

LONDON, SATURDAY, MAY 19, 1866.

### AUXILIARIES TO OUR THREE GREAT CHARITIES.

In previous issues of the FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE we have referred with great pleasure to the increasing number of *local* charitable institutions in various parts of the country. We now propose to deal with the subject of auxiliaries to our Three Great Charities; viz., the Boys' School, the Girls' School, and the Royal Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and their Widows. Through the courtesy of a highly esteemed brother who has taken a very active part in this local Association we have been favoured with the bye-laws of the South-Eastern Masonic Charitable Association, a copy of which will be found appended hereto. Its object is "to obtain for its members a life governorship in one of the Royal Masonic Charitable Institutions."

This excellent scheme has our most hearty sympathy and approval, and nothing will be wanting on our part to advance the truly Masonic objects it has in view, and to stimulate the brethren throughout the length and breadth of the land to go and do likewise.

The great religious societies have adopted the plan of auxiliary associations with considerable success; and we do not see why that plan should not work equally well in Freemasonry. Let us beseech the brethren not to allow the excellent example set them by the founders of the Association under notice, to be lost upon them. Rather let us gird ourselves to the task, the pleasing task which Masonry has ever proposed to itself, namely, the alleviation of distress. Thus shall we convince the world that our Institution is something more than a name; that it is *not* what many believe it to be, a mere convivial society.

Let us never relax our efforts until we have placed our Charities in such a position as that *no worthy applicant for relief shall be sent by them empty away.*

The object of the founders of this Association is to obtain for its members a life governorship in one of the Royal Masonic Charitable Institutions, subject to the following rules, under the title of the South Eastern Masonic Charitable Association.

1. That this Association shall be governed by the following officers, viz., a president, vice-president, treasurer, secretary, and a committee of seven (five to form a quorum) to be elected by the

subscribers (who are members of the Craft) on the third Friday in January of each year.

2. That the subscription of each member shall be at the rate of one shilling per week, payable on the third Friday in each month, at the place hereinafter named.

3. That when the treasurer is in possession of the sum of ten guineas, a chance of obtaining a life governorship in one of the Royal Masonic Charities shall be drawn for by the members of the Association.

4. That the successful member shall have the privilege of selecting to which of the Royal Masonic Charities the treasurer shall pay the amount.

5. That such member be permitted to transfer his life governorship to any brother (belonging to the Association) who is about to become a steward at either of the ensuing Masonic Festivals.

6. That any member being in arrear will not be allowed to draw for a life governorship.

7. That the members of this Association shall not be confined to the Craft only, but any lady or gentleman may be proposed as a member; but if elected, will not be entitled to any voice in its management.

8. That a promise in writing shall be given by the successful member to pay his or her subscriptions to the treasurer for the time being, until the fee paid by him to either of the Royal Masonic Charities, together with the working expense of the Association, shall have become liquidated.

9. That the business of this Association shall be conducted in connection with the Temperance Lodge of Instruction, held at the Victoria Tavern, Victoria-road, Deptford, until otherwise determined by the members at a meeting properly convened for such purpose.

10. That no person be permitted to join after the 23rd February, 1866, unless duly proposed and seconded at one monthly meeting, and balloted for at the next; and, if on the ballot, three or more black balls appear against the candidate, such result shall exclude him or her from admission as a member of this Association.

11. That no person shall be admitted a member of this Association, except upon payment of all subscriptions that may have accrued since its commencement.

12. That all moneys subscribed shall become the *bonâ fide* property of the Association; and that all members shall, on admission, sign an agreement to that effect.

RECOLLECTIONS OF THE LODGE OF  
FREEMASONS AT THORNHILL.

By D. MURRAY LYON, *one of the Grand Stewards in the  
Grand Lodge of Scotland.*

No. IV.—(Continued).

(Continued from page 323.)

It was Bro. Daniel Mathieson who originated the grand idea of having a Masonic Hall erected in Thornhill, and the happy suggestion was wrought out on this wise. Immediately after the installation of the newly-elected office-bearers, December, 1825, the Master having "mentioned that it had often been proposed that the members should take steps in order to prepare a lodge room for the convenience and accommodation of the brethren," a committee was named to consider and report upon the practicability of the proposal—a scheme which appears, however, to have required ten years' deliberation to develop. Of the meetings held in connection with the prosecution of this lodge-building scheme there is no record; but the minute of date February 11, 1834, shows that the Duke of Buccleuch having "graciously given" a site for the proposed hall, by a majority of the members then present it was agreed to accept of the same, and to authorise the Master and others to borrow £300 upon security of the house proposed to be erected. This mode of raising the money having failed, the necessary sum was raised by "shareholds,"—a clause in the agreement reserving to the lodge the right of redeeming the property by the purchase of the shares, at their original price (£2), held by other parties. Of the first shareholders, Bro. the Rev. Edward Dobie and the lodge invested in the scheme £120 and £118, respectively—St. John's being credited with £60, as the estimated value of the site, upon which an annual ground-rent of six shillings is payable. The lodge now holds shares in the hall to the amount of £240; and the property yields to the shareholders from 4½ to 6 per cent. interest per annum. The building, which is situated in South Drumlanrig-street, cost £700, and is of two storeys—the ground floor containing two shops and a dwelling-house. On the second flat are—lodge-room, 43 feet × 24 feet; adjacent, 17 feet × 9 feet; store-room, 10 feet × 5 feet; there are also four attic-rooms. In the interior of the lodge room are the usual belongings to a public hall, in which capacity it is often let. On the wall, in rear of the dais in the Orient, hang an engraving of the Inauguration of Burns as Poet

Laureate of the Canongate Kilwinning Lodge, and portraits of Bros. the Duke of Athole, Lord Loughborough, the Rev. Edward Dobie. In the centre of the western wall is erected a large white marble tablet, encased in a massive border of polished granite, and inscribed as follows:—"The site of this lodge, and the garden attached, were presented to the Freemasons of St. John's, Thornhill, by his Grace the Duke of Buccleuch and Queensberry, 1834." A portrait of his Grace occupies a place on the right of the tablet, the portrait on the left being that of Sir Thomas Kilpatrick of Closeburn, Bart., Sheriff of Dumfriesshire. In the south hangs a large and beautiful steel engraving of the Scottish bard; an elegant time-piece, whose gentle tick reminds the brethren of the flight of time, also occupies a place near the Pillar of Beauty. The gloom of the sterile north is relieved by the presence of a portrait of the M.W. Grand Master, Bro. John Whyte Melville, together with a very large oil painting illustrative of Burns's "Twa Dogs."

The responsibility undertaken by St. John's in the erection of its hall induced a crusade against its debtors; and the treasurer being constituted "Prosecutor to the Lodge," with payment guaranteed for his attendance at court, the amount of arrears was soon very much lessened; so much so indeed, as to lead the brethren formally to entertain the idea of instituting a school in which their children should receive "a gratis education"—a scheme which has been only partially adopted. It is singular that when first contemplating the building of a hall, and congratulating each other upon the lodge's prosperity, they should be found compounding with Grand Lodge for arrears due for intrants—a rather objectionable course to pursue, but one in the prosecution of which the lodge was successfully aided by its first Proxy Master, who could not, of course, be supposed to know the actual position of his constituents' exchequer.

The first proposition with regard to the education scheme was, "that a school be provided so that the children of Freemasons belonging to the lodge may receive a gratis education." This rather extravagant proposal miscarried, and a scheme of less ambitious pretensions came to be adopted, and is now in active operation—to wit, the annual payment by the lodge of school fees for the education of six children the sons or daughters, or other nominees, of the six members of St. John's

to whom the right of appointment may fall by annual ballot.

The lodge's acquisition of its own hall led to an investment in crystal and stoneware, and there were purchased and given in charge of the stewards "thirty-six dram-glasses, five jugs, and a bowl, a water-can, boiler, kettle, and two spoons," besides sundry other vessels—the stock being from time to time replenished as occasion required. The minutes are silent as to the amount of liquor consumed by the lodge: that this must have been moderate indeed, may be inferred from the fact that teetotallers attending the balls, etc., were charged only sixpence less than was exacted from their less scrupulous brethren.

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#### PROPOSED MASONIC SCHOOL FOR INDIA.

In our last issue we brought before our readers the excellent scheme which has been set on foot by our brethren in India, to provide education for the sons of deceased and decayed Masons, who have served in that country. Whilst according, on the whole, our hearty approval to the propositions that have been put forth by the Umballa Lodge, for carrying that philanthropic scheme into effect, there is one point on which we would venture to offer a few remarks.

The third proposition, it may be in the recollection of our readers, runs thus, "As it may not be possible to at once start the scheme in its entirety, that the money, at first subscribed, be placed in the hands of a committee to use to the best advantage in furthering the desired end, immediately placing as many children as they can at either the Bishop's School, Simla, if Protestants, or the *Roman Catholic College, if Catholics.*"

The portion of the above paragraph which we have *italicised* is certain—if we understand the feeling of the Masonic body—to cause heartburnings and misunderstandings calculated seriously to imperil the success of the scheme. It is only a few months since a bull excommunicating our Order has been issued by the head of the Roman Catholic Church. We have been unsparingly, and in no equivocal terms, consigned to the pains and penalties that excommunication involves. The abortive wrath of the Pope may indeed affect us but slightly; still it is not the fault of the Bishop of Rome that our Order survives and prospers. But it may be said, let us be magnani-

mous; let us be forgiving; let us return good for evil; let us treat Rome as if she never attempted to crush us. Undoubtedly, forgiveness of injuries is inculcated on us by the volume of the Sacred Law, and far be it from us, in any wise, to contravene its teachings. Still there must be a practical limit to forbearance. Is the quiet and peaceable citizen—who in returning to his fireside, or going about his honest avocations, is met by the cowardly garotter who strives to deprive him of life—to pet and favour the would-be assassin; and to place, forsooth, in his custody the helpless child of a deceased brother? Freemasonry, as an honest citizen, was performing her duties of "brotherly love, relief, and truth," when she felt on her neck the vindictive but powerless fingers of the Pope; and now indeed she is to intrust to his guardianship the little ones of her fold! Forbid it common sense! Forbid it *true* Christian charity!

What! is the young Lewis to be given up to those who will, who must, if they follow blindly the dictates of the Pope, inculcate upon him that the very Society that maintains him, the Society of which his father was a member, is a pernicious confederacy worthy of being erased from the earth? No true Mason will, we are persuaded, subscribe to such a result as this.

We write warmly, but we believe not too warmly. We wish God speed to every effort intended to provide for the children of our brethren. We are convinced, however, that no good will ever be effected by pandering to Rome, and we would therefore request our brethren seriously to re-consider this offensive paragraph, to stand by their principles, and not to entrust the teaching of our Lewises to a Church the head of which has striven to do us foul injury, and that might tend to alienate the affections of these little ones from the very Order that nurtures and sustains them. Let us resolve that we shall not lend our influence or support, directly or indirectly, to any system that will not maintain the volume of the Sacred Law, as the sole rule of faith and practice. This surely is expected from us, as English Freemasons. Any other course must, we feel assured, be fraught, in the present position of affairs, with innumerable perils, difficulties, and inconsistencies.

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To attempt voluntarily that which must be productive of evil rather than good, is madness and folly.

THE ORIGIN OF THE NAMES OF THE  
MASONIC FRATERNITY.\*

By Bro. W. S. ROCKWELL, 33°.

Albeit the etymology of the names of our Order is not of very great importance in itself, it will, if carefully gone into, tend to corroborate and support the theory of the great antiquity which we ascribe to Masonry. Still, this subject has never concentrated upon itself the attention of Masonic writers, and, though some have ventured to set forth ingenious conjectures to account for the origin of the name, yet we may say that these are founded rather on hypotheses than serious investigations.

Hutchinson supposes the word "Masonry" to be a corruption of *μυστήριον*, "mystery;" others derive it from *μάω σόον*, "I seek what is secure," or "Salvation;" others have sought its origin in *μεσουρανέω*, "to be in the midst of the heavens," *i.e.*, to culminate; whilst some deduce it from *Μαζουράβθ*, a Hebrew word written in Greek characters, and which is believed to mean one of the constellations of the zodiacal circle. It has been assumed, likewise, that the origin of Masonry is to be found in the May festivals of the ancient Druids, and, lastly, certain opinions have been propounded to this effect, that the first members of the Order were only stone cutters, and, in fact, working Masons (architectural Masons). Our most respected authorities connect the labours of the fraternity with the building arts, and assume (erroneously, in our opinion), a strict distinction between *working* and *speculative* Masonry. The maintenance of architectural columns amongst our symbols increases the delusion, whilst, at the same time, its high-bounding symbolism partakes of that obscurity in which our ritual has become

\* At various occasions we have, of late, endeavoured to direct our readers' attention to, and convince them of, the necessity of calling in the powerful aid of history (chiefly ancient history), mythology, and etymology, in order to fully understand the true essence and the original and fundamental *idea* of Freemasonry. Masonic history has been cultivated somewhat more extensively of late years, and quite recently obtained a very valuable addition in Bro. Findel's work, but Masonic etymology still forms an almost waste ground. Indeed, the subject has only been broached in Bros. Oliver and Mackey's labours. We have no doubt that all our readers will peruse with pleasure our learned Bro. Rockwell's essay on the etymology of the names of the fraternity, which, at all events, gives the subject a fair start, though some of the views propounded by the author are open to serious objections in the eyes of many etymologists. This article is translated from the Spanish tongue, in which it had been published in the last issue of our thriving contemporary the *Espejo Masonico*.—ED. F.M.

wrapped up in course of time, through a literal exactitude of interpretation. From this it will be seen that, although the name we bear is connected with the idea of *building*, it is derived rather from the symbolical than the working character of the Institution. In fact, the phrase "working" is taken in the fraternity in a sense which will in vain be sought in any dictionary; but I use it here, without prejudice, in that technical meaning that is given to it by us, denoting the idea of *manual* labour, although a more minute investigation into the nature of the Institution has convinced me that *intellectual* labour forms its fundamental and essential characteristics. Erroneous notions of the intrinsic nature of Masonry necessarily lead to unexpected conjectures as to the meaning of its name.

The only affinity between the Greek phrase *μυστήριον* and the name of the Order, as set forth by Hutchinson, is to be found in the fact that the Greek word may express, in part, what the thing is; its literal meaning is "mystery," or "secret," but it may as well be used to denote "religious mystery;" and though the Institution is fully justified in claiming a religious character, it is certainly entitled to a more extensive and universal designation. The etymology of *μάω σόον* is more plausible; *μάω* means to investigate, search, explore; it is the radix of *Μῶσα*, the Doric form of *Μοῦσα*, muse, and of *μάσσειν*, to feel, grasp, touch, examine—all meanings which may easily be brought into connection with our mystic labour; but the radix of the second half of the word can hardly be accepted. *σόος* means secure, but belongs unfortunately to those parts of speech which very seldom serve to qualify verbs; it is an adjective, and has *σόν* in the accusative.\* From *μεσουρανέω* is derived the substantive noun *μεσουρανήμα*, and it is only from the latter, which, by the way, is most barbarous and corrupt Greek, that the term "Masonry" could originate. The Greek language not offering a satisfactory explanation of the phrase, the most remote antiquity has been rummaged. The Hebrew word

\* If this kind of etymology were to be upheld, the analogy might be carried much further. *Σώζω*, the equiradical verb of *σόςος*, means to rescue, to save; thence *σώτηρ*, rescuer, given as a by-name to Demetrius Soter, one of the successors of Alexander in Syria, and used in the New Testament for *Saviour*. The more recent phrase, *Σωτηρολογία*, Soterology, for "the teachings of salvation," is grafted upon the same. We may observe, however, that such etymological *tours de force* are not only questionable, but become altogether nebulous.—ED. F.M.

מַצְרֵיחַ, *mazzanoth*, is supposed to denote certain constellations of the zodiac, as it is derived from מַצְרֵיחַ, planet, which is in its turn derived from מָצַח, to pour from the stars, an allusion to the influence the stars are supposed to exercise on the fortunes of man. But I would rather adhere to this opinion, that the word signifies the name "zodiac," from מַצְרֵיחַ, broadsword belt, or, perhaps, some more obsolete radix which means "to turn in a circumference," which may, indeed, denote the revolutions of the stars. It is very easy to connect this etymology of our name with the character of the Order, as the study of astronomy is recommended to neophytes, not, indeed, on account of the nature of the Institution, but of the social position of its members, as we shall see presently.

Our learned Bro. Albert G. Mackey marks in his Lexicon, as a curious coincidence, that the Hebrew phrase מַצְרֵיחַ, which he pronounces *masang*, *masan*, means a quarry. With due deference to his opinion, I beg to observe that, in this case, he has overshot the mark by an erroneous, though, perhaps, authorised translation. In Genesis xiii. 3, this word occurs where it is said that Abraham "went on his journey" (מָצַח); also in Exodus xl. 38, "For the cloud of the Lord was upon the tabernacle by day, and fire was on it by night, in the sight of all the House of Israel, throughout all their journeys" (מָצַח). The original meaning of this word is to remove, change places, *castra movere*, from מָצַח, "to be motioned away from one's place," to change, and from thence "to travel." My distinguished friend seems to take its meaning from 1 Kings vi. 7, where it is used in speaking of the stones that served to build the Temple. The phrase מִן הַבְּרֵיחַ מֵאֲבָנֵי הַבְּרֵיחַ is translated in our version by "stone made ready before it was brought thither." Its literal meaning, however, is not "stone from the quarry," but "stone extracted entire," that is to say, that it had not to be worked afterwards.

Though very striking analogies may be found in the original meaning of some of the phrases cited, which may represent parts of the word "Masonry" according to the point of view of the etymologist, still it is necessary to go somewhat deeper into the dark recesses of the past to find the origin of the names used to designate our Fraternity. I cannot help thinking that such names must have been used for that purpose centuries before the Hellenic tongue attained its classical rank and

prior to the exodus of the Israelites from the land of bondage. Pythagoras, to whom we are indebted for the phrase *μεσορρανέω*, in its connection with the mysteries, drew from a still more ancient source the exalted idea contained in that word: I think it is going much too far to aver that its real meaning explains the hidden meaning of all that relates to what many consider as a fabulous myth of our history, viz., the building of the temple of King Solomon. I speak of these words in the plural, as, in my opinion, the names *Mason* and *Freemason*, though indiscriminately used amongst brethren, are neither identical nor synonymous; they only owe their very different meaning to distinct and peculiar reasons.

We find on the present day, in our own language, many words which are doubtless identical, in sound and meaning, to some Hebrew words, and from this we may infer the existence of similar words derived from other tongues. The grammatical construction of the Semitic languages offers a remarkable similarity; and though Egyptian is not technically comprised in that category, it is incontestable that many of its roots are identical to those of Hebrew. Klaproth believes to have proved the universal affinity of languages, but for this assumption he could only account by the supposition that fragments of a certain primitive tongue were in existence in all idioms of the New and Old Worlds. Professor Lepsius says that one of the chief points that engrossed his attention with reference to the ancient Egyptian tongue, is the "undeniable connection existing between the Semitic alphabets and the *demotics*, and consequently the hieroglyphic alphabets of the Egyptians." In Hebrew we have מָצַח *KNE*, cane; מָצַח *NTR*, nitre; מָצַח *OB*, over; מָצַח *PHG*, fig; all similar in sound and meaning to the corresponding words in our language; besides מָצַח *PRDS*, *paradise*, derived from Persian.\* The names of the Order which I have just quoted seem to belong to the class of words which preserve the sound of their primitive language, so to speak, when transferred to our own.

On page 352 of his Egyptian grammar, Champollion gives a table of active participles that are used in the hieroglyphic inscriptions as nouns adjective. Amongst these there is the participle

\* Bro. Rockwell's opinion is not generally adhered to amongst philologists. The Greek *παράδειδος*, *Par* (to be found in Xenophon's *Cyropedy*) has a very Hellenic appearance indeed, and its connection with any "Semitic" radix is questionable.—Ed. F.M.

of the Coptic verb MAI, *to love* (denoted in the hieroglyphic alphabet by a sign that is called a plough and represents the sound M), prefixed to the noun substantive ZON, *brother*, represented also in the hieroglyphic alphabet by what is supposed to be a disguised working tool which seems to me to represent a chisel or perhaps a seal. This Coptic combination MAISON is exactly alike, in sound, to our word MASON, and its literal meaning is *loving brother* (otherwise φιλασελφός), member of a brotherhood. These signs are the initials of the respective syllables (just as we write MS. for manuscript) and illustrate a mode of writing which stands, indeed, almost as a general rule in ancient monuments, the writing of the words in full being the exception.

The Egyptian writer had various signs at his command to denote the same sound. It is therefore obvious that he might have used for writing the phrase alluded to any other letters that represented the identical sounds m, y, s; but, says Gliddon, the choice of the letters that should be used was not altogether left at the discretion or caprice of every individual writer. There were certain rules that determined the use of the letters, so that the meaning was expressed symbolically in accordance with the subject which the writer happened to treat. The characters quoted above as occurring in the inscription are merely phonetic signs and have no symbolical meaning. It seems to me that to them may be traced the origin of two of our symbols which are used in our ritual in accordance with this origin. This hieroglyph of the plough, the initial of the first syllable has a resemblance to the P.M.'s jewel; and the emblem of the sun, the hieroglyphic symbol of light and revelation, is altogether similar to it. Even in minor details a coincidence may be found as transmuting the curved outline of the symbol into a rectilinear form, the angle at the vertex will be one of 60°. The hieroglyphic initial of the second syllable is the chisel, a symbol peculiar to the Mark Master's degree, and this is also the figure of some instrument for stamping (one of the homophons of the S is undoubtedly a seal), the symbolical meaning of which accounts for its use in the same degree. The seal, denoted in Egyptian by the letter S, expressed symbolically the idea of *shutting, guarding*. I have stated that there were in that language various signs to represent the same sound. If, in the phrase alluded to, the letter M had been denoted by that

hieroglyph which represents a sickle or cimeter (and this might have been done without any violence to the idiom), the aggregate word would have expressed the character of the person to whom it applies and had a peculiar symbolical meaning imparted to it. That sign denoted the idea of seeing, contemplating, meditating, and will readily suggest the origin of the *speculative* character of the Order. These two symbols combined, which occur rather frequently in hieroglyphic sculpture, represent a figure which bears some resemblance to other emblems of ours, the hour-glass and the scythe.

From this Egyptian word, then, which is still to be found in the monumental constructions of the Nile and the meaning and the use of which is fully determined,\* I feel inclined to derive the word *Mason*, and notice that up to the present day it has preserved the same meaning, viz., *Brother*, member of one and the same society or organisation, and corresponds to the term which is in general use in the Order.

(To be continued).

## MASONIC EMBLEMS.

### THE CUBIC STONE.

This is one of the principal emblems wrought upon the tapestry, with which the original lodges of the Order of St. John (or Freemasons) was decorated.

As the rough stone represented man in his uneducated state, so likewise, the regular form, the level surfaces, and solid firmness of the cubic stone typified the accomplished, ennobled man, so rendered through the elevating principles of Masonry.

It stands written in the archives of the Masonic lodge of Leghorn (printed in Leipsic, 1803, p. 272), that the cubic stone upon which the workmen sharpened their tools should remind them that, as their tools, blunted through use, must be resharpened, so also, that a man who strives toward perfection, will, from time to time, find it necessary to sharpen his faculties, through reflection, and rouse his slumbering energies to

\* Bro. Rockwell's deductions, the symbols of plough, sickle, scythe, &c., tend to support the view that the intrinsic character of the ancient mysteries, which first originated in Egypt, was throughout a purely *agricultural* one, as opposed to the *architectural* foundation of modern Freemasonry. We have repeatedly advocated this view in our columns.—ED. F.M.

make still further exertions for the attainment of his noble wishes.

According to the English system, it is in the smooth or perfect Ashlar, *i.e.*, a polished cubic stone, that the enlightened Mason sees portrayed his present highly cultivated state, to which said state of intellectual advancement he has arrived through the benefits he has received from a liberal education, and the good example of those around him.

#### THE EQUILATERAL TRIANGLE.

Morsdorf, in his communications to the reflective Mason, printed in Dresden, 1811, p. 248, says: By means of an equilateral triangle, illuminated or otherwise, the Egyptians symbolised their idea of the Supreme Being, it has also the same meaning in Masonry. This figure is most important to the Masonic fraternity, and as has been already stated was to the Egyptians the image of Godhead, and in unity with the triangles used to typify fire and water, represented the exacting powers of nature. This holy sign was held in great veneration by the Jews, and in this feeling many of the early Christian sects participated.

An equilateral triangle, says Bro. Born, had the same meaning with the Egyptians as it has in modern chemistry. Such a triangle with another within its highest angle, signifies fire: with points sideways or downward surrounding it, water. Fire and water were also the great working elements in the formation of the world from chaos.

According to Plutarch, the myth of Osiris, Isis and Horus, is but a delineation of the operations of the great working powers of nature. The Egyptian priests gave the precedence to water in their worship of the elements. "Fire," say they, "is scorching and withering in its operations, and the natural enemy of water," and further to exemplify their meaning, they liken one to the good and the other to the evil genius, which by them were believed to be constantly striving for the mastery. Water, which is the source of all vegetation, they regarded as a symbol of the beneficent Osiris; but fire, that in its fierce strength destroys all, to Typhon, the malignant spirit, and the sworn foe of Osiris.

#### THE SQUARE.

In the Egyptian hieroglyphics, this emblem, the parallelogram, as well as the circle and triangle, occupy a distinguished place, as a species of geome-

trical alphabet; Palin has devoted much time, and has made quite clear many of the hitherto hidden meanings of this ancient picture alphabet; especially has he succeeded in rendering luminous the before obscure manner of employing the numericals, 2, 3, and 14. According to this same author's account, the two angles on one side of the triangle, signify the sun and moon; the quadrant typifies the material body of the universe, and the continual increase thereupon, and the endless march of growth and decay.

The square and triangle were much esteemed by Pythagoras as symbols, whereby to render intelligible to his pupils the great religious, moral, and natural truths he wished particularly to impress upon their minds; these two signs were often placed by him one within another, and so combined, were to the esoterically taught most powerful in their meaning. In the modern lodges, these figures, so arranged, are often to be met with and are a fruitful source of reflection to the intelligent Mason.

The letter Y was also a favourite symbol with the great philosopher (Pythagoras). He caused it to typify the whole life of man; the stem part of the letter represented the innocent happy days of childhood; the point where this line ceases and the two lines of the upper part of the letter commence, the point where youth ceases and manhood begins; the line to the right is the path of virtue, and happy is the youth whose footsteps move therein; that to the left is that of vice, and woe to the unhappy one who treads her flowery but deceitful paths—from this consideration this letter is often called the Pythagorean letter.

Y was also to the disciples of this great Master a holy numerical emblem, it being a species of triad, for, in it, from I proceed IIY. The great aim of this learned man seemed to be to impress the most valuable truths upon the minds of his disciples through the medium of emblems drawn here, and those from objects found in the natural world, or in the world of letters; he seemed impressed with the idea that the emblematic manner of conveying instructions made the profoundest impression upon the memory, and that knowledge so acquired would be longer retained than by any other method.

#### THE PENTALPHA

Has also a great reputation among scholars for



its various significations; it is a regularly formed star figure, whose angles contain thirty-six degrees. Pythagoras, probably on account of its so regularly turning back upon itself, made it an emblem of the goddess Hygea. The Druids also held this figure in great veneration; with them it was a symbol of superabundance and overflowing plenty; the septagon and octagon were also holy and favourite figures with these priests of nature and expounders of divine truths.—*National Freemason.*

#### THE BIRMINGHAM MASONIC HALL AND CLUB COMPANY (LIMITED).

The report to be submitted to the half-yearly meeting has been issued. After referring to the change of site, and the increase of capital from £15,000, to £25,000, it states that owing to delays which the directors were unable to control, it was not until November that the drawings and specifications were sufficiently advanced to be placed in the hands of the surveyors employed to take out the quantities; and it was not until the end of February last that the directors were in a position to apply to the builders for estimates for the work. But they entered into a provisional contract with Messrs. Briggs and Son for the whole of the excavations, and also the foundations necessary for laying of the foundation stone and securing the adjoining premises. The expenditure thus incurred was included in the estimates, according to the measurement and valuation of Messrs. Batstone and Hunt, of London, and the architect, Mr. Holmes. By the adoption of this course at least three months' time in the execution of the contract was saved. On the 5th of March last the estimates were received, the lowest amounting to no less a sum than £30,400, which might partly be accounted for by the recent advance both in the cost of materials and price of labour. Upon a review of the financial position of the company it was found that £17,000 only had been subscribed, and it was therefore manifest that, in order to carry the present plans into effect the capital must be largely increased, and an effort made to induce the Masons, or in their default, the public generally, to take up the unallotted shares. In the meantime, however, the directors had revised the plans, in order if possible to reduce the cost. They found that by the omission of the great lodge room at the top of the building a

saving of £5,000 will be effected without much inconvenience, as there is a lower lodge room of equal size, and capable of affording all requisite accommodation. Drawings have been prepared, and will be laid before the meeting, in which the Masonic part of the building is separated from that originally intended to be used for club purposes, showing a mode by which the requisite accommodation of the Masonic bodies may be provided with the present subscribed capital of £17,000, and the club buildings sub-let to an independent body, and completed at an additional cost of about £12,000, if such a course should be thought desirable. The directors, however, strongly recommend that no alteration, except the the omission of the great lodge room, should be made in the designs or plans, but that the shareholders should consent to increase the capital to £35,000, and that the objects first contemplated in the formation of the company should be carried out in their entirety.

#### LAYING THE FOUNDATION STONE OF THE GREY FRIARS CHURCH, DUMFRIES.

This imposing ceremonial took place on the 11th inst., accompanied with Masonic honours. About twelve o'clock the various bodies intending to take part in the procession began to muster—the Masonic lodges meeting in the grounds of the academy. Of the Craft there was a large turn-out. Nearly four hundred brethren, belonging to upwards of thirty different lodges, were present; not a few of them from Edinburgh and Glasgow, and some coming also from the south side of the Border, from Carlisle and Cockermouth Lodges under the English Constitutions. We were struck with the large proportion of veterans in some of the lodges, but old and young made a most creditable appearance. Nearly twenty flags were borne in the Masonic ranks, many of them exceedingly picturesque.

The following are the numbers and names of the various lodges in the order of procession, premising that each bore its own banner in front:—Nos. 362, St. Clair, Glasgow banner; 360, Commercial Glasgow banner; 334, St. John's, New Cumnock banner; 275, Shamrock and Thistle, Glasgow banner; 272, St. John's, Mid-Calder; 258, Quhytewoolen, Lockerbie banner; 252, St. John's, Thornhill banner; 245, St. Andrew's, Muirkirk banner; 238, Caledonian, Annan banner; 219, Star, Glasgow; 189, St. John's, Castle-Douglas banner; 187, St. John's, Carlisle banner; 179, St. Mungo, Mauchline; 177, St. James's, Old Morkland; 169, Thistle and Rose, Stevenston banner; 162, St. John's, Newabbey banner; 140, Operatives, Dumfries banner; 128, St. John's, Shettlestone, Glasgow banner; 117, St. Mary's, Patrick, Glasgow; 100, St. Magdolene, Lochmaben banner; 87, Thistle, Glasgow; 79, St. Andrew's, Annan; 73, Thistle and Rose, Glasgow; 63, St. Michael's, Dumfries banner; 62, Thistle, Dumfries banner; 41, St. Cuthbert's,



Kirkcudbright; 21, St. John's, Lanark; 8, Journeymen, Edinburgh; 1, St. Mary's Chapel, Edinburgh; Maxwelltown Rifle Volunteer Band; 1102, Skiddaw, Cockermouth; 310, Union, Carlisle. There was also present, Bro. Lindsay Mackersy, representative of the Grand Lodge of Canada.

After these bodies came the Fellow Craft from the Operative Lodge, Dumfries, who were honoured with bearing the various vessels and implements to be used at the forthcoming ceremony. This portion of the pageant elicited unqualified admiration; and the objects carried in it by the following brethren were truly superb; mallet, J. Burnie; rod, A. Crombie; rod, W. Kirk; plumb-rule, T. Robson; level, T. Kirk; square, R. Nicholson; vase, oil, J. Irving; vase, wine, T. Watson; cornucopia, John Stobo; box with coins, &c., C. Irving; golden trowel, J. Halliday; Bible-bearer, J. Robson; G.M. rod, John Waugh.

The Maxwelltown Volunteer Band, looking very fine in their scarlet uniform, played with their wonted skill between these lodges and the Grand Lodge, by which the procession was wound up by way of climax. It was represented by the following officers:—Henry Inglis, Esq., of Torsonce, Prov. G.M. of Peebles and Selkirkshire, a man distinguished in the ranks of poetry and general literature, as well as a high patrician in the Masonic world; Wm. Mann, Substitute G.M.; Alex. Hay, S.G.W.; D. Murray Lyon, G. Treas.; A. J. Stewart, Grand Clerk; D. Bryce, jun., Grand Architect; Substitute Grand Chaplains, Rev. D. Waddell of Stow, and the Rev. Donald M'Leod, Dumfries, minister of Grey Friars; J. D. Alder, S.G.D.; Henry Dunlop, jun., J.G.D.; G. R. Heriot, Grand Sword Bearer; G. Robson, G. Dir. of Cers.; R. Duff, Grand Steward; John Coghill, Chief Grand Marshal; John Laurie, Grand Marshal; Wm. M. Bryce, Grand Tyler. All these brethren were richly attired; their whole appearance vindicating in a literal sense their right to be recognised as the representatives of the Grand Lodge of Scotland. The carriage of the Grand Master, with the two reverend Chaplains present, Bros. Waddell and M'Leod, brought up the rear.

The procession marched past St. Michael's Church some distance, and then wheeled; and on the front ranks again reaching the church, the Oddfellows and Lodges opened up to permit the civic authorities, Building Committee, Kirk-session, and Grand Lodge to pass up the centre into the sacred edifice, the other parties following thither in regular order.

The sermon, which was preached by the Substitute Grand Chaplain, Bro. the Rev. D. Waddell, of Stow, we are unavoidably compelled to defer giving until our next.

A portion of the foundation within the walls of the future steeple was chosen for the site of the emblematic stone. A large enclosure was formed in front for the accommodation of the Deputy Grand Master and his office-bearers, the Town Council, and Building Committee—the lodges, according to seniority, ranging along the east and south sides, and the band of the Scottish Borderers on the west side of the railing. On the north a capacious stand was erected to accommodate on-lookers, for admission to which a considerable charge was made, but it was only partially occupied.

The grand jewels having been placed on a large

table covered with green cloth in front of the foundation stone, the ceremony of laying it was proceeded with, and carried out in due form. Whilst the jewels were being placed the band played "Hail Masonry," after which Bro. the Rev. D. M'Leod, D.G. Chap., offered up a solemn and suitable prayer that the building about to be founded might receive the Divine blessing, and become a place in which minister and people might hold sweet communion, sinners might be converted, and saints edified. The D.G.M. called upon the G. Treasurer, Secretary, and Clerk to place the box containing coins and documents in the cavity of the stone. Bro. Halliday, assisted by a workman, deposited the precious casket, filling in fine sand to make it fit properly, and then with mortar preparing the stone for having a ponderous one laid above it, which at the proper time was gently lowered to its right position. The D.G.M. walked down from the platform to the east of the stone, the Grand Wardens going to the west and bearing the level and plumb.

The D.G.M. then said: Right Worshipful Sub-Grand Master, you will cause the various implements to be applied to the stone, that it may be laid in its bed according to the rules of Masonry. The plumb, the level, and the square were then applied to the stone accordingly by the proper officers, who, on being questioned as to the result, replied respectively that they had done as directed. The D.G.M. then said: Having, my right worshipful brethren, full confidence in your skill in our royal art, it remains with me now to finish this our work. After these words he tapped the stone three times with a mallet, and offered up the following petition: "May the Almighty Architect of the Universe look down with benignity upon our present undertaking, and crown the edifice, of which we have now laid the foundation, with every success. Three ringing cheers followed the prayer, and when these had died away the band struck up the beautiful tune "On, my dear brethren," and, as the fine notes floated in the air, a cornucopia was delivered by the Substitute, a vase with wine to the S.G.W., and a vase with oil to the J.G.W. The vessels with these emblems of prosperity having been one after another handed to the D.G.M., he poured the corn, wine, and oil upon the stone, saying, as he did so: Praise be to the Lord immortal and eternal, Who formed the heavens, laid the foundation of the earth, and extended the waters beyond it; Who supports the pillars of nations, and maintains in order and harmony surrounding worlds. We implore Thy aid; and may the continued blessings of an all-bounteous Providence be the lot of these our native shores; and may the Almighty Ruler of events deign to direct the hand of our gracious sovereign, so that she may pour down blessings upon her people, and may that people, living under sage laws and a free government, ever feel grateful for the blessings they enjoy. With this prayer the solemn and imposing ceremonial terminated. The Grand Officers having resumed their positions at and around the table, the Masons' anthem was played.

After these preliminaries, the Deputy Grand Master, Bro. Henry Inglis, of Torsonce, delivered a suitable and eloquent address, the portion of which referring to the Craft, we purpose giving in our next issue.

Provost Turner having, on behalf of himself, his brother magistrates, and the building committee thanked the R. W. Acting G. M. and the other officials of the Masonic body who had come forward to lay the foundation stone of the new Grey Friars' Church—the band played Rule Britannia, and as they were discoursing this national air the procession re-formed, the Grand Lodge, preceded by the band, pioneering the march. The lodges accompanied the Grand Lodge to the King's Arms and there broke up, except the Masters and Wardens, who remained in waiting till the Grand Lodge closed at a later hour.

The lid of the box containing the coins and documents deposited in the foundation stone, bears the following inscription:—

At Dumfries,

In the thirtieth year of the reign of Queen Victoria, and

On the eleventh day of the month of May,  
Of the Christian Era Eighteen Hundred and Sixty-six,  
And of the Masonic Epoch,

Five Thousand Eight Hundred and Sixty-six,  
The Foundation Stone of

GREY FRIARS CHURCH

Was, by special appointment of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, laid with Masonic honours

by

Right Worshipful Brother Henry Inglis,  
of Torsonce,

Provincial Grand Master of Peebles and Selkirkshire,  
Assisted by the Grand Officers and

Deputations from various Daughter Lodges,  
In presence of the

Provost, Magistrates, Town Council, Clergy,  
And a large assemblage of

The inhabitants of the town and neighbourhood.

*The copper of which this case is made was taken from the Vane of the old Church, built in the year 1724.*

At the public dinner, presided over by Provost Turner, which took place in the old ball room of the King's Arms. About seventy sat down at half-past five to a repast which, both in the preparation and the serving, fully sustained the high reputation borne by Mr. and Mrs. Mather for the excellence of their entertainments. After the customary loyal and patriotic toasts had been given and responded to, the Provost, in a few neat and complimentary remarks, gave "Grey Friars' Church and the health of the Minister."

The Rev. Bro. Macleod in responding to the toast thanked the Chairman for the handsome terms in which he had spoken of him; and all present for the cordial way in which the toast had been received by them. He said he felt glad and grateful that he could congratulate the congregation and himself on having the foundation stone of the new church laid—as it has been to-day, by Bro. Inglis of Torsonce—acting as Most Worshipful Master of the Grand Lodge of Scotland—so auspiciously, so happily, and so well. And he said he felt sure all would join heartily in the prayer, which has been more than once this day offered—that the building may soon and successfully be completed.

The Croupier, in rising to propose "The Grand Lodge of Scotland," said, they had that day been engaged in a most important duty, and taken the first

step towards the erection of that edifice that would one day, he hoped, arise in beauty and symmetry to adorn our town. He was not so much of a practical Mason to be able to understand or define how it was important that the foundation-stone of any building should be laid in a proper manner; but this he did know, that it was of the greatest importance that it should be so. Any one who had been present that day at the imposing ceremony in which they had taken part, must have been surely satisfied that the foundation-stone of that building, which, in a future day, would be known as Grey Friars' Church of Dumfries, had been laid in a proper, a satisfactory, and a scientific manner. They had been honoured that day with the presence, and favoured with the assistance of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, as represented, and as worthily represented, by the Right Worshipful the Provincial Master of Peebles and Selkirkshire. He only remembered four such ceremonies taking place in this town—the laying of the foundation-stone of the bridge across the Nith, of the Workhouse, of St. Mary's Church, and of the Mechanics' Hall; but he thought he was correct in saying this was the first time any foundation-stone had been laid in Dumfries with the presence of the Grand Lodge of Scotland. The Right Worshipful Master, in the conduct of the ceremony, displayed an amount of dignity that well become him, and that apertained to the high official whom he that day represented. He was very certain that in drawing to a close the ceremony a heartfelt wish and prayer that the Architect of the Universe might one day crown the foundation-stone. He would give the toast of "The Grand Lodge of Scotland," and couple with it the name of the Right Worshipful Brother Inglis.

Deputy Grand Master Inglis, in returning thanks said: You have, Mr. Croupier, been pleased to say that the ceremony has been well performed. If there can be any reward more than another that the officials of the Grand Lodge of Scotland desire to obtain, it is the approbation of those whom they come to assist, and I assure you that for the success which you have been pleased to say—and I really believe you are right in saying so—has attended the proceedings of this day, I will not, and cannot, take the credit all to myself—far from it: that credit ought to be bestowed on those distinguished Masons whom you see standing in silence around me, but who in reality are the persons who deserve your thanks. No one but a practical Mason can tell you practical ability with which it is necessary that the presiding Master should be supported by his officials in performing services like those of to-day; and I can assure you that there are various phases in those services which none but the initiated can look upon and appreciate. I most sincerely return my thanks, and the thanks of my friends there who are standing very modestly, but who did support me after a fashion which, indeed, is their usual fashion, but which I entirely appreciate. Now, gentlemen, all I have to say further on the subject of the Grand Lodge of Scotland is this, that it shall be my first duty at the next quarterly communication of that body to report to the Grand Masters the way in which you have appreciated our services.

The proceedings were terminated by a Masonic banquet, held in the Hall of the Mechanics' Institute. The chair was occupied by Bro. W. Alder, Dumfries,

Bros. W. Fairley and A. Crackston, Senior and Junior Wardens, officiating as croupiers. After a splendid dinner, furnished by Bro. Kirk, of the White Hart, the Chairman, in succession, gave "The Holy Lodge of St. John," "The Queen and the Craft," "The Prince and Princess of Wales and the rest of the Royal Family," "The Navy, Army, Militia, and Volunteers," to which Bro. Sanson, Glasgow, replied; "The Grand Lodge of Scotland and Bro. J. Whyte Melville, Esq.," by Bro. Alder, replied to by Bro. Wright, Edinburgh; "The Grand Lodge of England," by Bro. Fairley; "The Grand Lodge of Ireland," by Bro. Crackston; "Bro. H. Inglis, D.G. Master," by Bro. Alder, replied to by Bro. H. Inglis; "The Clergy of all Denominations," by Bro. Hyslop; "The Magistrates and Town Council of Dumfries," by Bro. Hellon; "The Congregation of Grey Friars," by Bro. James Wallace, acknowledged by Bro. James Riddick; "The Contractors," coupled with Bro. Halliday, by Bro. Robert Martin, responded to by Bro. James Halliday; "The Visiting Lodges," by the Chair, replied to by the brother heading the respective deputations; "The Masonic Committee," by Bro. James Thomson, acknowledged by Bro. Dykes, Secretary; "The Senior and Junior Wardens who Preside," by Bro. A. Hay, G. Treas., responded to by Bro. Fairley.

During the evening various songs were sung by Bros. Riddick, Hart, E. Smith, and Maxwell and Gordon, Castle-Douglas.

#### MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

##### MYSTIC PANTHEISM.

A London Brother is right in his remarks respecting Mystic Pantheism. It absorbs the Universe in God, and can in no way be considered atheistical. I am told that Mystic Pantheism has many adherents in the lodges of Germany, and some in those of France and Italy.—CHARLES PURTON COOPER.

##### CHRISTIANITY AND ENGLISH FREEMASONRY.

The letter from Nice has been handed to me. English Freemasonry will not for a moment listen to the suggestion it contains. In such a matter they will regard the example of the lodge of another nation with extreme indifference. The Bible will ever keep its place in the English lodge; the Sacred Volume will ever be seen there open before the Worshipful Master. Christianity and English Freemasonry have hitherto been hand in hand in those countries of which my correspondent speaks. They will, I trust and believe, continue to do so. English Freemasonry from its nature cannot exist if separated from Christianity. Divide English Freemasonry and Christianity, and the former necessarily and immediately perishes. Its principle of vitality is gone. The Christian missionary has always found the English Freemason a sincere and able supporter and assistant in his good and perilous enterprise. Christianity and Freemasonry united may civilise the whole human race; but he must be a senseless visionary who can affirm that Freemasonry alone will achieve that immense work. *Prosopœia* is plainly my correspondent's favourite figure of rhetoric, and he possibly will be surprised when told that the use he has made of it by no means pleases me. He

personifies Liberty, Equality, and Fraternity, it is true, in a manner that none valuing them rightly and discreetly will disapprove; yet, strangely enough, he does not personify Christianity. What is most excellent he passes by. His group is defective; it wants what would have been its greatest ornament. In this picture which my correspondent's lively fancy has painted I discern the offspring, but, alas, the parent is absent.—CHARLES PURTON COOPER.

##### WAS VIRGIL A FREEMASON?

The question of "Enquirer" is one which requires a twofold answer. If by using the word Freemason he means to ask, Was Virgil's initiation the same as ours, I answer, Most probably no; but if he intends to say, Was Virgil initiated into a secret Order, with which we preserve a striking likeness in many respects? I answer, Probably yes. That Virgil was ever initiated, I do not remember at this moment to be positively said by any writer, though many have apparently assumed the fact that he was so. We know that the great and the learned in his time, and anterior to it, emperors, orators, and poets were admitted into the mysteries, and the probability is that Virgil was also admitted. That he portrayed the scenic representations of some of the mysteries in the VI. Æneid, is not only held by Bishop Warburton, but by other learned men, and even Gibbon seems to admit the fact, though he reduces it to a question of the original, or a copy of the original, as represented by Virgil. The mysteries, especially the Eleusinian, professed to reveal certain great and important truths, as well in natural science as in religious knowledge. Whatever was their local name or peculiar organisation, the emblems they employed, the symbols they used, they all came originally from the East, Egypt being probably only a resting-place from India. Freemasonry comes, too, from the East, handed down through mediæval guilds, hailing from Rome, and derived from Phœnicia and the East generally. Hence it always has been held, and wisely held, by the most learned amongst us, that, though it is almost impossible to lay down precisely the exact connection to-day between modern Freemasonry and the ancient mysteries, yet that a connection does exist, not only in our common traditions, but to some extent in our common ceremonies. That the mysteries and Freemasonry are identical I do not say, but only that they have a good deal in common, and, in one sense our Freemasonry at this hour, though under the development of an operative brotherhood, bound together by ties of secret association and ritual, and in a very different condition of things, may be said to be a continuation of those ancient mystic assemblies. While, then, it is never wise to dogmatise, or simply to make assertions, when we are travelling over a debatable land, we have, I venture to add, every warrant to believe that there is still a link of no common kind and importance between the mysteries and Freemasonry. In that sense, Virgil, if initiated, as he probably was, was a Freemason. HIRAM.

##### "DRIVING PILES" AND GRAND SHOCKS.

I have met with these expressions in the perusal of some old Masonic documents, to which I have not now access. Can any brother give the interpretation to be placed upon these ancient and obsolete Masonic terms?—INVESTIGATOR.

## THE MASONIC MIRROR.

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

### THE GIRLS' SCHOOL FESTIVAL.

After we went to press with our last issue we received an announcement that the total amount collected at the Festival on Wednesday, the 9th inst., was £3,701 9s. 3d., with two lists to come in, being the largest sum ever received at an Anniversary Festival since the foundation of the School, and from as large a board of Stewards, being the same number as last year, which was the largest.

### METROPOLITAN.

**MERCHANT NAVY LODGE (No. 781).**—The regular monthly meeting, and last till October, of this flourishing lodge was held at the Jamaica Hotel, West India Docks, on Thursday, the 10th inst. Bros. C. K. Killick, W.M.; Davies, S.W.; Bracebridge, J.W.; Sutton, S.D.; Helps, J.D.; Bradbury, I.G.; E. J. Read, Hon. Sec., and many other brethren and visitors; amongst the latter were Bros. J. L. Toole, 22; Johnson, 140; and J. Terry. The lodge having been opened, the minutes of the last regular lodge were read and confirmed. A ballot was then taken, and declared unanimous in favour of Mr. Crockett, who was regularly initiated into ancient Freemasonry. Bros. Leary and Michaelson being candidates for the second degree, answered the usual questions, were entrusted and withdrew. The lodge was then opened in the second degree. Bros. Leary and Michaelson were passed to degree of Fellow Craft. The lodge being resumed to the first degree, and nothing further being offered, was closed with solemn prayer till the second Wednesday in October. The brethren then adjourned to refreshment, and after the cloth was removed and the usual loyal and Masonic toasts given and duly responded to, Bro. Wright, P.M., proposed "The Health of their Worshipful Master, Bro. Killick." He was sure the brethren must have been delighted with his work on this his first evening. The impressiveness with which he worked the ceremonies was no more than was to be expected from him, as his diligence and attention to the minor offices which he had filled, had reflected great credit on him as well as the lodge. The W. Master in responding to the toast, thanked Bro. Wright, P.M., for the kind eulogiums he had passed upon him, also the brethren, for his manner of conducting the lodge. This he begged to assure them was entirely owing to the advantages he had received from lodges of instruction, as well as the kindness of numerous brethren, and he could further assure them, particularly young Masons, that attendance at lodges of instruction was of essential service to aspirants for office. The W. Master then proposed "The Health of the Past Masters," which was responded to by Bro. Wright, P.M., who alluded to the modesty of their W.M. He was sure that the other Past Masters, with himself, would be only very glad to render information to any of their younger brethren who might be aspiring to office, and added that he had the pleasure of initiating their W.M., and he was highly gratified to see him occupying the position he now did. Bro. Wright, P.M., then asked the W.M. permission to propose the next toast, one that he should like to see more frequently given in our lodges; we were taught to relieve the distressed, and assist the aged and weak, therefore he begged to initiate, if he might so term it, this practise, and that was "The Masonic Charities," and coupling with it the name of Bro. Terry. He need not remind the brethren of the great principles which they all professed to admire, viz., brotherly love, relief, and truth. Bro. Terry in responding as the representative of one of the charities, viz., that for the aged Freemasons and their widows, begged to thank the numerous brethren for the support which they had afforded the Institution which, without reference to the claims of other kindred institutions, was one which claimed the attention and assistance of all the brethren. The

subscription to the Institution was very small, being but 5s per annum, and he was sure that no Freemason could ever miss so small an amount. Were the whole of the members of the Craft in London alone to subscribe this small sum, and each lodge only 20s. per annum, the poor and the aged would not have to undergo the anxiety and, he might say, mental torture, of the precarious chances of election. They would then be enabled to carry out that great Masonic principle of giving to him who asks, and knowing that our charities would be twice blessed by him who gives as well as him who receives. The Health of the Initiate," was then given and responded to. "The Health of the Visiting Brethren," was then given, and Bro. Toole, 22, in responding, said that through the kindness of the W.M., an old and esteemed friend of his as well as Bro. Wright, P.M., and their Secretary, he had had the pleasure of visiting the lodge many times, and it was always a source of gratification to him to do so, as he felt he was not only among gentlemen but among brethren. There was that kindly and Masonic feeling marking all their proceedings, that he might say from his experience was not confined to lodge meetings in general, but was exhibited by them in all their daily transactions. "The Health of the Officers," was then given and responded to by Bro. Bracebridge, J.W., in the absence of the S.W., who was compelled to leave early. The Tyler's toast brought this happy evening to a close. This pleasures of the evening were considerably enhanced by some excellent songs from several of the brethren.

**LODGE OF JUSTICE (No. 147).**—The regular meeting of this old prosperous lodge was held on Wednesday, the 9th inst., at the White Swan, High-street, Deptford. Bro. J. Lightfoot, W.M., presided. The business done was three raisings and two passings. Bro. H. Moore, I.P.M. 73, and a member of this lodge, did the raisings, and the W.M. the passings; all of which were done in an able and efficient manner. Two sums of two guineas were voted from the Charity Fund of this lodge, to applicants whose cases were brought forward by two of the members, viz., one to a Toronto brother, and one to a widow of a deceased member of the Beadon Lodge, 619. It was resolved unanimously to close the lodge until the second Wednesday of October. Business being ended the lodge was duly closed. Afterwards the brethren partook of refreshment. Visitors were J. Searle, P.M.; G. Brown, P.M. Treas. 169; Gale, S.W. 548; Whittle, 871, &c.

### PROVINCIAL.

#### BERKS AND BUCKS.

**ABINGDON.—Abbey Lodge (No. 945).**—The brethren of this lodge assembled in the lodge room at the Abbey Council Chamber, Abingdon, for the purpose of installing the W.M. Elect, Bro. H. D'Almaine, Prov. G.S.B. of Berks and Bucks. The ceremony of installation was performed by P.M.'s Belcher and C. T. Hawkins. The brethren present were Bros. J. Blandy Jenkins (High Sheriff of Berks), T. Parr, E. J. Trendall, W. Belcher, R. Badcock, Mortimer, C. T. Hawkins, G. Taunton; A. S. Hurford, the W.M. Elect of the Alfred Lodge, Oxford; Captain Bradney, J. T. Morland, E. Morland, Hedges, Hemmings, T. Blake, Simpson, T. Wootton, J. S. Lowe, Badcock, J. Plowman. On the conclusion of the ceremony, the W.M. appointed his officers for the year as follows: Bros. the Rev. T. G. Mortimer, as P.M.; W. Belcher, S.W.; T. T. Morland, J.W.; Alderman R. Badcock, Treas.; E. Morland, Sec.; Hedges, S.D.; Hemmings, J.D.; Captain J. Bradney, Dir. of Cers.; T. Blake, I.G.; W. L. Hunt, Tyler. The labours having been brought to a termination the brethren adjourned for refreshment to the committee room, where a sumptuous dinner, provided by Mr. Clarke, the new landlord of the Crown and Thistle Hotel, awaited them. The dinner was in every respect worthy of the occasion, and the host had evidently made up his mind that everything should be done liberally and well. The W.M. presided with considerable ability, and introduced the toasts in brief but appropriate terms. The usual Masonic toasts were given, as well as others of a local character, and among the latter we may especially mention the "Mayor of Abingdon, (Mr. Alderman John Hyde), and the Corporation, with many thanks to them for the use of their rooms." Mr. Alderman Badcock responded to the toast, and remarked that they had great reason to be proud of their present Mayor (Mr. Alderman John Hyde), for although he was not a member of the Craft,

he was imbued with the true principles of Masonry,—a love for his fellow men, and an earnest desire to dispense happiness to every one around him. From the establishment of the Abbey Lodge, the Corporation of Abingdon had afforded them every facility, and he doubted not they would continue to do so, as every year would serve to convince them that the fundamental principles of Masonry were such as every loyal and well-wisher to his country could appreciate. During the evening some excellent songs were sung, and the proceedings altogether were of the most agreeable and social character.

#### CUMBERLAND.

**CARLISLE.**—*Union Lodge* (No. 310).—On Tuesday evening, the 15th inst., a lodge of emergency was held at the Freemasons' Hall, Carlisle, the chair being occupied by Bro. William Murray, P.M. After the lodge was opened in due form, Bro. F. W. Hayward took charge of the lodge and opened the F.C. degree, Bro. T. C. Cowling being a candidate advanced to the pedestal to answer the test questions, when the lodge was opened in the third degree, and the candidate was admitted and raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason by Bro. F. W. Hayward, P.M. Treas., P. Prov. J.D., assisted by the following brethren: G. G. Hayward, S.W.; John Slack, J.W.; George Turnbull, as S.D.; J. B. Paisley, as J.D.; A. Woodhouse, I.G.; Thomas Storey (a candidate for the ensuing election of aged Freemasons), Tyler. The following brethren were present: Bros. George Armstrong, George Somerville, Thomas Blacklock, P.M.; John Howe, P.M.; W. H. Pulford, J.D.; A. Johnstone, W. Pratchitt. Visitor: Bro. Thomas Frater, Victor Lodge (No. 657). The lodge was closed down to the E.A. degree, when Bro. W. Court having made such progress as to entitle him to be passed to the degree of a F.C.: The usual test questions being put was answered in a very creditable manner, thus showing that perseverance is sure to be rewarded, was entrusted, retired, and readmitted, when the lodge was opened in the second degree by Bro. G. G. Hayward, S.W. No other business being on hand, the lodge was closed by Bro. F. W. Hayward, and the brethren retired to the refreshment room to spend an hour or two in answering the needful questions leading from the second to the third degree, for the benefit of Bro. Court, and after the Tyler's toast, the brethren parted in harmony at a convenient hour.

#### LANCASHIRE (EAST).

##### PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

The annual Provincial Grand Lodge was held on the 3rd inst. at the Town Hall which was superbly fitted up for the purpose of Grand Lodge business.

The Provincial Grand Officers and the brethren having arrived, the Provincial Grand Master, Bro. S. Blair, entered the lodge at half-past twelve, supported by Bro. A. H. Roys, Provincial Grand Master for Worcestershire and late D. Prov. G.M. for East Lancashire, and Bro. Lawrence Newall, senior Grand Deacon and Deputy Prov. G.M. for East Lancashire, together with all the Provincial Grand Officers for East Lancashire.

After the usual ceremonies, the R.W. Prov. G.M. appointed the following brethren as his officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. L. Newall, D. Prov. G.M.; Captain Starkie, Prov. S.G.W.; Rev. J. L. Figgins, G. Chap.; J. L. Hine, G. Treas.; J. Elliot, G. Reg.; John Tunnah, G. Sec.; John Boiderson, G. Supt. of Works; Thomas G. Gibbons, G. Dir. of Cers.; Austin Shellard, G. Assist. Dir. of Cers.; Frederick Anderton, G. Sword Bearer; J. C. Canning, G. Purst.; Henry Maiden, G. Std. Bearer; William Dawson, G. Tyler; J. W. Kenyon, B. Rayner, Thomas Parker, John Butterworth, William Crompton, and Charles Wood, Prov. G. Stewards.

The Provincial Grand Lodge being closed, the brethren formed in procession headed by the band of the 7th Lancashire Rifle Volunteers, to the parish church, where Bro. the Rev. J. L. Figgins, the Provincial Grand Chaplain, preached a very eloquent sermon from the fourth chapter of St. Paul's epistle to the Galatians and part of the 24th verse; after which a collection was made for the benefit of the Bury Dispensary, amounting to about £20.

The brethren afterwards formed procession to the large room in the Athenæum, where banquet awaited them, superbly served by the celebrated caterer, Mr. Jennison, of Bell Vue Gardens, Manchester; the wines, of the finest brand, being supplied by Bro. William Handley, of the Derby Hotel, Bury.

The usual Masonic toasts were afterwards given and responded

to, and the vocalists performed their duties in a truly Masonic manner, Bro. J. Aspinwall, Prov. G. Organist, assisting.

The whole of the proceedings terminated in a very satisfactory manner.

#### LANCASHIRE (WEST.)

**LIVERPOOL.**—*Temple Lodge* (No. 1094).—The first regular meeting of this lodge since the dedication was held on Wednesday, the 9th inst., at the Masonic Temple, Hope-street. Bro. Johnson, W.M., opened the lodge, assisted by the officers and brethren, who assembled in full force at six o'clock, p.m. The minutes having been confirmed, three gentlemen were ballotted for, and the tongue of good report having been heard in their favour, they were initiated in the mysteries of our ancient and honourable institution. The manner in which the labours of the evening were discharged reflects the highest credit on all concerned, and augurs well for the future prosperity of the lodge; indeed it would be very difficult to point to any portion of the ceremony where an amendment could be introduced. The zeal of the officers and their love for the Craft was manifested by the free will offerings they made, viz.: Bro. Dr. J. D. Johnson, W.M., presented a very splendidly bound tracing board of the Great Architect of the Universe; Bro. Dr. D. M. Johnson, S.W., presented the warden's columns and the emblems of mortality; Bro. Dr. J. K. Smith, J.W., presented the three gavels; Bro. Sheldon, S.D., presented the square and compasses (in silver); Bro. Hendy presented a silver salver; Bro. Harris, I.G., presented the implement and appendages of his office; Bro. Dyke, Wine Steward, presented the working tools for each degree; and Bro. Tub, the Organist, presented a balloting box. Bro. Tub has also, at his own expense, put a new stop in the organ. The addresses to the brethren by the donors were in Masonic keeping and harmony with the emblems presented, and made a deep impression on the hearts and minds of all who heard them. The presentations were of a costly and beautiful character, no expense having been spared in the design, material, or workmanship, and where all is good it is almost invidious to point to any one in particular, yet the gavels presented by the J.W. were greatly and deservedly admired. They are made of ebony, inlaid with mother of pearl, and the handles of carved ivory, representing the three pillars of wisdom, strength, and beauty. The Temple Lodge being established, furnished and decorated, we hope and believe it will prove a credit to the province, and an honour to the builders. Great credit is due to Bro. J. Hamer, Prov. G. Treas., who has instructed the officers in their various duties, and the brethren did wisely in appointing him their preceptor. To Bro. Marsh, the Secretary, the thanks of the brethren are due for his exertions in selecting the beautiful ornaments, furniture, and jewels they possess. The lodge being closed, the brethren retired to refreshments, when the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to as becomes Freemasons.

#### WARWICKSHIRE.

A deputation from the members of the Warwickshire lodges, headed by Lord Leigh, Prov. G.M., waited upon Bro. C. W. Elkington, at his residence, Edgbaston, on the 8th inst. for the purpose of presenting him with a token of respect upon his resignation of the appointment of Deputy Provincial Grand Master. Lord Leigh expressed his great pleasure in having, as head of the Craft in Warwickshire, the opportunity of testifying to the high esteem in which Bro. Elkington was held by the brethren, and took advantage of that occasion to acknowledge the unvarying kindness and attention he had experienced from him during the five years he had so efficiently acted as his (Lord Leigh's) deputy. After referring to the able services rendered by Bro. Elkington in the province, not only in encouraging by his efforts the increase of lodges, but also the formation and development of the Warwickshire Annuity and Benevolent Fund for the benefit of the aged poor and distressed Masons of the province and their widows and orphans, his lordship read an address, beautifully illuminated, expressive of regret at the failure in health which has led him to seek retirement and relief from the public duties which he has always so honourably fulfilled. Lord Leigh then presented the testimonial, which comprised a handsome gold snuff box, tazza flower vases, ink-stand, candlesticks, card-tray, and other articles, to the value of about £200. Mr. Elkington thanked Lord Leigh, and the gentlemen who accompanied him, for their kindness in doing him so much honour, and to them, and the Craft generally, he expressed his heartfelt gratitude for that and all other tokens of

their regard and esteem. He concluded by observing:—"I am sure my dear children will look back to the proceedings of this day with pride and gratification. They will, with me, treasure this magnificent testimonial, and they will, with me, highly prize the address, so beautifully illuminated and bound, containing as it does expressions of feeling so welcome—so far above all estimation of value."

#### YORKSHIRE (NORTH AND EAST).

STOKESLEY.—*Cleveland Lodge* (No. 513).—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Monday evening, the 7th inst., at the Golden Lion Inn, B. Os. Cooke, W.M.; Weatherill, S.W.; Rowntree, J.W.; J. H. Handyside, P.M., Sec.; Duck, S.D.; H. Fawcett, B.A., J.D.; A. A. Boyle, M.E.C.S.E., I.G.; and W. Harrison, Tyler. There was a good attendance of brethren present. The lodge having been opened in the first degree, the minutes of the preceding meeting were read and confirmed. Two men of respectable position in society were then balloted for as candidates for Freemasonry, neither of whom was accepted. The lodge being then opened up to the second degree, Bro. George Tweddell, jun., having first undergone a satisfactory examination in the test questions as a Fellow Craftsman, was entrusted with a further test of merit, and ordered to retire. The lodge was then opened in the third degree, and Bro. G. Tweddell, jun., was admitted in due form, and raised to the sublime degree of M.M., the ceremony being performed by Bro. Stephen Hunter, P.M., an excellent worker. The J.W. being wanted on business outside, Bro. G. M. Tweddell, P.S.A. Scot. and Newc., took his situation and the lodge was properly closed in each degree, and the meeting adjourned until the Monday nearest the new moon in September, emergencies excepted,—this lodge not holding regular meetings during the months of June, July, and August.

#### ROYAL ARCH.

##### METROPOLITAN.

PANMURE CHAPTER (720).—A convocation of this chapter was held on Monday, the 14th inst., at the Loughborough Arms Hotel, Brixton, for the purpose of installing the Principals for the ensuing year. There was a large attendance of Companions. Comp. Read, M.E.Z., presided at the opening of the chapter, and immediately afterwards installed his successor Comp. Stevens, as Z.; Comps. Nunn, as H.; and Thomas (by deputy in the person of Comp. Watson, P.Z.) as J. The absence of Comp. Thomas was much regretted, especially when it was announced to be caused by domestic affliction. After the installation and investiture of the officers, (Comps. Shaw as E., and Hodges, Prin. Suj.) the newly installed M.E.Z., Comp. Stevens, proceeded to exalt four brethren, viz., Bros. Oswin, Saxby, Niblett, and Ord, all the newly appointed officers as well as the M.E.Z., performing their duties without the slightest resort to prompting; each one proving his perfect acquaintance with the part entrusted to him. Before closing the chapter a vote of thanks to Comp. Read, I.P.Z., was ordered to be recorded on the minutes in recognition of his past year's services. The Prin. Suj. also announced his appointment of Comps. Taylor and Oswin, as Assist. Sojs. during the ensuing year. At the banquet the usual loyal and Royal Arch toasts were given, in the course of which Comp. Watson, P.Z., took the opportunity of complimenting the retiring M.E.Z. on the efficiency displayed by him, and at the same congratulating the chapter on possessing so able a successor in the person of the present M.E.Z., Comp. Stevens. He (Comp. Watson) had never known on any similar occasion elsewhere, a newly installed M.E.Z. and all his newly appointed officers to be sufficiently competent to go through the ceremony of exaltation with such exactitude as he had that night witnessed, especially remembering that it was the very first occasion of entering upon their duties. He rejoiced at this, although it brought with it the cessation of his own duties as P.Z., and like Othello, his occupation, so far the Panmure Lodge was concerned, was gone. Several appropriate speeches were delivered, and a very pleasant evening was passed. It is due to Bro. Huntley, the host, to state that the banquet and wines gave every satisfaction.

#### BERKS AND BUCKS.

LINSLADE.—*St. Barnabas Chapter* (948).—The regular quarterly convocation of this chapter was held on Thursday, May 10th, at the Elephant and Castle Hotel, Linslade, Bucks. Present—Comps. J. M. Shugar, M.E.Z.; Thomas Horwood, H.; H. Lovell, J.; Walter Lean, Scribe E.; F. Gotto, Scribe N.; Dixon, P.S.; Whyley and Parkes, A.S.; H. Pettit, Treas.; James Pettit; also Comp. Watson, P.Z., 25, as a visitor, who also rendered valuable assistance in the work, which consisted of three exaltations, viz., Bros. James Hadley, James Sheerman, and G. Richardson, all of whom were members of the St. Barnabas Lodge. The latter brother was exalted by dispensation from Grand Chapter for the purpose of taking the office of Janitor. The ceremony was ably performed by the M.E.Z.

#### LANCASHIRE (WEST).

LIVERPOOL.—*Chapter of Mariners* (249).—A convocation of this chapter was held on Friday, the 11th May, at the Masonic Temple, Hope-street, at four o'clock p.m. The chapter was duly opened by John Pepper, 1st Z. Comp. Dr. Taylor, II., and Comp. T. Marsh, J.

The minutes having been confirmed, the ceremony of installation was proceeded with by Comp. Hamor, P.Z., assisted by Comp. Pepper, and Comp. Armstrong, P.Z.; Comp. Dr. Taylor was installed First Principal, M.E.Z., Comp. Marsh, M.E.H., and Comp. Crane, M.E.J., Comp. Goepel, E., Comp. Dr. D. M. Johnson, N., and Comp. Dr. J. D. Johnson, P.S. The usual homage having been given, the ballot was taken for five brethren, and they were duly and solemnly exalted to the supreme degree of R.A. Freemasons. Two brethren were proposed for exaltation, and the chapter closed, and the comps. retired to the banquet provided by Comp. Ball, the house steward.

#### KNIGHTS TEMPLAR

##### SUPREME GRAND CONCLAVE.

The Supreme Grand Conclave assembled on the 11th inst., at headquarters in the East, Grand Field of Encampment, Masonic Union Hall, 14, Bedford-row, London; the following Sir Knights being present:—Sir Knts. W. Stuart, M.E. and S.G. Master; G. A. Vernon, V.H. and E.D.G. Master; Prov. G. Coms. Rev. J. Hayshe, Devon; W. H. Harvey, Staffordshire and Warwickshire; C. J. Vigne, Dorset; H. J. Vernon, Worcestershire; S. Bryan, Bristol and Gloucestershire; Rev. E. C. Ogle, Northumberland and Berwick; Col. H. Clerk, Kent; G. Harcourt, M.D., Surrey. Sir Knts. the Earl of Limerick, G.S. Prior; Rev. E. Moore, G. Prelate; R. Costa, 1st G. Captain; C. J. Banister, 2nd G. Captain; Sir P. W. Colquhoun, G. Chancellor; W. H. Shuttleworth, G. Vice-Chancellor; J. Lavender, G. Reg.; C. Gooden, G. Treas.; Cornwall Lee, M.P., G. Chamberlain; Dr. Smith, G. Hosp.; W. J. Meymott, G. Dir. of Cers.; J. R. Thomson, Assist. Dir. of Cers.; W. Gumbleton, G. Const.; T. Lewis, G. Prov.; Rev. G. H. Grice, G. Almoner; G. Lambert, G. Warden of Regalia; C. J. Marshall, 2nd G. Expert; S. R. P. Shelton, 1st G. Std. Bearer; E. J. Stillwood, 4th G. Std. Bearer; F. Jackson, 1st G. Aide-de-Camp; W. H. Wood, 2nd G. Aide-de-Camp; C. Greenwood, 2nd G. Capt. of Lines; J. B. Brown, G. Sword Bearer. The following Past Grand Officers were present:—H. W. Spratt, P.G. Supt. of Works; R. Spencer, P.G. Banner Bearer; N. G. Phillips, P.G. Prior; Thomas Goddard and H. H. B. Herne, P.G. 1st Captains; C. R. Davey, P.G. Hosr. Boyle, P.G. Sub Prior; W. W. Wright, P.G.S.B.; F. Binckes, P.G. Dir. of Cers.; V. Paas, P.G.S.B.; R. J. Spiers, P.G. 1st Captain; W. Mansfield, P.G.S.B.; J. W. Sair, P.G. Chancellor; W. Bristow, P.G. Capt. of Lines.

The following commanderies were represented by the respective Sir Knts.:—All Souls, J. M. P. Montagu; Baldwin, J. H. McFarlane; Bladud, J. F. Starkey, E. T. I. Payne, and H. de M. Lawson; Cœur de Lion, A. Percival, G. H. Rainey, and W. J. Salting; Cornubian, Williams; E. Plantagenet and J. Merrill; Fredk. of Unity, C. J. Allen; Faith and Fidelity, W. Bruton; Hugh de Payen, R. Radcliffe; Hope, T. Jowitt; Jerusalem, J. Boldison; Kemeys Tynte, W. P. Dodson and E. J. Forrester; Loyal Brunswick, R. Ridley; Mount Calvary, W. Gantz; Observance, J. Gower; Royal Plantagenet, R. M. Sanderson and J. T. Helms; Royal Frederick, J. Freeman; Richard de Vernon, C. Fendelow and W. Winslow; St. George's, T. Jubilee, J. E. Jamieson, E. Farmer, and T. W. Morgan;



Stuart, W. S. Tootell; Temple Cressing, F. J. Lilley and F. Michell; United, Col. T. Birchell and C. Chandos Pole.

The noble hall of the Masonic Union Company never upon any previous occasion presented a more magnificent or imposing *coup d'œil*. The upper portion was railed off from the lower by heavy ropes, the intertwining strands of which were formed of the three colours of the Order—red, black, and white; and the entrance into the enclosure was between two masts, about sixteen feet high, springing from bronze tripods, and from the heads of the masts floated two long gonfalons—one, the Red Cross and the other the Beauseant ensigns of the Order, the whole manufactured expressly for the occasion after the designs of Sir Knight Commander Shuttleworth, and over each stall hung the banners of the Knights glittering with all the gorgeous blazonry of heraldry. On the sepulchre was placed the magnificent silver panel gilt shrine and crucifixion, presented to Grand Conclave by Sir Knight Stuart, on the occasion of his first assuming the dignity of Grand Master.

A few moments after three, the M.E. and S.G. Master entered the hall, to the music of a grand march played by Sir Knt. Ganz, G. Org. to Grand Conclave, preceded by his Grand Officers, who mustered in unusual strength, properly marshalled by the G. Dir. of Cers., and passing under the arch of steel, took his seat, when his great banner was raised to the flagstaff over the throne. The Grand Officers then filed off to the right and left, and under the judicious arrangements of Sir Knt. Meymott, the indefatigable and experienced G. Dir. of Cers., assumed their stalls in admirable order, and the Knts. Commanders having taken their places, Grand Conclave was opened in ample form.

The V.E.G. Commanders, Col. H. Clerk and William Hervey, were presented, did homage on their appointment to their commanderies, and were duly proclaimed by the Grand Heralds to the flourish of trumpets, and were inducted in their stalls. The muster roll was called by Sir Knt. Lavender, Grand Registrar. The minutes of the last Grand Conclave were read by Sir Knt. Shuttleworth, Grand Vice Chancellor, and confirmed. The report of the General Purpose committee was read by Sir Patrick Calquhoun, Grand Chancellor, and adopted, and ordered to be entered in the minutes.

Sir Knt. W. J. Meymott, P.G. Capt. and G. Dir. of Cers. moved, pursuant to notice given at the last Grand Conclave,

"That in the opinion of Grand Conclave, it is desirable to establish a 'fund of benevolence' for the Order. Every encampment shall also pay to the fund of benevolence on or before the 31st of March in every year, an annual sum of one shilling for each member of such encampment, such sum to be included in the annual return now made to the Grand Vice Chancellor by the Registrar of each encampment."

"That in addition to this source of revenue, all fines that shall be imposed on any member of the Order, and all alms Collections, at the meetings of the Grand Conclave, shall be paid into the hands of the Grand Almoner, to be entered to an account, the 'Fund of Benevolence,' and of which fund he shall be the Treasurer."

Carried unanimously.

"That any Grand Officer who shall be absent at the hour at which Grand Conclave shall be summoned, and who shall not attend his duty in Grand Conclave, shall for each absence pay a fine of 10s. 6d. to the 'Fund of Benevolence.'"

This resolution was carried after a long discussion.

Sir Knt. the Rev. J. Huyshe, Prov. G. Commander, Devon, in pursuance of notice given at the last Grand Conclave, moved—

"That a business paper or agenda of the business to be done at each Grand Conclave shall be printed, and a copy given to each Knight attending, and a copy also sent to each Eminent Commander seven days before the meeting of Grand Conclave."

This resolution was carried.

Sir Knt. F. Binckes, P.G. Assist. Dir. of Cers., in pursuance to notice given at the last Grand Conclave, moved—

"That in all cases where appeals or other questions are to be submitted to Grand Conclave for confirmation or otherwise, the papers in connection therewith, after they have been before the Grand Committee, be open for inspection at the office of the Vice-Chancellor, by all duly qualified members of Grand Conclave."

This resolution was carried.

Sir Knt. Capt. Boyle, P.G. Sub Prior, moved—

"That it is imperative that all candidates (for installation into the Order of the Temple) be members of the 18<sup>th</sup>, or else Royal Arch Masons."

This resolution was lost.

The Grand Almoner collected the alms.

The Grand Conclave presented Mrs. Edwards with a donation of five guineas from the Almoner's Fund.

The Grand Conclave elected a Grand Treasurer for the year ensuing.

The Grand Master appointed the Grand Officers for the year ensuing, who were then duly invested.

The Grand Master appointed four members of the committee.

The Grand Conclave elected five members of the committee.

List of Grand Officers appointed:— Lord Kenlis, Grand Seneschal; Hon. F. Walpole, Grand Prior; Right Hon. Earl Limerick, Sub Prior; Rev. G. Moore, Grand Prelate; Cornwall Lee, *M.P.* 1st Grand Captain; J. M. P. Montagu, 2nd Captain; Sir P. Colquhoun, Grand Chancellor; M. Shuttleworth, Grand Vice Chancellor; J. Lavender, Registrar; C. Goolden, Grand Treasurer; Lieut.-Col. Burchall, Grand Chamberlain; J. M. Williams, *M.P.*, Grand Hospitaller; W. J. Meymott, G. Dir. of Cers.; J. R. Thompson G. Assist. Dir. of Cers.; R. Mercer, G. Supt. of Works; S. R. P. Shelton, G. Constable; C. Chandos, Role, G. Provost; Rev. J. H. Grice, G. Almoner; Rev. R. Sanderson, 1st G. Expert; R. Ridley, 2nd G. Expert; R. F. Newmarch 1st Standard Bearer; J. B. Phillips, 2nd Standard Bearer; S. Wilton, 3rd Standard Bearer; J. Bolderson, 4th Standard Bearer; J. Truman, 1st Aide-de-Camp; H. E. Linch, 2nd Aide-de-Camp; R. Rudcliffe, 1st Capt. of Lines; C. Greenwood, 2nd Capt. of Lines; William Ganz, G. Org.; H. Mallina, Sword Bearer; G. Lambert, Warden of Regalia; J. J. Forrester, 1st Herald; Mabey, 2nd Herald.

The Grand Conclave was then closed in ancient form.

## SCOTLAND.

ST. ANDREWS.—*St. Andrew Lodge*, S.C. (No. 25).—On the 27th ultimo, the brethren of the above lodge entertained their proxy at the Grand Lodge, Bro. John Whyte Melville, of Strathness and Benochy, the present R.W. Grand Master of Scotland, to a grand banquet, in token of the services rendered by him to them at the Grand Lodge since 1843. The banquet took place in the Town Hall. Crail, Kirkcaldy, Anstruther, and Newport lodges were represented. Upwards of seventy sat down to supper. The chair was occupied by Bro. T. W. Milton, Provost and present R.W.M. of the lodge, who was supported on the right by the guest of the evening. In replying to the toast of the evening, Bro. Melville expressed the great delight and pleasure he felt in being thus honoured by the lodge.

## IRELAND.

LIMERICK.—*Eden Lodge* (No. 73).—Within the last six months a large accession of members has taken place in this lodge, thanks to the efficient working of Bro. Adams, the W.M. The newly nominated W.M., P.M. M'Quaide, will, no doubt, keep on the same course to place this favoured lodge second to none in the south of Ireland.

## INDIA.

BOMBAY.—*Lodge Concord* (No. 757).

The regular meeting of the above lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, near Baboola Tank, on the 17th March. Present: H. Wickham, W.M.; Dr. T. Diver, I.P.M.; Rev. J. J. Farnham, P.M.; and Alfred King, P.M.'s; E. Parker, S.W.; T. Proud, J.W.; C. Burden, as Secretary; H. Freeman, S.D.; H. E. Gabler, as J.D.; J. Powell, I.G.; J. W. Seager, Tyler; and a numerous attendance of members and visiting brethren.

The lodge having been properly tyled, was opened in the first degree. The notice convening the meeting was read. The minutes of the last regular meeting were then read and confirmed.

Bro. Dr. Thomas Diver, the I.P.M. of the lodge, was announced; the W.M. asked the J.D. to admit him, and requested the brethren to receive that worthy brother with the respect



due to him; and on Bro. Diver's entrance, the brethren rose, and on his ascending the dais, saluted him with royal honours.

The W.M. then addressed him as follows:—"Worshipful Bro. Diver, in the name of Lodge Concord and of the brethren here assembled, I express the happiness we all feel for the return among us of so beloved and worthy a Master. Let me assure you that during your absence, not a meeting has passed but your name has been brought to recollection. The members of this lodge maintain a fond remembrance of your many amiable qualities and the benefits you have conferred upon the Craft, and gladly greet your reappearance here this evening. I congratulate the lodge in your being once more among us. I also congratulate you, Worshipful Sir, on your renewed health, and may the Great Architect of the Universe watch over and protect you, that you may be with us for many years."

Bro. Diver rose, and in a speech of deep feeling returned thanks to the brethren for the very flattering reception they had given him on his return amongst them.

The lodge was then opened in the second degree, when Bros. A. Colby, W. G. Bourne, T. McPherson, and R. W. Burton were called before the pedestal and examined as to their proficiency as Fellow Craftsmen, and having satisfactorily acquitted themselves, were passed out for preparation, previous to which all F.C.'s were passed out.

The lodge having been duly prepared was opened in the third degree, when Bros. A. Colby, T. McPherson, J. Harkness, W. G. Bourne, and R. W. Burton, were reintroduced and duly raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason in due ancient form.

The lodge was then lowered to the first degree.

Bro. Prescott solicited the extension of the allowance to a widow of a brother Mason for a further period of six months as she was still in need; Bro. A. King seconded the proposition, which was put to the lodge and carried.

The Worshipful Master rose, and with much emotion intimated to the brethren that it was with great regret that he had to announce his expected early departure from Bombay, and this night would be the last time that he would have the pleasure of presiding over them. Circumstances over which he had no control had called him away, and he must attend the calls of duty. He thanked the brethren for the many great kindnesses he had received at their hands, kindnesses which he could never forget. He would often think, nay, he might say, the regular night of meeting of Concord Lodge would not pass without thinking of the brethren, and he hoped when he looked upon the portrait which they had so handsomely voted and placed in that lodge, they would not forget him. They had conferred many favours and attentions upon him, of which he felt himself unworthy; they had on his arrival in Bombay elected him an honorary member of that lodge, the highest honour a lodge could confer. But there was another favour which he would ask them to confer. It might please the Great Architect of the Universe that he (Bro. Wickham) might never return again among them; he therefore begged the brethren to allow him the pleasure of bidding them farewell and shaking hands with them individually. (The brethren then marched round in procession, shaking hands with the W.M. in passing and wishing him God speed.)

The W.M. then called upon Bro. Parker, S.W., to advance to the east. (The S.W. was temporarily relieved.) On advancing to the pedestal, the W.M. informed him that, owing to his leaving Bombay, the management of the lodge would devolve upon him, and exhorted him to be diligent and attentive to his duties, and to maintain as far as lay in his power brotherly love, harmony, and good feeling, for which Lodge Concord was proverbial. He then delivered over to him the warrant, exhorting him to maintain it as pure and unsullied as he received it; the Book of Constitutions, which he begged him to study and strictly adhere to the rules therein laid down. It was a strict adherence to those rules only that would cement the cordiality in that lodge, by preventing dissensions; and the by-laws of the lodge, which he should endeavour to carry out with integrity. That he could not sit in the eastern chair until regularly installed, neither could he confer degrees; but from the ready assistance he had always received from the Past Masters, he was fully assured that they would render the same to him, and make the W.M.'s absence as little felt as possible.

Several gentlemen were then proposed for initiation, and the lodge closed with prayer in love and concord at half-past nine p.m.

The brethren then adjourned to the banquet table, and the cloth having been removed, the W.M. said, let us be loyal subjects to our rulers and drink to "The Health of the Queen and the Craft" with all honours.

The next toast of obligation was then proposed by the Worshipful Master, "The three Grand Masters of England and Ireland."

"The Health of the Provincial Grand Masters Bros. G. Taylor and R. B. Barton" was then proposed and drank with good Masonic fire.

The W.M. then said: "Brethren, fill your glasses for a toast which has over and over been drank in these rooms with the greatest cordiality. I see one at our board who has indeed won the esteem and affection of you all; I allude to your Past Master Bro. Diver; I see I am not mistaken in stating that you one and all love him; I am glad to see him here, and I hope he will now be regularly with you, seeing that the work of this lodge will devolve on him as I am about to leave you. I do not now regret, seeing that you have an able Senior Warden in Bro. Parker, and again, he the Warden will have the able services of our esteemed Brother Diver. I am glad to see that the short change has done him good. Our earnest hope is, that he may yet see many bright and sunny days; from my heart I wish him success, and from my heart I state that the success of Lodge Concord is in a great measure owing to the efforts of one who had the interests of Lodge Concord and Masonry at heart. Brethren, let us now as brother Masons greet our esteemed brother and drink bumpers."

Bro. Dr. Diver then rose, when the brethren again cheered him, he said: Worshipful Sir and Brethren, from the depth of my heart I thank you most sincerely for the toast which has just been proposed and drank. I really do not know what I have done to merit so much commendation; one thing I am certain, that although I have been absent for a season, still you have been kind enough to think of me. I am thankful since my arrival I have received sympathy from all my friends and brother Masons; but the marked kindness shown to me this day by you, Worshipful Sir and Brethren, is of such a nature, that I can hardly find words to express my thoughts; I feel overpowered. You in your good nature have made me a life Governor of the three Masonic Institutions, the Boys' School, the Girls' School, and the Asylum for the aged, infirm, and distressed Masons. I hope you will bear with me for a short time, when I refer to these Institutions (an honour I fear I never deserved). I though it a duty I owed to my lodge to visit each Institution; I did so, and I can now report to you, that they are well managed; the boys and girls are carefully taught, and I must say that even I would not be backward to send my own children to one of these schools. The Asylum for the aged Masons is also well and carefully managed; there I saw brother Masons in their aged days fed and provided for. I would advise you when you should go home to visit these schools, for there alone you would see the utility of these noble Institutions. I have again to thank you for all kindness; allow me now to refer to a brother who is about to leave us, I mean Bro. H. Wickham: he is indeed so well known among you, that the toast I am about to propose does not require a preface; he is a Mason not only in name but in thought and deed; his Masonic career has indeed been of such a nature, that his good name has spread far and wide; he is known in Calcutta, in Rangoon, in Bombay, and other parts of the land; he is, if I mistake not, an honorary member of not less than fourteen lodges, yes, brethren, I say he well deserved all this kindness, and he deserves more; he is about to leave us, and therefore let us wish him every joy and prosperity; I therefore ask you to charge your glasses and drink it with good fire.

Bro. Wickham then said: Bro. Diver and brethren, I thank you from my heart for your kind wishes; as the evening has far advanced I must be brief. I must say Bro. Diver has been flattering me rather too much; I do not know why such honours should be heaped on me; wherever I have been I have endeavoured to do my duty as a man and a Mason, and I was glad to see brethren ever foremost to help me; here in Lodge Concord, where from the first day of my arrival I have been treated with marked kindness, sorry indeed do I feel to part from among you, but I hope you will think of me and pray for me. There are two worthy brethren on my left, I mean Bros. Farnham and Alfred King, the Past Masters of this lodge, they have indeed worked well and worked nobly for the good of the lodge and Craft in general; therefore, brethren, let me ask you to drink to their good health.

Bro. Rev. J. J. Farnham then said: Worshipful Sir and Brethren, I thank you for the honour you have conferred on me; it shall be my aim to have the good of Lodge Concord at heart. I hold the office of P.M. of this lodge through the kindness of the brethren; indeed, I must confess, that when Lodge Concord was first started, we had many difficulties to surmount; we had a Master who held the Hiram but for a short duration, I was then Senior Warden and had to be in charge of the lodge, and on many occasions we were almost helpless for want of funds, and we had also other difficulties. I was afterwards elected Worshipful Master, and during my tenure of office we were trying to look up, when Bro. King—he too worked with all his might—then we had another worthy Bro. Dr. Diver, who was the Master. You are aware how you have continued to prosper. I now once more thank you and leave Bro. King to speak for himself.

Bro. Alfred King then said: I am sorry our good brother did not include my name when he was returning thanks; however, since I must speak, I can only say that I endeavoured to do my duty as a Mason in all the offices I held in the lodge from Inner Guard to the Chair. When I became the W.M. I was most cordially assisted by my able officers; the brethren, too, rendered me most valuable aid; to them I must confess the greatest praise is due, for without such aid the W.M. cannot get on; I am thankful for the kind mention of my name, and believe I shall ever try and be at my post in this lodge.

The Worshipful Master then said: I hope so long as this lodge remains a lodge the members will not forget the duty they owe to strange brethren, the visitors. To the visitors I say, come as often as you will, you are ever welcome to Concord Lodge. I wish our sister lodges—Perseverance, Rising Star, St. George, Truth, and Star of India, will continue prospering, and work with each other in true brotherly love and harmony. I propose the health of a distinguished brother among the visitors, he has come from Madras.

The brother alluded to, Bro. Sanders, rose and said: Worshipful Sir, I am an old Mason, and was at Calcutta, at Madras, and other places, but never once witnessed such a large gathering; I am sorry I was not with you up-stairs, for I have missed seeing the work, where I am convinced brotherly love prevails; your hospitality to the visitors is so great, that I can hardly find words to thank you. I shall carry your best wishes to my own lodge, and shall, if spared, be proud to visit you again. Bros. Campbell and Wilkinson, visitors, also spoke at some length.

"The Health of the Newly Raised," was then drunk, and the company, before parting, sang "Auld Lang Syne" to the honour of the W.M.

Bros. Young, Bourne, Whitrowe, and Du Bois sang several songs. Seldom has been witnessed such a large gathering working in love as in Lodge Concord.

#### MARK MASONRY.

##### RANGOON.

*Provincial Grand Lodge of Madras and British Burmah.*

The first meeting of this Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Masters for Madras and British Burmah, after the establishing of the Provincial Grand Lodge was held in the lodge rooms of the Star in Burmah Lodge at Rangoon, on Monday, March 18th. The brethren met at the Masonic Hall, at half-past seven, and being all clothed in the anteroom, the Prov. Dir. of Cers. arranged the brethren in the following order:

The Tyler.  
Organist.  
Brethren of Star in Burmah.  
Brethren of Victoria in Burmah.  
Visiting Brethren.  
Members of Prov. Grand Lodge.  
Director of Works and Director of Ceremonies.  
Registrar and Treasurer.  
Chaplain.  
P.G. Overseer. P.G. Overseer.  
P.G. 1st. Overseer.  
P.J.G. Warden. P.S.G. Warden.  
D.P.G.M.  
P.J.G. Deacon. Secretary with S. Vol. P.S.G. Deacon.  
Steward. P.G.M. Steward.  
P.G. Pursuivant.

On arriving at the door of the lodge, the Tyler remained outside, Bro. Simpson, P.G. Org., entered and played in his usual first-rate style; the rest then opened out facing inwards, Bro. Hardinge, P.G. Sec., bearing the Sacred Law, passed through, supported by the P.G. Deacons, and followed by Colonel Greenlaw, Prov. Grand Master, supported by two Stewards. The rest followed in inverted order. The P.G. Sec. placed the Sacred Volume on the pedestal, and all took their allotted seats. When all had entered, the organ ceased, and by the W.M.'s command the P.G. Purs. saw the Provincial Grand Lodge duly tyled. All was most quietly and orderly done, and the effect was exceedingly good and pleasing. Why do not all Provincial Grand Lodges meet in some such orderly plan?

The business, too, was carried on well, the R.W.P.G.M. gave an exceedingly satisfactory account of the flourishing state of the Order in the province. This was fully borne out by the report from the D.P.G.M. as President of the Prov. Grand Board of General Purposes.

The jewels and clothing for the Prov. Grand Lodge, first received from Bro. Loewenstark, of Essex-street, Strand, and which are very handsomely got up, elicited much praise; the payment for these was passed.

The new by-laws were then read out and passed. They, too, are well got up. The bill for the same was passed.

The R.W.P.G.M. tendered his best thanks to Bro. Duncan, D.P.G.M., for the great exertions he had made for the Order, that Bro. Duncan had opened the different lodges now at work in Burmah, and installed the W.M., and that he had successfully established an uniform and correct mode of working.

The R.W.P.G.M. stated that he himself had seen the working of the local lodges, and that nothing could be better. The W.M. deserved his best thanks.

He also said that too much praise could not be accorded to Bro. Browne, W.M. of the Willmin Figg Lodge, at Akyah, for the trouble he had taken in establishing his lodge. The furniture, clothing, &c., was perfect, and the working most ably done. Bro. Browne is P.S.G.W. of this province. Our old friend, Bro. Dr. Dickinson, as zealous and good a Mason as ever, had written about his lodge, but from the difficulty of getting installed, it had not been opened. The P.G.M. had removed this difficulty by sending over Bro. Sanders as an Installed Master.

The R.W.P.G.M. had also heard of the same difficulty from the W.M. of Marks-in-the-East (No. 61) at Madras, and he (the P.G.M.) was glad to say that although he had no official report, he had seen a brother who was present when Bro. Saunders installed the Master, and had put them in possession of the correct working. He had hoped to have heard from Bro. Greatorex, P.J.G.W., but the steamer having been delayed may have been the cause of his not having done so.

The D.P.G.M. then read the report of the Prov. Board of General Purposes.

Altogether the reports were most satisfactory, and the brethren seemed greatly pleased at the way things were carried on.

The Provincial Grand Lodge was then closed in due form with prayer.

Our earnest hope is that Masonry may long flourish in Burmah as it does now under Bro. Greenlaw's direction. Through him we have now the Mark, Prov. Grand Mark, Royal Arch, Knights Templar, and Malta, and the Craft Lodge, all working well. I hope to send you reports of each by-and-bye.

#### Obituary.

##### BRO. CHARLES GROVES.

The province of Dorsetshire has to deplore the loss of another of her old and respected members in the death of Bro. Charles Groves, who expired at his residence at Wareham on the 2nd inst. He was initiated in the Lodge of Unity (No. 813), Wareham, in January, 1828, at the age of thirty-five, and was, consequently, seventy-three years old at the time of his death. He was ever an active and zealous member of his lodge, and repeatedly served the office of W.M., as well as Prov. G. Organist. His remains were interred at Wareham on the 9th inst., a large number of brethren from his own and neighbouring lodges being present. Bro. Groves was also a distinguished antiquarian and geologist.

## THE WEEK.

**THE COURT.**—The Queen drove in the grounds on the afternoon of the 9th inst., attended by Lady Churchill, and went out walking on the 10th inst., accompanied by Princess Helena. Princess Louise and Princess Beatrice went out driving. Her Royal Highness Princess Helena, attended by the Honourable Lady Biddulph, went to Twickenham, and visited the Duke and Duchess d'Aumale. The Queen, accompanied by her Royal Highness Princess Helena, drove out on the 10th inst., in a carriage and four, attended by Lady Churchill. His Royal Highness Prince Alfred, attended by the Hon. Eliot York, arrived at the Castle. Her Majesty the Queen, with their Royal Highnesses Princess Helena, the Duchess of Cambridge, and the Grand Duchess of Mecklenburgh Strelitz, drove out on the 11th inst., in a carriage and four. Lord Alfred Paget attended on horseback. The Queen walked and drove in the grounds on the afternoon of the 11th inst., and again on the 12th inst., accompanied by her Royal Highness Princess Helena. Their Royal Highnesses Princess Louisa and Princess Beatrice also walked and drove. The Queen, with Princess Helena, walked in the grounds on the afternoon of the 12th inst. His Royal Highness Prince Alfred, attended by the Hon. Eliot Yorke, arrived at the Castle from London. The Right Hon. E. Cardwell also arrived at the Castle, and had the honour of dining with the Queen and the Royal Family. The Queen, their Royal Highnesses Prince Alfred, Princess Helena, and Prince Leopold, and the Ladies and Gentlemen in Waiting attended Divine service on the 13th inst., at the private chapel. The Rev. W. H. Brookfield, Honorary Chaplain in Ordinary to the Queen, preached the sermon. By command of the Queen a Levee was held on the 12th inst., at St. James's Palace, by his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, on behalf of her Majesty. Presentations to his Royal Highness at this court are, by the Queen's pleasure, considered as equivalent to presentations to her Majesty. The Queen went to London on the 14th inst., accompanied by her Royal Highness Princess Helena. Her Majesty travelled by special train to Paddington, and was escorted by a detachment of the 14th Hussars to Buckingham Palace. The Queen presented to Mr. Samuel Popplestone the Albert Medal for his meritorious service in saving life from a wreck off the Start Point, on the 23rd of March. This is the first occasion on which her Majesty has conferred this honourable distinction. Her Majesty left Buckingham Palace at half-past five o'clock for Windsor Castle. The Queen and Princess Helena, attended by Lady Churchill, the Hon. Flora Macdonald, the Hon. Mary Lascelles, and the Equerries in Waiting, arrived at the Castle at twenty-five minutes past six o'clock from Buckingham Palace. The Queen walked and drove in the grounds on the 15th inst., attended by Lady Churchill. The Queen drove in the grounds in the afternoon, and went out walking on the 16th inst., accompanied by Princess Helena. His Royal Highness Prince Alfred arrived at the Castle, and went to London, attended by the Hon. Eliot Yorke.

**IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.**—In the HOUSE OF LORDS on the 12th inst., there was a long and interesting discussion in reference to land tenure in Ireland. The Marquis of Clanricarde moved the second reading of a bill on the subject, and thus led the way to the debate which followed. In that debate Lord Wodehouse, Lord Dufferin, the Earl of Derby, and several other peers spoke. Finally the motion for the second reading of the bill was withdrawn. The other business was not of importance.—On the 14th inst. there was a brief discussion on the Conscience Clause, chiefly remarkable because the Bishop of St. David's expressed approval of the clause. Thereafter

Lord Redesdale made a lengthy speech in reference to the manner in which railway companies are promoted and railway bills got through Parliament. He entered at great length into the matter, and denounced the manner in which new schemes were financed. He proposed to make alterations in the standing orders by which a change should be effected. One of these alterations was that the sum required to be deposited by the promoters of bills should be in absolute money subscribed by shareholders and not in securities. He dwelt at some length on the mischief which he said had been done by some amalgamations of railway companies, and in respect to such matters said he should propose an alteration in the standing orders by which the full terms of the proposed amalgamation should be advertised in the *November Gazette*. There was a short conversation after this speech, and then the house adjourned.—On the 15th inst., the Earl of Granville corroborated the news that the cattle plague had broken out in Ireland, near Belfast. He detailed the measures which had been taken for its repression. A long discussion then ensued on the Sunday Trading Bill, which was stoutly opposed by Lord Teyuham. Eventually however, the bill passed through committee. Brief discussions followed in reference to the cholera and the bombardment of Valparaiso, and the house adjourned at ten minutes to nine o'clock.—In the HOUSE OF COMMONS on the 10th inst., after the questions had been disposed of, the Attorney General moved the second reading of the Bankruptcy Bill. He entered at some length into a full description of the bill and its various propositions. All these have, have, however, been already described. Mr. Moffatt criticised the bill adversely, but the general opinion of the house appeared to be in favour of it. The bill was read a second time, and the Attorney General promised to say on the 13th inst., when he would ask the house to go into committee on the measure. After a brief discussion in reference to land tenure in India the House went into committee of supply on the civil service estimates.—On the 11th inst., one of the earliest questions asked was by Mr. Disraeli, whether the Government had suspended the Bank Charter Act. Mr. Bazley wished to know if they intended to do so, and Mr. Biddulph asked if the Government would suspend the Act if the Bank of England desired it. The Chancellor of the Exchequer replied that the Government had not suspended the Act. It was only within the previous two hours and a half that representations had been made to him on the state of things in the City, and a deputation of directors of joint-stock banks was waiting to see him as soon as he could leave his place. He could give no answer as to what the Government could do. As to the question based on the hypothesis of the Bank asking the Government to relax the Act of 1844, he had no reason to suppose that any such proposition would be made.—On the motion to go into committee of supply, a discussion was begun by Mr. Bryan, in reference to the cases of Chief Justice Lefroy and Lord Justice Blackburne, of the Irish Court of Appeal. Mr. Bryan insisted that neither judge was competent for the discharge of his business, and asked the Government what course they intended to pursue in reference to the matter. Mr. Fortescue indicated that if the Government found it necessary to interfere, it would do so in the regular manner, by an address to the Crown from both Houses of Parliament. Sir Hugh Cairns condemned the course taken by Mr. Bryan, while Mr. Maguire justified it, and showed by numerous cases that Chief Justice Lefroy was by age and mental weakness incapacitated for the discharge of his duty. Mr. Whiteside, of course, defended the judges. The debate, which was altogether warm, became hotter when Sir Robert Peel charged Mr. Maguire with having made a statement which he knew to be

unfounded. Of course there was a cry against this, and the Speaker insisted that Sir Robert should retract. In an ill-conditioned manner he refused, and in the end got out of his difficulty by a sort of half explanation. Subsequently there was a discussion on the School of Musketry, and then the House went into committee of supply. After several votes had been taken the House resumed. The Chancellor of the Exchequer then, in reply to Mr. Bazley, said the Government had given permission to the Bank to issue notes beyond the limit provided by the Act of 1844. On the 14th inst. a long debate on the Distribution of Seats Bill was expected. The expectation was not fulfilled. Mr. Disraeli made a long speech in which he found not a single merit in the Bill, though he found a good many in pocket boroughs. He was bitterly severe on the Government, and especially on the Chancellor of the Exchequer, but he reserved for the committee his more dangerous attacks on the measure. Mr. Cardwell replied to his diatribes, and then, after a guerilla fight by small men, the bill was read a second time. Subsequently it was agreed that the Franchise Bill and the Distribution Bill should be amalgamated in committee, and that the committee should be on the 28th inst. The other business on the paper was got through quickly, and the House was up early. On the 15th inst., on the motion for adjournment over the Derby, Sir Lawrence Park introduced the subject of the bombardment of Valparaiso. He blamed the conduct of Admiral Denman in not preventing the bombardment, and asked a string of questions on the subject. Several members took part in the discussion, and Mr. Layard gave a full account of the whole of the proceedings. He denied the truth of the statements made by the merchants at Valparaiso, and declared that Admiral Denman had acted in the most proper manner. There was some subsequent discussion, and then, in reply to Mr. Sandford, Mr. Bruce explained what the Government had done with respect to the prevention of cholera. The motion for adjournment was agreed to. Mr. O'Reilly then moved for a select committee to inquire into the state of national education in Ireland, and a long discussion ensued.

GENERAL HOME NEWS.—The failure of Overend, Gurney, and Company on the 11th inst., was followed by a day of intense anxiety. It was on all sides expected that a severe pressure would be experienced by the various banks and discount houses, and every possible step had been taken to meet the demand for deposits and balances. The different houses opened their doors some time before the usual hour, in order to invite a return of confidence. The City was early crowded with persons painfully anxious to meet the events of the day. A "run" was made upon most of the banks, but, with the exception of the English Joint-Stock Bank, the trial was endured without any apparent inconvenience. The English Joint-Stock did a respectable business of a middle class, and had upwards of thirty branch establishments. Of rumours there were many of the most reckless character. The only one which has become a fact is the failure of the highly respectable firm of Messrs. Peto and Betts, railway contractors. Their liabilities are about £4,000,000, and their assets are nearly a million beyond this amount. The stoppage is expected to be only temporary, and it is satisfactory to know that the large undertakings of the firm will be carried on by arrangement. The only hope of an improvement in the general prospects of the commercial and financial world has been, that the Government would at once suspend the Bank Charter Act.—The Home Secretary has decided that the life of Charlotte Winsor shall be spared. The sentence of death has been commuted to penal servitude for life.—The man Smith, *alias*

Denton, who is charged with the murder of Mrs. Millson, at Messrs. Bevington's warehouse, in Cannon-street, was brought up on the 11th inst. before the Lord Mayor, for final examination. Mr. Wontner, who appeared for the prosecution, asked that the prisoner should be committed for trial. He also mentioned that there was reason to believe that the man Smallman who was examined at the last hearing, and swore positively that he had seen the prisoner at Messrs. Bevington's door on the night of the murder, was not a credible witness. He proposed therefore, that his deposition should not be included among those which had been taken. Mr. Williams, for the prisoner, opposed the application, and insisted that the deposition should be included. He blamed the police for their conduct in the affair. The Lord Mayor vindicated the police, and committed the prisoner for trial. The deposition of Smallman was included.—One at least of the Adullamites has come out of the Cave. The constituents of Mr. Hanbury Tracy have taken him severely to task for his union with the Lowe Horsman party, and he has written a letter defending himself. Of course he says he acted rightly, and like many of those who erred as he did, and are now conscious of their mistake, he finds a salve in the conduct of the Government in introducing the Distribution of Seats Bill. It is true the Government, before the division of the Franchise Bill, said they should act as they have done, but Mr. Hanbury Tracy seems to have been incredulous. However, the important fact is, that he announces his intention to support the Government Bill.—The representatives of some of the small boroughs are taking alarm at the Distribution of Seats Bill. The two Liberal members for Bridport visited their constituents on the 11th inst. Mr. Hodgson, however, had to return to town without speaking publicly. His colleague, Mr. Mitchell, addressed a meeting, and denounced the Government scheme as being scandalously unjust to Bridport. He declared that the Bill was wholly in the interest of the landlords in the counties, and he should give it his most determined opposition.—At the Clerkenwell Police-court, on the 12th inst., two women, named Forester, were brought up on remand, charged with having caused the death of a woman called Slowon, by endeavouring to procure abortion. A statement made by the dying woman was read by the doctor who had attended her inculpating the prisoners. The elder Forester was committed to take her trial for wilful murder, and her daughter as an accessory after the fact.—We regret to announce the death of Mrs. Keble, the widow of the author of "The Christian Year." She has soon followed her husband. It may be remembered that some time ago an old man named Keeble was tried at the Central Criminal Court for cruelly wounding his wife. For the defence it was urged that when he inflicted the wounds he was under the delusion that thieves were in the house, and that he was defending himself. On this plea he was acquitted. On the 14th inst. the same man was brought up at the Highgate petty sessions charged with attempting to poison his wife. It seemed that she had asked for a dose of medicine, and that he had given her iodine instead. Medical aid was procured, and Mrs. Keeble is out of danger. In evidence it was stated that the prisoner could not read without his spectacles, and that he had not them on when he sought for the medicine bottle, and got that containing poison. Under these circumstances he was discharged.—At Bow-street a young gentleman named Finney was charged with stealing a silver spoon from the Albion Hotel. The spoon was missed, and was ultimately found in the prisoner's pocket along with an extraordinary miscellaneous collection of articles, some of which at any rate ap-

pear strange things for a young man to have. He was committed for trial, but admitted to bail.—The *La Plata* has brought news of a *tragedy* of no ordinary interest. Two days after the *Tyne*, which brought the passengers as far as St. Thomas, had left Kingston, Colonel Hobbs committed suicide by jumping overboard. It is stated that a medical board had previously declared the unfortunate man to be insane, and that in consequence he had been ordered home.—The Festival of the Sons of the Clergy Charity was held on the 15th inst. There was Divine service in St. Paul's in the afternoon, and in the evening the friends of the charity dined in Merchant Taylors' Hall. The Lord Mayor presided, and some good speeches were delivered.—A platelayer on the Metropolitan Railway has been killed. By some mischance he got on to the rails as a train was coming up and was killed instantly.—The morning of the 16th inst. opened somewhat more brightly for the Derby than there was reason to anticipate from the cold and unsettled weather which has prevailed through the present month. A storm of wind and rain would probably not have damped the ardour of the tens of thousands who had resolved upon witnessing the great race, however much it might have disappointed their expectations; but the number of those who flocked the roads to Epsom must have been largely increased by the more reassuring aspect of the day. As it is, the Derby has realised to the fullest extent the reputation it bears as a national holiday—in fact, the metropolitan carnival. The race was won by the favourite—Lord Lyon.—According to *The Owl*, Prince Alfred is to be created a peer, under the titles of Duke of Edinburgh and Earl of Kent.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.—The great German imbroglio has not entered upon any new phase. Nothing is heard but the din of preparation for the approaching conflict. The Austrian volunteer corps is on the eve of embarking for Mexico, but an interview which Mr. Motley, the American Minister, had with Count Mensdorff will probably change its destination. The kings of several of the German States have held a meeting to determine upon the positions their forces shall take up when the war breaks out. At Vienna it is professed that the speech of the Emperor of the French at Auxerre is a blow rather at Prussia than at Austria. That may be; but it is probable that, so far as Italy is concerned, the Emperor of the French will give his assistance against Austria. Indeed, the present appearance of things is that both Austria and Prussia are aimed at by Napoleon. He would not be sorry to see Italy in Venetia, and there are provinces about the Rhine of which those treaties of 1815, which he so much detests, finally deprived France. In Italy, beyond all doubt, the enthusiasm for war is unparalleled. Our correspondent says that active operations are likely to begin in a few days, and that the people are thoroughly impatient of delay. Italy, it is said, notwithstanding her recent forced loan of ten millions, is sadly in want of money. But now that war is determined upon means will be found for it as easily as men.—The news from the continent is less peaceful than on the 11th inst. The hopes which were entertained at Vienna of a peaceful result to negotiations were less, and all the telegrams speak of war. France, according to a Paris paper, is to have two corps of observation, one upon the southern frontier, the other upon the Rhine. The telegrams from the continent are numerous, and with one exception not very important. Austria continues her preparations for war, and Prussia and Italy do the same. At Vienna it is said there are still hopes that peace will be proved. The grounds, however, for the hopes appear to be

very slight. There have been popular manifestations there in favour of war, and the Prussian Ambassador has taken them so much to heart that he has announced that he must leave Vienna. If he carries out his threat war must be very near. The *Constitutionnel* talks in the most mysterious fashion of what are the intentions of the Emperor. As far as we can gather those intentions are to watch the course of events and take advantage of anything which promises to be gainful to France. The report that Austria was willing to make terms for giving up Venetia to Italy has received no further confirmation; but, obviously, it would be the best thing that Austria could do. Italy is thoroughly in earnest in her resolution to rescue Venetia, and if Austria does not give way war must ensue. Prussia has rejected the propositions of Austria relative to the question of the Ducines, and makes no counter proposition. She intimates, however, that she may make other propositions. Meantime this, the first cause of quarrel, remains untouched.—The news which we have from the Continent is not more reassuring. All the Powers are girding themselves up for the war, which according to the telegrams appears to be inevitable. Our Florence correspondent speaks of the feeling there as being wholly bellicose. Garibaldi has announced his willingness to take part in the war in command of the volunteers. Of these 10,000 more have come forward than are required. Their uniform is to be the historical red shirt.—The telegrams to hand are decidedly of a warlike character. There is no further confirmation of the report that Prussia and Italy have formed an alliance; but though no document may have been signed, it is indubitable that a perfect understanding exists between the two Powers. Prussia seems likely to precipitate hostilities by an attack on one of the smaller States. She is bullying Hanover and making movements which appear to indicate an intention to attack that Power. It is rather hard on these small States that the quarrels of their big neighbours should thus bring them into danger.—In Venetia Austria is arming to the teeth and making every preparation to resist the attacks which appear inevitable. In France there are still hopes that an amicable arrangement will be made by the giving up of Venetia. It is said that Italy has announced that she will take part in a congress, provided the cession of Venetia be made the basis of negotiations, and conferences of Ministers are reported.—The Municipality and Common Council of Berlin are adopting the somewhat peculiar course of egging the King on to war, in the hope of inducing him to become a constitutional reformer. Such is the meaning which we attach to the address they have presented to his Majesty. How that address was got up is another matter. Probably we shall not hear the secret of it soon. The King was believed to be averse to the war; but if we may credit recent accounts that feeling has been changed. A curious statement is made by a Berlin paper. It is to the effect that Prussia will not strike the first blow in the war which is regarded as inevitable. It may be that she will not aim such a blow at Austria; but she will do quite as effective a thing by firing on the troops of some one or other of the minor States—all of whom have apparently made Austria's quarrel their own. Of course, in such a case Austria would be obliged to take up arms in defence of her allies.

#### TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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

BRO. LENGHI, ALEXANDRIA.—The FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE has been forwarded to you since the end of March.  
L. SQ.—Not yet received. Please send.