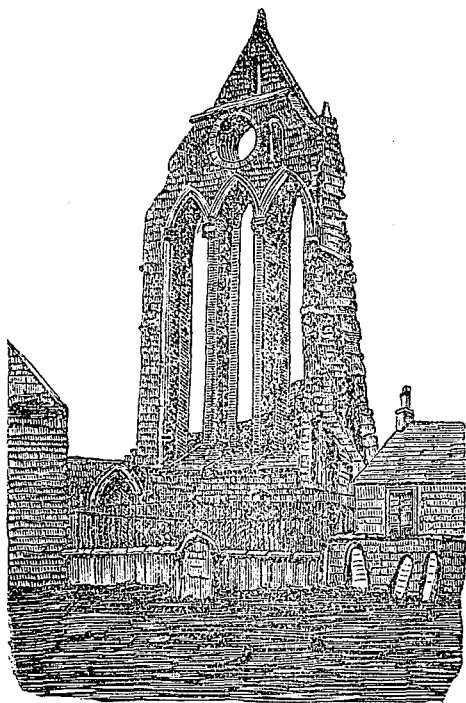


LONDON, SATURDAY, MARCH 16, 1867.

THE CANONGATE KILWINNING,
 BY ANTHONY O'NEAL HAYE, THE POET LAUREATE.
 CHAPTER FIRST.

The origin of the Lodge, and conjectures as to the date of its institution.



CANONGATE, KILWINNING.
 (From a Photograph).

I purpose writing an account of this ancient and noble Lodge, one as famous for her vicissitudes of fortune, as for the brilliant and celebrated men whom she calls her sons. In neither of these characters has she a rival; for while her lot has been to suffer greater misfortunes than any other Lodge, her roll of members is one that no other society can equal. The greatest men of the past and present centuries have belonged to her; and while Burns, and Hogg, the Ettrick Shepherd, were her Laureates, St. Clair of Roslin, Mackenzie, Monboddo, and Harry Erskine, were among her officers, and an Emperor of Russia was brought to the Light in her halls. In the present day Lord Brougham is a member, and the late Professor Aytoun was a P.M. It is a great subject to treat of, and luckily for my success in the task, the materials are most ample.

At the beginning of last century the Lodge numbered among its members the foremost noblemen and gentlemen of Scotland who were devoted to the Stewart cause. The unsuccessful rising in

1715, sent those who had escaped death on the battle-field, to the Hanoverian shambles, or into exile; and during the confusion attendant on these times, the whole early records of the Lodge were lost or destroyed, and no trace can now be found of them. At length the survivors, a few but trusty band, met, and resumed the meetings of the Lodge, and, on the 13th February, 1735, the minutes are again engrossed, when a committee is appointed to prepare Bye Laws. The loss of the Lodge documents leaves us in the dark regarding the real year of foundation of the Lodge, but from the following Minute we can form an idea,—

“*Canongate, 16th Feby. 1736. A.M. 5736.*”

The Lodge having mett occasionally, being duly formed, The Right Worshipfull named the following Committee to meet upon Munday next, at 6 o’Clock, in the Lodge room, there to inspect the accompts of William Montgomerie, the Stewart, viz., Thomas Trotter, Treasurer; Robert Blesset, Deputy Master; David Horne, Senr. Warden; Francis Kemptie and Alexander Lindsay, Fellow Crafts; Humphrey Colquhoun and John Oswald, entered apprentices; That the said accompts may be audited by the foresaid Committee, and laid before the Lodge the next monthly meeting. As ALSO, it was moved by the Right Worshipfull, That there was transmitted to him by the hands of Peter Montgomerie, Esq., the present Right Worshipfull Master of Our Antient Mother Lodge of and at Kilwinning, a petition or application signed by the Free Masons in the Cannongate Lodge of Edinburgh, dated the 6th day of December 1677 years, with a deliverance thereon, dated att Kilwinning the 20th of December said year, whereof the Tenor follows: To the Right Worshipfull the Master of the Antient Lodge of and at Kilwinning, the humble petition of the Free Masons in the Cannongate of Edinburgh, written the 6th day of December 1677, and signed by them. Right Worshipfull, and the worthy Brethren of the said Lodge, we had your answer by our truly and worthy Brother, William Cochran, and having considered the proposals contained therein, and find them very consonant with reason, so wee send you our worthy Brother, Thomas Gib, with power to him to present this, our said petition, humbly craving that as we are *part of the company belonging to Kilwinning Lodge*, your Worship, and the other Members of the said Lodge, would authorise to

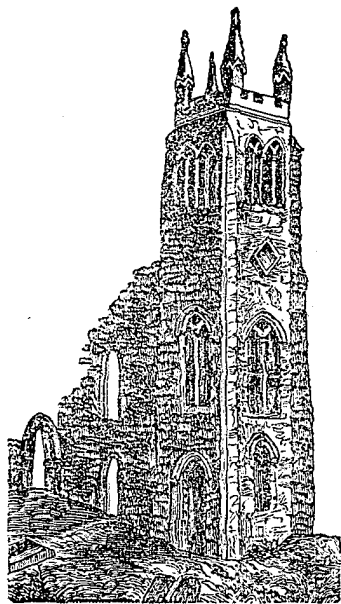
meet together as a lawful Lodge, and to enter and pass any qualified persons as Free and Accepted Masons, *in the name and the behalf, and as a part of the Lodge of Kilwinning*, and to receive the entry-moneys due to the said Lodge, from such qualified persons as are passed by us; and We bind and oblige ourselves (collectively and severally) and our successors, to maintain and defend the rights and privileges of Kilwinning Lodge, and never to do anything prejudicial thereto, for witness whereof, wee have subscribed these presents, and affixed our marks thereto. Sic Subscritur, William Cochran, Duncan McLarane, Robert Nicolson, Thomas Gib, William Fulton, Tho. Watson, Alex. Steel, John Wilson, Andrew Francie, Robert Prentice, William Dorroch. Kilwinning, the 20th December 1677 years.—The Right Worshipfull the Master and other Members being convened in the Mason Court of the Antient Lodge in Kilwinning, and having the above Petition presented from their Brethren in the Cannongate of Edinburgh, by Thomas Gib, took the same to their serious consideration, and unanimously granted the desire thereof, in all points, authorising the said Brethren Petitioners to meet in a regular Lodge, enter Free Masons, and receive dues for the same as wee do ourselves. They sending one of their number to us yearly, and wee to do the like to them if need be. Subscribed by William Cowan, Master. Extracted from the Records by Sic Subscritur, Alex. Cunningham. The Right Worshipfull Master of the Cannongate Lodge Returned thanks to the said Right Worshipfull Master of our Ancient Mother Lodge of Kilwinning, in name of the said Cannongate Lodge, and ordained that a Letter or application should be delivered to the aforesaid Right Worshipfull Peter Montgomerie, Esq., in his own name, and in the name of our said Ancient Mother Lodge, Craveing Ratification and Corroboration of the foresaid Deed, made at Kilwinning the said 20th December 1677, and of which Letter the tenor follows after the Minutes of this days date. Mr. Archibald Campbell, Writer to the Signet, and Charles Campbell, Esq., son to my Lord Monzie, were proposed to be admitted Members of the Lodge, and accordingly balloted for, and the Lodge unanimously agreed to their being admitted next meeting.

Pat. Montgomerie, Geo. Fraser, Master.
 Master, K.L. David Home, S.W.
 Rich. Cooper, D.J.W."

It will be observed, that the Master of the Mother Lodge was present on this occasion, and that he signs the minute. When we come to notice the rise of Grand Lodge, we will have more to say regarding him. The letter referred to as engrossed after the minutes, was not so done, and of this very important document we can but form an idea. Upon this minute the Canongate Kilwinning founded, on the formation of Grand Lodge; and on the roll she dates from 1677, while her proper date is that of Mother Kilwinning. The Mother Lodge, however, would not join in the new confederacy, and, consequently, the Canongate Kilwinning had to fall back upon its own records. We find in this minute the Canongate Brethren saying, that "we are part of the Company belonging to Kilwinning Lodge;" and they crave to be allowed all Masonic privileges, as "in the name and the behalf, and as a part of the Lodge of Kilwinning." It was the opinion of the late Bro. William Pringle, my predecessor in office, and one of the best informed Masons, that this minute makes the members of the Canongate Kilwinning members of the Mother Lodge, *et vice versa*; and such a bond exists between the Canongate Kilwinning and her Daughter, the St. John's, Haddington. Perhaps some member of the Mother Lodge may say how far this is correct.

To come to the actual date of the Lodge, we must consider for a moment the organisation of the Craft during the Middle Ages. The Brethren, formed into bodies or Lodges, wandered throughout Christendom, building chapels and castles as they were employed, and moving onward in search of more work as they completed the contracts. The head-quarters of the Masons of Scotland were at Kilwinning, and in course of time she established certain branches in various parts of the country, which worked under her name, and for her benefit. All contracts were entered into with the Mother Lodge, she appointing the Brethren to the labour, and paying them their wages. One important branch she sent to Edinburgh; and there can be little doubt that it was the earliest and most important body of Masons in Edinburgh. In Bro. David Murray Lyon's excellent and exhaustive articles on the Mother Lodge, he has shewn the high consideration she enjoyed in Scotland; and this consideration must, of a necessity, have been extended to her branches, and to none more so than the Edinburgh branch.

I am aware that, when I place the date of the coming of the Kilwinning branch to Edinburgh in the twelfth century, I may be called to task; but my answer is this:—The Knights Templars introduced Masonry into Scotland for the purpose of building preceptories and chapels. The headquarters of the Fraternity was placed at Kilwinning. The Templars became great favourites with King David, who bestowed many marks of his favour upon them. Their principal places of residence were at the Temple (Mid-Lothian) and Temple-Liston. A branch of Kilwinning would be sent through to raise the necessary buildings; and finding this branch constantly employed, both by the Templars and the great landowners, the Mother Lodge would permanently station it in Edinburgh, in all probability built the Chapel of



the Holy Rood, founded by David, and this branch subsequently became the Canongate Kilwinning. It may be said that this story is improbable. It may appear so; but one thing is clear, if Mother Kilwinning was the fountain of Scotch Masonry, one of her first branches must have been sent to Edinburgh, and that at a very early period. Various little circumstances substantiate this, not the least the fact of the hereditary Grand Masters, the St Clairs of Rosslyn, being initiated in the Canongate Kilwinning.

But, putting this question aside, the Canongate Kilwinning can fall back for its origin to the date of the Mother Lodge; for, as she was acknowledged as a part of the Mother Lodge, not as a Daughter or separate lodge, like other lodges, the date of

the Mother Lodge is undoubtedly the date of the Canongate Kilwinning. Some I have heard dispute the fact of the Canongate Kilwinning ever having been an Operative Lodge. This is a question I shall discuss at another time; although, if she was not an Operative Lodge, it would be a puzzle for these doubters to establish her being even in existence in the year 1677; and the foregoing minute sufficiently proves that she had been in existence many years before that date.

(To be continued.)

EARS OF WHEAT FROM A CORNUCOPIA.

By Bro. D. MURRAY LYON, K.T., &c., one of the Grand Stewards in the Grand Lodge of Scotland.

(Continued from page 64.)

PRIVILEGED "COWANS."

Looked at from a modern stand-point, the admission of Cowans to a share in the labour of the Craft would, in Masonic jurisprudence, present an anomaly ruinous to the existence of the brotherhood as a secret society. No emergency can now arise by which Cowans may in any degree be brought into Masonic contact with the initiated. It was otherwise with Freemasonry in the olden time; for, notwithstanding the contempt in which the Ishmaelites of the Craft were wont to be held, and the stringency of the statutes by which they were excluded from participation in the privileges enjoyed by legitimate Craftsmen, the reception of Cowans, whether as Fellows or as Masters, we find to have obtained in at least one of the Masonic Courts existing in Scotland three centuries ago—the occupation to which their skill was directed, and for which they were duly licensed, being designated "Cowand work." As may be gathered from the subjoined extracts from the minutes of the Ayr Squaremen Incorporation, this description of handicraft seems to have been followed by wrights who also undertook certain kinds of mason work, as well as encroached upon the thatchers' calling. The first minute which we have been able to discover as bearing upon the subject in hand, has reference to the admission of a Fellow-Craft Cowan—the others, with one exception, record the reception of Master Cowans:—

"Feb. xxiii. 1593. . . . Qlk day George Gibsoun, indwaller of this burgh, meanit himself to the deakin and the Craft concerning his weaknes and povertie, declairing to thame he

nicht nocht pay muckill, bot wald doe his deutie sa far as he nicht to pay that thing he nicht for his fredome to the Craft. The deakin and Craft foirsaid havand compasoun upon him, hes entert the sd. George to work as brother and fallow of Craft in the toun all work he can werk except hewin work, hewing and laying exceptit. For the qlk libertie the sd. George hes payit to the Deakin and Craft instantlie the soume of fyve pundis and ane pitcher of aill. Quha hes maid his aith to be leill and trew to the Craft, as use is."

"Jan. xxiv., 1604. . . . Andro Alane wes resseavit frieman to the libertie of the Craft to work his Craft, to witt, to kuppall ane thak hous, to big ane wall without hewin wark, thekin of ane hous, and lykwayis privilege to work ony other work he can use and maister, and sall pay thairfoir four lb., with xs penaltie in cais of failzrie."

"April xxi., 1671. . . . Qlk day comperit William Smyth, son lawful to John Smyth, squairman, wha being received as ane wright be the sd Deacon and tred to be ane frieman with them in all tyme coming, and to exercise the trade of ane wright; . . . Farder, the sd Deacon and tred gives libertie to the sd Willm. Smyth to work Cowan wark, he heving noe libertie by thir presents to work hewen wark of the Mason tred."

"Oct. xxiii., 1677. . . . Qlk day James Kennedie was admittit and receavit frieman with the tred, with libertie to him to work wright work and Cowand work, and not to work any hewin wark; and hes maid aith as befoir to observe the actis and statutis of the tred."

"Nov. xi., 1686. . . . William Murdoch, wright, was admittit frieman of the sd tred, with power to him to exercis his tred as wright and Cowan, but not to work ane hewin work, conform to the priviledge and actis of the sd tred."

"Eodem die. . . . Robert Hunter, wright and Cowand, Newtoun, wes received journeyman with the tred, wha payit in his deus to the tred and is to hev the privilege to work journeywark with ony frieman of the tred."

The line of policy by which the Ayr Squaremen were guided in their intercourse with a class of Craftsmen lying under the ban of Mother Kilwinning and of the recognised Masonic power in Edinburgh, shews a difference to have existed between the laws of the old Mason courts as

contrasted with those of the more modern sections of the Craft incorporated by charter under the hand of Mary Queen of Scots; and at the same time favours the opinion that the independent action of the latter courts tended materially to neutralise the power nominally held by the Lodge of Kilwinning and the other Masonic courts of prior erection. Relaxing somewhat of the strictness of its laws against the employment of the uninitiated, the Lodge of Kilwinning, in 1705—a quarter of a century before its transformation from an operative to a speculative lodge of Freemasons—authorised the employment of Cowans when circumstances prevented Masters obtaining the services of regular Masons—a privilege which, according to certain so-called "ancient charges," was conceded also to English Craftsmen. The Masonic lodges and incorporations of the 16th and 17th centuries, while independent of each other, possessed many points of similarity in regard to the government of the Fraternity; and this being the case, the wonder is that any body of the Craft could be found licensing and encouraging irregular Masons whose labours could not but tend injuriously to affect the wages of the initiated. Such a proceeding seems stranger still, when it is known that certain members of the Ayr Squaremen Incorporation consenting to the freedom of the trade being conferred upon Cowans were also at the same time, in their capacity as members of the Mason court of Kilwinning, parties to the infliction of fines upon infringers of the law of the lodge against working with or employment of uninitiated Craftsmen. Master Cowans could hold office in the Incorporation, and their "servitors" could, on payment of certain fees, be "admittit to work ony jorneymark with ony frieman of tred." It ought to be borne in mind that the Squaremen of Ayr held a place in the councils of the Craft in 1627-8, the signature of their Deacon appearing in the charter given to Sir William St. Clair of Roslin, in confirmation of his succession to the hereditary post of Grand Master. Of "cowans" there is no mention in the Squaremen books subsequent to 1686, nor in those of Kilwinning after 1705, although, from a clause in the charter granted to the Earl of Kilmarnock and certain Masons in the town of Kilmarnock, it is evident that the term was in use in 1734 among the Fraternity at Kilwinning, its application having special reference to operative Masonry.

To the glory of the Great Architect of the
Universe.

GRAND ORIENT OF FRANCE.

Supreme Council for France and the French
Colonies and Orient of Paris, 1st of March,
1867 (V.E.)

L. S.

To the Foreign Masonic Powers ;
To the Lodges placed under the direction thereof ;
To the Lodges corresponding with the Grand
Orient of France ;

GREETING.

Most beloved Brethren,—The Grand Orient of
France will celebrate this year's summer solstice
by a feast and banquet, to take place on the 15th
of June next.

Upon that day the W.M.'s, or delegates, of all
lodges in correspondence with the Grand Orient
will meet in Paris in a general assembly, and the
Universal Exhibition will doubtless bring there a
great number of Freemasons from all parts of the
globe. The Grand Orient of France has seen in
this exceptional circumstance a happy opportunity
of drawing closer the ties that bind together the
outlying branches of the Masonic family, and has
thought that, by the side of the great feast of
industry, Freemasonry should celebrate the feast
of fraternity. It therefore requests the Freemasons
of all casts and provinces to co-operate in giving
to this feast an universal character. It will
indeed be a sight worthy of the attention of
such a gathering of men coming from all parts
of the world, speaking different languages,
having different customs and manners, but all
actuated by the same feeling, viz., the feeling of
fraternity.

I doubt not, most beloved brethren, that the
idea of the Grand Orient of France will be under-
stood, and the Freemasons will hasten to answer
to its appeal. The greater the concourse, the
more numerous will be the links of that chain of
union, and the greater will be also the splendour
of the feast.

All our efforts are devoted to the endeavour of
rendering it worthy of our great Institution.

Please, I pray you, most beloved brethren, to
give this communication the greatest possible
publicity.

Receive, most beloved brethren, the assurance
of my feelings of esteem and fraternal affection.

The Grand Master of the Masonic

Order in France,

(Signed) MELLINET.

Countersigned for the Grand Master,

The Deputy Grand Master,

LENGLÉ.

General Arrangements.

The festive lodge to open at 2 p.m., and the
banquet at 6 p.m.

Subscriptions received at the office of the
Secretary to the Grand Orient of France, 16, Rue
Cadet, Paris.

Subscription fee, 20 francs (16s.)

Subscriptions received down to the 1st of May
from members of Continental and Algerian lodges,
and to the 15th of May from Transatlantic lodges.
The Committee are under the necessity of fixing
these terms with a view to know the approximate
number of subscribers, previous to organising the
festival.

Civil (evening) dress compulsory.

N.B.—One of the rooms of the Grand Orient
will be at the disposal of foreign Masons during
the progress of the Exhibition; and proper ar-
rangements have been made with a view to furnish
all requisite information to these brethren.

Cabinet of the Grand
Master of the Order.

Address—The Grand Orient of
France, 16, Rue Cadet, Paris.

THE NEMESIS: A TALE OF THE DAYS
OF TRAJAN.

By BRO. A. ONEAL HAYE, K.M., *K. Cal., Corresponding
Member of the German Society, Leipzig; Knight Templar,
Scot.; Author of "The History of the Knights Templars;"
"Vara Queer;" "Gatherings in Wanderings;" "Songs
and Ballads;" "Poemata;" "Legends of Edinburgh."
&c., &c., &c.; Poet Laureate of the Canonate, Kilwin-
ning; P.M. St. Stephens; P.P.Z. of St. Andrews, R.A.
Chap.; &c.; &c.*

(Continued from page 184.)

CHAPTER XXV.

THE HEATHEN PHILOSOPHER AND THE CHRISTIAN.

"Coming events cast their shadows before."—*Campbell.*

The gardens of Murtius, although in reality
small, yet, by the consummate skill with which they
were laid out, appeared very extensive. Fountains
bubbled up at every turn, and rare statuary peeped
out upon the beholder from odd nooks. The
finest flowers were planted along the walks, and
though winter was about to set in, their rare per-

fume still lingered upon the air. Fruit trees were plentiful, the orange, the fig, the cherry, and the date finding there congenial soil. Everything displayed the rich, but, at the same time, the chaste taste of the Athenian. Adrian was lost in admiration of the gardens, and gazed with rapture upon a scene which he could not have believed Rome capable of displaying. And his eye wandered from the fair scene to the gentle girl by his side, and he sighed as he thought of the abandoned characters of those to whom she owed her origin.

They had stopped in the centre of the garden, and Myra, pointing to a lust, said :

"There is a head much admired. It is Jupiter, is the workmanship of Praxiteles."

"'Tis exquisitely and truthfully delineated," said the Roman. Dost thou remember Greece?"

"Ah! whoever can forget their native land?" replied Myra with a sigh. "My heart often flies back on eagle's wings to Grecia's noble plains, to the spots where my childhood's sunny hours sped on, and days flew past on light glad wings."

"Yet thou art happy here?"

"Do years bring happiness, experience keep the full flush still upon the dew decked rose? Hast thou, then, found out the real true happiness, and art thou happy?"

"I?" answered Adrian, somewhat taken aback by this appeal. "I am a man, and one left early alone upon the world, for my mother died at the moment of my birth, and my father was little qualified to take her place, so that I may say truly I was left alone upon the world. I have sought out all the mystery of life, and found it like a hollow nut, full of bitter dust. But thou hast thy joys, thy father, sister, and thine aunt to love. Yet I am unjust in saying that I am alone, for I have one true friend, whose heart beats sympathetically with mine—my cousin Caius. His ear knows all my thoughts almost as soon as they form themselves."

"Then thou art happy. I have no such friend in my home."

"If that an utter stranger dare presume to offer thee a counsel, seek for comfort from the gods."

"The gods!" answered Myra, with ineffable scorn, "which of all the Pantheon's gods would listen to the prayer of a daughter of Murtius?"

"Ha!" exclaimed Adrian, "then this rumour of the people is true."

Taking her hand in his, he added :

"And thou hast reason to be sad indeed, although innocent and free from blame thyself. But is the sin so vile? can all these rumours be true? for rumour is, after all, but a many-tongued liar."

"Believe the worst they say of us," answered Myra, with a sad weary look in her eyes, withdrawing her hand from the clasp of her companion, "and thou wilt know the best of us."

"Never, by heaven!" cried Adrian fervently, "will I believe that thou art otherwise than pure and free from every taint of sin, as is the child unborn. Truth beams from every feature of thy countenance, and innocence sits throned upon thy sunny brow. Heaven has given thee a shield to protect thee from from the darts of sin."

A pleased expression flashed for an instant in Myra's eyes, but only for an instant. The next moment the weary look came back, as she said mournfully :

"Heaven yields me comfort, and the blessed hope of that eternal peace beyond the grave."

"And yet thou comest not nigh the shrine of a god."

"The shrine of a god I come not nigh, but *the*, the only God, that God who formed the earth, yon sky, the sea, man, life and death, reigns in my heart, and tells me of the glad tidings of a better world."

Adrian gazed in astonishment upon the young girl as she spoke.

"This is not frenzy," he said, "for thy words, though vague, speak to my heart in accents of the truth. Who is this God, for Jove it cannot be? He never made the heavens, or earth, or man. O tell me, if thou canst, for among this multitude of divers-powered gods I search in vain for one who is above them all, whose word is felt from shore to shore, from life to death. Dost thou know this One, this True, Great, All-powerful God?"

"I do."

"Then tell me of Him."

"Alas! I am all unfit to speak of Him, my Lord, my God, my Saviour. I only feel His presence in my heart, and His sweet voice whispering comfort in mine ears in the hours of my bitter sadness. Yet, if thou could'st desire to know more of Him"—she paused and looked at Adrian earnestly—"thou art noble, thou would'st not take

advantage of what I am to tell thee, for many lives depend upon it, not mine alone.

"I swear by the memory of my mother," said Adrian, raising his hand to heaven, "to hold for ever in my heart secret and close whatever thou mayest tell me."

"Dost thou ever go to see the wild beasts fight?"

"I! what could I learn from that gross sight?"

"Sometimes the beasts have noble foes to fight with—men."

"True, but they are slaves or worthless characters."

"Call you the Christians worthless?"

Adrian started at that word, a word heard in Rome and by Roman ears with detestation. He seized Myra by the hand, and gazing into her eyes, which met his calmly, said—

"Thou lettest loose upon me a flood of light. Thou art a Christian."

"Yes. I am."

"Strange child!" replied Adrian, gazing upon the girl, who had confessed that which, told to the priests, would have doomed her to the lions in the Colosseum. "Oft have I wandered at the tales they tell of that stern might which makes men, women, even children spurn at life and cling to death, rather than barter what they deem to be truth. What is this truth which tides them over fear, and makes the dreaded future to them a joy? Tell me, what is this truth?"

"I may not tell thee, but I shall send one to thee in whom thou mayest trust to teach thee."

"How shall I know that he comes from thee?"

"Thou knowest him already."

"I? His name."

"Thou will know it in good time. Give me thy signet; he will bring it thee, and soon. Farewell for the present," and Myra left him.

Adrian stood amazed, gazing after the young girl, and then pacing slowly along the walk mused—

"I toss like floats upon the Tiber's flood. A Christian brings me tidings of a God more glorious and omnipotent than those myriad gods of ours. 'Tis passing strange; and yet who knows but this God may be that great Spirit whose presence faintly appears in all our mysteries, like a broken ray of light, falling upon the black darkness of superstitious rites? This God the wise and noble Lemo knoweth not. Yet what dim tradition did he tell me once, as we sat beneath the stars, of a

people who, slaves to the Egyptians, by the might of their God, spread ruin and destruction in the land, and marched like conquerors from out of their bondage. Can this God be the same?"

From his musings he was aroused by Caius catching him in his arms, and exclaiming:

"Say, Adrian, how likest thou our host and his family? O, my friend, my heart bounds with a joy unspeakable. Pardon me, if I have hid from thee one secret hope!"

"In loving Phryne?" said Adrian, with a smile.

"Why, how didst thou discover that?" asked Caius, in astonishment, who imagined, like all lovers, that he had kept his love a profound secret.

"Mine eyes are good, although given to the study of the stars. Think you I could not see the blood flush up when she did turn her lustrous eyes upon thee, and crimson thy forehead as the sun reddens the virgin snow? Go to, mine eyes are not moles."

"But dost thou know she gives me love for love?"

"I like not that."

"What! Adrian, wouldst thou kill my newborn joy. I did not think thee so cruel!"

"And is it joy, my simple, honest Caius, to have won her heart? Yet wherefore should I, on a dim report, blast his happiness?" thought he, "it may be false, but strict inquiry can yet be made." Then he said aloud. "Dream on thy dream, my loving cousin. I see a cloud upon the sky."

"The weather is cold and the sky is full of clouds."

"Hast thou forgot thy muse, my Caius? I talked not of vapour cloud, or stormy weather, but of a cloud upon the sky of life; let us trust no thunder-bolt couches beneath. Dream on, dream on. Believe women to be as virtuous as they are fair, as constant as they may be kind, as loving as they may be true. Dream on, and be glad in thy spring-time of love; joy is in present peace, woe lurks in the future. What wants this slave?"

A slave approached them from the house.

"The master desires their nobleness to join him in the baths."

"Let us in," said Adrian; and with entwined arms the noble pair, so gallant-looking and so princely in their youth and beauty, entered that charnal of virtue, called the house of Murtius.

(To be continued.)

[The Author reserves the right of reproduction and translation.]

MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

A zealous brother in the west of England, whose search after Masonic knowledge has brought him in connection with many curious things relating to ancient Craft Masonry and other matters pertaining thereto, has stumbled over a scrap of Masonic correspondence which possesses sufficient interest to be given here. Perhaps some learned member of the Craft, gifted with a knowledge of the style of correspondence employed amongst the brethren some fifty-two years ago, will be able to decipher the following letter, and give the readers of this MAGAZINE the benefit of his study. The letter of Bro. Andrew Cox is here reproduced in type as accurately as we can give it, *verbatim et literatim*:—

London may 15 1815

Dear Br

I greet you well all is in health with me hope with you the same I am on the Black Checque the foul wind of adversity has drive me far from the white marks of prosperity but still I hope the wind one day or other the wind will shift and give me an oppertunity of getting into good anchorage again or perhaps our Universal and Great grand master will give me a tow my anchor of hope is still left but my Cable of Fortitude is nearly stranded an if it should give way I know not what I shall do for I have not a sail left

dsg dszg blf ivyfxry



nzvw feby 16th izrtvw gsvurihg gfvhwzb rm nzixr i ru blf xzm trev nv z orgov rmhgifxgrlmh lu gsv dliprnt hrnxv gsv fmrlm R hslfow yv nfxs lyorwlv gf blf uli rg zkkzrih gszgzoo gsv dlip rn zvgvi w gsv fszb R hslfow

yv ohlg zg rg mld

Give my love to all the Brethern
Greet them for me

Andw Cox



NB derect for me sign the angel to be left mr Castle Rotherhith Stairs

WHAT DOES IT MEAN ?

As explained by the editor, the diagram has nothing to do with Masonry, but he is somewhat out in his guess as to its author. The diagram is one of the first class in the Rosicrucian doctrines, although it is incomplete as given by "Enquirer." Between the upper points of the pentagram there should have been a dove with expanded wings, and at the angle S. A. H. across. It is a figure of the Trinity, and the words "Salve Agape" refer to the sublime love of the Creator for His creatures, who are emblemised by the pentagram, which is an image of the five senses. God is represented by the Sun, Christ by the Cross, and the Holy Ghost by the Dove. There is an elaborate lecture upon this diagram, which forms a portion of the study of the third class of initiates. Another diagram of the same degree is this:—

D
E+U
S.

The cross here stands for LVX.—or light, for it contains these letters within it. Deus, Lux, is thus God, Light. There are a great number of these diagrams still extant, although, from the manner of preserving the secrets in hieroglyphics and cypher, many are sealed to the present age. Perhaps "Enquirer" will be good enough to give some account of the manuscript, the nature of its contents, and how it came into his possession. A great number of manuscripts, many priceless in value, were lost at the time of Derwentwater's rising, and it would be exceedingly curious if the manuscript in question should be one of these. The 18th degree, Rose Croix, is often confounded with the Rosicrucian Society, but they have no relationship, the name Rosicrucian being derived from Ros-dew, and Crux, a cross, the emblem of Light.—ANTHONY ONEAL HAYE.

THE GLORIOUS ARCHITECT OF HEAVEN AND EARTH.

—ERRATA.

See my communication "The Glorious Architect of Heaven and Earth," page 90 of the present volume. It is not surprising that this communication puzzles a foreign brother, since an English brother, with critical pretensions which I will not gainsay, has actually understood it as making "the commencement of a pocket edition of the Constitutions" the locality of a lodge. See page 110 of the present volume. There is not, however, in my communication the misprint of a single word, but merely some inaccuracy in the punctuation, which I will now set right. Line 3, for "lodge at" read "lodge. At," and line 8, for "occasion. There" read "occasion, there."—CHARLES PURTON COOPER.

FREEMASONRY WITHOUT THE GREAT ARCHITECT OF THE UNIVERSE.

A brother at Oxford is right. His words aptly express my thoughts. *What* Christianity would be without Jesus Christ, *that* Freemasonry would be without the Great Architect of the Universe.—CHARLES PURTON COOPER.

DIVERS POSITIVE RELIGIONS IN LODGE.

Dear brother * * * you are deceived. My words have always been that where in lodge brothers are assembled professing divers Positive religions, there is, so long as they continue in lodge, a temporary merger of those religions in their common source, natural religion.—CHARLES PURTON COOPER.

THE JEWS.

In answer to the inquiry of a correspondent, I say that in my late province of Kent there were, in my time, no better Freemasons than the Jews.—CHARLES PURTON COOPER.

OUR LODGES.

Brother . . . Plato's "Laws" I now possess only in a French translation. On looking through this translation, I have come upon a passage which, I have no doubt, is that cited by me in the conversation you mention, Denton Court, summer of 1853, in reference to the useful and happy fusion of ranks in our lodges. The original Greek word I have tried in vain to recall. The French translation I subjoin: "Les grandes pierres ne s'arrangent jamais bien sans les petites."—CHARLES PURTON COOPER.

MASONIC RIFLE MATCH.—On the 7th a competition took place on the range of the Victoria Rifles, at Kilburn, between six members of the Masonic lodge of that corps, and six members of the lodge attached to the South Middlesex R. V. C., at 200, 300, and 400 yards; seven shots at each distance, long Enfield rifles, and Government ammunition. The Victorias were again the victors, having scored thirty-eight points more than the South Middlesex. The weather was very unpropitious, causing frequent interruption through heavy falls of snow. After the match the South Middlesex brethren were entertained at a banquet by the Victoria Rifles Lodge at the Freemasons' Tavern. A pleasant evening was passed, and the brethren separated, trusting soon to meet again in friendly rivalry. The following are the totals:—Victorias—Dr. Shepherd, 66; S. W. Block, 58; Lieutenant Tomkins, 56; T. H. Block, 55; Major Greenhill, 54; F. C. W. King, 40—total, 329. South Middlesex—Nocera, 56; Sergeant Jones, 50; Ensign Young, 48; Worthington, 46; Henry Radcliffe, 46; Sergeant Burman, 45—total, 291. These friendly gatherings of Masons outside Freemasonry are very pleasing; and it is to be hoped that a suggestion that was generally well received last year will be carried out at the meeting of the National Rifle Association at Wimbledon this year, and that one evening may be set apart for a meeting of Masons from all parts of the kingdom who will be then present.

A SELF-TAUGHT MATHEMATICIAN.—Edmund Stone, a celebrated mathematician, is an extraordinary instance of a man uninstructed and self-taught, acquiring by dint of perseverance and genius a thorough knowledge of languages and science. His father was gardener to the Duke of Argyle. Young Stone was eight years old before he learnt to read. A servant having by chance taught him the letters of the alphabet, nothing more seemed wanting to expand his genius. He applied himself to study, and by the time he was eighteen he had attained, without a master, a perfect knowledge of geometry. The Duke of Argyle, who united with military talents a general acquaintance with the sciences, walking one day in his garden, saw a Latin copy of Sir Isaac Newton's celebrated work, the "Principia," lying on the grass. He called one of his servants to pick it up, and carry it to his library, from which he supposed it to have been brought. The young gardener told his grace that the book belonged to him. "To you," replied the Duke; "do you understand geometry, Latin, Newton?" "I know a little of them," answered the youth, with a look of simplicity, arising from a profound ignorance of his own talents and knowledge. The Duke was surprised, and entered into conversation with the young mathematician. He asked him several questions, and was astonished at the force, the accuracy, and the frankness of his answers. "But how," asked the Duke, "came you to the knowledge of these things?" Stone replied: "One of your Grace's servants taught me to read about ten years since. What need one know more than the letters, and learn anything one wishes?" The Duke's curiosity was still more strongly excited, and he requested him to relate how he had proceeded to become so learned. "I first learned to read," said the youth. "The masons were then at work upon your house. I went near them one day, and saw that the architect used a rule and compasses, and made calculations. I inquired what might be the meaning and use of these things, and was informed that there was a science called arithmetic. I purchased a book of arithmetic, and learned it. I was told that there was another science called geometry. I bought the elementary books, and learned geometry. By reading I found that there were good books on these sciences in Latin. I understood also that there were good books of the same kind in French. I bought a dictionary, and learned French. And this, my lord, is what I have done. It seems to me that we may learn everything when we once know the letters of the alphabet." The duke was delighted with this account, and gave him an employment which left him sufficient leisure to cultivate his favourite pursuits, for he discovered the same genius in music, painting, architecture, and all the sciences which depend on calculations and proportions. Neither the time nor place of his birth is known, but he died in 1768.

ERRATUM.—In the report of the Grand Lodge proceedings in our last number, a slight error crept in in that part of it referring to the recommendations for grants of the Board of Benevolence. The recommendation of the grant to Bro. Dennis was supported by Bro. Frederick Adlard, and not "Oldland," as accidentally inserted.

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

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

MASONIC MEM.

ROYAL FREEMASONS' SCHOOL FOR GIRLS.—Bro. Frederick Walters, of 372, New Cross-road, S.E., informs us that he will be glad to receive votes in support of the application of Ada Rennell; and if any brother has any Boys' School votes, he will be happy to arrange for an exchange, as he is desirous of assuring the success of the candidate (Ada Rennell) at the next election.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

The sixty-ninth anniversary festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys was celebrated on Wednesday evening, at the Freemasons' Hall, and was very fully attended by members of the Craft, not only from metropolitan lodges, but from different parts of the kingdom.

Although the festival for the Boys' School is the second Masonic gathering of the year, it stands first in importance, inasmuch as it brings within its scope those who will have to bear the heat and burden of the day in the great battle of life, and perpetuate the worthy name of those who, although overtaken by misfortune, have in their time done good service to the Craft; and nothing can give a more striking illustration of the value of Freemasonry than the readiness displayed by its members to take care of those who are unable to take care of themselves.

The report of the Committee for the past year was circulated in the Hall, from which we select the following extracts:—

In April last the number of boys educated, clothed, and maintained was increased to ninety, and in October last to one hundred. By an accident, however, the actual number is 101, of whom three are educated out of the Institution, and clothed, while three boys have been admitted by purchase, making the total number on the books 104. Notwithstanding the addition to the annual cost of maintenance thus occasioned, the Committee felt themselves to be without an alternative having regard to the large sums contributed to the Institution, and the greatly-increased number of applications for admission.

In connection with this subject it may be stated that it has been determined for the future to submit a certain number of boys annually to the test of the Oxford Local Middle Class Examinations, as affording a far more satisfactory mode of arriving at a genuine knowledge of the educational status of the pupils, and of the qualifications of the teachers, than can possibly be derived from private examinations.

The unfortunate necessity, which it had been hoped to avoid, of a resort to the powers conferred by the Quarterly General Court of 17th April, 1865, to borrow a sum not exceeding £10,000 to defray the cost of the new buildings, is a source of sincere regret. Increased requirements and additional necessary works, with the furniture for so extensive a building, and the provision for the reception of twenty additional boys, have caused an outlay larger than was anticipated. To meet the demands of contractors, &c., a mortgage of the entire property at Wood-green has been completed at five per cent. per annum on the amount of cash produced by the sale of stock £6,096. To provide for the liquidation of this debt, it is contemplated to raise a fund to be called "The Masonic Boys' School Mortgage Redemption Fund," the details in connection with which will be

made known to the Craft in the course of the ensuing summer.

With this exception, the condition of the Institution may reasonably be regarded as eminently favourable. The best and most conclusive test of its value and importance is to be found in the material support accorded to it; and when it is stated that the receipts of the past year have amounted to £7,344 16s. 8d., there can be no question as to the position occupied by the School in the estimation of the Craft. In the same period the disbursements have amounted to £11,194 17s. 4d., being on general account, and for extraordinary expenditure £4,689 15s. 10d., and on building account £6,505 1s. 6d.

By the great majority of the subscribers and governors, the Committee and Executive have every reason to believe their acts have been approved and their administration supported, and it will be their earnest endeavour while thus encouraged to continue their exertions, so long as they are entrusted with the confidence of their brethren, for the promotion of the interests of this valuable Institution, through the agency of which so many benefits and advantages have been afforded to the sons of deserving, but unfortunate brethren. Animated alike by hope and confidence, they appeal without hesitation for continued and increased support, to render more available the advantages of the Institution, and thus demonstrate to those who are not of our Order, and by whom we are charged with an undue regard to selfish enjoyment, that by none more than by Freemasons is appreciated, enjoyed, and practically understood, the greatest of all luxuries—the luxury of doing good.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Dalhousie, K.T., G.C.B., and R.W.P.D.G. Master, occupied the chair, and on the dais we observed the following brethren:—Bros. Alderman Spiers, D. Prov. G.M. for Oxfordshire; Nicholas Bradford, P.G. Assist. Dir. of Cers.; Thos. Fann, G.A.D.C.; W. E. Gumbleton, J.G.D.; Benjamin Head, P.G.D.; G. W. K. Potter, P.G.D.; Fred. Dundas, P.G.W.; J. Havers, P.J.G.W.; J. S. Hopwood, P.G.D.; Albert W. Woods, G. Dir. of Cers.; John Symonds, P.G. Assist. Dir. of Cers.; Henry Empson, P.G.S.B.; Richard Cope, P.G.S.B.; E. H. Patten, Secretary to the Girls' School; W. Farnfield, P.G.A.S.; A. W. Thiselton, P.G. Steward; Rev. Charles Woodward, Chaplain to the Institution; Peter Matthews, Hon. Surgeon Dentist; John Emmens, P.G. Parst., &c. The banquet was prepared in Bro. Gosden's best style, and it gave the most unqualified satisfaction.

The cloth having been drawn, grace was sung by the professional singers.

The CHAIRMAN rose and said: Before proceeding to give the first toast of the evening, he wished to express the high gratification he experienced in seeing such an assembly in support of their Charity, and at the same time he to some extent accepted it as a compliment to himself. The first toast he had to propose was that of her Majesty the Queen, and although she was excluded from the temple of their Order, there was no class of subjects more ready to do her honour than the whole body of Freemasons. He therefore with great pleasure gave them "The Health of Her Majesty," which he asked them to drink upstanding and with all the honours the toast deserved.

The toast was enthusiastically responded to.

The National Anthem followed, the solo parts by Mdlle. Liebhart.

The CHAIRMAN said the next toast he asked them to drink was "His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, the Princess of Wales, and the other Members of the Royal Family." This was a toast he had often given before, and he hoped that on the next occasion he gave it, His Royal Highness would be a member of the Craft. Hitherto that hope had not been ful-

filled, but he trusted that the Grand Master would not relax in his most anxious endeavours to obtain the enrolment of His Royal Highness amongst the members of the Craft. In giving this toast he claimed their sympathies for the Princess of Wales, who lay in a condition, not certainly one of danger, but one of pain and suffering. He asked them to give her their warmest sympathy and earnest prayers for her restoration to health.

The toast was cordially received, followed by a song by Mdlle Liebhart.

The CHAIRMAN said the next toast was of no small importance in these days, for it was the health of those bodies that formed their moral defences. To the army of Great Britain they owed a deep debt of gratitude in days gone by, for they saw on their walls trophies they had won by the sweat of their brow and the strength of their arm in every part of the globe. He regretted that lately had sprung up a crop which had arisen from some unknown hand that had been sowing dragon's teeth amongst them, but the Volunteers in a most distinguished manner had applied themselves to their duties, and showed a readiness to obey the orders of their officers of the principal requirements in a Volunteer force. He had no fear that the Volunteers would lack courage or intelligence, but there was some fear if they should be called into action, unless they prepared themselves for it. They might lack that steady and ready compliance with order, which was the essential of all military bodies. He looked upon the Volunteers as a body who would fight more ardently for their altars and homes than the army itself, for they had a much deeper interest in maintaining them. He gave "The Army, Navy, and Volunteers."

Bro. WATSON, I.P.M. of the Fitzroy Lodge, on behalf of the Volunteers, begged to return thanks for the honour that had been done them. They represented the most ancient Volunteer force in the kingdom, the Honourable Artillery Company having existed for upwards of 260 years. Lately their numbers had increased from 200 to 1,000. The Prince of Wales was then Colonel, and Colonel Lloyd Lindsay had recently become their Lieutenant-Colonel, in the place of Lord Colville, resigned. On the part of the Volunteers, he deeply thanked them for the honour conferred upon them.

The CHAIRMAN said he hoped that they were all charged bumpers, for if ever there was a bumper due to merit, it was to the toast they were about to drink. He begged to propose the health of their excellent Grand Master, who, for twenty-four years, year by year, had been selected by the Craft to rule over them. He appealed to them to drink the toast with bumpers, when they remembered the Masonic liberality, which they all recognised, with which he had presided over them for twenty-four years, and he was sure that they must deeply regret any prospect of losing his valuable services. He expected that day to have been supported by their Grand Master, and, although he was not present, he hoped they would drink his health with all grateful thanks, not only for past services, but hoping that he might for many years adorn the office which he filled with so much advantage to the Craft. He gave them "The Health of the Earl of Zetland, Most Worshipful Grand Master, President of the Institution."

The toast was drunk with the most enthusiastic cheering.

The CHAIRMAN said he then rose to ask the company to dedicate a glass to "The Health of the Most Worshipful the Deputy Grand Master and the Officers of the Grand Lodge of England." In drinking the health of the D.G.M., he was delighted to have the opportunity of again testifying to the usefulness of that distinguished Mason in the high position he occupied. During the time that he had occupied the office of D.G.M. he had earned not only the approbation of the Craft,

but the esteem and affection of all the Grand Officers. He knew of no man who had more at heart the interests of the Craft, and he was delighted for a season to see him relieved from the cares of office, that he might enjoy that which he believed he had at heart—the benefit of the Society of Masons.

Drunk with cheers.

Bro. FREDERICK DUNDAS returned thanks for the D.G.M. and the rest of the Grand Officers.

Bro. FREDK. DUNDAS rose and said he had great pleasure in proposing a toast which he was sure they would receive with all cordiality and honour. The name he had to propose was that of a nobleman who had gained the regard and affection of the whole Craft, and although he was not then holding the high office he once filled, they still had a grateful recollection of his past services. It had been attended by no small sacrifice on the part of the noble lord to be present on that occasion. It was only at three o'clock that afternoon that he saw the noble lord in his bed suffering from severe indisposition, and, had he adopted the advice of his medical adviser, he would not have been present with them that night, but the noble lord said, "No, I will go, and I shall do my duty," showing that he believed he could best reconcile himself by promoting the interests of that Institution—and indeed they were all interested in it—and for his kindness they owed him a deep debt of gratitude. He proposed "The Health of their noble Chairman, the Earl of Dalhousie."

Drunk with loud cheers.

The EARL OF DALHOUSIE said he begged to return the brethren his warmest thanks for the kind manner in which they had been pleased to receive his health, and he thought he might say that the expression of their kindness which he had just received was far better than all the medicine he should have received at the hands of the doctor. In the presence of the worthy brother who sat on his left (Bro. Havers), it was far from his intention to undervalue the Esculapian art, but when a man undertook a duty he ought not to allow any light matter to interfere with the performance of it. He had suffered considerable pain, but when his medical man was opposed to his attending that day, he tested him, and when he found that he was not a Mason he put no faith in him. He determined, and broke through all legitimate restraint. There he was, and he was sure that he was none the worse for it, and he should carry away with him the pleasing reflection that he had performed the promise he made to the Board of Stewards, however unworthily he might have filled the chair on that occasion. He had always taken a deep interest in the Craft; and when his avocations called him to a distant part of the country, he put his office of Deputy Grand Master at the disposal of the Grand Master, and in what he had done he had contributed his mite, not only towards the success of Masonry, but to the promotion of their Charities.

The Stewards then left the Hall, and in a short time a procession was formed, the Stewards and others taking part in it. It was formed in the following order:—

Stewards two abreast.

Vice-Presidents and Officers of the Board.

Treasurer of the Institution with two Boys.

House Committee, each Member with two Boys.

The Head Master with two Boys.

The remainder of the Boys, two abreast.

Stewards, two abreast.

The whole proceeded entirely round the hall. On reaching the dais the second time the Stewards, so far as practicable, ranged themselves behind the cross-table, the boys in front.

Their appearance was most healthy, and nothing could be more interesting than to see the young Lewises presenting the appearance of the sons of gentlemen, without the slightest badge of charity upon them. When they had all clustered in front of the dais,—

The CHAIRMAN said: Brethren, I may say that you now behold our happy and interesting family. Behold the issue of your past exertions on behalf of this noble Charity, and see what you may anticipate for the future. In giving the toast of the evening, "Prosperity to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys," I am sure that toast must come home to the heart of every Mason. This Institution is a glory to us, for it has sent into the world many a poor child with a good education, enabling him to fill very important offices in the State, who would otherwise, and but for its aid, have perished in ignorance and vice. I have within a few days had the pleasure of inspecting this Institution, and I can assure you that the way in which your charity is carried on is most satisfactory, for a more creditable building, with a more creditable management, it has never been my lot to see. I had my eye cast about to see whether the means intended for charity were wasted, but I must say that, while I perceived everything was done on a scale commensurate with the magnitude and importance of the Craft, nothing was thrown away in useless ornament, but everything was done in a solid and Masonic manner. In giving this toast I must say a few words on the Institution which we are met this day to honour and uphold. To a certain extent the Institution embodies that nature which we, as Masons, are taught to hold in the highest esteem, which is charity; but this Institution is not a charity after the manner of a benefit society, and indeed I should be loth to think that any Mason who joins our Craft should be under the impression that he can look forward to our Charities as a right. On the contrary, they are administered for the benefit of the Craft, and may be partaken of by brethren who, though at one time are flourishing in life, have not had the means to lay up the best legacy they could bequeath, and that is in giving a good education to their children. How many brethren who hold up their heads in respectability have not that balance at their banker's should they be suddenly called away, to enable them to leave a suitable provision for their children. It is to cases like these that I wish to direct your attention. I feel that when a child is thus left on its mother's hands with perhaps but scarcely means, and unable to provide for it as it ought to be provided for, such child ought to be a greater object of our solicitude than those who have been paupers from their birth, for they are not entitled to look forward to such an education. Ours is a noble Institution, and those you see before you are the fruits of it. I wish, however, to draw your attention to the position of this Institution, for I look upon it that it ought to be the object of all charitable institutions to get clear of debt. Nothing flourishes when it has got a millstone round its neck; no doubt it is a great impediment to progress, and the sooner it is got rid of the better. During the past year, through the liberality of the Craft on occasions like the present, and by support throughout the country, we have been enabled to add twenty-four boys to our number, and we have this day the whole of the children assembled in this room, which speaks well for the healthiness of the spot selected in which you have reared your edifice; and it is satisfactory to find that in the preservation of health the anxieties of the master and matron are not overburdened. Again commending this Charity to your constant and generous support, I give you "Success and Prosperity to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys now

and for ever," coupling with the toast the name of Bro. Benjamin Bond Cabbell.

The toast was most enthusiastically responded to.

Bro. HEAD, in the absence of Bro. Benj. Cabbell, briefly returned thanks.

Bro. BINCKES, Secretary, then stated that the school prizes were presented on Tuesday last at the school, but there were two prizes received for presentation by the Chairman at that festival, one being the prize for the boy who had distinguished himself for good conduct during the year. The prize was the gift of the Maybury Lodge to the boy who stood highest in the scale of merit, and the other prize was the gift of Bro. Cox, one of the House Committee, called the Canonbury Prize, of which lodge he was P.M. This prize was to be given to the boy who obtained the largest number of votes of his schoolfellows, and, indeed, it was given to the boy who made himself the most agreeable to his companions. With respect to the first prize, the silver medal given by the Maybury Lodge, he begged to present to his lordship Frank Comb Osborne, who had attained his 15th year, and who would leave the school on the 29th of next month; and he could say that he would leave the school with great regret and the best feelings of regard and esteem of all.

The CHAIRMAN then placed the riband to which the medal was attached round the successful competitor's neck; and in a few congratulatory words hoped the recollection of it would be a stimula to him and a guide to him in his future conduct through life.

Bro. BINCKES then presented Charles Day as the one who, by the suffrages of his schoolfellows, had gained the Canonbury Prize, and he remarked that had the veto of disposing of this prize rested with the head master, it would have bestowed on the boy who, in the ballot-box, by a large majority of the un-biassed votes of his schoolfellows, had obtained it.

The CHAIRMAN said he had great pleasure in presenting that valuable prize, and when he (the Earl of Dalhousie) was last at Wood-green he was much pleased with the manner in which that prize was obtained. It was a proof that he was not a boy given to selfish habits, or he would not have received the votes of his schoolfellows. He was not what was common in his (the Earl of Dalhousie's) youth, given to bullying, and he was proud to see in him the seeds of future nobility; and when he looked at that medal, in taking his first step in life, he trusted he would pursue the same course that he would successfully follow, so that he might become a good man, and, what was much more, a good Mason.

The medal was then handed to Charles Day, who bowed to his lordship, and then saluted the whole assembly in a similar manner as had been done by Frank Comb Osborne.

Bro. BINCKES, the Secretary, then read the list of subscriptions, amongst them being the following:—

Great Master's Lodge, £12; Lodge of Fidelity, £16 4s.; Somerset House and Inverness, £7 6s.; St. George's and Corner Stone, £146 9s.; Friendship, £21; Royal York Lodge of Perseverance, £14 3s.; British, £40 8s. 6d.; Albion, £40 8s. 6d.; Westminster and Key Stone, £59 17s.; Enoch, £58 16s.; Fortitude and Old Cumberland, £18 18s.; Tuscan, £11 11s.; Old Dundee, £79 16s.; Royal Athelstan, £33 12s.; Emulation, £27 6s.; Neptune, £14 2s.; Globe, £27 6s.; Robert Burns, £24 17s.; Castle Lodge of Harmony, £30 19s. 6d.; Old King's Arms, £25 4s.; St. Alban's, £29 8s.; Britania, £16 4s.; Mount Moriah, £52 10s.; Strong Man, £13 6s.; Constitutional, £106 1s.; Royal Naval, £129; Peace and Harmony, £121 6s.; Mount Lebanon, £45 3s.; Regularity, £53 11s.; Eastern Star, £28 7s.; Temple, £123 7s.; London, £93; Middlesex,

£60 18s.; Temperance, £13 10s. 6d.; Old Concord, £42 10s. 6d.; Domatic, £88 14s.; Manchester, £23 12s.; St. James's Union, £17 17s.; Percy, £32 7s.; Jerusalem, £11 10s.; St. Andrew's, £38 17s.; Ionic, £25 4s.; Harmony, £25 4s.; Bank of England, £16 0s. 6d.; Salisbury, £28 17s. 5d.; Wellington, £10 10s. 6d.; Yarborough, £47 5s.; Fitzroy, £158 11s.; Panmure, £40; Victoria Rifles, £31 10s.; Royal Oak, £31 10s.; Hornsey, £106 1s.; Province of Essex, £13 13s.; Province of Sussex, £39 16s.; Province of Hants, £97 15s. 6d.; Province of Northumberland, £220; Province of Oxfordshire, £34; Province of Surrey, £26 6s.;—£27 10s.; Province of Warwickshire, £137 0s. 6d.; Province of North Wales and Shropshire, £86 3s.; Province of Cumberland, £116 17s.; and Province of Gloucestershire, £77 19s.

The total of these lists amounted to £4,133.

The largest London list, it will be seen, was that of the Fitzroy Lodge, held at the Head Quarters of the Hon. Artillery Company, Bro. I.P.M. Watson becoming a Vice-President for himself by his own subscription of 50 guineas, in addition to his being Vice-President of the other Institution.

It should be observed that, although an amount appears to the credit of some lodges, in some instances where a lodge does not send a Steward, the amount subscribed goes to swell the contribution of other lodges, but that distinction cannot readily be given in the above toast.

The rest of the toasts were given, and the brethren separated at a late hour.

The musical arrangements were under the direction of Bro. Kingsbury, assisted by Mdle. Liebhart, Mrs. Julia Derby, Bros. George Perren and Thomas.

Bro. Spencer, whom we were glad to see again in his old place, most efficiently discharged the duties of toastmaster.

The annual distribution of prizes to the boys who have distinguished themselves in various ways during the year took place on Friday, the 8th inst., at the School House, Wood-green, when the Right Hon. Bro. the Earl of Dalhousie presided, surrounded by a large number of ladies, and, among others, the following brethren:—Algernon Perkins, P.G.W.; J. Udall, P.G.D.; B. Head, George Cox, S.G.D.; H. Empson, P.G.S.B.; Henry Browse, P.M. 118; Dr. Goldsboro', Prov. G.W. North Wales; William Paas, P.M. 28; Raynham Stuart, P.M. 108; E. Cox, V.P. of the Institution, P.M. 657; W. H. Warr, G.S. and W.M. 23; Wm. Young, P.G.S.B. and P.M. 60; S. May (Bow-street), S.W. 101 and 23; Benjamin Todd, P.M. 27; Rev. —Woodward, Chaplain to the Institution; W. Winn, V.P., P.M. 657; J. G. Chancellor, P.M. 657; T. Turner, P.M. 657; and A. Pritchard, S.W. 162.

The principal winners of the prizes were Charles Joseph Ridgway, Harry William Wildman, and William Hope Parkinson, and the total number of prizes taken was twenty-four. When the prizes had been awarded,

The Chairman said he had had great pleasure in attending, and part of that pleasure was derived from seeing so large a company present, more especially so many ladies, who could not, by any possibility, be admitted to partake of the knowledge of the Masonic tie. They had, however, a good opportunity of seeing the practical results of Masonry, and he (the Chairman) knew no higher object than that of imparting a sound education to those whose parents or friends, through misfortune, were unable to educate them. He was particularly struck with the admirable arrangements of the entire establishment, with the excellent appearance of the scholars, and their good health. One matter had struck him as very remarkable, and that was that there should be such a system in their school as marking out that boy as deserving of a prize who was declared to be so deserving by the voice of his schoolfellows. He (the Chairman) hoped that his own advocacy of the claims of the Institution at the festival next Wednesday would impress those whom he would then address with the same feeling as he had experienced this prize day: and, if he succeeded, he had no doubt that the debt with which the building was encumbered would soon be wiped away.

The noble chairman then left, after inspecting the building

and its arrangements, which are under the superintendence of the matron, Miss Hall, and the company sat down to a beautiful cold collation. The prize alluded to by his lordship is the Canonbury prize—the annual gift of Bro. E. Cox, P.M. 657—and consists of a genuine spade guinea in a handsome setting, the manufacture of Bro. F. Pinches, of Oxendon-street. This year it bears the inscription, “Awarded to Charles Day, on the votes of his schoolfellows, 1867.”

Various amusements took place during the evening, and among others was a stage play, consisting of a burlesque version of “The Maid and the Magpie,” which was admirably performed, in costume, by some of the scholars, and which gave the greatest satisfaction to a crowded audience. In reference to this play, and the performance of it, the bill informed us that, freely to translate the Latin lines,—

Ingenuas didicisse fideliter artes,
Emollit mores nec sinit esse feros,

“To have learnt the art of playing a burlesque properly, and without vulgarity, softens the spirit, refines the manners, and affords a new means of pleasing your friends.”

The principal characters were taken by Masters Charles Day, W. T. Stauden, H. W. Wildman, Edwin Gilpin, C. J. Ridgway, F. C. Osborne, H. L. Saunders, W. H. Parkinson, R. C. Wilson, and — Tetley.

When the performance was concluded, Bro. Binckes informed the company that, probably, they might think all this display was an expense to the school, both as a sacrifice of the time that should have been devoted to studies, and in obtaining the magnificent costumes and stage properties which had helped to render it so successful. But this was not so. The brethren might make themselves perfectly easy on that score, for the time which had been necessary to learn the different parts had not been stolen from more useful employments, and the whole of the dresses and stage properties had been gratuitously provided by that excellent friend to the Institution, Bro. Samuel May, of Bow-street. He, therefore, hoped that everyone would give three cheers for that liberal brother, whom he would now call forward.

Bro. S. May very briefly thanked the company, and hoped that, on many future occasions, he should have an opportunity of doing what he had done that day.

There then followed a beautiful automaton performance, entitled “Two very Small Children from the Country,” which made every one delighted, and three cheers were given for Bros. S. May, Lamb, and Glover.

After some refreshments had been partaken of, the day's proceedings, which, as Paddy would say, extended far into the night, wound up with dancing.

The music was under the direction of Bro. Charles Fowler, and Bro. Ringrosé was principal cornet-a-piston.

METROPOLITAN.

LODGE OF JUSTICE (No. 147).—On Wednesday, the 13th inst., at the White Swan Tavern, High-street, Deptford, this old established and flourishing lodge held its regular meeting. The meeting was presided over by Bro. C. Chapman, W.M., and there were present Bros. J. Patto, S.W.; W. Andrews, J.W.; J. Light-foot, P.M., Treas.; J. Bavin, P.M., Sec.; Batt, S.D.; Percival, J.D.; Whiffen, I.G.; H. Moore, P.M.; C. Speight, P.M.; F. Walters, P.M.; Dilly, Dalziel, Davies, and many others. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Two gentlemen were duly initiated, the work being done, as usual there, in an admirable manner. The two sections of the first degree were worked in an admirable manner by Bros. Patto and Dilly, who put the necessary questions. Business being ended, the lodge was duly closed. As usual, there were very many visitors present.

DOMAIC LODGE (No. 177).—The usual meeting of this numerous lodge was held on Friday evening, the 8th inst., at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, and was very fully attended. Bro. Joseph Smith, P.G. Purst, and P.M., took the chair in the unavoidable absence of Bro. Frederick Smith, W.M. Bro. Prior, S.W.; and the J.W.'s place was filled by Bro. Ferguson. The P.M.'s present were: Bros. Simpson, I.P.M., Thompson, Carpenter, Russen, Brett, Marshall, Elmes (Sec.), and Potter, W.S. The lodge having been opened soon after four o'clock, the minutes of the preceding lodge were read and confirmed. The lodge was

then opened in the second degree, when Bros. Wallace, Bouts, Chudleigh, and Montague were questioned as to their proficiency in the science, and satisfactorily being returned, they retired. The lodge was then opened in the third degree, and they were severally raised to the sublime degree of M.M. The lodge was resumed to the second degree, and Bros. Turpin and Boatright were passed as F.C.s. The lodge was resumed to the first degree, when Mr. R. Clarke and Mr. J. J. Pearce were introduced and initiated into the mysteries of Freemasonry. The next business was to receive the report of the committee appointed at the last lodge to revise the by-laws. The report was accordingly presented, but the consideration of the various alterations were deferred for a subsequent or special meeting. This being the last regular meeting for the season, the subject of the customary summer festival was brought under the notice of the members of the lodge. As the last annual festival gave such general satisfaction, it was proposed that the forthcoming festival, to be held on the third Thursday in July, should again be celebrated at Bro. Teale's, the Rye House, Hoddesdon. It was also proposed that ladies should be invited to attend on that occasion, but the motion was negative on a division. Some propositions for new members having been made, the lodge was closed in due form and with solemn prayer. The brethren then returned to the banqueting room for refreshments, at which upwards of 70 sat down, and on this occasion the catering of Bro. Clemon was more than usually satisfactory; indeed, it was all that could be desired. The cloth having been drawn, and the usual toasts given, the “Health of the Newly-initiated Brethren” was proposed, for which Bros. Clarke and Pearce returned thanks in very concise and appropriate terms. “The Health of the absent Worshipful Master” was next given, and the health of the respected W.M. was never drank more cordially. The following toast was that of “The Visitors,” for which Bros. Marsh, of the King's Arms; Johnson, of the Globe; and Bartleman, of the Royal Albert, severally returned thanks. Bro. Sloman, of Robert Burns Lodge, then indulged the company with one of his extemporaneous poetical effusions, alluding to all the business of the evening and the principal members of the lodge, in the most appropriate and felicitous terms, which was enthusiastically applauded. The “Health of the Past Masters of the Lodge” was then proposed and drunk with great cordiality, for which Bro. Simpson returned thanks. Several other toasts were given, and the evening was passed in a very happy manner.

LODGE OF UNITED PILGRIMS (No. 507).—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held on the 27th ult. at the Horns Tavern, Kennington. The lodge was opened by Bro. F. Lee, W.M., supported by Bros. E. Worthington, S.W.; S. Haddock, J.W.; C. M. Haddock, P.M. and Treas.; J. Thomas, P.M. and Sec.; H. Grallat, S.D.; A. Perrot, J.D.; and G. H. Hill, I.G. *pro tem.*; also E. N. Levy, P.M.; H. C. Levander, P.M.; J. Pratchell, P.M.; Rev. W. B. Church, M.A.; Willock, Wale, Silver and other brethren. The visitors were Bros. H. Relyph, J.W. of the Joppa Lodge, No. 188; J. Triest, of the Percy Lodge, No. 198; and J. Platt. The business of the evening consisted in raising Bros. H. C. Overall and T. Blagden, the ceremony being performed by Bro. J. Thomas, P.M., in a very impressive manner, after which Bro. E. Worthington, S.W. was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year, and Bro. C. M. Haddock, P.M., Treas. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned for refreshment.

PROVINCIAL.

CUMBERLAND.

WHITEHAVEN.—*Lewis Lodge (No. 872).*—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Freemason's Hall, College-street, on the evening of Monday, Feb. 18. Bro. Edward Gerard Hughes, W.M., occupied the chair in the early part of the evening, and was ably supported by Bro. Morton, P.M. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Bro. Edward Wilson was tested as to his proficiency, and being found worthy, was passed, having been initiated at the January meeting of the lodge. Bro. R. Foster was set down in the programme of proceedings for being raised. He was next tested as to his proficiency in the F.C. degree, and being found worthy, retired. The lodge was then duly opened for the ceremony, and the candidate having been re-admitted, was raised to the sublime degree of a M.M. by Bro. Morton, P.M., in the highly finished style for which he is so

worthily distinguished. In the course of the evening a very beautiful letter was read from Mrs. Dykes, of Dovenby, in reply to an address of condolence presented to that lady by this lodge on the occasion of the bereavement of herself and family by the death of her husband, Bro. F. L. B. Dykes, whose high standing and never-ceasing interest in the well-being of Freemasonry are so well known and justly appreciated. The address and reply were ordered to be entered on the minutes of the lodge, and, after the proposal of three more candidates for membership, the lodge was closed, and the members present repaired to the refreshment room.

DEVONSHIRE.

IVYBRIDGE.—*Erme Lodge* (No. 1,091).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Monday, the 11th inst., at the Lodge Rooms, King's Arms Hotel, for the purpose of installing Bro. James Hawton, the W.M. elect, as the W.M. for the year ensuing. Among the very large and influential gathering of the brotherhood we noticed the following:—Bros. P.M.'s Chapple, 954; Spry, 954; Bird, 954; Stoneman, 105; Price, 202; Welch, 202; Percival J. Barratt, Sec. 1,091; Michael Patterson, S.D. 1,091; Walter Littleton, J.D. 1,091; William May, I.G. 1,091; Dr. Alderson Newsam, Toms, Bassett, Henry Lewis, 1,091; Brown, Paul, Gudridge, Jones, Allen, Earwicker, and Quance, of 954; Manley, 130; Cooke, 514; Jones, 705; &c. The ceremony of installation was most impressively rendered by Bro. Horace B. Kent., I.P.M., assisted by Bro. Chapple, P.M., after which the W.M. presented the lodge with a volume, beautifully bound, of the "Sacred Law." A more appropriate gift could not have been chosen. He then invested his officers as follows:—Bros. Walter Littleton, S.W.; Percival J. Barratt, J.W.; Horace B. Kent, P.M., Treas.; William May, Sec.; John Oxland, S.D.; Joseph Bassett, J.D.; William Biscombe, Dir. of Cers.; Henry Lewis and William Frost, Stewards. The brethren then repaired to partake of the good things of the sub-luminary abode in the shape of a banquet, prepared by the worthy host, Bro. Toms. It is worthy of comment that this young lodge has, during the fifteen months of its existence, not only provided itself with suitable furniture, but has paid every liability, which is due to the indefatigable energy of its officers and members. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly given and responded to, not forgetting "Our Poor and Distressed Brethren," after which the meeting broke up at an early hour, well pleased with the proceedings.

LEICESTERSHIRE.

LEICESTER.—*St. John's Lodge* (No. 279).—A monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday the 5th inst., at the Freemasons' Hall, on which occasion the brethren celebrated the Festival of St. John the Evangelist, which had been postponed from the 27th December, on account of the almost helpless state of the health of the universally-respected Provincial Grand Master, Earl Howe, who is now, however, happily progressing towards convalescence. Amongst those present, in addition to the W.M., Bro. L. A. Clarke, were Bros. Kelly, D. Prov. G.M., and Pettifor, P.M.'s; Adlard, S.W.; Stretton, Sec.; Gosling, J.D.; Thorpe, I.G. Visitors: Bros. Klein, P.M. 21, P.G. Steward; Rev. W. Langley, J.W. 1,130, Prov. G. Chap.; Douglas, S.D. 1,130; Charles Johnson, P.M. 491, and P. Prov. S.G.W. Jersey; A. M. Duff, F.M.; Major Brevin, P. Prov. S.G.W., P.M.; W. Johnson, P.M.; J. E. Hodges, J.W.; Atkins, S.D.; Toller, Partridge, Wardle, Mace, Sculthorpe, J. C. Clarke, Watson, Moor, Sargeant and Hack, of the John of Gaunt Lodge (No. 523). The lodge having been opened, and the minutes of the last meeting confirmed, a motion of which notice had been given at the last meeting by the D. Prov. G.M., for the addition of a guinea to the initiation fee, and its appropriation to a sinking fund for paying off the debt on the Masonic Hall, was carried unanimously. A ballot was taken for Messrs. George Edward Checkland and Oliver Burton, who were duly elected, and, being present, were initiated in a very efficient manner by the W.M., who performed the ceremony for the first time. The charge was delivered by the D. Prov. G.M. A communication was received announcing the decease of the venerable and learned Bro. Dr. Oliver, and inviting the members of the lodge to attend his funeral, which was to take place at Lincoln on the 7th inst. with Masonic honours. On the proposition of the D. Prov. G.M., seconded by Bro. Pettifor, P.M., the following resolution was unanimously carried, ordered to be entered upon the minutes, and a copy sent to the family of the departed brother:—

"That this lodge has received with feelings of profound regret the intelligence of the decease of the Rev. George Oliver, D.D., Past Deputy Provincial Grand Master for Lincolnshire, &c. A loss so important as that of the 'Historian of Masonry,' whose pen, during his long and brilliant career in the Craft, has so eloquently and learnedly illustrated Antiquities, the Symbolism, and the Speculative Philosophy and the Moral Teachings of the Order, is one which must be deeply felt by the fraternity at large; but the brethren of this lodge claim more than an ordinary interest in that loss, not only in having had the honour of enrolling the name of that distinguished brother as an honorary member, but also in the fact that seventy years ago his late venerable father, the Rev. Samuel Oliver, whilst curate of Lutterworth, was initiated into Masonry in the lodge, and of which he became an active and zealous member. Whilst now recording upon their minutes their sense of the great loss which the Order has sustained by the removal to the Grand Lodge above of so great and good a Mason, the brethren desire at the same time to tender to the family of the departed their sincere and respectful sympathy in the bereavement which they have sustained." Owing to St. John's having been the mother lodge of his venerable progenitor, the learned doctor had evinced a warm interest in it, and in June, 1860, after the opening of the Freemason's Hall in Leicester, and the formation of a library for the use of the brethren, he made a present to it, through the D. Prov. G.M., of copies of many of his Masonic works, and also the original MS. of "Twelve Masonic Songs, written (one for every lodge night) between St. John the Baptist's Day, 1797, and St. John the Baptist's Day, 1798, and presented to the worthy brethren of St. John's Lodge, Leicester, No. 471," by the Rev. Samuel Oliver, and which also contains several other Masonic songs, hymns, &c. Some of the songs have appeared in the *Freemasons' Quarterly Review*, and and in the "Revelations of a Square," ch. 14. On the proposition of the W.M., a vote of condolence was also unanimously carried on the decease of the late Bro. Joseph Underwood, an Alderman, Justice of the Peace, and twice Mayor of Leicester, and who for twenty years had been an active member of the lodge and of a chapter, in which for two consecutive years he had served the office of W.M. and M.E.Z. There being no further business the brethren adjourned to an elegant banquet, to which an ample supply of champagne was added by the W.M. The various loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured, interspersed with songs by several of the brethren. Bro. C. Johnson kindly presided at the piano, as he had also most effectually done at the organ during the ceremony of initiation.

SOUTH WALES (WESTERN DIVISION).

ABERYSTWTH.—*Aberystwith Lodge* (No. 1,072).—The usual monthly meeting of this flourishing lodge was held at the Belle Vue Royal Hotel, on Thursday, the 7th inst. The lodge was opened in due form and with solemn prayer by the W.M., Bro. G. T. Smith, when there were present Bros. Jesse Baker, S.W. *pro tem.*; Stanley J. Balcombe, J.W. *pro tem.*; Rev. E. Edwards, Chap.; J. W. Szlumper, Sec.; Gorran Clark, S.D.; Tom S. Stooke, Acting J.D.; John Vaughan, Steward; C. Rice Williams, I.G.; F. R. Roberts, G. B. Cumberland, James Garland, Peter Garland, James Bennetts, B. P. Jordan, R. Hughes, Inglis Bervon, John Boundy, R. J. Jones, Morris Jones, R. Selby, R. de la Hoyde, &c. Also visiting Bros. Fendelon, 30^o, P.M., P. Prov. S.G.D. Staffordshire, and Capt. Davies, late of S.S. *Express*. The Hon. Secretary read the minutes of the previous lodge, which were confirmed. The lodge was then opened in the second degree, and Bro. Barrett Pryse Jordan being a candidate to be raised, was examined as to the progress he had already made in the science, and his answers to the usual questions proving satisfactory, he was entrusted and retired. The lodge was then opened in the third degree, when Bro. Jordan was admitted and raised to the sublime degree of M.M. by the W.M. in a most able and impressive manner, who also gave the lecture on the tracing board, and our traditional history. The lodge was then closed down to the first degree, when the Hon. Sec. read the report of the Audit Committee. According to that report the finances of this lodge appear to be in a flourishing condition. The consideration of the report as to the furniture and regalia was adjourned to a future lodge. The W.M. gave notice that Bro. Paul would at the next lodge propose a revision of the by-law relating to the ballot for initiates and joining members. The W.M. further directed that a vote of thanks to Bros. Baker and Balcombe should be placed on the minutes for their having taken and properly carried out

the duties of the S.W. and J.W. in the unavoidable absence of those officers. No other business having to be transacted, the lodge was closed in ancient form and in perfect harmony at nine p.m. until the 4th April, and the brethren adjourned to refreshment. After the removal of the cloth, and grace having been said by the Chaplain, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed by the W.M. and duly responded to. The healths of the visitors were duly honoured, and Bro. Fendelon in replying thanked the brethren for the courtesy shown to him, and expressed in the highest terms the qualification he had experienced that evening in witnessing the able manner in which the W.M. conducted the various ceremonies. Bro. Fendelon said that as he had the honour to hold a high position in the Craft, perhaps the brethren would pardon him if he gave them a few words of advice, and he cautioned them against recognising too freely any casual signs, and more especially not to countenance begging Masons, as about nine out of ten were impostors, and not worthy of being in any way noticed. Bro. Davies responded in a few well-chosen remarks. The brethren separated at an early hour, after having passed a very pleasant evening. We must not omit to notice that Bro. Pell kindly volunteered to take the onerous part of Tyler, and carried out the duties of that not most agreeable office in an able manner.

WARWICKSHIRE.
BIRMINGHAM.

The Masonic Hall and Club Company (Limited).

The ordinary annual general meeting of the directors and shareholders of this Company was held at the Masonic Rooms, Newhall-street, on the 26th ult. Bro. S. Lloyd Foster (chairman) presided, and the following directors were also present:—Bros. J. S. Benson, Dr. Bell Fletcher, A. S. Blanckensee, W. C. McEntee, W. H. Sproston, R. Dawson, T. Dawson, T. Bullock, jun., H. Weiss, Mr. Herbert, and Mr. D. Malins, jun. There was a moderate attendance of shareholders. The report and balance-sheet of the directors having been printed and distributed amongst the shareholders, was taken as read.

In moving the adoption of the report and balance-sheet, the Chairman said he had only to state that since the last meeting, on the 1st of November, the directors had used their very best endeavours to get the remainder of the shares off, and with what success they then knew. The company had come into this position, that something must be done. Either some means must be taken to get those shares off, or a resolution must be passed to wind up the company, such resolution to be confirmed at a special meeting called for the purpose, and time would be left for the shareholders to take any course they chose in the interim. He found there were 660 Masons in Birmingham, and out of that they mustered but 312 in the company—considerably less than one-half. They had also 96 shareholders out of Birmingham, making a total of 408. Of these, 48 shareholders held one share, 79 held two, 9 held three, 24 held 4, 96 held 5, 85 held from 5 to 10, and 70 held from ten upwards. That was the old list. The new list comprised 81 additional, of whom 60 held five shares and under, 10 held from 5 to 10, and 11 held more than 10. Of the 532 new shares taken, the directors had subscribed themselves upwards of 200, so that the application to the whole body of Masons had resulted in 365 shares being taken. Thus the exertions of the directors had not been seconded in that Masonic spirit which would have carried them to a successful result. Whether in the face of it coming to a standstill the shareholders would take some prompt measures to keep the company going remained to be seen. He hoped they would; for if those 350 Masons would only take two or three shares each the thing would be done easily, well, and properly. If, on the other hand, the company was wound up, the shareholders would have nobody to blame but themselves.

Mr. W. H. Fairfax seconded the resolution for the adoption of the report and balance sheet, which was carried unanimously.

The retiring directors and auditors were re-elected.

The Chairman said their present position being that they must either wind-up the company, or raise £5,000 on a thousand shares, 100 of which they knew where to get off, he should be glad for any body to offer any suggestion. They had his (the Chairman's) views and the views of the directors in the report, and he was prepared to answer any question, or to receive any suggestion.

Mr. Williams thought that after the amount of work which had been done by the Board of Directors and the Committee of Investigation, it was not only a pity, but insane and idiotic, to

let the matter drop through. The company, if the capital could be raised, had every prospect of success. He could not think that there would be any difficulty of disposing of the remaining shares if a personal canvass were made. Let them try and carry that through, and show the world that Masons could overcome a difficulty.

Mr. Nelson thought that the matter had been before the Masons long enough. Some four months had elapsed, and he believed every effort that could be made had been made. He believed it was the opinion of the meeting that that company had been wretchedly mauled, and miserably managed, and, ever with the addition of Captain Bullock, his able coadjutor, the shareholders had no confidence in the directors. Never was a prospectus of a joint stock company placed before the public with fairer prospects than was that company, and, notwithstanding every advantage, and backed by men of note and position, they got from confusion to "confusion worse confounded." Having had four months more latitude, they had only got rid of some 600 shares out of more than a thousand. He thought there was no possibility of their being able to carry on. No one more than himself regretted the position of the company, but he believed there was nothing for it but to wind it up. He thought the directors and officers of the company should retire, and allow the company to be wound-up by the shareholders.

Mr. F. Madeley was in favour of still trying a personal canvass.

A shareholder had little confidence in their being able to carry on the company, but he thought the suggestion of a personal canvass was worth the trial. He did not agree with Mr. Nelson that the directors and officers should retire, as he believed that, even if the company were to be wound-up, it would be better done by the present machinery than by an elaborate new one. He moved, "That this meeting be adjourned until this day month, and that the secretary be instructed to give notice on the circular convening the meeting that a resolution will be then proposed for the voluntary winding-up of the company; and that a committee be appointed to make a personal canvass amongst those Masons who are not at present shareholders."

Mr. Fairfax seconded the resolution.

Mr. F. D. Johnson thought that the Masons had been canvassed quite enough. He thought it is duty to propose the following amendment:—"That this company be wound-up, and inasmuch as the past conduct of the directors has tended to withdraw from them the confidence of the shareholders, and they can no longer rely upon their judgment or discretion, it is expedient that the company be now wound-up, and that the management be entrusted to Messrs. F. Cohen, T. Bullock, J. Suffield, E. Yates, H. B. S. Thompson, J. Allen, I. Nock, and Nelson, with power to add to their number."

Mr. J. Nock seconded the amendment.

Mr. T. Bullock, whilst being willing to support any measures for carrying on the company, thought that, as confidence in the body of directors was gone, the company had better be wound-up.

On being put to the meeting, the resolution was carried.

Messrs. W. Short, Fairfax, Madeley Williams, and Dr. Foster were appointed a committee to carry out the resolution, and the meeting was adjourned for a month.

A cordial vote of thanks was passed to the Chairman.

IRELAND.

LIMERICK.

SKIBBEREEN.—*Skibbereen Lodge* (No. 15).—The regular monthly meeting of this ancient lodge was held on Thursday, the 7th inst., at the lodge rooms, North-street. The following brethren attended: Bros. John F. Levis, P.M., W.M.; William Eddy, S.W.; Lieut. Albert E. Pole, 12th Lancers, J.W.; John Wilson, Sec.; D. Hadden, P.M., Treas.; H. E. Nichols, S.D.; J. Douglas, J.D.; T. Trinder, I.G.; R. Lee, I.P.M.; C. Clarke, P.M.; R. Beamish, P.M.; F. P. E. Potter, P.M.; Captain H. Gillett, 13th Light Infantry; Captain Vandelin, 12th Lancers; P. Riely, W. Lynns, J. G. Beamish, J. E. Marshall, John O'Donoghue, &c. The lodge being opened in the first degree, the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed, also some letters from the Grand and Provincial Grand Lodges were read and discussed. A ballot was taken for Mr. J. Twanton,

A.M., and declared to be in favour of his admission; it was arranged he should come on for initiation the next monthly night. Bro. John E. Marshall having retired, the lodge was raised to the second degree. On his re-admission he was passed to the degree of F.C. Bros. Marshall and J. G. Beamish afterwards retired, when the lodge was raised to the third degree. Bro. John G. Beamish being duly prepared, was raised to the sublime degree of M.M. in due and ancient form. The lodge room presented a very creditable appearance, having been newly furnished with new, handsome, and serviceable furniture. It is also the intention of the brethren to raise and make several alterations in their present premises, which, when carried out, will make them as pleasant and comfortable rooms as any in the province.

ROYAL ARCH.

LANCASHIRE (WEST).

WARRINGTON.—*Chapter of Elias Ashmole* (No. 148).—The regular convocation of this chapter was held at the chapter rooms, Sankey-street, on Monday afternoon last. Comp. H. B. White, M.E.Z., was supported by Comps. John Bowes, H.; Capt. Mott, P.Z. 241, as J.; H. Syred, E.; Joseph Maxfield, N.; Robert Stevenson, P.S.; John W. Baker, 241; B. P. Coxon, C.E.; A. H. Beckett, Robert Wright, D. Finney, Rev. James Nixon Porter, Jos. Robinson, Janitor. The chapter was opened in due form by the Principals, when the rest of the companions were admitted. The ballot was then taken for Bros. W. Mossop, S.D. 148, and Alderman Peter Rylands, 148, which proved unanimously in favour in both cases. Bro. Mossop being present, was duly and impressively exalted by Capt. Mott. The mystic, symbolic, and historic lectures were delivered by Comps. Mott, H. B. White, and John Bowes. Comp. Baker rendered valuable assistance to the P.S. throughout the ceremony. Comp. H. B. White proposed, and Capt. Bowes seconded, Bro. James Johnson, Tyler of No. 148, as a serving companion. Comp. Bowes said that the chapter was greatly indebted to Capt. Mott for valuable services rendered, and he begged to propose him as an honorary member of the chapter as a small recognition of those services. The M.E.Z. rose to second the proposition with much pleasure, and said the M.E.H. had anticipated him in the matter. It was quite an oversight, or he should have made the proposition at the previous convocation. The proposition was carried by acclamation. There being no farther business, the chapter was closed with the usual solemnities, and the companions separated in perfect harmony.

MONMOUTHSHIRE.

NEWPORT.—*Silurian Chapter* (No. 471).—A chapter of emergency was held at the Masonic Hall, Dock-street, on Friday the 8th inst., when Bro. Thos. Bell Wake, master of the barque *Balmoral*, a member of the St. George's Lodge, 413, North Shields, was balloted for and unanimously admitted, and afterwards exalted to the sublime degree of a R.A. Mason. There was a very fair attendance of companions belonging to this chapter, and the working of the M.E.Z. and the Principal Sojourner was admitted by every one present to be as near perfection as possible.

YORKSHIRE NORTH AND EAST.

SCARBOROUGH.—*Old Globe Chapter* (No. 200).—A regular convocation of this chapter was held at the Masonic Hall, Scarborough, on Wednesday, the 6th inst., at which were present Comps. W. E. Richardson, Z.; James Frederick Spurr, H.; Major J. W. Woodall, J.; Wm. Cowling and March, P.Z.'s; H. C. Martin, Scribe E.; Dr. Armitage, Scribe N.; W. T. Farthing, P.S.; Richard H. Peacock and J. Raper, Assist. Secs.; J. A. Chapman, Treas.; J. Verity, Janitor; and others, including Comp. Brown, of the *Zetland Chapter*, York, &c. The chapter having been opened in solemn form by the three Principals, the companions were admitted, whilst the minutes of the previous convocation were read and confirmed. Bro. Wm. Peacock, the Junior Warden of the Craft lodge, was balloted for and elected a candidate for the R.A. degree. The companions having retired, a Grand Conclave of Past Principals was formed, when the M.E. Comp. Cowling, P.Z., proceeded to the installation of the newly-elected Principals, namely, Comps. James Frederick Spurr, M.E.Z.; Major John W. Woodall, H.; Dr. Wm. Porter Rooke, J. The companions were again ad-

mitted, and the newly-appointed officers of the chapter were invested with the insignia of their respective offices by the M.E.Z. Bro. Wm. Peacock having received a test of merit, was exalted to the supreme Order of the Holy R.A. of J. A vote of thanks to the M.E. Comps. Cowling and March for their able assistance at the installation of Principals was ordered to be recorded, after which the chapter was closed in the usual form at three minutes past nine o'clock.

IRELAND.

CORK.—*Keystone Chapter* (No. 3).—The quarterly convocation of this chapter was held at the Masonic Hall, Mayler-street, on Monday, the 25th inst., for the despatch of business, installation of the K., and investment of the other officers. The chapter was opened by Comp. Joseph Guy, K. The minutes having been read and confirmed, Bros. William George Williams and John W. Harton, of Lodge 3, Cork; Joseph Baines, of Lodge 320, St. John's; and R. A. Androssan were balloted for and accepted. A Board of Installed First Principals was formed, Comp. E. W. Wigmore, P.K., presiding. Comp. John Hackett, H.P., was presented as K. elect, and installed according to ancient ceremony. The Board having dissolved, on the readmission of the companions, the following officers were invested:—Comps. E. W. Wigmore, H.P. and Reg.; Wm. M. Bullin, C.S.; Wm. Magrath, C.H.; Wm. D. Stephens, S.T.; John B. Lacy, R.A.C.; Wm. Jo. Rothwell, C.S.V.; James Hackett, C.P.V. and Treasurer; William H. A. Sealy, C.B.V.; Samuel Rogers, Janitor. The three brethren that were balloted for being in attendance, were exalted to the supreme degree, the ceremonies of which were worked with accuracy by the newly-appointed officers, which reflects much credit on the instructor, Comp. Wigmore. Twenty-six members of Chapter No. 3, with the following visitors, were present:—Comps. Lloyd, P.K.; Peebles, Harris, Clifford, and Beattie, of Chapter No. 8; Rev. J. Baggs, Drury, Merry, and Kildhol, No. 68, Youghal; Bible, No. 95; and Whitford, P.K. No. 555, *Permay*. A notice of motion was given by Comp. Stephens, for the appropriation of a portion of every exaltation fee to the fund of benevolence attached to Lodge 3. Comp. W. H. Bible, P.K. of chapter 95, was proposed and seconded as a subscribing member of the chapter. Bro. John Moore, of Lodge 3, was proposed and seconded for exaltation. The chapter was closed in due and ancient form. This being the annual festival evening, the companions retired to the Commercial Hotel, Pembroke-street, where the worthy host, Comp. Stephens, had displayed all the good things of the season for refreshing the inner man; this, with the admirable singing of Messrs. Topham, Roche, Baker, J. C. Marks, *Mus. Bach*. Oxon, and many other brethren, added much to a social and agreeable evening.

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

NORTHUMBERLAND.

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.—*Royal Kent Encampment*.—The usual conclave of this encampment was held on Friday, the 8th inst., at Bell's-court, Newgate-street. In the absence of the E.C., it was presided over by Sir Knt. Henry Hotham, P.E.C. There were also present:—Sir Knts. Jens Jensen, 1st Capt.; Robt. J. Banning, M.D., 2nd Capt.; W. Foulsham, Reg.; J. H. Thompson, Expert; J. Frolich, J. S. Wilson, &c., and as a visitor, Sir Knt. Michael Dodd, 30^o, of the Priory of the Lothians, Edinburgh. The business consisted of the election of officers for the ensuing year, when the following was the result:—Sir Knts. Jens Jensen, E.C.; Henry Hotham, Treas.; and J. S. Trotter, Equerry. Comps. J. S. Challoner and Adam Winlaw (of Berwick), members of Chapter de Sussex, No. 586, were severally proposed to be installed into the Order. The next conclave will be held on Good Friday, when the newly-elected E.C. will be installed, and the other officers invested.

Obituary.

BRO. REV. GEORGE OLIVER, D.D.

It would be with regret that the letter of the Prov. G. Sec. of Lincolnshire, announcing the death of the venerable Masonic historian, Dr. Oliver, was read in these pages last week, as not

only has his name become "a household word" amongst Masons, but his pen was ever ready to defend the cause we all so dearly love, and his abilities of such a high order as to render that defence respected by our most bitter opponents. A long life devoted to literature and antiquarian research especially fitted him for the high position he obtained in the Craft, and his writings have become the text-book of English Masonry. Our venerable brother was initiated in St. Peter's Lodge, Peterborough, in the year 1801. We have little of his Masonic career until the year 1811, when he was the means of having the warrant of the St. James's Lodge, Louth, transferred to Grimsby, where he resided, and for a few years gave life and activity to this dormant warrant in that town. As it bore the name of the patron saint of the parish church in Louth on its transfer, it was changed to the Apollo. Few of its members now remain, but in Louth an esteemed member of the Lindsay Lodge, Bro. Blakeloch, was initiated in the Apollo in the year 1818, and retains lively recollections of the late doctor's zeal and activity in its working, and also his affection for the "gentle Craft" at that time, which, like a "first love," has held possession of his heart till it ceased to beat. He was appointed P.G. Steward in 1814, P.G. Chap. in 1816, and D.P.G.M. of Lincolnshire in 1833. During the time the Right Hon. C. T. D'Eyncourt was P.G.M. some unfortunate circumstances arose which caused dissension in the Craft, and led to Dr. Oliver's resignation. His zeal, however, in no way cooled, and Masonic literature was enriched by his labours until May last, when he took his farewell of the Grand Lodge of Lincolnshire by delivering a lecture on the advantages of Freemasonry over other secret societies, and a warmly-uttered address, which was listened to by those present with evident emotion, as the words fell from the faltering lips of the kind old man who had then outlived the limit of human existence. Through the activity of the Prov. G. Sec. of Lincolnshire, Bro. Lucas, of Louth, this address and lecture have been published, and the proceeds devoted to the Fund of Benevolence of Lincolnshire, founded by Bro. Lucas, in the welfare of which Bro. Oliver took a warm interest, almost one of his last acts being to write a cheque for one pound as his annual subscription towards that fund, and forward it to Bro. C. M. Nesbitt P.G. Treas.

Our esteemed brother was taken ill about a fortnight before he died, which melancholy event took place on Sunday evening, the 3rd inst., at Lincoln. The intelligence was telegraphed to Bro. Smyth, D. Prov. G.M., and a dispensation at once granted for the interment to take place with Masonic honours. Accordingly on Thursday, the 7th inst., a lodge was summoned by the W.M. of the Witham Lodge, of which the deceased was a member, and invitations having been sent by the Prov. G. Sec. to the other lodges in the province to attend, about ninety of the brethren met at the County Assembly Rooms, Lincoln, and formed a procession, which joined the funeral cortege at the house where the body of our deceased brother lay, and accompanied his remains to their last resting-place, in St. Swithin's cemetery, in the following order:—

- Two Tylers.
- Visiting Brethren.
- Witham Lodge.
- Band.
- Brethren out of Office.
- The Deacons.
- The Secretary with Roll.
- The Treasurer.
- The Senior and Junior Wardens.
- The P. Grand Officers.
- The Holy Writings.
- The Grand Pursuivant.
- The Steward with wand. } The Worshipful Master. { Steward with wand.
- The Officiating Clergyman.
- THE BODY.
- Mourners.
- Two Stewards.
- Tyler.

At the conclusion of the burial service the W.M. of the Witham Lodge delivered an oration, and those significant tokens of Masonic love were rendered which consigned to the grave all that remained to us of Bro. George Oliver.

The Rev. Geo. Oliver, Vicar of Scopwick and Rector of South Hykeham, died at his residence, Eastgate, Lincoln, on the 3rd instant, in his 85th year, having enjoyed almost uninterrupted good health up to a few days before his death, and having been

confined to his bed little better than one day. The late Dr Oliver was descended from an ancient Scottish family of that name, which is still resident at Oliver Castle. He was the eldest son of the Rev. Samuel Oliver, Rector of Lambley, Notts, and was born on the 5th of November, 1782. He started in life in 1803 as the second master of the Grammar School at Grimsby. He was ordained a deacon in 1813, and priest the following year, and in the spring of 1815 Bishop Tomline collated him to the living of Clee. In 1831 Bishop Kaye gave him the living of Scopwick, which he held till his death. He graduated as Doctor of Divinity in 1836, being at that time Rector of Wolverhampton and a Prebendary in the Collegiate Church there, both of which were presented to him by the Hon. Lewis Hobart, Dean of Windsor. In 1846 the Chancellor of England conferred on him the Rectory of South Hykeham, which vacated the incumbency of Wolverhampton. He was the author of numerous theological, antiquarian, and Masonic works, many of which have gone through three or four editions in this country, and have been re-published in France, Germany, the United States of America, and in the East Indies. Having led a very active life in the discharge of his professional duties and literary pursuits, at the age of 72 his voice began to fail, and he was obliged to confide the charge of his parishes to curates, and he passed the remainder of his life in dignified retirement, honoured and beloved.

The following are some of Bro. Oliver's voluminous writings:—History and Antiquities of the Collegiate Church of Beverley, History and Antiquities of the Collegiate Church of Wolverhampton, History of the Conventual Church of Grimsby, Monumental Antiquities of Grimsby, History of the Guild of Holy Trinity, Sleaford, Six Pastoral Addresses to the Inhabitants of Grimsby, Farewell Address to the same, Three Addresses to the Inhabitants of Wolverhampton, Hints on Educational Societies, Essay on Education, Six Letters on the Liturgy, a Letter on Church Principles, Letter to the Archbishop of Canterbury on Doctrine, Eighteen Sermons preached at Wolverhampton, the Monasteries on the eastern side of the Witham, Letter to the late Sir E. F. Bromhead on Druidical Remains near Lincoln, Guide to the Druidical Temple at Nottingham, British Antiquities in Nottingham and Vicinity, Remains of Ancient Britons between Lincoln and Sleaford, Scopwickians, &c. The first work was published in 1811, and his last in 1866. His "Ye Byrde of Gryme" (Grimsby in the olden time) had this dedication: "At the age of eighty-four years the following pages are inscribed as a souvenir of friendship, and a kindly farewell to the inhabitants of Grimsby and Lee, by their former parish minister, with sole charge for a period of seventeen years, and now their obedient servant and well wisher, Geo. Oliver. Eastgate, Lincoln, January, 1866." And he concluded the work in these words: "And thus I bid farewell to the inhabitants of Grimsby, in the hope that when this little book is read they will think kindly of me after the years of my pilgrimage are ended." He was of a kind and genial disposition, charitable in the highest sense of the word, "thinking no evil," courteous, affable, self-denying and beneficent, humble, unassuming and unaffected, ever ready to oblige, easy of approach, amiable, yet firm in the right. A long memoir of Bro. Dr. Oliver as a Freemason we must reserve till we have some space at our command.

REVIEWS.

The Devon and Cornwall Masonic Calendar. By Bro. WILLIAM JAMES HUGHAN.

This work, which has been produced with great care by Bro. William James Hughan, of Truro, has just made its appearance, being the third annual issue, and contains a large amount of information, not only to those living in the counties to which it is peculiarly applicable, but to the Craft in general. The preface goes into an elaborate description of the additions and improvements which have been effected in it since last year, and other improvements are promised concurrently with the extended support that the work may receive. The preface is in itself a very interesting document, as it succinctly details the progress which has been made in Masonic institutions in the province, and it cannot fail to be highly gratifying to those who have taken part in bringing about such satisfactory results. We cannot do better than by letting Bro. Hughan speak for himself, and he does so on the whole in a manner which shows that, so far as the counties of Devon and Cornwall are concerned,

Freemasonry has not only not suffered from ignorant attacks made upon it, but has reached a degree of prosperity of which every member has good reason to be proud, and is most encouraging for the future. Bro. Hughan says:—

The year just departed has certainly witnessed changes and reforms in the outward semblance of Masonry. It has been most gratifying to observe the anxiety and determination of the Craft to have halls of their own, free from the questionable associations of public houses—which once usually provided the only means for the assembling of secret societies, but which now, happily, is not the case—and we are proud to state that in Devon and Cornwall this laudable feeling has been almost general, and of late have arisen handsome temples for the celebration of our ancient mysteries, which are founded on the adoration of the Creator, and “peace on earth, and goodwill towards men.” Foremost in this movement during the past year have been the promoters of the “Huyshe Masonic Temple,” Plymouth. This commodious building, now the property of an ardent Freemason, was formerly used as the picture gallery of the late Mr. Bishop, and on his decease it was purchased for the fraternity. A committee was formed, consisting of Bro. Richard Rodda, P.M. No. 105, &c., Bro. Isaac Watts, P.M. No. 156, &c. (the proprietor), and others, who represented the St. John’s Lodge, No. 70; Fortitude Lodge, No. 105; and the Harmony Lodge, No. 156 (the members of these three lodges being desirous of becoming tenants of a Masonic hall on a large scale, to be kept exclusively for Masonic purposes, and thus completely sever Masonry in the three towns from any connection with hotels, so far as regards their meetings). These brethren, forming the committee, soon effected a mutually advantageous arrangement for the interests of all concerned, and to them especially hearty thanks are due.

The Huyshe Masonic Temple, accordingly, was soon made worthy of the name, no expense being spared in the decorations and fittings. Much taste and ingenuity has been expended on the large hall, and, in fact, the whole suite of rooms are creditably furnished and suitably arranged for the Craft, Mark, Royal Arch, and Templar degrees.

The temple itself is lofty and commodious, and we understand it is the intention of the members to form a Masonic library and reading room as soon as possible, believing that such an enterprise will answer well in a neighbourhood numbering some twelve lodges. The Lodge of Fortitude, No. 105, formerly held at Stonehouse (which, when originally at Plymouth, had the honour of initiating H.R.H. the Duke of Clarence, afterwards King William IV.), met for the first time in the temple on the 11th July. The building was consecrated, under auspicious circumstances, on the 30th August.

A handsome structure has also been dedicated to Masonry, so we are informed, for the Huyshe Lodge, No. 1,099, at Stoke, and from the activity and Masonic zeal of its members it is anticipated that a successful career is before that young and promising lodge.

Whilst referring to this subject we cannot refrain from mentioning the improvements effected in the Masonic Hall and adjoining apartments at the St. Aubyn Lodge, No. 954, Morice Town, Devonport. The banqueting hall of this lodge is much enlarged, and the approaches to its temple have been made strictly Masonic, and in some respects quite unique. The proprietor of these model Masonic rooms—the indefatigable and distinguished Bro. Vincent Bird, its present W.M.—has been lavish in supplying the lodge with the newest furniture and appliances, and has made several expensive alterations himself to facilitate the comfort of the members and visitors, and also for the more efficient working of the numerous degrees that find a home at St. Aubyn.

The Fortitude Lodge, No. 131, Truro, has also been re-decorated and enlarged, and under the superintendence of its Past Masters, has been much improved, and rendered not only the largest, but also the handsomest lodge in Cornwall. Arrangements have been made with the Truro Public Rooms Company (Limited), on behalf of the Phoenix Lodge of Honour and Prudence, No. 331, for the building of a Masonic Hall, in connection with that company, on a grand scale, and the chapter and encampment are likely to join in the arrangement. Truro is the centre of the Craft in Cornwall, and therefore it is thought that the time has come for a Masonic hall to be built corresponding to the position of the lodge, and the extent of the province, and for the sake of its members we hope such a desideratum will soon be obtained.

The R.W. Bro. Rev. John Huyshe, M.A., P.G. Chap., was

installed as Prov. G.M. of the Province of Devon, at Exeter, on the 23rd May, in the presence of a vast concourse of the fraternity. The ceremony of installation was most impressively rendered by the R.W. Bro. Aeneas John McIntyre, G. Reg. In proof of the high estimation in which the Prov. G.M. is held by the members of his province, they presented him with a gold chain of office and paraphernalia, worth about 200 guineas, of very elaborate and exquisite manufacture, by Bro. Starkey, of London. The assembly was a brilliant and enthusiastic one, and a general rejoicing was manifested by all present at the appointment of the W.M. the G.M. of England. Bro. W. Denis Moore, Prov. G. Sec., was appointed D. Prov. G.M., and thus received the just reward of many years’ devotion to the cause of Masonry.

Several of the members subscribed for a set of beautiful paraphernalia suitable for the office of D. Prov. G.M., as a testimonial of their fraternal regard for their esteemed Bro. W. Dennis Moore, and it was duly presented by Bro. L. P. Metham, Prov. S.G.W. for Devon, who passed a high eulogium on the character of the new D. Prov. G.M.

A considerable increase has been made to the roll of lodges. The Provincial Grand Lodge was held at the “Huyshe Masonic Temple” on 30th August. The Prov. G.M. and a number of the brethren assembled in honour of the occasion. Two new lodges were consecrated, viz.: The Erme, No. 1,091, Ivybridge, and the Huyshe, No. 1,099, Stoke, Devonport. Warrants have also been granted for No. 1,125, St. Peter’s, Tiverton; No. 1,135, Ilfracombe; and Devon, No. 1,138, Newton Abbott, the latter having been consecrated on the 28th Nov. This town has been for sometime of late, unrepresented in Masonry, but in olden times there was a lodge meeting at Newton Abbott, called the Sun, dating from A.D. 1776.

Part of the business of the Prov. Grand Lodge was conducted at St. George’s Hall, Stonehouse, to which the brethren walked in procession, and reaped the advantage of the change, as any other hall in the three towns could not conveniently accommodate the large number who attended.

In the Province of Cornwall considerable activity has prevailed, and, as usual, the R.W. Bro. Augustus Smith, Prov. G.M., has had to consecrate some new lodges, which has been a yearly duty ever since the date of his patent. The ability of the R.W. Bro. and his sound Masonic judgment have contributed much to advance the position of the Craft in the West, and he has the satisfaction of being well supported by a good working staff of Prov. G. Officers. Through his instrumentality the Cornwall Masonic Annuity Fund has been established with every prospect of success. A son of the late Bro. Francis Treleaven, of No. 131, Truro, after a second application, during the same year, was successful as a candidate for the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, and the members of the Fortitude Lodge particularly feel exceedingly grateful for the kind support of the subscribers in Devon and Cornwall.

The Provincial Grand Lodge of Cornwall was held at Bodmin on 26th June. Bro. Rev. F. H. A. Wright, M.A., Prov. G. Chap., preached the annual sermon, and a collection was made at the close for the East Cornwall Hospital. A preliminary meeting had been held at the Phoenix Lodge, Truro, on the 22nd May, and thus considerably lightened the business to be transacted at the regular meeting. The Carew Lodge (No. 1,136), Mechanics’ Institution, Torpoint, was consecrated on the 29th November, and we hear of at least two petitions about to be presented to hold lodges in towns as yet without a Masonic temple.

The Mark degree has been a favourite in the two counties, and there has been no lack of that support which we gladly chronicled last year. Warrants have been granted to work the degree in connection with Lodge Fidelity (No. 230), Devonport; Lodge Cornubian (No. 450), Hayle; and Love and Honour (No. 75), Falmouth, the D. Prov. G.M. for Cornwall having been appointed the Worshipful Master of the latter lodge. Altogether the degrees thrive well in the West of England, and flourishes wherever there are sufficient numbers to sustain a Craft lodge in proper working order.

The Holy Royal Arch degree continues to receive that share of attention which its grand and imposing ritual deserves, and if no new warrants have been granted, it is from no sign of weakness, but a desire on the part of the companions to consolidate their strength. We hope ere long to hear of Cornwall having a Provincial Grand Superintendent of its own, as it numbers some half-dozen chapters.

In Knights Templary we have to report a vigorous year’s

work, and the knowledge of its mysteries in consequence is more generally diffused than heretofore. The Encampment called Cornubian, originally assembling at Falmouth, then at Redruth, was finally removed to Truro on the 12th July, where it has at length found a resting-place, and now being so favourably circumstanced, it is expected that a large accession to its members will accrue.

The Rose Croix degree (as also the intermediate degrees from the Secret Master to the Knight of the East and West inclusive), held at St. Aubyn Lodge Rooms, Morice Town, Devonport, has had a most prosperous year, and upwards of fifty members are already privileged to study and witness the ceremonies of this beautiful and Christian degree of Freemasonry at this chapter. We considered there was ample scope for a Rose Croix Chapter farther west than Axminster, and the subsequent career of St. Aubyn Chapter has abundantly confirmed our most sanguine expectations.

A Council of the Masonic Knights of Constantinople has been opened at Truro, and although but recently established, the peculiar and solemn ritual of that Order has drawn many under its banner. The officers for each of these degrees in Devon and Cornwall will be found in the Calendar, provided the blank lists sent by the publisher have been duly returned.

In concluding this rapid sketch let us earnestly hope that the brethren in Devon and Cornwall—as also elsewhere—will strive to their utmost to preserve the true principles and practices of the Fraternity, and will especially weigh the remarks of the M.W. the Grand Master of England, lately sent by letter to the Provincial Grand Masters on the admission of members.

On this subject too much care cannot possibly be exercised, as it is evident much unmerited abuse has been heaped on the Society, from the misconduct of those who ought never to have crossed its threshold, and although it may be true that, as Freemasons, we do not half we should for the benefit of our indigent members, we cannot but think too large a proportion of such brethren were not at the first in such a social position as warranted their initiation, neither were they able to conform to the laws of the Craft as to being in “reputable circumstances,” &c.

A meeting of the Masters and Fast Masters of the lodges in Plymouth, Devonport, and Stonehouse was recently held, and some useful rules have been agreed to, such as allowing no lodge to be open after eleven o'clock, and to promote the due inquiry as to the character of candidates. Copies of all the summonses of meetings to be held in the three towns are to be sent to the W.M. of each lodge.

MEETINGS OF THE SCIENTIFIC AND LEARNED SOCIETIES FOR THE WEEK ENDING MARCH 23RD, 1867.

Tuesday, Mar. 19th.—INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS, at 8.

Wednesday, Mar. 20th.—GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, at 8.

Wednesday, Mar. 20th.—SOCIETY OF ARTS, at 8.

Wednesday, Mar. 20th.—METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY, at 8.

Thursday, Mar. 21st.—CHEMICAL SOCIETY, at 8.

THE WEEK.

THE COURT.—The Queen, accompanied by her Royal Highness Princess Christian, drove out on the morning of the 7th inst. in a carriage and four, attended by the Duchess of Roxburghe. Her Majesty drove out in the afternoon, accompanied by Princess Christian and attended by the Lady in Waiting, and visited the Princess of Wales at Marlborough House. During her Majesty's drive she went round Trafalgar-square and viewed the lions at the base of the Nelson Column; and paid a short visit to Miss Hildyard at St. Catherine's, in Regent's Park.—The Queen, accompanied by her Royal Highness Princess Christian, drove out on the morning of the 8th inst. in a carriage and four, attended by the Duchess of Roxburghe. Her Majesty, accompanied by Princess Louise, went out in the afternoon, and honoured Mr. Henry Weekes,

R.A., and Mr. MacDowell, R.A., with visits to their studios, to inspect the groups which they are executing for the memorial of the Prince Consort in Hyde Park. Her Majesty drove afterwards to Marlborough House and visited the Princess of Wales.—The Queen held a Council at Buckingham Palace. The Queen, accompanied by her Royal Highness Princess Christian, went out on the morning of the 9th inst., attended by the Duchess of Roxburghe. Her Majesty the Queen received, at Buckingham Palace, an address of congratulation from the Corporation of the city of London on the birth of a princess. Her Majesty having returned a gracious answer, the Lord Mayor, Mr. Deputy Stapleton (the mover of the address), and Mr. Alderman and Sheriff Waterlow (the seconder of the address) were severally presented to the Queen, and had the honour of kissing hands. Her Majesty, accompanied by their Royal Highnesses Princess Christian and Princess Louise visited her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales, at Marlborough House in the afternoon. Her Majesty and their Royal Highnesses left Marlborough House at five o'clock for Windsor Castle, escorted to Paddington by a detachment of the 14th Hussars. The Queen, accompanied by their Royal Highnesses Princess Christian, Princess Louise, Prince Leopold, Princess Beatrice, and Prince Henry of Prussia, arrived at Windsor Castle at twenty minutes past six o'clock from Buckingham Palace. The Queen, their Royal Highnesses Princess Christian, Princess Louise, and the ladies and gentlemen in waiting, attended divine service on the morning of the 10th instant in the private chapel. The Rev. C. Kingsley preached the sermon. The Queen and the Royal Family received on the 11th inst. the sorrowful, although not unexpected, intelligence of the death of Prince Christian's mother, the Duchess of Schleswig-Holstein Augustenburg. The Queen and her Royal Highness Princess Louise walked, and rode on ponies, in the grounds. The Queen and Princess Louise drove out in the afternoon. Her Majesty walked and drove on the morning of the 12th inst., accompanied by her Royal Highness Princess Christian. Her Majesty the Queen, accompanied by her Royal Highness Princess Louise, went to London in the afternoon, and visited their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales, at Marlborough House. Her Majesty afterwards returned to Windsor Castle. The Queen, accompanied by her Royal Highness Princess Christian, drove in the grounds on the morning of the 13th inst.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.—In the HOUSE OF LORDS on the 7th inst. the Earl of Derby made a statement that the Fenian rising had been more highly coloured than was necessary. Subsequently their lordships, after some discussion, read the Trades' Unions Bill a second time, and put other measures forward a stage.—On the 8th inst. the Eastern question, as revived by the insurrection in Crete, was brought before the House by the Duke of Argyll. That noble peer, while on the whole approving the attitude held by the Foreign Secretary of England on this question, censured the want of humanity shown in the orders he issued to the British Consul not to interfere, even for the purpose of bringing off women and children, fugitive from the island. The noble duke said Turkey was doomed to extinction, and claimed Christian sympathy for the Christian subjects of the Porte suffering under extremely bad Government; but he justified the Crimean war on the ground that Russia should not be allowed to exert an undue individual pressure at Constantinople. The Earl of Derby defended the policy of the Foreign Office; did not deny that Turkish rule in Europe was waning to a close; but stated that it could never be the policy of England to precipitate the extinction of that empire. Atrocities in this insurrection had been committed on both sides. Lord

Kimberley thoroughly approved the policy of the Foreign Office, and warned their lordships against getting into more complications in the East than England was at present involved in. The other business before the House was of little interest.—On the 11th inst. there was a short discussion in reference to Mr. France's attack on Lord Redesdale. There seemed to be a general opinion that the whole affair was a very small one, and their lordships got rid of it by voting confidence in Lord Redesdale.—Subsequently there was a smart discussion on the question of Reform, in which, however, only Earl Russell and the Earl of Derby took part. Earl Russell moved for certain returns relative to the representation of the people, and in doing so caustically criticised the course which had been taken by the Government in regard to Reform. Subsequently he spoke of Mr. Disraeli's statement that the Reform Act of 1832 had disfranchised the working classes, and pointed out its fallacy. The speech was exceedingly interesting for its reminiscences of 1832. The Earl of Derby replied with much acerbity, and consented to the returns.—On the 12th inst. the only business of importance was the British North American Confederation Bill. Their lordships agreed to the Commons' amendments to the bill. It now awaits the royal assent.—In the HOUSE OF COMMONS, on the 7th inst., Mr. Walpole was questioned in reference to the affair. He expressed an opinion that some of the newspapers had given a more highly-coloured version of the facts than was necessary. He read a telegram which makes allusion to a fight in Kilmallock, where several Fenians were wounded and three shot dead. Dublin, Cork, Limerick, and Waterford were reported all quiet.—General Peel brought forward the army estimates, and in doing so made a lengthy statement. He pointed out that while there was apparently a large increase in the estimates, there was very little increase over what had been the actual expenditure of the last two years. He showed with much clearness where the apparent increase occurred this year—some of it being accounted for by leap year. In the course of his statement he mentioned that the trials which had been made of the converted Snider Enfield had been very satisfactory. Provision was made in these estimates for 350,000 more of these, and when that number was ready he recommended that they should stop. The gallant general gave an account of how he proposed to deal with the recommendations of the Recruiting Commission, and what were the reasons which had induced him to propose an increase in the pay of the soldiers. Another subject which he explained was the proposed army of reserve, into the details of the plan for which he entered minutely. A long and interesting discussion ensued, confined almost wholly to the proposals as to an army of reserve.—On the 8th inst., new writs were moved for the places vacated by Sir John Pakington, Sir Stafford Northcote, and Mr. Corry, on taking offices other than those previously held by them. Mr. Disraeli had announced his intention of stating that the Cabinet was complete again; but, as he showed no signs of fulfilling his engagement, Mr. Ayrton asked him a question on the subject, and further as to whether he would be able to bring in the Reform Bill on the day he had promised. Then the Chancellor of the Exchequer told how the vacant offices had been filled, and expressed his strong hope of being able to keep his engagement in the matter of Reform.—On the motion for going into committee of supply, a long and interesting debate was begun by Mr. W. E. Forster in reference to the legality of employing volunteers in quelling disturbances in this country. Mr. Forster strongly deprecated their employment for such a purpose, while Lord Grosvenor advocated their engaging in such work, and expressed his conviction that the demonstration made by them at Chester saved the town from

being taken by the Fenians. Subsequently Mr. Walpole declared the state of the law on the matter to be that, while volunteers could not be called out in their military capacity to quell riots, they could as citizens use their arms for that purpose. Mr. Walpole treated the Chester business as a very serious affair. Mr. Bright strongly condemned the employment of volunteers as suggested, and threw grave doubts upon the alleged Fenian raid on Chester. The debate will bear attentive perusal.—Mr. Beresford Hope moved a resolution, the object of which was to declare it expedient that there should be during the Paris Exhibition no Customs search of the luggage of passengers coming from France.—Mr. Hunt, for the Government, strongly opposed the motion, and argued that if carried it would lead to much smuggling. Ultimately the motion was withdrawn.—On the 11th inst., two or three attempts were made to extract from the Chancellor of the Exchequer some information in reference to the coming Reform Bill. The attempts were not successful.—Mr. Locke wished to know when the statistical information which Lord Canborne said had been given to the Cabinet would be laid before the House. The Chancellor of the Exchequer said there was no further information than the House already possessed; but if there was any new information, he had given instructions that it should be printed. This did not satisfy Mr. Horsman, who insisted that Lord Cranborne spoke of new information. Again the Chancellor of the Exchequer denied there was any, whereupon Lord Cranborne said he might be mistaken, but he certainly understood that the information laid before him was new. There the matter ended.—The Government bill for settling the assessment of property for rating purposes on a satisfactory basis was read a second time, and ordered to be referred to a select committee. It had not many friends, and not the least powerful of its assailants was Mr. Henley, who declared that he could hardly imagine that the ingenuity of man could contrive a bill so calculated to be a perpetual source of worry as this. The discussion leaves no doubt that if the bill is ever to pass it will have to be greatly altered.—Subsequently the House considered Mr. Gathorne Hardy's Sick Poor Bill in committee.—On the 12th inst. the House adjourned at twenty minutes to six, though a reasonable amount of business was on the paper. This was caused by Lord Elcho's postponing his motion for leave to bring in a bill on the Scotch game laws. The consequence was that the members having the charge of the other business on the paper, including the Attorney-General, were not present when called on, and the business was in that way passed over.—Mr. M'Lagan moved the appointment of a select committee to inquire into the best means of preventing fire, and Mr. Ewart obtained leave to bring in a bill to enable students to be educated at Oxford or Cambridge without being members of a college or hall in the universities.—On the 13th inst. there was a long and interesting discussion upon a bill introduced by Sir Colman O'Loughlen for amending the law of libel. The chief feature of the measure is that it proposes to free newspapers from liability to an action for libel for printing libellous speeches which have been made in public assemblies. By the bill the speaker, and not the newspaper, will be held responsible. In the course of the debate it was suggested that the bill should be read a second time and referred to a select committee. This suggestion was agreed to, and the bill was read a second time.—The Industrial Schools (Ireland) Bill and several other bills were advanced a stage.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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