

LONDON, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1866.

FREEMASONRY IN THE DANUBIAN PRINCIPALITIES.

Amongst the Masonic authorities to which we have been indebted for the founding of fresh Masonic lodges in newly-discovered or semi-civilised countries during the last four or five years, a prominent place is occupied by the Grand Orient of France. Indeed, the latter, following in the track of the Grand Lodges of England, Scotland, and Hamburg, seems to have chosen for its motto the words of Ovid that were applied to Industry by the originator of the first International Exhibition—

“Dissociata locis concordi pace ligavit.”

The last issue of the official Bulletin of the Grand Orient of France informs us that two more lodges *in partibus* have been erected under its auspices in Moldavia and Valachia; and as we hail the establishment of a Masonic lodge in any one of those rising countries as a further landmark of the progress of civilisation, we have no doubt our readers will be glad to peruse the following account of the proceedings incident to the inauguration of these lodges:—

The consecration of the temple of the first of these lodges, Les Disciples de Pythagore, in the east of Galatz, Moldavia, took place on the 26th of October last. The ceremony was conducted by Bro. Carence, 32°, of the Lodge Les Sages d'Héliopolis, of Bukarest, deputed by the Grand Orient, and supported by Bros. Déal, 18°, and Achille Zerlendi, W.M. of the Ibraïla Lodge, of Bukarest.

Bro. Carence addressed the brethren, and congratulated the founders for their zeal and devotion to the cause; he exhorted them to persevere in the path they had thrown open, in these words: “Let us be faithful to the motto we have chosen—Silence and devotion. So long as there remains a human being to instruct, a distress to appease, a heart to console, our task will not be accomplished. Let us not forget that we owe complete devotion to our ancient Institution, submission to Masonic and civil laws, and sincere worship to the Author of all things. These are the solid foundations on which the building must rest that we are erecting to the glory of the Great Architect of the Universe. Let us pray Him to preserve these principles amongst all Masons, and spread

on future generations the noble seed of Masonic spirit.”

After Bro. Carence, Bro. D. S. Rodocanacchi, W.M., delivered an address, of which the following is the substance:—

“From the very moment when first we joined the Craft, we have been able to observe its beneficent influence on individuals and society at large. We know how much it inclines the heart towards brotherly love, piety, and charity, how much it softens the manners, how much it raises the human soul and intellect, and implants in man's mind that consciousness of duty, without which no one can be an exemplary man and a good citizen.

“Brethren, it is incumbent upon us to apply and extend this influence to the best of our ability amongst men, as a civilising agent, and to struggle against egotism which, in this age, is so very apt to get hold of man's heart, and lead to the precipice of dissolving society that cannot, in my opinion, be firmly held together by interest alone, without being guided and supported by a great leading moral idea.”

An allocution, delivered after this by Bro. F. S. Rodocanacchi, Orator, was received with enthusiastic applause.

The inauguration of the second lodge, called Le Phare Hospitalier, took place at Ibraïla, Valachia, on the 28th of October last, under the charter granted by the Grand Orient of France, dated 25th September, 1865. Bro. Carence also conducted this ceremony, supported by Bros. Déal and D. S. Rodocanacchi, of Galatz. Bro. Carence delivered an address to the same effect as he did two days previous, at Galatz, and Bro. Achille Zerlendi, W.M., followed. We subjoin the substance of Bro. Zerlendi's address.

“I am heartily delighted to see you all assembled here to assist at the consecration of our lodge. It is, unfortunately, but too true that we have encountered many difficulties that have been thrown in our way by the malevolent machinations of our adversaries, who tried to injure our institution by spreading deprecating rumours; but the sanctity of our work has triumphed at last.

“However, this triumph should not cause us to forget our duties, but, on the contrary, we should evince still more zeal and alacrity to compel our antagonists to respect us and attain the object which every true Mason should never cease to

pursue, and which consists in the improvement of *the human species.*"

We also bid a hearty "God speed" to these excellent emissaries and harbingers of civilisation in their efforts tending to redeem and regain the magnificent countries watered by the mouths of the Danube.

MASONIC POETS OF SCOTLAND—No. II.

SIR WALTER SCOTT.

By the REV. ANDREW R. BONAR, *Minister of First Charge of Canongate, Edinburgh.*

(Continued from page 87.)

But let us quote here a vivid and graphic descriptive passage:—

"The western waves of ebbing day
Roll'd o'er the glen their level way;
Each purple peak, each flinty spire,
Was bathed in floods of living fire.
But not a setting beam could glow
Within the dark ravines below,
Where twined the path, in shadow hid,
Round many a rocky pyramid,
Shooting abruptly from the dell
Its thunder-splintered pinnacle:
The rocky summits split and rent,
Form'd turret, dome, or battlement,
Or seem'd fantastically set
With cupola or minaret.
Nor were these earth-born castles bare,
Nor lack'd they many a banner fair;
For, from their shiver'd brows displayed,
Far o'er the unfathomable glade,
All twinkling with the dewdrops' sheen,
The brier-rose fell in streamers green;
And creeping shrubs, of thousand dyes,
Waved in the west wind's summer skies.
Boon nature scattered, far and wild,
Each plant or flower, the mountain's child.
Here eglantine embalmed the air;
Hawthorn and hazel mingled there,
And boughs, that quaked at every breath;
Gray birch and aspen wept beneath;
Aloft, the ash and warrior-oak
Cast anchor in the rifted rock;
And higher yet the pine-tree hung
His shattered trunk, and frequent flung,
Where seemed the cliffs to meet on high,
His boughs athwart the narrowed sky.
Highest of all, where white peaks glanced,
Where glittering streamers waved and danced,
The wanderer's eye could scarcely view
The summer heaven's delicious blue:
So wondrous wild, the whole might seem
The scenery of a fairy dream."

Here is another gem from the same poem:—

"The summer dawn's reflected hue
To purple changed Loch Katrine blue;
Mildly and soft the western breeze
Just kiss'd the lake, just stirr'd the trees,
And the pleased lake, like maiden coy,
Trembled, but dimpled not, for joy.

* * * * *

The water-lily to the light
Her chalice reared, of silver bright;
The doe awoke, and to the lawn,
Begemm'd with dew-drops, led her fawn;
The gray mist left the mountain side;
The torrent show'd its glistening pride;
Invisible in fleck'd sky,
The lark sent down her revelry;
The blackbird and the speckled thrush
Good morrow gave from brake and bush;
In answer coo'd the cushat-dove
Her notes of peace, and rest, and love."

"Marmion," not in sustained dignity, but in separate and sometimes long-continuous passages, must be pronounced the greatest of Scott's poetical efforts. Nothing can be more picturesque than the description at length of the mustering of King James' forces ere they left Edinburgh for Flodden, mingled as it is with the writer's reminiscences of boyish days. Marmion and Sir David Lindsay are nearing the capital:—

. . . . "Their route was laid
Across the furzy hills of Braid.
They pass'd the glen and scanty rill,
And climbed th' opposing bank, until
They gained the top of Blackford Hill."

Marmion arrives, and joins the English host. He meets with Surrey, who appoints Marmion to the vanguard. The stir and animation of the whole battle-picture toward the close of the poem are truly Homeric.

We refrain from further characterising the poetry of Scott. The question remains—How shall we rank him among British bards? He belongs, not to the school or class of any one age, but to that of nature and truth. If the framework of the old minstrelsy was borrowed by him, Scott filled it up with what constitutes effective and interesting poetry. *They* were but the rude chroniclers (though forcible narrators) of past events. But perhaps some of my readers will understand me when I observe, that what these chroniclers were to Scott, Ennius, in his roughness and boldness, was to Virgil, with his polished beauty. Scott has not Byron's misanthropy and gloom: he wants, also, his condensed and passionate power: there is nothing to equal the roll and sweep of not a few of the stanzas in "Childe Harold." But, in a lesser degree, as in his novels, a vast variety of personages—living, acting beings—sweep across the stage; so, in his poetry, the personages are those of real flesh and blood—even the "Lady of the Lake" can steer and guide her boat across Loch Katrine's waters. In point of natural des-

cription, Scott reminds us more of Wordsworth than of any other poet of his time. And when we contrast his strains with those of many recent bards, instead of wandering among sickly exotics, or being conducted through the realms of dream-land, we seem to hear the rapid rush of the mountain stream, or to feel the fresh breeze blowing over the undulating surface of the Highland heath. As the lochlet reflects the blueness of the sky, as the lark sings naturally in upper air, as the eagle soars to her aerie; so the patriotic feeling was predominant in his breast—love to

"Caledonia, stern and wild,
Meet nurse for a poetic child;
Land of brown heath and shaggy wood,
Land of the mountain and the flood,
Land of my sires, what mortal hand
Shall e'er dissolve the sacred band
That knits me to thy rugged strand?"

Scott, as a fiction writer, may, without any disparagement of others who have appeared since his time—not forgetting Bulwer's brilliancy and eloquence, and the gems of sententious expression in his later works; or Thackeray's keen and caustic anatomisations of artificial beings and human selfishness, looking, as he too often does, with cynical irony, on the "seamy side" of human nature—the rouge and patches exhibited to the glaring day; his men, made-up Pendennis; his heroes, thoughtless *roués*—yet the whole relieved by genuine humour, and, incidentally, by touching pathos; not forgetting one who has written, not only well, but, for his own sake (his reputation's sake), far too largely—the many-gifted Dickens, the immortaliser of Pickwick and Weller, of Cherrible Brothers, of Little Nell, whose story he must be a stoic who can read and not be deeply affected—of a host of other characters, greater and smaller, that came forth in almost multitudinous exuberance; without, we repeat, undervaluing others, we may claim for the author of "Waverley," and with justice, a high and peculiar place among writers of fiction—bringing the dead past full before the eye; illustrating, with antiquarian fidelity and research, the life and manners of his countrymen in bygone days; recalling the times of chivalry—the stormy contests connected with the annals of the Stuart race—

"The gallant cavaliers who fought in vain,
For those who knew not to resign or reign."

In one respect, indeed, Scott did not represent the feelings or reflect the views of a large majority of his countrymen. We refer to his portraits

of Covenantors and Roundheads, and his treatment of those animated by religious views generally. In considering this, we must take, at least, partly into account—though genius should not be allowed to pervert fiction—the impulsiveness and fervour of the poetical temperament; for we believe that the veneration of the high and good was great in Scott, but that the influence of fame and worldly prosperity had smothered its warmth, till, as we are told in the record of his closing time at Abbotsford, consciousness returning for a season, he said to his son-in-law, "Read me something." "From what book?" was the reply. "Can you ask me?" Scott said; "there is but one." Then, as we are also told, the sublime sentences of Scripture, and the words of ancient mediæval hymns, were heard murmured by him, the spirit feebly assenting its supremacy over the shattered and crumbling tenement of clay.

Of Scott as a writer of fiction, we may truly say that his fame can perish only when the English language ceases to be spoken. How have his varied pages stirred the spirit of youth! how pleasantly have they charmed hours of languor! To what are we to attribute the attractiveness of these fictions, on which chiefly his fame rests? The secret of success did not alone lie in the fidelity with which Scotch scenes and manners were depicted (this, by itself, might please Scotchmen), for the Scottish dialect is but imperfectly intelligible to Southrons, by many of whom it was at the time associated with ideas of rudeness and vulgarity; and it had, moreover, been outrageously caricatured through the expressions put into the mouths of personages such as "Sir Archy Mac-sarcasm" and "Pertinax Macsycophant." Nor was the success owing to the skill with which the plots were constructed—for some of the tales are abruptly hurried to a conclusion, are imperfect in development, and devoid of unity—occasional incidents being, moreover, glaringly improbable. But these novels were the works of one who had studied deeply the great book of Nature—who had gone abroad into the world, in search of what the world could certainly and abundantly furnish, but which a man of genius alone could find, and a man of the highest genius alone could fittingly depict. Scott's characters are as human—as perfectly men and women as they lived and moved—as are those of Shakespeare. Many of them are portraits from real life; but not mere correct copies or slavish imitations. Around them is cast

the covering of genius. The prototypes had been studied by the author till each became the representative of a class. They are not faint and shadowy phantoms; they live, they act, and move as befits the station which they are supposed to occupy—they love, they fight, they feed, they sorrow, as human beings might be expected to do. Let us instance a few examples:—

The crack of Bailie M'Wheeble's whip cuts short the ill-timed quotation of Davie Gellatley, when, after the harrying of Tullevolan, he carols the snatch of song, "Our gear's a' gane." In "Guy Mannering," who can forget the adjuration of Meg Merrilees to the affrighted Dominie, as, spell-bound, in the cave of contraband goods, and there, amidst his affright, smelling wistfully the steam rising from the savoury cauldron, the six-foot, half-insane beldame dips a huge spoon in the boiling mess, and, as the lantern jaws are gaping with astonishment, exclaims, "Eat, ye worricow!" In truth, in this, one of the wildest of Scott's fictions, under some aspects, the characters are admirably depicted,—Hatterick, the grim and surly; Mannering, the accomplished and spirited gentleman and soldier; Meg, the weird enchantress, letting fall from her half-crazed brain words of eloquent remonstrance; Sampson, redeeming his awkwardness by steadfast goodness of heart, yet showing his simplicity after the smoke and din of the conflict clear away, and Ellengowan's heir is found, after the ringing pistol-shot has pierced the bosom of unhappy Meg, gravely purposing to resume Bertram's juvenile studies at the point where they had been interrupted so many years before;—all this, we say, is purely Shakespearian, in its claim on human hearts, its "holding of the mirror up to nature," its homage to the home affections, and entitled the author to take a first rank amongst writers of fiction.

Or what shall we say of Dandie Dinmont, with his rough-spun honesty and affection, his terriers almost as life-like as himself, the fruit of Scott's observation on the borders and among the Cheviot hills? representative of a race now well-nigh vanished; of Dousterswivel, the quack and impostor; of the "Antiquary," with his study chairs covered with the identical "calthrops" that did damage to the feet of Edward's horses at Bannockburn; of Edie Ochiltree; or of Bailie Nicol Jarvie, whose "*faither*" was a deacon, and who is represented as doing and enduring so much in his adventurous pilgrimage to the wilds

and fastnesses occupied by his "cousin Rab?" How true to nature the exclamation of the indignant Highlandman, as in despair the luckless magistrate, in the frenzy of fear, brandishing the red-hot poker, burns an "awsome" hole in the plaid of the Gael, "big eneuch," the spluttering Highlandman remarks, to let through it a "muckle kail-pat!" How true to Scottish nature the keeper of the change-house, the symbol of pre-occupation before her door, intently, amidst the ringing and emptying of the stoups, pretending—a wakeful eye upon the "lawing" all the while—to read worthy Mr. Boston's "Crook in the Lot!" How accurate, in the "Fortunes of Nigel," the representation of the founder of one of the nobler institutions of our town, called by James II. "jingling Geordie," worthy specimen of the merchant class of the "Krames" and "Luckenbooths;" or the inimitable portraiture of Ritchie Moniplies, faithful, yet self-seeking, presenting the petition of Lord Glenvarloch, yet thrusting also, under the timid monarch's nose, "a siffication regarding monies due by his Majesty's maist gracious mither!" As a specimen of real downright humour, we may quote the following:—The scene is Blackheath. "Down came the king and a' his nobles, dressed out in his hunting suit of green, double-laced, and laid down with gowd. I minded the very face o' him, though it was long since I saw him. But, my certie, lad, thought I, times are changed since ye came fleeing down the back stairs of auld Holyrood House, in great fear, having your breeks in your hand without time to put them on, and Frank Stewart, the wild Earl of Bothwell, hard at your haunches." Take Royal James's own account of the transaction:—"Yesterday, nae farther gane, just as we were mounted, and about to ride forth, in rushed a thorough Edinburgh gutter-blood—a ragged rascal, every dud on whose back was bidding good day to the other, with a coat and hat that would have served a peas-bogle, and without havings or reverence, thrust into our hands, like a sturdy beggar, some supplication about debts owing by our gracious mither, and sic like trash, wherent the horse spangs on end, and, but for our admirable sitting," ("the king," said Ritchie, "sits nae muckle better than a daft pock on the saddle,") "wherein we have been thought to excel maist sovereign princes, as well as subjects, in Europe, I promise you we would have been laid endlang on the causeway." "Your Majesty is their com-

mon father," said Heriot; "therefore they are the bolder to press into your gracious presence." "I ken I am *pater patriæ* well enough," said James; "but one would think they had a mind to *squeeze my puddings out, that they may divide the inheritance.*" Every one who has studied the annals of the time must know how accurate, in many points, this description is. Macaulay, in that most graphic but incomplete portion of his long-proposed "History of England"—that splendid *torso* which he has bequeathed to his countrymen—could not have hit salient and characteristic points more aptly.

We have hitherto been adverting more to the *humour* of Scott than to other high qualifications which he possessed as a writer of fiction. In this respect he can elicit laughter without the slightest approximation to indecency or coarseness—the too frequent sin of the life-painting fictionists, Fielding and Smollett, whom, after a long interval, he followed. He has shown us, to quote the words of another, and by no means unsuccessful follower of Scott's poetical endeavours—Professor Aytoun—"how the simple feelings of peasants, and the homely pathos of humble life, and the relentings of feeling among the outcasts of humanity, might be made to blend with scenes of high imagination. His writings are fitted to strengthen the ties of our common humanity." They do not tend to foster a bad, or "generally to throw ridicule upon a good or virtuous feeling," while, in a literary point of view, they taught lessons of simplicity, good taste, and skill; in seizing the best points, both of character and description, which have had a salutary effect in directing the aim of others, in diffusing feelings of interest and sympathy, in contributing to augment that sense of brotherhood, with its obligations, which promises to be a feature of our own, and, still more, of the coming time. The great service he has done to his native land and to his countrymen are now generally acknowledged. Scott has called attention to many of the proudest periods in our national history. The past has been brought before us; the old traditions have been revived. We feel ourselves bound anew by ties of nationality; over all and around all there hangs the curtain of romance. Romance! some say. In reply, it may be alleged that none of the great Creator's gifts have been imparted in vain. We are not to be tied to the conventionalities or the petty cares of life. Genius beckons us from her

throne. Nationality binds us together; the rushing stream, the soaring hills, the heather braes,

"The burn running under the lang yellow broom,"

can never be forgotten. We can think of Australian sheepwalks, of Canadian forests, of wilder scenes than these, where man in his civilisation is but planting his foot and digging his plough into the border of the wilderness, and *there* Scott's genius has been acknowledged. Why should we not cling to and embrace the records of our country's past? Of Bruce and Wallace, of Knox and Melville, of Burns and Scott, we need not be ashamed. We are not cold-hearted nor prosaic. There is more sentiment in a Scotchman than he usually gets credit for. To the lay of childhood, to the murmur of the waves, to the *soughing* of the wind, as it sweeps down the mountain pass—to the ripple of the stream—he is alive. Walter Scott—we now finish our remarks—is a dying man. Not the vine-clad hills of the Rhine, any more than the storied buildings of Rome, have brought him comfort. Sad, feeble, exhausted, he goes home that he may die. Nothing to him is so dear as the breeze that sweeps over the heather braes, or the tower that stands in its lonely eminence beside the stream, or the house he has erected by the silver Tweed. Torpor and unconsciousness have preyed upon him, and he is helplessly lifted upon his couch. Rome, with its many memories—the Drachenfells, with their legends—have failed to awake him; but he passes the murmuring of the Teviot and the Tweed. His home is seen; he is with difficulty held in his place by kind and faithful friends and attendants. It is his *own* soil, his own dear land, his own house, the distant towers of which have caught his view—

"A light on Marmion's visage broke,
And fired his glazing eye."

There, after a short interval, he expires, leaving a name which his country never will let die, and is borne to his resting-place, a true Scotchman, a noble heart, a man whose fellow we may look for, and, perhaps, for whom we may look long in vain.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES.

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

SIR AND BROTHER,—Will you allow me to ask, through the pages of the FREEMASON'S MAGAZINE, whether it is politic on the part of the Board of

General Purposes to require so high a rent for the use of rooms at Freemasons' Hall as to drive the brethren to seek a place of meeting elsewhere? Is it not rather desirable that they should be tempted by a moderately low, or at all events, a reasonable rent, to continue to meet in Great Queen-street? It seems to be admitted on all sides, that whatever rent may be charged, whatever rent lodges may be willing to pay, will not suffice to raise an annual sum that will produce more than a modicum of interest for what, that irresponsible body calling themselves the Building Committee, have so lavishly expended, and with, I may add, such very unsatisfactory results. It is true we have a few large rooms, inconveniently large for many, perhaps the majority of lodges, and in many respects unfit and ill suited for the working of our ceremonies. I refer more particularly to those rooms that face the west, where the light of day cannot be excluded, although it is said that thicker curtains are to be supplied, to remedy in some measure this grave objection. The lodge rooms, however, such as they are, the Craft might be disposed to use, if a reasonable rent were charged.

I am led to address you publicly on this subject, as it is Masonically a public question, and one in which the London Masons generally are concerned, because one lodge I know has already been turned away by the terms asked for the use of those rooms they have assisted to build; and I do hope that by drawing public attention to the matter, the Board will reconsider the question and re-adjust their terms, and refrain from adopting so suicidal a course of action.

I have assumed that no rental will yield a fair rate of interest on the money already expended, so far, at least, as we can ascertain from the printed accounts which are published quarterly. It is difficult—so much are we kept in the dark as to what is going on—to form a correct estimate of the probable working expenses, exclusive of quarterly payments made to the Grand Secretary and the clerks, which in the year amounts to something over £1,000, but I venture to make a rough calculation which may possibly induce more competent brethren to go into the matter. In dealing with this question I have regard only to what has been called the "Masonic portion." The buildings, furniture, and effects will I assume be assured; and as no hazardous trade or business will be carried on, the premium will be at the lowest rate charged by the assurance offices. This will probably amount to £80 a year. The rates and taxes from £350 to £400; servants wages, board and clothing—say, hall porter, wages £50, board, £30, clothing, two suits of livery, £12—£92. Two or three housemaids, £14 wages, £25 board—£117. Fuel, coals, coke, and wood, £150. Gas and lighting, £100. Wear and tear of furniture at the usual per centage on the prime costs would be about £200. Sundry small payments £50, giving a probable annual expenditure of something close upon £1,200, in addition to the before named sum of £1,000. I have not made any allowance in the above for the expenses of a reading room, a library, or such like, which some day or another, it is understood we are to have, as at present eating and drinking seem to occupy the minds of the Building Committee, more than literature and the well being of the Craft. Possibly these rooms when provided may be made, as had been foreshadowed,

self-supporting. I see no objection in requiring that those brethren who use the library, &c., should contribute to the expense. But with this subject I do not now wish to deal. The object of my letter has reference solely to lodge rooms and lodge payments for the same, and to the annual expense of maintaining those rooms, omitting altogether the money expended in building which is sunk and will produce no return. I have calculated the annual outgoings at upwards of £2,000. The reality will probably be in excess of that sum. How is this sum to be raised? If lodges are to be tempted to meet at Freemasons' Hall, the payments for lodge rooms must be small. Taking one lodge with another, and taking at the same time the lodges now meeting at the hall, a revenue of more than £400 cannot be looked for. Chapters are fewer in number, and they meet less frequently than lodges. From them probably £150 may be obtained; other sources of revenue, unless, indeed, majority should enforce the payment of a rent from the two Masonic Schools, and the Royal Benevolent Institution for the use of officers, do not exist. For the future we must spend what ought to become capital to maintain our present buildings; and I cannot but think that under these circumstances it would be more politic to ask a moderate rent, and retain lodges, than to require a higher payment and thus probably force some lodges to remove, and prevent others from seeking to hold their meetings in the buildings which have been erected with the money of the Craft.

I earnestly entreat the Board of General Purposes to take this important subject into their serious consideration, and at once grapple with a difficulty which must ere long be met.

I have the honour to be, yours fraternally,

SCRUTATOR.

THE LATE BRO. LLOYD JONES.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—In the last number of the FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE appeared some lines from the pen of the above brother, on the recent death of the much esteemed Bro. Estwick, P.M. At the time of those lines being composed Bro. Lloyd Jones was in excellent health. He is now in the cold grave. All the eulogiums passed by him upon Bro. Estwick were applicable to himself. Although of mature age (sixty years) he had not long been initiated, but since that time he had won the esteem of many brethren. One who had enjoyed his friendship and appreciated his good qualities during a period of twenty years, desires to record this tribute to his memory.

Yours fraternally,

N. W. H.

CHARITY STEWARDS.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Like many, doubtless, of your country readers, I have derived a certain amount of useful information respecting the Stewardships of the Masonic Charities, or rather of the particular institution which is so efficiently represented by Bro. Binckes, from the letter of that brother, and from your editorial article, which appeared in your numbers of Dec. 30th, and January 6th respectively,

and I fully anticipated that the subject, from its importance, would be followed up by future correspondence from the provinces.

This anticipation, however, not having been realised, and as I think some further elucidation is required before all the duties, responsibilities, and privileges of the Charity Stewards can be fully understood by the country brethren (at least I feel myself to be in that position), I am induced to trouble you with the present communication, which, I trust, will lead to further correspondence, so that the whole-subject may be thoroughly ventilated, and result eventually in a benefit to our excellent charities.

As is well known, some time prior to the annual festival of those institutions, circulars are sent to the Worshipful Masters of lodges throughout the kingdom, soliciting brethren to undertake the office of Steward.

Past experience in lodge has proved to me that, in the great majority of instances, these are little better than waste paper, in consequence of the duties, and especially the monetary responsibilities which attach to the office of Steward not being clearly stated, owing to which the brethren, as a rule, naturally hesitate, as might be expected, to undertake an office of which they cannot "count the cost."

As regards the qualifications of the several classes of annual subscribers, life subscribers, and life governors of the several charities, every information is afforded; but any explanation of the personal liabilities and duties of the Stewards has hitherto, as it appears to me, been entirely ignored in these appeals. Now this point is, for the first time, to some extent (yet not very clearly) defined in Bro. Binckes's statement. He says—"Every Steward is called upon to pay a deposit of £4 or £5, according to circumstances, towards defraying the expenses of the festival, in which sum is included his own dinner ticket and such tickets for the ladies' gallery as may be awarded."

Now I presume that one of two meanings attaches to this requirement: either that the Steward is to advance this sum of £4 or £5 out of the subscriptions collected by him for the charity, or that, in addition to his contribution and labour in aid of its funds, he is to pay such "deposit" out of his own pocket towards (as the word implies) a further indefinite amount of liability which it is possible he may incur on account of the expenses of the festival.

Which of these is correct?

If, as I suppose, the latter, then it appears to me that it is a course of proceeding not only unjust towards the Stewards individually, but, what is more to the purpose, is one likely to operate most injuriously to the best interests of the charity.

I apprehend that the object of these appeals is to induce brethren to undertake the office of Steward, not to provide a costly banquet, and to pay a considerable sum out of their own pockets solely for the enjoyment of those brethren who may partake of it, but for the purpose of soliciting subscriptions among the members of their own lodge or province, in order to obtain as large an amount of funds as possible for the benefit of the charity; in whose cause their services are enlisted.

Now, there are very many brethren, like myself, with whom £5 notes are not so very plentiful as to

make the throwing away of one of them upon a good dinner (however pleasant and enjoyable) a matter of no consideration; who would, nevertheless, be quite willing and ready to make some sacrifice in order to qualify themselves as life subscribers, and also to take upon themselves the office of Steward—in which, from long connection or influence with their particular lodge or province, they might be able to render valuable aid to the charity—but who would hesitate to undertake all the labour and responsibilities of the office if, as appears to be the case, they are to be called upon to pay as much towards the expense of a single dinner as (in the case of the Boys' School) would constitute them life subscribers of the charity!

Again, the country Steward is on an unequal footing with the metropolitan one, inasmuch as he must either forego a partaking of the banquet which he so largely assists to provide for others, or if living, probably one, two, or three hundred miles from town, he must, in addition, incur about as large an expense in travelling to attend it. Your last week's columns report that the festival of the Royal Benevolent Institution was celebrated on the 31st ult., and I see by the circular that the Board of Stewards comprised seventy-seven members, who, on the supposition that they "deposited" the smaller sum named by Bro. Binckes (£4) would thus pay for the expenses of the festival no less than £308!

Of this sum if, as I can scarcely credit, it has been expended upon a single banquet, at least two-thirds of it have been diverted from the recipients of the charity—our aged brethren and their widows—to pay for a few hours' enjoyment of the Stewards and their friends.

Now, in my humble opinion, if this system does really exist, the sooner it is reformed the more it will be to our credit as Masons, and the better it will be for the interests of our noble charities. Let us endeavour to induce a far greater number of brethren to undertake the office of Charity Steward, by popularising it, and letting it be fully known that the office is really to be taken solely in the cause of charity; and do not let it be felt that whilst a brother willingly gives £5 with one hand in aid of the orphans or the aged brother, for whose cause he is earnestly working, he is, on the other hand, to be compelled to contribute an equal amount for a single dinner, to celebrate the result of his and his colleagues' labours.

Let every one who attends the festival pay his fair share of the cost, and let every Steward, as would be but fair, be required to pay for his ticket, whether present or not; but do not put the claims of a single dinner on an equality with a life subscribership to a noble charity.

I may be met with the objection that the Charity Stewards are only called upon to follow the precedent set, and to a greater extent, in the case of the Grand Stewards at the Grand Lodge Festival; but the comparison does not, I think, apply. In the one case the office is, or at least ought to be, held solely in the cause of charity; in the other it is undertaken for the honour and glorification of its possessor, and should be paid for accordingly.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,
A COUNTRY P.M.

FEW have been taught to any purpose who have not been greatly their own teachers.

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

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

MASONIC MEM.

The consecration of a new lodge—the Beaudesert (No. 1087), Leighton Buzzard—is announced to take place at 3 p.m. on the 12th inst. at the Assembly Room, Corn Exchange. The officers named in the warrant are Bros. F. Gotto, P.M. 948, as W.M.; W. Lean, S.D. 901, S.W.; A. Whyler, J.D. 948, as J.W. The ceremony is to be performed by the R.W. Bro. Æ. J. McIntyre, Grand Registrar, assisted by Bro. W. Watson, P.G.S.

METROPOLITAN.

EGYPTIAN LODGE (No. 27).—The anniversary meeting of this flourishing lodge was held at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, on the 1st inst. The lodge was opened by Bro. D. G. Berri, W.M., assisted by Bros. Tomlinson, S.W.; Coutts, J.W.; Todd, P.M. and Treas.; Buss, P.M. and Sec.; Tins, S.D.; J. May, J.D.; Libbis, I.G.; Hoare, Jacobs, Payne, P.M.'s, and a very large muster of members and visitors. Three brethren were afterwards raised to the sublime degree of M.M., viz., E. W. Pratt, T. G. Davis, and G. F. Chase, and Mr. Albany H. Cogger was duly initiated. The installation of the W.M. elect being the next business, the chair of the lodge was assumed by Bro. John Savage, P.S.G.D., as Installing Master, who nominated as his Wardens Bros. Farnfield, Assist. G. Sec., and J. Smith, P.G. Purst. Bro. Tomlinson, W.M. elect, was then presented by Bro. Berri, and the Installing Master proceeded with the ceremony in the F.C. degree. The lodge was opened in the third degree, and the brethren below the chair having retired, a Board of fifteen Installed Masters was formed, and Bro. Tomlinson installed as W.M. according to ancient custom. On the readmission of the brethren, the usual honours were paid to the new Master, after which the following brethren were appointed to office for the ensuing year:—J. Coutts, S.W.; Capt. T. H. Tins, J.W.; B. P. Todd, P.M., Treas.; H. G. Buss, P.M., Sec.; C. B. Payne, P.M., Dir. of Cers.; J. May, S.D.; W. H. Libbis, J.D.; Cooper, I.G.; and Poole, Steward. The addresses to the W.M., Wardens, and brethren were then delivered by Bro. Savage in the masterly and perfect style for which that distinguished brother is so deservedly renowned. Two propositions were handed to the Secretary, and the lodge was closed, when the brethren adjourned to a magnificent repast provided by the Bros. Clemow. After the cloth was drawn, and the usual loyal and Masonic toasts had been given and duly honoured, and the health of Bro. Savage, P.G.D., who had kindly attended year after year to instal the Master of the Egyptian Lodge, having also been drunk amidst much applause, Bro. Todd, P.M., then, by permission of the chair, proposed the health of Bros. John Munro and D. G. Main, of the Lodge Victoria (No. 658), two of the survivors of the wreck of the *London*, offering them the sincere congratulations of the brethren on their providential escape from a watery grave, and wishing them a safe return to the land of their adoption. We need hardly say that this toast was duly honoured, and Bros. Munro and Main tendered their acknowledgements to the brethren present, stating that since their arrival in London they had met with every kindness from Masons and also from non-Masons, who, Bro. Main remarked, he hoped "would soon be gathered into the fold, and meet upon the square," they being already good men and true; and, in conclusion, both brothers expressed their gratitude to Bro. Todd in particular for his kindness in introducing them to the brethren. "The Visitors" followed, and Bro. Sutton, W.M. 55, returned thanks. The Master's health was proposed by Bro. Savage, and suitably acknowledged by Bro. Tomlinson, W.M. "The Past Masters," acknowledged by Bro. Buss, to whom high compliments were paid by Bro. Todd, who proposed the toast. "The Wardens," by Bro. Coutts, S.W., a hard-working and much-esteemed brother; "The Deacons," by Bro. J. May, S.D. Bro. Cooper, I.G., made a first-rate speech in response to the wishes of the

brethren. The arrangements at the banquet reflected the greatest credit on Bros. Buss and Todd, by whom they were carried out, and the occasion will be long remembered by the visitors as a most brilliant and successful Masonic gathering. Amongst the visitors, besides those already alluded to, we noticed the following well-known members of the Craft, viz., Bros. W. Winn, W.M. 657; W. Moutrie, P.M. 11; L. Laurence, P.M. 78; W. Platt, P.M. 144; R. W. Little, P.M. 975, 907; T. L. Fox, P.M. 19; T. Westcombe, S.W. 905; G. H. Oliver, S.W. 975; A. A. Pendlebury, S.W. 1056; W. M. Brown, 658; R. J. Deeley, 41; Thomas, 419, &c. We had almost forgotten to add that a handsome P.M.'s jewel was presented by Bro. Todd, in the name of the lodge, to Bro. D. G. Berri, the I.P.M., who presided over the Egyptians during the past year with a *bonhomie* and good feeling which have won for him golden opinions from the members without a single exception.

PROVINCIAL.

CHESHIRE.

CHESTER.—Lodge of Independence (No. 721).—On Tuesday, January 30th, the brethren of this flourishing lodge celebrated their annual festival of St. John in their spacious and elegant rooms at the Bars Hotel, in this city. The lodge was opened by Bro. A. F. Watts, P.M., of Pensarn, Abergele, North Wales, in the absence of the W.M., Lord R. Grosvenor, *M.P.*, assisted by Bros. Bainbridge as S.W., Ellis, J.W., when the usual charges were delivered to the W.M. elect, Bro. W. R. Bainbridge. The lodge was then opened in the third degree, and a Board of Installed Masters being constituted, the solemn ceremony of installing the new Master was ably performed by Bro. J. Lyon, P.M. and Sec. The W.M. having been duly invested, he was proclaimed according to ancient custom, followed by the honours in each degree, Bro. S. Brown, P.M., being Director of Ceremonies. The W.M. was then pleased to appoint the following brethren as officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. V. Williams, S.W.; W. Brown, J.W.; Allsop, S.D.; McAvoy, J.D.; W. B. A. Bainbridge, I.G.; J. Lyon, Sec.; Gerrard, Treas.; Duke, Tyler, each receiving a charge from the very efficient Installing Master, Bro. Lyon, P.M. At this part of the proceedings the P.M., Lord R. Grosvenor, *M.P.*, P.G.W. of England, arrived, when the W.M. vacated the chair, while his Lordship presented an address and a Past Master's jewel to Bro. A. F. Watts, P.M. The address, which was beautifully engrossed and elaborately illuminated on vellum with various Masonic emblems and the armorial bearings of Bro. Watts, with appropriate mottoes, was executed in first-rate style by Bro. S. Brown, Heraldic Artist and Deputy Herald of Chester. The jewel with which the worthy brother was presented is that of the modern P.M.; it is made of pure gold, elegantly chased, and was much admired by all present. After reading the address, his lordship observed that it gave him pleasure to be able to bear testimony to the zeal and attention Bro. Watts had at all times shown during his year of office as W.M., also during the last two years, when his lordship held the office of W.M. Bro. Watts thanked the W.M., the I.P.M., and brethren in eloquent and feeling terms for their symbol of regard and esteem. The lodge being called to refreshment, adjourned to the banquet-room, when about forty brethren sat down to the banquet, prepared by Bro. Tasker, regardless of cost. The W.M., Bro. Bainbridge, occupied the chair, supported by the I.P.M., Bro. Lord R. Grosvenor, P.S.G.W., and the following P.M.'s, viz., Bros. Watts, S. Brown, Lyon, Dutton, Sheriff of Chester; Butt, Gerrard, and W. Hunt, W.M. No. 425, the W.M. being also honoured with the presence of the following brethren:—Bros. W. Ellis, Capt. J. Davis, R. G. Parry, T. Davis, Dodd, J. McEvoy, A. G. Brereton, Venable Williams, H. Allsop, J. Holt, W. B. A. Bainbridge, E. Lancaster, W. Wildig, C. Thornton, W. Brown, Booth Mason, Dr. Sellers, E. Tasker, C. Dutton, Hunt, F. Butt, S. Titmus, P.M. and Treas. 317; J. Hands, 254; Savage, 148; Cottingham, W. Woods, Lodge of Lights, Warrington; T. Wood, S.D. 425; Glasspool, and others. The cloth having been removed, the following loyal and Masonic toasts were given and heartily responded to: Her Majesty the Queen, coupled with the Craft; the Prince of Wales, Earl of Chester, and the rest of the Royal Family; the Army, Navy, and Volunteers. Bro. Quartermaster Dutton responded. The W.M. then stated the next toast he had to propose was "The Grand Master of Zetland, and his Deputy

the Earl De Grey and Ripon," and he had very great pleasure in coupling the name of a brother who was not only beloved by the Masons, but respected by all classes of the citizens of Chester: this brother was the Immediate P.M., Bro. Lord R. Grosvenor, P.S.G.W. The noble brother in returning thanks observed, that he had, while serving the office of Senior Grand Warden, many opportunities of knowing that there did not exist a more zealous Mason than the Earl of Zetland, and with respect to the Deputy Grand Master, Earl de Grey and Ripon, those brethren who had attended the provincial meeting at Knutsford must have been highly pleased with him, and the noble brother was quite sure that the Deputy Grand Master evinced great interest in all appertaining to the welfare of the Craft. The Provincial Grand Master, Lord de Tally, his Deputy, Viscount Combermere, and the past and present Provincial Grand Officer, Bro. Dutton, P. Prov. S.G.D., responded. The toasts that followed were:—The Provincial Grand Master of North Wales and Salop, Sir W. W. Wynne; the Provincial Grand Master of East and West Lancashire, coupling the names of Bros. Woods, Lodge of Lights, Warrington, and Tibmus, P.M. and Treas, 317, who responded, giving some valuable information as to the mode of relief to distressed brethren in Lancashire. The I.P.M., Lord Richard Grosvenor, then proposed "The Worshipful Master and Officers of No. 721." Bro. Bainbridge, W.M., thanked the brethren for the manner in which they had received the toast proposed by the noble Bro., and begged to assure the brethren that he felt highly honoured in being installed their W.M. It would be his constant study to discharge the important duties of the office with fervency and zeal, and should he meet with the support which he fully expected from the officers he had chosen, he hoped to have a prosperous year of office. The toast was then given of "The Worshipful Master and Brethren of the Cestrian Lodge." Dr. Hunt, the W.M., responded, stating that he and the brethren of his lodge were much pleased to see both lodges work in harmony. Bro. Wilcock then asked permission to propose the next toast, which was the health of a brother who first enabled him to see the Masonic light—it was "The Health and long life to Bro. Brown, Past Master, the Director of Ceremonies. Bro. Brown returned thanks in a feeling manner for this mark of respect. He stated he was seventy-five years of age, and fifty years a Mason; he was the father of both lodges, and for twenty years never absent or late upon any occasion, and trusted he might yet be spared to attend the lodge, as some of the happiest moments of his life had been spent amongst the brethren of both lodges, and concluded by adding that he hoped Masonry might still survive and stand before the world confessed with every blessing and for ever blessed. The Tyler's toast having been given, the lodge was closed in ancient form. The W.M., Bro. Bainbridge, who has attended every meeting since his initiation, and discharged the duties of the several offices from I.G. to the satisfaction of each Master, is a member of the Concord Lodge, Preston, also of the Royal Architect Chapter (No. 314), was very warmly congratulated by the brethren, who expressed themselves highly gratified with the day's proceedings, which had been much enlivened by the capital singing of Bros. Wood, Savage, and Lancaster.

ESSEX.

BRIGHTLINGSEA.—*Lodge of Hope* (No. 433).—The regular meeting of this old and prosperous lodge was held on the 29th ult., at the Swan Inn. The lodge was duly opened by the W.M., Bro. Lake, assisted by his Wardens, Bros. Riches and York, the following officers and brethren also being present, viz.:—Bros. Clarey, P.M. and Treas.; Blyth, P.M.; Ames, P.M.; Francis, S.D.; Bragg, J.D.; Minter, I.G.; Wiseman, Hon. Sec.; and Ling, R. and J. Salmon, Goff, Angier, Smith, Medcalf, Welham, Dove, Rodger, and Hamer, Tyler. The minutes of the previous lodge meeting having been read and confirmed, the ballot was taken for Bro. Goff, of the Royal Arch Ayr Lodge (No. 165), Scotland, as a joining member, and was declared to be unanimous in his favour. Bro. Francis afterwards proposed, and Bro. Riches seconded, that the contributions raised for the Girls' and Boys' Schools, and for the Royal Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and their Widows, be sent to the Secretaries of these several Institutions. Bro. Clarey then proposed, and Bro. Riches seconded, that Bro. Stammers, of the Angel Lodge, Colchester, be proposed for the ballot as a joining member of this lodge. Carried unanimously. It was proposed by Bro. Riches, seconded by Bro. Ames, P.M., and carried unanimously,

that a lodge of instruction be held at the Freemasons' Tavern on the following Wednesday fortnight. There being no further business, the lodge was closed in due form according to ancient custom, and the brethren adjourned to refreshment. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and honoured. The harmony of the evening was greatly promoted by the excellent singing of Bros. Francis, Bragg, Rodger, Salmon, Goff, Medcalf, Angier, and York. The Tyler's toast brought the proceedings of this happy evening to a close, and the brethren separated at a timely hour in the utmost good feeling and brotherly love.

HERTFORDSHIRE.

WATFORD.—*Walford Lodge*.—(No. 404).—There was a very full attendance of the members of this lodge on the 2nd inst. Bro. H. G. Martin, P.M., officiated in the chair in consequence of the absence, through illness, of Bro. the Rev. R. T. Branson, the W.M. Bro. Stevenson was passed, as was Bro. Thomas, as a serving brother. Messrs. Gledhill and Mamhaw were balloted for, and elected for initiation. Mr. Gledhill being in attendance was introduced and duly initiated. The mode in which the ceremony of passing and initiation was performed by Bro. Martin, P.M., elicited the marked approbation of the brethren present, amongst whom were the following P.M.'s of the lodge: Bros. Stuart, Prov. G.M.; Francis, D. Prov. G.M.; Colonel Stuart, M.P.; Burchell-Herne, P. Prov. S.G.W.; Sedgwick, G.S.; Dr. Brett Rogers, G. Treas.; Humbert and Finch, and Bro. the Rev. G. Finch, Chap.; Wilson Hes, S.W.; Camp, J.W.; Halsey, S.D.; Copeland, J.D.; Rumbalt, I.G., and others. Bro. the Viscount Malden, late of the Zetland Lodge (No. 789), Toronto, Canada, was proposed as a joining member, and Captain Stewart Fellows, Indian Army, Bombay Presidency, for initiation. Bro. Francis, D. Prov. G.M., referring to the very serious illness of the W.M., moved that a resolution be entered on the minutes expressive of the very great regret all the brethren felt at his absence, and more particularly for the cause of it, and their ardent wish that he might be speedily restored to health, and assume the duties of his office, in the fulfilment of which the lodge had anticipated the greatest gratification. Seconded by Bro. Stuart, and agreed to unanimously. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet.

NORFOLK.

EAST DEREHAM.—*Sondes Lodge* (No. 996).—A meeting of the members of this flourishing lodge was held on Wednesday, the 31st ult., at the King's Head Hotel. The appointed hour for assembling was two o'clock p.m., at which time several of the members and visitors were present. The lodge having been opened by Bro. H. J. Mason, W.M., and the minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed, the lodge was opened in the second degree, when the installation of Bro. Harwell, S.W., who had been unanimously elected to fill the chair for the ensuing twelve months, commenced, and, when the preliminary proceedings had terminated, the lodge was opened in the third degree. The brethren below the chair were then requested to retire, and a Board of Installed Masters was duly formed. Bro. H. J. Mason, the retiring W.M., assisted by Bro. A. M. F. Morgan, P.G.S. (who kindly undertook the duties of Dir. of Cers.), proceeded with the installation. The very able, perfect, and impressive manner in which he delivered every part of the ritual, more particularly the charges to the several officers then appointed, was most effective. His concluding remarks to all present were delivered with such truly Masonic feelings and sentiments as must make a lasting impression on all who had the pleasure to hear them. At the conclusion of the ceremony, the warmest congratulations were awarded to Bro. Mason by the several Past Masters and members, as they all agreed they had never before seen the business done so admirably and efficiently. The W.M. having appointed all his officers, the lodge was closed until the last Wednesday in the ensuing month. After a short interval, upwards of thirty brethren sat down to a dinner of the most *récherché* description, consisting of every variety the season would produce, and which reflected great credit upon Bro. Parke, the worthy host. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts having been given with the accustomed honours, the W.M. rose to give, as he truly said, the toast of the evening, and, after alluding to the invaluable assistance rendered and pains taken in the formation of the lodge by their I.P.M., and expressing to him, not only his own thanks but also those of every member of the lodge, for the very efficient, zealous, and courteous manner in which the duties had been carried out

during the two years of its formation, proposed "The Health, Prosperity, and Long Life of their valued Bro. P.M. Mason." Bro. Mason said that he could not lay claim to the flattering manner in which the last toast had been proposed by their W.M., and so gratefully accepted by all present. That he quitted the chair with no little degree of regret he must acknowledge; and if during the period the government and well-being of this new, happy, and prosperous lodge (numbering about thirty members, most of whom he had had the honour to initiate), had been entrusted to his keeping had met with the full concurrence of its members, he was amply repaid for the little personal trouble it had cost him in raising a superstructure so perfect in all its parts, and honourable to himself as the builder. He must, however, be permitted to add that in their newly-installed W.M. they had selected one who perfectly understood his various duties, and he had no doubt but that they would be carried out in the most satisfactory manner. As to Bro. Gidney, the S.W., it was very pleasing to him to remark that for so young a member of the Craft he was in possession of all the required information which would entitle him to fill the chair when called upon him to do so. His thanks were especially due to those two brethren, and he could not speak of them in terms too commendatory for the praiseworthy manner in which they had so meritoriously assisted him in carrying through the business of the lodge. He begged also to thank every other brother officer for the faithful discharge of their respective duties. After thanking the brethren in terms of the warmest sincerity, and hoping the lodge would for many years retain the proud position it had gained in the province, resumed his seat amidst great applause. The conviviality was continued to a late period, when the brethren separated in peace and harmony, after passing a most agreeable evening.

NORTH WALSHAM.—*Lodge of Unanimity* (No. 102).—The brethren of this prosperous lodge held their annual festival on the 39th ult. at the lodge-rooms, King's Arm's Hotel, when the ceremony of installing the newly-elected W.M., Bro. W. H. Scott, was admirably performed by Bro. the Rev. Robert Paul Bent, Vicar of Melchbourne, Bedfordshire, Prov. G. Chap. for Norfolk. The W.M. appointed the following brethren as his officers, viz.:—Bros. J. H. Warnes, S.W.; R. S. Baker, J.W.; R. Wortley, S.D.; J. W. Saunders, I.G.; and G. Smith, Sec. The ceremony of installation was made most interesting and instructive from the impressive and feeling manner in which it was performed, and the whole proceedings of the evening were characterised by the true Masonic feeling and harmony which always distinguish the Craft, and is never found wanting in this lodge.

SOUTH WALES (EASTERN DIVISION).

BRECON.—*Brecknock Lodge* (No. 651).—**REINSTALLATION OF THE W.M., BRO. JOSEPH DENSTON PERROTT.**

The brethren of the Brecknock Lodge met in the lodge-room at the Town Hall on Tuesday, the 23rd ult., for the purpose of reinstalling Bro. Joseph Denston Perrott, W.M. 1072, Prov. G. Supt. of Works, as W.M. of this lodge for the ensuing year.

At five p.m. the W.M. opened the lodge, when the following brethren were present:—Bros. J. D. Perrott, W.M.; H. C. Rich, Prov. G. Steward, S.W. *pro tem.*; Richard Webb, J.W.; Captain W. R. Brereton, P.M.; John Davies, M.D., P.M.; Richard Eve, P.M. 395 and 651; J. W. Hallam, P.M.; Revs. T. B. Hosken and W. P. Jones, Chaps.; J. Williams, Treas.; Evan Jones, Hon. Sec.; J. R. Frater, S.D.; R. W. Price, J.D.; William Farr, I.G.; John Morgan, Steward. Also, Bros. the Earl of Brecknock, G. Causick, C. Boniface, Capt. G. S. Hughes, T. Frater, J. Morris, Rev. D. Price, Capt. P. Lloyd, Ed. Webb, J. Benjamin, Capt. T. A. Frater, F. Watkins, W. Williams, E. Prothero, J. A. Jebb, David Thomas, Capt. T. C. Lloyd, Dr. Talfourd Jones, D. Pugh, and Adam Scott, Tyler.

Bro. T. Mansel Talbot, the Prov. G.M., having been pleased to signify his intention of conducting the installing ceremony on this occasion, he arrived at the lodge about half-past five, and was received in form and conducted to the chair. The lodge having been opened in the second degree, he in very complimentary manner alluded to the selection the brethren had made in re-electing their W.M., and it afforded him considerable pleasure to find the Brecknock Lodge in such a prosperous state, and he had no doubt the brethren would feel equally pleased, at the expiration of another year, with the services of the W.M. elect.

Bro. Capt. Brereton, P.M., and Bro. Richard Eve, P.M., presented Bro. J. D. Perrott for installation.

The brethren below the rank of P.M.'s having withdrawn, a Board of Installed Masters was formed, and Bro. Joseph Denston Perrott was installed into the chair of K.S. for the third time, he having the great honour of being W.M. of two lodges, viz., the Brecknock and Aberystwith.

On the readmission of the brethren, the W.M. was saluted in the three degrees, and duly proclaimed, the brother conducting the ceremony most efficiently.

The W.M. then appointed and invested his officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. Evan Jones, S.W.; J. R. Frater, J.W.; Capt. W. R. Brereton, I.P.M.; Rev. W. Powell Jones, Chap.; J. Williams (re-elected), Treas.; R. W. Price, Hon. Sec.; Rev. T. B. Hosken, S.D.; W. Farr, J.D.; H. Davies, I.G.; R. Webb, Dir. of Cers.; J. Prothero (Mayor) and J. Benjamin, Stewards; Adam Scott, Tyler.

Bro. J. D. PERROTT proposed that a vote of thanks be recorded on the minutes to the Provincial Grand Master for the great honour he had conferred on this lodge, and for the very able and eloquent manner in which he performed the installing ceremony.

The Prov. G. MASTER acknowledged the compliment, and said that it afforded him very great pleasure indeed to visit the Brecknock Lodge, and he was much gratified with the prosperous state they were in.

The W. MASTER said a very pleasing duty devolved upon him that evening, but he sadly felt his inefficiency to do it proper justice. It was that of presenting a very worthy and excellent Past Master with a token of our high estimation of his great abilities, kindness, and readiness at all times to serve the Brecknock Lodge. Twelve months ago the brethren unanimously elected him an honorary member, but there still exists a desire to mark our appreciation of the eminent services rendered to this lodge, more especially on this occasion, for his kindness in coming from Aldershot to Aberystwith to consecrate the new Lodge, No. 1072, and instal the Worshipful Master.

Bro. PERROTT then affixed on Bro. Eve's breast a very handsome P.M.'s jewel, bearing the following inscription:—"Presented to Bro. Richard Eve, P.M. 395 and 651, P. Prov. G.P., by the brethren of the Brecknock Lodge, as a mark of their esteem, and in appreciation of his services to Masonry. Brecon, 23rd January, 1866."

Bro. EVE, P.M., in very feeling terms thanked the brethren for their great kindness, and assured them if his services were at any time wanted, he was ready and at their command.

The lodge was closed at seven p.m. in ancient form and perfect harmony.

Instead of the usual banquet on the installation day, a Masonic ball was held at the Castle Hotel, which was admitted to be one of the most brilliant and successful that has taken place in Brecon. There were nearly two hundred ladies and gentlemen present, which included the *élite* of the county, and several visitors from Hereford, Aberdare, Merthyr, Crickhowel, Carmarthen, and other places. Dancing was kept up with great spirit until an early hour, when all departed highly delighted.

STAFFORDSHIRE.

ABBAY LODGE (No. 624), **BURTON-ON-TRENT. ANNIVERSARY MEETING.**

On Tuesday, the 30th ult., the anniversary of this flourishing lodge was celebrated at the lodge room in High-street. The lodge was opened punctually at one o'clock, when, after the despatch of some formal business, the installation of Bro. J. Upton as W.M. for the ensuing year, and the appointment of officers, the lodge was closed in due form. Bro. Anderson, P.M., in a most creditable and efficient manner, conducted the ceremony of the installation of the W.M. elect, Bro. J. Upton, as his successor. At the close of the ceremony Bro. W. K. Harvey, Prov. G.M., passed the highest commendation upon Bro. Anderson, P.M., and the officers of the lodge generally.

The banquet, which was served up at five o'clock, was entrusted to Bro. Bowley, of the Derby Inn. The repast was a most sumptuous one, and served up in the most perfect manner, calling forth the encomiums of the brethren present, and reflecting the greatest credit on Bro. Bowley's skill as purveyor. The wines, also, were excellent. Amongst the members of the Abbey Lodge present were Bros. J. Upton, W.M.; F. Thompson, P.M.; J. Whittingham, P.M. and

P. Prov. Assist. Dir. of Cers.; W. J. Gothard, P.M.; M. A. Bass, P. Prov. S.G.W.; Rev. J. H. Robinson, Chap.; R. R. Bellamy, Sec.; J. A. Bindley, S.W.; W. N. Field, J.W.; A. Hutton, Treas.; R. Mayger, S.D.; E. B. Knobel, J.D.; T. B. Edwards, I.G.; Henry Birch, J. Whittingham jun., J. Sherwin, R. Robinson, E. Starey, Edward Smith, H. Hall, W. Clarke, E. Bayley, D. Foster, W. Saunders, J. Philpotts, E. Coates, W. Ferguson, J. Dickinson, J. Hunter, J. Thompson, W. Nichols, G. Kendall, H. Jackson, T. Bindley, F. Fisher, J. H. Meredith, J. Smith, &c. Amongst the visitors were:—Bros. W. K. Harvey, Prov. G.M.; H. Hillman 731; M. Smart, 74; T. Bedmore, P.G.O. 1039; J. Smith, A.B. 731; S. Giles, P.M. 529, Prov. S.G.W.; F. James, P.M. 539; W. Bindley, S.D. 1060; R. Bindley, 1060; S. Hanson, 1060; J. Denton, P.M. 1081 and 779, P. Prov. S.G.W.; H. E. Smith, W.M. 779, Prov. J.G.W.; W. Masken, P.M. 98; J. Jones 98; S. Long 779, Prov. S.G.W.; J. H. Snelson 779; Ashby, Charles Turner, P. Prov. S.G.D.; W. Martin, 630; E. Holmes, Light, J. Lawrence Brough, 276; F. W. Hoffmann, 3rd lodge, Ireland; T. Buckley, P.M. 353; T. Mansfield, 731; Dumolo, I.G. 1060; and S. Love 779.

Grace having been said, the toast of "The Queen and the Craft," and "The Prince and Princess of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family," were drunk with becoming loyalty; after which,

The W.M. gave "The Most Worshipful Grand Master of England, the Earl of Zetland; the Duke of Leinster, the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Ireland; the Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master of England, the Earl de Grey and Ripon; and the Officers of the Grand Lodge." In doing so he observed that it was essential to every work that it should have a head, to whom all should look up with respect. The Earl of Zetland was known to be a good Mason, and in following the example they had in him, he did not think they could have a better guide. (Cheers.) The Duke of Leinster was in Ireland an equally worthy representative of Freemasonry; and the Earl de Grey and Ripon, with the Officers of the Grand Lodge, were too favourably known to them to require any commendatory observations from him. He gave therefore "The Earl of Zetland, the Duke of Leinster, and Earl de Grey and Ripon; with the Officers of the Grand Lodge."

The toast was drunk with cordial Masonic honours.

The W. MASTER said the next toast was one nearer home: it was "The Healths of the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Harvey; the Right Worshipful Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Foster Gough, and the Officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Staffordshire." With those gentlemen it was their good fortune to be closely connected, and they freely gave them their advice whenever they were in any difficulty. He had known Bro. Harvey many years, both Masonically and at home in his private capacity, and he could say that a man more favourably known in his own neighbourhood never existed. But he, however, was much afraid that his eloquence would not do justice to the merits of the man, he was sure their hearts would prompt them to complete the eulogium he desired to pronounce upon him. Bro. Gough and the other brethren named in the toast were also severally worthy of the compliment he now proposed to pay to them. He now called upon them to drink their very good healths, and in the unfortunate absence of Bro. Harvey, who had to leave by train, he coupled with the toast the name of P.M. F. James, the S.G.W. of Staffordshire.

The toast having been cordially drunk,

Bro. JAMES said that the premature departure of the Prov. G.M., and the absence of the Deputy from that meeting, rendered it incumbent upon him as S.W., to thank them for the honour they had thus paid to the Provincial Grand Lodge of Staffordshire. Bro. Harvey was heart and soul a Mason, and though he might not shine in after dinner speeches, yet in his love of Masonry and his desire to improve it, he had no equal. As regarded Bro. Foster Gough, he might not be so well known as his predecessors, but they knew him well, and revered and esteemed him. Of this he was assured that he spoke the feelings of the lodges of Staffordshire, when he said he was most sincerely attached to his Masonic duties. He might say, too, of the Prov. G.M. of Staffordshire, that he would never overlook any services of any members of his staff. There is no royal road for advancement in the Craft, it can only be achieved by a close observation to its duties. They had in Staffordshire some 700 or 800 members in their lodges, while there was only about twelve offices at the disposal of the Prov. G.M. It was there-

fore evident that the aspirations of all could not be immediately gratified, but let them be assured that sooner or later the Mason that distinguished himself in the Craft would receive the honours that were due to him. In the name of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Staffordshire, he heartily thanked them for the toast.

The W. MASTER next gave "The Right Worshipful Provincial Past Grand Master, Bro. Colonel Vernon, and the Right Worshipful Past Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Dr. Burton." The distinguished brother who now occupied the post previously held by Bro. Colonel Vernon had acquitted himself most admirably of his duties, but they could not forget their "old love." He called upon the members to drink the healths of Bros. Colonel Vernon and Dr. Burton, and with the toast he coupled the name of Bro. M. A. Bass, P.M., and P. Prov. S.G.W.

The toast having been duly honoured,

Bro. M. A. Bass said he really did not know why he should have been chosen to respond to the toast which had just been so kindly drunk, unless it was, as they were all aware, that he was a friend of the late P. Prov. G.M., and that his was the last appointment he made in elevating him to the honourable rank of Prov. S.G.W. He had known Colonel Vernon for many years, and taken pleasure in his society, and now, in his mother lodge, it was with the greatest satisfaction he declared how much Colonel Vernon was esteemed by his brethren in the province. He could conscientiously say, indeed he believed his friend was a pattern to all Prov. G. Masters, and whether they looked upon him as an accomplished Mason, or as a genial and courteous English gentleman, he hardly knew in which character they should most admire him. In common with everybody else, he had found him invariably courteous and affable, but though he was always readily accessible, the respect in which he was held never suffered the least diminution, and no one kept his lodge in better order. With regard to Bro. Dr. Burton, it was perhaps unnecessary that he should speak after Bro. James. They knew him well; he never shrunk from speaking his mind, he knew his own duties, and by his example encouraged others to do theirs. It was a pleasure to him to return thanks on his behalf.

The W. MASTER then gave the next toast, "The Right Worshipful Past Grand Masters of Derbyshire, Warwickshire, Leicestershire, Cheshire, Nottinghamshire, and Worcestershire, and the Officers of the several Provincial Grand Lodges." He observed they were fond of visiting their neighbours, and they, he trusted and believed, reciprocated that feeling. Those visits were attended with eminent benefits to Masonry. They tended to bring them together, and to know one another. They made them associate together, and fraternise and improve by that association. In adjoining counties there were many highly esteemed Masons who were ornaments to the society in which they moved. While they might rightly say, "Staffordshire for Staffordshire men," they must be conscious that the work of Masonry had been well done in the adjoining counties, though they could not boast the numbers which they did in Staffordshire. He was at the installation of his Grace the Duke of Newcastle, at Nottingham, and was surprised to find that in that province there were not 160 Masons, whereas in Staffordshire there they numbered 700. In this case, therefore, it was not to be supposed that the Staffordshire brethren could get clothed in purple so soon as in the adjoining provinces. The advantages of these visits were too obvious to require comment, and he should now conclude by calling upon them to drink the toast he had proposed.

The toast having been warmly received, was acknowledged by Bro. Smith, for Derbyshire, Bro. Denton for Leicestershire, and Bro. Giles for Worcestershire

Bro. Anderson, P.M., then proposed "The Health of the Worshipful Master," alluding, in highly complimentary terms, to the exemplary manner in which he had filled every Masonic office, from the Inner Guard up to the chair, and extolling the high personal qualities of which he had given conspicuous proof. Associated with the health of the W.M., he would also propose the continued prosperity of the Abbey Lodge during his year of office, and he rejoiced to think that from a successor so earnest, so energetic, and so popular, its interests would certainly receive the attention and the support which they deserved. It had fallen to his lot to have thirteen initiations during his term of office, and he was happy in handing over to his successor eight candidates to try his hand upon.

The toast was received with Masonic honours, accompanied by the warmest demonstrations of respect and attachment.

The W. MASTER briefly and suitably acknowledged the toast, promising the members of the lodge that no effort should be wanting on his part to carry out successfully their expectations.

"The Health of the Eight Entered Apprentices" was then drunk, and very happily responded to by Bro. Edmund Coates.

Bro. THOMPSON next proposed "The Health of the Visiting Brethren," remarking at the same time on the value of visiting between lodges, which he regarded as true Masonic policy, inasmuch as lodges learned to adopt from others such details of practice as appeared superior to their own.

The toast also having been drunk,

Bro. HOFFMAN returned thanks, expressing himself highly gratified by his visit to the Abbey Lodge, and observing that although he had visited hundreds of lodges in various parts of the world, and observed the working of them, not one had afforded him greater pleasure than the Abbey Lodge.

Bro. SMITH next gave "The Past Master Anderson and his Predecessors," which was very heartily drunk and suitably acknowledged by Bro. Anderson, P.M.

Bro. DENTON proposed "The Officers of the Abbey Lodge," which also was fully honoured, and happily responded to by Bro. Bindley, S.W.

The Tylers' toast was then drunk, and the very agreeable proceedings of the evening reached their termination.

SUFFOLK.

OPENING AND CONSECRATION OF NEW MASONIC HALL AT IPSWICH.

The new hall which has been erected in Burk-street, by members of the Prince of Wales Lodge, (959), solely for the purposes of Freemasonry, was opened and consecrated on the 22nd ult. by the Prov. G.M. of Suffolk, Bro. Colonel R. A. S. Adair, a special Provincial Grand Lodge having been summoned for that purpose.

The arrangement of the lodge room was very beautiful: the elegant and costly furniture belonging to the lodge was here seen to advantage. Over the chair, under the apse, was a beautifully wrought purple banner, on which was emblazoned the arms of the Prov. G.M., Bro. Col. Adair. In other parts of the room were hung those of the late Prov. G. Masters, Bros. the Right Hon. Lord Rendlesham and Sir Edward Gooch, *Bart.*; also that of the late D. Prov. G.M., Bro. the Rev. F. W. Freeman. The elegant banners of the various lodges in the town and country ornamented the walls of the room. The north and south walls were decorated with crimson, blue, and white silk bannerets, bearing Masonic devices, and we must not omit to mention the cleverly arranged devices of various kinds known in the Craft, in flowers and evergreens. In addition to the decorations we have mentioned, numerous valuable portraits of eminent Masons added not a little to the appearance of the room; amongst them were that of the present Prov. G.M., Bro. Col. Adair; those of the late Bros. Lord Rendlesham and Sir Edward Gooch. There was also a very interesting portrait of Bro. Anthony Sayer, who was G.M. of Masons in the year 1700; his late Majesty King George IV.; the Duke of Sussex; the Earl of Moria, all of whom had been G.M.'s of England; the Earl of Durham, Prov. G.M. of Durham; the Duke of Leinster, G.M. of Ireland. Tracing boards, valuable lodge documents, photographic portraits of the founders of Lodge Prince of Wales, by Cobb; and last, but not least, the letter of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, in reply to a congratulatory address from the Lodge Prince of Wales, on the birth of the infant Prince, completed the decorations of the walls. Over the chimney piece was placed an elegant mirror, ornamented with Masonic devices, and beneath it the silver trowel with which the foundation stone was laid, enclosed with a glass dome, on an ebony stand.

The brethren commenced to assemble in the lodge room at half past twelve, and the Prov. G.M. and the Prov. G. Officers in the committee room, which was used as a reception room for the occasion. The Prov. G.M. shortly after proceeded to the lodge room, accompanied by the officers of the province, in procession, marshalled by the Prov. Dir. of Cers., and took his seat in the chair of K.S., supported by Bro. H. Thomas, as Prov. S.G.W.; Bro. William Lucia, as Prov. J.G.W.; Bro. S. H. Wright, Prov. S.G.D. Chairs were provided for 150. Seats for the principal officers were arranged on the temporary dais, right and left of the Prov. G.M. During the time the lodge was as-

sembling, an appropriate composition was performed on the organ by Bro. William Norman. The brethren having taken their places, the Provincial Grand Lodge was opened in due and solemn form. The Prov. G.M. then proceeded to ratify the appointment of the D. Prov. G.M., Bro. the Rev. E. J. Lockwood, who was duly invested with the collar and jewel of his office. Other Prov. G. officers were then duly invested.

The W.M. of the Prince of Wales Lodge, Bro. E. Dorling, then requested the Prov. G.M. to dedicate the new buildings to Masonry, agreeably to ancient form. The Prov. G. Master having given his assent, directed the Prov. G. Chaplain, Bro. the Rev. R. N. Sanderson, to proceed with the ceremony. The Rev. Bro. then offered up solemn prayer, invoking the blessing of the Most High upon the buildings, the whole of the brethren kneeling. At the conclusion of the prayer the Prov. G. Chaplain read a passage of Scripture, taken from 1 Kings viii. 22—30. The following anthem was then sung by the brethren:

Hail! Universal Lord,
By Heaven and earth ador'd,
All hail! great God!
Before Thy name we bend,
To us Thy grace extend,
And to our pray'r attend,
All hail! great God!

The builder (Bro. J. A. Pettit) and clerk of the works (Bro. Chincock) then delivered to the Prov. G.M. the implements of their profession entrusted to them for the erection of the building, and announced that they had completed the work according to the plans and specifications which had been agreed to by the brethren.

The Prov. G. Master having expressed his approval of the builder's conduct, Psalm cxxxiii. was chanted: "Behold, how good and joyful a thing it is, brethren, to dwell together in unity," &c.

The Prov. G. Officers, past and present, formed procession, the remainder of the brethren standing, the Chaplains taking their places in the centre of the lodge. The consecrating vessels were carried by Bros. H. Thomas, C. T. Townsend, and Gissing, P. Prov. S.G.W.'s. During the procession solemn music was played on the organ, except at the intervals of dedication.

The circuit of the lodge having been made, and the Prov. G.M. having reached the east, Bro. H. Thomas presented the vessel containing corn to the Prov. G.M., who sprinkled the lodge with corn, the Prov. G. Chaplain reading Psalm lxxii. v. 16—19.

The Prov. G. Master then solemnly dedicated the hall to Masonry.

Musical response—"Glory be to God on high."

The second circuit of the lodge being made, Bro. C. T. Townsend presented the chalice of wine to the Prov. G.M., who sprinkled the lodge with wine, the Prov. G. Chaplain reading Prov. ix. 1—6.

The Prov. G.M. then solemnly dedicated the hall to virtue.

Musical response—"Glory be to God on high."

After the third circuit of the lodge, Bro. S. Freeman presented the vessel containing oil to the Prov. G.M., who anointed the lodge with oil, the Prov. G. Chaplain reading Psalm xxiii. 5, 6.

The Prov. G.M. then solemnly dedicated the hall to universal benevolence.

Musical response—"Glory be to God on high."

The Prov. G. Chaplain offered up the consecration prayer, the brethren all standing.

Musical response—"So mote it be."

The Prov. G.M. then seasoned the lodge with salt, the Prov. G. Chaplain reading Leviticus ii. 13.

The Prov. G.M. declared the hall duly consecrated and dedicated according to ancient form.

The cxxxii. Psalm was then chanted—"Lord remember David, and all his trouble."

The costly gold consecration vessels, kindly lent by the Grand Lodge of England, were used in the performance of the ceremony.

The imposing ceremony having been concluded, the Prov. G. Chaplain delivered an eloquent and appropriate oration.

After the delivery of the oration, which was listened to with great attention by the brethren, the following hymn, composed expressly for the occasion by the Prov. G. Chaplain, was sung to the tune of "Jerusalem, the golden, &c.":—

O first and sole foundation,
O hidden corner-stone,

O heavenly Star of Morning,
O Priest upon Thy Throne—
Descend to this Thy Temple,
And pour Thy blessing free
On us Thy servants waiting
In hope of what shall be.

Then shall be no more darkness,
No grief, and no decay;
Earth's shadows all dissolving
In heaven's eternal day;
No need of word or token,
No need of guard or sign
In that great World of Brothers,
That Home of Light Divine.

There work shall be refreshment,
There parting comes no more,
That lodge for aye stands open,
For aye untyled the door;
And in that blessed Mansion,
With God upon the Throne,
Shall Brother meet with Brother,
And know as he is known.

The Prov. G. Master then proceeded to address the lodge, expressing the great pleasure he felt in calling the Provincial Grand Lodge officers together on such an auspicious occasion. He paid a high compliment to the brethren of the Lodge Prince of Wales, who here had by their united efforts and perseverance raised such a noble structure which he had that day the gratification of dedicating to Masonry. He trusted the noble example they had set would be followed by other lodges in the province, and nothing would give him greater pleasure than to be present at the consecration and dedication of such buildings as these.

The following brethren signed the presence book:—Bros. Robert A. S. Adair, Prov. G.M.; Henry Thomas, Prov. S.G.W.; Rev. R. N. Sanderson, Prov. G. Chap.; Sir Patrick C. Colquhoun, Scientific, 105; C. T. Townsend, P. Prov. S.G.W.; John Head, P. Prov. J.G.W.; Edward Dorling, Prov. G. Sec.; George Harcourt, D. Prov. G.M. Surrey; Rev. E. J. Lockwood, D. Prov. G.M. Suffolk; W. T. Westgate, W.M.; William Lucia, Prov. J.G.W.; H. Luff, P. Prov. S.G.W.; R. Girling, P. Prov. G.W.; George Green, George Light, J. Williams, J. C. Lucas, W. Norman, P. Prov. G. Org. Norfolk; William Cobb, E. McIntyre, J. Heyermans, C. Goolden, T. K. Silverston, John Brice, Star in the East; Robert Ward, J. R. Dawson, W. S. Thorne, 111, Sunderland; R. W. Dickson, John H. Townsend, J.D. 959; W. C. Randall, P. Prov. G. Purst.; William Smith, P. Prov. J.G.W. Surrey; James Durrant, I.P.M. 650; W. Minter, J. Surridge, P.M. 650, 959; Lindley Nunn, James Nicol, Prov. S.G.W. York; Henry Huish, Prov. J.G.W. Essex; F. Grant, P. Prov. J.G.W.; H. Harris, P. Prov. S.G.D.; M. Low; J. S. Gissing, P. Prov. J.G.W.; T. Bayes, P. Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; Wm. Stubbs, J. Breckles, Patrick Beales, Jos. Cullingford, F. S. Bradbrook, J. S. Collins, H. Webb, J. Goodhew, B. Gall, J. H. Nicholas, J. G. Thompson, W. C. Penny, Pythagorean Lodge; F. B. Marriott, W.M. 516; Frederick Long, J.W. 516; F. B. Strathern, P. Prov. J.G.W.; W. Hayward, Prov. Assist. G. Dir. of Cers.; Rev. W. F. Reynolds, William Larking, Rev. David Shaboe, C. S. Pedgriff, P. Prov. G. Reg.; Wm. B. Rands, G. J. Wallis, G. W. Brock, W. H. Butcher, W.M. 650; Jas. Clarke, Robert Cade, P.M. 225; Alfred J. Barber, E. C. Tidd, Assist. Prov. G. Sec.; W. Knight, Cadogan; E. G. W. Rands, J. Tracy, G. Dir. of Cers. 114; G. H. Rudland, W. A. Smith, F. B. Jennings, P.G.S. 959; Thomas Noble, P. Prov. S.D.; J. Chinnock, J. H. Staddon, A. H. Gower, G. Cooper, J. Talbot, jun., P. A. Iverson, J. A. Pettit, P.S.G.W.; James Farthing, John T. Helms, J.D. 959; R. Burrows, P. Prov. J.D.; J. Richmond, P. Prov. S.D.; T. G. Cresy, P. Prov. J.G.D.; J. H. Wright, Prov. S.G.D.; J. A. Pettit, jun., P.G.S., 522, 376; S. C. Peckham, F. W. C. Whitbread, F. Read, D. H. Booth, R. M. Bowman, E. W. Adams, S. Redgrave, F. Waller, J. Alloway, W. Potts, A. Barber, W. Flory, E. Fitzgerald, R. Stephens, W. A. Elliston, H. G. Moore, J. H. H. Doughney, J. Whitehead, S. B. King, A. H. Tattershall, B. Dove, J. Parker, F. Gull, W.M. 114; J. Haster, W.M. 79; F. R. Burtsal, J. D. Botwright, R. Fox, T. Cook (Jersey), J. T. Wright, &c.

THE BANQUET

Took place at four o'clock in the lodge room, and was provided by Bro. J. H. Bridges, of the Falcon Brewery, under the immediate superintendence of Bro. E. Dorling. About 120

brethren sat down to an elegantly-served repast. The tables presented a very beautiful appearance; the massive silver epergnes and candelabra, and vases of choice flowers, had a very beautiful effect.

The *chef de cuisine* was Mr. Farrer, of 2, Woodville-place, Mildmay Park, and most ably did he perform his task.

The viands were most choice, the bill of fare including every delicacy that could be desired.

The dinner wines, which were of the finest kinds, were supplied by Bro. Bridges, and the choice dessert by Bro. Pullen, Centre Avenue, Covent Garden, London.

The dinner service was made expressly for the new hall by Bro. Copeland, of the firm of Copeland and Son, of Bond-street. It is of blue and white, with hexagonal chain in blue round the rim. In the centre is a blue garter with corded edges, bearing the words "Masonic Hall, Ipswich," in the centre. Within the circle is the square and compasses.

The Prov. G.M. presided, supported by Bros. Lockwood, D. Prov. G.M.; Rev. R. N. Sanderson, Prov. G. Chap.; Sir Patrick Colquhoun, *L.L.D.*, late Chief Justice of the Ionian Islands; Dr. Harcourt, P. Prov. G.M. Surrey; and other brethren.

At the conclusion of the banquet, the PROV. G. MASTER gave in succession the toasts of "Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen," "Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family," "The Most Worshipful the Grand Master of England, the Earl of Zetland," "The Right Worshipful the Deputy Grand Master, the Earl de Grey and Ripon, and the Present and Past Grand Officers," all of which were duly honoured by the brethren.

Bro. Dr. HARCOURT, responded on behalf of the Prov. G. Officers.

Bro. HARCOURT shortly afterwards rose and gave "The Health of Bro. Colonel R. A. S. Adair, Provincial Grand Master of Suffolk."

The Prov. G. MASTER returned thanks in an eloquent speech, and afterwards gave "The Health of the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Lockwood," to whom he paid a high compliment, with reference to the fitness for the office to which he had been that day appointed.

The D. PROV. G. MASTER acknowledged the compliment.

The Prov. G. MASTER then gave "The Provincial Grand Masters, and the Provincial Grand Officers Present and Past," to whose services he paid a high compliment, coupled with the names of the Provincial Senior Grand Warden, Bro. H. Thomas, and the Provincial Grand Chaplain, Bro. R. N. Sanderson.

Drank with full Masonic honours.

Bro. THOMAS, Prov. S.G.W., acknowledged the toast in the following terms: Right Worshipful Sir—I beg leave, on the behalf of myself and the other Provincial Grand Officers, to return you my most sincere and heartfelt thanks for the kind manner in which you have been pleased to introduce the last toast to this assembly, and to the brethren for the equally kind manner in which they have been pleased to respond to it. I trust, sir, that you will always find us ready and willing to rally round your standard whenever duty calls or the trumpet sounds. I flatter myself, Right Worshipful Sir, that this is a happy day to you and a glorious one for Masonry in this province: notwithstanding the allocation of his Holiness the Pope, it is self-evident to the readers of the FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE that Freemasonry reigns in the hearts of the brethren not only in this, but in foreign countries, even those bordering on his own dominions—yea, in Rome itself! It flourishes very satisfactorily in this province, and why should it not do so? Why should it not keep pace with other great institutions which are making such rapid strides in the country? And as to legislation: it is so rapid in the present day, that I much doubt whether many of the legislators themselves know what acts they pass. I should much like to see other lodges, not only in this but in other provinces, follow the brilliant example of Lodge Prince of Wales (No. 959). I think, Right Worshipful Sir, yourself and brethren cannot but admit its prosperity when I remind you that, although but in its third year of its existence, it has its Royal Arch Chapter, Encampment, and Priory attached, as is well known to Bro. Sir Patrick Colquhoun, who sits immediately on your left, and whom, in a very short time, we hope to advance to the Rose Croix degree. The lodge has subscribed liberally to all the Charities, is life governor of some, and will shortly become so of all. Lastly, I would invite your attention to this temple, erected by the members of the Prince of Wales Lodge alone, and exclusively for Masonic purposes. It is but

due to our Provincial Grand Secretary, Bro. Dorling, to say that had it not been for his indefatigable zeal, tact, and assiduity, aided by other brethren of the lodge—none more so than our worthy and esteemed brother who sits on my left, Bro. John Head, we would not be in the proud, enviable, and honourable position we now are in. Perhaps I may be excused reminding our brethren that I represent the province as Steward at the Festival for the Boys' School on the 14th of March. I trust, Right Worshipful Sir, that the Masters of lodges and other brethren will follow your example by paying their subscriptions through me, and will give me timely intimation of their intention to attend the banquet, so that I may secure tickets and places for them. The Charity has strong claims upon the province, and I trust the brethren will aid to clear off the debt that hangs over it.

The Prov. G. CHAP. also briefly responded.

The Prov. G. MASTER next gave "Bro. E. Dorling, Prov. G. Sec. of Suffolk."

Bro. E. DORLING returned thanks for the compliment.

The concluding toasts were "The Visitors," responded to by Bros. Sir Patrick Colquhoun, Beales, of Cambridge, and W. S. Thorne, of the Ipswich Theatre, who stated he was initiated at the same time and in the same lodge with the much lamented G. V. Brooke, who was drowned on the foundering of the *London*, in the Bay of Biscay, on the 11th inst.; "The Masters of Lodges," and "The Charities."

The arrangements were admirably carried out, and the evening was one which will long be remembered by all Masons both in this and other provinces.

[Want of space compels us to defer giving until our next issue a description of the new Masonic Hall.—Ed. F. M.]

ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED RITE.

THE NOTTINGHAMSHIRE CHAPTER OF SOVEREIGN PRINCES ROSE CROIX.

The members of this chapter held their first meeting for the present year at the Assembly Rooms, on Wednesday, the 10th of January, under the presidency of Bro. John Comyn, M.W.S., assisted by Bros. Samuel Richard Parr Shilton, 30°, P.M.W.S.; the Rev. Charles Walter Hudson, P.; Thomas Wm. Robinson, 1st G.; Edwin Moess Kidd, 2nd G.; Matthew Vowles, G.M.; Henry Alfred Attenborough, R.; Francis George Rawson, C.G.; Frederick William Parsons, Charles Allcock, Alfred Page, and John Cumming Bannell, E.W.

The chapter was honoured with the presence of the following brethren, members of the Supreme Grand Council of the Sovereign Grand Inspectors General of the 33rd Degree of the Ancient and Accepted Rite for England and Wales and the Dependencies of Great Britain:—

Dr. Henry Beaumont Leeson, Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander; Colonel Henry Atkins Bowyer, Illustrious Lieut. Grand Commander; the Rev. Wm. Henry Wentworth Atkins Bowyer, Illustrious Grand Chaplain; and Hyde Pullen, Sovereign Prince of the Grand Secret and Secretary General to the Supreme Grand Council; and the following brethren from the provinces:—Charles Fendelow, 30°, of Wolverhampton; William Barnes Cooper, of Shrewsbury; and the Rev. Peter Brown, of Sheffield.

Bro. Dr. Leeson, M.P.S.G.C., at the particular request of the M.W.S., Bro. Comyn, kindly consented to open the chapter.

The chapter was then solemnly opened in due form, according to ancient custom.

A petition for perfection having been presented by the following brethren—

Henry Pelham Alexander Pelham Clinton, Duke of Newcastle and Earl of Lincoln, Clumber Park,
Arthur Pelham Clinton, Lord Clinton, M.P., Clumber,
Evelyn Hardolph Harcourt Vernon, S.C.L., R.D., Rector of Cotgrave,

Samuel Reynolds Hole, B.A., Vicar of Caunton,

John Watson, jun., Nottingham,

William Newton, Newark,

George Fox, Bridlington, Yorkshire,

James Charles Nixon, Nottingham,

Richard FitzHugh, Nottingham,

Luke Turner, Leicester,

which was graciously received by the chapter, when they were installed in ancient and solemn form as Knights of the Pelican

and Eagle and Sovereign Princes Rose Croix Heredom. The ceremonial was admirably conducted by Bro. Hyde Pullen, Secretary General, S.G.C., in that impressive and dignified manner which is so highly appreciated by all who know him.

The engraved columns of the preceding convocation were read, and, silence prevailing, were approved, adopted, and signed.

Bro. Dr. LEESON, M.P.S.G.C., delivered an address containing much curious information relative to the ancient degrees.

The M.W.S., Bro. COMYN, moved the thanks of the chapter for the learned address, regretting that other arrangements had limited the time devoted to the information of the brethren, which was carried unanimously.

There being no further business before the chapter, the same was closed in due form, according to ancient custom.

The brethren then adjourned to the George Hotel and partook of an elegant banquet, presided over by the M.W.S. After the removal of the cloth, the "Health of her Majesty the Queen" was duly honoured, and likewise other loyal toasts: The M.W.S. then proposed the "Health of the Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Chaplain, Dr. Leeson, and the Members of the Supreme Grand Council of the 33°." Dr. Leeson and the other members respectively acknowledged the same. The P.M.W.S., Bro. Shilton, proposed the "Health of Bro. Pullen," which he duly responded to, when the W.M.S. proposed the members of the 30°, "Bros. Fendelow and Shilton, P.M.W.S.," and they having respectively acknowledged the same, the M.P.S.G.C., Dr. Leeson, proposed "The M.W.S. of the Chapter," who, having returned thanks, proposed the "Health of the Rev. Peter Brown and Visiting Sir Knights," all of whom returned thanks, when Bro. Hyde Pullen proposed "The newly-installed Sir Knights," which was duly responded to by the Rev. E. H. H. Vernon, on behalf of himself and the rest of the Sir Knights. No other toasts were given, but a great deal of valuable and instructive information was derived on various Masonic subjects from the illustrious brethren who were present, when all departed highly pleased.

ROYAL ARCH.

METROPOLITAN.

DOMATIC CHAPTER (No. 177).—A convocation of this chapter was held on the 25th ult. at the Falcon Tavern, Fetter-lane. Among the companions present were T. G. Dickie, M.E.Z.; Sisson, H.; Sutton, J.; Buss, P.Z. and S.E.; Payne, N.; Little, P.S.; Kerby, First Assist. Soj.; Hubbard, Second Assist. Soj.; Cottebrune, Brett, and Carpenter, P.Z.'s. Bro. Lee, of the Lodge of Confidence (No. 193), was exalted into R.A. Masonry by Comp. Cottebrune, Acting M.E.Z., assisted by the other officers, and the ceremony was rendered in that able manner for which the Domatic Chapter is justly celebrated. The following Comps. were unanimously elected to office for the ensuing year:—Comps. E. Sisson, M.E.Z.; Sutton, H.; Payne, J.; Smith, P.G.D.C., P.Z., Treas.; Buss, P.Z., S.E.; Little, S.N.; Kerby, P.S. Comp. Brett, P.Z., then proposed that the sum of £10 be given from the funds of the chapter towards providing a suitable testimonial for Comp. Buss, P.Z., who had for a number of years zealously and ably officiated as Hon. Scribe of the chapter. Comp. Brett expatiated in his usual happy style on the many excellences of Comp. Buss, who, he said, was known to every companion as a true Mason, and a member of whom the chapter was proud. This motion was, of course, carried by acclamation, and a subscription list being immediately opened, a goodly sum was collected to supplement the vote, and we have no doubt that the result will be worthy both of the chapter and the companions to whom this proof of regard is accorded. Comp. Carpenter was afterwards elected an honorary member, and the chapter was closed in due form. A pleasant evening was spent, under the able presidency of Comp. Cottebrune, and the usual harmony and good fellowship prevailed, which we trust will ever be a distinguishing characteristic of this flourishing chapter.

CUMBERLAND AND WESTMORELAND.

CARLISLE.—Union Chapter (No. 310).—The companions of this chapter met on the 17th ult. at the new private Masonic Rooms, to hold their quarterly convocation, which had been postponed until this occasion. M.E. Comp. Routledge, P.Z.,

ascended the dais, and took his seat as Principal Z.; F. W. Hayward as H., and Murray as J.; Comp. G. G. Hayward, Principal Sojourner; M. E. Comp. Bucher, Z., Kendal Castle Chapter (No. 129), acting as Scribe E. in the absence of E. Comp. Fisher. The rest of the officers being in their accustomed places, the chapter was formally opened, and Bros. Lucock and Thompson, of Lodge 371, Maryport, were exalted to this high degree. As a Craft and Mark Lodge are held here, E. Comp. Fisher proposed, and Comp. Harris seconded, that an inventory be taken of the chapter property, and the same recorded upon the minute books. Thomas Dean, of Lodge No. 310, was proposed a candidate for exaltation in this chapter. This being the whole of the business, the chapter was duly closed.

KNIGHTS OF CONSTANTINOPLE.

CORNWALL.

TRURO.—*Fortitude Council.*—On Thursday, the 18th Jan., several of the officers of the St. Aubyn Grand Council, Devonport, opened a council of this rapidly extending degree at the Masonic Booms, Quay-street, Truro, in answer to a petition from Sir W. J. Hughan, and three others. The ceremony of opening the council having been completed, a large number of gentlemen signified their desire to join the council and sixteen were intrusted and elevated, and subsequently dubbed Knights of Constantinople. After which Sir Knight William James Hughan having been appointed by the Grand Council to be the first Illustrious Sovereign, and the nomination being approved of by the Sir Knights present, was formally enthroned and acknowledged accordingly. The following gentlemen were then invested as the officers for the year ensuing by the Illustrious Sovereign:—Sir Knights W. Tweedy, Chief of the Artisans; F. M. Williams, *M.P.*, Master Artisan; S. Holloway, Prelate; T. Chirgwin, Master of Finances; T. Solomon, Prefect of Palace; W. J. Johns, Master of Despatches; Edward Moore, Seneschal; J. Middleton, Marshal; William Boase, Captain of Guard; G. A. Elliott, First Herald; J. Ralph, Second Herald; William Lake, Sword Bearer; R. Bodilly, First Standard Bearer; T. Tregaskis, Second Standard Bearer; William Rooks, Purveyor; William Wyatt, Sentinel. The Sir Knights then adjourned to the banquet, the Illustrious Sovereign, W. J. Hughan, presided, supported by the Illustrious Grand Sovereign, E. G. Irwin; Grand Chief of the Artisans, Samuel Chapple; Grand Master Artisan, H. B. Kent; and Grand Prelate, Vincent Bird; all of the Grand Council. Sir Knight T. Chirgwin, Master of the Finances, occupied the Vice Chair. Several complimentary toasts were given after the loyal opening so general among Freemasons. Much satisfaction was expressed at the success of the St. Aubyn Grand Council, as, although the degree has not been long introduced into England from abroad, warrants have been granted to hold councils at Chatham, Truro, Hong Kong, and elsewhere, and at Devonport the increase in numbers has been something extraordinary. Those who know the members comprising the Grand Council best will wonder least at the rapid extension of the degree, as their support alone is sufficient to guarantee all that is necessary to ensure prosperity. The meetings of the Grand Council are held in the Masonic Hall of the St. Aubyn Lodge (No. 954), the principal officers and promoters of the latter being the chiefs in the former. The members of the St. Aubyn Lodge also hold a Mark Lodge, a Royal Arch Chapter, and work the ineffable degrees from the fourth to the eighteenth, or S.P. Rose Croix, under the "Ancient and Accepted Rite."

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

YORKSHIRE (NORTH AND EAST).

HULL.—*Ancient York Conclave of Redemption.*—A meeting of this encampment was held in the Hall of the Minerva Lodge, Prince-street, on the evening of the 26th ult., pursuant to summons, at which were present Sir Knts. G. Wilkinson, E.C.; T. Walton, First Capt.; W. K. Brown, as Second Capt.; J. F. Holden, as Prelate; W. Reynolds, P.E.C., Registrar; J. N. Scherling, Expert; F. Jackson, Capt. of Lines; M. C. Peck, Org.; Frater W. Johnson, Equerry. The conclave having been opened in ancient form, the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The ballot box was then prepared for Comps. W. Sawton, Captain Geo. Symons, and J. W. Woodall,

all of whom were unanimously accepted. Comp. J. W. Woodall, being present, was then admitted, invested, installed, and proclaimed a K.T. and member of this conclave. Two Comps. were then proposed for ballot at the next meeting, viz., Comps. G. Hardy, Minerva Chapter, Hull, and R. Bower, Union Chapter, York. The conclave was then closed in ancient form, and the Sir Knts. adjourned to the banquet, and spent the remainder of the evening in harmony.

CANADA (WEST).

The annual assembly of the Godfrey de Bouillon Encampment, under England and Wales, of the Royal, Exalted, and Military Order of Masonic Knights Templar, &c., was held at Head Quarters, in Hamilton; on Friday, the 1st Dec. The chair, in the unavoidable absence of the E.C. Sir Knt. Thomas McCracken, was occupied by the P.E.C. Sir Knt. T. B. Harris.

The preliminary business of the evening, the reception and installation of several candidates, having been completed, a Board of Installed Commanders was opened, and the newly elected E.C. was declared installed.

The Sir Knights of this deservedly popular and prosperous encampment after labour adjourned to a banquet, which had been specially prepared for the occasion at Bro. Lee's Restaurant. The banquet was got up in Bro. Lee's best style, and reflected much credit on him. Upwards of twenty-five Sir Knights were present, wearing their full costume, and giving to the company a most brilliant appearance. The chair was ably filled by E. Sir Knt. T. B. Harris, E.C. and Prov. Grand Prior, supported on the right by Sir Knt. Charles Magill, *M.P.P.*, and on the left by E. Sir Knt. Alexander S. Kirkpatrick, E.C., Hugh de Paynes Encampment, Kingston.

Sir Knt. David Curtis took charge of the South-west and Sir Knt. John W. Murton of North-west columns. Ample justice was done to the good things provided for the occasion. The cloth being removed, letters and telegrams of apology for unavoidable absence were read from the following:—E. Sir Knt. Captain Thompson Wilson, London; Sir Knt. John Davidson, Galt; E. Sir Knt. W. B. Simpson, Kingston; Sir Knt. George En Earl, Ogdensburg, U.S.; Sir Knt. James Seymour and Sir Knt. Dr. E. Goodman, St. Catherines; E. Sir Knt. Colonel Wm. M. Wilson, Simcoe; Sir Knt. Colonel W. H. Whitehead, Woodstock; E. Sir Knt. John Charles Frank, Montreal, &c.

The usual patriotic and loyal toasts having been disposed of amidst much enthusiasm,

The CHAIRMAN then gave "The Health of the Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master of the Order, in England and Wales, Most Eminent Sir Knt. William Stuart."

Received with all honours.

The CHAIRMAN next gave "The Supreme Rulers of Capitular and Craft Masonry in the Province of Canada, Most Eminent Companion T. D. Harrington and Most Worshipful Bro. W. B. Simpson."

Drank with all the honours.

The CHAIRMAN next gave "The Health of the Very Eminent Provincial Grand Commander, Eminent Sir Knight Colonel W. J. B. McLeod Moore."

Received with all honours.

The CHAIRMAN next gave "Our Visiting Sir Knights."

E. Sir Knt. A. S. KIRKPATRICK, of Kingston, rose and returned thanks on behalf of the visitors, and tendered a hearty welcome to any of the Sir Knights visiting his encampment at Kingston.

Sir Knt. D. CURTIS next proposed "The Health of the Eminent Sir Knight Thomas McCracken, the retiring Commander of the Godfrey de Bouillon Encampment."

The toast was received and drank with all the honours.

The CHAIRMAN, on behalf of E. Sir Knt. McCracken, returned thanks for the honour done him, and took occasion to express to the Sir Knights the disappointment he felt at having to leave the city on the very afternoon of the day of the present assembly, business of an urgent nature requiring his presence elsewhere. He hoped under the circumstances he would be excused.

Sir Knt. CAMPBELL then proposed "The Health of Past Eminent Sir Knight Commander W. M. Wilson," which was received and drank with all the honours.

Sir Knt. CURTIS proposed "The Health of the newly elected Commander of the Encampment for the ensuing term, Eminent Sir Knt. Thomas B. Harris," and in doing so briefly alluded to the position held by him in the various grades of the Masonic

Order, as also of his zeal in the discharge of the important duties devolving upon him.

The toast was drunk with all the honours.

B. Sir Knt. HARRIS responded.

The CHAIRMAN next gave "The Health of Sir Knt. Charles Magill, M.P.P., and Mayor of the City."

Received and drank with all honours.

Sir Knt. MAGILL in rising said:—Eminent Sir Knights and Sir Knights generally, I feel very grateful and much pleased at the kindly manner in which my name has been mentioned, and at the enthusiastic reception which you have been pleased to accord to it. My fellow-citizens have placed me in many positions of trust and honour, of which any man might well be proud; but none of them have given me greater gratification than the recollection of the compliments conferred upon me from time to time by the members of the Masonic fraternity. You, Eminent Sir Knight, have been pleased to refer to my having been one of the chartered members in the Sir Godfrey de Bouillon Encampment. I had also the honour of being appointed by my brethren as Chairman of the first Masonic Convention for the establishment of the Grand Lodge of Canada in 1856, when I had also the honour of holding the position of Mayor of this city. That Grand Lodge has attained a position of which all Masons may well feel proud. During the past few months I have to acknowledge that my attendance at the meetings of our beloved Order have not been as regular as I should have desired, but I will in the future try and make amends for what may have appeared a carelessness in matters connected with the Craft. Again thanking you for your kindness on this as on other occasions, I would express the hope that our beloved Order in its several branches may go on and prosper in the future as it has done in the past.

Sir Knt. MURTON proposed "The Health of our newly admitted Sir Knights," which was drunk with honours.

Sir Knts. F. J. RASTRICK, B. E. CHARLTON, and D. GILLIES returned thanks.

"The Poor and Distressed, wheresoever dispersed," "The Press," and the truly Masonic toast of "Happy in parting and happy to meet again," closed the proceedings.

The following is the list of officers for the ensuing year:—

E. Sir Knt. T. B. Harris, Eminent Commander.
" Thomas McCracken, Past Eminent Commander.
" Charles Magill, M.P.P., Prelate.
" John W. Murton, First Capt. Com. Column.
" David Curtis, Second Capt. Com. Column.
" Wm. Edgar, Registrar and Treasurer.
" S. B. Campbell, Almoner.
" Benj. E. Charlton, Expert.
" Jas. McKay, First Standard Bearer.
" Henry Robertson, Second Standard Bearer.
" David Gillies, Captain of Lines.
" F. J. Rastrick, First Herald.
" Isaac P. Willson, Second Herald.
" W. W. Summers, Equerry.

MARK MASONRY.

CORNWALL.

HAYLE.—*Cornubian Lodge* (No. 87 E.C.)—On Friday, the 19th Jan., the members of this lodge met for the first time at their lodge rooms in Hayle. The warrant was granted on 21st December in last year. Since then the brethren have spared no efforts to render their first meeting a grand success, for such it was; and the handsome manner in which they treated their visitors was a theme on which none seemed tired of thanking them for during the day. At 1 p.m. Bro. William James Hughan, W.M. (No. 78), took the chair, and assisted by Bros. Samuel Chappell, P.M., P.G. Reg., P.G. Dir. of Cers.; Horace B. Kent, P.M., Prov. G.S.B., Grand S.B.; Vincent Bird, S.W. (No. 64); and Thomas Chirgwin, S.W. (No. 78); opened the Cornubian Lodge of Mark Masters (No. 87). A Board of Installed Masters was then formed, when Bro. Frank Harvey (of No. 78, Truro) was installed as the W.M. for the year ensuing. The members then re-entered, and balloted for nearly twenty candidates. Seven Master Masons, present in the ante-room, were then duly prepared, introduced, and subsequently advanced, by Bro. W. J. Hughan, W.M. (No. 78). Bro. F. Harvey, W.M. (No. 87), afterwards appointed the following and others as his officers: Bros. N. J. Easterbrook, S.W.; J. Coombe,

J.W.; J. H. Burall, M.O.; J. Mudgo, S.O.; W. J. Crotch, J.O.; and John P. Smith, Treas. and Sec. Bro. W. J. Hughan, W.M. (No. 78), then read an interesting paper on the History of the Mark Degree, which he had prepared by desire of the newly elected W.M. and the promoters of the lodge. In consequence of the paper being so highly approved of by the members, a vote of thanks was proposed and seconded, and ordered to be recorded in the minute-book, to the W.M. of No. 78 for his consenting to prepare and read the same, and also the honorary membership of the lodge was formally presented to him. The lodge being closed by Bro. S. Chappell, P.M., P. Prov. G. Reg., P.G. Dir. of Cers., the brethren adjourned to a most *recherche* banquet, which reflected much credit on the host, Bro. W. J. Crotch, who spared no exertion on his part to make the banquet of a first-class nature. We do not remember spending a more agreeable day in our Masonic experience; and the subsequent toasts and responses proved that the brethren had made a good selection in Bro. Harvey as their first Master, and the Master must have been pleased to witness the unity and brotherly love manifested by all present.

CUMBERLAND.

CARLISLE.—*Cumberland Lodge* (No. 60).—A meeting of this lodge was held at one o'clock on the 17th Jan., at the Private Masonic Rooms, Bro. Murray, W.M., in the chair, and assisted by his officers and others present. Bro. W. Dodd, of Lodge 1074, was advanced to this degree. None of the other candidates appearing, the lodge was duly closed.

CHANNEL ISLANDS.

CESAREE LODGE (No. 590).—A competent W.M. of this numerous and influential lodge, who relies on his own powers for the performance of all the duties of his office, and the effective administration of all the ceremonies, in such a manner as to obtain the approval of those over whom he rules—combining industry, correctness, and impressiveness—ought to be considered a model Master, especially when his powers are severely taxed by the performance of at least two ceremonies on every night of meeting. Such does Bro. C. Le Sueur appear to be, for he is not only prepared personally to perform the ordinary duties of the chair, but to be ready for every case of difficulty, of which several have lately arisen. The W.M. opened the lodge at a quarter past seven, on the 28th ult., assisted by his Wardens, Bros. Chevalier and Oatley, Bro. Dr. Hopkins acting as I.P.M. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The lodge having been opened in the second degree, Bro. Capt. Pironet was examined as to his proficiency, and entrusted. During his absence from the lodge for preparation, it was opened in the third degree. The candidate was then re-admitted, and raised to the sublime degree of M.M. The lodge having been resumed in the first degree, several matters of business were transacted, and it was determined to take in the new periodical commenced under the auspices of Bro. Matthew Cooke, *The Masonic Press*, in addition to *THE FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE*, and *The Monde Maçonnique*. Bro. De Veulle was brought up for examination, and having passed this in a very satisfactory manner, was dismissed for preparation. The lodge was then resumed in the second degree. On the re-admission of the candidate, he was duly passed to the degree of F.C. by the W.M. The lodge was resumed in the first degree, and the only remaining business was a proposition by Bro. E. D. Le Conteur of two gentlemen for initiation. The lodge was closed in the usual form, soon after nine o'clock, and the brethren adjourned to the banqueting room for refreshment.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

"Papal Teachings in Freemasonry: being a rectification of the errors and misrepresentations contained in a recent allocution promulgated from the secret consistory at Rome by Pope Pius IX." By the Rev. Geo. Oliver, D.D., P. Dep. G.M. G. L. of Mass. (U.S.), P. Dep. Prov. G.M. Lincoln, and author of many Masonic works. London: Bro. R. Spencer, Great Queen-street, opposite Freemasons' Hall.

Obituary.

BRO. LUDOVIC GRANT DUNLOP.

The last China mail has brought us the painful intelligence of the death of a highly respected member of the Craft, Bro. Ludovic Grant Dunlop, P.M. of the Tuscan Lodge, 1027, Shanghai.

Bro. H. Æneas Sidford, W.M. of the Tuscan Lodge, 1027, has addressed the following letter to Bro. Tilly, P.M., and acting W.M. of that lodge:—

Chinking Customs, 15th November, 1865.

Worshipful Brother A. R. Tilly, P.M.,

Acting W.M. "Tuscan Lodge," (No. 1027), Shanghai.

Worshipful and Dear Brother Tilly,—It is again my sad duty to inform our brethren in lodge assembled, through you, dear brother, that we have again to mourn over the death of another brother whom it has pleased God, in his infinite wisdom, to remove from all earthly lodges, and it is with more than ordinary feelings of emotion, while penning these lines, that I refer to the decease of our beloved and worthy brother, Ludovic Grant Dunlop, P.M. It was at his hands, and in your presence, over some three years ago, that I received the benefits of initiation; little did we then think that we should have had to mourn over his loss so soon after, while in the very prime of life, and one of the chief pillars that support our Order in this distant clime. May the lessons taught us this year by the loss of so many brethren, not be forgotten or laid aside; let us so remember our days that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom, and prepare in our lodge here for a future meeting with our lamented brethren in the Grand Lodge above, where the Great Architect of the Universe reigneth for ever. My dear Bro. Tilly, bring this solemn subject before the brethren, so that they may derive benefit and instruction from the mysterious working of an All-wise Being.

It is my earnest wish, should you and all the brethren approve of it, as our late Bro. Dunlop was a member of this lodge, and a very good and worthy Mason, that our lodge should, out of respect for his memory, remain three months in mourning (after the expiration of the time we have allotted to the memory of our lamented Bro. Oliver Kimball Gordon)—that the W.M.'s pedestal be draped in black in memory of the deceased P.M. for the same period, and that you would have a committee appointed, being yourself on it, to draw up a suitable letter to the friends of our late brother, and that such document should be sent to Bro. Thorne to transmit as you may direct to the lamented brother's friends.

Expressing my deep sympathy and fraternal love to all the brethren, I am, Worshipful and dear Bro. Tilly,

Yours very sincerely and fraternally,

HENRY ÆNEAS SIDFORD,
W.M. Tuscan Lodge (No. 1027).

MASONIC FESTIVITIES.

WARWICKSHIRE.

GRAND MASONIC BALL.

A grand Masonic ball, for the province of Warwickshire, has just been held at the Shire Hall, Warwick. Some degree of novelty attaches to the *réunion* on account of its being the first of the description which has been held in the county town. Ball room assemblies generally present the same appearance, the town or country "gathering then her beauty and her chivalry," her "fair women and brave men." With the sterner sex the dress is seldom varied, while, in order that "the lovely daughters may bloom like beauteous flowers," they are favoured by custom as well as nature, and enjoy opportunities for the display of their charms which etiquette denies to "the lords of creation." The latter may, however, in some instances, betake themselves to more than the usual modicum of adventitious adornment. If they have the happiness of belonging to the honourable fraternity of Freemasons, their appearance

in the costume of the Craft, while rendering such an assembly as that which has just taken place in Warwick both unique and picturesque, affords an agreeable contrast to the usually sombre aspect of a civilian ball.

An universal feeling of admiration was expressed on the occasion of the above-mentioned assembly at the richness and variety of the costume, from that of the Master Mason, through the degrees of Royal Arch, to the splendid attire of the Rose Croix, Knight Templar, and Prov. G.M.

The ball passed off with the greatest *eclat*, and its great success will undoubtedly induce the Craft to hold many similar gatherings in Warwick and other parts of the county. A general wish has been expressed that the Masonic Ball may become an annual institution.

The agreeableness and pleasure of the evening were greatly enhanced by the admirable manner in which Bros. George Wise, John Machen, and R. C. Heath discharged the duties of ball room stewards.

The arrangements of the committee (of which Bro. John Machen was chairman, and Bros. S. W. Cooke and F. Goodchild secs.) gave great satisfaction.

With her usual readiness to aid any good object Lady Leigh, the wife of the Prov. G.M., was the lady patroness.

The stewards were:—Bros. the Right Hon. the Lord Leigh, Prov. G.M.; John Machen, D. Prov. G.M.; W. A. Adams, A. Beaumont, T. W. Bullock, W. Briggs, P. Barron, J. Laurie Brown, Rev. T. Cochrane, S. W. Cooke, Cheshire, J. M. Cookes, G. W. Caudicott, H. Elvins, E. Flower, J. Ford, G. Fayrer, E. Greaves, F. Goodchild, G. Gilbard (13th Hussars), J. Glover, R. C. Heath, Rev. P. S. Harris, A. Johnson, A. Jephson (R.N.), J. Jaffray, G. Kain, Rev. T. L. Lane, Rev. J. Lucy, Hon. and Rev. J. W. Leigh, R. Lomax, H. Mulliner, D. Malins, jun., C. W. Marriott, J. W. Margetts, P. M'Innis, G. S. Phillips, Arran Pearson, W. Pearce, G. W. J. Repton, M.P., C. Redfern, J. Y. Robins; C. Ratcliff (Edgbaston), P. Solomon, M. Smart, F. Tibbits, R. D. Vaughton, H. Weiss, sen., G. Wise (Woodcote), J. Watkin, and D. R. Wynter.

The company comprised the Lord Leigh (Lord Lieutenant), and many of the leading members of the Craft, and the *élite* of the locality.

THE COMING SEASON.—It is stated that all the fashionable dress and mantle trimmings for the coming season will be mixed with transparent crystal beads. It is a pleasing change from the jet beads which have now been so long in use, and the transparency and lightness of crystal make the gimps and ornaments with which they are interwoven suitable for all descriptions of spring and summer dresses.

EDWIN BOOTH.—The New York papers state the appearance of Edwin Booth, the brother of J. Wilkes Booth, on the stage at the Winter Garden Theatre at New York, was an ovation. The house was overflowing, and bouquets, cheers, and round after round of applause greeted him throughout the evening. A delegation of the Craft, of which Mr. Booth is a member, waited upon him before the play and assured him of the sympathy of the entire body. He was called out after every act, and the enthusiasm of the audience was of the kind that a country accords to its players but once in a century. The tumult of applause was occasioned by an effort made by the *New York Herald* to drive him from the stage on account of his brother's crime.

WINE DUTIES.—From a circular we have received from Messrs. Southard and Co., wine brokers, it appears that the consumption of wines in the United Kingdom, according to the returns of last year, reached a million gallons per month, which is just double what it was before the reduction of duties. The following firms pay duty on the largest quantities of wines, as shown by the *Wine Trade Review*, 20th of January, 1866:—W. and A. Gilbey, 364,607 gals.; Martinez, Gassiot and Co., 207,055 gals.; Sandeman, Son and Co., 150,158 gals.; Dingwall, Portal and Co., 126,065 gals.; H. Hooper and Sons, 110,406 gals.; F. W. Cosens, 97,805 gals.

MEETINGS OF THE SCIENTIFIC AND LEARNED SOCIETIES FOR THE WEEK ENDING FEBRUARY 17th, 1866.

Monday, February 12. ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY, at 8.30.

Tuesday, February 13. INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS, at 8.

Wednesday, February 7. SOCIETY OF ARTS, at 8.—“On the Gas Supply of Paris.” By George R. Burnell, Esq.

Thursday, February 15. CHEMICAL SOCIETY, at 8.

Friday, February 16. GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON, at 8. Anniversary Meeting.

THE WEEK.

THE COURT.—Divine service was performed on Sunday morning at Osborne by the Rev. G. Prothero before her Majesty, their Royal Highnesses Princess Helena, Princess Louise, Prince Leopold, and their Serene Highnesses Princess Hohenlohe, and Prince Christian. The Queen, with their Royal Highnesses Princess Helena, Princess Louise, Princess Beatrice, and his Serene Highness Prince Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, left Osborne at half-past two p.m., and arrived at Windsor Castle at five minutes past six o'clock. The Prince and Princess of Wales, with Prince Albert Victor and Prince George, and attended by the Countess of Macclesfield, Lieutenant-General Knollys, Major Teesdale, Mr. Fisher, and Mr. Holzmänn, arrived at Marlborough House on Monday afternoon, from the residence at Sandringham. The Prince of Wales went to the House of Lords very shortly after his arrival. The Queen, accompanied by their Royal Highnesses Princess Helena, Princess Louise, Princess Beatrice, and his Serene Highness Prince Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, left Windsor Castle at half-past ten o'clock on Tuesday morning for Buckingham Palace. The Prince of Wales went to the House of Lords in the afternoon. Her Majesty the Queen, with their Royal Highnesses Princess Helena, Princess Louise, Princess Beatrice, and his Serene Highness Prince Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, arrived at Windsor Castle on Wednesday afternoon, at half-past five o'clock, from Buckingham Palace, and left for Osborne at two o'clock on Wednesday.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.—The Queen opened Parliament in person on Tuesday. Her Majesty came from Windsor early in the morning to Buckingham Palace. From thence she started a few minutes before two o'clock, and passing through dense crowds of people, entered the House of Lords by the Peers' entrance. In the House her Majesty did not wear the Royal robes, which were placed upon the throne. The Lord Chancellor read the Royal speech from the woolsack. It was longer than usual. Allusion is made to the approaching marriage of the Princess Helena with Prince Christian, to the death of the King of the Belgians, to foreign relations, which are declared to be satisfactory, to the meeting of the French and English fleets, to the abolition of slavery in the United States, and the compression of West Indian slavery into smaller limits. Then the correspondence with America on the *Alabama* claims, the renewal of diplomatic relations with Brazil, the war between Spain and Chili, the ratification of treaties with Japan, and the treaty of commerce with Austria have each a paragraph. The outbreak in Jamaica is spoken of, and the subsequent proceedings. A bill for a new government of Jamaica is promised, and full papers in reference to the whole business. Papers are to be given us to New Zealand, from whence the greater portion of the home troops are to be with-

drawn. There is a brief mention of the North American Colonies, and then two paragraphs are given to the cattle plague, as to which a hope is expressed that it will be arrested. There is the usual paragraphs about the estimates. Then allusion is made to Fenianism; and bills are promised in reference to capital punishment, to bankruptcy, and to the financial departments of the State, and to the oaths taken by members of Parliament. Then two paragraphs assure us that inquiries are being made as to the right of voting at elections, and when those inquiries are completed, the attention of Parliament will be called to the result with a view to the improvement of the law.—On the re-assembling of the HOUSE OF LORDS, Lord Chelmsford gave notice of questions concerning the Abyssinian captives. The Marquis of Normandy moved, and the Earl of Morley seconded, the Address to the Queen. They simply went over the topics in the Royal Speech, and commented briefly and favourably on the conduct of the Government. After them, however, came a storm of indignant oratory. The Duke of Rutland, the Duke of Richmond, and numerous other peers, denounced the Government for what they had left undone about the cattle plague. Lord Granville sought to stem the torrent, and Earl Grey made some allusion to Reform, deprecating any hasty measure on the subject. The cattle plague was, however, the staple of the debate.—In the HOUSE OF COMMONS numerous notices of new bills by the Government were given, chiefly relating to matters touched upon in the Speech. Lord F. Cavendish moved the Address, which was seconded by Mr. Graham in a speech above the ordinary level of such occasions. Then, as in the Lords, began a debate for the most part relating to the cattle plague, and this continued for several hours. Eventually it was adjourned to Thursday.—On Wednesday, election petitions were presented from Cambridge, Bridgewater, Barnstaple, and Nottingham. Several notices of motion were given; the members of the Kitchen Committee were appointed; and Mr. Potter's motion for copies of correspondence relative to the removal of the late Mr. Gordon from the magistracy was agreed to.

GENERAL HOME NEWS.—The public health still continues at a fair average. In the principal towns of the kingdom the deaths were 3,351 which was at the rate of 29 in every thousand persons living. Of those towns London is again the lowest, standing at 24, and there is no other town approaching it except Hull, which stands at 27. The rate of mortality in Liverpool is not given, probably through an oversight; we trust it is not because the authorities there are so alarmed at its extent that they are ashamed to send it up. In London alone the deaths were 1,417, which was 132 less than the average of the last ten years. The total number of births was 4,400, of which 2,171 belong to London, which is slightly below the average.—Mr. Peabody has added another £100,000 to his previous munificent gift for the benefit of the poor of London.—A curious application was made to the magistrate at the Thames police-court last week. A soldier named Thompson said he got a furlough for a month from his regiment at Shorncliffe, and drew £27 to pay for his holiday. He came to London, got drunk, and in that state paid away all his money to some emigration agents on Tower-hill for passages to New York for himself and a woman with whom he had formed a connection. When he became sober he repented of his bargain, and wanted his money back. The agents, however, and their principals, the National Steam Navigation Company, refused to return the money. The magistrate expressed a strong opinion that they ought to return it, and advised the soldier to consult with Captain Lean, the emigration agent of the Board of Trade, on the subject.—A

strange and not very pleasant light was thrown at the Southwark Police-court on the manner in which some of the ketchup sold in London is made. A summons was applied for against a firm of ketchup and jam makers at Bermondsey on a charge of having on their premises a large quantity of putrid salt bullock's liver unfit for human consumption. It was explained that the bullock's liver was put into strong brine, and from the mixture, coloured with burnt malt, "pure Leicestershire ketchup" was made. The magistrate decided that he could not grant the summons asked for, but the matter is to be brought before the Bermondsey vestry.—Two diabolical attempts at murder, in one case unfortunately successful, were made in Brighton on Thursday week by a man named Leigh. In consequence of a family quarrel he fired at his sister-in-law, Mrs. Harton, the shot taking effect in her lungs. Another bullet struck a man behind whom she had attempted to screen herself. Subsequently a struggle took place between the assassin and the police, and the former attempted to murder the superintendent. The details are of a most shocking description. Mrs. Harton died the next day. The prisoner was brought up for examination and remanded.—A young man named Looemore was brought up at the Mansion House charged with stealing a bill of exchange for £2,500, the property of his employers, Messrs. Isnard and Co., of Gracechurch-street. He was a confidential clerk, and had been entrusted with the bill to pay into the bank. Instead of doing so he discounted it for his own use. It is believed that he has stolen at least £6,000, which he has lost in speculation. He was remanded.—The adjourned inquest on the bodies of the French gentleman and his mother who committed suicide at Paddington on Friday week. Some police evidence was given to the effect that the deceased gentleman had complained to Sir Richard Mayne that he was watched. The impression of Inspector Williamson was that he was of unsound mind. The jury returned a verdict of temporary insanity.—The official report of the Court of Inquiry into the collision in the Channel between the *Samphire* and the *Fanny Buck* is published. The Court blames Captain Bennett for driving his ship at such a speed as twelve knots an hour on a night so hazy as that on which the accident happened. As, however, the collision was mainly due to the *Fanny Buck* carrying no lights, the Court does not think it necessary to suspend Captain Bennett's certificate. It severely censures the conduct of the crew of the *Samphire* in leaving their ship apparently in a sinking state and taking to the boats, and describes the conduct of the mail master as having been cowardly for a similar reason. Captain Bennett is praised for his conduct after the collision. The requirements of the mail contract as to speed no doubt cause the captains of the steamers to drive their vessels at great speed, but do not, the Court thinks, justify them in doing so in hazy weather. Finally, it is recommended that although the *Samphire* has all the boats required by the Board of Trade regulations, she should have still more.—Edward Miles and Mary Mahony were committed for trial at Southwark Police-court for the wilful murder of John Shea. There was a fight on Christmas Eve in Elizabeth-place, Drummond-street, Bermondsey, in which the deceased received his death blow at the hands, it is said, of the two prisoners.—Mr. Heath, a coffee-house proprietor, attended at the Thames Police-court on Friday week, to reply to certain statements made by Corporal Thompson in so far as they affected him. He denied that he acted as touter to the emigration agents; that the soldier was drunk while he was in his house; or that he knew before yesterday that he was a soldier at all. Mr. Paget said he thought that Mr. Heath's explanation was "perfectly

satisfactory." Mr. Viney, the emigration agent, also attended, and made equally satisfactory explanations.—A man named Robert Travis, who had slept two or three nights in the St. Pancras Workhouse casual wards, went there on the night of the 26th January. Next morning he left, went to the house of his brother, and died before medical help could be obtained. He suffered from a bronchial affection, and when he went to the workhouse he was put into a warm bath, and then sent to his mattress with no shirt on and only a rug or two to cover him. This at the inquest on Saturday was stated to be the practice at St. Pancras Workhouse. All the casuals sleep nude. A surgeon, examined at the inquest on Saturday said Travis's death had not been accelerated by this treatment but was caused by effusion of blood to the brain, and a verdict in accordance with that evidence was returned. It was stated that the attention of the guardians has been called to the manner in which the casuals are treated, and that a change is to be made.—George Pepper, an elderly man, was brought up at Brentford on Saturday charged with the murder of his wife. Deceased was a cripple and an invalid, unable to move from her chair without assistance. The prisoner, on the 12th of January, when drunk, threw her from her chair, and kicked her so that she died. He was committed for trial for wilful murder.—The resignation of the Indian Secretaryship by Sir Charles Wood is announced. Ill-health, resulting from his recent accident, is said to be the cause of the retirement from office of the right hon. baronet. It is reported that Earl de Grey will be transferred to the India Office, and the Marquis of Hartington be made Secretary for War.—A fatal accident happened near Windsor on Monday. Some waggons in the employment of Mr. Thorn, farmer, left Windsor on that day with some loads of barley for Staines. On their way back they took what is called the lower road, which runs on the sloping bank of the river, and which was partially covered with water. The first waggon, which was driven by a man named Hambleton, had not gone far when it was carried into the stream, and the man and his horses were drowned. The late storms and floods had, it seems, swept away part of bank of the river.—On Tuesday afternoon, in Eldon-street, Finsbury, a man named Adam Exell went up to a man named John Cox and deliberately stabbed him three times in the neck. The wounded man received help immediately, but he is in a precarious state. Exell was followed and apprehended. He had been in the service of Messrs. Sadgrove, upholsterers, and had been discharged for gross misconduct. The man he stabbed was a salesman, also in the employ of Messrs. Sadgrove, and Exell seems to have had special spite against him and some other men in the same employment.—An important decision was given in the Court of Exchequer on Wednesday. A Mr. Wilson had sued Mr. Jones, an underwriter, for £200, for which sum he had insured the plaintiff's interest in the Atlantic Telegraph Cable. The defence was that there was not loss within the meaning of the policy. The court held the contrary, and gave judgment for Mr. Wilson.—At the Middlesex sessions on Wednesday a seaman named Turner was charged with having stolen a coat belonging to a sailor named Quin, one of the survivors of the *London*. Although the case was one of an ordinary character, the appearance in court of a poor fellow who had so recently been exposed to the direst peril seems to have occasioned a great deal of interest, and the prisoner was sentenced to nine months' imprisonment.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.—It seems that Spain, after all, is not in a state satisfactory to its rulers. It has been thought necessary by the Ministry to propose a bill subjecting the press

and political societies to very stringent regulations. The telegram which conveys this news adds that the measure has the hearty disapproval of the public. The Ministry, it is thought, would have been better employed in devising means for the re-establishment of the public credit. General Prim is at Lisbon, the guest of the Marquis Niza.—Senor Mayano has made a very sensible proposition to the Spanish Chamber of Deputies. The finances of Spain are in a hopeless state. No more taxes, he says, can be laid on, and the only way to bring about a satisfactory state of things is to reduce the expenditure. Senor Mayano has moved an amendment to the address in this sense. It is to be feared, however, that, with the South American war upon their hands, the Ministry will not find it very easy to make the reductions proposed.—There has been a warm debate in the Spanish Senate on the subject of the recognition of Italy. It was explained by the Minister of State that the recognition meant nothing beyond the renewal of diplomatic intercourse. An amendment was proposed regretting the recognition, but it was rejected by 100 to 65 votes.—Liberty of the press, as it is understood in France, does not seem to be a very desirable thing. The journals must publish the reports of the Senate and Corps Législatif, or the summary thereof furnished by the Government, in full or not at all. Some of them seem to have been offending in some wise against this law, and the result is the *Moniteur* contains a solemn warning to them to mind what they are about. If they do not take care, they are told, the Administration will “be compelled to exercise the rights conferred on it by law.”—The Prussian Chamber of Deputies is doing its best to protect its freedom of speech. In one of its recent debates Herren Twesten and Frenzel made some disparaging observations on the manner in which justice was administered in some of the courts. For this the public prosecutor demanded leave to take proceedings against them. The Supreme Court decided that he could do so. The Chamber has protested against this decision as an encroachment on its privileges and as an illegal proceeding. A telegram from St. Petersburg declares that there is no truth in the report that Austria and France had offered to mediate in the quarrel between Russia and the Pope. It is also denied that Russia has asked the mediation of Prussia in the matter. The Prussian Chamber of Deputies has come into collision with the King and his Ministers on an important matter. Dr. Virchow moved a resolution declaring that the annexation of Lauenburg to the Prussian Crown was illegal until it had received the sanction of the Chamber. This is based on an article of the Constitution declaring that no foreign State shall be annexed to Prussia without the consent of the Chamber. Count Von Bismarck opposed the resolution, on the ground that there was no necessity for submitting the question to the Chamber. His argument, we imagine, would be that Lauenburg was not a foreign State in the meaning of the Constitution, and that the money paid for it was not taken out of the public treasury. The resolution of Dr. Virchow was, however, carried by 251 votes to 48. At the same sitting the debate on the protest against the decision of the Supreme Court in reference to Deputies Twesten and Frenzel was taken. The Chamber decided that the Minister of Justice should be present at the further discussion of the subject.—We learn from Agram that the Croatian Diet has declared itself ready to send a deputation to Pesth to consult with the Hungarian Commissioners on the terms of union between Hungary and Croatia.—The Chilian cruisers on the coast of Spain are causing no little uneasiness. The mail packet for Havannah has left Cadiz with a frigate for a convoy, and the Catalan deputies are calling upon the Government to issue

letters of marque against the Chilians.—There seems to have been fresh outbreaks in Syria. Joseph Karam, who got up a small insurrection early in January, submitted to Daoud Pasha on the 27th of that month. Since then, however, fresh disturbances have broken out, and the intervention of an armed force is declared to be necessary.—A deputation from the Hungariau Diet has presented an address of congratulation to the Emperor. His Majesty replied that though there were difficulties in the way of a settlement of the Hungarian question, they would vanish before a resolute will and mutual confidence.—On Tuesday morning the Pope laid the foundation stone of a new church which is being built by the English Roman Catholics.

AMERICA.—The *Scotia* has arrived bringing news from New York to the 24th January. It seems that Bagdad, in Mexico, really was taken by a regiment of Federal coloured infantry. Of course they acted without proper orders, and General Sheridan has been instructed to take steps to punish the wrongdoers. The *New York Herald* says the Marquis de Montholon had applied for information on the matter, and was told the department had none. The latest arrival from New York, the *City of New York*, puts us in possession of news to the morning of Jan. 27. It makes clear that the attack on Bagdad was by no means made by Federal troops. The men whom General Crawford led were a motley crowd of adventurers, among whom some Federal soldiers probably mixed. As for General Crawford he has been arrested in New Orleans, and lodged in Fort Jackson by order of General Sheridan. The United States Congress was engaged in discussing the constitutional amendment in reference to the right of voting. The other news is not very important. Gold on the 27th was quoted at 139½.

WEST INDIES.—The papers in relation to Jamaica have been issued. They contain all the evidence which Governor Eyre has sent to this country in support of his action, and despatches from Mr. Cardwell requiring explicit information on a great variety of points, and finally announcing that a Commission is about to be despatched to the island.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.—The Cape mail has arrived, bringing news from Table Bay to December 23rd. Great distress prevailed in the colony, and the measures taken to relieve the sufferers were insufficient. The weather was very hot, and in some districts the sheep were dying by thousands. The Customs revenue had fallen short of the amount estimated for the year by £10,000. To add still another evil, the Basuto war was being continued without much prospect of an early termination.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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

We regret to be compelled to request brethren from whom outstanding amounts are due to respond to the above notice. Some of our *Colonial* Subscribers are especially reticent in this respect; and our exchequer is not only impoverished through the non-receipt of amounts overdue, but we have also been put to the trouble and expense of writing and postages without even producing the bare courtesy of a reply. SECRETARY AND OTHER CORRESPONDENTS.—Several Reports and other matter received we are compelled, through press of matter, to defer giving until our next issue.

BRO. F. (Leipzig).—Thanks for information. B—e regularly received hitherto. Review next week, if possible.

BRO. A. CASSARD (N.Y.).—No. 3 (Jan.) of *Esp. Mas.* not received. Please send.

W.W. (Newport).—Received with thanks. The last shall be inserted, we trust, in our next.