

LONDON, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1863.

## THE ANTIQUITY OF MASONIC DEGREES.

*(From a Correspondent.)*

The great length to which my remarks have already extended in the pages of THE MAGAZINE would seem, of necessity, in itself silently to protest against any protracted abuse of so valuable a privilege. Indeed, these hasty and unstudied observations would now have finally been brought to a close, had not THE MAGAZINE of February 7th contained, in the correspondence, another letter from "Delta."

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Take for instance the evidence of Dr. Plat; what can be more destructive than that of "Delta's" whole theory? Yet of this competent witness, this serious antagonist, "Delta" does not condescend to take the slightest notice. And so in other particulars needless now to re-capitulate.

Is it not, then, rather too hard that "Delta" should after all unhesitatingly assert that all those are partial readers, not impartial, who do not accept his rough statements as indubitable proofs and historical facts? Is it not, indeed, worse than childish to ignore the authority of credible witnesses, in order to advance the questionable importance and more than doubtful antiquity of some pet degree?

To cover the hopelessness of an untenable position, by the determined obtrusion of an unreasoning hypothesis, nothing has already tended so much to discredit Masonic historians, and to impede Masonic enquiry, as the random assertions of imaginative writers, and the unsupported dicta of an assumed infallibility. Let me then protest once more, in the pages of the MAGAZINE, against "Delta's" theory and "Delta's" assertion, as derogatory, most derogatory,

to the dignity, the value, the very reality of our three most ancient degrees, Apprentice, Fellow-Craft, Master Mason.

Let me conclude, with the assertion, supported as I have sought to support it, by clear and incontestible inferences, that no impartial student can compare carefully together operative charges and speculative traditions, the usages of the one, the ceremonies of the other, the history of the past and the evidence of the present, without feeling convinced of the superior antiquity of our three Craft degrees, without being completely satisfied in his own mind that operative and speculative Masonry are indeed the same.

EBOR.

## NEW MATERIALS FOR THE LIFE OF JOHN FLAXMAN, R.A.

*From the Builder.*

My father brought a full-stored mind to the life of the greatest of English sculptors—John Flaxman. He himself knew Flaxman,—had heard him deliver his lectures before the Royal Academy,—was always a curious enquirer about the ways of the man he admired,—and sat down to his work with a determination to write a life that would live. Nor was he content with such advantages alone. He sat with the great sculptor's sister and sister-in-law (Miss Flaxman and Miss Denman, his nearest surviving relations,) talked unreservedly with them about our English Phidias, and made Boswellian notes before them, which he enlarged at home. He questioned Flaxman's great rival in his latter life—Sir Francis Chantrey,—and Sir Richard Westmacott, his competitor, in the full swing of his mid-career reputation. Chantrey knew little about Flaxman; but that little, from so observing a man, was all to the point. What Westmacott had to tell (or rather had not to tell,) I have often heard my father relate with a smile, always ending in a hearty laugh at Westmacott's idea of the wants of biography. "I called on Westmacott, in South Audley-street, by appointment," my father was wont to relate, "note-book in hand. He knew the object of my visit. 'I wish I could tell you,' said Westmacott, 'anything about Flaxman that would be of use to you in your work; but I cannot. Flaxman, sir, lived as if he did not belong to the world; his ways were not our ways. He had odd fashions; he dressed—you know how he dressed; he dined at one; wrought after dinner, which no other artist does; drank tea at six; and then, sir, no one ever found him in the evening parties of the rich or the noble: he was happy at home, and so he kept himself. Of all the members of the academy, the man whom I know least is Flaxman.' In this way," my father was wont to observe, "Westmacott continued to talk to me about Flaxman. He answered all my questions directly and to the point. You will readily guess," he would end by saying, and with a hearty laugh (still pleasantly ringing in my ears) "Westmacott's notion of the wants of biography. I thanked him and withdrew. I had obtained, unknown to Westmacott, the very information I wanted from him.

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accuracy of the above prevailed at New York, as the Government had furnished nothing officially. There is no news from the armies in the west and south-west. The Federals were again advancing on Kingston, in North Carolina. Orders had severally been issued by Federals and Confederates as to the non-release of captured officers. President Lincoln had signed the bill for a further issue of Treasury notes to the amount of 100 millions of dollars, for the payment of the army; and a bill had been reported to the Senate to authorise the issue of letters of marque. The most important piece of news is in reference to the operations of France in America. Resolutions had been introduced into the Senate to the effect that the attempt by France to subjugate Mexico is hostile to the United States; that it is a violation of international law; and that it is the duty of the Federal Government to require the withdrawal of the French forces, and to assist Mexico in resisting European intervention. The premium on gold was 44. Later items of news show that General Burnside "took nothing by his motion" across the Rappahannock. The condition of the roads, it is said, delayed the transportation of the pontoons and heavy artillery; no troops therefore crossed, and the whole army returned to its former position.—The *City of Baltimore* and *Jura* have brought us New York advices two days later in date. It was stated that another Federal expedition had left Memphis for the purpose of attacking Vicksburg. The Federal gunboats which had ascended the White River, in Arkansas, had taken several Confederate posts, and were more than 300 miles above the mouth of the river. About 4800 Confederate prisoners, captured at Arkansas Post, had arrived at Cairo. Several of the New York journals urged a reconstruction of President Lincoln's Cabinet; and the *New York Tribune*, while urging the most vigorous prosecution of the war, was beginning to speak of the possibility that "if some malignant fate has decreed that the blood and treasure of the nation shall always be squandered in fruitless efforts," a time may come when the North must "bow to her destiny, and make the best attainable peace."

**METROPOLITAN FREE HOSPITAL.**—A most interesting ceremony took place in this establishment on Thursday the 29th ult., in the presence of a large and influential assembly. The occasion was the opening of two New Wards which have been prepared for the reception of Jewish patients. At three o'clock the Rev. the Chief Rabbi, attended by several of his reverend colleagues, proceeded to inspect the several apartments, including the wards (male and female), the kitchen and receptacle for the dead, with all of which all present expressed their entire satisfaction and approval. Some appropriate Psalms were then intoned by the Rev. A. Burnett, of the Great Synagogue, and the responses by the choir of the same place, after which the Rev. the Chief Rabbi offered up a most beautiful and impressive prayer for the prosperity of the Institution, and for the blessing of God upon all connected with it; and after partaking of some slight refreshment in the board-room, the company separated.

**GEOMETRY.**—The science of geometry was first cultivated in Egypt, according to the testimony of Herodotus, which historian dates its origin from the following circumstance:—Sesostris, the King of Egypt, shared the lands at Thebes and Memphis between his subjects, and each portion was marked out by different landmarks; but, owing to the inundations of the Nile, these boundaries were frequently destroyed, and it became necessary, as often as this was done, to restore them by measurement; hence a system was invented which was termed geometry. *Beeton's Dictionary of Useful Information*, Article, "Geometry."

## TO CORRESPONDENTS.

- T. L.—Honorary members are not acknowledged by the *Book of Constitutions*. We will answer the other points fully by letter.
- T. D.—We do not know the address of the writer of the Masonic "Auld Lang Syne" which appeared in THE FREEMASONS MAGAZINE of October 4, 1862. Perhaps he will be good enough to forward it to us.
- B. B. B.—The following by-law would be illegal, and any brother excluded under it would have his remedy on appeal to the Prov. G.M.; and should he decide in favour of the by-law, to Grand Lodge: "Any member of this lodge joining any other lodge in the town shall cease to be a member of this lodge." You cannot, however, compel an old lodge to recommend the establishment of a new lodge. The desirability of so doing may naturally be a matter of opinion.
- H. E.—The report of the last meeting of the Lodge of Anti-quity, No. 170, did not come to hand, though a letter relative to a correction in it was received.
- W. W. NEWPORT.—The brother alluded to takes no part in the management of the magazine.
- G. R. C.—Get the *Freemason's Treasury*, by Bro. Dr. Oliver lately published by Bro. R. Spencer.
- S. B.—We will direct our attention to the subject at an early date.

ROBERT BURNS' LODGE (No. 25).—Our report of the anniversary meeting of this lodge is postponed, owing to the non-receipt of a list of the officers and other promised information. The report of Lodge of Independence (No. 1023) Chester, and other lodges, are unavoidably held over through press of matter.

## GRAND LODGE PROPERTY.

We have been requested to again publish the following:—

The committee on Grand Lodge Property, with the desire to give every Brother an opportunity of expressing his views on the important subject entrusted to them, will be perfectly ready to consider suggestions from any Brethren, whether in London or the Provinces, who may have interested themselves in the subject of the appropriation of Grand Lodge Property and are desirous of expressing their opinion thereon. It will, of course, be understood that the Committee do not, by this, invite suggestions as to details of plans or designs, because these will hereafter come legitimately within the province of architects, but suggestions as to the general principles to be borne in mind in considering the whole subject; and especially—

First. The nature and form of the buildings which shall include the accommodation requisite.

a. For the Grand Lodge, the Grand Master, and the Executive generally.

b. For Private Lodges and Chapters.

c. For individual Members of the Craft; e.g. Library, Reading Rooms, Coffee Room, &c.

d. For the Tavern purposes.

Second. The maximum amount of cost which it would be prudent and justifiable to incur.

To these may, with advantage, be added any suggestions as to the best means of making the Masonic and the Tavern portions as separate and distinct as possible, and as to the returns for outlay which may reasonably be expected for the increased accommodation provided under the heads b, c, and d.

All communications should be made in writing and addressed to the Grand Secretary, and as the work of the Committee is now actively progressing, it is most desirable that they should be sent in on or before the 7th February.

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When Chantrey was little or nothing more than a raw Derbyshire lad in London, working in clay, with slender prospects of translating his labours into marble, he went to the Royal Academy Exhibition,

then in Somerset House, and made his observations, catalogue in hand. When Chantrey approved, he was always emphatic in his approval:—

“Fools admire, but men of sense approve.”

Against Flaxman's statue of Sir Joshua Reynolds, now in St. Paul's, then only a small-sized model, he has written “fine,” in large blacklead letters. The influence of this very fine statue on Chantrey may be traced in the very best of Chantrey's works.

The story of the noble portrait of Flaxman, by John Jackson, R.A. (lucky man, he painted Canova as well, and for Chantrey), was given to my father by George Agar Ellis, afterwards Lord Dover, in a long memorandum in his own handwriting before me while I write. “In 1824 and 1825, I think, Mr. Jackson painted for me the magnificent head of Flaxman—probably his finest work—in which the chiaro-scuro of Rembrandt is united with the colouring of the greatest masters in that art. The origin of the painting of this picture is as follows:—At the Academy dinner in, I think, 1824, I sat at table exactly opposite Flaxman, and was so much struck by the intelligence of his eye, the placid benignity of his countenance, and his venerable head, that I became anxious to see those characteristics worthily represented in painting. In going down stairs, I found myself next to Jackson, and said to him, ‘I never was more struck in my life than by the countenance of Flaxman—you must paint him for me.’” Lord Dover adds—“After the great success of the portrait of Flaxman, I gave Jackson a commission to paint a head of Chantrey, which was not quite completed when he died.”

Flaxman's letters, as autograph collectors know to their cost, are of rare occurrence. Here is one unknown to Flaxman's biographers:—

*To Prince Hoare, Esq., Secretary for Foreign Correspondence, Royal Academy of Arts.*

London, 1803.

DEAR SIR,—The public monuments which I am doing, by order of the King and Parliament, are two; one to the memory of Captain Montague, of the ship *Montague*, who fell in the naval engagement on the 1st of June, 1794, in which Admiral Earl Howe commanded, and defeated the French fleet.

The monument is to be insulated, and to stand under an arch in the nave of Westminster Abbey, in such a manner that the spectator may walk round it. Captain Montague rests on his sword, and stands on a pedestal adorned with naval flags. Victory, on a globe behind him, waves over his head the laurel crown which he did not live to wear. On the pedestal is a bas-relief, representing the engagement, and a lion on each side of the pedestal guards the basement. On the back of the pedestal, under the trophy, is a bas-relief of prisoners. The statue of the Captain is 7 feet 2 inches high, and the whole work will be 20 feet high from the ground.

The other monument is to the memory of Admiral Earl Howe, commander-in-chief in the above engagement, who, having rendered a series of essential and brilliant services to his country, died at home in peace, at an advanced age, beloved and regretted, particularly by the navy. The principal figure is the earl in a naval uniform and boat-cloak, with a telescope in his right hand, resting on a rostrated pedestal on which

Britannia is seated, as the guardian both of herself and trophies. Fame writes his achievements in golden letters on the pedestal. Victory (without wings) leans like a sister, on the shoulder of Fame, beholding with delight the record of her hero's deeds, while with her other hand she places the garland in the lap of Britannia. The British lion watches by the Earl's feet. This monument is to be placed in a distinguished situation in St. Paul's Cathedral. The statue of Earl Howe will be 7 feet 6 inches high; the rest of the work will be magnificent in proportion, both in size and decoration. Concerning the bust of Ceres, of which you enquire, I have seen it and made drawings of it. When entire, it was a statue made of two blocks of marble: including the basket she supported on her head, the whole must have measured 16 feet in height; but as a slight sketch will give a better idea than a laboured description, I have taken the liberty to trouble you with one,\* which you may, if you please, send to the President of the Academy of Vienna, with my respectful compliments. The original is quite a ruin, at you will perceive by the sketch. The face is gone. It is 6 feet 10 inches high, from the bottom of the girdle zone to the top of the basket. It is now set up in the Public Library at Cambridge. I have examined the ancient authors, but have found no mention of the statue. Pliny says nothing of it; Vitruvius says nothing of it; nor Pausanias. Strabo says the temple was erected by Ictinus, under Pericles. It is certainly a work of the time of Phidias, of an elevated beauty, and powerful execution, but I think it must be evident that Phidias could not have done all the works attributed to him, unless he had possessed as many hands as Briareus.—I am, dear sir, &c.,

“JOHN FLAXMAN.”

There is a passage in my father's Life of Flaxman which the following note from a careful and very severe corrector of slips of the pen in print will serve in some measure to set right:—

*“To Allan Cunningham, Esq.,*

*“Molesey Grove, Hampton Court, 31st March, 1835.*

“DEAR SIR,—In re-reading your life of Flaxman, I observe, p. 311, a statement and an anecdote which imply that Flaxman had not left Rome till after the irruption of Buonaparte into Italy. This, I think, must be a mistake. Your book does not, indeed, state the exact time of Flaxman's return, but you say that he went in the spring of 1787, and remained seven years, this would bring the return to 1794. Now it was not till the autumn of 1795 that Buonaparte's name ever was heard of, and it was not till the spring of 1796 that he crossed the Alps.

“If you will look at the passage, you will see that this matter involves inaccuracy, and consequently the credit of the work; and, as I cannot account for the mistake or anachronism, I have thought proper to mention it to you, that it may be corrected or explained in a new edition.—I am, dear sir, faithfully yours,  
“J. W. CROKER.”

On the receipt of this letter my father wrote to Miss Flaxman, and to what purpose the following answer will fully tell—

\* Flaxman's drawing was engraved by his friend William Blake for the “Academic Annals.”

"To Allan Cunningham, Esq..

"74, Upper Norton-street, April 7th, 1835.

"DEAR SIR,—I was much surprised at receiving a letter addressed to Miss Flaxman, as it is now nearly two years since I lost that dear and valued friend.

"In reply to your letter, I will take upon myself with pleasure to answer your question, as there are few circumstances in my brother-in-law (Mr. Flaxman's) life that I am not well acquainted with, having been his and my sister (Mrs. Flaxman's) constant companion ever since their return from Italy, in 1794, till the very last moment of their earthly existence.

"In answer to your question concerning the medal,—It was some years after Mr. Flaxman's return from Italy that he first saw the medal of Buonaparte at a friend's house in London, and he always said and thought that the profile of Buonaparte, during his early career, bore a strong resemblance to Augustus Cæsar."

We now come to a grievance of five years' standing. Miss Denman continues—

"I regret that when you favoured Miss Flaxman and myself with a visit, previous to the publication of my brother's life, you did not avail yourself of our offer of looking over it, as we could have pointed out to you many errors which are now in it.

"I also greatly regret that you made use of any part of those two works from which you have made so many long extracts. They were never intended for the public, and when I showed them to you I most expressly said:—'These are private works; they were made for the gratification of my sister; now they are mine, I hold them sacred, and I only show them to you that you may the better understand the character of the man whose Life you are writing; and I must beg you will not make any other use of them in the work you are now writing, as I do not wish them to be made public. If, at any future time, I may have reason to change my mind, I shall then bring them out in a way most congenial with my own feelings, and in a way that shall not detract from the fame of this great and good man;' and you then promised you would not.

"I was so much hurt by this breach of confidence that neither Miss Flaxman nor myself could at that time thank you as we otherwise should have done for your kindness in sending us your little interesting volume.—I remain, dear Sir, yours truly,

"MARIA DENMAN."

"What promise, if any, as Miss Denman alleges, my father made I cannot tell, nor can I see aught but a good service rendered to Flaxman's memory in the way the story of the 'two works' is told in Flaxman's Life. My father was never in possession of the volumes; the extracts made were made in Miss Denman's house, and, if my memory does not err, in Miss Denman's presence. The lady, somewhat difficult to please (as I know by my own experience of her when I was honorary secretary to Watson's fine statue of her brother), relented ere long, re-read the Life, and transmitted to its author such queries and notes as occurred to her. These annotations (new and of moment) I purpose giving in a second communication; here, however, I may relate what Stothard told my father, in Chantrey's studio,—'I have read,' said Stothard, 6th July, 1839, 'your Life

of Flaxman, and am much pleased with it.' 'Mr. Flaxman,' Miss Denman records in her own handwriting, 'had the highest regard and friendship for Mr. Howard, both as an artist and a man; but his old friend Stothard he could only admire—as an artist.' Why? "PETER CUNNINGHAM."

(To be continued).

## MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

### ORDER OF ST. JOHN OF JERUSALEM.

[The following communications have recently appeared in our contemporary, *Notes and Queries*, relative to the above Order. They will, doubtless, have some interest for many Knights Templar.]

This Order is now a part of the Order of Knights Templar, whose head-quarters are at Freemason's Hall, London. The Grand Master for England is William Stuart, Esq., and his deputy, Colonel G. A. Vernon.—H. FISHWICK.

"Can any of your correspondents kindly inform me where I am likely to obtain authentic information relative to the present state and position of the English Langue of this Order? Who are its dignitaries, council, &c.? and where do they meet?—CONSTANT READER."

"Surely your last correspondent does not wish us to believe that the present so-called Order, and the present so-called Order of Knights Templar, have any connexion with the mediæval Orders of the same name, further than the name? The present Orders are surely only offshoots of the Freemasons' Society, and established for the gratification of personal vanities and display. Should he really mean that there is a connexion by descent, in each case, no doubt, your readers would be glad to have the statements.—W. P."

"I have a roll of the Knights of St. John of the Langue of England, which is very much at the "Constant Reader's" service, although, from the mode in which it came into my possession, I entertain considerable doubts as to whether it contains much that is authentic touching 'the present state and position' of the Order. The pages in question were discovered amongst the papers used by a London publishing firm (that of Hardwicke, I think), for packing books to forward in the country. From this circumstance, and from the fact of the roll not recording any appointment of later date than 1855, I fear that my proffered gift is of little or no value, and it is more than possible I am performing a useless act in writing this subject, unless a final suggestion that the 'Constant Reader' should apply to Mr. Hardwicke, 192, Piccadilly, for the information he requires, be productive of any good effect."—ST. SWITHIN.

"The English Langue of this Order, about which a "Constant Reader" enquires, is *not* part of the Order of Knights Templar, and has not the slightest connection with the Masonic grade styling itself by the same name. The English Langue is an acknowledged branch of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem, which has existed for more than seven centuries; and been settled in the Holy Land, in Rhodes, and in Malta. The head of the Order in England is his Grace the Duke of Manchester, Grand Prior of England, and President of the Capitular Commission."—JOHN WOODWARD.

### ODD FELLOWS.

The Odd Fellows may be looked upon as a continuation of the Gregorians; the most successful offspring of the most successful of the societies, which sprang up on publicity, being given to Freemasonry in the beginning of the eighteenth century. This opinion is fortified by a note in *Notes and Queries*, 3rd S. II., p. 447, where a

communication of mine in THE FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE is quoted. In this note, from the *London Daily Journal*, of May 8th, 1736, it is said that at St. Alban's a chapter of the Gregorians had been constituted at the Flower de Luce, at which were present the Grands, Vice-Grands, with their proper offices. This peculiar designation of the presiding officers, were evidently derived by the Odd Fellows from this older source, and how much more?—HYDE CLARKE.—Smyrna, 26th January, 1863.

## SECRET SOCIETIES IN GREECE.

DR. KNIPE.

Will Bro. Woodford, who replies to Bro. Hyde Clarke, about Dr. Knipe, inform us when Thomas Knipe was made a Doctor, and of what faculty? In Wood's *Pastor Oxoniensis*, vol. iv., col. 643, the only references made to Knipe are,—“1660, Feb. 22. Tho. Knipe of Ch. Ch., Bachelor of Arts.” “1663, Dec. 1. Tho. Knipe of Ch. Ch., Master of Arts.” When random assertions are made, nothing but references to the sources of information can set them to rights.—M. A. OXON.

A letter from Athens, dated the 23rd ult., says: “In a country which has known, even in the best of times, so little of the rule of law, the idea of association for self-defence must needs take strong root. From half-a-dozen to a score of men unite for the purpose of forming an offensive and defensive alliance or fraternity against all comers. They vow to stand by each other in good and bad luck, to espouse each other's quarrels, and to defend each other mutually. The number of members once fixed, the first care is to find a woman to act the part of sister, a priest to perform the mystic rites of this peculiar species of Freemasonry, and some out-of-the-way church or chapel to be the scene of the initiation. There seems to be a regular ceremony prescribed for such occasions. It shuns daylight, and courts night. The priest says appropriate special prayers; a vein is opened in the arm of each member, the blood is collected in a cup, and every one partakes of the contents; a special mark is agreed upon which is impressed indelibly on the arm or chest of every member; particular signs and signals are devised to communicate with each other; in a word, everything is employed to make of the whole thing as thorough and impressive a piece of mysticism as possible. Being a member of one of these *Adelphonoieiai* does not prevent becoming a member of another, so that not rarely one and the same man bears the marks of half-a-dozen of these secret associations, being thus able to count on the assistance of 100 and more persons under all circumstances. Although in reality nothing more than a measure of self-defence, so necessary in a country where blood feuds and the tendency to take the law into one's own hands still exists, these societies may easily be turned to political purposes, and there is little doubt that they have been turned to such accounts, more especially in the latter times of King Otho, when all regular means of political agitation were either impossible or at least illusory.”

## THE DRUSES, ANSAIREEH, AND TEMPLARS.

Seeing that your able correspondent Δ has alluded to instances of very similar customs between the Druses, Ansaireeh, and Templars, the additional notes given below may be of use to him. Sir Knight the Earl of Carnarvon in his *Recollections of the Druses*, states, at page 94:—

“The military Orders of Christendom contracted, as we know, some tinge of Orientalism, the Oriental tribes of Lebanon may, in turn, have caught the colouring of Christianity. Frederick II. was falsely accused of being a convert to Mahommedanism; the chief of the assassins\* certainly offered to Amalrick, King of Jerusalem, to embrace Christianity, together with his people, on the remission of a tribute; and the Templars themselves have been accused successively of an affinity, if not identity

\* Von Hammer.—*Hist. of Assassins*, B. IV.

with the Ismaelis or assassins,† of Gnosticism,‡ of fire-baptisms, and of a worship of the serpent—charges which, though not sufficient in themselves to establish the connection of Christian and Druse, might yet perhaps open a plausible field of speculation.”§

In the late Rev. S. Lyde's work, *The Asian Mystery*, are the subjoined passages, which bear very strongly on the subject. The Rev. author is a good authority for us to quote, as there can be no doubt he wrote with a strong hostility to Freemasonry as can be amply seen by the quotations which follow:—

“In fact, the Falamite caliphs were Ismaeleeh, and they gave every encouragement to the extension of the Ismaelee Association, and conferred office only on those who had been initiated into its mysteries. An Ismaelee lodge was established at Kairwan, and afterwards removed with the court to Cairo. Assemblies were convened twice a week, on Mondays and Wednesdays, by the Dai-al-Doater, Chief Dai, and were frequented both by men and women. They had a lodge called the Dar-il-Likmeh, which was well furnished with professors, books, &c., and at the lectures and disputations the caliphs frequently attended. The professors wore khalaas, or robes, and Von Hammer asserts that the gowns of the English universities have still the original form of the Arabic khalaas or kaftan. p. 38. \* \* \* \*

“In this vicinity live the people called Assassins, who do not believe in the tenets of Mohammedanism, but in those of one whom they consider like unto the prophet Karmath. They fulfil whatever he commands them, whether it be a matter of life or death. He goes by the name of the Sheikh-il-Hasheesheen, or the Old Man, by whose command all the cities of these mountains are regulated. His residence is in the city of Kadmoos. They are at war with the Christians, called Franks, and with the Count of Tripoli (page 59, Ed. Asher). William of Tyre, the famous historian of the Crusades, who died A.D. 1183, mentions, under A.D. 1169-1173, that the ‘Assassins’ had ten castles ‘around the bishopric of Antaraclus,’ and that their number was 60,000, or more. He speaks also of the ‘Fratres Militiæ Templi,’ who had castles bordering on their territory, and of the tribute of two thousand pieces of gold, which they exacted yearly from the Assassins. All this in giving an account of an embassy sent by the Assassins to the King of Jerusalem, Amaury, promising to become Christians if the tribute annually paid to the Templars were remitted to them. On his return, the ambassador was slain by a Templar, who was protected by the Grand Master and the Order, for they had heard of the request of the Assassins (Lib. XV. pp. 31, 32).

“Jacob de Vitriaco, who was bishop of Acre under William, and who died A.D. 1213, writing of the same event, speaks of the Assassins as living near Tartosa, and exceeding in number 40,000. He says that they paid 2000 pieces of gold annually as tribute to the Templars, that they might dwell in security, since the Templars by their proximity, were able to do them much harm. He continues: They are for the most part Mohammedans, ‘but say that they have a certain hidden law, which it is not lawful for any one to reveal, except to their children when they come to adult age.’ He adds that the women and children say that they believe in the religion of their relations without knowing it; and that if any son were to reveal the law to his mother, he would be killed without mercy,|| pp. 42-43 \* \* \*

“In A.D. 1250, the Old Man of the Mountain sent to demand a present from Louis IX., at Acre; but the Templars and Hospitallers sent back demanding a present for the king and obtained it.

“But now the power of the Crusaders, Templars, and Hospi-

† Mr. Higgins, in his *Anacalypsis*—which, however learned and ingenious, can certainly not be accepted as a guide on many points—says, “There can be no doubt that there were certain points of religion common to the Ishmaelites [Ismaelis] and to the Templar Christians.”—I. 704.

‡ On the truth or incorrectness of the theory—especially in so slight a treatise as the present—I will not venture to speak. Dean Milman, in his *History of Christianity*, V., p. 361, has pronounced distinctly against the view, and no one will doubt the weight of such an authority.

§ Such a connection may be traced through the Yezidis, in whose worship fire plays so important a part, and on the portals of whose shrine—as I myself noticed—may be seen to this day the representation of a serpent.

|| *Gesta Dei per Francos* p. 1143.



tallers, and of the Assassins, was drawing to a close, being about to fall before the celebrated Beybars or Malik-id-Dhabir, Sultan of Egypt of the Memlook dynasty. The Hospitalers, or Knights of St. John, being hard pressed, sent an embassy begging him to maintain peace in that part of the country which borders on the Ismaeleek, and he would only consent on their remitting the tribute which they received from the Ismaeleek, namely:—2000 pieces of gold and 100 measures of corn. In 1269, Beybars took the chief castles of the Knights Templars, and of St. John in those parts, namely, Safeetah and Husu, and the Ismaeleek paid to him the tribute before paid to the Knights; but after a short respite their castles too, were taken, one by one; and last of all Muneika, Kahf, and Kadmoos, in 1272, in which year the Friday prayers were celebrated in them,\* p. 45. \* \* \*

Von Hamaner† says:—"Remains of the Israelites still exist both in Persia and Syria, but merely as one of the many sects and heresies of Islamism, without any claims to power, and without the means of obtaining their former importance of which they seem, in fact, to have lost all remembrance. The policy of the secret state, subverting doctrine of the first lodge of the Ismaelites, and the murderous tactics of the assassins, are equally foreign to them, p. 47, \* \* \*

"On the failure of the rebellion of Il Mohrannaa and Baber, Abdallah, son of Maimoon Kaddah, founded, as we have seen, a sect called the Ismaeleh, from Ismaele the son of Djaafar-is-Sadik, whose name he made use of to give authority to his system. His object was to gain political power, and to effect that by secret propagandism which had not succeed by open violence. 'Similar attempts have been made in different ages of the world: the colleges of the Indian and Egyptian priests, the association of the Magi, which more than once shook the throne of Persia, the secret societies of the Pythagoreans in Southern Italy and Sicily, the Bacchanalians of which Livy give such a singular description, the Templars in the middle ages, and the Jesuits in our own, are all examples of secret societies formed under the pretext of religion, but really aiming at the establishment of their order in the plenitude of political power.‡

"Abdallah, son of Maimoon, divided his system 'into seven degrees, after the fashion of the Pythagorean and Indian philosophers,' into which his disciples were initiated gradually. 'The last degree inculcated the vanity of all religion,—the indifference of actions, which, according to him, are neither visited with recompense nor chastisement, either now or hereafter. This alone was the path of truth and right, all the rest imposture and error. He appointed emissaries, whom he despatched to enlist disciples, and to initiate them, according to their capacity for libertinism and turbulence, in some or all of the degrees. The pretensions of the descendants of Mohammed, the son of Ismail, served him as a political mask: these his missionaries, asserted as partisans, while they were secretly but the apostles of crime and impiety.§

"These degrees were afterwards increased to nine, by the western Ismaeleh, in the time of the Falamite caliphs of Egypt, and as they became then more known, and are described by Makrisi, the great historian, I will give them as they were taught in their lodge at Cairo:—"This account, which Makrisi has preserved, concerning the promulgation of these degrees of initiation, forms a very precious and the most ancient document on the history of the secret societies of the East, in whose steps those of the West afterwards trod."|| pp. 79, 80. \* \* \*

"The Grand Master was called Seyyidna, our Lord, and commonly Sheikh-ul-Djehd, the old man or supreme master of the mountain, because the Order always possessed themselves of the castles in mountainous regions. He was neither king nor prince in the usual sense of the word, and never assumed the title either of Sultan, Malik, or Emeer, but merely that of Sheikh, which, to this day, the heads of the Arab tribes and the superiors of the religious orders of the Srofees and dervishes bear. His authority could be over no kingdom nor principality, but over a brotherhood or order; European writers, therefore, fall into a great mistake in confounding the empire of the Assassins with hereditary dynasties, since, in the form of its institution, it was an order like that of the Knights of St. John, the Teutonic Knights, or the Templars. The latter of these, besides having a Grand Master, Grand Priors, and religious

Nuncios, had also some resemblance to the Assassins in their spirit of political interference and secret doctrine. Dressed in white, with the distinctive mark of the red cross on their mantles, as were the Assassins in red girdles and caps, the Templars had also secret tenets, which denied and abjured the sanctity of the cross, as the others did the commandments of Islamism. The fundamental maxim of the policy of both was to obtain possession of the castles and strong places of the adjacent country; and thus, without pecuniary or military means, to maintain an *imperium in imperio*, keeping the nations in subjection, as dangerous rivals to princes. p. 92. \* \* \*

"This great secret of the mass is only administered in the presence of the initiated of the male part of the Ansaireeh sect. Great precautions are taken against the possibility of this, their religious service, being seen; and it is probable, that if a stranger were known to have been a witness to it, accidentally or otherwise, he would be made away with, if possible. But such are the precautions taken, by placing watchmen, and choosing times and places where there is little chance of interruption, that scarcely ever has any one been an absolute witness of their rites. Two of my Christian servants were brought up in the district of Merkab, in villages partly Christian and partly Ansaireeh. The father of one of them was well acquainted with the custom of the Ansaireeh. Five times during the year, at the time of their chief feasts, the father and son were obliged to leave the Ansairee quarter of the village in which they were living, while the Ansaireeh entered a house belonging to the visiting place in winter, or went into the open country in summer. My other servant has told me that once, when present in a district of the Shemseen sect, he was made to go up into a room raised above the earth on poles, and constructed of myrtle boughs, the women being put into a house while the men went into a valley, where he could see them from the tent, and where a sheikh read to them.

"I was once told by a Spanish consular agent at Ladikeeh, that an old man, who had died about five years before the time of our conversation, had once been witness at a village in the plains, of one of these secret religious meetings. He was an overseer of the village, and coming there unexpectedly, concealed himself in a room full of chopped straw. From this he could look into the sheikh's house, in which a number of men were assembled round a large bowl of wine, with candles affixed to its circumference, or, perhaps, placed about it. The sheikh read some prayers. They then cursed Abu-Beer, Omar, Othman-ibu, Uffan, and Sheikh-it-Turcoman, and others (he said Christians among them), and that then he gave a spoonful of wine, first to the sheikhs present, and afterwards to all the rest. Oranges were then eaten, other prayers said, and the assembly broken up. pp. 156, 157 \* \* \*

"When the men go to a solemn meeting, they wear their shirts over their drawers, turn down the heels of their shoes, and leave their weapons at home. My lad has often seen them thus going and returning. There are some other regulations and prohibitions connected with the dress and bearing of those who attend a meeting, for which I refer to the sermon they pronounce, of which I have given a translation in Chapter IX.

"Such are the theoretical and ceremonial parts of the religion of the Ansairee brotherhood. Before I proceed to speak of the other parts of their Freemasonic constitution, the commands and prohibitions to which they are subject, and their conventional signs of recognition, I will, from the information I have received from my Ansairee lad and others, and from the formulas in their books, give an account of the process of initiation into the knowledge of, and participation in the mysteries of the sect. pp. 158, 159. \* \* \*

We come now to a part of the Ansairee system which is interesting on account of its connection with the modern mystery of Freemasonry. I call it "modern," not because I pretend to say when it arose, but because it is still in existence. I leave it to Freemasons to say whether their brotherhood contains anything of importance which is not found in that of the Ansaireeh.

"'The Ansaireeh,' says M. Victor Langlois,¶ 'have conventional signs, of which they make use to recognise one another.' Mr. Walpole is acquainted with many, if not most of these, and once taught me some of them, but as I do not know whether he intends some day to give his information on this and other points to the public, I forbear speaking of them, and content myself with quoting what he himself has already

\* Makrisi, *History of the Mamlook Sultans*, vol. i., part ii., p. 3, Quatremère, Paris, 1840.

† Page 211.

‡ Taylor, p. 172.

§ Von Hammer p. 29.

|| *Ibid.*, p. 23.

¶ *Revue d' Orient*. Juin, 1856.

published:—"The Ansayrii have signs and questions. By the one they salute each other, by the other they commence an examination as to whether a man whom they do not know personally, is one of them or not. But these signs are little used, and are known only to a few; as the dress clearly indicates them to each other, and almost each one knows all the chiefs, at least by sight."\* In their books they use the double interlacing triangle or seal of Solomon.

"The members of the Ansaree Society are called Ukhwan, or brethren. All that is said about doing good or refraining from doing harm refers to these favoured individuals. So little have those without the pale of the society, the doubting and polytheists, any part or lot in the matter, that there is even a prayer in my MS. (page 138), that "God may take out of their hearts" what little "light of knowledge and certainty" they may possess. And the conduct of the Ansareeh, in robbing and murdering without compunction Mussulmans and Christians, shows the effect of the system which, however benevolent to the initiated, at the same time excludes all others from its benefits. Can the system of Freemasonry be right which acts on this exclusive principle, when Christianity already exists, too, which teaches that "all are brethren," and therefore supplies all that Freemasonry can properly bestow? If it be said that Freemasonry is more expansive, as linking together members of different religions, the answer is, that this is a defect rather than a thing deserving of praise. A Christian is charitable to all, and in this sense considers all men as brethren, while he can admit none to the full dignity of brotherhood who does not recognise and love the elder brother."

"Freemasonry has been made use of for political and bad purposes, as all secret societies are liable to be. The Royal Arch degree in that institution was originally devised by some Scotch Jacobites, as a means of holding together the partisans of the Pretender. From the place where they resided, the new degree was called 'The Royal Arras,' and meetings of its members 'Royal Arras Chapters;' when the cause of the Pretender became hopeless, the new degree merged into the general system, and by an easy corruption its name was changed into that of the 'Royal Arch.'"

"Allusions are even now sometimes made to certain dark degrees of Freemasonry; but supposing there is in it nothing hurtful, is not the institution, with all its parade, childish; for does it enjoin anything better than the practical duties of Christianity, or even than those of the Ansaree system, which duties are limited, as we have seen, to a Freemasonic brotherhood,—pp. 162-164 \* \* \*

"Von Hammer alludes to the connection between the Assassins or Ismaelech and Templars. He says that there is an analogy between the constitution of the Assassins and those of some modern orders; and that 'many points of similarity are found, which can neither be accidental, nor yet spring from the same cause.' He mentions one instance of accordance, that between white dresses and red fillets of the Assassins, and the white mantle and red cross of the Templars; and the Ansareeh of the present day mostly dress in white, while they are also fond of red jackets and red handkerchiefs, or of red and white mixed. We have already alluded to the fact that the Templars dwelt in the immediate neighbourhood of, and amongst these secret sects, while, as is known, a degree of Freemasonry is called that of the Templars. With these remarks, we will leave the subject to those who are, or consider themselves to be, acquainted with the history of the Freemasonic body—pp. 164-165.

✠ M. C. G. O.

FELLOW-CRAFT.—As a Fellow-Craft remember the middle chamber, If you work, you will be rewarded; if you work not, you will be entitled to no wages. Apply this lesson to your morals. If you discharge your duty punctually to God and man, a reward is prepared for you in the chambers of heaven, which you may receive without doubt or scruple; while, on the contrary, if you disregard these duties, you can scarcely expect wages from your celestial Master. Every man shall be rewarded according to his work.

\* *Ansayrii or Assassins*, vol. iii. p. 354.

† *Taylor*, page 176.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

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

### COMPANION SAVAGE AND THE ROYAL ARCH.

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

DEAR SIR AND EXCELLENT COMPANION,—Every one must thank you for your exertions in Grand Chapter to place Royal Arch Masonry on its proper basis.

Companion Savage is reported to have said "that the connection between Craft and Royal Arch Masonry was only theoretical, and, in fact, they were two distinct associations."

There is in this statement the usual grain of wheat mixed up with the bushel of chaff, so peculiarly known to be the exclusive outpouring of Comp. Savage's volubility; but how does the case stand divested of all but its true bearings?

The Royal Arch degree is, certainly, styled in its book of *General Regulations* "the Order of Royal Arch Masons of England;" but when did it first assume to itself such a distinctive claim?

The Royal Arch degree is the seventh in the York rite, and was formerly styled "the summit of Ancient Masonry." Dermott says of it, "This I firmly believe to be the root, heart, and marrow of Masonry." Its origin has been traced by Dr. Oliver in *Some Account of the Schism which took place during the last Century, amongst the Free and Accepted Masons in England, shewing the Presumed Origin of the Royal Arch Degree*; and it is plain, from that work, that before the year 1740 the essential portions of the Royal Arch constituted a part of the third degree; and that about that period it was disjoined, and made into a separate degree by the ancient Masons. This plan they continued until the time of the union of the Grand Lodge in 1813; and to show in what light they considered it, e.g., as an integral part of ancient Masonry, the following is quoted from Harper's edition of Dermott's *Ahiman Rezon*, dated 1807. Page 106 gives the

"Laws and Regulations for the Instruction and Government of the Holy Royal Arch Chapters, under Sanction of the Grand Lodge of England, according to the Old Constitutions, His Grace the Duke of Atholl, Grand Master. Revised, approved, and amended in General Grand Chapter, at the Crown and Anchor Tavern, Strand, London, 1st April, 1807.

"Ancient Masonry consists of four degrees, the three first of which are—that of the Apprentice, the Fellow Craft, and the sublime degree of Master, and a brother, being well versed in these degrees, and otherwise qualified, as will be hereafter expressed, is eligible to be admitted to the fourth degree, the Holy Royal Arch.

"This degree is certainly more august, sublime, and important than those which precede it, and is the summit and perfection of ancient Masonry." \* \* \*

"It must of consequence be allowed that every regular and warranted lodge possesses the power of forming and holding meetings in each of these several degrees, the last of which, from its pre-eminence is denominated, among Masons, a Chapter."

And after some regulations, unnecessary to quote here, the last clause declares—

"These laws and regulations are to be considered as part of the rules and orders of the Grand Lodge, a due attention to which you are strictly enjoined to observe. And it is hereby ordered that they be inserted in the book of by-laws, in order to refer to whenever wanted."

How nearly allied to Craft Masonry, as well as Templary, the Royal Arch degree was, in Ireland about 1790, the following list of toasts given in a lodge will prove.

*Toasts originally given in the Orange Lodge of Belfast (No. 257).*

1. "May Wisdom, Strength, and Beauty be ever the supporters of Masonry."
2. "May every Mason who stands in need of friendship, be able to say εὐρηκα—I have found it."



3. "May the Tuscan Order support us, the Ionic guide us, and the Corinthian reward us."
4. "May Virtue be the abutment, and Wisdom the key-stone of this lodge."
5. "May each Mason revere the Book, Compass, and Square."
6. "May the disinterested friendship shown by Freemasons to each other be universally diffused."
7. "May Beauty and Merit be the reward of Virtue and Secresy."
8. "The Memory of old Cymon."
9. "The Royal Arch \_\_\_\_\_ that \_\_\_\_\_."
10. "To every beauteous, charming she,  
Who loves the Craft and Masonry."
11. "May she who'd Masonry revile,  
Ne'er meet a Mason's gracious smile;  
On earth be a neglected Belle,  
And when from this—lead apes in hell."
12. "All Knights Templar round the globe."
13. "All Royal Arch Excellent Freemasons."
14. "May none ever be admitted members of this lodge but such as shall be found worthy of the Mark."
15. "All Mark Masons round the globe."
16. "All Royal Masters who become pillars to each other."
17. "May the gallant Volunteers of Ireland invariably unite in Brotherly Ties, and be as faithful to each other as Freemasons have ever been found to be."
18. "The Memories of our first three Grand Masters."
19. "May we never be unmindful of Judas' Fate."
20. "May the virtuous resolutions of Ireland be imitated by Great Britain; and may the two nations ever go hand in hand, united in patriotic pursuits and liberal sentiments, to the glory of our Brother the King, the exaltation of our country, and the certain overthrow of our combined foes."
21. "The Memory of our Sister Allworth, of Newmarket."

And, as a last authority, take Dr. Oliver's edition of Preston's *Illustrations*, the very concluding paragraph reads: "The Royal Arch degree has been equally prosperous and significant of a healthy progression, as will appear from the preceding tables. Numerous warrants have been issued of late years, and it is to be hoped that the time is not far distant when every lodge will have a chapter attached to it, as a necessary appendage to the complete development of the true principles of the Order."

In no single instance does the word "Order," as applied to the Royal Arch degree, once crop out in these extracts. All tend to show that it was regarded as a *necessary completion* of the third degree, and when we consider the words used in it, in our own time, quotations from Pope, Addison, and Steele (the two latter Master Masons), we may be sure that no *Order* of the kind ever existed in times gone by.

Giving Comp. Savage credit for his one grain of wheat, what can we, as Royal Arch Masons, think of an opposition to your plan, M.E. Companion, but that it is a narrow-minded endeavour to keep brother Masons in darkness, unless they choose to pay heavily and leave the affairs of the *Order*, to the delightful twaddle of some half score would-be orators in that august assembly, the Grand Chapter of the Holy *Order* (?) of Royal Arch Masons.

There are two proverbs which I hope will encourage you to persevere in your endeavours, viz., "a little chink doth let in much light," and "the constant dropping of water will wear away a stone."

Apologising for the length to which this letter has extended, permit me to subscribe myself,

Your fraternal Companion,  
EZRA.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I have observed with much regret that your excellent and well meant motion in Grand Chapter for reduction of R.A. fees has been negatived. I cannot say I am surprised, for alas, few men, even amongst Masons, having obtained a privilege at a certain sacrifice, have sufficient magnanimity to advocate the admission of others to a similar advantage at a less cost; meanwhile, it may be as well that it should be

generally known that the present regulations are in very many instances systematically evaded, for instance, a short time since, happening to enquire in a certain town how they had been enabled to keep up the number of their exaltations when the fee was so high, I was told that they never actually paid more than a guinea. I then asked how they reconciled such a course with obedience to the Constitutions, the reply was, the candidate puts down three guineas when he leaves the preparing-room for the chapter, and takes back two of them on his return. Moreover, I know an instance, in the North of England, where a chapter being in a languishing condition, sent an invitation to the W.M. of a neighbouring lodge, stating that as they were anxious to preserve their warrant, it would, on receiving sufficient notice, exalt a stated number of M.M.s for one guinea fees. The invitation was accepted, and a posse of R.A.s made. Surely it would be better that the fee should be lowered, than such practices should be resorted to. Meanwhile, unless the fee be reduced, or my wealth increase, I must, not being disposed to resort to subterfuge, remain content not to be a R.A. Mason. I should, however, gladly vote in Grand Lodge, that the absurd statement that the M.M. degree includes the R.A., be at once and for ever (unless converted into a verity), expunged from the *Book of Constitutions*, that *Truth*, one of the principal points of Masonry, be no longer put to the blush.

Yours faithfully and fraternally,  
EXCELSIOR.

#### MR. HALLIWELL NO COWAN.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I protest strongly against "Ebor's" phrase:—"Mr. Halliwell, who, as a cowan, speaks thus ignorantly of Masonry itself," &c. He should have use more guarded language when applied to a gentleman known throughout Europe as an able expositor and editor of ancient books and writings. From more than twenty years' personal knowledge of Mr. Halliwell, I can vouch that he is no cowan. He is no Freemason, but that will not be sufficient to brand him as a cowan, *i.e.*, a sneak, an eaves-dropper, whose punishment amongst the Freemasons of last century was "to be taken to the eaves of a house, and water poured in at his neck until it ran out at his heels." No Freemason can say that a gentleman who edits a work, and which goes far to prove the antiquity of the Craft, and speaks so well of our Order as Mr. Halliwell has done, is to be branded as untruthful. I think "Ebor" owes him a very ample apology, and am,

Yours truly and fraternally,  
✠ MATTHEW COOKE, 30°

#### THE GRAND LODGE OF SCOTLAND.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE FREEMASON'S MAGAZINE AND MASONIC MIRROR.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I have been a reader of *MAGAZINE* for upwards of three years, and cannot find that any of the back numbers in my possession contain a parallel case to the following, viz. :—

I was initiated on the 3rd December, 1859, passed on the 7th January, 1860, and raised to the sublime degree on the 14th February same year, in Lodge St. Paul (No. 389), Mhow, near Indore, Bombay Presidency, holding of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, and since the last-named date have been a paying member. I have repeatedly made application to the office-bearers of the lodge for my diploma, and learn from them that the document in question, with several other diplomas, has been so frequently applied for, and no answer returned, that they begin to give up all hopes of ever receiving it. I am also informed that during the current year four or five letters have been addressed to the Grand Secretary, Bro. Alexander Laurie, George Street, Edinburgh, some of which have contained cheques for fees, documents, &c., and that no reply in any shape has been

obtained. Indeed, the office-bearers of the lodge in question seem to have some doubt as to the legality of their proceedings during the year 1862, in consequence of the non-receipt of the "working certificate" applied for, and paid for, twelve months ago.

I am a young Mason, and should shrink from any pretension to judge the conduct of my Masonic superiors; but I simply wish to ask if such delay, neglect, and contemptuous silence on the part of Bro. Grand Secretary Laurie is Masonic or not? I am perfectly assured that such want of courtesy and attention to the ordinary rules of correspondence in unmasonic circles would be visited rather severely upon the offender.

There are several other brethren in the same plight as myself, who are ready to endorse my statement; and I am convinced that it will be evident to your superior Masonic knowledge, that such proceedings on the part of the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Scotland are not only in direct opposition to Masonic usage, but are calculated to prevent the dissemination of the benefits of Masonry, and to bring discredit on the Craft.

I am assured by the W.M. of Lodge St. Paul that all fees due to the Grand Lodge have been regularly paid up; all laws obeyed; that their charter is but three years old; and finally, that no cause known to him exists for such neglect.

I am induced to trouble you in this matter from the fact that the columns of your journal afford me ample evidence of your readiness to give ear to and instruct your brother Masons.

I am, Sir and Brother, yours obediently and fraternally,  
C. B. FOWLER,

*Army Schoolmaster attached to H.M. 72nd Highlanders.*

Mhow, near Indore, Bombay, Dec. 26, 1862.

#### ANTIQUITY OF MASONIC DEGREES.

"Great is truth, and mighty above all things."

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I had not again intended to trespass upon your space, but the interest attaching to so important a subject, and a hope that others, more able to elucidate this matter, may yet be induced to join in the discussion, must be my excuse for again seeking your indulgence in reply to our Bro. "Ebor."

Previously even to my initiation, nine years ago, which I sought as soon as my age rendered me eligible, I commenced a course of zealous inquiry into the antiquities of the Order, for the purpose of satisfying myself, that Masonry, ceremonially, was no imposture; which, if I adopt the theory of "Ebor," as unconnected with the knightly orders, I must, in my own mind, unhesitatingly, assume it to be. I firmly believe that there is no choice, Masonry is Templary, or our three first ceremonies are the invention of the 18th century. The latter, however, I do not for one moment believe.

It appears to me that your correspondent and myself differ in our Masonic pedigree, as we trace through profession, or ceremonies. I hold that we are as equally—according to his reasoning—entitled to represent the Herald's College, as the Operative Freemasons.

There can be no doubt, whatever, the ceremonies of the Operative Freemasons (all honour to them) have been preserved to us, but it has been in the ancient charges, and the Mark Master's degree. This opinion is founded, chiefly, on the claims of the degree itself and the accounts of the old operative lodges, which have, from time to time, appeared. A poetical extract of the 15th century, given by Bro. Matthew Cooke some months since, in your pages, and beautifully showing the system of the working masters; and still more important to evidence of the ancient Operative Charges, catechisms, signs,\* words, &c., which as given in many old Mark

lodges, before the present improved ceremonies were adopted, differed but slightly from those of the Craft Freemason's lodges, as alluded to. It is evident I cannot go beyond this statement in writing.

What then were the ceremonies of the Grand Lodge of 1717, allowing the latter claim, which I doubt of its operative foundation, evidently from contemporary testimony, and those of the Templars and Rosicrucians.† Their imperfect ceremonies appear to have been gradually improved, as better instructed Masons (from *Mesouraneo*, or used previously?) about London joined the new Grand Lodge. Why were the second and third degrees given in Grand Lodge only? Clearly because these Operative Masons (as such) were unacquainted with those ceremonies, though it would appear that, previously to this time, owing to their growing habit of admitting non-operative members, there was a resemblance in the receptions. If a brother pass the degree of a Craft, he must be a Master, and does not the difference in the ceremonies of the ancients and moderns (the latter no improvement) prove, as alleged at the time, that the latter were verbally unacquainted with those of the former? Symbolically, who is the Egyptian Osiris, the Sun? Who the Jewish—Masonic Hiram—Urim, light? When was a locality first assigned? under the Essenes, or the Templars? One thing is certain; the present circumstantial relation is the invention of the Craft Masons of 1717, and founded on the dramatic representation of the York rite. Ebor will, I fear, vainly seek, as I have done, for proof of our higher ceremonial observances, amongst the English Craft Freemasons as a body. The paragraph of Aubrey's cited by me, respecting Ashmole, proves that Speculative and Operative Masonry, were then distinct societies. I have not a copy of Anderson's *Constitutions* at hand, but he admits that they were distinct in the 15th century, and mentions sacred, civil, and military Masonry. The Craft Freemasons might admit "Speculative" Masons amongst them, but speaking generally they were assuredly not so, in the present meaning of term. Ashmole, however, we know to have been also a Rosicrucian, wherever he obtained the mysteries. The instances cited by "Ebor" of course apply only to the making, or entered apprentice. Does he intend us to ignore all beyond, if not where are his proofs of our present second and third degrees? Let him find these previously to the 12th century, and the thing is for ever settled. There are many things which would lead one to believe that much of the third degree originally belonged to the second degree, and the lost secrets the Master's part.

As to the origin of our present ceremonies, I believe the whole truth of the thing to be, that the Templars obtained Masonry in the East, as pointed out in our genuine traditions, that the nine "poor fellow soldiers of Jesus Christ" were, in fact, a military lodge. That the system originally, as preserved in the north, through the special favours shown to the order by Archbishop Grenesfield, and in the south, by the Templars, who joined the Knights of Malta, A.F.M.S. of the E. and Sanhedrim, H.R.D.M. and Kadosh Templar, including the priestly degree of Melchisedech. Our mysteries, having been neglected in the south, were reorganised by a few Masters, who, following the opinions of the time, and the profession of many of their members, were inclined to deduce its origin from the Operative Freemasons, and were either ignorant or opposed on conscientious principles, to the higher degrees. These formed the first grand lodge and managed the ceremonies as already shown. The dissatisfied leaven returned to the old ceremonies, but finding the advantage of the operative constitution, partially retained it, and perhaps

\* British Museum, 17th century. Authority Bro. Matthew Cooke  
‡ Vol. iv of the MAGAZINE. †

† Dr. Oliver, MAGAZINE, 1842. MAGAZINE, 1855, p. 508, *Critical Remarks on the Constitutions of the Freemasons*, written by James Anderson, A.M., and other opponents of the period.

for the first time, styled the S. of the E. the Royal Arch, rejecting only such matter as might not accord with their views, and perhaps adding others. The old Arch, O.B. as I have heard it given, was a military one.

What possible grounds, then, can we have for claiming to represent the operative lodges and guilds? I am unaware of any proof of the old London lodges having been operative, as the term is understood, though many of their members were undoubtedly such.

So far from our traditions being swept away by such a theory, I believe it to be the only one which can establish them. Here, in the opinion of the promoters, were to be united the ceremonies and practices of two distinct bodies, a speculative and an operative one, each originally having separate traditions and ceremonies, from which a third ensued, like the latter, though in a less degree, combining both, shameful preference being given to the ceremonies of the "moderns" at the union in 1813. As a profession, a very small portion might claim from the Freemasons; as a mystery, in my humble opinion, entirely through the Templars.

I am not the exponent of the Ancient and Accepted Rite; it has plenty of able ones; one thing is certain, the Rose Croix degree of that Rite, as given in the 15th century on the Continent, is one and the same with Heredom of the Temple, stationed at York and elsewhere under its banner. Its more marked traces have been gradually erased since 1851, and an encampment stationed within 100 miles of "Ebor," only abandoned them some two years ago at the complaint of members of a neighbouring Rose Croix Chapter. Others did so at once on the appearance of the new ritual, whilst generally, the Maltese ritual of the Athol Masons prevailed.

Templary has never claimed to be the precursor of Masonry, but it has claimed as the purpose of its institution, the preservation of Masonry in its pristine purity. It could not claim more than this, for we well know that the Masonic system was known in the East before 1118, and we shall do well to follow our own traditions of its descent, in preference to the opinion of Von Hammer and other learned Orientalists.

By the bye, the author of the MS. edited by Bro. Mathew Cooke, makes Speculative Masonry or the ceremonies of the ancient priests and geometers,\* of which he had a knowledge, as practised in the York monasteries, entirely distinct from those of the Operatives, who had not then commenced to trace their establishment from that city, as they did at a later period. I believe I am correct in stating that the first mention of York in these constitutions, is about 1600, my copy of 1500 being with a friend. It is quite possible that, as originally derived from Egypt, the ceremonies and constitutions of the operative builders, and those of the priestly geometers, were much the same, but that the latter have been better preserved. We are informed by Masonic writers, that the Dionisian Architectural mysteries, entitled their possessors to be present at the priestly mysteries. The later and the middle ages, (under the Templars,) do not afford the first proof of a connection between Speculative and Operative Masonry, they were intimately connected under the Maccabees, as well as under the Egyptian priests.

I am very far from satisfied with "Ebor's" explanation of the "unlawful" ceremonies of the Templars, because in England, "the son of a Templar had peeped through the slits of the door into the chapter room, and seen a new member put to death (?) for hesitating to deny Christ. Long afterwards, being asked by his father to become a Templar, he refused, telling what he had seen: his father instantly slew him." (*Secret Societies of the Middle Ages.*)

I remain, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

△

\* Note the remark of Bro. Cooke's correspondent, as to the eaden five-pointed stars, given by the heads of monasteries.

## WHAT HAS ST. JOHN THE DIVINE TO DO WITH ENGLISH MASONRY.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Appended to the report of the meeting of the Tower Hamlets Lodge (No. 1204), in your MAGAZINE of the 31st of January last, is the following editorial note "What has St. John the Divine to do with English Masonry?"

I have no intention to occupy your columns with a lengthened essay upon this question, contenting myself with the following extract from the FREEMASONS MAGAZINE for December, 1857, which will fully satisfy the brethren of 1204, answering your question too, if I mistake not, in your own words:—

"In no part of either Craft Masonry or the holy Royal Arch, as practised in England, is the name of St. John introduced, excepting that in some lodges, on the occasions of the installations of the W.M., it is mentioned that the annual election takes place as near the feast of St. John the Evangelist as possible. Prior to the union in 1813, we believe most, if not all, lodges were dedicated to St. John the Evangelist, and the reason assigned for the above practice has been thus stated:—From the building of the first Temple to the Babylonish captivity, lodges were dedicated to King Solomon, after that time to Zerubbabel; and after the destruction of the second Temple by Titus, to John the Baptist. It is said that Masonry was then on the decline for want of a Grand Master, and a deputation was sent to St. John the Evangelist, then residing at Ephesus, requesting him to accept the office. Although St. John was then above ninety years of age, he returned for answer, that as he had been initiated into the Order in early life and desired to see its extension, he would take upon himself the office; and from that time all Christian lodges were dedicated to him. This assumption is merely traditional, the more plausible theory, we think, is to be found in the customs of the annual installations of the W.M., and festivals of all lodges, taking place at or near the summer or winter solstice; the 21st of June being the Festival of St. John the Baptist, the 21st of December that of St. John the Evangelist. The Knights of St. John and the Templars, who still preserve the memory of St. John the Evangelist in their ceremonial, doubtless aided, if they did not originate, the use of the name of the 'beloved disciple,' as the patron of the Order." \* \* \* \*

The above extract, I think, fully justifies your reporter in alluding to the Festival of St. John the Divine, or Evangelist (which ever you please) and also the refrain of the old Masonic ditty:—

"St. John the Divine tells us wine,  
Cheers the body and soul."

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,  
WM. WIGGINGTON, W.M. 1204,  
P. Prov. G. Dir. of Cers, Worcestershire.

[The St. John's have not been acknowledged in English Masonry, since the union of 1813.—Ed.]

## NATIONAL SONG FOR THE PRINCE OF WALES.

MUSIC AND WORDS BY GEORGE LINLEY.

Heav'n crown his path with glory,  
And guide with mighty hand,  
The youthful Albert Edward,  
The Prince of our brave land.  
If kingly pow'r await him  
From God, who reigns above,  
Oh! may he rule his subjects  
With justice, truth, and love.  
Heav'n crown his path, &c.

His banner float the highest,  
On the forest of the sea,  
Before the throne of mercy,  
May he the humblest be.  
A nation's prayers are rising  
To God, the King of all,  
If he be our foundation,  
The sceptre cannot fall.  
Heav'n crown his path, &c.

## THE MASONIC MIRROR.

### MASONIC MEMS.

The Annual Ball of our respected Bro. Thos. Alexander Adams, P.G. Purst., takes place at Willis's Rooms, on Monday next, and will, no doubt, be one of the most crowded assemblies of the season.

We understand that Bro. Falconer, the spirited lessee of Drury Lane, has forwarded an invitation to the Committees of the Boys' and Girls' Schools, for the whole of the children to attend a morning performance of the pantomime, on Wednesday, the 25th inst.

### ROYAL BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION FOR AGED FREEMASONS AND THEIR WIDOWS.

In our report of the Annual Festival of the above Institution, which appeared in our columns of the 31st ult., our reporter, in the hurry of transcribing his notes, made Bro. Havers, G.W., the Chairman of the evening, say (Col. 2, page 90)—“The brethren present, and a still smaller number who are absent, &c.” Whereas it should have been—“The brethren present, and some eighteen hundred others, constitute the great bulk of the voluntary contributors to our Charities.”

At the desire of several friends, the speech proposing the Prosperity of the Institution, as it appeared in the MAGAZINE, has been revised by Bro. Havers, and published in a separate form, for the benefit of the Widows' Fund—the whole of the receipts (without regard to expense of printing, &c.) being set aside for that purpose. It is very neatly got up, and brethren wishing to serve the interests of the Institution cannot do better than use their best exertions to circulate this excellent exposition of its objects and present condition throughout the Craft, and at the same time add to the resources of the Widows' Fund.

### METROPOLITAN.

ROBERT BURN'S LODGE (No. 25).—The anniversary festival of this excellent and thriving lodge, was held at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Monday, the 2nd inst., Bro. Caulcher, W.M., presiding, when Bros. Phillips, Vyse, Richards, Brodie, and Fordham, were passed, and Bros. Benjamin and Bell raised in due form. Bro. Lyons, the W.M. elect, was then presented and installed into the chair, in a most correct and efficient manner, by Bro. Caulcher, the immediate P.M. Bro. Lyons appointed and invested as his officers:—Bros. J. Matthew, S.W.; Nicols, J.W.; Farmer, Treas.; Newall, Sec. and S.D.; Welsh, J.D.; Hartley, I.G.; Tuck, Dir. of Cers.; Raedwin, Collecting Steward (a most important office in a large lodge); Watson, P.M., Wine Steward. It is a somewhat curious fact, that the W.M. and the two Wardens, were all initiated by the same Master, Bro. John Clements. Bro. Lyons, the new W.M., showed his qualifications for the office, by initiating a gentleman into the Order in the most perfect manner. The whole of the business having been brought to a close, the brethren, to the number of between 70 and 80, adjourned to a very elegant dinner, served under the personal superintendence of Bros. Shrewsbury and Elkington. On the removal of the cloth, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proceeded with. Bro. Jas Smith, P.G. Purst., returned thanks on behalf of the D.G. Master and the rest of the Grand Officers. He was sure all who had seen the Earl de Grey and Ripon in Grand Lodge, must feel that they had the right man in the right place. Of the other Grand Officers he could only say that he believed they all endeavoured to perform their duties conscientiously, and felt that they could have no higher reward than the approbation of the brethren. He was always proud and happy to be in the Robert Burns' Lodge, and glad to see that they kept up their character for excellent working. The newly

initiated brother having been duly toasted, the W.M. gave “the Visitors,” of whom there was a goodly number, which was appropriately acknowledged by Bro. Davis, W.M. of No. 12, who also complimented the W.M. on his efficient working, and that of his officers. Bro. Caulcher proposed “the health of the W.M.,” a brother who had been initiated in the lodge, duly passed through the various offices he had held, and justly won the esteem of every brother.—The W.M. having briefly replied, Bro. Watson said that, though a P.M., he had been entrusted with the toast of “The health of the Past Masters.” He was now the father of the lodge, having joined it twenty-four years since; and though he had seen many excellent Masters in his time, he had never seen a better than the brother who had just left the chair. It was, therefore, with great pleasure that he placed on his breast a Past Master's jewel, which had been voted him by the lodge. He had fairly earned it, and he hoped he might long continue among them to wear it. There were present amongst them P.M.'s Bros. Apted, Clements, Newton, Bennett, Le Gassick, and many others, all of whom had done good suit and service to the lodge; and he was sure they would be happy to acknowledge those services in a bumper.—Bro. Caulcher returned thanks. He had been initiated in their lodge; and, though he had obtained honours elsewhere, he had long felt a desire to wear the jewel of that lodge, which he should always wear with pride and gratification. He thanked the brethren for the great kindness they had always exhibited towards him, and could assure them that himself and his brother Past Masters would always use their best exertions for the benefit of the lodge. A variety of other toasts followed, and the meeting was brought to a most gratifying close—the various speeches having been interspersed with some excellent songs from Bros. Davis, Nicols, Adams, Newall, Hollingsworth, Sloman, and others.

EGYPTIAN LODGE (No. 29).—This flourishing lodge held its installation meeting at the George and Blue Boar, Holborn, on Thursday, the 5th inst, when the outgoing Master, Bro. Payne, most efficiently and impressively initiated four gentlemen into the Order; after which Bro. John Savage (an honorary member of the lodge), took the chair, and with his usual skill and ability installed Bro. David H. Jacobs as W.M. The following brethren were then appointed and invested officers for the year, viz:—Bros. H. F. Hoare, S.W.; D. G. Berri, J.W.; R. P. Todd, P.M., Treas.; H. G. Buss, P.M., Sec.; J. Tomlinson, S.D.; J. Connts, J.D.; Capt. T. H. Tims, I.G.; W. Cludzey, P.M., Dir. of Cers. Several propositions for new members having taken place, the brethren, about fifty in number, repaired to an excellent banquet, provided by Bro. Hayes, the proprietor of the tavern, and a member of the lodge. Amongst a numerous company of visitors we observed Bros. Farnfield, Assist. G. Sec.; Joseph Smith, P. G. Purst.; Warren, P. G. Steward; J. Rennall, P.M. 780, and P. Prov. S.G.W. Worcester; Worman, W.M. 955; W. Cox, P.M. 955; Jeffrey, W.M. 237; Sutton, W.M. 1082; Scott, W.M. 164; Collington, P.M. 164; Stannard, 201; A. Levy, 223; Little, 1209; Allen, 1124, &c. The cloth having been removed, the W.M. proposed “the Queen,” which was responded to with every mark of loyalty, as was also the health of the M.W. Grand Master. The “Deputy Grand Master and the rest of the Grand Officers,” was then given and replied to by Bro. Smith, P. G. Purst. The W.M. then gave “The Health of Bro. J. Savage, P.G.S.D.,” the Installing Master on this occasion, who observed, in reply, that it was now nearly thirty years ago since he first entered Grand Lodge as a J.W. of the Egyptian. He had for many years been honoured by being called upon to install their Master, and he never felt happier than in endeavouring to serve a lodge with whom he had been so intimately associated in his younger Masonic days. The W.M. then gave “The Initiates,” responded to by Bro. Pickford, and “The Visitors,” which was acknowledged by Bro. Henry G. Warren. The W.M. had to propose the health of a brother known to them all, Bro. Farnfield, the Secretary of the Royal Benevolent Institution for aged Masons and their Widows, and with that toast he would associate the Charities. He was sure he need not dilate on the excellencies of Bro. Farnfield, as a purer Mason or a better man it would be difficult to find. Bro. Farnfield returned thanks, first for the compliments they had so kindly been pleased to pay him, and, secondly, by the support awarded to the Charity at the recent Festival, the list from that lodge having amounted to close upon £50. That Festival, which had been most efficiently presided over by the J.G.W., had produced £2300, and he believed that before the Stewards' sitting-day, the amount

would be increased. Their next Festival was for the Boys, which took place on the 11th of March, and here he might mention something new in Masonry, they were about to have a lady steward. (Cheers.) At the meeting of his lodge, (Lodge of Union, No. 318,) on a Steward being asked for, a brother said his good lady should serve. At first there was a doubt whether the offer could be received, but it was settled that it was quite regular on its being found that one of their charities had a lady Vice President, (Cheers.) The brother at once sent round a subscription list, and it was soon returned with something like sixty pounds upon it. (Cheers.) He did not know whether the example would extend, but, if it did, he hoped it would prove beneficial to the Charities.—Bro. Todd, P.M., said he thought it a very good idea, and his daughter should serve for the Royal Benevolent Institution next year, and he would make her a Life Governor—or Governess. (Laughter, and cheers.)—Bro. Savage proposed the health of the W.M., which was duly responded to.—Bro. Todd, P.M., said that he had been entrusted with a most pleasing duty—that of presenting to their immediate Past Master a jewel, which had been voted him as a mark of esteem from the lodge. He had been very many years in the lodge, and he knew no brother who had performed his duties more efficiently, or who had more thoroughly won the esteem of every member of the lodge than Bro. Payne, and he sincerely wished him long life and happiness.—Bro. Payne thanked the brethren for their great kindness in presenting him with so valuable a mark of their esteem, which he should always highly prize—Bro. Todd for the manner in which he had presented it, which added to its lustre, and especially to Bro. Buss for the great trouble and care he had bestowed upon him in teaching him his duties; and he hoped many years to enjoy the pleasure of the acquaintance of all the brethren.—The health of the Treasurer, Bro. Todd; the Secretary, Bro. Payne, and one or two other toasts having been drunk, the company separated, the pleasure of the evening having been enhanced by the vocal exertions of the W.M., Bro. Gardner, Pickford, Buss, Hill, Barton, Bury, and others.

OLD CONCORD LODGE, (No. 201.)—The usual monthly meeting of this distinguished lodge took place at the Freemason's Tavern on Tuesday last. Bro. Jabez Hogg, the newly-installed W.M. presided for the first time and commenced the business of the evening by passing Bro. Newton to the second degree, after which Mr. Henry Fisher was introduced and regularly initiated into ancient Freemasonry, these ceremonies being performed by Bro. Hogg in a very able and efficient manner, shewing that the excellent working, for which this lodge maintains so prominent a character, will lose none of its lustre during the present W.M.'s year of office. It is almost needless to add that all the newly appointed officers were in attendance, and well performed their respective duties. Bro. Emmens, P.M. and Sec., then announced that since the last lodge meeting, their Annual Ball had taken place, which was again highly successful, and he congratulated the W.M. (as President of that Ball,) on having all his officers Stewards on that occasion. He (Bro. Emmens), had great pleasure in announcing that although the expenses of the evening in providing supper, &c., for the distinguished company who attended the Ball, amounted to more than £140, they had a surplus of £25, which sum the Stewards had devoted to Masonic Charity as follows:—The Aged and Decayed Freemasons' male annuitants, £5; Female ditto, £5; and to the Benevolent Fund of this lodge £15. A vote of thanks was recorded to the Stewards of the Ball, after which the sum of £5. 5s. was voted to the Girls' School, from the lodge funds to be placed on Bro. Hogg's list, as Steward of the forthcoming Festival. Some other business having been gone through, the brethren adjourned until the first Tuesday of the ensuing month.

## PROVINCIAL.

### CHESTER.

CHESTER.—Lodge of Independence (No 1023).—A Grand Masonic Festival and celebration of St. John's Day was held at the house of Bro. Robert G. Parry, Pied Bull Inn, Chester, on Tuesday, the 27th ult. by the brethren of the lodge. The lodge was opened for business by the W.M., Bro. Brown, 3 at p.m. Soon after, Bro. Lord Richard Grosvenor arrived within the porch, and was accompanied by the ex-Mayor of the city (Bro

Alderman John Trevor) and Sir Thomas F. Maddock. His Lordship was received in lodge with grand honours (as R.W.P.G. Warden of England). Lodge being closed from the first and opened in the second degree, the W. Master Elect (A. F. Watts, of Pensarn, Abergale, Flint), was conducted to the pedestal by the immediate P.M. for installation. The ancient charges having been administered, the imposing and solemn ceremony was then proceeded with, and ably performed by the Installing Past Master (Bro. Lyon) assisted by the Senior and Junior Wardens (Bros. Bulley and Platt). The usual forms having been gone through, and the new Master inducted into the chair of King Solomon, his worship passed the loving cup round to the board of Installed Masters (then present) with hearty good wishes for the future prosperity of the Lodge of Independence (No. 1203). The board being closed, the Master Masons were re-admitted, who formed in procession and saluted, when the lodge was proclaimed and the honours given. The W.M. was pleased to appoint his officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. Lord Richard Grosvenor, P.G.W. of England, S.W.; Bainbridge, J.W.; Burghall, Treas.; J. H. Lyon, Sec.; Gwynne, S.D.; Parks, J.D.; Gittins, I.G.; Brown, Immediate P.M.; Duke, Tyler. An excellent charge was delivered to each by Bro. Bulley, Prov G.S.D., on investing them with the collar and jewel of office, and having been conducted to their respective seats in lodge by the Director of the Ceremonies, the W.M. gave commands to cease from labour and go to refreshment, when the brethren, having formed in procession (led by the Tyler in full costume) proceeded to the banquet. The dinner and the wines were excellent, and the dessert profuse and of the choicest description. Forty sat down, the W.M. (Bro. Watts) occupied the chair, and on the removal of the cloth the following toasts were given:—"The Queen and the Craft," "The Prince of Wales, Earl of Chester, and the rest of the Royal Family." (The W.M. observing that he hoped the anticipation of the Brethren would be realised by receiving, this year, His Royal Highness into the mysteries of the Craft). "Army, Navy, and the Volunteers," to which Bro. Captain Hitchen, responded, thanking the brethren for the manner the toast had been given and received, and, as he had the honour of bearing Her Majesty's commission, he was sure the Volunteers when required would acquit themselves to the satisfaction of their Sovereign and the country. "Earl of Zetland, M.W.G.M. of England, and his Deputy Earl of Ripon," with honours. "F.M. The Viscount Combermere, R.W. Prov. G.M. of Cheshire," with honours.—Bro. Lord RICHARD GROSVENOR rose, and in complimentary terms proposed "The W.M.," assuring the Brethren that they may look forward with pleasure and satisfaction to the prosperity of the Lodge under the able management of so zealous and excellent a Mason. (Masonic honours.)—The W.M. acknowledged the compliment at great length, thanking his Lordship for the high honour he had conferred upon the Lodge by becoming a joining Brother, and for the compliment his Lordship had paid him by accepting the office of S.W., which he and the Brethren duly appreciated. He should endeavour to follow in the steps of his predecessor, and strictly adhere to the laws of the Craft and discipline of the Lodge over which he was called to preside—above all he should carry out the true principals of the Order, by supporting in every good Masonic work, with fervency and zeal for our creed is that

"We help the poor in time of need,  
The naked clothe, the hungry feed;  
'Tis our foundation stone."

The W.M. concluded by again thanking the Brethren for the honour they had done him, "The Hon. Wellington Cotton, and Provincial Grand Officers, past and present, coupled with Bro. Truss's health, Prov. G.S. of Works for the Province of Cheshire." (With honours.)—Bro. Truss, observed—He little thought in addition to having the honour of being one of the guests of the Lodge of Independence, that he should be selected to return thanks for the Provincial Grand Officers of the County, of whom he had the honour of being one. It certainly placed him in a very difficult at the same time a very pleasing position, the difficulty was to find words to do the Deputy Prov.G.M. that honour he was justly entitled to; but the pleasure was that his name was sufficient, and his character stood in no further need of his testimony, nor that of any of the Brethren of the Provincial Grand Lodge, to perpetuate its popularity; and it was no wonder that the Province of Cheshire increased its numbers as regards the Craft, when we find such noble men as the Hon. Wellington Cotton's father condescending to



fill the important office of Provincial Grand Master, and he sincerely trusted that his son would walk in his noble father's footsteps; for, as he had formerly stated, when as the W.M. of the Cestrian Lodge (615), he had the honour of proposing Lord Combermere's health, whether he was in the field or the lodge he equally distinguished himself—in the field as a warrior, in the lodge as a brother. (Loud cheers.)—"Sir W. W. Wynn, Prov. G.M. North Wales and Salop," with honours. "Lady Combermere, the Lady Patroness of Masonry in Cheshire," with Masonic fire.—Lord RICHARD GROSVENOR responded for her Ladyship and the ladies in a humorous speech, highly eulogising the benevolent character of Lady Combermere. He was a bachelor at present, but he hoped at some time or other to taste the sweet and pleasures of a married life, and concluded by repeating the words—

"We are true and sincere and just to the fair,  
They'll trust us on every occasion,  
What mortal can more the ladies adore,  
Than a free and accepted Mason."

"The late W.M., Bro. Brown, and Officers of 1023," with honours. Bro. BROWN, P.M., begged to thank the brethren for this mark of their esteem, and for the very cordial manner they had responded to the toast. It was some fifty years ago since he was made in that very province, and he had been twice installed W.M. He had for the best part of his life been devoted to Masonry. At the time when he was made, Masonry was on the decline in this province, but he had lived to be the means, in conjunction with the late Prov. G.M. (Bro. F. Maddock) and others to revive the Prov. Grand Lodge of Chester, and see it established upon a permanent footing. He had also the pleasure of being the father and godfather of the two present lodges in Chester, 615 and 1023, and had been spared by the great Architect of the universe to see them prospering in the ark. He was now going down into the vale of life, having that day entered his 73rd year, but hoped to be spared a little longer to meet his brethren in lodge, where he had spent some of the happiest moments of his life. (Cheers.) Before sitting down he begged to propose the Most Hon. the Marquess of Westminster, he being the son of a Mason and the father of one. (Drunk with three times three cheers and three more.)—Lord RICHARD GROSVENOR, in very feeling terms, begged to thank the brethren for the enthusiastic manner the name of his honoured father had been received. "The Lodges of Birkenhead," coupled with Bros. Bulley and Platt, and "Success to the intended Charity Schools of Cheshire."—Bro. PLATT, in a truly Masonic speech, returned his thanks for the complement just conferred upon himself and Bro. Bulley, and expressed the pleasure they had received that day by their visit to 1023. He was proud to be amongst them for several reasons—first, when 1023 received the circular respecting the movement of the Charity Schools for Cheshire, he was too proud to acknowledge that Lodge 1023 was the first to promote the plan by sending a list of its members, all of whom became subscribers, and the W.M. gave an annual subscription of £5. This spoke volumes in favour of this lodge; it was sure to prosper by such an act of benevolence; and before he resumed his seat he had the honour to inform them that the S.W. (Bro. Lord Richard Grosvenor) had just placed in his (Bro. Platt's) hand £5. (Great cheering.) He hoped many in the province would follow the example of the noble lord, and that their hopes would be realised in having a first-rate Masonic establishment in this province. He again thanked them for the compliment paid to the lodges of Birkenhead, including himself and Bro. Bulley, who at all times would give their assistance when required.

KNUTSFORD.—*De Tabley Lodge* (No. 1243).—Considerable interest has for some months past been excited in Masonic circles in Cheshire, by the successive steps taken by a brother at Knutsford, for the formation of a lodge in that town, and particularly as the leading members would include members of the aristocracy of the county who had been acknowledged as active promoters of the Craft. The names of Lord de Tabley, as Worshipful Master, and of Bro. George Cornwall Legh, Esq., M.P., and the Hon. Bro. Wilbraham Egerton, M.P., as Wardens, were submitted to the M.W.G.M., and recommended by Viscount Combermere, the Prov. G.M. Preliminary lodge meetings have been held and several respectable inhabitants of Knutsford have been initiated. But the great day for the lodge was on Monday last, when the peaceful banner of Masonry was, with much pomp and ceremony, once more planted in Knutsford, and the festival of the constitution of the De Tabley Lodge (No. 1243), (so named after its first W.M.) and the installation of Lord de Tabley took place. Notwithstanding the inclemency of the

weather at early morn visitors arrived rapidly into the town, and the beautiful bells of the parish church sent forth merry peals. The principal street was decorated with evergreens, and across the road we noticed the De Tabley motto "Tenebo," and another motto "England's nobility, England's strength." The decorations of the banquet room were of a most tasteful character; evergreens in great profusion, were not only displayed in the usual way, but several Masonic emblems, entirely composed of them, gave a character to the scene in accordance with the object of the gathering. Over the chair was the motto, "Tenebo," and on each side, "Wisdom, Strength, and Beauty," and "Friendship, Love, and Truth." The several lodges in the province of Cheshire were well represented on the opening of the lodge. There were present, among other distinguished brethren, Bros. the Right Hon. Lord de Tabley, P.S.G.W.; George Cornwall Legh, M.P.; Captain Cope, Prov. J.G.W., acting Prov. G.M.; Griffiths, Prov. G. Sec., acting D. Prov. G.M.; Twiss, G. Org.; Captain Davenport, 2nd West India Regiment; Rev. W. B. Garnett, Prov. G. Chap.; R. Andrew, Prov. G.S.D.; Rev. C. O. N. Pratt, M.A., Chap. No. 334; Rev. J. W. N. Tanner, P. Prov. G. Chap.; W. Bulley, P. Prov. J.G.D.; J. H. Brown, P.M. 334; E. M. Gleeson, No. 1243; J. Woodcock, No. 1243; Joseph Jackson, No. 1243; R. H. Hulme, No. 1243, &c. Altogether there were upwards of eighty members of lodges present. The ceremony of consecration in the lodge was admirably performed by Bro. Captain Cope, who was specially appointed for the purpose, by the R.W. Prov. G.M., Lord Combermere, and who was assisted by the Chaplains and other Past and Present Provincial Officers. The solemnities were carried out with a degree of interest and perfection acknowledged to have been rarely, if ever, equalled in the provinces. Lord de Tabley was then installed, and expressed the pride and pleasure he felt in taking the position of Master of the lodge, which showed so many signs of success. The following officers were duly appointed by his lordship:—Bros. George Cornwall Legh, S.W.; John Twiss, J.W.; Edward Barlow, S.D.; G. O. Andrews, J.D.; Mullins, I.G.; T. Lane was proposed as Treasurer. Votes of thanks were given to the Macclesfield, Crewe, and Northwich lodges, for the aid rendered by them in the formation of the De Tabley lodge. On the motion of the Secretary, a vote of condolence was unanimously passed, and a copy of the resolution directed to be sent to Bro. E. J. McIntyre, Grand Registrar of England, and a member of the De Tabley lodge, on account of the domestic bereavement which prevented his attendance there. On the closing of the lodge a procession was formed to the parish church, which attracted large crowds of people, anxious to catch a sight of the brethren in their costume. A special choir was engaged, consisting of Bros. Edmondson, Meadows, and Ball, of Stockport; Hayter, of Macclesfield. Mrs. Warren of the Manchester Choral Society; Miss Edmondson, of the Stockport Choral Society, and several members of the Knutsford Choral Society. Bro. John Twiss presided at the organ with his well known ability. Mendelssohn's beautiful quartett from the Oratorio of Elijah, "Cast thy burden," and the *Introit* "Rend your hearts," &c., composed expressly for the occasion by Bro. Harris, organist of the cathedral, Manchester, were given with much effect, as were the *Magnificat* and *Nunc Dimittis*, by Dr. Whitfield Clarke, in A, and the service concluded with the Hallelujah Chorus. The prayers were intoned by the Rev. F. Terry, of Arley, P.M., P.G.D.C., Oxford. The lessons were read by the Rev. J.W.N. Tanner, of Antrobus, V.W.P. Prov. G.C. and the Rev. C. O'N. Pratt, of Macclesfield. The sermon was preached by the V.W. Prov. G. Chap. the Rev. W. B. Garnett, preacher of Bunbury, who selected for his text, Romans, c. 13, v. 12, "The night is far spent, the day is at hand," and proceeded to deliver an eloquent and practical discourse, which was attentively listened to by a large congregation. A collection was made for the fund for the relief of the distressed operatives and the County infirmary, which amounted to £14 5s. 6d. After divine service the procession returned to the banqueting room, adjoining the Royal George Hotel, where Bro. Hurst had provided a dinner in first rate style. The bill of fare was unexceptionable, and the wines of excellent quality. The musical performance, after dinner, was still under the superintendence of Bro. Twiss. The glees were well selected from Sir H. Bishop, Whittaker, Wainwright, and other composers, and repeatedly elicited the warm plaudits of the company. On removal of the cloth, Lord de TABLEY gave the "Health of the Queen," remarking that in her recent sorrow she had carried the sympathies of a loyal people, who now hoped that



cheered by approaching events, the severity of her terrible loss would be less keenly felt, although not forgotten.—The noble chairman on proposing “The health of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, and the other members of the Royal Family,” remarked how highly they were prized by an admiring people, and personally he himself could speak of the sterling qualities of the Prince, who, far more than his predecessors, had enlightened himself by foreign travel, and by intercourse with men had gained experience which would be invaluable in that still loftier position that awaited him. To all Englishmen, and especially to Masons, was this toast peculiarly interesting on the eve of that event which was to bring a princess and a future queen to this country. Having had the honour of an introduction to the Princess of Denmark, he could venture to give his opinion, that if much personal grace and beauty and queenliness of manner, associated with every appearance of amiability can commend, then, indeed, no doubt can exist of the affection that will be entertained by the people of this country for one who possesses these qualities in an eminent degree. His lordship was interrupted by frequent applause, and the toast was enthusiastically received. The toast of the “Army and Navy” was responded to by Captain DAVENPORT (2nd West India Regiment,) who remarked that the British army, in all its branches, was never so efficient as at the present moment. The CHAIRMAN proposed “The Town and Trade of Knutsford,” coupling with the toast the name of Brother Joseph Jackson, as a principal tradesman in the place. Bro. JACKSON responded, and expressed his belief that the formation of the lodge would prove beneficial to the town by creating unanimity of feeling and unity of interest.—Bro. G. CORNWALL LEGH, M.P., in a lively speech, proposed “The Health of Lady de Tabley and the Ladies,” which was courteously acknowledged by the noble chairman. The health of Field Marshall the Lord Viscount Combermere, G.C.B., R.W. Prov. G.M. Cheshire, was well received, as was that of R.W. Deputy Colonel Cotton.—Bro. the Honorable WILBRAHAM EGERTON, M.P., proposed “The Health of Bro. Captain Cope, the Acting Prov. G.M.,” who had, with so much ability, conducted the important ceremonies of the day. Bro. Cope had long been valued in the province as a worthy man and Mason, but the members of the De Tabley Lodge could never forget the services rendered that day by him.—Bro. COPE, in reply, said that in common with every member of the Craft, he was always ready and glad to obey the calls of duty, and if he had afforded gratification to the brethren, he was fain to admit that from no circumstances had he derived greater pleasure than from the duties of that day, for he knew that in assisting in the establishment of Freemasonry in Knutsford, under the auspices of so distinguished a Mason as Bro. Lord de Tabley, he was benefitting his fellow men. He was always at the service of his brethren in the province of Cheshire, and when his experience could be of avail, it would be ever at their command. He had obtained permission to propose a toast which, in any part of the country would be well greeted, and by the Masons present would, he knew, be heartily welcomed. As Grand Officer of England, as the representative of the Grand Lodge of Canada, as a leading member of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Cheshire, and still more as the excellent W.M. of the De Tabley Lodge, would the subject of the toast be appreciated by all present, and wishing him long life and every happiness, he asked them to drink a bumper to the health of “Lord de Tabley.” Loud and protracted cheering prevented his lordship for a considerable time from replying. He said it was a delightful position for him to occupy when he saw around him so many faces which he had been accustomed to see in the good work of Masonry.—So far as he could do so, he was pleased that he should have received them at that board on an occasion which he believed would be of importance to the province at large. The CHAIRMAN proposed the “Officers of the De Tabley Lodge, and Bro. G. Cornwall Legh, S.W., and brother Secretary,” remarking that it was impossible for the lodge to succeed without the attentive assistance of its officers. To the Sec. was attributable the existence of the lodge, and upon him much labour had devolved.—Bro. GEO. CORNWALL LEGH expressed his acknowledgment, and assured the W.M. and brethren that he would use his best exertions in promoting the prosperity of the lodge.—The SECRETARY, on returning thanks, said he was grateful for the honour done him in associating his name with the distinguished brother who had last spoken, and on behalf of himself, and every officer of the De Tabley Lodge, would ask the brethren of Cheshire to believe that they were most desirous of promoting and reciprocating

every fraternal feeling. It had been said that Knutsford was a sort of Nazareth, or even worse; for not only could nothing good come out of the place, but it had been continually impressed upon him that nothing so good as Masonry could be implanted in the town. He, however, had thought differently; and the experiences derived from the formation of that lodge had fully proved that the locality was all ready for the good seeds of Freemasonry to be sown broadcast there. He was convinced that the lodge would be found of much public utility, and of immense private advantage. Few places more than Knutsford needed a machinery to knit men's hearts together, to soften down the rough edges of society, and to prove that selfishness is not happiness. To be the founder of a lodge which, in all human probability, would be the nursing ground of men influencing the lives and characters of their neighbours—a lodge which would be the rallying point where breaches should be healed and harmony restored, where philanthropy could flourish and send forth its genial influences, and that under the sanction and names of such men and brethren as the noble lord in the chair, and the honorable brother in the vice-chair—was so pleasing a task, that had it not been self-imposed, would not have been the less happy. It was not the territorial associations which the name of De Tabley carried with it, nor the distinguished title with which it was identified in the state, nor even the presence there of the noble owner of the one and bearer of the other, that afforded him (the speaker) so much happiness in being an originator of that important meeting; but it was because Freemasonry robs no man of his social distinction, adds to his moral worth, and places the latter before the former. And so it had been since the lodge was first suggested, and his lordship's name permitted to be identified with it, that every one had prophesied success to an undertaking which had the sanction of one esteemed by all, from the most exalted lady in the land down to the humblest peasant on his lordship's estates. He (the Secretary) must therefore disclaim all merit of success; his only merit consisted in a desire to benefit the town of Knutsford by bringing it within the pale of Masonry, and a still greater desire to advance the promulgation of those principles of the Order exemplified in the lives of many present—friendship, love, and truth—which have for their results in this life, wisdom, strength, and beauty, and fit men for a higher and nobler existence hereafter. If he were asked to designate the lodge by any other title than that it at present held, it should be the “Lodge of Hospitality,” for he hoped the brethren who had favoured them with their presence that day would remember that whenever the lodge doors were open they would be welcome received. (Cheers.)—The SECRETARY proposed “The Health of the Macclesfield Brethren,” especially of Bro. Pattinson, W.M. 334, and Bro. Brown, P.M.—Bros. PATTINSON and BROWN responded.—After a most agreeable evening the brethren separated a little before ten o'clock, and the few who were present during the day's proceedings will not fail to remember the Knutsford Masonic Festival.

#### DURHAM.

DURHAM.—*Marquis of Granby Lodge* (No. 146).—A larger gathering than usual took place at this lodge on Tuesday evening, the 3rd inst. The W.M., Bro. Nicholson, having taken his seat, and the officers being present, the lodge was opened in due form, upon which the minutes of the last meeting were read and received confirmation. The ballot was then taken for Messrs. S. Holdsworth and J. T. Meggeson, both of whom being approved of, and also in attendance, were initiated by the W.M. in so admirable a manner, as to gain the entire approbation of the lodge over which he has the honour of presiding. Bros. Greenwell, Robson, and Hoyle, having given satisfactory proofs of their proficiency in the art, they were raised to the sublime degree of M.M., by Bro. Stoker, P.M., in his usual effective manner, which never fails to impress upon the minds of the brethren present, the inherent beauties of that degree. The lodge having been closed down to the first degree, the W.M. brought forward the case of Bro. Robt. Sutherland (a poor blind candidate), who was unsuccessful in his application as an annuitant on the Royal Benevolent Institution last year. The sum of £10 was voted as a donation to the funds of the Institution, and it was also agreed that the necessary expenses of printing and postage in prosecuting Bro. Sutherland's application be paid out of the funds of the lodge. Several brethren present also paid their subscriptions to the Secretary, as subscribers to the funds of the Royal Benevolent Institution. The brethren afterwards proceeded to refreshment, and spent the remainder of the evening in the greatest harmony and enjoyment.

## HAMPSHIRE.

PETERSFIELD.—*Lodge of Friendship* (No. 1230).—On Tuesday, the 27th ult., a large number of Masons from the province of Hampshire and adjacent districts assembled at Petersfield, to witness the consecration of the Lodge of Friendship (No. 1230), which has been recently established in that town. Many years ago Petersfield possessed an ancient and flourishing lodge, but in the course of changes which time brought about, the lodge, in common with the town, lost much of its old vigour, and gradually decaying, finally became extinct. After a lapse of more than thirty years, the zeal and energy of a new resident, Bro. Levander, P.M., P. Prov. S.G.D. Wilts, led to a revival of Masonic feeling, and ultimately to the constitution of the Lodge of Friendship. The brethren of the Lodge of Economy (No. 90), Winchester, having petitioned the M.W. the Grand Master for a Warrant, the lodge was for some time held under a dispensation from the R.W. the Provincial Grand Master of Hants. When the warrant had been obtained, and the necessary preliminary arrangements had been made, the lodge was constituted in ancient form by Bro. Admiral Sir Lucius Curtis, Bart., G.C.B., R.W. Prov. G.M., assisted by Bro. W. W. Beach, M.P., P. Prov. S.G.W. Hants and Oxfordshire, and the Prov. G. Officers. The ceremony of consecration was performed in a most able and impressive manner. Bro. H. C. Levander was installed as W.M., Bro. Sherry, P.M. 90, being appointed S.W., and Bro. Naish, P.M. 90, J.W. The other offices were distributed as follows:—Bros. Dollery, Treas. and Sec.; G. Finley, S.D.; J. Wright, J.D.; John Gammon, I.G.; Charles Knight, Tyler; Rev. T. A. Wills, Chap.; E. Emery, P.M. 423, Dir. of Cers. After lodge, the brethren adjourned to the banquet at the Red Lion Hotel, under the presidency of the Prov. G.M. Amongst the company present were Bros. W. W. Beach; Stebbing, Vice-President of the Board of General Purposes; Hickman, Prov. G. Sec.; Rev. A. Wills, Prov. G. Chap.; Heather, Prov. G. Treas.; Kirkman, Prov. J.G.W.; Towey, Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; Wells, Prov. S.G.D.; Forbes, P. Prov. S.G.W., Essex; H. C. Levander, W.M. 1230; Alfred Smith, W.M. 90; Naish, P.M. 90, P. Prov. J.G.W. and J.W. 1230; Sherry, P.M. 90, P. Prov. G. Dir. of Cers. and S.W. 1230; J. Carter, P.M. 90; Turner, Sec. 166; Edmonds, S.W. 387; Thompson, Sec. 387; Hiscox, 387; Emery, P.M. 428; Carter, J.W. 428; Artha, 428; Andrew, 428; M. E. Frost, W.M. 714; Hogg, S.W. 717; Fiddiman, 805; Lawson, J.W. 915; Hulbert, W.M. 995; Wenham, Hullyatt, Bachelor, Purnell, Arter, and Palmer, 1106; Gundry, 1205; Hill, Prov. G. Steward; Faulkner, Finlay, Gammon, Dollery, Wright, 1230; Bannister (Portsmouth), &c. When the cloth was removed, the R.W. the Prov. G.M. proposed the health of the Queen, which was followed, as usual, by the health of the M.W. the Grand Master of England. Both toasts were received with great enthusiasm.—The Prov. G.M. then proposed the health of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales. He said that it was not usually proposed at Masonic meetings, but he could not pass it by on account of the approaching marriage of his Royal Highness to a beautiful and accomplished Princess. He trusted that his Royal Highness would soon join the fraternity. (Hear.) Nothing would give Masons greater pleasure than to number in their ranks a member of the Royal Family, who would, in after years, be able to take the place of the late Duke of Sussex. (Loud applause.)—Bro. H. C. LEVANDER, the W.M., then rose, and said that he was sure they would respond heartily to the toast of the Prov. G.M. for he was always ready to support Masonry. It was the first time Sir Lucius Curtis had visited Petersfield in an official capacity, but he hoped it would not be the last. It was quite unnecessary for him to use many words; they all knew their Prov. G.M., and to know him was to love him. He, therefore, proposed his health with all the honours. The brethren rose and did honour to their venerable Prov. G.M., with every mark of respect and affection.—R. W. Sir LUCIUS CURTIS, in replying to the toast said, that he rose with diffidence, as he had not sufficient eloquence to express his feelings at the enthusiasm with which the brethren received his name. He had experienced great pleasure in being amongst them that day, and more especially in witnessing the constitution of their new lodge. He begged to propose the health of Bro. W. W. Beach, M.P., who had kindly acted that day as his deputy, in the ceremony of consecration. He thanked him sincerely for consenting to take so arduous a duty, which he had performed most ably and Masonically. He knew that Bro. Beach was a thorough Mason. It was his constant study to serve the Craft on every occasion, and the manner in which he had performed the ceremony that day was a lesson and delight to all who had witnessed it. He drank health to Bro. Beach. (Loud applause.)—

Bro. W. W. BEACH thanked the Prov. G.M. most sincerely for the kind and flattering expressions which had fallen from his lips. He felt that he was not deserving of such praise. He had seen many lodges rise in that province, and all of them had succeeded: he hoped that would always be the case. To ensure success, the brethren of the new lodge must rely on themselves, and not on brethren from other lodges. They must work hard, and raise up brethren from among themselves to rule the lodge and perform their ceremonies. He concluded by wishing every success and prosperity to the lodge, and said that he would attend it whenever he could. He should always take the greatest interest in it, and hoped it would be an example to the province. (Applause.)—Admiral Sir LUCIUS CURTIS said that he had great pleasure in proposing "The Health of Bro. Levander, the W.M." From what he had seen that day, he was quite sure the lodge would never have reason to regret having placed him in that distinguished position. (Cheers.) From what he knew of the worthy brother, he was convinced that he was eminently calculated to maintain the dignity of the lodge, and ensure its success. Bro. Levander was an especial favourite with all the brethren with whom he had associated in the work of Masonry in other towns—a circumstance which augured well for the interests of the new lodge. (Hear, hear.)—Bro. LEVANDER, W.M., eloquently acknowledged the toast. He expressed his diffidence in replying before so many eminent Masons. He regretted that, owing to an unexpected circumstance, he was about to leave the town; but he assured the brethren that he would frequently visit them. In impressive and dignified language, W.M. warned the brethren against the dangers which beset all new lodges, and enjoined upon them the duty of preserving the genuine cement of Masonry—ever-active charity.—Other toasts were proposed, and many excellent speeches were made; but we regret that, in consequence of an unforeseen circumstance, we are able to present only this meagre account of this interesting day. In conclusion, we wish all prosperity to the Lodge of Friendship (No. 1230).

## HERTFORDSHIRE.

WATFORD.—*Watford Lodge* (No. 580).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held on Friday, February 6th, in the Freemasons' Hall, and was well attended. There were present, Bro. Captain C. H. Layton, W.M., his Wardens and other officers, also the V.W. Bros. George Francis, D. Prov. G.M.; H. H. B. Herne, P. Prov. S.G.W.; C. F. Humbert, P. Prov. J.G.W.; Thomas Rogers, Prov. G. Treas.; J. G. Sedgwick, Prov. G. Sec.; C. H. Finch, W. Miles, W. Rogers, P.M.'s; and others. The lodge was opened, and Alfred J. Copeland (son of the London alderman) was initiated, and Bro. Thomas Hill was passed to the second degree. Bros. John Tomlyn, of No. 312, and J. How, P. Prov. G. Dir. of Cers., were visitors. After the disposal of other business, the brethren adjourned to banquet.

## SUFFOLK.

HADLEIGH.—*Lodge of Virtue and Silence* (No. 417).—On Thursday, the 29th ult., this lodge celebrated the Festival of St. John the Evangelist, at the White Lion Hotel, Hadleigh, on which occasion the W.M. for the ensuing year was installed. The brethren present were E. W. Freeman, D. Prov. G.M. of Suffolk; H. Luff, P.M. and S.W. of the Lodge of Perfect Friendship (No. 522); Hart, P.M., P. Prov. G.D. (No. 417); Muriel, P.M. (No. 417); J. F. Robinson, J. Bowler, Golden, P.M.; Chisnall, P.M.; Dowsing, G. Freeman, J. Corder, Barber, P.M.; Payne, P.M.; E. C. Tidd (No. 522), &c. The lodge having been opened in solemn form by Bro. Hart, assisted by Bros. Dowsing and Golding, the ceremony of installation then took place, when Bro. J. F. Robinson was duly installed W.M. for the ensuing year by the D. Prov. G.M., assisted by Bro. H. Luff (522). The W.M. elect having taken the chair, thanked the brethren for the honour they had conferred upon him in raising him to so high and honourable an office. He would endeavour to discharge the onerous duties pertaining to the office with care and assiduity, trusting to merit their approval and to enhance the interest and prosperity of the lodge. Bro. GOLDING moved a vote of thanks to the late W.M. for the able manner in which he had discharged the duties of his office. The vote was cordially agreed to by the brethren. The W.M. elect then appointed the following brethren to fill the various offices of the lodge:—Bros. George Freeman, S.W.; J. Corder,

J.W.; T. Chisnall, S.D.; E. Dowsing, jun., J.D.; J. Bowler, I.G. The lodge was then closed in solemn form by the newly-elected W.M., and the brethren adjourned from labour to refreshment. The banquet took place about six o'clock, the W.M. presiding, supported by the D. Prov. G.M. and the officers of the lodge. The dinner was well served by Bro. Bowler, and the dessert and wines were of first-class character. The arrangements gave very great satisfaction. The repast being over, the W.M. gave "The Queen," "The Prince of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family." In alluding to the marriage of the Prince of Wales, he said he hoped Hadleigh would not be backward in her loyal demonstrations on that occasion. The W.M. next gave "The G.M. of England, the Earl of Zetland," followed by the "D.G.M., the Earl de Grey and Ripon." Drunk with high honours. The W.M. shortly afterwards again rose and gave "The health of the Prov. G.M., Col. Adair." It was a name well known to all of them, and more excellent or a more worthy man it was impossible to conceive. (Applause.) They ought to congratulate themselves in having such a man as Col. Adair connected with Masonry. Drank with high honours.—The W.M. gave "The health of Bro Freeman, D. Prov. G.M.," who had done the honour of being present among them on that occasion. (Applause.) His urbanity of manner, kind and amiable disposition had endeared him to all Masons. (Hear, hear.) The lodges throughout the province of Suffolk were his constant care, and he felt himself justified in saying that Suffolk would not have stood in half so good a position had it not been for the exertions of their friend Freeman. (Applause.) He felt very much indebted to Bro. Freeman for attending on that occasion, and installing him W.M. of the Lodge of Virtue and Silence. (Hear, hear.) He (the W.M.) did not know how he could repay him for such kindness. He would endeavour, however, to do his duty in that high office in which they had been pleased to place him. (Applause.) Drank with Masonic honours. The D. Prov. G.M., on rising to respond, said he thanked them most sincerely for the kind and cordial manner in which the toast by the W.M. had been responded to by the brethren. He had endeavoured to discharge the duties of the D. Prov. G.M. to their satisfaction, and he trusted he had succeeded. (Applause.) It gave him great pleasure at all times to assist the lodges in the province, and to take part in the installation of brethren to the honourable office of W.M. (Hear, hear.) He knew that Bro. Robinson was highly esteemed, not only by the Lodge of Virtue and Silence, but by the whole town of Hadleigh. (Applause.) It therefore was a great source of pleasure to him to be present at his installation. He would only congratulate the lodge in having got such a man to preside over them for the ensuing year, and he was certain that he would work himself into a state of proficiency, so as ably and satisfactorily to discharge the duties of his office; and, with a little assistance from the brethren, he felt assured he would prove a great acquisition to the lodge over which he presided. (Hear, hear.) He had not had much to talk about with respect to the Province of Suffolk, but he was happy to say Masonry was progressing. He would just say that before any one was permitted to enter into Masonry his character ought to be inquired into, so that no unpleasantness might afterwards arise. In some part of the province exertions were put forth with the idea that by increasing its numbers they were supporting the progress of the Order; but it had the contrary effect. They ought to be very cautious who they admitted; and if the Lodge of Virtue and Silence had not increased to the extent which might have been wished, he would say, do not despair, and by all means let them not admit any one who would be a plague-spot to them, such as had been the case in some places. The D. Prov. G.M. then alluded to the lodge at Southwold, where, at one time, great exertions were made to increase the number of members, which at one time reached 57, but which had dwindled down to about seven. Their lodge, though not a large one, was of that class whose members practised Masonry amongst themselves, and that was the kind of thing which was wanted, for they were the true principles of the Order to which they belonged. (Applause.) He again thanked them for their kindness.—The D. Prov. G.M. said he had obtained permission to propose a toast. It was the health of a brother who was known to them all. They knew his good qualifications, and therefore it would be superfluous in him to say more. He would give them "The Health of the W.M., Bro. Robinson. (Drank with all honours.)—The W.M., in responding to the toast, said he rose with feelings of considerable pleasure to thank them for this kind expression of their feelings towards him. He could not adequately ex-

press the gratitude he felt for placing him in the high position of W.M. He had taken upon himself the responsible duties of the office, and he only hoped that at the expiration of his year of office he should have had the good fortune to secure their approbation. Nothing should be wanting on his part to advance the interests of the lodge and faithfully to discharge the duties of such a high and honourable office. (Applause.) Towards his fellow townsmen he felt great respect. He had dwelt amongst them for many years, and his family before him, and he hoped that he should never be found wanting in forwarding or assisting in any matter in which the interest of Hadleigh was concerned. (Applause.) His great object would be to win the esteem of those around him. He thanked the brethren most sincerely for their kindness.—Bro. HART gave "The Health of Bro. Henry Luff," who had been so kind as to come from a distance to assist them in their ceremony. He thought the brethren were much indebted to him for his kindness. (Applause.) He begged to propose his health as a visiting brother. (Drank with all honours.) Bro. LUFF, in returning thanks, said he should be happy at all times to assist them in any way that he could. It gave him much pleasure in meeting them. He regretted more of the Ipswich brethren were not present. He had endeavoured to get more to come, but from various circumstances they were prevented. There was one matter which he would refer to, and that was the absence of a "Lodge of Instruction" in Hadleigh. He felt sure much good would arise from it, and the brethren would not fail to receive benefit in the study and practice of Masonry. (Hear, hear.) He would take this opportunity of urging upon their notice the case of a late brother—Woolnough—who had left four orphan children (all girls) without any means of support. Both father and mother were dead, and the orphans were now dependant upon the bounty of their friends. They were endeavouring to get one of the girls into the school at Battersea, and he earnestly hoped the brethren of Suffolk would give their aid in this really painful but deserving case. He should be happy to receive the support of any brother on behalf of the candidate. (Applause.) Bro. GOLDING proposed the "Health of the P.M., Bro. Muriel," and thanks to him for his interest in the lodge. (Drank with honours.)—Bro. MURIEL, P.M., replied. It gave him great pleasure to find they had elected a brother who, he was sure, would perform the duties of his office with satisfaction to all. (Applause.) Bro. Muriel then referred to the Provincial Grand Lodge meeting, to be held in Hadleigh, and said he hoped they would have a large muster of brethren from all parts of the province. (Hear, hear.)—The W.M. next gave "The Healths of the S.W. and J.W." The S.W., he said, was a brother of kind and amiable disposition, and one who, he felt assured, would do his duty. (Hear, hear.) The J.W., he believed, would prove an excellent officer. (Applause.)—Bro. G. FREEMAN, S.W., acknowledged the toast. He said the position he had been called upon to fill was most unexpected to him. He would, however, endeavour to discharge his duties, and, he trusted, to their satisfaction. (Applause.) Bro. CORDER, J.W., briefly replied.—The W.M. rose and gave "The Press," uniting with the toast the name of a brother whom he always met with pleasure—he meant Bro. Tidd. (Applause.) It gave him very great pleasure in proposing his health. (Drank with all honours.)—Bro. E. C. TIDD having acknowledged the toast, the W.M. gave "The Secretary and Treasurer of the Lodge, Bros. Hart and Golding." (Applause.) The lodge was much indebted to Bro. Hart for the interest which he always took in its welfare. (Drank with all honours.)—Bro. HART briefly returned thanks. Bro. GOLDING, in reply, said he could fully bear out what the W.M. had said with regard to Bro. Hart. He, Bro. Golding, had received much valuable instruction from him, and he personally felt deeply indebted to Bro. Hart. If his humble services had been of any value to the lodge, he was amply repaid. (Applause.)—The D. PROV. G.M. gave "The Health of Bro. Barber," which was drunk with Masonic honours. Bro. Barber having responded, Bro. GOLDING proposed "The Health of Bro. Bowler and Mrs. Bowler." (Drank with applause.) Bro. BOWLER, in responding, said he thanked the brethren most cordially for their kind reception of the toast. He hoped the arrangements had been to their satisfaction. (Hear, hear.) It gave him pleasure on all occasions to meet his brethren. (Applause.) The D. Prov. G.M. then gave, as a concluding toast, "To all Poor and Distressed Masons throughout the World, &c.," which having been cordially drunk, the W.M. vacated his seat, and the brethren departed after a most pleasurable and social evening.

## YORKSHIRE (WEST).

BRADFORD.—*Lodge of Hope* (No. 379).—This lodge held its accustomed meeting on Monday evening, the 2nd inst. Bro. M. Rhodes, W.M., opened the lodge in due form, assisted by Bros. Rev. W. Fearnside, S.W.; J. Schaeppi, J.W.; and the rest of the officers. It was unanimously resolved that the lodge should go into mourning three months for Bro. J. Halliwell, recently dead, as a solemn tribute to departed worth. Bro. Henry Smith, P.M., ably brought forward the claims of the Masonic Boys' School, and urged the brethren of this lodge to institute an active canvas of the respective members with a view to raising the largest amount possible for so noble an Institution as the Boys' School. The lodge was closed in harmony at 9 p.m.

WAKEFIELD.—*Wakefield Lodge* (No. 727).—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge took place on Tuesday evening, February 10th, at which there were present a goodly number of members and visiting brethren. The minutes of last lodge being confirmed, Bro. Wilson, W.M., appointed Bro. Henry Smith, P.M. of 379 and 543, to the S.W.'s chair. Bro. Handley being absent from sickness, Bro. Captain Williams acted as J.W., and Bro. John Gill assisted the W.M. in the ceremony of raising Bro. J. Armstrong to the sublime degree of M.M.; Bro. Frank Walker acting as Organist. Bros. William Gill, S.D.; J. France, J.D.; Wood, I.G.; Beckett, Tyler; Dr. Senior, P.G. Chap.; Mickelthwaite, Captain Bascindall, D. Wade, 384; Sykes, and W. W. Glover, P.M. The subject of a Ball, in celebration of the marriage of the Prince of Wales, was discussed, and a resolution was passed empowering the lodge to apply for dispensation to wear Masonic clothing on the occasion. Bro. Dr. Senior, LL.D., and Henry Smith then advocated the claims of the Boys' School Festival—the former being a Steward. The lodge being closed, the W.M. and brethren joined the festive board, where supper was provided under the superintendence of a worthy P.M., who is untiring his efforts in this important department as well as in the duties of the lodge. The Chaplain having returned thanks and the cloth being removed, the W.M. proposed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, which were heartily responded to. Bro. W. W. Glover was called upon to return thanks on behalf of the P.M.'s, and in return proposed the health of the W.M., Bro. D. Wilson, who expressed himself deeply indebted for so many marks of kindness, regretting exceedingly that in consequence of his engagements, the opening of the lodge had been delayed a considerable time, and their opportunity for enjoyment in the refreshment room proportionately curtailed. After a further discussion respecting the proposed Ball, the brethren separated shortly after eleven.

## INDIA.

(From the *Indian Freemason's Friend*.)\*

## CALCUTTA.

LODGE STAR IN THE EAST (No. 80).—There was a very large gathering of this lodge on Wednesday, the 12th November. Two brethren were raised by Bro. Howe, P.M., at the same time that the W.M. conferred some of the minor degrees. Bro. Parlbly pulled out a goodly section of the army list, containing the names of brethren wishing to join the lodge. It was resolved that the list of subscriptions to the Hoff Testimonial Fund, previous to circulation among the members, should be headed with a contribution from the lodge fund of 250 rupees. At the banquet table, the W.M. proposed as usual, the toasts of obligation, until he came to the health of the "Prov. G.M. of Bengal," which was received with great enthusiasm, the brethren being evidently proud, and very properly too, that their W.M. was also the Prov. G.M. The W.M. then proposed the health of Bro. E. K. O. Gilbert, late Master of the Dinapore Lodge, and other visitors; to which Bro. Gilbert responded in a speech, which was very well received. Another meeting of the lodge

\* Our Calcutta contemporary complains that in our recent Indian news, we omitted to acknowledge from whence we obtained. We can assure our Brother Editor that the line was only accidentally omitted, the printer not observing that we had marked it for insertion.

was held on the 26th November, when, besides initiations and raisings, the following brethren were elected members of the lodge—Thomas Risely, Org. of St. Paul's Lodge; Edward Colston, No. 886, Bristol; Major Edmund Kerr Otho Gilbert, of Lodge Meridian, Dublin; Isaac Wilson, of Lodge No. 25, Dublin; Colonel Archibald Inglis Lockhart, C.B., commanding H.M.'s 92nd Highlanders, of Lodge St. Mungoes, Glasgow; Captain Jacob Carnac Murphy, 7th Dragoon Guards, of Lodge Eureka (No. 49); Captain Theodore Gordon, H.M.'s 92nd, of Lodge Cannongate, Kilwinning (No. 2); Lieut. Maurice Thomson Carmichael, H.M.'s 92nd, of Lodge Triune Brotherhood (No. 984); Lieut. John Crosland Hay, H.M.'s 92nd, of Lodge Cannongate Kilwinning (No. 2); Lieut. Lawrence Maxwell Lockhart, H.M.'s 92nd, of Lodge St. John, Lesmahagon (No. 20); Ensign George Kellie McCallum, H.M.'s 92nd, of Lodge St. Andrew (No. 74). At the banquet table, Bro. W. H. Hoff returned thanks for the health of the visitors, and, referring to the kind allusions of the W.M. to him and his father, he expressed the gratification he felt in serving under the Prov. G.M., not only on personal grounds, but from having perceived that he had a desire for the welfare of the Craft to a degree of which he had no proper conception at the time he, solely from a feeling of loyalty, agreed to become one of his ministerial officers.

LODGE INDUSTRY AND PERSEVERANCE (No. 126).—A regular meeting of this lodge was held on Friday, November 7th, present, Bros. C. T. Davis, W.M.; John W. Brown, Hon. P.M.; Dr. Frank Powell, S.W.; Strong, as J.W.; W. G. Baxter, Sec. and Treas.; Stephen Nation, as S.D.; and the other Officers, besides member and visitors. Among the latter, were Bros. Major Gilbert; Captain Wilson Clark, W.M. of Lodge St. Luke (No. 1150), held at Dum-Dum; Baker, of the Scotch Lodge St. David in the East (No. 371); Thompson, 371, and Crichton, 401, of Scotland; and Captain Henry L. De la Chamette, Royal Artillery. There was no particular work set down in the paper. Relief was given to the widow a P.M., recently deceased, the W.M. contributing towards the relief from his private purse; visiting Bro. De la Chamette also contributed separately. The lodge will hold its meetings for the present twice a month, on the first and third Fridays, at 6.30 p.m. The Report of the Permanent Committee was most satisfactory; the funds of the lodge are in a healthy state. Although this ancient lodge (opened A.L. 1761) is now numerically weak, it is, under the excellent government of its popular and gifted Master, a most happy home in Masonry. The evening was enlivened by some excellent songs by Bros. Dr. D. G. Clerk, Newham, and other brethren. Another meeting of this lodge was held on the 21st November, present, Bros. C. T. Davis, W.M.; John W. Brown, Hon. P.M.; Dr. John Smith, W.M. of St. David in the East (No. 371 of Scotland), and a member of No. 126; John Cameron, P.M. of No. 371; J. H. Linton, W.M. of No. 551, and member of No. 126; Dr. F. Powell, S.W.; A. F. Manly, J.W.; Dickson, S.D.; Strong, as J.D.; Lumsdaine, as I.G.; Daniel, Tyler; besides members and visiting brethren. Bro. Dr. Peers, having duly served his time as a Craftsman, and having given proof of the progress he had made, was raised to the M.M. degree by Bro. J. W. Brown. Another meeting of this lodge was held on the 5th December. Present—Bros. C. T. Davis, W.M.; John Wm. Brown, P.M.; Dr. John Smith, W.M. 371 (S.C.), and member of 126; Wm. H. Hoff, P.M. 279, Prov. G. Sec.; J. H. Linton, W.M. 551 and 126; Dr. Frank Powell, S.W.; Manly, J.W.; Baxter, Sec.; Dickson, S.D.; Strong, J.D.; K. H. Pinto, I.G.; Daniel, Tyler; besides other members and visitors. Mr. J. N. Mackertish was initiated into Freemasonry. Bro. Dr. John Smith was elected W.M. for the ensuing year. It was the desire of the brethren to re-elect our respected and beloved Bro. Davis for a second year, but circumstances of a domestic nature prevented the W.M. accepting this grateful and pleasing acknowledgment of merit. Bro. Chandler was re-elected Treasurer; the W.M. paid a just tribute to the excellent performance of his duty. Bro. Daniel was re-appointed Tyler. Bro. W. G. Baxter was elected an honorary member, in recognition of the eminent services rendered by him to the lodge. At the banquet table, the health of Bros. Davis, Dr. Smith, W.M. elect, of the visitors, and several other toasts were proposed.

LODGE COURAGE WITH HUMANITY.—A regular meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, 27th November. Present—Bros. J. H. Linton, W.M.; John William Brown, Hon. P.M.; C. T. Davis, W.M. of Lodge Industry and Perseverance (No. 126); W. G. Baxter, W.M. of Saint Andrew in the East

(No. 401 S.C.); Beatson, S.W.; Chapman, as J.W.; Rambart, Sec.; and other worthy brethren. One brother was passed and three brethren were initiated. Bro. Brown had been specially invited by the W.M. to attend the meeting, for the purpose of raising Bros. Gill, Morgan, and Shields to the third degree. These three brethren, having given proof of their proficiency in the second degree, were raised to the M.M. degree by Bro. Brown, who received the thanks of the W.M. The services rendered by Bro. Baxter, in aiding in the work of the evening, were at the same time acknowledged. Notice of a motion made at the last regular meeting was disposed of. The proposition was made by the S.W., and was duly seconded and carried, that an addition be made to the bye-laws of the lodge, allowing any visiting brother holding office *pro. tem.*, to vote in lodge on matters regarding the general good of Freemasonry.\* The Secretary was directed to submit the new bye-law for the information and approval of the Prov. G.M. of Bengal. A visiting brother from the United States of America was, after due examination, obligated and welcomed by the W.M.

LODGE ST. JOHN (No. 715).—A regular meeting of this lodge was held at Freemasons' Hall, Calcutta, on Friday, the 14th November. Present—Bros. John William Brown, P.M. of the lodge, presiding; C. T. Davis, W.M. of Industry and Perseverance (No. 126), and member of No. 715, P.M.; John Cameron, P.M. of Lodge Saint David in the East (No. 371 S.C.); Dr. Frank Powell, S.W.; Morgan, as J.W.; Lumsdaine, as S.D.; Stephen Nation, as J.D.; W. G. Baxter, Sec. and Treas.; Rambart, I.G.; Daniel, as Tyler; besides visitors. The business before the lodge was to ballot for Bro. Captain Wilson Clark as a joining member. Bro. Clark is the W.M. of Lodge St. Luke (No. 1150), holding at Dum-Dum. Bro. Clark was proposed a joining member by the worthy S.W. of the lodge, seconded by Bro. the Hon. Captain Fraser. The brethren present elected Bro. Clark by acclamation as a joining member. Bro. Andrew Yule was passed to the second degree by Bro. John William Brown, P.M., of the lodge. On the motion of the P.M., a hundred rupees was voted to the "Hoff Testimonial." Information was required as to the form of the testimonial; whether it was to be a purse or piece of plate? The W.M. replied he could give no information, not being a member of the Committee. The Treasurer was directed to send the amount voted to Bro. H. Howe, President of the Committee. A hundred rupees was also voted to the relief of the distressed operatives in Lancashire. Another meeting of this lodge was held on the 28th November. Present:—Bros. John Wm. Brown, P.M., as W.M.; C. T. Davis, P.M.; John Cameron, P.M. of Lodge Saint David in the East (No. 371 S.C.); Doctor John Smith, W.M. of 371; J. H. Linton, W.M. of 551; Dr. Frank Powell, S.W.; Pittar, J.W.; W. G. Baxter, Sec. and Treas.; Stephen Nation, S.D.; besides other members and visitors. Mr. George Chisholm was elected by ballot for initiation. The candidate having been admitted, was initiated into Freemasonry by Bro. Brown.

LODGE EXCELSIOR (No. 1127).—This lodge met on the 21st ult. to ballot for Mr. Samuel Fenn, who was initiated by the W.M. in his usual impressive manner. There was a large attendance at the lodge, and among the visitors were Bros. Clark, Brown, Linton, Bennet, Powell, and Emanuel. The members adjourned to the banquet at 8.30, which was enlivened by the strains of the Town Band. We understand that this band has been engaged to play at every meeting. The lodge met again on the 4th inst., when Bro. Dyer, of No. 673, was elected a member, and Messrs. Oldham and Holmes were initiated by the W.M. Bro. John W. Brown gave the second degree to Bros. Mankiewicz, Stoney and Greele. After the banquet, the W.M., after the usual toasts of obligation, in a very kind manner, proposed the health of Bro. Emanuel, who had been so constant in his attendance at work upstairs, and so kind in looking after the harmony at refreshment. The brother responded in suitable terms. After a few good songs, including the usual sparkling ones by the W.M., the brethren separated. Another meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday, the 2nd December, when, none of those eligible for the chair being willing or able to take it, Bro. W. H. Abbott was unanimously elected to serve for a third year, subject to the confirmation of the Prov. G.M. The social gathering at the supper table was enlivened by the strains of the Town Band. Bro. William H. Hoff, after returning thanks for the health of the visitors, proposed the health of Bro. W. H. Abbott,

the W.M. elect. The toast was received with such deafening applause, that a great deal of eloquence was wasted on the noisy air.

DUM-DUM.—Lodge St. Luke.—A regular meeting of this lodge was held at Dum-Dum. on Wednesday, the 3rd December, 1862, present, Bros. Capt. W. W. Clark, W.M.; John William Brown, Hon. P.M.; the Rev. Dr. Lindstedt, S.W.; Fenwick, Prov. J.G.W., as S.W.; Dr. Frank Powell, Sec. and Treas.; Pritchard, S.D.; Douglas as J.D.; the Hon. Capt. Fraser as I.G.; W. G. Baxter as Tyler; besides members and visitors. Mr. Edwin Samuel Moseley, of the Bengal Civil Service, was initiated into Freemasonry, and Bros. P. Pritchard and A. C. Galbraith were passed to the second degree by Bro. John Wm. Brown. Bro. Capt. G. R. Fenwick, was elected by acclamation W.M. for the ensuing year. The W.M. elect is one of the worthy brethren who founded the lodge, and has been a pillar of strength to it. Success to his H. Bro. Dr. Frank Powell was re-elected Treas. for the ensuing year by acclamation. Bro. Powell is most assiduous in the discharge of his Masonic duties. The W.M. announced that the lodge would meet again on Wednesday fortnight. Bro. Brown was asked to administer the ceremony of installation. On the motion of Bro. Brown, a vote of thanks was recorded to Bro. W. G. Baxter, for the assistance rendered to the lodge by his cheerful discharge of the duties of Tyler of the lodge in the absence of the serving brother.

BENARES.—We are sorry, for the sake of Lodge No. 760 at Benares, which owes much to his exertions, that Bro. W. H. Lowe has left that station for Gwalior. It was he who re-suscitated it in 1859; but on his return from England, in December, 1861, he found it well nigh defunct. He began again, with only six members; and now, after ruling it for the short space of eleven months, during which he initiated 15, passed 11, and raised 7, he has left it with about 32 members, the number having intermediately risen at one time to 43. How much the prosperity of a lodge depends upon a good energetic Master. A donation was lately made by the lodge to the Lancashire Relief Fund. The lodge is now under the charge of the S.W., Bro. Major Pester.

From our own Correspondent.

SECUNDERABAD, DECCAR.—St. John's Lodge. (No. 628).—The installation of the W.M. of this lodge took place at the Masonic Hall on Monday Dec. 1. The following brethren were present:—Bros. Deacon, W.M.; Hulseberg, P.M.; Cox, M'Gee, Martin, Blumberg, Hadou, Faulkner, Ali Mahomed Khan, Bishop, James, Abadie, Dobbs, Cox, Anderson. The lodge having been opened by the W.M. and the minutes confirmed, all, except those entitled to be present at the ceremony of installation, were requested to retire, when Bro. Thomas Martin, the W.M. elect, was duly installed into the chair of K.S. by Bro. Deacon. The lodge having been lowered and the brethren having tendered their submission in the several degrees, the W.M. appointed and invested the following brethren as officers for the year, viz: Bro. Blumberg, S.W.; Hadou, J.W.; James, Treas. and Sec.; Faulkner, S.D.; Bishop, J.D.; Saville, I.G.; Anderson, Tyler. Mr. Oxley, (38th Regt. M. N. I.) having been regularly proposed, approved, and balloted for, was admitted and duly initiated into the mysteries of ancient Freemasonry by the W.M. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren then repaired to their banquet hall, and partook of an excellent dinner provided by the butler "Tantia." After the cloth was removed, the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were heartily responded to, and the evening was much enlivened by some excellent songs from the brethren.—Jan. 5th, 1863. The lodge held a regular monthly meeting, present, Bros. Martin, W.M.; Blumberg, S.W.; Hadou, J.W.; Faulkner, S.D.; Stevenson, J.D.; Saville, I.G.; James, Sec.; Ali Mahomed Khan; Watts, M'Allum, Way, Dobbs, Cox, Abadie, Oxley, and Anderson. After the confirmation of the minutes, Bros. Abadie, Dobbs, Cox and Oxley, were examined in the first degree, and received their reward and retired. They were afterwards re-admitted and duly passed to the second degree by the W.M., with a lecture on the tracing board. The lodge having been lowered to the first degree, a letter from Bro. Wright, P.M. of this lodge, and now in England, was read, acknowledging in suitable terms the receipt of a jewel of the R.A., presented to him by the brethren of this lodge, as a mark of their esteem and an acknowledgment of his able services rendered upon all occasions whenever required. A candidate having been proposed, the lodge was closed in due form.

\* Perfectly inadmissible.—Ed. F. M.



## ROYAL ARCH.

## YORKSHIRE (WEST).

BRADFORD.—*Chapter of Charity* (No. 379).—A meeting of this chapter was held at the lodge rooms, on Monday evening last, February 9th, at which a considerable number of companions assembled, including Comps. C. H. Taylor, *M.D., Z.*; Thomas Hill, *P.Z.* as *H.*; James Lumb, *J.*; J. J. Schaeppi, *S.E.*; Henry Smith, *P.Z.* 543 and 379, as *Treas.*; Hy. Berlon, *S.N.*; Alex. Hunter, *P. Soj.*; Jas. Rickard, *M. Rogerson, P.Z.*; M. Rhodes, James H. Buckley, *P.Z.*; J. J. Holmes, and others. After the minutes had been read and confirmed, Comp. Haworth was made an honorary member. A resolution was also carried devoting a sum to charity. Comp. Henry Smith called attention to the approaching festival of the Boys' School, to be held in London, March 11th, and announced the state of the subscription list in this province, which now amounts to upwards of a thousand guineas, although no organized canvas had been yet made—a resolution was then carried to empower the Treasurer to pay an additional sum to the yearly vote to make the chapter life governors. Bro. Emil Goldschmidt, of the Lodge of Hope (No. 379), was then ballotted for, and afterwards exalted, Comp. Thos. Hill, *P.Z.*, giving a portion of the lectures. The Chapter was closed in peace and harmony at nine o'clock, when the companions retired to the refreshment room, where supper was served.

WAKEFIELD CHAPTER (No. 727).—A meeting of this chapter will take place on Friday next, when a strong muster is expected. In consequence of inactivity for several years, there is a considerable number of brethren of Lodge 727 to be exalted. Dr. Senior, *LL.D.*, *Prov. G. Chap.*, is a member of this chapter.

## INDIA.

(From the *Indian Freemasons' Friend*.)

## BENGAL.—DISTRICT GRAND CHAPTER.

A convocation of the District Grand Chapter was held at Freemason's Hall, Calcutta, on Thursday, 20th November. Present:—Hugh D. Sandeman (Grand Superintendent), Frederick Jennings, John B. Roberts, John W. Brown, William H. Hoff, Henry T. Prinsep, James B. Knight, B. S. B. Parlyby, Charles K. Dove, James W. Browne, James H. Linton, Charles James Evans, David J. Daniel, William J. Judge, William B. Collins, Edmund K. O. Gilbert, and Vernon H. Schalech.

After the appointment of M.E. Comp. Sandeman to the office of Grand Superintendent had been announced, and the official letter on the subject from the Grand Scribe E. had been read, the assembled companions rose and saluted the Grand Superintendent.

The Grand Superintendent, after returning the salute, said that there was no necessity for his taking up the time of the District Grand Chapter by any lengthened address.

The Companions had been summoned to hear officially the authority under which he (the Grand Superintendent) had taken his seat as First Grand Principal, and to transact the ordinary business of the chapter. A long time had elapsed since the last convocation, which was held in August 1859, but as the By-laws directed that meetings should be held in each year, on a day fixed by the Grand Superintendent, he, deeming the cold season to be the most suitable time of the year for the purpose, had fixed upon the 5th of November (a day upon which the Hall will not be otherwise engaged) for the annual meeting in 1863, and had communicated the same to the Compiler of the Masonic Almanac, in order that an entry might be made accordingly.

He had to inform the District Grand Chapter, with reference to the present position of Royal Arch Masonry in Bengal, that they were nine chapters in working order, of which two were in Calcutta, and seven in the provinces. The two in Calcutta were:—

Chapter Hope, attached to Lodge 126, and Holy Zion attached to Lodge 551.

The seven chapters in the Province, were Firm Hope (No. 596), Meerut; Dalhousie (No. 673), Simla; Mount Zion (No. 760), Benares; Ramsay (No. 810); Umballa (No. 823), Umballa; St. John the Baptist (No. 922); Mussooree; and Punjaub (No. 1084), Lahore.

Two chapters were in abeyance, viz., Valour with Perseverance (No. 550), Allahabad, and Border (No. 852), Peshawar.

Of the Bengal Chapters above enumerated as in working order, three had submitted no returns since the end of 1859, so that he was not prepared to say whether they were now in working condition or not. The *Prov. G. Scribe E.*, however, was

taking steps to obtain these returns, as well as other necessary information, from the Principals of the chapters without delay.

The *Prov. G. Scribe E.* read the report of the Finance Committee. The accounts of the *Prov. G. Treas.* showed a balance of 2213 rupees, of which 1000 rupees was a fixed deposit in the Agra Bank, having been reserved in 1858 for the building fund.

The Grand Superintendent appointed the following Companions to office in the District Grand Chapter, each investiture being accompanied by a short appropriate speech:—

Comps. Fred. Jennings .....	D. G. Superintendent.
" John B. Roberts .....	<i>Prov. G. Principal H.</i>
" John W. Brown.....	<i>Prov. G. Principal J.</i>
" William H. Hoff.....	<i>Prov. G. Scribe E.</i>
" William Clark, <i>C.E.</i> .....	<i>Prov. G. Scribe N.</i>
" James B. Knight .....	<i>Prov. G. Principal Soj.</i>
" Henry T. Prinsep .....	<i>Prov. G. 1st Assist. Soj.</i>
" B. S. B. Parlyby .....	<i>Prov. G. 2nd Assist. Soj.</i>
" James W. Browne.....	<i>Prov. G. Registrar.</i>
" James H. Linton .....	<i>Prov. G. Sword Bearer.</i>
" Charles J. Evans .....	<i>Prov. G. Standard Bearer.</i>
" Charles K. Dove .....	<i>Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.</i>
" David J. Daniel.....	<i>Prov. G. Janitor.</i>

Comp. W. Clark was re-elected Treasurer by acclamation.

The following resolutions were passed:

That 250 rupees be contributed from the funds of the District Grand Chapter to the Hoff Testimonial Fund.

That the District Grand Chapter be provided with its own clothing and jewels.

Comp. W. J. Judge complained that he had been overlooked by the *Prov. G. Scribe E.*, when summonses were issued to those entitled to sit in the District Grand Chapter; and he begged that his status, both in Chapter Hope, as a Past 1st Principal, and in the District Grand Chapter, might be recognised.

The Provincial Grand Scribe E., while maintaining that M.E. Comp. Judge's complaint was not a matter for the consideration of the District Grand Chapter, but that it ought properly to have formed the subject of an official communication for submission to the Grand Superintendent, nevertheless explained that, in issuing summonses, he had been guided by the last returns of the chapters, and by the printed report of the last convocation, held in 1859, in none of which did M.E. Comp. Judge appear as a Past First Principal. The Provincial Grand Scribe E., however, expressed regret at the omission, although unintentional.

M.E. Comp. Comp. F. Jennings, as *P.Z.* of Chapter Hope, apologised for the defective nature of his last return, which had been prepared by a new Scribe E.

The District Grand Chapter recorded an expression of its gratitude at the appointment of M.E. Comp. Sandeman to the office of District Grand Superintendent.

After the District Grand Chapter had been closed, the companions went down to the banquet, and passed a very pleasant evening, without the aid of music.

CALCUTTA.—*Chapter Holy Zion*.—A convocation of this Chapter was held on Thursday, the 4th December. Present:—Comps. J. M. Harris, *Z.*; Linton, *H.*; Collins, *J.*; Dr. John Smith, 1st Principal of the Scottish Chapter working in Calcutta; Gale, a Principal of the same chapter; John William Brown, *H.* of Chapter Hope (No. 126), and Honorary Past Principal of No. 551; Taylor, *Scribe E.*; Beatson, *Scribe N.*; Evans, *Principal Soj.*; Rambart and Hales as *Assist. Sojs.*; Daniel, *Janitor*, besides other members and visitors. Bros. George Wyman, J. Wright, of Lodge No. 282, and J. Peters, of Lodge No. 551, being well and worthily recommended and accepted by ballot, were exalted to the degree of *R.A.* The lectures were delivered by the *J.* of the chapter; by Comp. Brown, *Honorary H.*; and by the *Z.* Comp. Linton was elected 1st Principal of the chapter; Comp. Collins to the Second Chair; and Comp. Evans to the Third Chair. Comp. Wyman was re-elected *Scribe E.* and *Treas.* The election of Comp. Scribe N. stands adjourned. Comp. Rambart was elected *Principal Soj.*

LUCKNOW CHAPTER.—The following is an extract from the report of the Committee of General Purposes to the Supreme Grand Chapter, at a Convocation held on the 6th August:—“The committee have also to report that they have received a petition from Comps. John Buckley, as *Z.*; John Fitz-Owen Macgregman, as *H.*; Edward James Simpson, as *J.*; and six others, for a Chapter to be attached to the Morning Star Lodge (No. 810), Lucknow, East Indies, to be called the Ramsay Chapter, and to meet at Lucknow on the first Monday of every month.” The committee recommended that the prayer be granted.



## THE WEEK.

**THE COURT.**—The treaty with Denmark, for the marriage of the Prince of Wales with the Princess Alexandra, is published. It provides for the celebration of the marriage according to the rites of the Church of England, and, what is perhaps more important, it secures £10,000 a year to the Princess, and £30,000 a year, in "lieu of dower," should she "have the misfortune to become the widow of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales." The first battalion of the Kent Rifle Volunteers, recently sent in to the proper quarter an offer to form part of a guard of honour to the Princess Alexandra on her arrival at Gravesend; but the Lord Lieutenant has declined to accede to the proposal, on the ground that "there is a rule that no guards of honour are ever furnished by volunteers to the Royal Family." The committee appointed by the Court of Common Council to arrange for the reception of the Prince of Wales and his affianced bride in their progress through the City have been unremitting in their arrangements. It is now officially settled that the procession is to come from the Bricklayers' Arms, through the Borough, over London Bridge, through King William-street, Cheapside, Ludgate-hill, Fleet-street, and the Strand, and so on westward to the Paddington Station. The Mansion House, Temple Bar, &c., will be gay with flags, and from the arrangements in progress the welcome we are sure will be a most gratifying one.

**IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.**—On the re-assembling of the HOUSE OF LORDS after the adjournment which followed the reading of the Royal Speech, on Thursday, 5th inst., a scene of rare and remarkable interest was witnessed. The Prince of Wales, as Duke of Cornwall, entered the house in state, and took the oaths and his seat as a peer of the realm. The address in reply to the Speech from the Throne was moved by Lord Dudley, and seconded by Lord Granard. The seconder was followed by Lord Derby, who reviewed at some length the topics referred to in the Speech. He expressed his approval generally of the course which Her Majesty's Government had pursued with reference to the American war, but regretted that they had not accepted the invitation of the Emperor of the French to make an attempt, however hopeless it might be, "to obtain by their good offices such an armistice and cessation of hostilities, as would lead the two parties themselves to reflect on the miseries and hopelessness of the conflict in which they were engaged." At the same time, he confessed that he differed from some of his political friends, who held the opinion that the time had arrived for recognising the Confederate States. He did not believe that the Northern and Southern States could ever be re-united, but he submitted that the recognition of the Southern Confederacy at the present moment might be attended with the most serious complications. The noble Earl then referred to the distress in the manufacturing districts, and expressed a fear that the present apparent improvement in the state of things in Lancashire was only temporary, and that for some time to come it would be necessary to continue the appeal to public benevolence. He strongly censured the policy of the Government on the Schleswig-Holstein question; and condemned the offer of an asylum to the Pope, and the proposed cession of the Ionian Islands. Lord Russell defended the policy of the Government, and after a short discussion, in which Lords Malmesbury, Grey, Carnarvon, and Wodehouse, took part, the house adjourned.—On Friday, Lord De Grey, in reply to a question from Lord Llanover, stated that the Government proposed, in the course of the present session, to introduce a bill for the purpose of giving effect to the recommendations of the Volunteer Commission.—On Monday nothing of importance took place.—On Tuesday Lord Normanby gave notice of a speech on the Roman question; and after a brief conversation on the ticket-of-leave system, their Lordships adjourned.—In the HOUSE OF COMMONS, on Thursday, the 6th inst., several new members took the oaths and their seats. Several notices of motion having been given, Mr. F. Calthorpe moved an address in reply to the speech from the throne. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bazley, who, in the course of his speech, referred to the distress in Lancashire, and defended the wealthier classes of this country against the charge of having neglected the suffering operatives. Mr. Disraeli made a bitter attack on the foreign policy of the Government,—or, as he termed it, "the mellow harvest of autumnal indiscretions" on the part of Lord Russell. A long discussion followed, ending in the address being adopted.—On Friday Mr. Layard made a statement with reference to the

dispute with Brazil, and expressed his belief that the friendly relations between Her Majesty's Government and that of Brazil would soon be restored. The bringing up of the report on the Address in reply to the speech from the Throne, gave several members an opportunity of expressing their views on various subjects. Mr. Darby Griffith deprecated a Tory-Radical coalition for the purpose of upsetting the Government, and Mr. Bentinck and Mr. Newdegate gave another proof their determination not to follow the lead of Mr. Disraeli on all public questions. The member for West Norfolk, besides advocating the recognition of the Southern States of America, declared that he totally differed from his leader on the subject of the proposed cession of the Ionian Islands. He thought we derived no great military advantage from our protectorate of the Septinsular Republic, and he believed that the interests of this country would not suffer from its union with Greece. Mr. Newdegate could not join with Mr. Disraeli in his covert censure of the offer made to the Pope of an asylum on British territory; on the contrary, he expressed his entire approval of "what had been done in the matter.—On Monday, Lord Palmerston stated, in reply to a question from Mr. Gregory, that if the Admiralty officials reported that the Galway Company were in a position to carry on the mail service between Ireland and the United States, her Majesty's Government would ask the House of Commons to sanction the renewal of the cancelled subsidy. In answer to another question from Mr. Gregory, Mr. Chichester Fortescue said the Government had declined to give direct aid to the scheme known as the "Intercolonial Railway," but they were willing to assist the promoters of the project to the extent of recommending Parliament to pledge the Imperial credit with the view of facilitating the raising of a loan.—Sir Charles Wood gave "a very favourable" report of the progress made in the construction of the harbour works at Sedashegur, and in the opening of roads from the cotton districts to that port.—Lord Palmerston, in reply to a question from Mr. H. D. Seymour, confirmed the statement made in the official journal of Gotha, that the Duke of Saxe Coburg has declined to be nominated as a candidate for the throne of Greece.—Sir G. Grey obtained leave to bring in a bill for the better prevention of corrupt practices at elections.—On Tuesday, Sir George Grey, in reply to Mr. Lawson and Lord Enfield, stated that it was proposed to introduce a bill for amending the law relating to the sale of spirits and beer; but that it was not intended to deal further, for the present, with the licensing of houses for music and dancing. In answer to a question from Mr. Garnett, the Right Hon. Baronet said no instructions had been issued with the view of securing that convicts liberated on tickets of leave should be better known to the police. With reference to some remarks made by several members on the subject of the proposed cession of the Ionian Islands to Greece, Lord Palmerston explained that it was a delusion to suppose that the English Government could, by a stroke of the pen, hand over the Septinsular Republic to the Greeks. In reply to a question by Mr. Pope Hennessy, the noble lord denied that Austria had offered to join the Allies against Russia during the Crimean war if France and England would combine with her in re-establishing the independence of Poland.—On Wednesday the Irish Salmon Fisheries Bill was read a second time. The Drainage of Land Bill for Ireland was also read a second time. Mr. Adderley gave notice of his intention to ask for leave to introduce a bill for the further protection of the public from acts of violence. A new writ was issued for the election of a member for Lisburn, in the room of Mr. Richardson. Mr. Newdegate subsequently introduced his bill for the commutation of church rates, and Lord Raynham brought in a measure for the protection of women and children from violent assaults.

**GENERAL HOME NEWS.**—The mortality of London still continues to decline. The deaths last week amounted only to 1310, which was about 240 below the number in the first week of January, and 134 less than the average rate for the last ten years. The decrease is chiefly in pulmonary complaints. The births amounted to 2093, a number largely in excess of the deaths and above the corrected average rate.—The "ordinary" public expenditure for the twelve months ending December 31st, was rather over £70,340,000, while the income was close upon seventy-one millions. This statement shows a balance on the right side, but the outlay on fortifications—an "extraordinary" item—causes on the year an excess of expenditure over income of upwards of half a million. The balances in the Exchequer amounted at the close of the year to £5,669,865, or nearly a million in excess of the reserve at the corresponding period of

1861.—Mr. Gladstone proposes an alteration in the Customs duties on manufactured tobacco. He will move that the duty on cigars be fixed at 5s. per lb.; on snuff at 3s. 9d.; and on other kinds at 4s. He also proposes to levy a charge of 3s. 8d. on every pound of "Cavendish" made up from home consumption from manufactured tobacco "warehoused in any warehouse approved for security of duties of Customs."—Mr. Lindsay, M.P., gives a positive denial to the statement that he is a holder of Confederate bonds, and that he and his partners have contracted with the Southern government for the construction of war steamers.—Col. Bernard, the member for Bandon, died on Friday, and Captain Gladstone, one of the members for Devizes, and brother of the Chancellor of the Exchequer on the following day.—At the meeting of the Relief Committee, Mr. Farnall reported a further diminution in the pauperism of the cotton manufacturing districts. The Commissioner, however, directed attention to the opinion of competent judges that the operatives will probably be but half employed during the present year, and urged the importance of looking out for new spheres of labour for the thousands whose prospects wear so gloomy an aspect.—The *George Griswold* arrived in the Mersey on Tuesday, from New York, with provisions and other supplies for the operatives of the cotton manufacturing districts. As the ship passed up the river she was welcomed by a salute from the North Fort. It is proposed to present addresses to the captain, and to acknowledge in other ways the munificent gift of our kinsmen on the other side of the Atlantic.—Convocation met on Wednesday. When the formal business was disposed of Archdeacon Denison brought forward a motion for the suspension of the standing orders, in order that Convocation might consider what steps it ought to take in the matter of Bishop Colenso's book. The motion was agreed to. Archdeacon Denison then moved that an address be presented to the Upper House, praying them to appoint a committee to examine the works of Bishop Colenso on the Pentateuch, with a view of reporting whether or not those books contain heresy. Two amendments were moved and lost, and eventually the original motion was carried. In the Upper House the Bishops were engaged in the discussion of the question of the increase of the episcopate.—A curious breach of promise of marriage case has been tried, *Adams v. Russell*, resulting in a verdict that the plaintiff had not proved her case to the satisfaction of the jury. The defendant is a surgeon of eminence and a married man, the plaintiff being the daughter of a deceased medical man, who, with her mother, obtains a living as teachers.—A singular case, in which a Mr. Clare, of Liverpool, claimed half a million from the Government as the inventor of the plans on which the *Warrior* and other iron-cased ships of war are constructed, has been brought to a close in the Court of Queen's Bench, after a trial which extended over several days. The jury returned a verdict for the Crown.—A case of some interest to authors and publishers came before Mr. Baron Bramwell at the Court of Exchequer. Mr. Augustus Mayhew wrote a tale in the columns of the *Welcome Guest*, which Mr. Maxwell, the proprietor of that serial, wished afterwards to publish separately. Mr. Mayhew agreed to extend the tale so as to allow it to be published as a two shilling volume, and he received the stipulated price for the work. It was delayed, however, from time to time, and when at last delivered it was found to be still far short of the proper length. On this Mr. Maxwell sued for damages, but on the suggestion of the judge the parties agreed to settle the dispute out of court.—The steamer *Bussorah*, Captain Gray, left the Clyde for Calcutta on the 16th of last month, with a general cargo, and a crew of 30 persons. It is feared that the vessel, which was only built last year, has foundered in one of the many gales that have lately visited these islands. Fragments of her boats and fittings have been washed ashore on the Isle of Islay. If that be correct, all hands must have perished.—Another unhappy ballet girl has been seriously, if not fatally, burned on the stage. The accident occurred at Sadler's Wells Theatre, on Monday night. The poor girl's light gauze dress caught fire, and in an instant she was enveloped in flames, and seriously, though it is hoped not fatally, injured.—The inquest on the body of the policeman who was murdered at Acton has been brought to a close. No further evidence was offered; and the Coroner, in summing up, pointed the circumstances that tended to criminate the two prisoners Isaac and John Brooks. The jury returned a verdict of wilful murder against both.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.—The King of Prussia has replied to the address of his deputies. His reply is a personal one; he

dispenses with the formality of speaking through his Ministers, in order the Chambers may know his individual will. He assumes the responsibility of all that the Ministers have done; declares that though the budget was not voted the administration must still be carried on; and reminds the Chamber that the constitution requires the assent of all three Estates to the budget. He insists on his determination to maintain the rights of the Crown, and naively adds that after this conciliatory statement he expects that the house will meet his views.—The difficulties which Marshal O'Donnell has had to encounter in maintaining himself in power against the attacks of the Opposition have, it seems, brought on an attack of illness, and in consequence the sittings of the Cortes have been suspended by a Royal decree. This measure had caused great sensation in Madrid, as the belief was prevalent that it would be followed by a dissolution of the Congress. The Queen is said to have again expressed her entire confidence in her Prime Minister.—The refusal of Duke Ernest of Saxe Coburg to accept the Greek Crown is reported to have produced a very unsatisfactory impression in Athens. Tranquility still prevails, although some accounts express a doubt whether the unsettled political condition may not lead to popular disturbances. The National Assembly have passed a decree entrusting the functions of Government to three members, who are to preside in rotation.—The telegrams from Poland still show the insurrection to be in full vigour. The insurgents are in possession of all places between Czestochow and the Prussian frontier. The greatest defeat the latter had sustained was near Wonesock, where they lost a great number of men and arms. A telegram from Lemberg announces that the Emperor of Austria had prorogued the Galician Diet till the 2nd March, in consequence, it is supposed, of Prince Sapieha having expressed his intention to propose that the Diet should address the Emperor requesting his diplomatic intercession with the Emperor of Russia in favour of Poland. Telegrams from Warsaw and Wilna indicate that the Polish insurrection is being partially repressed, but it must be borne in mind that these telegrams emanate from an official Russian source.—The new Pasha of Egypt, in replying to an address from the European inhabitants, has made a speech renewing his declarations that he will "introduce a series of liberal reforms;" and he has already ordered the lines of his railway to be doubled, and every available steamer to be employed in transporting down the Nile, the cotton, corn, and pulse, which are ready for shipment.

AMERICA.—The *Damascus* has conveyed to us New York intelligence to the evening of the 27th ult. The principal news is the announcement that General Burnside had resigned the command of the Federal army of the Potomac. General Hooker had been appointed to succeed him; and Generals Sumner and Franklin, the chiefs of two of the "grand divisions" of the army, had been "relieved of their commands," probably because they were unwilling to serve under General Hooker. "Bad weather and wind," we are told, "prevented any forward movement" of the army now under General Hooker's orders. No general movement had been made by the Federal forces in North Carolina; but on the 16th ult. there was an engagement at Pollockville, between a Federal detachment and 1300 Confederates, and the Federals "captured a flag." The Federal gun-boat *Hatteras* had been sunk off Galveston, after a "sharp engagement" with a Confederate steamer, supposed to have been the *Alabama*, or the *Oreto*, or the *Harriet Lane*, which was recently captured by the Confederates at Galveston. Federal gun-boats had likewise been engaged, on the 14th ult., with the Confederates in one of the bayous of Louisiana; and "no Confederates were captured," while the Federal commander was killed. The House of Representatives had passed the Finance Bill framed by the Committee of Ways and Means. The *Urbervina* has arrived with four days later intelligence. Among the items of interest are the capture and destruction of a Confederate iron-clad steamer—set off by the capture of several Federal vessels.

#### TO CORRESPONDENTS.

- F. B.—Apply to Bro. Spencer, Great Queen Street.  
 A YOUNG MASON.—We do not recommend one Masonic Jeweller over another. Consult our Advertising Columns.  
 B. B.—Had better buy the book of *Constitutions*.  
 CATO must have altogether misunderstood the purposes of our remarks.  
 J. P.—We do not interfere with the private disputes of any lodge.