he was convinced that it was very difficult of one of many needs, and who leads a life of

banqueting and effeminacy, to avoid occasionally becoming a traitor to virtue; and, secondly, to counteract the reigning luxury of the age, and to show his friends that the contentment of wise men does not entirely depend upon the palate and stomach,—that their fellow creatures might live happily on a cheaper scale, and that by the censureless exchange of thought in the narrow circle of intimacy, pleasures may be enjoyed, for the sake of which one would willingly relinquish high living. For this reason he did not permit his disciples to partake of wines, meat, or warm food during the day; and at the evening meal the elder brethren always presided. For this reason he removed from their tables all luxuries of food; not even fish did he allow, probably because, as Montesquieu remarks, it increases the animal enjoyments; perhaps, also, because it could not be used for offerings, and it was a matter of great import to him that he and his followers should be considered holy and ardent worshippers of the gods. At certain times they had most splendid repasts prepared, their tables were covered with the most assorted delicacies; but this was merely that they might look upon them, after which they were carried by the slaves, and enjoyed by them. Thus, by depriving them of all inflammable luxuries, he forced them to remain within the bounds of instinct which nature had set for them.

“The founder of this union had nothing so much at heart after frugality, as to accustom his friends to bear with equanimity both prosperity and adversity. He believed that the virtuous, in order unwaveringly to persevere in their resolutions, should acquire a certain firmness of mind, and elevate themselves above being affected by outward circumstances. The brethren of his order, therefore, never broke out into the wild shouting in their pleasures, nor imprecations in their anger. Tears, whimpering, cringing, flattery, threats, &c., were unknown among them. If it happened that a novice had not yet become perfect master of himself in this respect, he had to withdraw, that the others might not be contaminated; and he dare not proceed with any undertaking until the inward storm had subsided. These endeavours to control their countenances and gestures were not all intended to stifle their sensibilities and sympathy, or to force upon them a formal gravity of manners, but merely to give quiet and composure to their outward appearance, and to their minds not only fearlessness and firmness, but also a certain mildness and gentleness which made of them obliging companions, zealous friends, and forgiving enemies. This, Pythagoras called the harmony of the soul, and considered it to be the mother of modesty, bashfulness, and universal philanthropy; roughness of manners, on the contrary, he thought were the source of insolence and hard-heartedness towards one's fellow-creatures. For this reason he forbade his pupils hurting or killing harmless animals, and particularly useful ones; for he knew too well that he who can witness with indifference the last convulsions of an animal, will soon become blind to the tears of the suffering, and deaf to the rattles of the dying.]

Literature.

REVIEWS.

The Flower Shushan on the Pillars of Solomon's Temple.
From the German of DR. KUECHENMEISTER. London:
Richard Spencer.

The construction, ornaments, and utensils of the Temple of King Solomon have always had a charm for the antiquary and linguist. Each have tried, after their own impressions, to solve the problem of shape, plan, and utility of its various component parts. From the days of Dr. Lightfoot, the Temple of Solomon has been a study of interest, and to the Freemason presents not only a vast field of enquiry, but is a theme for much speculation. A very talented brother, has, with the view of enlightening us on a disputed point, translated from the German, an essay on *The Flower Shushan on the Pillars of Solomon's Temple*. His views will be best understood by quoting the preface to this interesting book. He states—

“The following short treatise, although written for and published in an occasional scientific (non-masonic) work (*Gelegenheits-schrift*), has so intimate a bearing upon the symbols and observances of Freemasonry, and is so unlikely to come within the reach of any members of the Craft in England, the translator felt it almost to be a duty to present it in an English garb.

“Not only will the English Master Mason be enabled to trace the origin and cause of certain differences that exist between Masonry, as practised in Germany and as worked in England, but he will also be led to confess that the foreign working is in those cases the more consonant with the Hebrew origin of many Masonic observances, and that, whatever errors exist, they have probably been introduced or confirmed at the Union of the two Grand Lodges in 1813.

“There is another consideration which cannot fail to strike the candid reader, and that is the impossibility of maintaining (as so many attempt) the literal accuracy—in other words, the literal inspiration—of any one particular version of the Old Testament.

“The translator is not sufficiently at home in the Hebrew language to venture to point out the grammatical or etymological errors, which undoubtedly often occur in the spelling or writing of various Hebrew words, not only in the original text of this treatise, but in most Masonic works in which the Hebrew words are given in Hebrew characters; he has, however, to express his thanks to his friend Dr. Weil for having drawn his attention to one case, which enabled him to trace the same and similar errors in other works—errors which are but too often a fruitful source of misconception in the various attempts that are made to arrive at the true meaning of those words.

“Finally, the translator, although perfectly conversant with the German language, must request the indulgence of his readers for any inaccuracy or inelegancy of diction, as he has been more accustomed to translate from English into German, than the converse.

“Berne, 12th June, 1861.”

“R. J. S.”

In this spirit the work is laid before us and it might be supposed that we should offer some comments of our own on the subject. This, however, would hardly be fair to the Author and Translator because any isolated passage we could quote would do an injustice to the whole course of reasoning, which is gradually wrought up to a certain point, determining what the flower “Shushan” really was. There is also another reason why we cannot enter into a consideration of the subject here, the price is so trifling that every brother interested can buy the book, which is brimful of learning, argument, and information. Indeed if we wished to present a brother with a curious and interesting subject for thought, nothing better than this work could be selected.

County Education. A letter addressed to the Right Hon. the Earl of Devon, by the Rev. J. L. BRERETON. London: Ridgway.

The above pamphlet is from an ardent friend to the cause of what he terms “the secondary” education of the country, and its gist may be seen from the following extract, where its reverend author says:—

“I wish to vindicate the County Education Movement from an imputation it has incurred, in some quarters, of being an interference with other educational interests. You are aware that I have personally been relieved by your noble kinsmen, the late and the present Earl Fortescue, from the charge of having, uncalled for, pushed into prominence my own views and plans. To them and not to me, is due the honour, or the blame, of making public those plans and recommending them for trial. I will only say further of myself that any views I have entertained were formed while I was a stranger to Devonshire, and were, therefore, entirely independent of any existing or contemplated institutions in this county. To my wise and earnest master, Dr. Arnold, I owe, among many thoughts and purposes, the impression that much good was to be done in improving what he called ‘the secondary’ education of the country; and to my own father I am indebted for the firm persuasion that this improvement, with many other civil blessings, might find its best source and stay in the restored life of our local and ancestral institutions, in the parishes and counties of England.

“As to the practical experiment by which these views have been tested in this place, not only is its success owing to the rare fortune of having been supported by a man of such sterling character and great influence as the late Lord Lieutenant of Devon, but the experiment itself would never have been attempted or even alluded to in public, but for his and his son's encouragement. I mention this in order to disengage, by a simple statement of facts, the object in view from the means and manner in which it has been carried out.

“Is then the proposal to establish a County System of Education, consisting of public proprietary schools, a college, and examinations, to be looked upon as an interference with other interests? Those interests may be assumed to be (1) The Endowed Grammar

Schools; (2) The Private Commercial Academies; and (3) The Parochial Schools, improved and supported by Government and the Religious Societies. To these perhaps I should add (4) The Oxford and Cambridge Middle-Class Examinations."

We next arrive at the reasons which are supposed to militate against the plan, and, according to our author, divided into three separate interests; they are—

"1.—The old County Grammar Schools have, of late years, languished, owing to the absorption of so many of the sons of the gentry and upper middle-class, once frequenting them, into a few great public schools, which have almost monopolized the higher education of the country. And at the same time the commercial classes, not finding in the classical course to which these grammar schools have clung, the preparation they desired for an early entrance into practical life, have had recourse to private tuition, or, in the case of many of the farmers, have almost neglected education altogether. The decay or revival of these schools will be only indirectly affected by the development of a 'county system.' If that system should ever grow to the completeness of a county college and county degrees, then an influence, such as that formerly exercised by the universities on these grammar schools would be revived, viz. the influence of a higher grade upon the subordinate. Then many of the professional members of the county, would find in the grammar school and the county college and degree, a classical education far cheaper and not much inferior to that of Harrow and Rugby, Cambridge and Oxford; whereas the new county school in which the classics would only hold a subordinate position, would not offer to them any serious competition. I think, therefore, that the grammar schools have far more to hope than to fear from this system.

"2.—The effect of the public county schools on the private commercial academies may be other than I anticipate, but certainly it would seem that any great stimulus, encouragement, and honour applied to the education of the middle classes, must, by increasing the demand, benefit those who undertake the supply. And that which is found to be the case in the higher classes, will be found also in the middle,—that a public school system promotes and maintains an extensive apparatus of private tuition, in which the qualifications of individual masters are adjusted to the special requirements of individual boys. It would be difficult to estimate too boldly the funds that may yet be forthcoming for the purposes of education, when its value is as extensively appreciated among all ranks as it is at present among the higher. And it is reasonable to expect that the distribution of those funds, being left to the free option of parents, will affect public and private enterprise in about the same proportion as is now found to be the case in the education of the gentry; a proportion of which the private tutors have no reason to complain. The general improvement in the standard of tuition, which would be likely to result from a public system, would, of course, be injurious to inferior schools and inefficient teachers, a result which has, no doubt, generally followed the improvements introduced by Dr. Arnold into the higher public schools. But the private loss is here so clearly the public gain, that it would be a very false kindness, for the sake of the few who may, not undeservedly, suffer, to hinder the improvement from which the public generally, and all good schoolmasters will derive advantage.

"3.—There is one view under which the establishment of a self-supporting system of education for the middle classes, and adapted specially for those immediately above the class of labourers, ought to be looked upon with favour by those engaged in the business and profession of schoolmasters. For such a system alone is likely to check the tendency to the spread of that other most mischievous public system which substitutes the state for the parent, and by artificially lowering the price to the parent, though in reality, enhancing to the nation the cost of education, not only treats every labourer in the country as a pauper, unable and unfit to educate his own child, but, by the bribe of cheapness, degrades the farmer or tradesman who are tempted to avail themselves of the government schools. For no private master can compete against these schools in price, and few in quality: and I call it degradation in this country, when the independent classes look to government support (or in other words to their neighbour's pocket), for the education of their own children. And there is good authority for believing that this degradation is still so keenly felt by a large proportion of the farmers and tradesmen, that where no other schools exist, they prefer to keep their children at home to sending them to a government-aided school; but that wherever a self-supporting public school is started they will thankfully pay the fair price. It remains only to show that such public schools can so compete with the government schools in quality, as to justify the higher price which their condition of independence must require them to charge. The improved quality of the Government Schools depends on the training of the instructors, a

training complete in the case of the masters; in progress among the pupil teachers. In this training is to be found the chief merit, but at the same time, the great cost of the government system. The merit is simply that the best educational resources of the country have been turned to the object of producing skilled and scientific instruction. I need not say that Government has not created those resources, but merely adopted them. To the universities and public schools it has looked for its agents, its inspectors, and principals of colleges; and, what is more, the very idea of a training system, with the noble liberality, effort, and example that started it, were the peculiar merits of individuals, Sir, J. Kay Shuttleworth and Mr. E. Tuffnell."

It is against this view that we contend. Our public schools have been perverted from their original design by making such places of learning as Eton, Harrow, Winchester, St. Paul's, Charterhouse, Christ's Hospital, and Westminster to be the rightful inheritance of the rich and noble, instead of the places of education for the poor. Our grammar schools, too, are open to the same objection. The exhibitions founded in many of them, take Oakham for example, a richly endowed school, where the benefits are chiefly confined to the boarders, those who can pay the masters, whilst the pupils for whom it was intended get but a minor education and little or no benefit. The way to popularise education would be to adhere to the original foundation deeds and the intentions of the founders; then the middle classes might have a chance to educate their children in something more than they can afford at present, and if this was acted on throughout the country, there would be no need of county or private colleges, for it is to the public schools of the country that the nation owes so much. If the reverend prebendary would turn his attention to these points he would be "doing the state some service," and furthering the great principle of national and superior education; but whilst he, and other friends of that good cause, seek only to palliate the abuses that have overspread the land by founding fresh schools which must in time dwindle into mere proprietary establishments, the root of the evil remains untouched, and education for the rich will always be at the expense of the birthright of the poor. We can heartily commend the pamphlet to all interested in the great cause of the proper education of youth, with one reservation, that for a public system, such as that indicated in the Rev. Mr. Brereton's pamphlet, there are as good schools already belonging to the nation, though wofully misapplied.

Mr. Beeton's Publications.

Mr. S. O. Beeton seems destined to hold a high place amongst the publishers of periodical literature, the whole of his works being in the best style of workmanship, and their tone of a nature to make them acceptable in every family. We have already spoken in terms of warm commendation of the *Illustrated Family Bible*, and need only say that the numbers now before us fully equal their predecessors. *The Englishwoman's Domestic Magazine* for December is rich in illustrations of fashions and patterns for ladies work, which we are assured are excellent; and we should like to see the nimble figures that could execute within the month all the work which this Magazine so liberally provides. The literary portion of the work is light, cheerful, and well chosen, and the domestic recipes good and useful. *The Boy's Own Library*—"Wild Sports of the World"—goes merrily on, the last number treating of the Boar, the Bear, and the Ostrich. It is illustrated with two excellent coloured plates, and a number of woodcuts, one of which, the Morning after the Battle of Melville, is admirably executed, being quite a gem of the art of wood engraving. *The Boy's Own Magazine* is as excellent as it is cheap. The "Legend of Davy Jones," with which the number of the past month opens, is excellent—full of excitement, and, above all, not too long. Then we have gymnastics, the continuation of "The Normans and Saxons," "Four Tales told in a Forest," with the nature of which we shall not acquaint our readers, as we wish them to buy the book; "The Reminiscences of a Raven," and much more which every boy ought to read. Birds are at all times favourites, and more especially with the poor, through

whose too often dreary dwellings they shed a cheerfulness which does much to drive away care, and make the occupants contented with their humble lot. But it is not by the poor alone that birds are regarded, the rich equally admiring them, and some specimen of the feathered tribe is therefore to be found in almost every house. The proper treatment of birds is therefore an essential part of education, and Mr. Beeton is now liberally affording the information at the low figure of threepence a month. We have the first six parts of "Home Pets" (for that is the name of the work) before us, and having carefully perused them, can assure our friends that they cannot fail to gain both instruction and amusement should they follow our example. The coloured plates alone are worth the price of the whole publication. We have also received the first number of Beeton's "Book on Garden Management," which is published at the same low price as the last-named work, and promises to be of equal interest to those who take delight in gardening pursuits as any of the works we have named to those to whom they are specially addressed.

GRATIFYING TESTIMONIALS.

Our Bro. Matthew Cooke is one of the most fortunate of publishers, as will be seen by the following handsome testimonials which he has lately received:—

Hanover, the 3rd of October, 1861.

SIR,—I am ordered by His Majesty the King to give you the best thanks for the sending of a copy of that very interesting manuscript upon "The History and Articles of Masonry," and to tell you that his Majesty in gratefully acknowledging the kind attention you did prove to the King by forwarding to his Majesty an important document of the Order the King is glad to be a member of.

I am sir, humbly yours,

BARON MALORLIS, Lord Steward.

Matthew Cooke, Esq.

To Bro. Matthew Cooke, Esq., Secretary of the
Globe Lodge, &c.

SIR,—By order of His Royal Highness Prince Frederick of the Netherlands, I have the honour of conveying to you H.R.H.'s sincere thanks for your amiable attention in forwarding a copy of that very interesting manuscript on "The History and Articles of Masonry," and in return H.R.H. begs your acceptance of the accompanying medal as a testimony of H.R.H.'s satisfaction and gratitude.

Allow me to subscribe myself, sir, your very obedient servant and brother,

W. FRAU OTTERLOO,

Secretary to H.R.H. Prince Frederick of the Netherlands,
G.M. of Holland.

The Hague, Nov. 27th, 1861.

The gold medal, in a case surmounted by a ducal coronet, has on its obverse, in very fine relief, the Prince's bust by I. P. Schouberg, and surrounded by "Willem Frederik Karel Prins Der Nederlanden." On the reverse is engraved "To Brother Matthew Cooke, as a testimony of brotherly affection and gratitude. Nov., 1861."

NOTES ON LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AND ART.

Mr. William Howitt writes from Penmaenmaur to the *Co-operator* as follows:—"You ask my opinion of Co-operation for the people. I never had but one opinion upon it. Fifteen years ago, when all great names stood aloof, I advocated it strongly in my 'Letters on Labour' in the *People's Journal*, and afterwards made it a prominent topic in my own *Journal*. Though extremely occupied, I consented to become the President of the London Co-operative Society. At that time I discovered that the working classes—of London, at least—had much to learn on the subject. They were very fond of meeting at the large old room at the King's Head, Snowhill, to drink to, to listen to music, and to hear or make speeches; but you could not get them a step further. In vain did I exhort them to commence a subscription for a fund to start some

concern on trial;—telling them that Hudibras had sufficiently demonstrated long ago that 'words are but wind,' and adding, that capital was the sinew of co-operation, as well as of war. Soon after that I met with experiences which induced me to retire from public exertions, and to confine myself exclusively to literary ones;—finding that one thing is enough for one man. But not the less have I felt interested in co-operation, and in everything which concerns the people at large. For the last six years I have been laboriously engaged in writing a *History of England for the People*, called by a misnomer *Cassell's History*, but really *Howitt's History*. In this I have endeavoured to establish and elucidate those principles which, if the people act on them, will very soon put them in their right place in the land."

A writer in the *Dublin University Magazine*, gives the following description of the goldfields of Ballarat:—"The gold fields of Victoria consist of alluvial diggings and quartz reefs. In the former case, the gold is obtained by sinking a shaft down to the primary rock, or, as miners say, the bottom, where the auriferous deposit is found; sometimes, however, it lies many feet above the primary rock, upon a stratum of stiff, greasy blue clay, technically called a false bottom. Gold has often been found on the surface in the vicinity of a quartz reef, which has cropped out of the earth in consequence of some previous eruption, and disgorged a portion of its hidden wealth. Surface gold is generally porous, of a dark brown colour, and bears evident traces of the action of fire. At Sandhurst, Bendigo, the oldest and best of the diggings, the sinking is shallow, rarely so much as fifty feet; while at Ballarat, I have worked in shafts two hundred feet deep, the greatest depth I know of being three hundred and fifty feet. Ballarat proper is a large basin surrounded on all sides by lofty ranges, covered a few years back with huge trees, stringy bark, and gum, which now lie rotting in the drives and shafts of the miners, who, ruthless Vandals, felled them without scruple, and cut them up for slabs wherewith to line the sides of the shafts, and for props and cap-pieces to support the drives, which are carried in from the bottom of the holes a long way under ground; without this precaution the earth would tumble down and smother the workmen. The environs of Ballarat present, therefore, a singularly bleak and desolate appearance; but the town itself has progressed with miraculous rapidity: tents have long since been superseded by wooden buildings of great size and strength and there are not a few handsome edifices faced with cut stone, the material for which is supplied from the freestone quarries of Bacchus Marsh, a small town situate on the road to Melbourne, some five and twenty miles from Ballarat. There are no less than three large theatres, all well supported, for the Victorians are great play-goers; indeed, throughout the provincial towns, the state of the theatres may be accepted as a barometrical indication of the buoyancy of the money market. What miners term leads of gold, mean simply the underground beds or channels of old watercourses, now dry, which have worn a passage in the surface of the primary rock, when their deposits of quartz boulders, ironstone, sand, &c., are found to be largely impregnated with particles of gold, which, originally ejected from quartz reefs, have become smooth and polished by the action of water. From one of these leads at Ballarat, about two years ago, a nugget was taken, weighing, I think, nearly two thousand ounces; it was very appropriately christened by the lucky finders the Welcome Nugget. At present it is the largest in the world. I need scarcely say, that although some men made their fortunes in a hurry at Ballarat, the vast majority were doomed to disappointment and bankruptcy."

The *Times* Correspondent thus describes Caselli's new invention:—"Nothing in the mechanical department of the Florence Exhibition struck me as more wonderful than Caselli's pantelegraph. The illustrious inventor has established a communication between Florence and Leghorn, and himself attends at the Crystal Palace to exhibit the results of his portentous contrivance. His pantelegraph, as is generally known, is intended for the transmission of messages immediately from the hand of the writer, conveying a facsimile of every word and syllable, and bearing the full authenticity of the hand and signature. A banker at Paris or London may thus, hereafter, draw a cheque upon Turin or Florence, which his correspondent will honour at sight, being as sure of the identity of the document as if he had the very paper on which it is written. I have looked for some time on the working of this apparently magic machine, and have seen it write under my inspection now three, now four lines of Dante, in the very handwriting with which the correspondent was at that very moment tracing them on the prepared paper in Leghorn. Presently a lineal drawing of a portrait of Dante, which was being delineated at Leghorn, came into life before me, line by line, shade by shade. Anon, again, it was a pattern design for a lady's embroidery. In one word, it is the reproduction, at a distance, of anything that pen or pencil can produce. A small point, somewhat like the hand of a watch, runs,

semicircularly, moved by a very simple machine, upon a chemically-prepared paper, tracing almost invisible lines, the aggregate of which soon embodies the words, line by line, or the various parts of the design, till the whole stands before us. The action is so rapid that the average transmission is of twelve words in a minute, being somewhat quicker than the usual mode of telegraphic communication, with the avoidance of all possible mistake or equivocation. Caselli has exhibited his invention before the French Emperor, who assured him 'the pantelegraph did great honour to Italy, and was a discovery of which France herself might be proud.' A communication between Florence and Paris is soon to be established."

Mr. John Bright, *M.P.*, in his address to the Rochdale Working Men's Educational Institute on the 3rd inst., thus characterised Murray's *English Grammar*:—"When I was at school, which is a long time ago, we learned a grammar written by a gentleman who was, I believe, a member of the religious society to which I belong, and who was a native of the United States of America, Lindley Murray. Lindley Murray's grammar had a great reputation; and, for anything I know, has yet. But if it has, I pity the lads who have to learn it as I had to learn it; for as far as I recollect now (it is a cloudy sort of recollection), there were no end of rules, and no end of examples, and rules within rules, and exceptions of all kinds; and I have now a feeling of the utter confusion of my mind in endeavouring to understand all the rules of Lindley Murray's grammar. My opinion is, that grammar may be very easily learned without all that and it is very difficult for any person who reads well-written books, and understand them, not to acquire a very competent knowledge of grammar without finding it necessary to learn all the rules in that celebrated but unhappy book."

Mr. Capern of Bideford, the poet-postman, in the course of a lecture "On Cornwall, its Coasts and Cairns," gave the following "taste of his 'quality,'" as Hamlet would say:—"Rough as the weather was, we stood at the bow, and while our trusty boat dipped in the trough of the sea and rode the mountainous billows we sent forth this song upon the stormy wind for love of our dear old Isle:—

"Leap up, O Sea!
Throw thy rude arms around her neck—
She loveth thee
An orphan child,
And very fair our England is;
And in his lair,
The Vandal wild
Would prey upon her queenly charms,
But cannot dare
For thee, O Sea!

"Behold, O Sea!
Enthron'd upon our island rock—
In majesty
She ever smiles;
For well she knows
How sternly thou canst crush her foes,
Amid her isles;
And she is free—
Free as thyself—is the fair rose
Of Liberty."

The *Athenaeum* remarks of Alston Moor, now the most valuable possession of Greenwich Hospital:—"Of the hundreds of excursionists who may be found on fine summer holidays stealing an interested look at the long lines of hungry pensioners dining at Greenwich Hospital, or afterwards exchanging a word or two with those loquacious old sons of Neptune, perhaps there is hardly one who knows that Greenwich Hospital derives considerable funds from Alston Moor, and that such an out-of-the-way corner in Cumberland helps to feed our old disabled seamen on the banks of the Thames,—and that, not by the produce of its surface, but of its underground depths. These are explored by lessees of the mining ground, which was once a portion of the forfeited estates of the Earl of Derwentwater. You cannot get much out of the Moor besides lead; but of that several thousands of tons are annually extracted, and between 1,000 and 2,000 persons find employment in and about the Cumberland mines.—When the manor of Alston Moor was surveyed upwards of 200 years ago, its mines were reported to be nearly exhausted,—in consequence of which report the manorial rights—120 acres of land, several houses and a corn-mill—were sold for £2,500."

Bro. the late Sir Walter Scott's celebrated *Waverley Novels* are about to be re-issued in twenty-five monthly volumes, at a shilling each, with all the author's prefaces and notes. The first volume is to be out on New Year's Day.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

DISPENSATIONS FOR PROV. GRAND OFFICERS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE FREEMASONS MAGAZINE AND MASONIC MIRROR.

W. SIR AND BROTHER,—Allow me a few observations on Bro. Warren's motion, and some respectful remarks on the M.W. Grand Master's indisposition to grant dispensations for non-resident brethren obtaining the provincial purple.

In the first place, I will observe that the real question is, what is residence? In the municipal explanation if a person is within a certain distance from the borough he wishes to represent in council, he is considered as resident within the limits, though virtually residing in another borough. You will say such a person must be a rated burgess, though not a resident exactly. And I shall now show how injuriously in our provinces this would affect some worthy brethren, who for years, and in one instance all the Masonic career, now over fifty years' standing, of the father of Masonry in this province, has been exercised to the advancement of Masonry on the north side of the Tyne, while lately, from considerations of health and family ties, he resides a mile south of the Tyne, in the adjoining borough. Now, sir, my worthy brother here alluded to was born and bred in the county, has property in our province, is a freeman of our ancient town, can to all intents and purposes take any municipal office he might be elected to in this county and town; but according to the strict letter of the law you would consider him ineligible for provincial Masonic honours. Now over and above these qualifications our worthy brother has for the last 30 years been solely subscribing member of a lodge in this province, has had no connection with the adjacent provinces; all his efforts in the Craft, Arch, and Christian degrees, have been entirely devoted to this province; no one has done more for Masonry than he. Are we, therefore, to consider this worthy brother incapable of filling a Prov. Grand Office, because the greater part of the year he sleeps a mile south of the Blue Stone (the point where the limits meet on Tyne-bridge)?

Well, I will suppose that this is one of the cases in which our M.W. Grand Master might make an exception.

Take another: a worthy brother, also born and bred in this province, received the light of Masonry many years back in this town; always has resided here; from his first advent in Masonry he took a leading part in our work, and with our previously alluded to brother, and a few more of us, staunchly supported our Prov. G.M. thirteen years ago, in forming our Provincial Fund of Benevolence. Becoming connected with one of our manufacturers on the south borders of our river, it became necessary that he should live near the factory, therefore, according to some of our jurists he became non-resident. On being appointed to Prov. Grand rank he had to pay the fine. Now I call this, too, of one totally unconnected with any province but this, Masonically, as a hard case. He might have evaded the fine by calling himself a town resident, as he always had a bed at his relation's house when required, just as he had before leaving the town, but he would not make use of this plea.

Another case I now put; is a commercial resident? I know no better Mason, both as regards working in all the degrees, or as a supporter of Charities, and one that spends more time and money to these objects—few equal to him. He actually resides more with us than in his own nominal home; I say where is the person's residence. Now to him the fine for the office would be willingly paid, knowing it goes to increase that charity fund which he is daily working for. But with our M.W. Grand Master's well-known reluctance to confer dispensations for such honours, would this not be one of the cases that he might think ought to be refused? Would such a refusal be just to one who is an ornament to any position he should be appointed in Masonry, and who spends time and money to support and advocate the interests of the charities?

That whilst the law exists, I fully agree with our respected G. Reg., if a good one, it should be enforced; but does it not mean that one, perhaps, of the reasons of its not being enforced but evaded is the well-known disinclination of the M.W. Grand Master to grant these dispensations, for he says, "As a rule, he should refuse any application for such a dispensation." Now, I ask under correction why

should these dispensations be refused as a rule? Does not this lead to evading the law in some way? Why not examine every case, and grant them when approved of? What is the consequence? Prov. G. Masters act on their own knowledge of the brethren of their province. They ask no questions as to residence; they see a worthy brother at the head of a lodge well worked and prosperous; they see him active in the local charities of the province, and a supporter of those of the Order; they appoint him to office in the province, as they cannot suppose that a brother so esteemed and thought of in the lodge of which he is a member, could otherwise be placed in the chair of such lodge. Especially if he should take a step further, and examine the books of the lodge, he will find this brother one of the most constant attendants to the duties of the lodge. How, I say, can he suppose him to be a non-resident? The M.W. Grand Master knows that the Prov. G. Masters exercise this privilege, though he is doubtful if they have a right to do so. Of course they do, because, as a rule, the M.W. Grand Master refuses such applications; therefore, they cannot get the law put in operation.

That a remedy ought to be found, I think, no one can gainsay; but if we cannot get this law to work in its present shape, let us alter it or annul it,

Perhaps the best way would be to add the words after the M.W. Grand Master the following, "or the Prov. Grand Masters." Thus the responsibility would rest with the latter, who from their local positions are better able to know the merits of each case, and accord or refuse dispensation. And from the well known reluctance of many Prov. Grand Masters to extend the area of the purple, I trust that it will be found that no abuse of the law would occur. This would be better than the present evasion.

The Provincial brethren see with pleasure the new power placed in the M.W. Grand Master's hands to reward with the Grand Lodge purple deserving country brethren. At the same time, we trust that we shall not see these honours only limited to the G. S. Bearer's office, nor a distinction made as to the social rank of such country brethren, such as there are some examples in existence. For instance, I would take one Deputy Prov. G. Master, equally indefatigable in the working of his province with another to whom I would compare him, and whom I think all would acknowledge as good a working Mason. The one being a M.P. is made a Grand Jun. W., and is now a P.G.J.W., while the other is made only a G.S.B.; the latter's social position not being so exalted; but he has the merit over the other worthy brother that he is more earnest in advocating and working for the Charities of the Order. In my humble opinion, D. Prov. G. Masters ought to take rank in Grand Lodge by virtue of their office, for, in seven cases out of ten, they are the real working officers, as your columns will testify, though I must say of late, Prov. G. Masters are doing better than some ten years ago, especially the newly-appointed ones.

I fear, sir, this letter is too long for insertion, but whether inserted or not, I feel confident that, as it is on a subject that Bro. Warren has called the attention of the Craft to, and for which we feel highly indebted to him, you will no doubt notice some of the points herein touched. I shall, therefore subscribe myself,

Worshipful Sir and Brother,

Yours, J. G.,

Your Northern Correspondent and Prov. G. Officer.

EAST LANCASHIRE.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER.—I have read with pleasure your reviews of the appointment of officers to several of the Provincial Grand Lodges in the South, and have often wished that you could find some correspondent to furnish you with the necessary materials to enable you to review the appointments in the northern provinces! In this province we have several most eminent brethren, and zealous masons, but these are exceptional appointments, and I would especially notice that of the Provincial Grand Superintendent of Works being held by a solicitor, doubtless a very worthy brother, or the R.W. Provincial Grand Master would not have honoured him with the appointment, but in such

an important province, there must be several professional brethren who could fill the post with credit to themselves, and honour to the province, and so have "the right men in the right place," and your reviewing the appointments of all Provincial Grand Lodges, would in my opinion have a very beneficial tendency.

Don't let us have brethren thrust into office (as we have had in this province), who could not, with credit, open a Craft Lodge in the three degrees!

Would your correspondent "Brother Jonathan," be willing to assist in this "much to be desired" good cause; meantime

I remain, yours truly and fraternally,
ALPHA.

GRAND CONCLAVE AND THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—The Grand Conclave of Knights Templar have, until the last meeting, been allowed the use of the Temple to hold their meeting in. It is rumoured that the Board of General Purposes refused that apartment on the 6th inst., upon what grounds it is not clear. Perhaps the new President hopes to derive great *Kudos* for this want of brotherly charity, but if so, he may rest assured that he has disgusted many of the first Masons of the Craft by his narrowmindedness, as well as,

Yours Masonically,
FRATER (No. 1).

DEAR SIR KNIGHT,—For the first time for many years the use of the Temple was refused to the Grand Conclave on the 6th of the present month, and it is understood this precedent of the Board of General Purposes is, in future, to be the rule and not the exception. It is very difficult to reconcile the action of the Board in this case with its extreme liberality on the late occasion of the meeting held by the Emulation Lodge of Improvement. The question that naturally arises is, in what is a lodge of improvement superior to the higher order of Knights Templar? It is often asserted by Craft Masons that Templarism is no part of Masonry, and is not recognised by the Grand Lodge of England. Assuming it to be so, is a lodge of instruction in any better position? The Emulation Lodge of Improvement is held under the authority of the Lodge of Unions, the parent lodge, of course, meeting under a warrant of constitution from the Grand Lodge. This being the state of the case, what is to hinder the Lodge of Unions from withdrawing its sanction at any moment? and although the Emulation Lodge of Improvement might, and no doubt would, readily find other lodges willing to afford it their sanction, the very existence of such a fact clearly indicates its having no positive *locus standi* in Masonry. The following consideration is then forced upon us. Knight Templary having been in existence centuries before the Emulation Lodge of Instruction, or any other, was tolerated. Why should the Board of General Purposes be so unfair as to exclude the one and admit the other to meet in the Temple unless there be some undue influence at work amongst its members. The Board ought to know that in their building, or rather reconstructive, scheme it is their interest to retain as many as possible to hold meetings on the property in Great Queen-street. Already the high grades have left the Hall and sought refuge elsewhere. The Grand Conclave and other Encampments may follow, and if these bodies coalesce and build a suitable place for all Masonic rites, apart from tavern influence, the Craft property will be most seriously affected, for there are many lodges that will gladly avail themselves of such a boon, and amongst the Knights Templar and High-grade Masons are numbers of the rulers of the Craft, who, if once thoroughly offended at the evident partisanship which sways the board to encourage the Emulation Lodge of Improvement, scarcely known beyond the London district, to the detriment of the Grand Conclave of England and Wales, known and recognised throughout the entire world, a breach will be effected which must result in disunion and pecuniary loss. I beg to subscribe myself

yours very fraternally,
FRATER (No. 2.)

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

MASONIC MEMS.

The first meeting of the Stewards for the Festival of the Royal Benevolent Institution for Aged Masons and their Widows was held on Friday, the 6th inst., when Bro. Roxburgh, G. Reg., was elected Chairman; Jos. Smith, P. G. Purst., Treasurer; and W. Farnfield, Asst. G. Sec., Secretary. As the chair will be taken by the Earl de Grey and Ripon, D.G.M. and Prov. G.M. West Yorkshire, we may expect a very good muster of the brethren.

Lord Leigh, Prov. G.M. for Warwickshire, has consented to take the chair at the Festival of the Boys' School, in March next. There are already upwards of 70 stewards, of whom 21 come from Warwickshire.

The M.W.G.M. the Earl of Zetland has consented to take the chair at the Annual Festival of the Girls' School, in May next.

We learn, from a communication in the *Democrat*, Louisville, Kentucky, U.S., of November 7, that the residence of Bro. Rob. Morris, LL.D., at La Grange, Kentucky, known as "The Three Cedars," was entirely consumed by fire on the morning of that day. His costly Masonic collection of books and relics was saved, though much injured. This collection was valued at nearly six thousand dollars. A correspondent writes us that he has received a letter from Bro. Morris, in which he states that "he has decided upon visiting Britain in May or June next. The civil war has caused the discontinuance of the Masonic University at Kentucky; indeed, most literary institutions have experienced the same thing. He expects to be able to resume the *Voice* early in January, in the form of a Magazine."

METROPOLITAN.

OLD CONCORD LODGE (No. 201).—The usual meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday, December 4th, at the Freemason's Tavern. Bro. J. W. Laughlin, W.M., presided. The principal business of the lodge was the election of a W.M. for the year ensuing, and the ballot having fallen upon Bro. Waters, he was declared duly elected, and returned thanks for the honour conferred upon him. It was also agreed that a jewel should be presented to Bro. Laughlin as a mark of esteem. The brethren then adjourned for refreshment. On the removal of the cloth, the loyal and Masonic toasts were given and cordially responded to. The W.M. said the next toast was one which always gave great pleasure to him to propose, and that was "The Health of the Visitors." They were most happy to receive them and gave them a cordial welcome. The toast was responded to by Bro. Samuel, of the Harmonic Lodge No. 263; Bro. Shaboe, of 812; and Dr. O'Connor, of No. 202.—Bro. SWAINSTON, P.M., said that was the last time the W.M. would entrust him with his gavel, and the brethren would anticipate the manner in which he would apply it, which was to propose the health of their Bro. Laughlin, W.M. In the manner in which he had filled the office of W.M. of the Old Concord Lodge, during the year, he had shown the rising members of the lodge how they should perform their duties. He had great pleasure in proposing his health, and he hoped the brethren would receive it in a manner that their W.M. would never forget their cordiality and good will.—The W.M. said he felt sure that whether as W.M. or P.M., he would never forget the enthusiasm which which they had received the toast of his health that night. During the last year he had not had many opportunities of showing his zeal for the good of Freemasonry in general, or of that lodge in particular. Every meeting at which he had presided they had been pleased to drink his health, and it had been most enthusiastically received, and he could sincerely say that if at any time he had done anything to incur their displeasure he was very sorry for it, but he believed he had enjoyed uninterrupted happiness, and that virtue brought its own reward. He was about to lay aside his sceptre of office, and he did not regret doing so, as he was most willing to conform to all the laws for the regulation of the Craft

and its welfare in general. As for Bro. Waters, the Worshipful Master elect, under his mastership he trusted the lodge might continue to prosper and be a pattern lodge in the Craft. As he was about to give up his office of W.M., and take his position of P.M., there was one office which he hoped he should continue to hold, and that was the proud position of being Chaplain of the lodge. He admitted that he held sectarian views—sectarian in regard to the good of mankind—but within the walls of the lodge, or in the banquet room, he had endeavoured never to offend the conscience of any one, but welcomed on the broad arena of Freemasonry all who were believers in the Great God and Architect of the Universe, who revealed in various ways his blessings to mankind. He believed that, during the time he had presided as Master of the lodge he had never once used the word Christian, and as he knew they had Hebrew brethren amongst them, it was gratifying to him to know that in passing through that transitory world that they could all meet on one broad platform, and that he could welcome them all as brethren irrespective of any religious dogmas whatever.—The W.M. said the next toast he had to propose was that of "The W.M. elect, Bro. Waters," who had been for many years amongst them, and no one knew him but highly respected him, as it was his desire to carry out the leading principles of the Craft, brotherly love, relief, and truth. It was not a pleasant thing to indulge in eulogy of a man to his face, and he would offer no fulsome praise in speaking of him, but say only what he thought. They had a guarantee from a board of installed masters that he would perform the duties and carry out the principles of Freemasonry as master of the lodge. He trusted that he would have a comfortable and successful year of office, and that when he left the chair he would receive the same expression of kindness towards him as he had done.—Bro. WATERS returned thanks for the kind and handsome manner in which the brethren had received his health, and hoped at the end of twelve months, when he should leave the chair, he should receive honours equal to those accorded to their Bro. Laughlin.—The W.M. next proposed the health of the P.M.'s of the lodge, and complimented them on their zeal in Freemasonry, and the willingness they always manifested to assist the W.M. in the performance of his duties.—Bros. SWAINSTON and MAXEY severally returned thanks.—The W.M., in giving "The Officers of the Lodge," said the working of their officers, both principal and assistant, was all but perfect, and was so admitted by every one who visited the lodge.—Bro. HOGG, J.W., acknowledged the compliment, and the gratification the officers experienced in gaining the good opinion of the members. They would continue to do their duty in the hope of attaining to and deserving those honours which had fallen to the worthiest master who had ever filled the chair.—The health of Bro. Kennedy, P.M. and Treas. of the lodge was next given and responded to.—The W.M. said the next toast was one that embraced two objects, it was "The Health of Bro. Emmens, P.M. and Secretary, and Success to the New Concord Lodge."—Bro. EMMENS, P.M., could assure the brethren that as long as he had health and strength he would never relax in those duties which had given them satisfaction. At the present time he might be considered as father of the lodge, and for upwards of 20 years, during which he had held the office of Secretary, he had never been absent from his duty, except in cases of illness. Some other toasts were given, and the brethren separated at an early hour.

EGYPTIAN LODGE, (No. 29).—This flourishing lodge held its usual meeting at the George and Blue Boar, Holborn, on the 5th instant. The business before the lodge was the raising of the Bros. J. H. and J. R. Tims, which was very excellently performed by Bro. Buss, P.M. and Sec., in the unavoidable absence of the W.M. This being election night Bro. Charles Payne, Grand Tyler, the S.W. of the lodge, was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year. Bro. B. P. Todd, P.M., was re-elected Treasurer for the fourteenth time, and the veteran Bro. Rice, Tyler. The visitors on the occasion were Bros. Joseph Smith, P.G. Purst.; Samuel Hill, P.M. 955, and Bro. Grattan, of 1033. After the lodge had voted £10 towards Bro. Todd's list, who serves on its behalf at the Festival of the Benevolent fund, in January, and signed the petition of a former Bro. to the Board of Benevolence, the lodge was closed and the brethren adjourned to the banquet. The cloth having been removed the W.M. gave the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, which were received with that characteristic heartiness common to the members of No. 29. He then proceeded to give "The Health of the D.G.M., the Earl de Grey and Ripon, and the present and past Grand Officers," coupling the toast with the name of Joseph Smith, P.G. Purst., remarking that Bro. Smith was a well known and active Mason on the Committees and Boards under Grand Lodge. He was ever anxious that every fund should be dealt with as a sacred trust, on the one hand being careful not to see them squandered, and on the other not dispensed with a niggard hand. His justice was appreciated, for he had been nominated, year after year, for the last ten years on the Committee of th e

Benevolent Fund. He was a very active Mason, and the W.M. had the pleasure of reckoning him as one of his particular private friends. The W.M. then gave the toast, which was warmly received.—Bro. JOSEPH SMITH, P.G. Purst., on behalf of the D.G.M. and Grand Officers, rose to reply. He was proud they had such a nobleman as the Earl de Grey and Ripon in that exalted office. His lordship was a most worthy and zealous Mason, and would preside at the Festival for the Benevolent Fund for aged Masons and their Widows, in January, and he hoped that all those Brethren who could spare the time would be present in honour to so worthy a nobleman. On his own behalf, their W.M. had been pleased to say a great deal of what, from his modesty, he could not flatter himself he deserved. They were old and sincere friends, and to that must be attributed much of what had fallen from the W.M. Nothing, however, gave him greater satisfaction than to visit where the W.M. was, and he had no greater pleasure in attending any lodge than the Egyptian. He always saw true brotherly love amongst them. They were in a happy and prosperous condition, numerous enough for their own comfort, and strangers to the difficulties and differences in larger lodges. He had heard that night how well they took care of their funds, and it was creditable to them to have money in hand to vote to the Charities and support their Stewards. He congratulated them on the good management of the lodge, and their own good sense in being willing to leave it in such hands. He felt sure the W.M. must feel it an honour to be Secretary to such a lodge; and their Treasurer was such a capital officer that, so long as the lodge reposed the same confidence in him, it would never go wrong. This was not his first visit by many to No. 29, and it would not be the last, because, when he came amongst them, he was sure of three things—a hearty welcome, a united feeling, and happiness diffused equally among them all. With thanks for the toast, and wishing them the same amount of prosperity, union, and brotherly love he had hitherto witnessed in the Egyptian Lodge, he resumed his seat amidst general applause.—The W.M. next gave the toast of “The Visitors.” Bro. Samuel Hill, P.M. 955, was well known to most of them, and they had had the pleasure of seeing Bro. Grattan there before.—Bro. HILL said it had fallen to him to return thanks, which was a very pleasing duty. The W.M. had complimented him on doing his duties in 955, where he certainly believed himself to be a favourite, and seeing such friends as Bros. Buss, Todd, and Cooke in No. 29, he was sure that the lodge had those kindly feelings towards their visitors as the latter entertained towards the Egyptian lodge.—The toast of “The Masonic Charities” was responded to by Bro. Todd. “The Health of the W.M. *pro tem*,” Bro. Buss, was received with that cordiality which his name always ensures throughout the Craft, and which he briefly acknowledged.—The P.M.’s were not forgotten, Bro. TODD replying, who said there were very many of them, though but few attended, because they always got something good in the country, or something bad in London. “The Health of the W.M. elect,” Bro. Payne, G. Tyler, was given and responded to, and the toast of “The Officers of the Lodge,” followed, after which, “The Tyler’s” toast brought an agreeable evening to a close.

PROVINCIAL.

LANCASHIRE (WEST.)

ROBY.—*Alliance Lodge* (No. 965).—This lodge held its monthly meeting at the Stanley Arms Hotel, Roby, on Tuesday, the 3rd December, the W.M. Bro. Smith, presiding, supported by the officers of the lodge. One gentleman was initiated into Freemasonry; the J.W. presented the working tools, and the S.W. delivered the charge. Bro. Urnson, the S.W., was unanimously elected to the chair for the ensuing year, and was congratulated by all present. Three gentlemen were proposed for initiation, and two brethren for joining, when the lodge was closed; and the brethren retired to the banquet room, when glee, sentiment, and song, good will, harmony, and peace ruled uninterruptedly until the time of departure. Nothing could excel the comic humour of Bro. Willer, who literally kept the table in a roar. Among the visiting brethren we observed Bros. Sharp, W.M. of 368; Bew, S.D. 310; and Mott, 294.

GARSTON.—*Lodge of Harmony* (No. 267).—A meeting of this lodge was held at the Wellington Hotel, on Monday, Dec. 2. The lodge was opened by the W.M. Bro. James Hamer, Prov. G.T., assisted by the officers of the lodge and a good attendance of brethren. The minutes of last regular meeting were read and confirmed. Bros.

Thomas Carter and Jacob Cohen were passed to the second degree by the W.M. Bro. C. Leedham, explained the working tools, and Bro. J. E. Thompson, S.W., delivered the charge. Mr. Robert Johnson was unanimously elected as a candidate for initiation and being in attendance was presented and made in due form. Bro. C. J. Banister, P.M., Prov. G.D.C., acting as Deacon in both ceremonies. Two guineas were voted to the fund for erecting a Masonic monument to the memory of the late Bro. Joshua Walmsley, P. Prov. G. Treas. Mr. Peter Pilkington was proposed for initiation. Other business over, the lodge was closed. At refreshments the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given by the W.M. and responded to in a hearty manner, also “The newly initiated Brother,” “Bro. Thomas Rodick, W.M. of the Union Lodge, Kendal,” who replied in suitable terms. “The W.M.,” proposed by Bro. C. J. Banister, who stated that he had made a beginning as Steward for the Royal Freemason’s School for Girls, and hoped that all would give him their subscriptions and support, as their W.M. had set them a good example. Other toasts brought the meeting to an end, the proceedings being interspersed by songs from Bros. Aldrich, Thompson, Williams, Wilmer, &c.

LEICESTERSHIRE.

LEICESTER.—*St. John’s Lodge* (No. 348).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held in the Freemason’s Hall, on Wednesday the 4th inst., when there were present: Bros. Weare, W.M.; Kelly, D. Prov. G.M.; Crawford, P.M. and Treas.; Gill, P.M. and Sec.; Marris, J.W., &c. Visitors: Bros. Sheppard, W.M.; Brewin, P.M.; Millican, P.M.; Johnson, S.W.; Bithrey, and Knight, of the John of Gaunt Lodge (No. 766). The lodge having been opened and the minutes of the previous lodge read and confirmed, a F. C.’s Lodge was opened by the D. Prov. G.M., and Bros. John Law, and S. Selby having been called to the pedestal and examined in that degree, were duly raised. The lodge was then lowered to the first degree for the election of Worshipful Master for the ensuing year. A communication was received from the Senior Warden, Bro. Dr. Sloane, stating his inability to undertake the duties of the chair at present owing to his professional engagements. A ballot having taken place Bro. William Henry Marris, the Junior Warden, an active and zealous Mason, was unanimously elected. A proposition was brought before the lodge that the brethren give their patronage to Bro. Harrison, the manager of the theatre, by a Masonic bespeak, in conjunction with the John of Gaunt Lodge, which, after some discussion as to the expediency of so doing, was carried in the affirmative. It having been resolved to hold the annual festival on the second Wednesday in January the lodge was closed and the brethren adjourned to refreshment.

SOMERSETSHIRE.

* BATH.—*Royal Sussex Lodge* (No. 61).—The annual meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Bath, on the 2nd inst., when Bro. C. F. Marshall was installed W.M., and the following officers appointed for the ensuing year:—R. King, S.W.; E. T. Payne, J.W.; C. R. Davy, Chap.; W. Smith, Treas.; W. F. Bennet, Sec.; J. L. Stothert, S.D.; J. Holloway, J.D.; C. W. Oliver, Dir. Cer.; W. Gibbs, I.G.; J. K. Pyne, Org.; W. Parham, and J. M. Shum, jun., Stewards; H. Hopkins, Tyler. The brethren afterwards adjourned to Amery’s Hotel, where an elegant dinner was served, and a pleasant evening passed.

SUSSEX.

CHICHESTER.—*Lodge of Union* (No. 45).—The usual meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, December 5th, in the Lodge-room in the Council House. In the unavoidable absence of the W.M., Bro. W.H. Cottell, the chair was ably filled by Bro. James Powell, jun., P.M. 45; Bro. George Collins, S.W.; Bro. C. C. Jones, J.W.; Bro. G. Smith, P.M., 45, Treasurer; George Molesworth, P.M., 45, Secretary; Bond and C. Adames, Deacons. The first business was to elect the W.M. for the ensuing year, and the Secretary having read the list of members eligible for election, a ballot was taken and resulted in the unanimous choice of Bro. Collins, S.W., a very worthy, hardworking Mason, highly respected by his brethren, and who, we hope, will be well supported during his year of office. Bro. George Smith was re-elected Treasurer, and Bro. Benham, Tyler. Mr. Henry Pratt, having been accepted as a candidate for initiation, was then admitted, and the ceremony of initiation performed by Bro. James Powell, jun. Bro. James Powell, jun., proposed and Bro. Molesworth seconded a vote of thanks to the retiring Master, Bro. W. H. Cottell. The usual Christmas gifts to poor brethren formerly connected with the lodge were voted, and the lodge closed in harmony.

YORKSHIRE (WEST).

SHEFFIELD.—*Brittania Lodge* (No. 162).—A Lodge of Emergency was held in the Freemasons' Hall, Surrey-street, on Thursday, 5th inst. Bro. Wm. White, jun., W.M., and Prov. G.A.D.C. presided, and passed Bros. Hydes and Jenkinson to the degree of F.C., and afterwards, in a very impressive manner, raised Bro. Richards to the sublime degree of M.M.

SHEFFIELD.—*Royal Brunswick Lodge* (No. 373).—The annual meeting of this lodge was held in the Freemasons Hall, Surrey-street, on Monday, 9th inst. Bro. T. Danby, P.M., presided, and was supported by Bros. Bartolomé, P.M., P. Prov. S.G.D.; W. White, jun., P.M., and Prov. G.A.D.C.; W. Longden, P.M.; J. W. Dixon, P.M.; E. Harrison, P.M.; A. Hay, W.M. elect, 162; &c. Bro. White presented Bro. Henry Harrison, the W.M. elect, and he was ably installed according to ancient custom by Bro. Danby. The brethren having saluted, and the lodge having been reduced to the first degree, Bro. Harrison appointed the following brethren as his officers, viz:—F. W. Primrose, S.W.; E. Drury, J. W.; G. Stuart, Sec.; W. Jackson, S.D.; E. Wailes, J.D.; and J. W. Dixon, I.G. The lodge being then closed the brethren sat down to an elegant banquet and spent a very pleasant and social evening.

BRADFORD.—*Lodge of Hope* (No. 379).—The regular meeting of this lodge will take place on Monday, Dec. 16th, when Bro. the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford has expressed his willingness to read his lecture on the traces of Freemasonry, and a full attendance is expected, the lodge being called for an early hour to dispose of the business.

HUDDERSFIELD.—*Lodge of Truth* (No. 763).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Friday, December 6th, at 5 P.M., the W.M., Bro. Hardy, in the chair. Bro. John Clark having given proofs of proficiency, was passed to the degree of Fellow Craft. A favourable ballot having taken place for Messrs. Stott and Lawton, they were respectively initiated into the mysteries and privileges of Ancient, Free, and Accepted Masonry. Bro. P.M. Wm. Smith delivered the charge to the newly initiated brethren in his usual impressive manner. After which the installation of the W.M. elect, Bro. Joe Webb Tempest, late S.W., took place. The ceremony was conducted by Bro. Wm. George Dyson, P.M., in his best style. The ceremony of installation being completed, the W.M. then invested his officers as follows:—J. R. Webb, S.W.; R. Skilbeck, J.W.; M. H. Hirst, Treas.; J. T. Prince, Sec.; D. Sykes, S.D.; John Turpin, J.D.; Joseph Robinson, I.G.; W. G. Dyson, P.M., and Joe Wood, D.C.; A. Jackson; H. Baines, P.M., and R. Eastwood, Purveyors; and R. J. Elliott, J. Stockwell, and Foden, Stewards; G. Woodhouse, Org.; and J. Lee, Tyler. The lodge was closed in goodwill and harmony, at 9 P.M. The brethren then sat down in right good earnest to an excellent supper provided by the purveyors, after which they returned to the lodge-room, where a most harmonious and convivial evening was spent, the W.M. appearing perfectly at home in his new duties. During the past year nine gentlemen have been initiated into our noble Order, and one brother has joined this lodge.

SCOTLAND.

GRAND MASONIC FESTIVAL AND TORCH-LIGHT
PROCESSION AT IRVINE.

(From the *Ayr Advertiser*.)

"One hour with you, and you, and you,
Bright links in mystic chain;
Oh may we oft those joys renew,
And often meet again."

In our columns last week we gave a lengthened notice of a Masonic Festival at Kilmarnock—to-day we have to chronicle that of the Lodge Irvine St. Andrew (No. 149), which re-union came off in the Albert Hall, Irvine, on the night of Friday, the 29th ult., under the very able presidency of R.W. Bro. Dr. Gray. The Dr.'s experience and acknowledged tact and capacity as a Ruler in the East were calculated to attract a good attendance of the sister lodges in this province, and the crowded state of the hall in which the meeting was held showed how fully these anticipations had been realised. Previous to the opening of the lodge for the reception of visitors, the election of office-bearers was proceeded with, and resulted as follows:—William W. Gray, Esq., R.W.M.; John Dick, Esq., D.M.; James A. Campbell, Esq., P.M.; David Findlay, S.W.; Thomas Anderson, J.W.; Thomas Watson, Treas.; William Campbell, Sec.; James Lewis, S.D.; Frederick Alexander, J.D.; John McCulloch, S.S.; Peter Miller, J.S.; C. Plenderleith, Tyler; D. Murray Lyon, J.P. Grand Warden of Ayrshire.

"Admit" had scarcely dropped from the lips of the Representative of the W. S., when the proper officer ushered us into the "worshipful presence," where we received a most refreshing welcome. The temporary lodge-room was gaily decorated for the occasion. In the E. was reared a gothic arch broad enough to span the apartment from N. to S., composed of evergreens, and so profusely interspersed with tempting clusters of bright-coloured Seville, as to make it appear as if the Master and his satellites had embowered themselves in an orange grove. A transparency of the Master's jewel hung in front of the chair, and darted its rays very effectively upon Tabal Cain and his fair companions, who occupied niches on the right and left of the Orient. In the disposition of the Pillars S. and B., Dr. Gray, like Mother Kilwinning, clings to the primitive mode; while the arrangement in this respect, said to have been introduced about the end of last century, obtains in most of the other lodges in this province.

On each deputation being announced, the brethren of St. Andrew's received the members with the usual ceremony, and when all were assembled the list of visitors stood thus:—The Ancient or Mother Lodge, represented by Acting M. W. Master Bro. D. Murray Lyon, J.W., and the following brethren:—Robert Wylie, William McJannet (banker), James Dickie (pro-fiscal), Dr. Shields, J. Carruthers, David Andrews, David Gemmell, C. Aitken; Troon Navigation, led by R.W. Bro. Imrie; Ayr Kilwinning, R.W. Bro. A. Guthrie; Kilmarnock St. Andrew, R.W. Bro. Caldwell; Ayr Operative, R.W. Bro. Bryden; Ayr Royal Arch, Bro. John Wilson; Stevenston Thistle and Rose, Bro. Adam Wilson; Ayr and Renfrew Militia St. Paul; Blair Dalry, Bro. Steven; Ardrossan St. John, Bro. Robertson.

After the usual loyal and standing Masonic toasts had been disposed of, the R.W. President proposed "Mother Kilwinning." The Mother Lodge was their nearest neighbour, and was bound to them by the strongest ties. She was at all times a most welcome guest at the festive Board of Irvine St. Andrew; but he felt peculiar pleasure on this, the occasion of their present visit, in congratulating the Mother Lodge upon having at the head of their deputation that evening such a zealous and well-informed brother as he recognised in their Junior Warden. There had been of late, the R.W.M. remarked, an infusion of new blood into the management of their venerable neighbour; and sincerely hoped that the liberal spirit which had dictated such an act would be amply rewarded in the additional influence and benefits that would thereby accrue to the Mother Lodge, as well as to the Craft in general of this important province. He hoped that Mother Kilwinning would continue to receive fresh accessions of strength, and take a more active part than hitherto in the Masonic business of the county. He anticipated the speedy erection of Lodges of Instruction throughout the country. One had been successfully established in Glasgow, and he could see no reason why Ayrshire should be without one. There was ample Masonic talent amongst them, waiting the opportunity to devolve itself. The more they went out among their neighbours, the more apparent became the necessity for a movement to effect that uniformity in their ritual, &c., which was so much desiderated. There should be a oneness of their system throughout the world, and they should not rest contented until that was reached. The Doctor's remarks on this subject were judicious and well-timed, and made a favourable impression upon the minds of his guests.

In reply, the Junior Warden, Bro. LYON, after apologising for the absence of Depute Master Conn, and stating the pleasure he felt in acknowledging the toast Dr. Gray had offered for the acceptance of St. Andrew's guests on occasion of this their high festival, and referring to the great antiquity of the Mother Lodge, remarked that "Masonry fans the flame of patriotism—it has no sympathy with tyranny or oppression. Washington, the soldier of American independence, and our own Iron Duke, Bruce, and Burns, were Masons; and the thousands of brethren who now swell the ranks of our army of Volunteers show that the race of patriotic Craftsmen is not yet extinct.

Mother Kilwinning being called upon for a toast, the head of the deputation begged to ignore for a few minutes the presence of the R.W. Master, and, addressing the Wardens and brethren, proposed "The good health of R.W. Bro. Dr. Gray, and success to the Lodge Irvine St. Andrew." The fact that Dr. Gray had for so many years held the principal chair of that lodge, showed how highly his valuable services were appreciated by the brethren of St. Andrew. It was of great importance that the occupant of such a responsible place should be a man of education and good social position. These qualifications Dr. Gray possessed in a very high degree; added to which he had a thorough knowledge of Masonry and of its usages. In Dr. Gray's presence he should not say more than that it was the wish of every brother who knew him, that in his declining years he should continue to flourish like a green bay tree, and be long preserved to conduct the government of the lodge over which he had that evening been re-elected to preside.

DR. GRAY entirely reciprocated the kind sentiments which had just been uttered by Mother Kilwinning's J.W. But eighty-two years had elapsed since Irvine St. Andrew's had been brought into existence, and yet there had been nineteen occupants of the chair he had the honour to hold; of these, fourteen had traversed the level of time to that bourne whence no traveller returns. There were many honoured names among their departed Past Masters, and pleasing associations connected with their memory. Only four besides himself who had passed the chair were alive, and his respected brother on his left, J. A. Campbell, was one of them. It was almost superfluous for him to say that he took a deep interest in the well-being of the Lodge St. Andrew; and he was glad to be able to report that it was truly in a flourishing condition. About forty new members had been added to their roll—many of whom he trusted would follow in the footsteps of the worthy brethren who had preceded them, and render themselves both useful and ornamental members of the mother lodge.

Bro. STEVEN, of Blair Dalry, hoped the key-note so distinctly struck by Bro. Gray would reverberate from one end of the county to the other, until Mother Kilwinning took up the note. They looked to the mother lodge to take the initiative in the establishment of Lodges of Instruction, and the revivification of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Ayrshire—the interest and good government of the Craft required such a step, and he hoped Sir James Fergusson and the other office-bearers of Mother Kilwinning would now enter upon the subject.

The lodges present were severally complimented, as were also the office bearers of No. 149. Several other toasts were given, among which were—"The Memory of Past Master Thomas Muir," from the Chair: "The Ladies, coupled with Mrs. Dr. Gray," by Mother Kilwinning; and "The Press," coupled with our Masonic Reporter's health. In inaugurating the introduction, in this quarter at least, of "The Press" at Masonic gatherings. Dr. Gray remarked that the day had gone by, and he hoped for ever, when Freemasons dreaded the light of the Press being thrown upon their meetings: and he was delighted at having in their midst that evening a well-known brother, from whose pen had flowed many contributions to Masonic literature (Bro. D. Murray Lyon). He assured "Delta" that the Masonic news given through the columns of the *Ayr Advertiser* was very highly appreciated by the Craft.

During the evening Bro. LEE added largely to the enjoyment of the brethren by the admirable way in which he rendered "London's Bonny Woods and Braes," and other favourite songs, and also by the cheerful response he gave to the *encores* of his delighted listeners. Bro. MILLER was loudly called for, and sang with his usual good taste. Bro. McNEILLAGE, of Troon Navigation, kept the brethren in roars of laughter during his relation of a comic story for which he is famed. The Kilwinning Masonic Band discoursed sweet music between the toasts, and along with the fine band of the Irvine Volunteer Corps, who very handsomely tendered their services gratuitously, accompanied the brethren in their torch-light procession through the principal streets of the burgh—a use-and-wont custom which seems to be highly relished by the lasses of Irvine, if we may judge from the coveted attentions the fair ones bestow upon the mystic brethren when they deign, in Masonic insignia and flambeaux in hand, to visit the good folks of Irvine. Low twelve saw the various deputations *en route* homewards, at which hour also the festivities of Irvine St. Andrew were brought to a seemingly happy termination.

AYR KILWINNING met on Monday, Dec. 2, and elected the following office-bearers for the ensuing year, viz.:—Archd. Guthrie, R.W.M.; Andrew McGaan, D.M.; George Good, P.M.; Robert Fergusson, S.W.; John Dove, J.W.; Robert Fergusson, Treas.; James S. McIlraith, Secretary; Rev. James Crawford, Chap.; Robert R. McJannet, S.D.; James McComb, J.D.; William Redmond, S.B.; David Love, Steward; Robert Limond, Tyler.

GLASGOW.—Lodge of St. Patrick (No. 178).—The office-bearers of the Provincial Grand Lodge met in the King's Arms Hall, on Monday, December the 9th, to revive the Lodge St. Patrick. About 100 members of the Craft were present from the several lodges in the province. The officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge were Bros. Donald Campbell, Depute Prov. G.M.; J. Cruikshank, substitute Prov. G.M.; John Davidson, Prov. G.S.W.; Dr. Pritchard, Acting Prov. G.J.W.; J. Dunbar, Prov. G. Sec.; R. Smith, Prov. G. J.D., &c. The Depute Prov. G.M. read excerpts from the minutes of the Provincial Grand Lodge, and stated that in accordance therewith, he had authorised the revival of the Lodge St. Patrick. He thereafter opened the lodge and gave a short charge to Bro. Barclay, the R.W.M., warning both him and the brethren to take more care in the admission of members than had been done in the case which had been the cause of their suspension. He then handed over the charter and books to the R.M.M., and placed him

in the chair. In assuming the chair, Bro. BARCLAY thanked the office-bearers for their presence on this, the occasion of their revival and acknowledged the lenient manner in which the lodge had been dealt with. He then gave notice of motion for the expulsion of the brother who had been unwittingly permitted to join the Order on what was believed to be a good recommendation, as well as a citation to the brother who had been the means of introducing him, to show cause why steps should not be taken against him. The meeting was of the most harmonious description, and one and all of the brethren present congratulated the members of the lodge on their restoration to Masonic privileges. The J.W. having exercised the functions of his office, a pleasant and happy hour was spent, when the Prov. G. Officers retired, and shortly thereafter the lodge was closed.

INDIA.

BENGAL.

DISTRICT GRAND LODGE.

(From the Indian "Freemasons' Friend.")

A Quarterly Communication of the District Grand Lodge of Bengal was held at the Freemason's Hall on the 23rd September 1861, the Offg. Prov. G.M., R.W. Bro. J. J. L. Hoff, being in the Eastern Chair.

The Offg. Prov. G.M. stated that he had nothing to lay before the District Grand Lodge which would seriously occupy its attention, except the long pending case of W. Bro. J. R. Douglas, late Master of Lodge Kilwinning in the East. He was glad to see that Bro. Douglas was present. It was needless to recapitulate all that had passed in the matter. Perhaps it would be sufficient if the Prov. G. Secretary were to read the proceedings of the last meeting on the subject, a copy of which had been furnished to Bro. Douglas.

The Prov. G. SEC., read the following extract from the minutes of the last Quarterly Communication:—

"It was proposed by R. W. Bro. Roberts that, as Bro. Douglas had paid a portion of the dues, and was in hopes of recovering more, he should be allowed further time, till the Quarterly Communication of September next, when, if it should appear that he had not fully met the demand against him, or if he did not personally satisfy the District Grand Lodge that there had been no wilful neglect of authority or spirit of contumacy on his part, he (Bro. Roberts) pledged himself that he would move for his expulsion, with a view to upholding discipline. The Offg. Prov. G.M., he added, should himself determine whether Bro. Douglas had met the requirements of the case.

"R. W. Bro. SANDEMAN rose to second the motion. He observed that the Master of a lodge was expected to make himself acquainted with the responsibilities which he took up, and to adopt such measures with respect to those working under his Hiram as would enable him to meet those responsibilities. Considering that no satisfactory explanation had been given of the extraordinary delay which had taken place in settling the matter, he considered that Bro. Douglas was being very leniently dealt with.

"The proposition being put to the vote, was carried, there being only one vote against it."

The Offg. Prov. G.M.—"Before we proceed further, it is right that we should hear what explanation Bro. Douglas has to offer."

W. Bro. DOUGLAS, who was dressed in the gold and crimson collar of the Scotch Lodge of which he is a member, being called upon, rose and spoke as follows:—"R. W. Sir and Brethren,—After a Masonic career of twenty years, during which I have maintained an unblemished character, it is with deep regret that I find myself called upon to show cause why I should not be expelled from Freemasonry. If I were to be called upon by any body of Masons, whether English, or Scotch, or French, or American, to answer any Masonic charge, I would consider it my bounden duty to obey the summons. It is for this reason that I now appear. I have been required to show cause why I should not be visited with the penalty of expulsion. It must be either because I am charged with embezzlement, or with contumacy, or with neglect of duty. One of these three it must be. Now as to embezzlement, I ask whether there is any brother here who will accuse me of such a crime; and I pause for a reply. The charge of contumacy is easily disposed of. Before the last Quarterly Communication, I received a letter from the Provincial Grand Secretary, informing me that, under a resolution of the District Grand Lodge, I was expected to pay up the dues of the late Lodge

740, or to show cause personally, at the next Quarterly Communication, why I should not be expelled. Before the next meeting took place, I recovered 80 Rupees, and paid the amount to the Provincial Grand Treasurer, Bro. Clark, informing him at the same time that I was endeavouring to recover a further sum. Thus I showed no contumacy, but, on the contrary, a desire to meet the demands of Masonic authority. As regards a neglect of duty, I would ask every Brother who has governed a Lodge, whether he has ever made it a practice to keep in his own immediate custody the money due to the District Grand Lodge. If this is to be a part of a Master's duty, where is the use of a Treasurer? Bro. Roberts, however, has asked, 'If Bro. Douglas admits that a certain amount is due, why has he not paid it?' To this I make a simple answer I paid the arrears of dues for the time that I was Master, and I had some more money by me. But before surrendering the Warrant of my Lodge, I called upon Bro. Clark, and inquired whether there was anything due. He referred to a Baboo, and then informed me that there was nothing due. The impression at that time left on my mind was confirmed by a letter written by Bro. Clark to Bro. Clinger, the Secretary of my Lodge, in which it was observed that there were two classes of bad paymasters, namely, those who were too slow, and those who were too quick, in paying; and that Bro. Clinger belonged to the latter class. This is the plain statement I have to make; and now I trust that the District Grand Lodge will not consider me to have acted contumaciously. Before the last Quarterly Communication, I asked Bros. Manly and Brown, whether, since I had paid whatever I had found it possible to realise, they considered it necessary that I should nevertheless attend the meeting. They answered—'No; since you have paid, it is not necessary that you should attend.' As to quibbling, I may state that if I were disposed to quibble, I would have taken advantage of an error in the letter written by the Provincial Grand Secretary in August, summoning me to be present in the District Grand Lodge on the 25th of September. If I had allowed myself to be guided strictly by that intimation, I might have come here yesterday (Sunday), and refused to attend to-day. I have one word more to say. Some offence, I believe has been taken, because, in my letter to the Provincial Grand Secretary of 24th December, I proposed that the District Grand Lodge should collect the outstandings of my late Lodge. Now it never was my intention to ask the District Grand Lodge to be my collecting sircars. I only meant that it should be understood that it was out of *my* power to collect the money, and that therefore the District Grand Lodge, who could enforce payment, should call upon the defaulters, and exercise its authority against them."

The OFFG. PROV. G.M.—"I am not aware that any offence was taken at the offer made by Bro. Douglas to make over his list of outstandings to the District Grand Lodge for realization, although the course proposed by him was irregular; nor have I ever heard that Bro. Douglas has been accused of embezzlement."

Bro. ROBERTS, Offg. D. Prov. G.M.—"We have just heard Bro. Douglas state that, during a career of twenty years, he has never been charged with any serious fault—whether it is twenty months since he became a Master appears to me very doubtful, if I am to judge from the speech with which he has favoured us, for he has furnished us in it with evidence that he does not know some of the plainest duties of a Master. He ought to know that, whether a Master does, or does not, recover the money due by the members of his lodge, he is bound to see that the District Grand Lodge gets its dues, because it is quite within his power to act up to his responsibility. He may, out of an amiable weakness of disposition, permit those over whom he rules, to establish a system of non-payment highly satisfactory to themselves; but he must indulge in such amiable feelings at his own risk, not at the expense of the District Grand Lodge, unless the latter is a consenting party to the arrangement. Bro. Douglas denies that he has been guilty of any contumacy or neglect of duty. No doubt his speech has been well conned over, and his arguments have been specially set forth. But after having discussed the subject at every meeting for the last year and a half, the District Grand Lodge is quite able to judge whether he has acted in the way which a sense of duty ought to have dictated to him. I say that he has not so acted; that the conduct which he has displayed has been a deliberately planned, well studied contumacious conduct. If he had frankly and dutifully come forward at the beginning with an explanation of his difficulties, his case would have worn a different aspect; but his non-appearance from time to time—"

Bro. DOUGLAS.—"I beg to correct Bro. Roberts. I have been asked only *twice* to appear in the District Grand Lodge, and this is the second time."

Bro. ROBERTS.—"Bro. Douglas has told us that he is not given to quibbling; and I am glad to find that he did not take advantage of the error by which he was required to be present here on a Sunday. Now what I charge Bro. Douglas with is, that he has

shown contumacy and a want of respect to this District Grand Lodge, and I find that there is no need of bringing forward proofs from past correspondence. For let it be observed, that Bro. Douglas has come here flaunting before us the glaring fancy colours of a Scotch Lodge—a costume which might have been imposing and appropriate if he had been a guest invited to represent the Scotch Lodge to which he belongs, but which is wholly *mal-apropos* on an occasion like this, when he has been summoned to appear here as an English Mason, for the special purpose of acknowledging the jurisdiction of an English Masonic authority, and of explaining why money due by an English Lodge has not been paid."

Bro. DOUGLAS here took off his Masonic clothing; but thought he was entitled to something better than a Master Mason's apron, which was offered to him. The grounds of his objection were not clearly understood.

Bro. W. CLARK, P. Prov. S. G. W.—"R. W. Sir, Bro. Douglas apparently forgets that he can wear nothing more honourable than the apron of a Master Mason. In regard to the information which Bro. Douglas states he obtained from me on inquiring whether he had anything more to pay, I beg to state that I never know what is due by the lodges until they have furnished returns to the Provincial Grand Secretary. If, therefore, Bro. Douglas knew that his returns were in arrears, he must also have known, when he came to me for information, that more money was due by him."

Bro. H. SANDEMAN, P. J. G. W.—"R. W. Sir, there is a very clear rule in the *Book of Constitutions*, with which, I am sorry to observe, Bro. Douglas does not seem to be acquainted, although he has been the Master of a lodge. Before any brother takes that high and responsible office, it is his duty to study the *Book of Constitutions* and the bye-laws of the District Grand Lodge, and to make himself thoroughly acquainted with their contents. All will agree with me, that the want of such a knowledge in one who accepts the responsibility must lead to trouble. Would any man enter upon any profession, any secular business, without first qualifying himself for it, by mastering the rules by which he is to be guided? Surely, then, no man should think of governing a lodge, except with the determination of making himself familiar with his duties. I was glad to hear Bro. Roberts laying down the law so well. I think the *Book of Constitutions* does not leave it at all doubtful that the Master is wholly responsible for the dues to the Grand Lodge and the Provincial Grand Lodge. At page 61 we find this rule:—

"The fees or dues received on account of, and payable to, the Grand Lodge and Provincial Grand Lodge, shall be kept separate and distinct from the moneys belonging to the lodge, and shall be deposited in the hands of the Master instead of the Treasurer of the lodge, and shall be transmitted to the Grand Lodge and Provincial Grand Lodge at such times as the laws require."

"It is true that, in most cases, the Master allows all the moneys of his lodge to remain in the custody of the Treasurer; but if the latter were to be robbed, I would apply the *argumentum ad hominem*, and ask any Master whether he would not feel himself bound to make good that portion of the amount for which he was responsible to the Grand Lodge and the Provincial Grand Lodge. In short, if a man accepts the honour of the office, he must also take with it its responsibilities. I agree with Bro. Roberts that Bro. Douglas has not shown that knowledge of his duties which one would expect from a Mason of twenty years' experience. He had no right to keep the Provincial Grand Lodge and the Provincial Grand Master waiting so long; and I would tell him, in a friendly spirit, that such neglect and contempt of authority as he has shown, does infinite injury, not only to the authority which has been so treated, but to Masonry at large."

Bro. DOUGLAS, who had made many previous attempts to speak, again rose to do so; but he was informed that he could not be allowed to reply after each speech. He would be heard after every one else had done speaking.

Bro. W. CLARK, C.E., Prov. G. Sup. of Works.—"In March last, I proposed that Bro. Douglas should be summoned to show cause personally at the next meeting why he ought not to be expelled. I did so because I found that a good deal of our time was being wasted, and I thought it right that Bro. Douglas should come here and speak, when the matter could be finally disposed of. At the next meeting, however, Bro. Douglas did *not* make his appearance. That was in itself contumacy."

Bro. DOUGLAS.—"That is not quite correct, I had paid —" (Order, order.)

Bro. W. CLARK, C.E.—"He ought not only to have paid, but he ought also to have come here, under the Resolution of the District Grand Lodge, as he had not paid all that was due. If he had come and given a full explanation as to what had been the cause of the delay, and had stated that he had paid a small sum,

and would endeavour to pay more, the matter would have been disposed of."

Bro. DOUGLAS.—"The 'small sum' was more than half the amount claimed."

The OFFG. PROV. G.M.—"Does any other brother wish to address the District Grand Lodge? Now, Bro. Douglas, we are ready to hear you in reply."

Bro. DOUGLAS.—"R.W. sir, although Bro. Roberts thinks it doubtful whether it is twenty months since I became a Master, it is nevertheless a fact that it is now eleven years since I received from you, R.W. Sir, the Hiram of Lodge 279, when R.W. Bro. W. Clark was my Senior Warden. After ruling the lodge for two years, I left 200 rupees in the hands of the Treasurer. This is my answer to Bro. Roberts, and the records of Lodge 279 will bear me out in my statement. With regard to what has fallen from Bros. Sandeman and Clark, that I have shown contumacy, I have already explained, than when I received the letter of the Provincial Grand Secretary requiring me to appear in the District Grand Lodge, I referred to Bros. Manly and Brown for their opinion as to whether, since I had just sent in 80 rupees to the Provincial Grand Treasurer, there was any longer a necessity that I should appear. They agreed with me that, under circumstances which, by the payment of the money, had altered since the Resolution had been passed, there was no longer any necessity that I should appear. If the District Grand Lodge thinks I have acted differently from other Masters in not keeping the moneys in my immediate custody, have I not a right to ask it to punish those brethren who have, by default, placed me in this position? The outstandings of the lodge amount to Rs. 700. If the District Grand Lodge will help me to recover that amount, I will pay its dues and make over the balance to the Fund of Benevolence."

The OFFG. PROV. G.M.—"I quite concur in the opinions expressed by Bros. Roberts and Sandeman. I believe that there must be very few Masters unacquainted with the rule which has been quoted from the Constitutions. The Master of a lodge may have confidence in his Treasurer; but he himself must be responsible for certain payments. The District Grand Lodge cannot look to the members of Bro. Douglas's lodge to make good the deficiency. Bro. Douglas has stated that it must be for one of three reasons why he has been summoned to show cause why he should not be expelled, viz., embezzlement, contumacy, or neglect of duty. No one has charged him with embezzlement; but as to contumacy, I would observe that it is more than two years now since Lodge 740 was extinguished, that a long correspondence with Bro. Douglas ensued, that no money was forthcoming, that sometimes the Provincial Grand Secretary could get no reply from him, and that at last the subject was brought before the District Grand Lodge. The correspondence would show whether a proper respect for authority has been evinced by Bro. Douglas. If I were to consult my own feelings, I would get rid of such a disagreeable subject by writing off the amount to profit and loss. But the District Grand Lodge are of opinion that serious notice should be taken of Bro. Douglas's conduct. A sentence of expulsion, however, would be too severe in a case like this, and should be reserved only for heinous offences, like that recently committed by Mr. Sier."

Bro. ROBERTS then moved the following resolution:—"That the vote of the District Grand Lodge be taken as to whether a neglect of authority and a spirit of contumacy have been evinced by Bro. Douglas, and that, in the event of the vote being in the affirmative, he be admonished by the Officiating Prov. Grand Master."

Bro. JENNINGS, P.S.G.W., was of opinion that Bro. Douglas should be punished with suspension for a certain term, and that if, at the expiration of that term, it should appear that the dues yet remained unpaid, the sentence should be extended, until such time as the matter was adjusted. He, therefore, moved the following amendment:—"That Bro. Douglas be suspended from his Masonic privileges for six months, and further, until he has paid his dues."

The amendment having been seconded by W. Bro. W. CLARK, C.E., was put to the vote, when the Deacons counted 16 votes in support of it.

The original proposition, which had been seconded by R.W. Bro. H. HOWE, P.D. Prov. G.M., was then put to the vote, and fifteen votes were counted in support of it.

The amendment was therefore carried.

The OFFG. PROV. G.M.—"Certain Committees appointed by me have been sitting,—I should say that I do not know whether they have been sitting or sleeping, for only one of them, viz., the 'King Memorial Committee,' has submitted a report to me, which the Prov. G. Sec. will read."

Bro. C. J. EVANS, W.M. of Lodge 282—"R.W. Sir, I beg to draw your attention to the presence among us of a brother under suspension from his Masonic privileges."

The OFFG. PROV. G.M.—"Bro. Douglas, it is necessary that you should retire."

Bro. DOUGLAS—"R.W. Sir, I have been summoned to appear here, and I mean to remain."

Bro. HOWE—"R.W. Sir, if Bro. Douglas remains, he will only be showing further contumacy."

After some demur, Bro. Douglas rose, and was leaving the lodge-room without saluting the Chair. When the omission was pointed out to him, he turned and saluted the Chair as a Scotch Mason.

The PROV. G. SEC. then proceeded to read the report of the King Memorial Committee, from which it appeared that the inscription was being engraved, and that the monument was nearly ready; but it was recommended that the pedestal, which resembled a "stone baptismal font," should be returned to the sculptor, and that the ebony pedestal originally proposed by the Committee should be substituted. The beams of the third floor were not considered strong enough to bear the weight of the stony mass, which had been constructed at the suggestion of our talented and much respected Bro. W. Clark.

Bro. W. CLARK, C.E.—"I did certainly suggest that the pedestal should be one of stone, and that it should resemble a rough ashlar; but I never contemplated that a whole block would be excavated and fashioned to resemble a 'baptismal font.' I am of opinion that four light slabs, carved exteriorly so as to resemble a rough ashlar, and joined together, would form a far more appropriate pedestal than a wooden one. It is opposed to good taste to place a handsome marble monument on something which might be easily mistaken for a teapoy. I would again suggest to the Committee to have a stone pedestal, and I will readily give my aid if they should require it."

Bro. HOWE—"The committee will be happy to avail themselves of the aid kindly proffered by Bro. Clark."

The OFFG. PROV. G.M.—"Then there are the Committee for preparing a scheme for the erection of a Masonic Hall, the Musical Instrument Committee, and the Smith Testimonial Committee. In regard to the first, I am happy to say that the building scheme has been taken in hand by our Provincial Junior Grand Warden, and I yet hope to see some feasible plan laid before the District Grand Lodge. The subject of the Smith Testimonial is in the hands of Bro. Roberts. I am glad to say that I have no exclusions to announce from any of the Lodges. Peace and harmony prevail. At Roy Bareilly a new lodge has been established, making the fourth in the Province of Oude. The petition for a Warrant was despatched by the last mail. A portion of the term of suspension awarded to Bro. J. S. Collins has been cancelled, and the lodges have been informed by a circular of his restoration to his Masonic privileges. He had certainly failed in his duty, but he was under the mischievous influence of his Secretary. You are all aware of the circumstances under which the Warrant of Lodge Marine was impudently sent direct to England by Mr. Sier, who was subsequently expelled from Freemasonry on another charge. This Warrant I had myself made over to the Lodge a few years before, when it was revived. Hearing that the warrant had been sent to England, I wrote to the Grand Secretary, asking him to return it. He was at first of opinion that the present members, to whom I had granted a dispensation, should apply for it as they would for a warrant in abeyance. I held, on the other hand, that it should be viewed as stolen property, and should, therefore, be returned to those to whom it rightfully belonged. In the propriety of this recommendation the Grand Secretary at length concurred; and it is now in my power to restore it, for the second time, in the District Grand Lodge, to the Master of the Lodge. W. Bro. EVANS,—I have much pleasure in making over this warrant to you. From my knowledge of you, I do so with great confidence!"

W. Bro. EVANS (advancing to the E. Pedestal).—"R. W. Sir! I receive this warrant from your hand with great pride; and I also feel grateful to you for the manner in which you have exerted yourself to regain possession of it for the lodge."

The OFFG. P.G.M.—"In the minutes of our last proceedings it is recorded that the Cawnpore Lodge had become extinct. Bro. Bliss, formerly of Calcutta, and other brethren, being desirous of reviving it, I granted them a dispensation to commence work, but experienced some difficulty afterwards in getting a renewal of the old warrant, the Grand Secretary being of opinion that some of the old members should join in the petition for it. The mutiny, however, had swept off all the former members. The brethren who were desirous of working under the old warrant, therefore, gave up their project in despair, with the intention of applying for a new warrant, and it was announced that the lodge had become extinct. I have, however, since been informed that the Grand Master has agreed to sanction the renewal of the old warrant."

"Brethren! when I was a young Mason I had a great desire to join a Lodge of Instruction. Believing that the same desire must exist among young Masons of the succeeding times, I have made various attempts to establish such a lodge in Calcutta, either in connection with some particular lodge, or independantly of such connection. But all attempts have hitherto failed. I have now determined upon making a fresh attempt, and have requested Bro. Sandeman, as Master of the senior lodge in the province, to take the initiative, and attach a Lodge of Instruction to his own lodge, or to constitute a general Lodge of Instruction, with the co-operation of the other Masters. It must be very painful to a brother to be called upon to perform duties for which he has had no previous training. I knew of a brother who, after taking the second degree, relinquished all connection with Masonry, because, after waiting in vain, he found he could not obtain anywhere the instruction which he was sincerely desirous of getting. I trust now, that with the aid of Bro. Sandeman, the brethren will have the means of qualifying themselves to act efficiently as office-bearers in their several lodges. If that scheme, however, should fail, I may inform the brethren that a lodge of instruction is ready in connection with Lodge Marine.

Bro. SANDEMAN stated that he was not aware that Bro. Evans had proposed to attach a lodge of instruction to Lodge Marine, and that he should be sorry to clash with him. Bro. Evans appeared to him to have his heart and soul in the matter, and was therefore likely to be successful. Bro. Sandeman had no means of judging whether the scheme entrusted to him was feasible. He saw difficulties in the way. Every one in Calcutta being a man of business, he thought few would feel disposed, after working all day, to take the labour of a lodge of instruction in the evening. If there was a great desire for such instruction, the young Masons would only have themselves to blame if they did not have the means of getting it. Those who are thirsty must ask for water. Then again, it would be necessary to provide a supper for those who would meet for instruction. He would not be an advocate for expensive suppers on such occasions; but, on the other hand, something more substantial than mere bread and butter would be looked for by those who would forego their regular dinner at home. And in a General lodge of Instruction, composed of brethren from different lodges, it would be difficult to adjust the payments so as to suit every one's pocket.

Bro. EVANS stated that he had taken the difficulties into consideration, and was of opinion that meetings held on Saturdays, when most houses of business were closed at an early hour, were likely to be attended.

The OFFG. PROV. G.M.—"It has been customary to recognise the services rendered to Masonry, of a more than ordinary character, by brethren in the Upper Provinces. They have not the advantage of being able to sit in the District Grand Lodge; and hence it is necessary that the recognition of their services should be in the shape of an honorary appointment, which would entitle them to wear the purple. I have at this time proposed to confer the honorary rank of a Past Prov. Senior Grand Deacon in the District Grand Lodge of Bengal on five brethren, namely:—

Major E. K. O. Gilbert	Dinapore.
Captain G. H. Elliott	Simla.
W. E. Ball, Esq.	Lahore.
J. F. Macgremnan, Esq.	Lucknow.
J. R. Poster, Esq.	Meerut.

"Brethren! in March last, I informed you that if I should continue in my present position till next St. John's day, it was not my intention to get up a procession, unless the several lodges should themselves take the initiative, and express their wish to have it, in which case they would have to give me timely intimation, and an assurance of a full attendance of their members. I now wish further to state that, as I expect that the Prov. Grand Master will shortly retire from office, although I do not know the exact time when he will do so, and that as soon as he resigns the Hiram, my functions will necessarily instantly cease, I would rather not take measures for having a procession. The Prov. Grand Lodge is in a transition state, we are in uncertainty as to what arrangement is being made in England for the administration of the province, and it therefore seems to be unadvisable to take all the preliminary steps for organising a procession which may never come off."

The PROV. G. SEC. read the Finance Committee's Report on the audit of the Prov. Grand Treasurer's accounts for the third quarter of 1861. The balance in hand of the District Grand Lodge Fund was 3,832 rupees, and of the Fund of Benevolence 2,893 rupees.

After some conversation of local interest only, the District Grand Lodge was closed in form, and the brethren proceeded downstairs to a good banquet.

ROY BAREILLY.

The brethren at Roy Bareilly met on Monday, the 26th August, at the residence of Bro. W. C. Capper, Deputy Commissioner of the District, for the purpose of opening and forming Lodge Faith, Hope, and Charity, under a dispensation from the Offg. Prov. G.M. The ceremony was performed with the aid of Bro. T. N. Young, the Master, and Bro. J. F. Macgremnan, the Past Master, of Lodge Morning Star (No. 810), who had been summoned from Lucknow, dawks having been laid for them.

The following brethren were present: T. N. Young; J. F. Macgremnan; J. Grantt, as Master; Egan, as S.W.; the Rev. J. Y. Mitchinson, as J.W.; J. Bedingfield, N. A. Garstin, E. T. Cheesman, J. M. Campbell, and W. C. Capper.

The Master elect, Bro. Grantt, having been previously installed on the 22nd August in Lodge Morning Star, at Lucknow, was conducted to the Eastern chair, by Bro. Young. The lodge was then opened, and the Master proceeded to appoint his officers: Bros. Egan, to be S.W.; Mitchinson to be J.W.; and Capper (after being elected a Member) to be Secretary. The last named brother was also elected by exclamation to the office of Treasurer. The appointment of Deacons was deferred till the strength of the lodge should increase.

Bro. Young then delivered the Antient Charges, and declared them to be binding on the consciences of all the members. He congratulated the brethren on the successful result of their efforts to establish a lodge, in spite of a discouraging obstacle which had presented itself at the outset, but which they had overcome; and he exhorted them ever to bear in mind the motto which they had chosen.

The brethren then proceeded to consecrate the lodge. A suitable prayer was offered up by the Rev. Bro. Mitchinson, the Chaplain of the station, and the usual Masonic prayer by Bro. Young. Bro. Macgremnan then addressed the lodge, and read out from Preston the first, second, and portions of the third and tenth lectures; after which he begged the lodge to accept the volume from him, as one which would help them to gain a knowledge of their Masonic duties. The following articles were also presented to the lodge;

A copy of *Stapleton's Handbook*, by Bros. Mitchinson and Egan

The working tools which had been used in forming, constituting, and consecrating the lodge, by Bro. Young;

A full set of Officers' Jewels by Bro. Capper.

These tokens of good-will were received with votes of thanks.

The Worshipful Master addressed the brethren, and proposed that the Officiating Provincial Grand Master of Bengal, R.W. Bro. J. J. L. Hoff, should be elected an Honorary Member of the lodge. This was seconded by the Senior Warden, and was carried by acclamation. The Worshipful Master further proposed that the following brethren, members of Lodge Morning Star, should also be elected Honorary members of Lodge Faith, Hope, and Charity; namely, Bros. T. N. Young and J. F. Macgremnan, and Bros. J. Russell, P. H. Knight, and E. R. H. Hoff. This proposition was carried unanimously.

The lodge was closed at seven P.M., and the brethren sat down to a banquet, and passed a pleasant evening.

The brethren met again at seven the following morning, when a Lodge of Instruction in the three degrees was held, Bro. Young presiding throughout. On the conclusion of work, which was carried out in all its details, the brethren sat down to a cold collation at high noon, and separated at 1½ P. M.

The lodge was also duly summoned for Wednesday, the 28th August, at 5 P. M., when Bro. E. T. Cheesman was raised to the third and sublime degree of a Master Mason.

The Master and Past Master of Lodge Morning Star were most heartily received and most hospitably treated by the brethren of Roy Bareilly.

The brethren at Thayetmyo, in Pegu, headed by Capt. G. P. de P. Falconnet, are about to revive Lodge Astraea. The old warrant has been sent to them.

CALCUTTA.

Lodge Star in the East (No. 80), met on Wednesday, the 9th October, when Mr. Walter Brett (of the *Englishman* newspaper) was initiated by Bro. Sandeman. Bros. T. A. Rambart (of the *Doveton College*) and H. F. Blandford were at the same time raised to the third degree by R.W. Bro. Howe, aided by R.W. Bro. Roberts. A donation of 100 Rs. to the Chunar Inundation Fund was confirmed, on condition of the money being applied exclusively to European sufferers. A donation was also granted to a widow. The supper table was crowded.

Lodge Industry and Perseverance (No. 126), met on the 4th October, for the purpose of raising Bros. J. Young and Peter Taylor, the latter under a dispensation, at the request of Lodge St. John.

Lodge Humility with Fortitude (No. 279), met on the 7th October, for the purpose of initiating Mr. Edward Symonds. Donations were voted to two widows, and the question as to whether there should or should not be a procession on St. John's Day was discussed and decided in the affirmative. At the supper table the Rev. Bro. Lindstedt responded to the toast of the visitors.

Lodge St. John (No. 715) had a large gathering on the 13th September, when W. Bro. J. W. Brown, P.M., initiated Mr. R. T. Martin, Barrister-at-law, and Capt. Peter Taylor, Commander of the China steamer *Lightning*, and passed Bro. J. Young, under a dispensation, at the request of Lodge Industry and Perseverance.

Lodge Excelsior (No. 1127) met on the 1st October, for the purpose of initiating Mr. H. Sturmer, G.E., and balloting for the initiation of Mr. W. L. Granville.

SIMLA.

A correspondent writes from Simla:—The lodge here, I regret to say, is not working very smoothly. The new Master, Bro. Melville Clarke, left for Cashmere shortly after his election. Bro. Cheek, the Senior Warden, and Bro. Elliott, have resigned. The last two regular nights of meeting passed by without the lodge being opened; but an emergent meeting was convened by the Junior Warden on the 8th September, when, in the absence of any qualified member of the lodge, Bro. Ball, of the Lahore Lodge, who is on a visit here, raised a brother to the third degree. It appears to me that the removal of a few of the members of the lodge would cause a great improvement. The good men and true at the Station should exert themselves a little, and, in a conciliatory spirit, endeavour to correct the weakness of others, when, I am sure, the lodge would soon become again what it once was, one of the best out of Calcutta.

“The Knight Templar Encampment at this sanatorium, which had held no meeting since its formation last year, was opened on the 17th inst. Sir Knight S. R. Beechey was elected Excellent Commander for the current year, and three worthy Companions were admitted to the degree, viz., T. Graham (P.M. of Lodge Triune Brotherhood, and P.Z. of the Dalhousie Chapter); H. P. Bishop (P.Z. of the Umballa Chapter); and Companion Hale, of the 6th Irregular Cavalry.

LAHORE.

A correspondent, writing on the 23rd September, says:—“Our Worshipful Master, Bro. Ball, having proceeded on leave to Simla, has left our lodge under the charge of our worthy and Worshipful Bro. R. E. Egerton. The fearful visitation of cholera has almost entirely disappeared; but a gloom still hangs over our community. There are fifteen widows in the 51st Regiment alone; our lodge has contributed 200 rupees towards their relief.”

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

GRAND CONCLAVE.

The first half-yearly meeting of Grand Conclave was held in the great hall of Freemasons' Tavern on Friday, the 6th instant. There was a very fair muster of Sir Knts. present, including the M.E. and S.G.M., Sir Knt. William Stuart on the throne, supported by the V.H. and E.D.G.M., Colonel Vernon; the V.E. Prov. G. Coms., William Crittenden, Cheshire; Dr. Hinxman, Kent; S. Bryant, Gloucestershire and City of Bristol; and George Francis, Hertfordshire. The Grand Officers, Rev. Edward Moore, G. Prel.; Burchell Herne, 1st. G. Capt.; W. H. Spratt, 2nd G. Capt.; M. H. Shuttleworth, G. Vice-Chan. and G. Almoner; J. Newton Tomkins, G. Treas.; W. Blenkin, G. Chamberlain; D. H. Stone, 1st G. Exp.; Rev. C. M. Style, 2nd G. Exp.; J. W. Figg, 1st G. Standard-bearer; W. J. Meymott, G. Dir. of Cers.; Dr. Hood, 1st. G. Herald; Matthew Cooke, G. Org.; J. M. Thearle, G. Banner-bearer, and W. Rice and Smith, G. Equerries. From the Stuart Encampment, Sir Knts. T. Rogers, Jas. Burton, Chas. Davy, H. C. Finch, Henry George Warren, and Geo. Lambert. From the Faith and Fidelity, G. Worby, P.G.C.; and Brackstone Baker, P.G.S.B. From the St. Georges's, A. Lisson, R. Costa, P.G.O.; H. Goddard, P. J. Sparks, F. M. Guibilei, and R. Spencer, P.G.S.B.; All Souls, Thos. Coombs;

Frederick of Unity, Thos. Beaumont, P.G.H.; Kemeys Tynte, W. Smith, G.E., P.G.S.B., and E. Fraser; Prince Edward's, R. R. Nelson, P.G.H.; Cœur de Lion, R. J. Spiers, P.G.C.; Capt. Barrett Lenard, Grand Conclave of Scotland; and C. Armstrong, Dublin, and others with whose names we are unacquainted. The proceedings of the day were as follows.

Grand Conclave was opened in due and ancient form with solemn prayer. By order of the M.E.S.G.M. the G. Vice-Chancellor read the summons convening the meeting. The minutes of the Grand Conclave, held on the 10th of May, 1861, were read and confirmed. The following report of the Committee of General Purposes was read and ordered to be entered on the minutes:—

In their last report, your Committee expressed their sanguine expectations that the unfortunate differences so long existing between Grand Conclave and the Baldwin Encampment at Bristol, would be brought to an honourable and satisfactory termination; and they very much regret that their brother knights at Bristol still decline to waive the only point now remaining unsettled, and which they allege will affect the Baldwin Encampment only, the Committee having agreed to concede all their other stipulations.

Your Committee, however, feel assured Grand Conclave will consider the Grand Master could not, with due regard to the high and responsible office he so worthily holds, sanction the proposition which would give the Knights of the Baldwin the right to nominate in effect their own Provincial Grand Commanders, and which would introduce a precedent which might hereafter prove fatal to the exercise of his proper and legitimate authority.

In conclusion, your Committee have again the satisfaction of congratulating Grand Conclave upon the steady increase and continued prosperity of the Order.

(Signed)

M. H. SHUTTLEWORTH, 30°,
G. Vice-Chancellor and Almoner.

Nov. 1st, 1861.

The G. VICE-CHANCELLOR, by command of the M.E.S.G.M., then laid before Grand Conclave a draft of a charter of union received from the Baldwin Encampment at Bristol, and informed the Sir Knts. that a deputation from that body was in attendance to explain any difficulties that might arise. The G. Treas., Sir Knt. J. NEWTON TOMKINS, then read the document in question, which may be summarised as follows:—That it is desirable the Baldwin, and its affiliated encampments, should be under the control of the M.E. and S.G.M. and his successors, from the date of signing the articles referred to. That the city and county of Bristol should be constituted a District Provincial Commandery. That, on the ground of immemorial custom, the Baldwin Encampment should take precedence of all other encampments holding under Grand Conclave. That its affiliated encampments, viz., the Antiquity, Bath; Ascalon, Birmingham; Holy-Rood, Warwick; Vale of Jehosaphat, Highbridge; Vale Royal, Salisbury; and Percy, Adelaide, S. Australia, take precedence according to the dates of their respective warrants. All the property and effects of the Baldwin, and its daughter encampments, to remain vested in the custody of their Treasurers for the time being. No fees for registration in the books of the Grand Conclave to be demanded from any of those encampments. [This was not clearly defined as to its being retrospective only, or to be taken as applying to the past, present, and future.] All future and present members of those bodies to pay to Grand Conclave an annual fee of one shilling.

The principal objection to the receipt of the draft rose from its signature which ran thus:—Given under our hand and seal this —day of—A.D. 1861, A.O. 743, A.L. 5861. Approved on behalf of the Encampment of Baldwin [the triple Cross of Salem was inserted here] David William Nash, M.E. and Supreme Grand Master.” The V.H. and E.D.G.M., Col. Vernon, most strenuously objected to receive any such document whilst it was presented with such a signature.—The V.E. Prov. G. Com., Dr. Hinxman, also took the same ground urging that the G. Conclave could not patiently sit and allow anything to be brought before them which implied a divided allegiance, there being but one M.E. and S.G.M., their own well-beloved Sir Knt. Stuart, who had been enthroned as the head of the Order in England and the Colonies.—Sir Knt. Meymott observed he took it as applying only to the Baldwin and its dependant bodies.—The V.E. Dr. Hinxman, opposed the admission of the deputation until they had done fealty to the M.E.Z. and S.G.M. An animated discussion on this point followed in which Sir Knts. Tomkins, Thearle, Hinxman, Nelson, Spratt, and others, took part, which resulted in a proposition, that some members should go out and ascertain what powers the deputation possessed, and for this purpose the M.E. and S.G.M., nominated Sir Knts. Tomkins, Hinxman, Bryant and Meymott, and they retired accordingly. After some little time they returned, and informed the M.E. and S.G.M. of the result of their interview with the deputation, which was to the effect that as they, the deputation, had taken an oath of allegiance to

David W. Nash, they could not do so, without being released, to the M.E. and S.G.M., and that their powers were confined to explaining the document and not altering it. The Sir Knts. who had met the deputation, however, added that the whole matter was left open for future discussion with hopes, expressed on both sides, that it would be favourably terminated.

Motions were made, and carried in the affirmative, that the registration fee for a Knight be reduced to 2s. 6d.

That all Provincial Grand Conclaves have the power to regulate their own fees of honour.

That Colonial Prov. G. Coms. have the power to Grant dispensations for new encampments.

Notice of motion was given by the V.E. Prov. G. Com., Dr. Hinxman, that a Committee be appointed to revise the Statutes.

The M.E. and S.G.M. addressed the G. Conclave, pointing out the necessity for two annual meetings, as shown by the amount of business transacted that day.

Letters of apology from several Sir Knights were read, and the G. Almoner proceeded to collect the alms, amounting to £2 17s. After which the G. Conclave was closed, according to ancient custom.

THE BANQUET.

The Sir Knights then adjourned to the large room generally known as the Sussex, where a very elegant dinner was served. The M.E. and S.G. Master presided, supported by his officers and a large number of the Sir Knights.

On the removal of the cloth, the M.E. and S.G. MASTER said that he had to propose a toast which was sure to be cordially received. Her Majesty was certainly not a Knight Templar, but she was the daughter of one, and he had no doubt the Prince of Wales would some day be a Mason, when he would certainly become a Knight Templar—(cheers)—he gave them “The Health of Her Majesty.” (Cheers.)

The M.E. Sir Knight CRITENDEN, Prov. G. Com. Cheshire, said that owing to the ill-health of their esteemed D.G. Master, Sir Knt. Col. Vernon, he had been compelled to retire early. It had, therefore, fallen to his lot to propose “Health and Long Life to their M.E. and S.G. Master,” and he did so with the greatest of pleasure, knowing how highly he was esteemed by all. (Cheers.)

The M.E. and S. G. MASTER returned thanks for the compliment, and to the Knights for their attendance that day. This was the first time they had tried a second meeting in one year, and their attendance was therefore the more gratifying. He was happy to state that the Order was very prosperous, and he had every reason to believe that before their next meeting their differences with the Baldwin Encampment would be amicably settled. (Cheers.) The S.G. Master next proposed the health of the D.G.M. Sir Knight Vernon, who, he regretted, had had to leave in consequence of indisposition. (Hear.)

The toast having been cordially responded to,

The M.E. and S.G. MASTER proposed “The Rev. the Prelate and the rest of the Grand Officers.”

Sir Knight the Rev. A. R. WARD, G. Prelate, thanked the S. G. Master for the honour conferred upon him by connecting his name with the toast just responded to. He could assure the Sir Knights that it was his most anxious wish to promote the welfare of the Order to the utmost of his ability, and efficiently perform his duty as Grand Prelate, both in Grand Conclave and on any other occasion. On behalf of the Grand Officers and himself, he returned the M.E. and S. G. Master, and the Sir Knights, his best thanks.

The M.E. and S.G. MASTER next gave “The Health of the Prov. Grand Officers, coupled with the name of Sir Knight Hinxman.

Sir Knight HINXMAN, Prov. G. Com. Kent, assured the Grand Master and the Sir Knights that it gave him great pleasure to respond to the toast just drunk, though he could have wished that it had fallen into more worthy hands. Unfortunately from being at the bottom of the list of the Prov. G. Com., he had nearly reached the top, but he was glad to see the progress making by the order. He could not forget the wish of their late G. Chancellor, in responding to a similar toast that the five Prov. G. Coms., then existing might speedily be doubled; and he was delighted to find that they had now twenty-three, a proof of the great progress and advance that the Order had made. His greatest pleasure and duty was to endeavour to add to the prosperity of the Order, and he was sure that under the direction of their M.E. and S. Grand Master that the Order must go on increasing, and the more it became known the more anxious would be the members of the Craft to enter it. He could assure them that himself and brother Prov. G. Commanders would ever endeavour to discharge their duties so as to secure the approbation of the Grand Master, and promote the best interests of their Order. (Cheers.)

The M.E. and S. G. MASTER next gave “The Health of the Elected Officers of the Grand Conclave,” united with the name of that excellent officer, Sir. Knt. Tomkins, Grand Treasurer.

Sir Knight J. NEWTON TOMKINS, Grand Treasurer, had great pleasure in responding to the toast which had been just drunk with so much good feeling. He trusted that so long as he continued Grand Treasurer, he should be enabled to fulfil the duties with credit to himself and honour to the Grand Conclave. Though the meeting was not quite so large as that which they lately held, it must be attributed to the fact of its being the second in the same year, and to a great extent only experimental. He regretted that the important business which they had had before them that day could not be concluded; but he felt assured that every difficulty would be removed, and a happy conclusion arrived at before they again met in May. (Cheers.)

The next toast was “The other Sir Knights, coupled with the name of Sir Knight Coombs, of Dorchester,” who briefly acknowledged the compliment.

The M.E. and S.G. MASTER said that the last toast he should give them would be the “FREEMASON'S MAGAZINE, coupled with the name of Sir Knight Henry G. Warren.”

Sir Knight WARREN responded, stating that he was certainly taken by surprise in having to acknowledge that toast on the occasion of his first visit to Grand Conclave. He had the honour of belonging to the encampment named after their M.E. and S.G. Master, and it was only owing to its distance from town that he had not better attended to its duties. He, however, expected to shortly make arrangements for more closely attending to the duties of Knight Templarism, when he assured them he should use his best exertions to advance the interests of the Order.

The Sir Knights shortly afterwards separated, after passing a very agreeable evening.

WEST YORKSHIRE.

BRADFORD.—*Encampment of Faith* (No. 29).—A meeting of this encampment was held at the rooms of the Lodge of Hope, on the 9th inst., E. C. Thos. Hill presiding, Horatio Butterworth, 1st Captain, Wm. Gath P. E. C., as 2nd Captain, Prelate Henry Smith also acting as Registrar in the absence of Prelate E. C. Geo. Motley Ward; Henry Farrar, Treasurer; J. Gaunt, J. B. Lawrence, P. A. Brady, M.D., J. J. Holmes, J. H. Buckley, &c. Business having been disposed of, the election of E. C. and Treasurer took place by ballot, when the choice fell upon Henry Smith and Henry Farrar respectively, the former having the qualification necessary, that of serving as 2nd and 1st Captain previous to his appointment as Prelate. It was arranged to hold a meeting of exercise on Tuesday next, December 17th, and the ceremony of installation on Monday December 30th.

ANCIENT ART.—The early Christians had confounded in their horror of heathen idolatry all imitative art and all artists; they regarded with decided hostility all images, and those who wrought them as bound to the service of Satan and heathenism; and we find all visible representation of sacred personages and actions confined to mystic emblems. Thus the cross signified redemption; the fish, baptism; the ship represented the Church; the serpent, sin, or the spirit of evil. When, in the fourth century, the struggle between Paganism and Christianity ended in the triumph and recognition of the latter, and art revived, it was, if not in a new form, in a new spirit, by which the old forms were to be gradually moulded and modified. The Christians found the shell of ancient art remaining; the traditional handicraft still existed; certain models of figure and drapery, &c., handed down from antiquity, though degenerated and distorted, remained in use, and were applied to illustrate, by direct or symbolic representations, the tenets of a purer faith. From the beginning the figures selected to typify our redemption were those of the Saviour and the Blessed Virgin, first separately, and then conjointly as the mother and infant. The earliest monuments of Christian art remaining are to be found, nearly effaced, on the walls and ceilings of the catacombs of Rome, to which the persecuted martyrs of the faith had fled for refuge. In the cemetery of St. Calixtus at Rome a head of Christ was discovered, the most ancient of which any copy has come down to us; the figure is colossal, the face a long oval, the countenance mild, grave, melancholy; the long hair, parted on the brow, falling in two masses on either shoulder; the beard not thick, but short and divided. Here, then, obviously imitated from some traditional description (probably the letter of Lentulus to the Roman Senate, supposed to be a fabrication of the third century), we have the type, the generic character since adhered to in the representations of the Redeemer. In the same manner traditional heads of St. Peter and St. Paul, rudely sketched, became, in after-times, the ground-work of the highest dignity and beauty, still retaining that peculiarity of form and character which time and long custom had consecrated in the eyes of the devout.—*Early Italian Painters.*

MASONIC FESTIVITIES.

YORKSHIRE (WEST).

BRADFORD.—On Friday evening, November 29th, a private ball was given in their new rooms, by the members of the Lodge of Hope (No. 379), at which the sons of Masons, with their wives and sweet-hearts also were admitted. An efficient Committee having been appointed, with the W.M. as their Chairman; early in the month the necessary dispensations were granted by the R. W. D. Prov. G.M., and every arrangement completed in due time. By a judicious arrangement dancing commenced at eight o'clock, and closed at two precisely, the M.C. having kept the dancers employed to their hearts content, to the delightful strains of a well selected band conducted by Mr. Blackburn. The stewards had not neglected the creature comforts of the refreshment room; at half past ten the door were thrown open, when about half the company availed themselves of the opportunity and took their places round the supper table, when an elegant and substantial repast was spread before them, and after doing ample justice to the various dishes, they retired to give place to the rest of the company, who had in the mean time continued the mazy dance with increased spirit, proportionate to the additional space caused by the retirement of the rest. The tables being replenished, the wants of all were supplied to their evident satisfaction. We believe we are correct in stating that the idea of the ball originated with the ladies; for, having heard much of the rooms they naturally desired to test their capabilities and inspect their interiors, a commendable curiosity, which the members of the lodge were ready to gratify at the earliest possible opportunity. We are happy in being able to state that every arrangement was satisfactory, and the supper pronounced unexceptionable, notwithstanding the early fears of some to the contrary. The whole was prepared on the premises.

Obituary.

BRO. MARK OLIVER IRON.

Bro. Mark Oliver Iron, formerly an upholsterer and cabinet maker at Ipswich, died on the 29th November, 1861, at the Asylum for Aged Freemasons at Croydon, in his 80th year, and was buried at St. James's Church, his remains being followed to the grave by the whole of the inmates of the asylum. He was initiated in No. 121, Ipswich, February, 1806, paid to December, 1824, joined No. 522, December, 1824, paid to December, 1845; but in consequence of severe losses he petitioned the Institution, and was elected an annuitant on May 15th, 1846. On the opening of the asylum at Croydon in September, 1850, he was admitted an inmate and appointed, by the Committee of Management, Warden, which position he held at the time of his death. His only daughter, who by permission has resided with her father, and passed her life in attendance upon him, is now left, at the age of 50 years, totally unprovided for.

THE WEEK.

THE COURT.—Her Majesty and family still remain at Windsor. The Prince Consort is confined to his apartments by fever, which is considered by his physicians likely to continue some time. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales is to spend the Christmas at Windsor, after which he will proceed to Syria and the Holy Land.

GENERAL HOME NEWS.—The present mildness of the season is testified by the state of the public health. The mortality has dropped down about 120 in the course of a single week. The returns last week being 1300 and for the week previous 1420. The corrected average for the last ten years would give 1395. It is curious to observe that in the City the rate of mortality had rather been on the increase; it rose last week from 52 to 62. The birth rate over the metropolis is also below the average, but the decrease is only nominal—1656 children against an average of 1660.—Parliament has been further prorogued to the 7th of January.—The Government are pursuing with great vigour their preparations in anticipation of a war with America. In addition to the Persia, Australian, Adriatic, and Panama, they have taken up six more screw transports, which will be got ready with all speed. The second battalion of the Grenadiers and the second battalion of the Fusiliers have been ordered to be ready for embarkation for Canada; the force already under orders for that country being a very

efficient and formidable one.—At the Jamaica Coffee-house on Wednesday, an association of shipowners was formed, for the purpose of insuring British ships against war risks. There was a very influential attendance of persons interested in the object.—We intimated a short time ago that it was the intention of her Majesty's Government to reappoint the commission that lately sat on the embankment of the north side of the Thames, to consider the question how far it might be desirable to proceed at the same time with the embankment of the Surrey side of the river. The *Gazette* of Tuesday contains the official reappointment of this commission.—The Smithfield Club Cattle Show was opened on Monday. The exhibition takes place at Baker-street as usual, but this is the last year it will be held in that place, as the club has acquired ground in Islington, where spacious premises are in course of erection, which it is fully expected will be ready for the exhibition of next year. The exhibitors comprise many persons eminent in rank and position. The Prince of Wales makes his first essay as a practical farmer, and his father, the Prince Consort, also exhibits largely.—Captain Denman, R.N. has been entertained at a banquet in this city, last night, by the officers of the Manchester, Salford, and Ardwick volunteer corps, who desired to mark their appreciation of the hon. and gallant gentleman's conduct in devoting to the promotion of the volunteer movement in this district the considerable sum of money which his political supporters subscribed some time ago, with the view of presenting him with some substantial memento of the services he had rendered in contesting Manchester in 1852 and 1855. The hon. A. Egerton, M.P. presided. Mr. Laird the eminent shipbuilder has been elected M.P. for Birkenhead on the conservative interest.—It will be remembered that a dispute has been going on between the Charing-cross Railway Company and the Governors of St. Thomas's Hospital, as to the value of the hospital premises, which it was settled the company were to purchase, as their line interfered with the buildings. The governors valued the hospital grounds, &c., as well as the expense they would be put to in finding other premises, at £750,000. This the company demurred to as excessive. The question was referred to the Board of Trade, who nominated Mr. John Stewart, of Liverpool, as umpire. That gentleman has just given in his award, reducing the hospital's claim to £296,000, which the railway company is to pay.—A man named Crane has been brought up before the magistrate at Clerkenwell charged with attempting to take his brother's life, in which there is some reason to fear that he will have proved successful. There was little or no evidence produced before the magistrate to connect the prisoner with this attempted fratricide at all, but his injured brother distinctly charges him with the assault, which seems to have been a determined and prolonged one; and even the brother either cannot or will not throw light on the motives which led to the shocking affair.—A very sad affair took place in the neighbourhood of Haywards-heath, on the London and Brighton line. The wife of a respectable farmer in a moment of frenzy cut the throat of her little girl and then her own. There is no doubt that the wounds were inflicted by her hand, and as little that they were inflicted on an impulse of insanity. In fact her health had for some time been the subject of uneasiness in the family, and a watch was placed over her conduct, though unfortunately not so vigilant as to prevent this most lamentable catastrophe. The inquest and verdict substantiate this view.—A man named Atkins was tried at Maidstone for the murder of his wife. The deed, which was committed under circumstances of peculiar atrocity, was clearly brought home to him by the evidence of his daughter, a girl of eleven years of age, who witnessed and detailed the circumstances of the murder. It appeared from other witnesses that the unfortunate couple had lived a wretched life for some time previous, the husband being inflamed with jealousy, for which, however, there appeared no reasonable cause. The counsel for the prisoner rested his defence on the plea of insanity, and the jury returned a verdict of not guilty on that ground. A serious charge of forgery has been preferred against Mr. Henry Wells Young, a solicitor, at the Mansion-house. The charge was that this person had forged two powers of attorney for the transfer of sums amounting to between £5000 and £6000, which were deposited in the Bank of England. Mr. Freshfield attended to prosecute on behalf of the bank, and evidence with reference to one case having been gone into, the prisoner was remanded.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.—Most of the Paris papers, including even the *Patrie*, which lately showed a desire that the French government should take part in any hostilities with the United States, have declared that France will remain neutral if a war should break out.—According to the *Italia*, the French Government has addressed a very important note to the Court of Turin, offering its efficacious assistance in the repression of the brigandage in the Southern provinces, and announcing that it will insist upon the withdrawal of Francis II. and his Court from Rome. This will be very gratifying intelligence for Italy, if its truth is confirmed.

—An eruption of Mount Vesuvius, more threatening in its character than any which has occurred for a long period, is announced to have commenced and to be rapidly increasing. The inhabitants of Torre del Greco have already taken to flight. Nearly all the houses are damaged. The stream of lava is 28 palms in depth, and three quarters of a mile broad. The sensation is immense.—The *Epoca* of Madrid announces that Spain will pay the debt of 25,000,000 francs contracted with France in 1823. The Senate has adopted the address in reply to the speech from the Throne by 111 against 22 votes.—The Prussian and Austrian Governments having arrived at an understanding on the Danish question, the Prussian Cabinet has just replied to the Danish note of 26th October, informing the Cabinet of Copenhagen that it does not regard its offers as satisfactory, and urging it to make more acceptable propositions.—An important step on the road of self-government has just been made in Russia. An Imperial ordinance has been issued creating a responsible Council of Ministers, with whom the Emperor will henceforth consult and deliberate on all important matters relating to the government of the empire. This important change, according to the St. Petersburg correspondent of the *Nord*, will shortly be followed by a fundamental reorganisation of the Council of the Empire, which will be endowed with legislative powers, and its ranks be recruited by new members from the official and bureaucratic world.

AMERICA.—Since our last, the *Edinburgh*, *Niagara*, and *Norwegian* have arrived. At the last dates, the New York journals generally persisted in maintaining that the seizure of the Confederate Commissioners on board the *Trent* was warranted by the law of nations, and in believing, or affecting to believe, that it cannot lead to any serious dispute with England. During a public reception of Captain Wilkes at Boston, and at a dinner subsequently given to him and his officers, the principal speakers, including the Chief Justice of Massachusetts, appear to have expressed perfect approval of his conduct, and a determination to defend it by arms in case of need. Their speeches were warmly applauded by their hearers, who seem to have included the principal citizens of Boston. It is noteworthy that Captain Wilkes repeated the statement that he had not acted in pursuance of instructions, but on his own judgment, resting on his perusal of Kent's, Wheaton's, and Vattel's treatises on international law. There are accounts of the bombardment of Pensacola, which proceeds entirely from Southern rumours received via Norfolk and Fort Monroe, and are very meagre and disconnected. They assert that the Federal steam frigates *Niagara* and *Golorado* were greatly damaged and compelled to haul off by the fire of Fort M'Rae, and that Fort Pickens was "breached" by the Confederate batteries, although the Pensacola dockyard was thrice set on fire, and the adjacent village or town of Warrington was burned by the Federal bombardment.—According to reports published by the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, Pensacola was evacuated by the Confederates, the dockyard was destroyed, and General Bragg had demanded reinforcements; but five Federal vessels had been "riddled with shot." An expedition was ready to sail from Port Royal for more southerly ports, and the fortifications on Ship Island, at the mouths of the Mississippi, had been completed and garrisoned by 150 Federal soldiers. The State Convention convoked by the Kentucky Secessionists had passed a secession ordinance. The *New York Times* asserts that at a council of war, held in Quebec, on the 24th ult., it was resolved to fortify the Canadian frontier.—President Jefferson Davis had delivered his inaugural address to the Southern Congress. In this address he declared that the Confederates are now stronger in men and money than they were at the commencement of the struggle, and are able to carry on the war against the Federals for an unlimited period. The South will never renew its connection with the North, and will accept no other conditions than a recognition of its independence. Messrs. Slidell and Mason, "commissioned to represent the Confederates at foreign courts," have been arrested on board the *Trent*, though the Federal government has no more right to take them in a British ship than it would have to seize them in the streets of London. Evidence that the blockade of the Southern ports is totally inefficient will be laid before the European powers; and the Confederate government will remind them of the European doctrine that a blockade must be effective if it is to be binding on neutral vessels and traders.

INDIA.—The Bombay papers confirm the news we then gave, and enter into full details of the ceremonies attending the investiture of the Indian Princes with the order of the Star of India on the anniversary of her Majesty's assumption of the Indian Empire. The country is everywhere peaceful; the prospects of the harvest are good; and the ravages of the cholera, except in the kingdom of Cabool, are everywhere subsiding. The administration of Lord Canning, which opened with the horrors of the mutiny, appears about to close in the peaceful calm of a general contentment.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

With the MAGAZINE, of Nov. 2, a beautiful Steel Engraving of the Right Hon. the Earl of Dalhousie, K. G., P. D. G. M., in full Masonic costume, was presented gratuitously to every subscriber to the FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE AND MASONIC MIRROR.

The Engraving has been executed in the highest style of art, by Posselwhite, from a photograph by Mayall.

A few copies for framing (suitable for lodge and other presents) may be had as follows;—

India Proofs, before letters (which must be ordered immediately)	7 6
India Proofs (after letters)	5 0
Large Plate Paper	3 0

A few proof impressions of the Right Hon. Earl of Zetland, G. Master, may still be had: India paper, 5s.; large plate paper, 3s.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

TO SUBSCRIBERS AND OTHERS.—All remittances by cheque, post, office orders, &c., are to be made payable to the Proprietor, Mr. WILLIAM SMITH, C. E., 19, Salisbury-street, Strand.

COMMUNICATIONS for the EDITOR to be addressed to H. G. WARREN Esq., 19, Salisbury-street, Strand.

ALL ORDERS or Communications with respect to the publishing department to be addressed to the Publisher, 19, Salisbury-street, Strand.

J. W. C.—We will give you a letter in a day or two.

E. W. S. will please receive our best thanks.

N. N.—Consult the *Book of Constitutions*; the ancient charges are bound up with it.

THE CALENDAR.—There is a Committee of the Board of General Purposes to edit the *Calendar*. Too many cooks spoil the broth.

OTHO.—We have not considered it our business to ask the M. W. G. Master who he proposes to make his first batch of Honorary Prov. G. Officers, or who he proposes to include in it. If OTHO thinks he has any claims for such distinction, he had better lay them before the Grand Master. We have no influence in his Lordship's councils, and should not use it for OTHO if we had.

P. M.—A Prov. Grand Steward has neither rank nor precedence after his year of office, excepting what custom (not law) and the good will of his brethren accord him.

R. L. should know that we never disclose the names of our correspondents. The name of our responsible Editor stands at the head of every MAGAZINE, and that is as much as R. L. has a right to know.

JUSTUS does not understand anything of the question, and it is clear that it would be useless for us to attempt to enlighten him.

A CORNISH BROTHER.—If we do not give sufficient prominence to the proceedings in your province, it is because the brother will not take the trouble to keep us informed on the subject.

C. J. A. G.—Your communication arrived too late for insertion in this week's MAGAZINE. It will appear in our next.

W. A.—We have replied to your query by letter.

G. J. (Manchester).—1. It is not necessary. 2. Repeat your question. You have not given sufficient data to form an opinion upon.