

LONDON, SATURDAY, MAY 5, 1860.

THE NEW GRAND OFFICERS.

WE hope next week to be enabled to publish a notice of the Masonic standing and services of the new Grand Officers.

MASONRY IN ST. THOMAS'S.

IN the report of the Colonial Board, presented at the last meeting of Grand Lodge, appeared the following passages:—

"The Colonial Board beg to report that in the latter part of last year it came to their knowledge that serious differences existed amongst the members of the Harmonic Lodge, No. 458, St. Thomas's; complaints were, at the same time, preferred by the Worshipful Master of the Lodge, on the one hand, against some of the members for refractory behaviour; and on the other, by members of the Lodge against the Worshipful Master for having closed the Lodge, and put a stop to the meetings thereof.

"The Board being of opinion that it would scarcely be possible to properly investigate the case through the medium of correspondence, and, moreover, that great loss of time would of necessity be incurred before replies could be received on points on which the Board required further information to enable them to deal with the case as a whole, and, acting on a suggestion thrown out by some of the Past Masters of No. 458, they respectfully requested the M.W. Grand Master to direct Bro. Daniel Hart, Prov. Grand Master for Trinidad (who had expressed his willingness to undertake the investigation), to inquire into, and, if possible, adjust the differences in the Harmonic Lodge.

"The Board have now the satisfaction to report to Grand Lodge that a communication has been received from the R.W. Bro. Hart, from which it appears that, although on his arrival at St. Thomas's he found party feeling raging amongst the brethren to an extent that not only threw a gloom over the affairs of the Lodge, but, through acts committed, tended to compromise the character of our institution itself in the eyes of the uninitiated; yet, after several meetings with the members of the Lodge, No. 458, he, Bro. Hart, was able to report that all differences had been happily settled, and peace and harmony restored. The Board are sure that Grand Lodge will be of opinion that great credit is due to the R.W. Bro. Hart for his exertions in this matter, and for the judgment he has shown in thus bringing to a satisfactory conclusion differences that appeared at one time likely to break up the Harmonic Lodge altogether."

Until the appearance of the above report, we venture to assert that there were not half a dozen members in the whole Craft, apart from those in the island, the Colonial Board, and the officials in the Grand Secretary's Office, that knew anything of differences existing at St. Thomas's; nor is the report sufficiently explicit to inform them of the nature of those differences. How far under the circumstances it was judicious for the Colonial Board to publish such a report, we had, from what we knew of the case, our doubts at the time, unless they had some stronger assurances than those of Bro. Hart, "that all differences had been happily settled and peace and harmony restored." That such unfortunately is not the case, we have now evidence before us—if, indeed, the breach has not been so widened as to leave little hope of the Lodge again working in harmony.

In order that the Craft may understand the nature of the differences existing between the brethren of St. Thomas's, we will, as succinctly as possible, state how they have arisen. About three or four years since, the Harmonic Lodge, which had been for some time almost in abeyance, was resuscitated under the mastership of an old Past Master, who we have reason to know was well acquainted with his Masonic duties. In due time he was succeeded by another brother of less experience, and from that moment everything appears to have gone wrong, there being repeated differences of opinion between the Worshipful Master and his Past Masters and some other members of the Lodge. Added to this a candidate was blackballed—whether fairly or not is of little consequence—and from that instant a spirit of discord entered the Lodge; the Master refused to hold meetings of the Lodge on the stated days fixed by the by-laws; laid it down as law that a candidate having once been blackballed could not again be proposed

in the same Lodge (a reading of the Constitutions from which we must differ); and afterwards, it is affirmed, gave to a blackballed candidate a certificate that he had been duly elected.

Finding that all chance of an amicable settlement of their disputes at an end, the brethren appealed to the authorities at home, and it was suggested by themselves that the matter should be referred to the arbitration of Bro. Hart, the Prov. Grand Master for Trinidad; a course which was sanctioned by the Colonial Board and the Grand Master. Bro. Hart undertook the duty—went to St. Thomas's—and the brethren of the Lodge agreed to abide by his decision. Indeed, if we mistake not, they went so far as to petition the M.W. Grand Master that Bro. Hart should be appointed Prov. Grand Master of their island—a petition which some of the brethren are now trying to set aside. Bro. Hart certainly appears to have entered upon the duties entrusted to him with great determination, if not with great discretion; and though he may be a just judge, he certainly can scarcely be counted as a merciful one, for he appears to have inflicted fines and suspensions from Masonic privileges, right and left, without regard to any personal considerations. And here comes the difficulty: the fines were paid, the suspended brethren did not at the time protest, and Bro. Hart wrote home that all matters in dispute were settled and harmony restored. But it was not so—the brethren suspended having taken time to consider the matter have appealed from the decision of Bro. Hart to the authorities at home, and the matter will, we presume, be brought before Grand Lodge at the quarterly communication in June. But how Grand Lodge can interfere in the matter we are certainly at a loss to perceive; the brethren themselves chose the person to adjudicate upon their differences—they bound themselves to abide by his decision—and are therefore evidently placed out of court in any appeal they may make; and however severe the sentences, they are bound to abide by them.

It is certainly most unfortunate, however, that Bro. Hart has decided that the W.M. has a right to close his Lodge when he thinks fit, and prevent it meeting on its accustomed days—a ruling which is opposed to the Constitutions, and also to a decision of the Board of General Purposes so late as December last, in a case which occurred in this country, when, according to their report presented to Grand Lodge, they informed "the W.M. that it is his bounden duty to cause the Lodge to be regularly summoned for meeting on the several days fixed by the by-laws." Again, he has decided that a candidate once blackballed cannot be again proposed in the same Lodge—a decision for which we can find no authority, unless the by-laws of any particular Lodge should so declare. And we can conceive cases where a candidate may be blackballed—for want of sufficient knowledge of him—whom it might afterwards be found desirable to admit into the Craft, and to whom great injustice might be done, in places where there is not more than one Lodge existing, were he altogether excluded from the Order.

These decisions of Bro. Hart it is clear cannot be allowed to stand; but they in no way affect the main question of the brethren having agreed to abide by his decision in respect of their differences, from which, however, they now appeal. How far that appeal can be at all entertained we have grave doubts; but if Grand Lodge approves of the course pursued by Bro. Hart in suspending so many brethren, we trust it will at least urge upon him the necessity in the conduct of business to temper justice with mercy.

We have received a long letter relative to the unfortunate dispute to which we have alluded, signed "Justitia," which, though coming from a well known and highly respected correspondent, we are compelled to decline publishing as being far too personal for our columns, and as likely to tend more to add fuel to the fire and increase the differences between the brethren than to the restoration of that harmony which it is so desirable should exist in every Masonic assembly.

MASTERPIECES OF THE ARCHITECTURE OF DIFFERENT NATIONS.

BY J. G. LEGRAND.

THE ARCHITECTURE OF THE CHINESE—(CONTINUED).

COLOURS, varnishes, and enamels, impart a singular splendour and a striking originality to Chinese architecture. Tiles and bricks are even varnished or enamelled with different colours, those that prevail most being grey, yellow, black and blue, with ornaments in gold; sometimes these colours are uniform, sometimes they are varied and shade into each other with a gentle gradation of hues. Windows are replaced by silken blinds; many window openings are thin slips of wood coloured and glittering from polish; lanterns in great number, of different forms and of different sizes, are frequently employed either for utility or for mere decoration. There are houses all grey, others all red with white borders, and others all black with gold ornaments. Shops are arranged there with considerable care and splendour, and with a perfect attention to every little particular; flags fly before them at the top of very high poles placed perpendicularly before the door, while the name and number of the house, and the nature of the articles to be sold, are inscribed on the lantern which is lighted at night. The ordinary cottages of the peasantry are pretty much the same as ours. So are their windmills; and it is also the same with their bridges; chain bridges, however, are not used by them, though it has been so stated repeatedly. Artificial rocks and ruins are very much used in gardens. Rivers are navigated with junks or bamboo boats, which have a very fragile appearance. It seems that except pagodas and the palaces of the mandarins there are few public monuments of eminent mark in the towns of China. In fact, a great number may be suppressed by the form of government and the measures of the police. There are no poor houses, no hospitals, no public emporiums, and no warehouses and factories, for every private merchant or trader himself supplies all that he requires. Other establishments, which might be supposed to be very large, are found cut up into a great number of little places, such as, for example, a multitude of small encampments instead of large barracks for the lodging of soldiers. Generally speaking, the character of the architecture of the Chinese indicates lightness rather than very great solidity. The colours and the varnishes with which the most ordinary houses are covered without, gives it an air of freshness, neatness, and cleanness pleasing to the eye. The palaces of the wealthy and of the mandarins are painted and gilded; which, considering their multiplicity, gives to China an air of pomp and riches, which is elsewhere sought in vain.

THE ARCHITECTURE OF THE GREEKS.

From what has been already written, it will have been seen that gigantic masses, severity of forms, and the employment of mysterious symbols, formed the principal character of the architecture of the Egyptians; that the architecture of the Hindoos was remarkable for all that time, patience and difficulties overcome could offer of astonishing and marvellous; that it was nearly the same with that of the Chinese; and that that of the Persians, which it has been supposed was derived from the two first, is not yet sufficiently well known for its real character to be assigned to it with certainty.

The architecture of the Greeks, to which we are now going to direct our attention, is very distinct from all the others. Whatever the Greeks were able to borrow in their architecture they presented with so much elegance in revived masses, and with so much novelty and harmony of proportion, that they seem to have created everything, to have imagined everything, and they appear rather to have enriched other nations by their original conceptions, than to have taken anything from their stores. All is sentiment, intellect, imagination, subtlety, and yet simplicity and nature, with that inventive people. They embellished everything they touched;

they rendered divine the most simple objects; they present to our moved and astonished senses images beyond human perfection; they peopled Olympus; they created gods worthy of such an abode, or rather they made them divine; and when they undertook to fix the residence of gods on the happy soil of Greece, they arrived at erecting temples in which were found again all the nobility and the majesty of the heavens.

That people of heroes and artists, mad with glory, misled by the fictions of poetry, imposing to themselves and fascinated by their own handiworks, fancied they recognized the inspiration and the hand of those same gods in the masterpieces which they erected with their own hands. It was Apollo, Hercules, Minerva or Jupiter himself who presided at the erection of their altars; and when the immortal deities were placed within their august temples, it was only with the shudders of awe that their pontiffs ventured to mount the steps of the sanctuary. The interdicted vulgar, in their mute admiration, no longer recognized in that imposing and divine structure the marbles that their own chisels had just sculptured and polished: ivory and gold, assembled together with a divine art had changed their nature. Phidias himself astounded and overcome with admiration, recoiled and threw himself prostrate at the feet of Hercules; he dared not finish his own work. Such were the masterpieces of Delphos, Ephesus, Elis and Athens; so shone the Parthenon at the top of the Acropolis, and the Propylæa and the Temples of Pandrosas and of Erechtheus, and the Odeon and the Temple of Theseus, the pure and simple forms of which, together with their ingenious details having come down to us, have been sufficient for the reproduction of exact models without any supposition of what they were in their first freshness on the day when they came from the hands of the architect, and the magistrates assisted at their dedication and consecrated them to the protecting gods of Attica.

The Temple of Minerva, or the Parthenon.—This word signifies the Temple of the Virgin. The Parthenon was also surnamed *Hecatompodon*, because it had one hundred Greek feet in front. It was of white marble, and situated on the top of the lofty rock of the Acropolis, or High City—the Citadel of Athens. It thus overlooked the vast plains of Attica, which were covered with the richest plantations and vineyards of olives. It served in some sort as a pharos to the vessels that sailed the neighbouring seas, and incessant were the voyages made from the Piræus and from Munichia to all the isles of Greece, and thence to the ports of Athens. Its plan in the exterior, as well as the interior, is a parallelogrammatic rectangle, as may be seen from the description and all the particulars engraved of it in the "Gallery of Antiquities" published by Treuttel and Wurtz. The order employed in its decoration is the ancient Doric, which is remarkable for its bold and harmonious proportions, and its extreme simplicity, though it is susceptible, nevertheless, of receiving in the sculpture of its metopes the last degree of richness, as any one may be convinced by a close examination of the details in the groupe of the centaurs and lapithæ fighting, which compose each of the bas-reliefs placed between the triglyphs, the frieze of which is ornamented. This order is slightly channelled. The Greeks never gave a base to it, which far from detracting from its beauty, adds to the elegance of its proportions. These bases are skilfully supplied by three elevated flights of steps which form round this temple one continuous base, and detach it agreeably from the soil on which it rests.

This monument, of which a very great part is still remaining, was rebuilt with much magnificence from the designs of Ictinus and Callicrates, the architects, and under the general direction of Phidias, to whom Pericles, his friend, confided the superintendence of the monuments which he ordered to be erected for the embellishment of Athens. The period of its construction may then be placed towards the eighty-

fourth Olympiad, or four hundred and forty-four years before the Christian era; it has thus about two thousand two hundred and fifty years of antiquity. It was still quite complete in 1687, when a bomb shell, thrown by the Venetians who were besieging the citadel of Athens, fell on this monument, which they had made a powder magazine of, and a terrific explosion was the consequence, which destroyed a great part of this magnificent temple.

The Propylea or Vestibules of the Citadel of Athens.—It is also to Pericles that is due the erection of this superb monument, which has such a fine effect; Mnesicles was the architect. The same order, Greek Doric, channelled and without a base, is employed in its decoration. It was reached by a great number of steps; two pedestals, surmounted by equestrian statues, were the first objects that presented themselves. It is known from an inscription engraved on the die of one of these pedestals, that the statue which it supported must have been that of Agrippa, and the other that of Augustus. They must then have been placed at that period, either as an addition to the monument, or as a substitute for other statues, which may, perhaps, have been there before; but this is what nobody knows. The small temple to the right, after having passed these pedestals, was that of "Victory without Wings." That which was in front contained the precious pictures of Polygnotus; and quite close to that, a little in front, was the temple of the heroine Aglaura, where the Athenian youth went when they received their arms, to swear that they would die in the defence of their country. All these edifices were built of the most beautiful white marble. The roof of the propylea, especially, was remarkable for its beautiful divisions and the size of the blocks employed in its construction; they were from ten to sixteen and even twenty-two feet long and proportionately thick. For all these and further particulars of these vestibules of the citadel of Athens the works may be consulted of Stuart and that of David Leroy, as well as the "Gallery of Antiquity" already quoted, in which all the monuments of Athens are minutely described and carefully analyzed with reference both to art and their former history.

The Temple of Minerva Polias, Erechtheus and the Virgin Pandrosa, united in the citadel of Athens.—Up to this point only the Doric order has been seen employed in the monuments of Athens. This model of three different temples, contiguous, and united on ground of unequal height, furnishes us with the most beautiful examples of the Ionic order of the Greeks in all its simple grace and in all its natural elegance, and carried even to the highest degree of richness in the orders which decorate the different façades and form the porticos of these temples. These capitals and the delicacy of the proportions of these different orders may be regarded as masterpieces of grace and harmony. The ornaments of them are in the best taste and of admirable execution. The peristyle, formed of six draped figures, called Canephore or Caryatides, is an original monument of the most curious description. The style of these figures is noble and majestic; their execution in marble is large and learned, and the cornice which crowns them is remarkable for its great character, where firmness is combined with elegance. Nothing is more agreeable and more careful than the divisions of the caissons which decorate the soffit of the ceiling of this peristyle. Towards the commencement of the present century it was reproduced in all its purity at the Villa Choiseul, the magnificent gardens of which stretch from the Champs Elisées to the ancient barrier of Chaillot, hitherto the Jardin Marbeuf. M. de Choiseul Gouffier, the proprietor of that house, having had models taken of these beautiful statues at Athens, had them executed of the same size to form the entrance to this pavilion, where he gathered together all the models and precious fragments that were collected by himself and many artists and architects, including principally MM. Cassas, Fauvel, and Fouchet.

(To be continued.)

PROGRESS OF MASONRY.

BY BRO. BUIST, M.W.G.M. OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

WE have every reason to congratulate ourselves on the harmony which prevails among the fraternity, and the prosperity which attends them. It is said that the institution has accomplished its purpose, and that like all the relics of the past, it is unsuited to the refinements and civilization of the age. But those who know it best and love it most, subscribe not to this annunciation, and indulge not in these forebodings. We live in an age of progress, and he who does not keep pace with that progress is unworthy to be a participant in those great measures of usefulness, which in modern times have done so much for the amelioration of the human family. And it is well that it should be so. The theory which would discard all innovation and improvement is at war with sound philosophy. There is a steady, onward march, and with it we should keep pace. The discoveries in the arts and sciences would be profitless—the great and good men, whose genius has accomplished so much for the advancement and happiness of our race, would have lived and laboured but for little purpose, were it not that their influence was to be appreciated. He knows little of Masonry who supposes that it repudiates the refinements and progressiveness of the age. Ancient and venerable as it is, looming up from the mighty past as an institution grand and peculiar, encircled as it is with a halo of glory, it would scarce fulfil its destiny were it to do so. It has a mission—one of transcendent interest—of mighty consequences. It wages the great irrepressible conflict—that of truth against falsehood, of ignorance against error. It would, therefore, be little calculated to effect its objects; it would illy stand forth as a combatant, and achieve its victories, were it not to recognize the developments of the age and yield some little obeisance to their requirements. But while we may not repudiate this spirit of improvement, and not neglect to accommodate ourselves to its behests, there is no axiom more worthy of inculcation than that the preservation of the institution is dependent on a rigid and uncompromising adherence to its landmarks. These are the great lights by which we are to be guided, and if they become extinguished we will be enveloped in cimmerian darkness. They need no change. They have and ever will stand stationary in the countless mutations to which all things human have been subjected. They need not vary with time, or place, or circumstance, but will ever, as they have in times long past, unchanged and unchangeable, serve as beacon lights to guide us through the storm and the tempest, and preserve our institution, pure, unsullied, and immaculate. It is not in the power of any man, or set of men, to make innovations upon the body of Masonry. It stands forth as a system unique and symmetrical, and to mar its fair proportions would be to inflict a fatal wound upon its vitality. Its course is onward, silent and imperceptible though it be. Unhurt by the fall of empires, or the struggles of revolution, it still stands firm and immovable as the mighty rock around whose base the broad billows of old ocean roll and beat without injury. Advancing, step by step, over barrier and obstacle, it lifts its proud head to claim the obeisance of the nations. In the burning plains of Africa, in the frozen regions of the north, in the favoured and sunny spots of the south, it may be found prosecuting its noble designs of beneficence and love. In the north, and the south, and the east, and the west, on whatever spots its brilliant star has shed its radiance, joyous voices join exultingly in the anthem, "Hail, Masonry divine."

SELFISHNESS.

If man lived for himself alone there would be no necessity for such an Order as ours. Masonry would have no element in which to exist. But man does not live for himself alone; he is not only dependent upon others from the cradle to the grave, but the Creator has implanted in man's nature certain principles which attract him to his fellow man, and it is only as he acts in harmony with those principles that he can appreciate the great boon of existence, breathe sincere aspirations to his Maker, and enjoy the blessings of life. Selfishness and humanity are incompatible. Masonry and humanity are, in the light of our subject, synonymous. The true Freemason cherishes a love for his fellow man, sympathizes with him in his griefs and cares, and participates with him in his pleasures and joys. In his business relations he will not take any undue advantages of others, but will always act upon the square. His affections and his sympathies are not measured by reciprocity of benefits nor exchange of favours. The selfish man wraps himself in his statue of clay, considers himself as a magnet towards whom all others must be attracted, and to whose pleasures and gratifications all must contribute, and, like

the magnet, he is alike insensible to the pains and joys, the weal or woe of the rest of his fellow mortals. It must be evident that the selfish man can have no feelings harmonizing with Freemasonry. In the scrutiny into the qualifications of candidates or applicants for the privileges of Masonry the social and affectional nature should be inquired into, as well as the moral and physical qualifications. Only those who can reciprocate and mutually feel, sympathize, love, give, and participate and share in the happiness and griefs of others, ought properly to be admitted into our benevolent Order. The heart of Masonry is large enough for the whole of mankind, if all possessed the proper qualities and attributes; but it has no room for the selfish and unsympathizing. The poor and weary traveller, as he walks his brief space of time on earth, can always find a friend in his brother of the mystic tie, no matter what his country or his creed, and as we are told "the poor ye have always in your midst," the practices of the true Freemason accord with the teachings of the institution, which emphatically illustrate that man lives not for himself alone.

MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

A NOTE ON MARK MASONRY.

From Walter White's *Northumberland and the Border*, 2nd edition. London: Chapman and Hall, 1859. In notice of the crypt under the (former) nave of Hexham Abbey, occurs the following passage:—

"But while in this gloomy place you will see something to wonder at; old though it be. The walls are built of something yet older—stones from the Roman wall. You can still see the curious marks cut by the Masons who first squared them, and in the roof of one of the passages an inscribed tablet bearing the names of two of the Emperors."

And in notice of Prudhoe Castle the same author states:—

"On portions of the ruin antiquaries have discovered Mason marks identical with marks still traceable at Alnwick and Dunstanborough."

W. E. W.

THE MASONIC SECRETS.

Were the secrets of Masonry ever divulged, so as to let persons who were not Masons penetrate into our Lodges?—E. A. W.—[Inquire of all Masons you meet, if they ever detected an impostor in their Lodge, and, if they have done so, it is more than we ever did. Reports often lead us astray; we have heard of persons not being Masons having been seen in Lodges, but when we came to inquire if our informants saw any such, it has always turned out to be the old story, that "they had heard from some one else, they forgot who, that such had been the case." We do not say that there have not been such admissions, but we should like to have chapter and verse for them, and to know when, where, and by whom did such persons get access to a Lodge. We have been present when applicants have been refused admission, they not being able satisfactorily to prove themselves Masons.]

FATE OF WILLIAM MORGAN.

The enclosed is a sketch I obtained when in the United States; though you may have read one before, yet to "A Lover of Truth," and others, it may not be uninteresting. Captain William Morgan was born in Virginia, U.S.; by trade he was a mason (operative and speculative), but afterwards became a brewer, and resided some little time at York, Upper Canada, about 1821, but here he became involved in troubles owing to a fire and losing all his property; he removed to New York State, where he worked at his trade in Rochester and Batavia. In the year 1826 it was reported that Captain Morgan, in connection with others, was preparing, with intent to publish, a work that would "Reveal the Secrets of Freemasonry," and great excitement existed in relation to its publication. In the month of September, 182—, he was seized by a feigned process of law at Batavia, and forcibly carried to Canandaigua (he was at this time preparing his work for publication.) This contemplated publication excited some of the fraternity, and numbers were heard to say it should be suppressed at all hazards. Meetings of delegates were held from different Lodges of the western countries, to devise means for effectually preventing it. Zealous members were angry and excited, and made desperate threats; about this time an incendiary attempt was made to fire the office of Col. Miller, (who was to publish the book), where, after a mock trial, he was discharged, but immediately again arrested and committed to prison for debt; the next night he was released by the pretended friendship of a brother; upon leaving the prison door he was again seized, and notwithstanding his repeated cries of murder, was thrust with violence into a carriage waiting for that purpose, and carried, by relays of horses through a thickly populated country, one hundred and fifteen miles in a little more than twenty-four hours, and

secured as prisoner at Fort Niagara. All parties in connection with this affair were Freemasons, as was afterwards proved on their trial, when they were found guilty and sentenced to various terms of imprisonment. The actual fate of Captain Morgan was never known, but it was supposed he was taken out into the lake, where his throat was cut and his body sunk in fifty fathoms of water. Col. David Miller was now seized and taken to Le Ray, it being the intention to take him where Morgan was—where that may be can be judged by the declaration of James Gansa, a member of the U.S. legislature, and also one of the conspirators—"That he was put where he should stay until God should call for him."

Miller was afterwards liberated, as the inhabitants of Le Ray interfered with the schemes of his kidnappers. I hope soon to read your account also, to see if there is any similarity of statement.—M.M.—[We have seen twenty accounts of the affair, all differing in their results. Can any one send us an account of the trial stated to have taken place].

Literature.

REVIEWS.

Government on First Principles, Proved and Illustrated Analogically.

By JOHN GROSSMITH, Esq., pp. 483. London: Piper, Stephenson, and Spence.

OF late years it has become a fashion to philosophize on every trifling incident in the life of man as an individual, or the acts of Governments as representing the life of a nation. Huge volumes of dreary speculation have issued from the press abounding with prescriptions which their authors say, if practised, would be for the benefit of mankind; but they have generally ended in raising the standard of rebellion against all human institutions, and attempt at superseding all existing theories and systems from the days of Thales and Pythagoras down to the positivism of M. Auguste Comte. We have now before us another philosopher, one who tells us that he looks at the science of government as fundamentally wrong, and, by analogy to first principles, is anxious to set it right, after his own fashion.

Mr. Grossmith divides his subject into one hundred and twenty-nine Chapters, with Appendices on the Policy of raising Loans for the State; Imperial Revenue and Expenditure; and an Account of the Gross Receipt and Net Produce of the Revenue of Customs and Excise. From this bare enumeration of the number of subjects which *Government on First Principles* treats of, it will be readily perceived that to enter into a thorough analysis of the work is altogether beyond the limits we could assign to it, and so we must content ourselves by an examination of some of its statements.

In our author's introduction he asks "for the kind indulgence of the reader while he leads him through the sciences of geology, geometry, metallurgy, and chemistry, which are briefly introduced as analogical corroborations, in order that first principles of government may be more clearly illustrated." From this it will be seen that our author is more or less scientific, but he also tells us that "the very basis of governments, as now constituted, is wrong. They are wrong theologically, morally, and civilly. It would, therefore, be useless to start at once upon the grand principles of theocracy without offering preparatory considerations. We will then endeavour to produce scientific deductions from the sceptical; theological and philosophical axioms for the thoughtful, the virtuous, and the pure; and just principles for all."

If we now descend to the examination of the details of the above scheme we shall find just what any reasonable man would expect—that there are some sensible remarks scattered up and down the volume amongst the multifarious subjects on which it discourses, and as to the sciences with which Mr. Grossmith is acquainted. He appears to have studied the "ologies" and to be a tolerable geometrician; but when a man sets himself up as a universal critic in all branches of knowledge, it seems, to our comprehension, that he takes upon himself far more than he is justified in doing. Not even the learning of a Bacon, Locke, Newton, Herschel, Leibnitz, Kant, Descartes, Fichte, Herder, or Jacobi, can warrant any individual to claim such a dictatorship as this. We will not designate Mr. Grossmith as "a Jack of all trades and master of none," because, as we before stated, he is a good, though not an eminent geometrician, and has a very laudable acquaintance with the principal branches of physics; but this will not justify his preaching, as he has done, *de rebus omnibus, et quibusdam aliis*. Even in those departments which he has studied

most and understands best, we cannot always congratulate him on the soundness or depth of his views.

In common with all the modern philosophical inquirers who have followed in Mr. Froude's wake, we meet with the acknowledged ignoring of the Supreme Being, as *God*. They all take Mr. Atkinson's definition, or rather admission of a something which they ill define, and say,—“Philosophy finds no God in nature: no personal being or creator, nor sees the want of any!” They cannot admit the essence of a personal God, in the usual sense of these terms, but they have no objection to “a something,” or “a principle,” because—ah, why?—“because the *form of mind* requires it!” So Mr. Grossmith cares not “to establish the creation by natural laws, unconnected with a Creator, or *Infinite Wisdom*. I wish not to dispute about the name, whether we call it *God, Jehovah, or Creator, the First Cause, the Primordial Element, the Anterior Elemental Law Maker, or God with us*. I can conceive no such grand scheme as this earth, the planets, the suns, the systems, the universes in the far distant immensity of space, without acknowledging the First Cause, Omnipotent, Omniscient, and Omnipresent; who is, and was, and ever will be, the Grand Architect of the universes.” And after this acknowledgment, as if to make the Creator as little as possible in the eyes of man, instead of bowing with homage and reverence to the sacred names he has before uttered, he designates this All-wise Being, the Great Creator of us all, the Father of life and light, the first person in the ever blessed Trinity, the perfection of all good, and the final judge of all our actions,—CAUSALITY! If this be philosophy that, for the sake of an uncouth title of the Deity, seeks to rob us of our reverence, awe, fear, and love, for the Majesty of the True and living God Most High, then we say—away with such false lights which break down the hopes of the immortal soul, and make us the sport of causality or chance.

Mr. Grossmith is evidently a great admirer of our late Bro. Emanuel Swedenborg. We respect his memory because he was a man of singular purity of life and manners. With whatever eye we may look at his theological views, yet we are bound to say that he never, in his wildest dreams of spiritualism, indulged in such balderdash as the following. Swedenborg's reverence for high and holy things is exactly the reverse of Mr. Grossmith's. Swedenborg believed strongly in the personality of each of the three divine personages of the Holy Trinity, but he appears to have been led away by a fickle imagination caused not by causality, but by a want of a simple adherence to the *literal Word of God*. This utterly bewildered him and seduced him into the depths of dreamy transcendentalism and mystical delusion, producing a tendency to *materialise spirit* or to *spiritualise matter*. His doctrine of spirits is of the most fanciful description, and in his intermediate state, or world of disembodied souls, he approached very near to the Romish doctrine of purgatory, and “at death,” he says “man is instantaneously raised in a *spiritual body*, which is, during his lifetime, in the flesh, invisible, but really *inclosed* in his material frame.” Now how does Mr. Grossmith treat this spirit—the essence of all spirits—the Spirit of God—the Holy Ghost himself? Let his own words testify:

“Spiritualism seems to be a doctrine not defined or understood, but is intended to acquaint us with mediums or beings which are not cognizable by the senses. Yet physical spirit is immensely cognizable to the senses; and least of any term should be used to represent invisibility or insensible contact.

“Let us be honest, and use the term wind, or air, which is the true rendering of the word spirit, as it receives its derivation from Greek and Hebrew, and instead of using the terms of spirit rappings and spirit mediums, we will use the correct rendering, and say wind rapping and windy mediums; because in doing so we shall betray the absurdity of using the term ‘spirit’ in any such applications.

“Now how does this term ‘wind’ apply to scriptural phraseology? In the Athanasian creed we are said to worship one God—the Godhead of the Father, of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Rendering this honestly, it signifies the Godhead of the First Cause, and that of causality, and that of the holy wind or the holy air; for certainly any other rendering is a mysticism. The Holy Spirit (from *Spiritus Sanctus*) is nothing more nor less than the sanctified wind; and all the sacerdots that ever licked and kissed Peter's great toe never could make anything else of it. That which comes to their rescue is not air, but *Paracletus the Comforter*. We must, then, be honest, and say that the comforting wind is the third person of Divinity. I like the comforting wind (*sic.*) But of course that which is analogous to the comforting wind is what is meant; and that may easily be conceived to be a comforting influence, a comforting vitality, that shall be benign and harmonious with First Principles—a glory grateful in reception and expression. The *Spiritus Sanctus Paracletus*, then, is the Comforting Holy Wind, which we yet hope to realize, and which would be better expressed in the words, the Comforting Purity of Divine Vitality. The word sanctity (*sanctitas*) is certainly uprightness, inviolability, honesty, good,

chastity, purity; and I would prefer using either of these terms than the term ‘holy,’ simply because it is better defined, and partakes less of conventionality.

Turning from this theological subject we take up the book at Chapter LI., which is headed “*Temporary Triumph of the Good and Glorious in 1790.*” But it is necessary to begin at the conclusion of Chapter L. to trace some of the author's views of “the good and glorious,” and although the extract may be long, we prefer inserting the whole of it rather than offer our own summary of its contents. He says:—

“What glorious examples have we in some of the great struggles of the neighbouring country, France. How simultaneously once the spirit of the generous and the true entered every man's breast in 1790, notwithstanding the devastations the demons of power—in rank high and low—made upon that holy attempt.

“Notwithstanding the slurs that our pseudo-zealots heap upon that revolution, the fraternity of sentiment that followed the struggles of nature in casting off the selfish rule that existed prior, is a grand illustration of the fact that selfishness alone severs man from man. Remove this, and generous true love enters the breast, and all creation is but a bond of love and union.

“What struggles did that enterprising people make to conquer within themselves the prevailing nature of humanity, i. e., self. How did they succeed for a short time from the highest to the lowest, not in the least exempting the king himself, poor Louis XVI., who deserved a better fate. He, too, gave up all for the Constitution. Such glorious specimens of national patriotism, of self-sacrifice for national good, were never witnessed before. It was as if the spirit of the Holy One went forth to make perfect the earth. A fearless love of the just entered the breasts of the whole nation, Paris and provinces. A standard was raised of what was right at that day. The wrong was made to crumble before it. Oh, glorious doings, so well commenced! The prison of torture—the Bastille—first fell, and no longer could conceal the innocent victims who were rotting in its dunghill dungeons. Along with this fell the *lettres de cachet* which peopled its awful walls; the facile instruments of undeserved severity and cruelty, which the priests and courtiers so frightfully abused.

“This fell, and the bishops' Pharisaic ascendancy tottered to the ground. Monasteries yielded up their victims, tithes abolished, state religion became less corrupt; truer adherents there were in motive and practice. Hereditary nobility abolished, June 19th, 1790. Thus fell hereditary rights—the opponent of the distribution of wealth, the enemy of progress, and the stultifier of the mind. Too good a law for the sin of the day. Also fell rotten representation: universal suffrage was then proclaimed. Thus, then, corrupted laws also staggered and fell. The whole nation was a glorious confederation on the 14th July, 1790. All opposing interests and people became one nation, united as brethren. Divisions of class, party, and religion were forgotten. Man again finds God, though calls Him Nature. He embraces his country, then he embraces humanity, with his whole heart, which compasses the whole world—not too large an area for the magnitude of their good hopes and intentions. Certainly the unselfish spirit pervaded the whole of the French on that day; their love extended to all mankind.

“I commenced this work by showing that the minds of all beings in the universe are governed by laws immutable, yet ever adapted to human mutations. In the undertakings of the French in 1790 we have a remarkable instance of this. The mind of the French nation then responded spontaneously to the governing influences of the universal law. It was not a partial movement, neither in object nor place: it was not confined to class nor locality. The people had received a grand elementary influence, impelling them to action. The influx was pure, immutable, originating in the Divine governing law. Hence we can account for their pure love of justice, in whomsoever and in whatsoever justice was required; for their love of each other extended their fraternization to all the world, hoping to extend the helping hand to all suffering nature fettered by corrupt governments, which stamped the face of the whole world. But, *anguis in herba*, how soon were their hopes dissipated! how soon they experienced the mutability of man! how unprepared were they really to receive the Divine impress—to be governed by Divine laws! While, perhaps, the French people were the most adapted to attempt the redemption of human legislation, because of the prompt energy with which they answered to the Divine dictate, and because of their peculiar idiosyncrasy of character, which rendered them instruments, for a short time, of spiritual influx; yet they relied so much upon human wisdom, that they forgot the Divine; and, while they destroyed, they could not always build up a better superstructure. Having destroyed the Bastille, they had not subjected the evils of their nature to the custody of incorruptible power. Having destroyed the tithes and the accumulated corruptions of the Church, they forgot that, like that Church, they themselves were liable to similar corruption, unless upheld and withheld by a power superior to humanity. They occasionally forgot to know from whence the spirit that actuated them had sprung; whence originated the holy sentiment that swelled their hearts and enlightened their minds, to see and act upon what was right and good. They omitted to recollect that human mutability was not to be depended upon; that power lies in the spiritual mind, not in the body without the mind. Mind is the *Primum Mobile*. The ethereal is the potential in matter even; instance steam, the gases, and electricity;

that the spiritual is the potential in the minds that govern the bodies that govern the world. Cut off this mind from the body—how impotent its staggering and blundering attitude! Cut off the spirit of First Principles from the mind, the ghastly aspect of death, pallid and torpid, ensues; perverted and fiendish the man becomes; the animal lusts and passions usurp the throne of love and fraternity.

"The mind is governed by laws immutable, but man too often confounds human inventions with Divine laws. Laws Divine are immutable, yet ever adapted to human mutations. Man makes the change of action, and pursues one line of action one day, and alters it the next, because he allows an inferior impulse to regulate him, and prefers it to the Divine. This was clearly exemplified in the French revolution; notwithstanding we ought never to forget the purity of the first sentiment that first set that country in motion, and look upon that grand event as an indication of a new or fresh adaptation of governing influx into this world.* Let us be careful how we denounce it, fraught as it was in its after course with misery and cruelty. The difficulty in restoring national rectitude can best be seen in that of the individual. How conflicting, how vacillating, is our own progress, and all because our house is not made clean within, so that when the good enters, evils combat against the good, conflicts ensue, struggles of life and death shake the whole frame of man; for the powerful enemy within can only be driven out by a greater power than he, and that power we cannot see with naked eyes, so we forget often to call in that aid; or self-hood shuts the door against him, or hatred enters too strongly into our composition—yea, the hatred of the wrong, causing us to do wrong to conquer wrong. Shall I say the French did wrong to overcome wrong? Shall I say Louis XVI. did! Mirabeau did? Lafayette did? Marat did? Camille, Demoulin, Danton, and Robespierre did? I know it is too often done by all. Had Robespierre relied less upon human reason, and sought more for the elementary law from Divine wisdom, to guide the grand movement, the movement would have been less errant and more successful. Had he studied infinite and universal laws and human weakness more, and Jean Jacques Rousseau less, and paused to look into himself, and raise his thoughts from thence to the Infinite Governing Power, the Ruler by primary principles, the cause of legislative progress might not have been retarded so much, nor have suffered so much by bad examples.

"If, then, difficulty exists in individuals, how much greater must be that difficulty in nations composed of millions of individuals. Man cannot command himself. Who, then, can command and govern nations but the Omnipotent? How weak must man be in all his vaunted self-sufficient strength, who does not demean himself to power omnipotent—everywhere, in everything.

"The grand mistake in that revolution was, that the Church—though shaken, made to totter—never fell; nor by protestation was it changed. New bottles were not substituted for the old, but the old bottles were left with new wine; so that the little good that remained in their papistical vessels soon burst, and was shed abroad, and emptiness characterised again their gilded walls.

"No temple representing First Principles had been raised from the embers of the revolution. So conflicting dynasties and factions soon laid hold of the spoil, and all is lost again, leaving not even a wreck behind. England's dynastic duration in permanence may be explained by the fact of the obscurity, if not by the extinction of the lineage of the bygone Plantagenets and Tudors. If the Stuarts be not extinct, the House is allowed but that duration vile, which, were it presumptive, would be worse than annihilation. But the planting of the footsteps of William and Mary on the land of Great Britain was not to perpetuate an old state of things, which had become distasteful because of its corruption, but the Hanoverian House was regarded as synonymous with progress, both in Church and State. Our existing royalists in the nineteenth century must not, then, ignore, nor mistake, the mission of our present House of Hanover; for, certain it is that, if Great Britain go not forward, she will retrograde. She must be continually advancing in that reformation, both in Church and State, which characterized the throne that the Prince of Orange ascended, comprehending, as he did, the genius of the people over whom he came to reign. Let not our Sovereign's best and most devoted subjects forget the genius of this day, as France in her backslidings is now doing, has often done, and will ever do, as long as First Principles are not recognized—first in an ever-reforming and progressing Church; next in the same ever-reforming and progressing state. Let Great Britain never forget her mission, as France, through her Louis Napoleon, has done. He that should have raised France to a glorious second empire has corrupted her very institutions, dissipated her once hopeful position as the leader in the constitutional liberties of Europe, driven into exile the best spirits of France, crushed the press, menaced every voter—until all has become servile submission to the WILL OF ONE BAD MAN, who is so rapidly approaching the acme of infamy, that his fall is inevitable, unless he speedily retrace, and find his own best interest lies in doing good."

After the above is it necessary for us to offer a single comment to show that the philosophy of first principles, such as Mr. Gros-smith lays down and applauds, is neither more nor less than the overthrow of all human institutions by democratic violence, and a baptism of blood and slaughter in the place of "peace on earth and goodwill towards men."

* See Swedenborg's *Last Judgment and Divine Providence*.

We cannot follow our author through all his wonderful speculations, but must content our readers with a glance at one or two of the titles of his chapters such, for instance, as that, where *Power is* (said to be) *the Standard of Hell; Virtue and Justice form the Standard of Heaven*. Chapter lxxxvii. is on *The Remedy for Excessive Wealth*, and here we have a novel scheme proposed, viz., that an individual once in possession of £100,000, a law should compel him to cease acquiring more for himself—dividing any surplus among his relatives, or devoting it to an industrial fund to start honest, needy and poor working people in life. Or he proposes the alternative of such a one should be, to cause him to go on paying taxes in an increased ratio. We are then treated to several chapters which, rather late in the day, combat the Malthusian doctrines. We have also a slap at Paley and Oliver Goldsmith—the legitimate aim of journalism; and a chapter headed "*The Times*" *Journal is the Barrier to Progress*. After this the philosopher is obliged to come down from his pinnacle of wisdom and admit a chapter to prove that *Money is power!* with most wretched philosophy. We cannot refrain from citing one or two suppositions from the conjectural estimate of the property and incomes of Great Britain. We are told to suppose that there are five men worth £10,000,000, fifty worth £3,000,000, and one hundred £1,000,000, which we believe to be three of the most fallacious conjectures ever penned. We have also a chapter on *The Abolition of Sinecures*, with a long list of names and proposed reductions, one of which certainly is funny from the manner in which it is put forward, viz., "Mecklenburgh Strelitz, Prince of, on Consolidated Fund of Ireland. (This foreigner, doing us no good nor any service, let it all cease), £1788." In the Appendix on Imperial Revenue and Expenditure there are some pretty long lists of pensioners on the country, but no country can subsist without rewards for services, and almost every individual now on the civil list is fairly reaping the reward of their own exertions or receiving that acknowledgment from the country that their forefathers ought to have been in receipt of whilst living. We know the old proverb "that a live jackass is better than a dead lion," but if the lion was neglected in his days of strength, wasted for the benefit of the country, or, as is more frequently the case, improperly paid for his labour, we cannot see the impropriety in endeavouring to make good the injustice in the person of his descendants. Nay, more, upon what we consider *first principles*, every labourer is worthy of his hire, and if that hire be not duly discharged to him in his own day, is it not a duty that, at any rate, his seed should not suffer after him? We hold it to be so, and although there are and always will be many abuses in the administration of this and every other country, yet they are not to be philosophised away, particularly when the philosophy that would eradicate them has nothing better to offer than Causality and the Reign of Terror as its grand exponents of the True and Beautiful.

NOTES ON LITERATURE, SCIENCE AND ART.

THE professorship of Modern History at Cambridge is still vacant, and the long delay in filling up the appointment is much animadverted upon. The *Times* in vain took up the matter, and last week Mr. Steuart, one of the members for Cambridge, put a question in the House of Commons to Sir G. C. Lewis, from whom he got no satisfactory information. The *Cambridge Chronicle* states that Mr. Steuart has obtained from Lord Palmerston a more definite reply to his question. It appears that the professorship has been offered to several distinguished persons, who have declined to accept it. The delay, therefore, in filling up the vacancy is attributable to the difficulty of finding a person of standing and reputation willing to accept the post. This explanation is deemed at Cambridge in the highest degree unsatisfactory, as it is well known that the office has been applied for by several gentlemen whose qualifications are undoubted.

The author of "*The Bible in Spain*," and "*Lavengro*" will always have it in his power to create an interest in the novel reading and amusement seeking public; but at the same time the announcement of a new book from his eccentric pen engenders a pleasing curiosity beyond that circle of triflers. Mr. George Borrow has not been heard of in literature since "*Romany Rye*," although for many years he is said to have had something like twenty works, chiefly the fruits of his immense philological knowledge, ready for publication. Among Mr. Murray's announcements is one of a new work by Mr. Borrow, "*The Sleeping Bard*; or, *Visions of the World, Death, and Hell*, translated from the Cambrian British of Elias Wyn."

At the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge the graces presented to the Senate are always couched in the Latin tongue, and it is amusing to

observe the circumlocutions resorted to when it becomes necessary to speak of modern things "I have seen graces (says a Cambridge correspondent of a daily contemporary) which would have been as unintelligible to Cicero or Quintilian as a cuneiform inscription or an Irish ogham." In the grace for the admission of the new Bishop of Rochester to the degree of D.D., by the way, the Rev. John Cotton Wigram is termed "*Episcopus Ruffoniensis*" for "*Roffensis*." The official notices issued from the Vice-Chancellor's lodge present a ludicrous jumble of languages, for though the graces themselves are in Latin, the preamble and notes are invariably in English. For example, the following grace passed last week: "*Placeat vobis ut Johannes Eldon Gorst e Coll. Div. Johann. ad incipiendum in artibus vel absens admittatur.*"* After this grand display of erudition, the reader whose eye follows the falling star to the bottom of the page beholds in the vulgar tongue this short and pithy note: "Mr. Gorst is engaged in missionary work in New Zealand." It can hardly be maintained that the miserable phraseology of the graces has a tendency to familiarize any one with classical literature.

In America the circulation of the *Cornhill Magazine* has reached such a point, says the *New York Tribune*, "that there is a plan now seriously entertained by an enterprising bookseller of reprinting each number bodily, and issuing it the next day after the arrival of the English copies."

The *New York Tribune* speaks highly of the interesting nature of Washington Irving's "*Life and Letters*," now in speedy preparation by his nephew and literary executor. Mr. Irving is so much the historian of events that the work will possess almost the charm of an autobiography. The details of his visit to Europe, at the eventful period of the Peace of Amiens, 1804, will be entirely new, and includes more romantic associations than are usually connected with our idea of Geoffrey Crayon, in later life; while the pictures of English literary society, for which his prolonged residence abroad gave him material, will seem to the present generation like a new revelation of the inner life of the Georgian era. The memoir and correspondence will probably make three volumes, uniform with the standard edition of Irving's works.

M. Thiers, it is said, is about to visit the field of battle of Waterloo, to prepare materials for the 18th volume of his History, which will comprise the Hundred Days.

We hear from Tuscany that, amongst other Protestant books lately published at Florence, a translation has appeared of Chevalier Bunsen's "*Signs of the Times*." The work, which was originally directed against the German pietists, and has created a great sensation in this country, seems to have met with the enthusiastic applause of the Liberals in Italy. In his preface Signor Emilio Leone, the translator, likens the noble Chevalier to Romagnos, Simon, and the other natural religionists of modern times—a comparison which the author would certainly be the first to disavow. More similarity of sentiment may be expected from Herr von Bunsen with the translator, when the latter, in a subsequent passage, says that, with Roman Catholics, the notion of religious liberty is on a par with that of the rights of property among thieves.

Frederick the Great of Prussia, during his lifetime, caused a splendid edition of his works to be published; they were illustrated by numerous copper-plates; but after a few copies had been distributed, the King, as it would seem, altered his mind, and the edition disappeared. The few copies, of course, that had found their way to the public have long been considered as great rarities, and have been paid for accordingly. Lately, some building repairs having become necessary, some nailed-up boxes were found at Berlin; and, on opening them, the contents appeared to be the then secreted edition. It will be interesting to learn if the work is still in good condition.

English literature must be steadily cultivated in Germany as a branch of Education, if we are to judge by an announcement that a ninth stereotyped edition has just appeared of a work entitled "*The British Classical Authors: select specimens of the National Literature of England from Chaucer to the present time, with Biographical and Critical Notices. Poetry and Prose.*" It will be some time before Max Müller's similar specimens of German national literature, published for English students of German, attain a ninth edition in this country.

Longmans are preparing for publication "*A Sketch of the Life and Character of Sir Robert Peel, by the Right Hon. Sir Lawrence Peel.*" This will be the first biography of the great statesman which will have owed anything to a member of his family. Sir Lawrence Peel is a first cousin of the late Sir Robert Peel, and from 1842 to 1855 occupied the post of Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Calcutta.

At Paris an interesting document has just been published in the *Journal of Public Instruction*. A poor governess named Cléret has dis-

covered a supposed cure for the deaf and dumb; a commission has been appointed to inquire into the matter, and has reported rather favourably to the minister of instruction upon the matter. The method employed by Mademoiselle Cléret consists in introducing sulphuric ether into the aural conduit, in doses of four to eight drops a day, for about twenty days, when the application is suspended for a short time and again recommenced. The report declares the subject to deserve attention, and says that the experiments already made have clearly proved the innocuous character of the application. Mlle. Cléret discovered the supposed remedy by accident. She had been deaf for several years, and chanced to find a leaf from an old geographical work, in which it was stated that the natives of a certain country made use of various substances to cure deafness. She then commenced operating upon herself, but having no chemical knowledge, she suffered much pain and disappointment before she hit upon the substance in question. A painful interest is thrown around the matter by the fact that the unexpected good fortune produced by the reception of the discovery—which was rewarded by the French Academy with the Montyon prize—has unhinged the intellect of the poor governess, who is now under restraint in a *maison de santé*.

The literary police of Paris has been tolerably active lately with respect to political matters, but its efforts in the cause of morality have not been so evident. However, as a commencement has been made, and the ice has been cracked—it can scarcely be said to have been broken—there is no saying what dangerous lengths the agents of Louis Napoleon may go. A day or two since appeared a little book entitled "*Memoirs of Rigol-boche*," professing to be the autobiography of a young lady, who is best known by the above euphonious appellation, and whose reputation is that she can raise the tip of her shoe to a far higher altitude than any other *danseuse* in Paris. Report does say, also, that her virtue is not quite of the same exalted character as her saltatorial accomplishments. The heroine appears in the bills of the "*Delassements Comiques*" as *Marquerite*. The book in question is fast—about that there is no doubt—and it had a large sale. It was at first ornamented by a photograph of the young lady in one or other of her most remarkable attitudes, and the fact that these illustrations were not copies of each other gave the thing the appearance of being published not only with her consent but with her aid. The work has not been seized, but the photographs have been extracted by order of the authorities; while the book itself, which is far more objectionable than the pictorial embellishments, has only been interdicted from being reprinted.

At the special general meeting of the Fellows of the Geological Society, held last week, it was resolved that the evening meetings on May 2nd, May 16th, May 30th, and June 13th, shall be held at Burlington House, Piccadilly.

The Academy of Sciences of St. Petersburg is about to send a scientific expedition to the newly subjected districts of the Caucasus, which are but little known to Europeans.

Mr. Joseph Millar has bequeathed to the Institution of Civil Engineers the munificent sum of £5,000.

At the anniversary meeting of the Society of Antiquaries, it was resolved that the hour of the ordinary evening meetings should be half-past eight, instead of eight o'clock.

At the meeting of the Zoological Society last week, Dr. Gray, V.P., presided. He pointed out the characters of a new species of monkey obtained by Mr. Bates on the Upper Amazon; and of new species of Terrapin sent by Mr. Fraser from Ecuador. Mr. R. F. Toms communicated a list of mammals, collected by Mr. Fraser in Ecuador, among which were several new species of the genus *Heptomys*. Mr. Slater called the attention of the meeting to the series of peafowl and rheas in the society's menagerie, pointing out the characters which seemed to establish the claims of the black shouldered peacock to be considered a good species; and distinguishing a third species of rhea, founded upon a living male bird, which had every appearance of being truly different from *Rhea Americana*, as *Rhea macrorhyncha*. Mr. Slater also exhibited a table illustrative of the distribution of the *Psittacidae*, in the Eastern Archipelago. Mr. Bartlett exhibited a series of the eggs of struthious birds, amongst which was one of the Mooruk (*Casuarus Bennettii*), recently laid in the society's menagerie. Mr. Gould exhibited specimens of the Himalayan Chough, which he proposed to separate from the European species. Dr. A. Günther described a new species of snake, from Carthage; and read a third list of coldblooded vertebrates, collected in Ecuador by Mr. Fraser, among which were several new and interesting species. The secretary announced the arrival of some valuable animals from Belize, presented to the society's menagerie by Mr. Chief Justice Temple; and read a note from that gentleman relating to the

habits of two species of peccary found in that colony. Mr. Wilson exhibited albinos varieties of the common Mole. A paper was read, by Mr. H. Adams, "On a New Genus and Species of Mollusc, of the Family Scalaridae."

Sir James Clark, President, took the chair at the last meeting of the Ethnological Society, on which occasion the following gentlemen were elected Fellows:—J. Crawford, Esq., Sir G. Grey (Governor of the Cape), Sir J. K. Shuttleworth, Bart., G. G. Glyn, Esq., M.P., Alderman Salomons, M.P., Captain A. H. Russell, and J. Smith, Esq. The president announced that the council had requested Dr. J. Hunt to assist Mr. T. Wright in the duties of the honorary secretaryship, and he felt sure that the society would greatly benefit by Dr. Hunt's services. Mr. Antonius Aneumeu brought to the society six Arabs from the Strangers' Home, including natives of Mecca, Jedda, Bushire, Syria and Damascus. Mr. Crawford doubted the amount of Arab blood which was claimed for them. A paper was then read, "On the Karen Tribes," by Edward O'Riley, Esq. These tribes, Mr. O'Riley thinks, are offshoots from the widely-extended family of mountain races, whose origin can be traced to the Mongolian type of Central Asia, and who, from the deep valleys and subordinate ranges of the Thibetian Himalaya to the wilds of the Malay Peninsula, still preserve their nomadic character with habits and religions, or rather "spirit-worship faith," which place a broad line of demarcation between them and cognate peoples possessing a comparative form of civilization in their Bhuddistic, Mohammedan, and Brahminical religions. Many of these tribes are described as being in the most uncivilized state, and in filth worse than pigs or monkeys—yet all possess a spirit of independence and hatred of the tyranny of their fellow men. Those tribes have been so ground down by former governments, that it is with the greatest difficulty we have been able to get them to put any confidence in our promises of aid and protection. Forty thousand have accepted the doctrines of Christianity through the instrumentality of the American Baptist Mission. Extracts were read from a journal kept on making a tour in Karen-Nee for the purpose of opening a trading road to the Shan traders. The manners, dress and agriculture were fully described, and many interesting anecdotes illustrating the peculiarities of these worn-down people. They make a fermented liquor (koun) from millet and ryuk. They have maize, and also vegetables of the pumpkin class, with several descriptions of beans; the oil "sesame," the ground-nut, tobacco and cotton plants. The principal superstition of the Karen race, and to which they pin their faith, is the number of small orifices in the bones of a fowl. The tribes of Karens, who inhabit the mountains, are a most turbulent and vicious race, and are in the habit of making forays on other tribes and seizing all they can and selling them into slavery. The more peaceable tribes live in the greatest terror, and sleep with their spears in their hands. To gain admission to these tribes, you must cement their friendship by a process of blood sucking, and it is necessary to take some one to suck the blood from the chief's arm, and thus make peace with him and his tribe. Mr. Crawford thought there was not a shadow of foundation for the assumption that the Karens were of Mongolian origin. He thought that it was a most interesting fact, that the number of these races converted to Christianity was ten times greater than the whole of the peoples who had accepted Bhuddism. It was also remarkable that, with only a population of twenty inhabitants to a square mile, they were yet able to pay for the whole of their civil and military expenses.

The acceptance of the gigantic task of introducing palm trees into France by the Society of Acclimation, has given the best proof of the serious nature of the undertaking. It is to M. Charles Naudin, the assistant naturalist of the Zoological Gardens of Marseilles, that the honour of the idea is owing. M. Charles Naudin, who has spent his whole life in making various experiments in vegetable acclimation, has succeeded in cultivating the species of palm which grows at Port Natal, which he has brought to great perfection in the open air at Marseilles. He suggests that the various species of the date tree growing in Algeria should be cultivated in the south of France, while the palmetto of Louisiana, offering every qualification for the endurance of the mistral, might also be essayed. It appears that the proposition, received with great applause, is to be put in immediate execution.

The third conversazione of the Society for the Encouragement of the Fine Arts was held on Thursday evening in the Suffolk-street Gallery, which was well filled with a distinguished company of artists and patrons of art. Mr. H. Ottley commenced the proceedings of the evening by reading a brief paper on the patronage and status of art in this country, of which he took a gratifying and encouraging view. He

insisted that the true patronage of art was that which came from the spontaneous feeling of the people, which was more efficacious and fruitful than any which state support or aristocratic caprice could supply. The prices which artists obtained for pictures now were eight or ten fold what they received fifty years ago; and, to go further back, Sir Joshua Reynolds painted three-quarter length portraits for £25 a hundred years ago—not a tenth of what was paid now for similar works to artists of any eminence. All this was owing to the public taste having been awakened to the charm of designs, and the best interests of artists would be promoted by anything which should enable the public in greater numbers to flock to the exhibition of their works.

Last Saturday morning a deputation from the Artistic Copyright Committee of the Society of Arts had an interview with Lord Palmerston, at Cambridge House, Piccadilly.

The Emperor of Austria, who strictly prohibits contributions for the Arndt monument, has joined the subscription for Racine's great granddaughter, Mlle. Noémie Trochu, with a contribution of 200 ducats. Madame Ristori acted *Phedra*, in Italian, in the *Théâtre Français*, for the same purpose, and spoke a few French verses, by Legouvé, before Racine's bust, which created a great sensation.

The monument of Robert Blake—to be raised in the beautiful church at Taunton—is now on view at Mr. Papworth's studio, Milton-street, Dorset-square. It is a splendid work. The design, by Mr. Bailey, is one of the finest ever wrought by his hand. "The character of the great fighting admiral (says the *Athenæum*) is caught to the life. This presentation is, in fact, the ideal warrior of the Commonwealth; more like to Blake, morally and physically, than any of the poor prints which call themselves likenesses of Blake; for it is marble informed with the spirit of his glorious deeds. In the massive head, in the wide, flashing eye, in the distended nostril, and in the curled, adamant lip, we feel a victorious sense of power and genius. So he must have looked when Tromp, against the usages of war, opened his guns upon him in the Downs—so he may have looked when the Dey of Tunis bade him count the cannon on his walls—so, too, he may have looked when told that the governor of Santa Cruz said, he might come if he dared; superbly calm, and confident, and strong." Mr. Papworth deserves all praise for his execution of Mr. Bailey's design. The marble is very beautiful; and, take it all in all, the monument is one of which the town of Taunton, so gloriously associated with the fame of Blake, may well be proud.

The Old Society of Painters in Water Colours threw open their doors last Saturday to their patrons and friends for a private view of their annual exhibition of paintings which is opened to day for the first time this season to the public. The rooms were crowded with a very fashionable company, and it seemed to be very generally admitted that the exhibition was fully up to the mark of any previous year.

SAM SLICK AND THE ATHENÆUM CLUB.—"My scientific club has no smoking room; the bishops (and they do greatly congregate there) think smoking *infra dig*. They were once curates, and were good for a clay pipe, a screw of tobacco, and a pot of half-and-half; but now they are good for nothing but shovel hats, aprons, and gaiters. Artists would enjoy a whiff, but stand in awe of these dons. It is true they don't give 'orders' themselves, but they know those who do, which is quite as good, and they have a very patronizing air, so they look at these sable dignitaries, draw a long sigh, shake their heads, and mutter, 'It's a pity it's no go.' A few old lords, who love black-lettered folios, because they are printed with antiquated types and are early editions, coeval with, or antecedent to, their own titles, are horrified at the sight of a 'clay,' which they associate with thieves and pickpockets, and the smell of tobacco, which painfully reminds them of those hotbeds of schism and rebellion—the pot-houses. The geological members of the club have a 'primitive formation' in them; but it is either overlaid with rubbish or crops out ruggedly sometimes; still they are 'up to trap,' and would like 'a draw' if they were not overawed by these lords spiritual and temporal. Defend me from the dulness of those who point only to the future or the past, and are not 'up to the time of day.' I don't want to live with my grandfathers or my grandchildren. I have no desire to hear of Gladstone's Homer, and the Siege of Troy, or Little Red Riding Hood, and the Babes in the Wood. Defend me from a learned club like mine! The members are not genial, and they must be incurable, when such men as Thackeray, Sam Slick, and Dickens, who (to their credit be it spoken) are all smokers, can't persuade them that what the white and the black man, the Jew and the Gentile, the Christian and the Turk, the savage and the Spanish lady do, has at least the sanction of the majority, and is clearly adapted to all tastes and all climates. The war waged against this habit by old dons, antiquated dames, and pretty girls, ought to be added to the three great social evils that afflict this country."—*The Season Ticket*.

Poetry.

HOPE AND FAITH.

SWEET hope, in all adversity,
 From weak despondence set me free,
 When wand'ring in misfortune's shade,
 And by combining foes dismay'd,
 Be thou, oh radiant cherub, near,
 To whisper comfort in my ear;
 Inspire my drooping soul to rise
 To nobler aims, beyond the skies.
 Meek charity, inflame my mind
 With love for all the human kind;
 Till, by thy pious lessons taught,
 I guard each action, word, and thought,
 Lest I to any give offence,
 Or wound another's weaker sense;
 His follies or his faults make known,
 But study to amend my own.
 And thou, Almighty Lord of all,
 On thee, with humble voice, I call;
 Who rais'd the effulgent heav'n's sublime,
 Long ere thy will gave birth to time;
 Who hast decreed when time shall cease,
 And to eternity give place;
 Whose eye, the glorious fount of day,
 Can all things at a glance survey;
 Whose breath to nature being gives,
 The principle of all that lives;
 Whose hand, the shield of innocence,
 Is armed with omnipotence;
 Whose mandate fram'd, whose lightning hurl'd,
 Can ruin this stupendous world;
 And crush, in one amazing fall,
 All empires, kingdoms, states, and all
 Mankind—by swift disastrous doom,
 O'erwhelm in one tremendous tomb!
 Oh hear, and grant my fervent pray'r,
 For vain is every mortal care
 Without thine aid—oh! cast an eye
 Of mercy from thy throne on high,
 On me and mine—my ways direct,
 My days from sorrow still protect;
 My mind illumine, deign to bless
 My daily labours with success;
 Assist me, by thy providence,
 To gain a liberal competence;
 Which I may with discretion use,
 Nor e'er thy sacred gifts abuse;
 So shall I taste the sweets of peace,
 And happiness my dwelling grace;
 Content shall crown my humble board,
 By industry with plenty stor'd;
 The kind companion of my days,
 And little ones, their hands shall raise,
 Thy wondrous mercies to proclaim,
 And bless, and glorify thy name.
 Thus we may live, and may'st thou send
 Some kind forewarning of our end;
 That so prepar'd our souls shall be,
 To merit grace in death from thee.

THE BATTLE OF LIFE.

BY BRO. WHITING.

BRETHREN, how, this lovely morning,
 Goes the battle with you here?
 Are you arm'd to meet with scorning
 All the hosts of sin and fear?

Human life—it is a battle,
 Waged unceasing, day by day;
 Loud the death shots round us rattle—
 Pierce the foes in dread array.

Sin and sickness, want and sorrow,
 With our frailties are allied,
 Each from each contrives to borrow
 Aid to conquer human pride.

But, my brethren, there's an armour
 Which is proof to all attack;
 Voice of foes or syren charmer,
 Power to harm it still must lack.

This strong armour is Masonic,
 You will find it light to bear;
 Three short words, in phrase laconic,
 Shadow forth its beauty rare.

Faith the helmet, bright and shining—
 Hope the breastplate, strong and true
 Charity, whose beams refining,
 Clothe the soul with graces new.

This the armour, whose protection
 Guards from foes that meet us here;
 While to soothe our deep dejection,
 We've a board of goodly cheer.

Lo, the gifts upon our table,
 Which refresh our daily toil;
 They to soothe all woes are able—
 Here they are—corn, wine, and oil!

CORRESPONDENCE.

[THE EDITOR does not hold himself responsible for any opinions
 entertained by Correspondents.]

ROYAL ARK MARINERS.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—In reply to your correspondent, "C. A. B.," I have pleasure to inform him, that there is a Lodge of Royal Ark Mariners held at the Turf Hotel, Edinburgh; and I have no doubt the worthy Secretary, Bro. Alexander Hay, will, with his usual ready kindness, furnish any information in his power that "C. A. B." may wish to obtain relative to the degree that may be communicated to one who has not received the same.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,
 Glasgow, April 30th, 1860. K. H.

THE MARK MASTER'S DEGREE.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—"R.E.X.," in his letter under the above heading, appears to be labouring to resolve the doubts he has respecting the legality of the Mark degree in this country. By his own admission he belongs to an illegal jurisdiction, as the Bon Accord Lodge of Mark Masters is not to be found on the register of the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland—the only authority that grants its warrants for this country—the Grand Lodge of England, Grand Chapter, Grand Conclave, and Supreme Grand Council of the 33°, all tacitly ignoring its existence, and there being no other Masonic governing powers in this kingdom that I am aware of. The Bon Accord, it is well known, derives its existence from a self constituted source. Consequently, if "R.E.X." is working that degree, he is doing so in Masonic schism—may well be anxious about his status as a Mark Mason—and seems to have arrived at a pretty near guess to the truth, when he says, "a great many brethren have wasted much time and circumstance in supporting an immense fungus."

In another portion of his communication, he states that "the degree is becoming more eagerly desired than formerly." Now what this "formerly" means it is impossible to discover; but the legalized working of the degree has for many years had its supporters here; while the something which of late years arrogates to itself the name of an English Grand Lodge of Mark Masters is nothing but an abortive attempt to erect an *imperium in imperio*, which must, sooner or later, happily die out.

For the information of "R.E.X.," who seems, like all illegal Masons of every degree, sadly deficient in the history of those degrees to which they profess to belong, I beg to present him with the following list of Mark Master's Lodges in England, which hold of the only power who can truly authorize them here at present, and are registered on the roll of the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland:—Nos. 1. St. Mark's, Freemasons' Tavern, London; 2. St. John's, Bolton, Lancashire; 3. Thistle, London; 4. Arnott, London; 5. Joppa, Birkenhead; 6. Keystone, Liverpool; 7. Canynge, Bristol; 8. Liverpool; 9. Old Kent (the charter of which has been recalled); 10. Florence Nightingale, Woolwich; 11. Southwark, Bermondsey; 12. Fletcher, Whitehaven; 13. Cheltenham and Keystone, Cheltenham; 14. St. John's, Quebec (Canada); 15. The Second, Liverpool; 16. The Langley, Cardiff. For the history which "R.E.X." seems anxious to discover, he is referred to any of the above regular Lodges where, if he is duly qualified, every information may be obtained.

Before taking leave, let me call the attention of all Mark Masters, either legal or illegal, to the indecency of continually violating the Book of Constitutions by pertinaciously wearing the

Mark jewel, in opposition to law, in Lodges or Chapters. On more than one occasion I have complained of this practice to the Masters of Lodges, who have caused the jewels to be taken off, in some cases only by the pressure of a threat that they would be called before the Board of General Purposes, as controverting that part of our regulations which relate to the regalia and wearing of honorary jewels and emblems. This indecent thrusting of the jewel upon the Craft is deserving of the most severe reprobation, and more particularly so whilst the legitimate orders of the Knights' Templars and High Grades never seek to win a popularity for their several degrees at the expense of Masonic subordination.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours truly and fraternally,
A HIGH GRADE MASON AND K.T.

THE GRAND STEWARDS' LODGE.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—After witnessing the excellent way in which the members of the Grand Stewards' Lodge went through their work on the public night, in March last, I addressed a letter to you which appeared in the *Freemasons' Magazine* of April 7th (page 273,) offering certain suggestions that occurred to me as conducive to maintaining the position that Lodge had again acquired by its last two meetings; I hoped that my propositions might be of some benefit in inducing the Craft to rally round the Grand Stewards' Lodge and take it once more, according to its prescriptive right, as the model and fountain head of uniformity for the work of Freemasonry. The letter alluded to, as I stated at the time, was but a crude explanation of my ideas; but now, as Bro. Wigginton has written another letter, in support of my views, and therein asks me to explain my meaning more clearly, I must trespass on your kindness to afford me space for my present communication.

As everything should be "done with decency and in order," my proposition is to the effect, that the Grand Stewards' Lodge should memorialize the M.W.G.M., and show him how beneficial it would be to the Craft to have some standard of the uniformity of working, stating at the same time, that in years gone by the Lodge was looked upon in the light of preceptor of the science to the Craft; and now, having by the exertions of Bro. Hewlett and yourself raised the attendance of visitors on the last two public nights from (what I have seen) three brethren, to more than eighty; and that some of the acknowledged best working Masons did, on the last occasion, state their conviction of the great utility of the Grand Stewards' public nights—now is the time to memorialize the Grand Master to allow this Lodge the privilege of having a jewel made, which might be worn by every one receiving it, both in Lodges or Chapters, where they attended either as members or as visitors; such jewel being conferred by the Grand Stewards' Lodge yearly upon that brother who was selected from candidates throughout the entire Craft as the best working Mason—the decision of the question being left to the members of the Grand Stewards' Lodge and the contest of skill open to every member of the Craft who chose to try and gain the same.

The *modus operandi* I would arrange in the following manner:—six weeks' notice should be given that such a competition would take place on a certain evening; candidates should be invited to send in their names and Masonic rank, and the Lodge should meet three weeks after the notice given and proceed to select twelve of the most reputable workers from the whole body of applicants. These twelve should be reduced to six by drawing lots, and on the evening in question, six weeks after the announcement, these six should attend the Lodge, be kept in a room exclusively to themselves, and called before the Grand Stewards' Lodge and as many of the Craft as choose to attend. Each one should be required to work a ceremony, go through a section, question and answer, and give replies to a series of questions drawn from the Book of Constitutions, and others as to the import of the ceremonies, which questions should previously be prepared by the Grand Stewards' Lodge. A certain number of marks should be allotted to the most perfect working and answers, so many to each separate heading; the candidate carrying off the greatest number of marks to be the medallist of the year. Of course each candidate would be called in by himself, and then remain in the room until the whole six had completed their examination. So also it would be a matter of course that the Lodge should previously apportion to every answer the number of marks it should be represented by, and this should only be known to the members of the Lodge. Nor would any prompting be allowed by any brother present.

As to the essay, it would be much more simple; and I should advise that, in order to make the distinction of greater value, the working medal and the essay medal be given alternately, the method for the latter being in the following form: three months previously the Grand Stewards' Lodge should decide on a subject and invite the competition of all in the Craft as candidates; six weeks after notice the essays should be sent in, each bearing a motto, with an envelope bearing a similar motto, containing the name and address of the writer. The Grand Stewards' Lodge should then read and determine upon the six best, and return all the others. A public night should be appointed, open to the whole Craft as visitors. A brother should be appointed to read the six selected essays, and the Grand Stewards' Lodge, and any other Masons they might choose to call in to assist them should, without leaving the room, then and there decide which they considered most worthy of the medal, and proceed to invest the writer with the same. The essay should be confined to a stated length, say twenty minutes, and must be on some point or points of Masonic law, history or practice.

These, dear sir and brother, are my views of two expedients, either or both of which would, if adopted, tend to place the Grand Stewards' Lodge before all others: first, as to a correct standard of Masonic working, and secondly, as the fosterers of Masonic literature. Apologising for the length of this communication,

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,
FIAT LUX.

THE NEW GRAND OFFICERS.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—In your article of April 28th, 1860, on the recent appointment to office in Grand Lodge, you express a wish that Lord Carnarvon had been appointed Grand Senior Warden. While agreeing with you as to that brother's qualifications for office, and as to some of the advantages which you believe would have attended the appointment, I cannot think with you that it would have been generally acceptable to the Craft. I would not willingly rake up the embers of almost extinguished faction, nor would I in any way impugn the motives which have influenced our noble brother in his acts in Grand Lodge, but independent members of Grand Lodge have not seen Lord Carnarvon within its walls since he appeared there, meeting after meeting, as the leader of a party which caused disunion in our ranks; and I think something more than mere neglect of our meetings is necessary to remove the unfavourable impressions of the past.

I speak the feelings of many others when I say that Lord Carnarvon's appointment at the recent anniversary would have been looked upon by many as an act of weakness rather than magnanimity. If, however, our noble brother would again attend our meetings, and then act, as I am sure his own good sense would lead him, I believe the whole Craft would hail his future appointment to Grand Office with sincere pleasure.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours faithfully and fraternally,
May 2nd, 1860. K. T.

THE BRITISH MUSEUM.

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

SIR,—I have perused your sensible article on the so called "Shakespeare Forgeries," and have noticed with satisfaction your strictures upon the mode of conducting business in the manuscript department of the British Museum. The trustees and Mr. Panizzi are entitled to the sincere respect and gratitude of the literary public for the noble reading room and its admirable arrangements. The catalogue of printed books, although bulky, is fast approaching to be everything that a student can desire; let these gentlemen proceed one step further, and see that the catalogues of the manuscript department are placed in a like efficient state. I am a diligent peruser of the annual returns made to parliament by the trustees, and have been long puzzled to know what the manuscript department is about, and how long they suppose their employers—the British public—are willing to accept accounts of "manuscripts purchased," "manuscripts bound," "manuscripts paged," "manuscripts stamped," and "manuscripts press-marked,"—all more or less the duty of subordinates—as an equivalent for three thousand eight hundred pounds, the present total of salaries paid to the officials of this department.

The staff of the manuscript department, as at present constituted, numbers twenty-two persons, viz., an under keeper, seven assistants, two transcribers, and eleven attendants.

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

MASONIC MEMS.

THE Albion Lodge of Instruction, No. 9, have adjourned till the first Sunday in September.

THE Royal Athelstane Lodge, No. 19, will in future meet every Sunday evening, at Bro. J. W. Adams's, the Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street.

THE West Kent Lodge of Instruction held their last meeting this session on Thursday last. The Lodge opens again for instruction in October, and will henceforth take the name of "The St. George's Lodge of Instruction," No. 164.

METROPOLITAN.

NEPTUNE LODGE (No. 22).—The last meeting of the season was held on Thursday, the 26th of April, at Radley's Hotel, New Bridge-street. Bro. John Boughey, W.M., presided, and was attended by his officers, and ten Past Masters, besides a tolerably full number of members. Bros. Gould, Hughes, Lacey, Lloyd, and Worth were passed to the second, and Bro. Pick raised to the third degree. Bro. F. W. Jackson, P.M., No. 225, was received as a joining member. The W.M., after a few remarks on the zeal and ability exhibited by his predecessor in the chair, and also on the high esteem and respect entertained by all who knew him both as a man and a Mason, presented to Bro. Robert Farran the Past Master's jewel unanimously voted by the Lodge. Bro. Farran in grateful terms acknowledged the gift and said he trusted he might be allowed by the G.A.O.T.U. many years to wear it. There was a motion before the Lodge to prescribe a limit to its numbers, but at the desire of the W.M. it was postponed for a Lodge of emergency. The Lodge was closed and the brethren adjourned to dinner, and spent a couple of hours in that harmony and happiness to which they are accustomed.

FITZROY LODGE (No. 830).—The Lodge adopts as its motto, "Finis coronat opus," the members gave practical force to it in making the last meeting of the season as attractive as possible; and on these occasions there is generally a good sprinkling of visitors. The Fitzroy, as our readers doubtless know, is a military Lodge, and confined to the members of the Hon. Artillery Company, the oldest volunteer corps in the country. Its meetings consequently are at the head quarters in the City-road, and the crowning meeting of the season was held on Friday, April 27th. The volunteer spirit which pervades Great Britain has of course given additional impetus to this ancient corps, and at every meeting new members are added to the Lodge. The Lodge was opened at five o'clock, when Bro. J. W. Long, W.M., raised to the M.M.'s degree Bros. C. W. Brown, of the 5th company of the Hon. Artillery Company, and B. Higgs, of the 2nd company. He afterwards initiated Mr. Fletcher C. Norton, of the Light Infantry Division. The Secretary (Bro. Eglese) read a letter which had been received from a brother formerly a member of the Lodge, who some time back emigrated to Canada, taking with him a good property, which he had embarked in speculation and lost. He implored the Lodge to aid him to return to his native land, as he saw no prospect of help where he was. The Lodge voted a sum of money to the brother, who had been a good member of the Lodge; and as the Hon. Artillery Company have a charitable fund, Bro. Matthew, the worthy Treasurer of the Lodge, said something could be had from that source, and he should have pleasure in sending out a sufficient sum to enable the distressed brother to return to England. Some remarks were made as to the desirability of some rule by which a case like the one in question should be relieved by the Board of Benevolence when properly vouched for by the Lodge. All business ended, the Lodge was duly closed, and soon after, between forty and fifty brethren surrounded the Worshipful Master at the hospitable board, which was spread with much good taste, the entertainment being under the management of Bro. Newton, P.M., the musical Director of Ceremonies. The dinner ended, as is usual the brethren returned to the Lodge room, where the dessert was prepared, and after paying homage to the toasts of "The Queen," "The Grand Master," &c., Bro. Capt. Rough, the immediate P.M., rose and said that on the previous occasions he was unable to be present to discharge the pleasing duty of proposing the health of the worthy brother who now presided over the Lodge. So well known as Bro. Long was to them all as a good and most useful member, much eulogy from him was unnecessary, and therefore he would simply say "Health and happiness to the Worshipful Master." The Worshipful Master, in responding, first tendered his warmest thanks to the Past Masters and members for the support he had received in conducting the business of the Lodge; and, referring to the volunteer movement now spreading over our land, said he could not but feel proud that at such a period in its history he was a member of that most ancient corps. The Worshipful Master then proposed "The Visitors," which was promptly acknowledged. The Worshipful Master next proposed the newly initiated brother, whose soldierlike bearing had won the esteem of the whole corps, and he was certain that equal value would be put on his merits as a member of the Fitzroy Lodge. Bro. Norton after referring to the step he had taken on entering the portal of Masonry, said he was much gratified on being

surrounded by so many friends. He was perfectly convinced from the slight insight he had of the institution that it was founded on the best principles. It was his most earnest desire to become a true and worthy Mason; to achieve that object his best efforts should be given. The W.M. then proposed "The Past Masters," and in alluding to their services first noticed Bro. Matthews, one of the most energetic Masons, who, independent of so faithfully discharging the duty of Treasurer of the Lodge, in the absence of any officer could supply the vacancy, as he had that day taken the Deacon's duty. He next referred to Bro. Rough, who had, as his predecessor, so ably filled the chair. To Bro. Newton they were all indebted for past services, whilst he had now taken upon himself the arduous duties of superintending the dinner, and to Bro. Newton they were indebted for the very excellent entertainment of the day. To this the P.Ms. severally replied, and Bro. Matthews said, seeing it was their last meeting until the autumn, he hoped all those happy faces then present would greet him in October. He could not help alluding to the admirable management of Bro. Newton, who he was sure would go to the world's end to make a brother Mason happy. Bro. Newton, referring to Bro. Matthews's mention of his services, said the pleasure he felt in seeing the brethren happy compensated for any trouble he might have. Seeing they were a society of private gentlemen, it was his wish they should be as well provided for as any Lodge at the west-end, and not dependent on tavern accommodation. The toast of "The Officers" was briefly responded to by Bro. Figg. The W.M. then proposed "The Charities of the Order," and in connection with it, Bro. Newton and the Girls School. That worthy brother then, after a few remarks on the management of the school, and the girls' good conduct, referred to the support he had already received, and he hoped to have additional strength to support him at the ensuing festival. Bro. Matthews said as Bro. Newton had confined his remarks to the Girls School, he considered it his duty to call the attention of the brethren to the other charitable institutions of the Order, all equally deserving their support. The evening was enlivened by some excellent music by Bro. Ganz at the pianoforte, aided by the vocal talents of Bro. Morton and others.

INSTRUCTION.

ROBERT BURNS LODGE (No. 25).—This celebrated Lodge of Instruction met again for the purpose of working the fifteen sections by members of the Lodge of Instruction not being members of the parent Lodge, this being, as it may be stated, as a sort of trial between the members of the Lodge and any other members not being members of the Lodge itself. The officers were Bros. T. A. Adams, G. P. S.; Tyrrell, P.M. No. 168, S.W.; Stacey, W.M. No. 211, J.W.; Esall, S.D. No. 169, S.D.; Thoms, S.D. No. 219, J.D.; Platt, S.W. No. 168, I.G.; Newton, P.M. No. 25, Sec. Among the visitors were Bros. G. P. Cook, No. 465; Thoms, No. 219; Wuest, No. 1046; Smith, W.M. No. 196; Wright, No. 227; Hoare, No. 29; McNally, No. 206, &c., &c. The Lodge was opened in form in the three degrees. The first lecture was worked by Bros. Esall, S.D. No. 169; Boyd, W.M. No. 169; Hoad, No. 1,044; Bertram, No. 1,044; Taylor, S.W. No. 18; Kirby, P.M. No. 169; Thoms, S.D. No. 219. The second lecture was worked by Bro. Jeffery, J.D. No. 237; Stacey, P.M. No. 211; Smith, W.M. No. 196; Walkley, P.M. No. 367; Daly, P.M. No. 376. The third lecture was worked by Bros. Cottebrune, W.M. No. 1,035; Tyrrell, P.M. No. 168; and Frost, W.M. No. 276. Bro. Le Gassick, P.M. No. 25, proposed that the thanks of this Lodge of Instruction be tendered to Bro. T. A. Adams, the W.M. of the evening, for the kind and elaborate manner with which the business of the evening was conducted—a somewhat arduous task, particularly if they looked to the immense numbers of questions comprehended in the fifteen sections—and that the same be entered on the minutes, which was unanimously agreed to. Bro. Newton, P.M. No. 25, and Sec. of the Lodge and the Lodge of Instruction, proposed that a special vote of thanks be given to the fifteen brethren who worked the sections, and that the same be recorded upon the minutes; and at the same time observed that he had heard the fifteen sections worked a great number of times, but had never heard them to such perfection as he had on that evening; the vote was unanimously agreed to. The brethren present, about fifty, one and all agreed that they had had a treat which few could understand who were not in the habit of attending the meetings of Lodges of Instruction.

STABILITY LODGE (No. 264).—ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL.

THE anniversary meeting of this excellent Lodge, the head quarters of the Broadfoot system of working, was held at Radley's Hotel, on Friday, the 27th ult., Bro. Henry Muggeridge presiding as W.M., supported by Bros. Pratt, as S.W.; Packwood, J.W.; Boughey, S.D.; Myers, J.D.; Present, I.G.; and Farran, Sec.; Hall, Prov. G.M. for Cambridgeshire; Perkins, J.G.W.; Havers, P.G.D., President of the Board of General Purposes; Scott, P.G.D.; Potter, P.G.D.; Jennings, P.G.D.C.; Le Veau, P.G.S.B.; Evans, P.G.S.B.; Patten, P.G.S.B.; Symonds, Snell, Head, and about one hundred and sixty other brethren.

The Lodge was opened at six o'clock, when the first lecture was worked in sections as follows;—1. Bro. Present; 2. Bro. Myers; 3. Bro. Boughey; 4. Bro. Packwood; 5 and 6. (Lodge Board) Bro. Myers; 7. Bro. Pratt.

The following votes were made in aid of the Masonic Charities:—to the Girls School, £5 5s.; Boys School, £5 5s.; Royal Benevolent Institution—Male Fund, £5; Ditto, Widows' Fund, £5.

BRO. HALL, Prov. G.M. for Cambridgeshire, proposed a vote of thanks to the W.M., which was seconded by Bro. Perkins, J.G.W., and carried unanimously.

BRO. JENNINGS, P.G.D.C., proposed a vote of thanks to the working brethren, which was seconded by Bro. Pulteney Scott, P.G.D., and carried.

Eighteen visitors having been elected joining members, the Lodge was closed and the brethren adjourned to

THE BANQUET;

which was presided over by Bro. Havers, as W.M., the large room of the hotel being densely crowded. "The Queen and the Craft" having been duly honoured.

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER said that he had to propose a toast which was dear to all Masons. They had enjoyed the pleasure on the preceding Wednesday of installing the Earl of Zetland as Grand Master for the seventeenth time, making the eighteenth year he would have served that office, for it would be recollected that their late Grand Master, H.R.H. the Duke of Sussex, died in the April of the previous year, just after the time fixed for the grand festival. During the course of that long period the noble earl had pursued a wise and conciliatory course of government, and had secured the support of all good Masons by his courtesy, justice, and close attention to the business of the Order. But if they were indebted to the M.W.G.M. for the manner in which he had presided over them, there could be no doubt that the Grand Master was likewise indebted to the brethren for the support they had given him, and to none more so than to the members of the Stability Lodge of Instruction, who had at all times been ready to come forward and aid him in the discharge of his duties to the Craft. He was convinced that if the noble earl had not secured the support of every member of the Craft it had been from no want of endeavour on his part to deserve it. (Cheers.)

The toast having been cordially responded to,

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER called upon the brethren to drink the health of the D.G.M. and the rest of the Grand Officers. He knew that he need not dilate on the services of Lord Panmure, as they were too well known, and he was sure that they must all regret that the state of his health for the last few months had prevented him from taking that share in the active duties of the Craft for which his experience in Masonry and enlarged views so eminently fitted him. (Cheers.) He regretted that circumstances had also deprived them that evening of the company of Col. Burlton, Bro. Hervey, Bro. Wilson, and their respected preceptor, Bro. Muggeridge, who had promised to honour the Lodge with their presence; but he was happy to observe that there were several other Grand Officers present to add lustre to their meeting. First and foremost, on his right sat Bro. Hall, the Provincial Grand Master for Cambridgeshire, with whom he had long had the honour to be acquainted. He was always most zealous in the discharge of his duties, and in his desire to promote the interests of Freemasonry, and was as popular in his province as he was valued by all who had the pleasure of his acquaintance. The next in order was their new Junior Grand Warden (Bro. Perkins). He believed that the name of Perkins was known wherever British beer was known—(laughter)—and that a more worthy man to fill the office could not be found; but, irrespective of his own claims upon them, he added those of being the son of an excellent Grand Officer of former days, whose name had always been held in the highest esteem. Then amongst the Past Grand Officers there were present their worthy Bro. Potter, whose Masonic qualities were known to all; Evans, one of the old standards; Patten, whom everybody knew; Le Veau, who was always engaged in promoting the cause of charity, and taking an active part in the elections; Pulteney Scott, a very worthy brother; and, last not least, their good and excellent Bro. Jennings—(cheers)—who had just retired from office. In proposing to them the toast he should couple with it the name of Bro. Perkins as representing the present Grand Officers, and that of Bro. Jennings the Past Grand Officers. Bro. Jennings was originally appointed to office by the late G.M. the Duke of Sussex, and on Wednesday last, at his own request, retired from it, after having served the Craft zealously and faithfully for a quarter of a century. (Cheers.) The Grand Master had given notice of motion for the next Grand Lodge to present Bro. Jennings with a testimonial on his retirement from office, and he was convinced the proposal would meet with the unanimous approval of the Craft, as but a fair reward to a brother who had spent the best part of his life in their service. (Cheers.)

BRO. ALGERNON PERKINS, J.G.W., had some difficulty in acknowledging the toast, owing to his having been so short a time in office. As regarded the Deputy Grand Master, every one who had seen him in Grand Lodge and heard how ably he argued the questions which came before him, must have been convinced of his zeal in the cause of Masonry, and his fitness for the distinguished office which he so ably filled. In returning thanks for the compliment they had been pleased to pay him and the other Grand Officers, he could only assure them that they would do their utmost to perform their duties, and endeavour to equal their predecessors, though they could scarcely hope to do so. He was gratified that the first Lodge he had visited since his elevation to office was the Stability Lodge of Instruction, as he had spent a most delightful evening, and witnessed working which every one must admit could not have been surpassed. He had to return the members of that Lodge his great thanks for the enjoyment they had afforded him,

and the brethren generally for the compliment paid to himself and the other Grand Officers. (Cheers.)

BRO. JENNINGS, P.G.D.C., said that Bro. Perkins had referred to the early period at which he was called upon to address them after becoming a Grand Officer. Now he (Bro. Jennings) must to some extent walk in his footsteps, for this being only the second day of being a Past Grand Officer, he certainly felt some diffidence—though generally that did not enter into his composition—(laughter)—in addressing them in the novel position in which he was placed. He was delighted indeed to have the opportunity of acknowledging the kind manner in which they had responded to the last toast. He could assure them on retiring from office—an office the duties of which were somewhat arduous—at the expiration of twenty-five years' service, it was most encouraging to find a toast with which his name was associated received with such feelings of kindness and sympathy. It was in meetings like the present that the excellencies and beauties of Masonry were best exhibited, without restraint on the individual views or feelings of any one. (Hear.) In their Lodges there was a kind of tie—a constraint over their actions that rendered meetings like the present better adapted for displaying the excellencies of Freemasonry. He could assure them that the Past Grand Officers present that evening had enjoyed a high intellectual treat—for he could find no other word to express his meaning—in witnessing the admirable working of the lecture, all the brethren engaged in it being so accurate and so perfectly masters of their duties as to leave nothing to be desired. (Cheers.) On behalf of the Past Grand Officers he returned them his sincere and grateful thanks for the compliment paid him; but as respected himself, pleased as he was at his reception that evening, a time would shortly come when he would have an opportunity of seeing how far his past services were appreciated, and he hoped that their appreciation would be such that on his retirement a mantle would be thrown over his shoulders which would ever remind him of their kindness, and be most gratifying to his family. (Cheers.)

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER said they would doubtless anticipate the next toast he was about to propose, because it was one in which they all took the greatest interest—"Prosperity to the Stability Lodge of Instruction"—and in doing so, as the evening was rapidly wearing away, he should confine himself to a very few words, and in those words he should recommend them steadily to practise only those ceremonies practised within these walls, and to be careful of so-called degrees which had only sprung up within a few years. The Grand Lodge of England was the most influential and wealthy in the world, and the Lodges and Masons of England were more numerous than those of all the other countries in Europe together, a feature with which perhaps but few of those present were acquainted. They had from the earliest times granted warrants for Lodges to all other countries, and it became their privilege and their destiny to preserve the ancient landmarks of their Order in all their purity and beauty; they must be the more careful to do so because Masonry had made great and unparalleled progress within the last few years. Only ten years since it was considered extraordinary to issue one thousand seven hundred certificates in the year, whilst from the commencement of the present year an average of fully one hundred certificates a week had been issued from the Grand Secretary's office. Now the more they increased in numbers the more careful they must be to preserve their original and ancient working—and he believed that nowhere had they better depositories of Masonic lore than in this and the other great Lodge of Instruction—the Emulation—at the West End of the town. Sorry should he be to see any alterations in their present system of working; and if they wished to preserve the ancient landmarks of the Order they must persevere in practising the work as laid down, and carefully avoid new degrees. In all new countries it appeared that the spirit of invention was rapidly at work—and in none more so than amongst the sons of America. He was induced to make these remarks because his attention had been called to the proceedings of a brother who was over here, of whom he wished to speak with respect, and who he was glad to see had been kindly received, because it bore testimony that the strongest good feelings existed amongst all Freemasons. That brother was over here as an emissary from the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, apparently to obtain a knowledge of English Freemasonry, but in truth it would seem to teach them new degrees—for he told them of degrees practised in America—of ancient records—degrees of which they had never heard in this country. (Hear, hear.) Now if some archaeologist were to tell him (Bro. Havers) that under the foundation of some one of the ancient ecclesiastical buildings or castles of England he had dug up a pot of gold and some ancient records, he might place faith in them; but if any one told him that from under the platform of the Crystal Palace he had dug up the pot of gold, he would pause before he accepted the coin—he would inquire whether it were the true metal—he would be careful before he gave currency to what might at least be a counterfeit. (Cheers.) So it was with regard to Freemasonry; and they might depend upon it it was but little light they would gather from the foreign brethren with regard to it. Ancient Freemasonry consisted only of the three degrees, and he believed that there were no records to prove the existence of any other prior to 1790. (Cheers.) Now he could tell them a story relative to claims to antiquity, and what was sometimes called time immemorial. A short time since a Lodge applied for permission to wear a centenary jewel—the love of jewels, he believed, by the bye, was one of the grounds for multiplying orders. Well, upon inquiry it appeared that the Lodge had only been

in existence about thirty years, its warrant having been granted in 1829. (Laughter). To return to the preservation of their landmarks—and they might ask how they were to know the genuine landmarks. He would reply by following the working of their preceptors and not looking for information to every body who thought he could teach Masonry. Let them endeavour to preserve their work as pure as possible, and when they found individuals like their late Bros. Broadfoot and Peter Thompson, or their worthy successor, Bro. Muggeridge—(cheers)—able and willing to give them instruction, let them avail themselves of their kindness and their aptitude for teaching. (Cheers). Bro. Muggeridge possessed a kindness of manner—and he would add a modesty which endeared him to all who came into contact with him. (Cheers). He believed that he had now for twelve years been the preceptor of that Lodge, and during the whole of that lengthened period the Stability Lodge of Instruction had borne a high character in the Craft, and afforded great instruction to the younger Masons. He begged to give them success to the Stability Lodge of Instruction, and health to Bro. Muggeridge.

Bro. MUGGERIDGE, who was loudly applauded, said that this was the tenth time that he had had the honour of replying to the toast just so eloquently proposed and so kindly responded to, and he could assure them that he never felt greater gratification in doing so than upon the present occasion. His gratification arose from various circumstances; first, that he should have been enabled so long to conduct the Lodge to their satisfaction, following as he did so able a Mason as their late preceptor, Bro. Thompson; secondly, from having been so ably assisted in the discharge of his duties by his friends and pupils, of whom he felt he had a right to be proud. (Cheers). And, thirdly, at the excellent meeting of that evening which was a testimony alike to their character for working and the reputation of the Lodge. (Cheers). He had another source of gratification in seeing so excellent an attendance of Grand Officers, many of whom had warmly supported the Stability Lodge of Instruction. (Cheers). It was always his desire to attend to his Masonic duties to the utmost of his ability, and during the twenty-one years he had been a Mason he had been a constant attendant at that Lodge of Instruction, and there were many friends about him who could bear testimony how conscientiously he had endeavoured to discharge the duties which had devolved upon him. (Cheers). When some nine or ten years ago he succeeded to the position as their preceptor, which had been so long held by Bro. Thompson, he felt some diffidence as to how he could carry it out, but it gave him great gratification to find that he not only met with, but that he continued to enjoy, their approbation and support. (Cheers). He begged to thank the brethren who had so kindly assisted him in the working; to return his most sincere thanks to the R.W. brother in the chair for the very complimentary manner in which he had proposed the toast, and to the brethren for having so heartily responded to it.

Bro. HALL, Prov. G.M. for Cambridgeshire, had been permitted to propose the next toast, and gratifying as it was to discharge that duty, he could assure them he could not approach it but with some diffidence. In proposing the health of their chairman, he knew that it would receive ready acceptance from the company at large. (Cheers). But in speaking in his presence of so valued a friend, he felt almost as much embarrassed as though speaking of himself, and he could hardly tell them how highly he appreciated the friendship of their worthy Bro. Havers. (Cheers). He had the pleasure of the intimate acquaintance of that brother, both in and out of Masonry, and he could truly say a more thoroughly impartial, just, and honest man, or a more steadfast and firm friend was not to be found in the world. (Cheers). He had long had the pleasure of working with him—they had pulled together in the business of Masonry, but Bro. Havers had always taken the labouring oar. Whether the tide was with or against them, he had never left the boat, nor had it ever been swamped, and though their Craft might have threatened to lose its balance or to run on shore, he kept its head steadily to the wind and carried it safely into harbour. (Cheers). There was no man who looked more practically to their position, and who more steadfastly advocated necessary reforms in their government, but he ever opposed himself to sudden changes or to measures tending to the destruction of order and authority. (Cheers). Bro. Havers filled a high position in Grand Lodge—he enjoyed the confidence of the Grand Master—and the respect and esteem of every brother who had the honour of his acquaintance. (Cheers). They had been pleased to put Bro. Havers in the chair that evening—he succeeded not to it by routine but by their choice; he was satisfied that the duties of the office had been fulfilled to their satisfaction, (cheers); and he was sure no man more valued the honour of presiding over them than did Bro. Havers. He would therefore ask them cordially to join him in drinking to his health and happiness. (Cheers).

Bro. HAVERS, P.G.D., in responding, said he would beg the brethren to bear with him one minute, even if he appeared a little egotistical, whilst he alluded to himself. He remembered that it was twenty-two years that night since he was initiated into Masonry—and he could truly say that he entered into the Order unsolicited and of his own free will and inclination. Indeed he sought an introduction to a brother who sat on his right for the purpose of entering Freemasonry, and through the kind offices of that good brother (Bro. Patten), who now sat on his right hand, was he twenty-two years since first received as a member of a Lodge. He had delivered in that Lodge of Instruction, whose anniversary they were then celebrating, some of those beautiful sections they had heard that

evening, and many of his happiest hours had been spent in Freemasonry. (Cheers). With regard to his public life in Masonry he had no desire to speak. He entered upon it with an earnest desire to do his duty and to benefit the Craft, so far as was in his power. He had had the pleasure of making many friends in Freemasonry and amongst not the least valued the members of that Lodge. He thanked them for their confidence, which he trusted was not undeserved, and had experienced the greatest pleasure from the support they had afforded him that evening. (Cheers). He would now ask them to fill their glasses for another toast, and drink to those worthy brethren who had so delighted them by their working that evening. He was sure all must agree that the working of that Lodge of Instruction might well bear comparison with the Lodge of Emulation, and—without derogating from the excellent working of that Lodge—no sections could have been better worked than they had that evening. He gave them “The working brethren, Bros. Present, Myers, Boughey, Packwood, and Pratt.” (Cheers).

Bro. PRATT, S.W., returned thanks on behalf of the working brethren for the very eulogistic terms in which the toast had been proposed, and the kindness with which it had been received. He felt that they did not deserve the eulogium of their worthy president, the more especially as the working brethren were only mere machines in the hands of their excellent preceptor, Bro. Muggeridge, to whom alone was any credit due. At the same time he could assure them that the working brethren had endeavoured to do their best, and the best could do no more. (Cheers).

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER would be sorry to see the members of the Lodge of Stability separate without remembering their sister Lodge of Instruction. He was sure that they had none but the kindest feelings towards the Lodge of Emulation, and there was nothing like rivalry between them. They all felt that it would be desirable that all differences in working should cease and that there should be but one system, but in the meantime they agreed only to rival one another in the excellence of their working. He regretted that his good friend Bro. S. B. Wilson, to whom the Lodge of Emulation owed so much, had been unable to be present that evening; and that they were also deprived of the presence of Bro. Savage, whose excellent working was so well known. There was however, present, another brother connected with that Lodge who, from the deep interest he took in the prosperity of their charities and strict attendance to the duties of the Board of General Purposes and the other boards with which he was connected, deserved well of the Craft. He would therefore ask them to drink “To the prosperity of the Lodge of Emulation, and health to Bro. Symonds. (Cheers).”

Bro. SYMONDS scarcely knew how his name came to be coupled with the toast just drunk, though it was true he was as old a member of the Emulation Lodge of Instruction as he could be; for that being a Lodge of Master Masons, as he was raised on the Thursday he joined it on the Friday. (Hear.) It was true that he had worked one or two sections, but beyond that, and working the different ceremonies and the installation, he could not pretend to place himself up as a fitting representative of the Lodge of Emulation. He regretted that there was no present to answer for the toast Bro. Stephen Barton Wilson, Bro. Savage, or Bro. John Hervey, than whom better Masons did not exist, and who had done so much for the Lodge; but at the same time he could assure them the members of the Lodge of Emulation reciprocated all their feeling of kindness, and had no greater ambition than to be good workers in Masonry. It had been a great source of gratification to him to be present that evening, for he had never heard the lectures better worked, nor could they be. On behalf of himself and the Lodge of Emulation he most cordially thanked them for the compliment paid them.

The chairman next proposed “Success to the Masonic Charities,” which was drunk with loud applause.

Bro. JAMES ROBINSON, P.M. of the Jordan Lodge, as one of the stewards for the approaching festival of the Girls' School, acknowledged the compliment, and the company separated at a somewhat late hour.

The speeches of the evening were diversified by some excellent singing by Bros. G. Todder, Fielding, Percy, and Paget.

FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE LONGE (No. 1008).—A meeting was convened for Monday, April 30th, and held in the Masonic Hall, Woolwich, for the purpose of hearing a lecture on a cubical stone of a century old on which are delineated the symbols of certain degrees in Masonry. The Lodge was opened by Bro. Colonel Henry Clerk, who resigned the chair to Bro. Jeremiah How, he having undertaken the task of explaining the several degrees in such general terms as might be communicated to Craft Masons. As some of the degrees figured on the stone are not now in practice, the lecturer to a certain extent was compelled to theorize upon them. He illustrated the argument he desired to establish by quotations from Holy Writ and various Masonic writers. He endeavoured, and to some extent successfully, to prove the value of the historical degrees, as they are called, more especially the Rose Croix: he showed how, as society advanced, Masonry would necessarily receive some colouring from the change of man's religious faith from time to time, and hence the importance of those degrees in Christian countries. But the most noticeable part of the lecture was the opinion broached as to the perfection of Masonry, which Bro. How stated his belief to be the Holy Royal Arch; not the degree as we now have it, but such as he conceives it to have been according to the emblem on the stone. As the lecture will probably be printed at length, we forbear any further opinion regarding it at present. There were twenty-five brethren in the Lodge, and at the conclusion a unanimous vote of thanks was accorded to the lecturer.

PROVINCIAL.

SUSSEX.

BRIGHTON.—*Royal York Lodge* (No. 394).—The monthly meeting of this Lodge was held on the 1st inst., at the Old Ship Hotel, Bro. V. P. Freeman, W.M., presiding, supported by the whole of his officers. Bros. Lewis and Reeds were raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason, the working being most ably performed by the Worshipful Master. The votes of the Lodge were unanimously given to Bro. Penfold, of Lewes, and Mrs. Trubington, candidates for the benefits of the Benevolent Institution. The sum of five guineas was voted to the "Pocock Testimonial Fund."

ROYAL ARCH.

SUPREME GRAND CHAPTER.

The quarterly convocation of Grand Chapter was held in the Temple at Freemasons' Hall, on Wednesday, May 2nd, present E. Comps. Thos. H. Hall, G. Supt. for Cambridge, as G.Z.; John Fawcett, G. Supt. for Durham, as G.H.; Rev. John Huyshe, G. Supt. for Devon, as G.J.; Wm. Gray Clarke, G.S.E.; J. Ll. Evans, G.S.N.; G.W.K. Potter, G.P.S.; J. Hervey and Gole, G.A.S. There were also Comps. the Hon. J. H. L. Dutton, G. Supt. for Gloucester; John Havers, John Hervey, T. White, Walmsley, E. G. Pocock, S. B. Wilson, A. Le Veau, S. Savage, J. Smith, W. Farnfield, and other Principals and Past Principals of Chapters.

As is usual at this meeting the rules were read, and also the minutes of the last Grand Chapter, which were confirmed.

The appointment of officers for the year ensuing, was as follows:—the three Grand Principals as before—the Earl of Zetland, M.E.G.Z.; Lord Panmure, G.H.; Thomas H. Hall, G.J. The others appointed were Wm. Gray Clarke, G.S.E.; J. Ll. Evans, G.S.N.; G.W.K. Potter, G.P.S.; Algernon Perkins and Rev. A. R. Ward, G. Asst. S.; F. Roxburgh, G. Reg.; R. W. Wheeler, G.S.B.; Dr. Geo. Harcourt, G.S.B.; H. Bridges, G. Dir. of Cers.; Charles Payne, G. Janitor.

The report of the General Committee contained a statement of the finances of the Grand Chapter:—Cash in hand brought forward from last account £363 9s. 9d., since received £230 14s. 6d.; amount invested £200; payments £113 18s. 7d.; in Treasurer's hands £280 5s. 8d. The Committee also reported the following petitions for new Chapters and removals. From nine registered Royal Arch Masons for a Chapter to be attached to the High Cross Lodge, No. 1056, at Tottenham, to meet on the first Tuesday in every month, to be called "The High Cross Chapter," nominating Comps. Edmund Guest, as M.E.Z.; N. D. Frampton, as H.; and D. S. Potts, as J. For a Chapter to be attached to the Athol Lodge, No. 88, at Birmingham, to be called "The Athol Chapter," of which Comps. J. Pearsall was nominated as M.E.Z.; Samuel Pendleton, as H.; and Geo. Hudson, as J. For a Chapter to be attached to the South Saxon Lodge, No. 390, at Lewes, to be called "The South Saxon Chapter," naming Comps. Dalbiac, as M.E.Z.; W. Verrall, as H.; and E. G. Pocock, as J. The Thanet Chapter, at present attached to the Union Lodge, No. 149, at Margate, applied for permission to remove to Ramsgate, and there be attached to the Royal Naval Lodge. These petitions were all granted. There was also a petition for a warrant of constitution for a Chapter to be attached to the Dalhousie Lodge, holding under the Grand Lodge of England, at Ottawa, Canada West, on which a long discussion took place, but as only four of the applicants were found to be registered in the books of the Supreme Grand Chapter, and there were other difficulties connected with the position of English and Canadian Masonry, the consideration of it was postponed.

The report of the committee appointed to revise the laws of the Grand Chapter prior to a reprint was then considered, and after passing those laws, in which no alteration was proposed,

Comp. HAVENS, as representing the committee, and begging the companions to understand that, without any personal feeling in the matter, he only acted in a ministerial capacity in bringing the proposed alterations before them, proved that the fee for a new warrant should be three guineas instead of five as heretofore. He urged the necessity for the reduction on the ground that the various heavy charges hindered many brethren from joining the Royal Arch degree, and after a brother was once admitted, there was no reason why he should be subjected to heavy charges for that which, he was informed, was only the completion of a degree he had already taken. He was desirous of seeing all the charges reduced so as to afford every encouragement for brethren to enter the Royal Arch degree, and though it might be urged that two guineas in the price of a charter was but a small sum, yet he thought they ought to consider it in connection with the proposition for reducing the fee for exaltation which he should have to bring forward at a later period of the evening.

The motion was seconded by Comp. EVANS.

Comp. JOHN SAVAGE was decidedly opposed to the change; he considered the difference could be no object to any one, and would only lead to a reduction of revenue.

Comp. the Rev. J. HUYSHE, in opposing the alteration, stated that he did so on the ground that it was unadvisable to multiply Chapters, as in distant provinces the working of Royal Arch Masonry was mixed up with all manner of rites and degrees altogether foreign to it, and if there were more Chapters, speaking as a Prov. G. Superintendent, he was fearful that even greater irregularities would exist.

Comp. WARREN supported the resolution, and stated that though he did not look on the motion now before them as so important as that for altering the exaltation fee, he was of opinion that every facility should be given to the brethren for entering the Royal Arch degree. They must recollect that they were not legislating for London only, but for the provinces, where the fees were unduly high in comparison to those charged for initiation, and for the colonies, where the heavy fees under the English constitution, drove the companions into Scotch and Irish Chapters. If he understood the observations of the M.E. companion who last spoke, they were rather in favour of the alteration than otherwise; for they might depend upon it, that the greater the number of Chapters, the better would be the working, competition and emulation, securing that uniformity and good working which could scarcely be expected whilst Chapters were so scattered that the companions of one could scarcely obtain any communication with those of another. He had always understood that Prov. G. Superintendents were appointed to regulate the working of the Chapters within their jurisdiction, and prevent these irregularities just described. Certainly if they could not do so they were of little or no use, and they could not do better than try to cure them by popularizing the order—by making the admission to it as reasonable as possible.

After some observations from other companions, in the course of which the M.E. Comp. Rev. J. Huyshe, alluding to the remarks of Comp. Warren, stated that his province (Devonshire) was seventy miles by sixty in extent, and it was impossible to visit all the Chapters in it, and it was in the absence of the Grand Superintendent that the irregularities complained of occurred.

Comp. HAVENS briefly replied, and stated that even allowing the extent of the province of the M.E. companion, that certainly was no argument against the present measure, as he believed that any zealous and energetic Mason might visit all the Chapters once a year and set them right in their working, and that was certainly what he considered to be the duty of a Grand Superintendent.

The motion was then put and lost.

A clause requiring Chapters to make returns of their members eligible to sit in Grand Chapter was adopted; also one to enable serving companions to be exalted without fee.

Comp. HAVENS, in bringing forward the next resolution, again reminded the companions that he was only acting as the mouth piece of the committee, and that he had no personal feeling in the matter, though he certainly thought it most desirable that they should give every facility to the brethren to complete their Master Mason's degree—which he would emphatically add was their right—at the lowest possible charge; always remembering that there was no reason for these high fees, Grand Chapter having no pressing claims upon its funds to render them necessary. He, therefore, moved that the lowest charge at which a brother might be exalted should be one guinea instead of three, which might include the registration for the Grand Chapter.

Comp. WARREN seconded the resolution. He begged to remind them that the resolution was not that the guinea *should* include the registration fee, but that it *might*. Indeed he did not believe that in the London Chapters the law, as altered, would be acted upon to any extent; but in the provinces, where Masonic subscriptions were not so heavy as in London, the fee of three guineas—and they must recollect that there was not only that fee, but the clothing, &c., which cost some three guineas more—was to a certain extent a prohibitive fee, and kept a very large portion of the brethren from entering the Royal Arch, as was shown by the fact that not one fifth of the brethren ever did so. Last year the number of certificates issued for Craft Masons, from Grand Lodge, was upwards of four thousand, whilst those for the Royal Arch scarcely reached eight hundred, and that was a much larger proportion than in any previous year. He maintained that in the provinces, and in the colonies—many of the provinces and colonies not containing a single Chapter—the alteration would be regarded as a great boon, and that it was their duty to give to all Freemasons the opportunity of completing their degrees, they being told in the Book of Constitutions that Masonry consisted of only three degrees, including the Royal Arch. He did not care how high they made the entrance fee into Masonry, but once admitted there should be no second fee so high as to prevent the brethren completing their degrees.

Comp. SMITH considered that, although a reduction was desirable, one guinea was too low a charge, and he moved, as an amendment, that the exaltation fee be two guineas.

Comp. ADLARD seconded the amendment.

Comp. SAVAGE opposed any reduction, and said it was not the amount of the fees, but other reasons, such as want of time, or attendance to their Craft duties, which hindered brethren from going beyond the M.M. degree. He considered that if they lowered the fee, though perhaps it might not touch such Chapters as the St. James's, the Prince of Wales's or the St. George's, it would lead to so much competition in other Chapters for members, as materially to damage the reputation of the Order, and he could not conceive that the amount of the fee would keep a brother out of the Royal Arch.

Comp. NELSON, Prov. G.S.E. for West Yorkshire, would support the amendment of Comp. Smith, believing that the charges were at present too high. There were one hundred and seventeen Chapters in the province to which he belonged, in many of which they had not exalted a candidate for years, and he had frequently heard that the charge was too high. He could not, however, support the original motion as some

of their Chapters were in debt, owing to the expense of starting them; and he could not see how those debts were to be paid off if they made the fee too low.

After some observations from Comps. Cousins, Hervey, and others,

Comp. HAVERS, in reply, said that in conferring this degree they were but giving the M.M. his right, and therefore it was unjust and impolitic to levy what he considered heavy fees. He told the companions who asked how Chapters were to pay off their debts—that they would still have the same right as they now had, to make their exaltation fee as high as they pleased, although he did not consider it just to mulct brethren to pay off the debts of those who had preceded them. He agreed with Bro. Warren in the observations relative to making the fee for initiation into Masonry high, but they should not continue high charges after a brother was admitted. The ease with which the degree was obtained in Scotland, and in the Colonies from Scotch Chapters (which were not acknowledged even by the Grand Lodge of Scotland) more especially in India—now drove their (the English) members to take the degree from a foreign jurisdiction which it should be their endeavour to discourage. The E. Companion concluded by observing that taxes should only be required from the exigencies of the government, and as they were not needed by the Grand Chapter, he considered that the time had arrived for the alteration proposed by the committee.

The motion and amendment were then formally put and lost.

A clause was inserted in the regulations for notice of motions to be placed on the summonses for each convocation.

The Committee for General Purposes was then elected, the G.Z. naming Comps. Pattison, Evans, and Savage. The Grand Chapter elected Comps. Le Veau, Hervey, Wheeler, Perkins, Adlard, and Warren.

The Grand Chapter was then closed in antient and solemn form, and the companions separated.

POLISH NATIONAL CHAPTER (No. 778).—This Chapter met at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Thursday, for the despatch of business and the election of Principals and the various officers of the Chapter. Comp. Webber was installed M.E.Z.; Comps. Sharman, H.; Boyd, J.; Williams, N.; Blackburn, E.; R. M. Smith, P.S.; Funchal and G. States, first and second Assistants; P.Z. Lemanski, Treas. Comp. W. Watson installed the Principals with his usual ability. Comp. Hammett was elected Janitor in room of Comp. Beckett. About thirty Companions were present; among the visitors were Comps. the Hon. F. Dutton, M.E.Z., Cheltenham, and Prov. G.M. for Gloucestershire; Hewlett, M.E.Z. No. 25; Newton, P.Z. No. 25; and M. Cooke. The P.Zs. present were Comps. Johnstone, J.W.; Adams, and Lemanski. After the banquet, the usual Masonic toasts were proposed and responded to. Comp. the Hon. F. Dutton, on behalf of himself and visitors, stated that he was very much pleased with the manner in which the various ceremonies were performed, and proposed the M.E.Z.'s health, which was responded to with great cordiality. The M.E.Z., in returning thanks, regretted that there were not a greater number of Poles present upon the occasion; this was explained, by Comp. Blackburn, to arise from the fact that several members of the Chapter had had an opportunity of returning to their fatherland, and further, by Comp. Rulinski, that several were not present from the lamented death of their aged Companion Prince Czartorski. The Chapter spent a very pleasant evening, and separated early. The evening was much enlivened by the vocal abilities of Comps. R.L. Harris, J. W. Adams, M. Cooke, McIntyre, and the M.E.Z.

SCOTLAND.

ROYAL ARCH.

SUPREME GRAND CHAPTER OF SCOTLAND.

The Most Excellent First Grand Principal having appointed Thursday, the 19th inst., for his visitation and inspection of the working of the Edinburgh Chapter, No. 1, a meeting of that Chapter was convened, and the working of the three degrees which in Scotch Royal Arch Masonry precede the Royal Arch, viz., Mark, Chair Master and Excellent Master, were ably conferred upon Bros. Gough, Murray, and Mitchell. Comp. W. Campbell conferred the Mark; E. Comp. Alexander Hay the Chair and the Excellent degrees; Comp. Campbell very eloquently delivering the lectures and portions of scripture appropriate to the different veils. The Chapter was thereafter opened in due form by the three Principals, E. Comp. Alexander Hay, Z.; E. Comp. Patrick Cowan, H.; and E. Comp. William Belfrage, J.; Comps. Fairfax and Paton, Scribes; Comp. William Campbell, First Soj., conducting the candidates and answering for them the various questions relating to that degree. The depositions from Grand Chapter consisted of Lord James Murray, M.E.G.Z.; George Arnot Walker Arnot, of Arlary, LL.D., P.G.Z.; John Deuchar, Esq., of Morningside, G.P.H.; Donald Campbell, Esq., G.P.J.; William Gaylor, G.S.E.; Lindsay, G.S.N.; Edward Mitchell, Third Grand Soj., and William Mann, G.S.B.

After the closing of the Chapter, the Companions entertained the deputation to a dinner, E. Comp. Hay presiding, supported on his right Comps. by Lord James Murray, John Deuchar of Morningside, and Gaylor, G.S.E., and on the left by Professor Arnot, Donald Campbell and Lindsay Mackersy, G.S.N.

E. Comp. Cowan acted as compier, supported by E. Comp. Mackersy.

After the usual toasts E. Comp. Hay proposed "The healths of Lord James Murray and the Office Bearers of the Supreme Chapter," and

alluded to the great interest the First Principal was taking in the cause of Royal Arch Masonry, which was producing its fruits, as shown by the prosperous state of the Supreme, and the increase of members and zeal in the subordinate Chapters. Lord James Murray, in replying, expressed the pleasure it gave him to have visited No. 1 on that occasion, and bore his testimony to the correct and able working of the different degrees by the office bearers, and stated that it was his determination to visit as many Chapters as he could possibly do, and concluded an able speech by stating that the cordial and warm reception they had that evening received would induce the office bearers of the Supreme Chapter frequently to visit and cultivate friendship with the Companions of No. 1. The chairman then gave "The health of the Past Grand Principal, Dr. Walker Arnot," amid the enthusiastic plaudits of the whole assembly. The professor, in reply, expressed the pleasure it gave him to have obeyed the two summonses he had received to attend the present meeting from the Supreme Chapter, as its Past Grand Principal, and he hoped he would always be found ready to support the noble lord who had succeeded him in the chair of the Supreme in his visitations; and the other from No. 1 itself, where many a year before he had first been exalted to the degree of a Royal Arch Mason. He then gave a very interesting account of the progress the Craft had made in past years, and showed the great improvements that now existed in working the different degrees; he appealed to all to study carefully and diligently the whole history, meaning, and intention of the Craft, and not content themselves with being mere slaves to a ritual or rituals, and while he was glad to say that many forms—absurdities he might call them—were being expunged from the working of various Chapters, yet it was evident that improvements might be introduced, and this evening he was delighted to say he had witnessed them, which, far from detracting from the correctness of the working, on the contrary added to its solemnity and the good impression it made on those receiving the degrees.

After spending a happy evening, during which some excellent songs were sung by several of the Companions, the meeting was dissolved.

ROYAL ARK MARINERS' DEGREE.

A LODGE of Royal Ark Mariners has been constituted within the last few weeks in the St. Andrew's Edinburgh Royal Arch Chapter, No. 83, in virtue of a warrant contained in the charter from the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland. The office of N. (R.W.M. of the Lodge) has been conferred upon Bro. F. D. McCowan, M.D., a brother well known in the Masonic circles in the city, who for five years held the office of R.W.M. of the Lodge of Edinburgh, Mary's Chapel, No. 1, and who at present holds the office of Senior Grand Deacon in the Grand Lodge of Scotland, and representative to that body from the Grand Orient of France. The offices of Senior and Junior Wardens have been conferred upon Bros. Mackersy, G.S.N., and Gaylor, G.S.E., and that of Secretary upon Bro. H. W. Finlay.

The newly constituted Lodge held a meeting on the 21st of April, when the degree was conferred upon Lord James C. P. Murray, M.E.G.Z. for Scotland; Alexander J. Stewart, Esq., Grand Clerk to the Grand Lodge of Scotland, Grand Treasurer of the Supreme Grand Royal A. Chapter, and Ill. Grand General Secretary of the Supreme Grand Council for Scotland of the 33rd degree; and A. Oneal Haye, Esq., a young brother who has lately appeared before the Masonic world as author of a volume of poems dedicated by permission to his Grace the Duke of Athole, G.M.M. of Scotland.

The degree was, in the unavoidable absence of Bro. Dr. McCowan, very ably conferred by Bro. Gaylor, Bro. Charles S. Law acting in place of Bro. Gaylor in the Warden's chair.

COLONIAL.

JAMAICA.

MONTIGO BAY.—*Friendly Chapter* (No. 291).—Thursday, the 22nd March, having been appointed for the inauguration of Comp. J. S. Buckingham as M.E.Z. of the Friendly Chapter of this town, at an early hour there was a most select assemblage of Royal Arch Masons, at Freemasons' Hall, Church-street. Comp. Aaron Isaacs, P.Z., on the Chapter being opened with the antient solemnities, proceeded to install the First Principal Elect for the ensuing year, in a short but lucid address upon the duties of the office, dwelling upon the devoted zeal, the untiring industry, and the distinguished ability shown by Comp. Buckingham in presiding over the Blue Lodge, and asking on behalf of the Chapter and of himself, that the same great qualities might be exerted for the promotion and sustentation of an institution that had existed so long, and which was so creditable to the Craft in Montego Bay. He then inducted the M.E. Companion into the oriental chair with the usual ceremonies. All the antient honours having been given, Comp. Buckingham expressed most eloquently his intention to uphold the dignity and usefulness of the Chapter, his determination that while he held the chair of First Principal, the honour, utility, and interest of the institution, should be his first care, and that his best exertion should be used that the Chapter should be useful to the Craft, and a credit to the community. He then installed the following Companions as his officers for the ensuing year, addressing appropriate remarks to each:—Comps. C. L. Isaacs (P.Z.), H.; A. Isaacs (P.Z.), J.; H. Corinaldi, Captain of

the Host; Henry Isaacs, Principal Sojourner; Isaac Isaacs, Treasurer; B. D. Lindo, Scribe E.; Simon Magnus, Royal Arch Captain; H. A. Alberga, Captain of 1st Veil; Alexander Levy, Captain of 2nd Veil; Joseph Levy, Captain of 3rd Veil; Joseph Lewis, Janitor. The business of the evening having been disposed of, the Companions, in company with several of the brethren of the Blue Lodge, who came up after the closing of the Chapter, adjourned to a most excellent supper. The usual loyal, Masonic, and fraternal toasts were given and responded to, several of the speeches being far above the usual standard; many songs were sung in capital style, and the Companions and brethren separated, well satisfied with the manner in which the evening had been spent; and feeling that the Masonic institution did more than any other, in promoting good feeling and social regard throughout the whole community. The new First Principal is a son of the celebrated oriental traveller of the same name, and is collector of the customs at Montego Bay.

WESTERN INDIA.

BENGAL.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE (S.C.)

A quarterly communication was held at No. 1, Grant Buildings, Colaba, on the 2nd August, 1859, there being present the R.W. Bros. H. D. Cartwright, Prov. G.M.; C. M. I. Pollock, Prov. G.M. S.V.; V.W. Bros. W. H. S. Crawford, Officiating Prov. G.J.W.; J. McKinlay, Officiating Prov. G.S.D.; J. Jamieson, Officiating Prov. G.J.D.; J. Firth, Prov. G. Treas.; A. Jordan, Prov. G. Sec.; R. C. Rowlands, Prov. G. Architect; Ali Mahomed Khan, Prov. G.S.B.; Ardaseer Jamsetjee, S.W., Lodge Rising Star; J. Hodgart, Prov. G.I.G.; H. Hazells, Prov. G. Tyler, &c.

The Prov. Grand Lodge having been opened in ample form, the proceedings of the regular quarterly communication, held on the 19th April, 1859, were read and confirmed.

The Prov. Grand Secretary submitted to the Prov. Grand Lodge a summary of proceedings since the last quarterly communication.

The R.W. the Provincial Grand Master stated that this being the time of the year in which the list of Officers is submitted to the Provincial Grand Master to fill up vacancies, he would propose the under-mentioned brethren to fill up the appointments now vacant, which was unanimously agreed to by the Provincial Grand Lodge:—

Bros. J. Firth, to succeed Bro. W. T. Roper as Prov. G. Treasurer; R. H. Firth, appointed Prov. G. Bible Bearer; F. Darby, appointed Prov. G. Organist; M. O'Mealy, appointed Prov. G. Marshal; J. Irvine, appointed Prov. G. Marshall; T. Carpenter, A. C. Gumpert, H. I. Walton, C. Denton, appointed Prov. G. Stewards.

The R.W. the Prov. G. Master then requested Brother Stanley Crawford to bring forward his proposition, of which he had given due notice at the last quarterly meeting. Brother W. Stanley Crawford proposed: "That with the view of meeting what appears to be felt as an important requirement by the brethren, a Certificate of Office be framed for issue from the Provincial Grand Lodge to all applicants to hold, or have held, office in this Lodge or any subordinate Lodge under its jurisdiction; that this certificate be in suitable form on parchment; and that fees be exigible for the same, in order to increase the funds of the Provincial Grand Lodge." This proposition being seconded by the V.W. Bro. R. C. Rowlands, Prov. G. Architect, and put to the vote, was carried unanimously.

The R.W. the Prov. G. Master, with the concurrence of the Provincial Grand Lodge, appointed the undermentioned brethren to form a committee to regulate a scale of fees to be levied for the Certificate of Office:—V.W. Bros. W. Stanley Crawford; A. Jordan; J. Firth.

V.W. Bro. R. C. ROWLANDS, after thanking the R.W. the P.G. Master and the Officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge for the honour done him in appointing him to the office of Prov. G. Architect, expressed a wish that some tangible work might be given him; and that, as it is understood a Masonic Hall is shortly about to be erected in Bombay, he would be very willing, indeed very happy, to draw up plans, &c., for the building gratuitously, and give any assistance in his power in the erection of the temple.

The Prov. G. Secretary was requested to communicate with the members of the Building Committee, for the report on the scheme for the erection of a Masonic temple in Bombay. Bro. Jamieson, one of the committee, being present, expressed his regret in not being able, from the peculiar nature of his duties, to attend on the other members of the committee; he would, however, try his best in the matter.

There being no further business before the Provincial Grand Lodge, it was closed in harmony and with solemn prayer.

Obituary.

BRO. JOHN MASSON, P.G.S.B.

This distinguished and greatly respected brother, who had so long filled the office of Grand Chancellor of the Order of Masonic Knights' Templar, expired on the 28th April, at No. 12, Chapel-place, Cavendish-square. We shall give a short biographical sketch of the deceased brother next week.

BRO. RICHARD HAZARD.

BRO. RICHARD HAZARD, Treasurer and P.M. of the St. John's Lodge, No. 196, died at Hampstead, on the 16th instant, aged sixty-three. Bro. Hazard having expressly desired that his remains should be followed to the grave by the members of the Lodge, Friday, the 20th instant, at three o'clock was fixed for the ceremony. A dispensation having been granted for the purpose, about forty-five members of the Lodge assembled in the Lodge Room, at the Holly Bush Tavern, at two o'clock precisely, among whom were present:—Bros. J. R. Smith, W.M.; H. Cornick, immediate P.M.; P.Ms. Hamilton, Shury, Thos. A. Adams, J. R. Thompson, Samuel Aldrich (Hon. Sec.); W. Johnson, F. Adlard, D.C. & P.M., No. 7; Hart, S.W.; Pritchard, J.W.; Jas. Douglas, S.D.; F. W. Collins, J.D.; Bros. Stopher, Purkiss, Dale, Isaac Douglas, Holloway, Caney, J. Winter, M.D.; R. Winter, Houghton, Harman, Bayertz, Mathews, Higman, Slagg, Haward, Muncey; Wills, Woolfe, Grigg, Burgoyne, Clarke, Ashby, Steer, Rowe, Clowser, &c., Bros. Harding, No. 206 and Healey, No. 206. The brethren, clothed in white aprons and gloves, each carrying a sprig of acacia, proceeded to the late Bro. Hazard's residence, and in a few minutes the procession began to move, the brethren walking before the hearse, which was followed by mourning coaches and private carriages. The day being fine and the distance short, a large number of the inhabitants followed the remains of their late respected neighbour and friend to Highgate Cemetery. Arrived at the cemetery the brethren halted, opening right and left facing inward, allowing the hearse and carriages to pass on, followed by the Worshipful Master, Past Masters, and members in precedence, to the chapel, and from the chapel to the grave, where the final rights of the church were performed amid the tears of many present and the sincere sympathy of all. The members of the Lodge then returned to the Holly Bush in procession, headed by the Worshipful Masters and the senior members in succession. The funeral service was performed by the Rev. W. Wigram, senior curate of the Hampstead parish church, out of respect to the memory of the deceased brother. Bro. Hazard was initiated in the Robert Burns Lodge, No. 25, on the 3rd of February, 1851; he was proposed by Bro. Aldrich and seconded by the late Bro. Fox. He joined the St. John's Lodge, No. 196, on the 14th October, 1851, was elected Treasurer on the 8th August, 1854, served the office of J.W. and S.W., and succeeded Bro. Aldrich in the chair on the 14th October, 1856. Bro. Hazard was presented with a handsome P.M.'s jewel, value fifteen guineas, and a handsome silver goblet, on his retiring from the chair in 1857—not so much, perhaps, for his proficient knowledge of the ceremonies, as for the care and faithfulness with which he discharged the duties of Treasurer. Our late brother was a liberal supporter of the local and other charities, and his heart was ever open to assist those who required a "helping hand," and we are sure that the members of the Lodge will long revere his memory and sincerely regret his loss. The Masonic arrangements were under the superintendence of Bros. F. Adlard, D.C., and Samuel Aldrich, P.M. and Hon. Sec.

THE WEEK.

THE COURT.—The Queen and the royal family continue in good health at Buckingham Palace and daily ride and drive in the Park now that the weather has become so fine. There have been one or two quiet dinner parties at the Palace, but the Queen does not think proper to go to the theatre just now on account of the death of Prince Hohenlohe. For the same reason the birthday of Prince Arthur on Tuesday was kept quite privately, though he and his little brother Leopold were taken to the Olympic Theatre in the evening by way of a treat; their brothers and sisters went to the Haymarket. On Tuesday the Princess Alice honoured the debate in the Lords with her presence, remaining during the whole of old Lord Lyndhurst's speech on the state of the navy. Prince Alfred goes to sea again at the end of the week; in the meantime he is inspecting ship-builders' yards and examining the latest improvements in steam-machinery. Professor Owen has been again lecturing on natural history for the instruction of the royal children.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.—In the HOUSE OF LORDS, on Monday, the Duke of Marlborough gave notice that on the second reading of the Church Rates Abolition Bill he should move, as an amendment, that it should be read a second time that day six months. The Earl of Clan-carty, in moving for some returns connected with the system of national education in Ireland, contended that its results had been incommensurate with the enormous expense which it had entailed upon the country; and that it was the duty of parliament fully to consider the system with a view to its revision. The Earl of Carlisle said that it was the firm intention of the government to adhere to the principle upon which they had acted in connection with education both in England and Ireland. They were desirous of giving a good secular education to all who would receive it, coupled with an opportunity of acquiring religious instruction, without introducing any compulsory measure whatever. On Tuesday Lord Lyndhurst called attention to the state of the naval reserve, and asked the government for some account of its present condition and probable future progress. He alluded to the generally entertained opinion that since the last great war the English navy had been

neglected until the beginning of 1859, while the French had been continually strengthened and improved until it acquired a dangerous superiority, and he expressed his opinion that even at the present time the strength of the English navy exceeded that of France only in a very slight degree. He urged the necessity of maintaining a Channel fleet sufficiently strong to maintain our supremacy, as the only means of preserving our commerce and keeping our ports free from blockade. He dwelt upon the difficulty of manning the fleet in case of any sudden emergency, and inquired how far the recommendations of the commissioners had been carried out, with the view of providing a permanent supply of men equal to any demand that might arise. The Duke of Somerset defended the government from any charge of inattention to the naval requirements of the country, asserting that during the last eight months more men had been employed in the dockyards than for years past, and contrasted the strength of the English navy with that of France. He also gave explanations upon the subject of the naval reserve. In the House of Commons, on Monday, the adjourned debate on the second reading of the Reform Bill was resumed by Mr. Bentinck, who contended that the bill would place the constitution in the hands of the working classes; and in support of his argument that those classes were not fit to be entrusted with a large share of political power, he referred to the fact, among others, that the greater part of Mr. Bright's own carpet weavers were then on strike for an advance of wages. Like the Reform Bill of 1832, it was a mere political expedient, and while he (Mr. Bentinck) was not opposed to all reform, he wished to see a measure introduced which would give to each class a fair share in the representation, and remove those anomalies which now existed, and which had been framed for the purpose of giving place and power to the party of which Lord J. Russell was a member. Mr. J. Walter argued that, while a Reform Bill was not demanded either by any crying grievances which the working classes had to complain of, or by the composition of that house, there was, nevertheless, a necessity for the redistribution of seats and an extension of the franchise. Lord J. Manners opposed the bill, to proceed further with which would, he said, be a mere idle farce. Mr. Clay supported the bill, contending that if, as some honourable members had argued, the working classes were not fit to be entrusted with the franchise because of their ignorance of political economy, it would not be necessary to go out of that house in search of persons who ought to be disfranchised for the same reason. Mr. John Locke, as one of the few who were returned by the working classes, indicated their right to the suffrage, as well as their prudence in its exercise, and asserted the superiority of large over small constituencies. Sir C. Napier moved as follows:—"That an humble address be presented to her Majesty, expressing the regret of this House that, instead of a reserve of 70,000 men contemplated by the manning commission, there only exists 6,362 coast guard men, including officers, 1,900 district ships' companies, 1,400 revenue men and 600 cruisers' men, and 5,000 or 6,000 coast volunteers not to be depended upon; and, as a vote of this House has unanimously decided that the report of the manning commission ought to be carried out, the House prays her Majesty will give directions that the coast guard should be completed to 12,000 seamen, as recommended by the commission, ready to be placed in efficient ships at the several ports, instead of the present block ships, thus constituting a reserve of ten sail of the line, ready for any emergency; that the number of naval volunteers, now under 1,000, should be completed as soon as possible, and the other recommendations of the commission complied with; and the House is also of opinion that the bounty for able seamen ought not to have been lowered till the number wanted was complete." Sir J. Elphinstone seconded the motion. Lord C. Paget, after objecting to the course taken by Sir C. Napier in bringing before the House, almost weekly, those matters of detail which he had embodied in his speech as most inadvisable, asked the House not to agree to the motion, which was principally founded upon a series of misconceptions. He then proceeded to combat the assertions of Sir C. Napier. Sir J. Pakington had heard the statement of the noble lord with great satisfaction, and rejoiced that it had been elicited by the motion, which he could not, however, support, because he concurred in regarding it as one of censure. Sir M. Seymour made some remarks recommendatory of an improved system of manning the navy. After some remarks from Mr. Corry, Sir G. Pechell, Admiral Walcott, Sir H. Verney, Mr. Bentick, Mr. Williams, Lord Lovaine, and Mr. Whitbread, Sir C. Napier, in reply, defended himself from the charge of exciting discontent in the navy, and retorted upon Lord C. Paget that it was he himself who had done so, as there had been no less than five mutinies since he became Secretary to the Admiralty. The gallant admiral added that the noble lord, instead of discouraging him, had often told him to persevere with his motions, as they did a great deal of good. He concluded by withdrawing his motion. The adjourned debate on the Reform Bill was fixed for Thursday. Lord Palmerston would take the sense of the House upon its further adjournment if the second reading were not then agreed to. On Wednesday Lord Rayaham moved the second reading of the Aggravated Assaults Act Amendment Bill, to prevent the repetition of those savage assaults which were so often perpetrated on women and children. To six months' imprisonment he proposed to add a discretionary corporal punishment to the extent of fifty lashes for the first offence, with twelve months' imprisonment and a hundred and fifty lashes on a repetition of the offence. Mr. Clive, on the part of the government, opposed the bill, which, he contended, would, if passed, become inoperative from the severity of the punishments which it pro-

posed to inflict. Sir G. C. Lewis said that no case had been made out for the bill, either by proving the increase of the crime, or the insufficiency of the penalties to which it was at present liable. The assaults complained of took place principally among the lower classes, so that while husbands were imprisoned wives and families starved; and therefore the bill would become inoperative, as wives would not like to subject their husbands to the heavy penalties of the bill. Even now it frequently happened that women, after prosecuting their husbands to a conviction, interceded for their release long before the term of their imprisonment expired. Mr. Coningham opposed the bill, and after some further discussion, the bill was read a second time, by 109 to 85.

GENERAL HOME NEWS.—The Chancellor of the Exchequer has been unable since Thursday week to attend to his parliamentary duties, in consequence of a severe cold. The right hon. gentleman has got better the last day or two.—Her Majesty has given £250 as a prize to be competed for by volunteers at the July meeting of the National Rifle Association, to be held on Wimbledon Common; and his Royal Highness the Prince Consort has given £100 as a prize to be competed for by all comers of all nations.—The Select Committee appointed to consider the best means of cleansing the Serpentine have presented their report, which contains only one recommendation, viz., that the project of filtration on Mr. Hawksley's plan be abandoned. Though the report contains so little, it occupies, including the evidence, four hundred pages, a large amount of labour and expense to have incurred for so small a result.—The Countess of Mansfield expired on Sunday, at her residence, Langham House. Her ladyship, who was in her 87th year, was the fifth daughter of the late Dr. Markham, Archbishop of York. She married, in 1797, the third earl of Mansfield, who died in 1840.—Several important May meetings were held on Monday. They include the Turkish Missions Aid, the Home and Colonial School, The Protestant Reformation, the Wesleyan Missionary, and the Religious Propagation Societies. It will be observed in the report of the Turkish Missions Aid Society, that Lord Shaftesbury talked somewhat glibly about the probable partition of the Turkish empire. Those who remember the speeches which the noble lord delivered some four or five years ago will perhaps be surprised at his change of tone on this subject.—The Liverpool Sailors' Home was totally destroyed by fire on Sunday. This building was opened in 1851. It cost thirty thousand pounds, and is only insured for thirteen thousand. The event is rendered most distressing from the fear which is entertained that several lives have been sacrificed. As this was an institution occupied by a number of temporary inmates, it will probably be a work of some time to ascertain beyond doubt who have perished by the catastrophe.—Following the example of the fast men of the Stock Exchange, the staid and sober indigo brokers of Mincing-lane, on Saturday presented a purse containing a hundred guineas, to Mr. Thomas Sayers, the champion of the prize ring. The gift was prefaced by a speech from Mr. Laing, the chairman of the subscribers, in which, while he repudiated any desire to encourage pugilistic encounters, he professed the admiration of himself and his friends for a bold heart and a strong arm. Sayers paid his promised visit to Liverpool on Monday afternoon. He met with a regular ovation, and bowed his acknowledgments from an elevated spot on 'Change. The assemblage was larger and of a more motley description than has been seen in the room for many a day. It was said by an old Liverpool merchant that no such scene has been enacted on 'Change since the day that Lord Gough was honoured for his victories in India.—On Sunday evening there were the usual disturbances which have for months past disgraced the parish church of St. George's-in-the-East. There was a great crowd in Cannon-street prior to the opening of the gates for the seven o'clock service, and when the mob of ruffians were admitted they indulged themselves by making the most hideous noises of which they were capable. The Rev. Bryan King was mocked and hissed in a most disgraceful manner. The evening hymn, which was sung prior to the blessing, was parodied by "Hot Codlins" and similar profanity. Inspector Alison, who is not a man to be tampered with, having at length issued the word of command to his men, the pick-pocket interest succumbed; the conscientious comic singers fled before the constables, and the doors of St. George's were once more closed.—Lord Pannure will shortly leave Brechin Castle for Germany, where his lordship purposes making a short sojourn at some of the celebrated baths.—A meeting was held, on Tuesday, at the rooms of the Society of Arts, of a number of gentlemen interested in the opening of a road to connect the north and south sides of Hyde Park. This is much required for the public convenience, and we trust the promoters will be successful in their object.—On Tuesday, at the Westminster Police-court, a man named Tyler was charged with having killed Thomas Weller in a pugilistic encounter. It seems that the fight was the result of a quarrel; but it was deliberately entered into, the men and their friends adjourning to a convenient place for the purpose.—It is said, that it is not impossible that the Earl of Elgin may find, on his arrival at Suez, a communication which will render his further progress to China unnecessary, a proposal having been made by the allies to the Chinese government, which, if assented to promptly, will, it is hoped, avert war.—On Monday morning, the whole of the officers and men of the Chatham Division of Royal Marines were drawn up for the purpose of witnessing corporal punishment on private Joseph Wakefield, who was tried a few days previously for desertion, and was sentenced to be branded with the letter D, and to be imprisoned for 168 days. On the sentence being read, in the presence of the whole of the division, the

prisoner called out to Colonel McKillop, that "he would be d—— if he could do it," with other mutinous expressions. A drum head court martial was immediately convened, and he was sentenced to receive fifty lashes. The prisoner was at once fastened to the halberts, and the full number of lashes inflicted, after which he was conveyed to Melville Hospital. As soon as he has recovered, he will be sent to Fort Clarence. —Last week the births of 914 boys and 885 girls, in all 1799 children, were registered in London. In the ten corresponding weeks of 1850–59 the average number was 1650. The deaths in London in the week were 1268, showing a slight decrease on those of the previous week, and a more considerable decrease on those registered in the earlier half of April, when the weekly number was above 1460. —At the Metropolitan Free Hospital, Devonshire-square, City, the aggregate number of patients relieved during the week ending April 28th, was—medical, 935; surgical, 395; total, 1320; of which 390 were new cases. —The Duke of Cambridge, as colonel of the London Rifle Brigade, has fixed this day, the 5th instant, at five o'clock, p.m., for an inspection of the regiment, on the parade ground, Horse Guards. It is expected that the corps, which numbers above 1,600 members, will muster as many as 1,200 strong at the inspection. Earl Grosvenor, lieutenant-colonel commandant of the Queen's Westminster Volunteer Corps, has kindly consented to keep the ground. —It is understood that the Duke of Argyll, lord privy seal, will undertake the duties of postmaster-general, in the absence of the Earl of Elgin, now on a mission to the court of Peking. —Among the religious meetings of the week, the most important was that of the Bible Society, which great institution last year distributed nearly two million copies of the Bible over the whole extent of the habitable globe. —The question of the practices adopted by Mr. Liddell in the church of St. Barnabas, Pimlico (this is a different case from that of St. Paul's), came on in the Appeal Court, Doctors' Commons, on Wednesday. Dr. Robertson reserved judgment. —On Tuesday morning a communication was received by the Provost of Dundee, under cover to the Governor of Dundee Prison, intimating that her Majesty had been pleased to grant a respite of the sentence of death recently passed upon Bridget Kiernan. The provost immediately conveyed the welcome news to the poor woman, who burst into tears. —On Wednesday evening at five o'clock a great fire broke out at the Euston Hotel, adjoining the terminus of the London and North Western Railway; by eight o'clock the fire was extinguished, but not until sixty-two rooms were destroyed, or partially so, and the roof right round the building burnt off. The origin of the catastrophe is not yet precisely known, nor yet the offices in which the property was insured.

FOREIGN NEWS.—The Emperor of the French has accepted a hunting knife from Mappin, the Sheffield cutler, and makes the occasion a peg on which to hang some imperial clap trap. He says:—"The offer was the more agreeable to him, as the treaty of commerce seems to have inspired the idea. This treaty you are right in believing with him to whom you attribute the happy initiative—will strongly contribute to increase the relations and to draw closer the bonds of friendship between the two great nations who march at the head of civilization and industry. —Some further interesting particulars concerning the death of Baron de Bruck have reached us from Vienna. The medical men who examined his body have detected the presence of very active poison, probably morphine or strychnine. His friends sought to conceal the knowledge of his condition as long as there was any hope of his recovery. No members of the diplomatic corps were present at his funeral, excepting the Turkish Minister, and the Government *employés* were forbidden to attend it in uniform. Some more of the future members of the new Austrian Council of State are mentioned in the despatches from Vienna. One is Count Apponyi, well known in London as the diplomatic representative of Austria at the Court of St. James's for a considerable period of time, and as a Hungarian of the school of Conservative constitutionalists. The others are Messrs. Murnmann, Schoelles, and Vay, the latter of whom was the principal member of the deputation of Hungarian Protestants, who, of late, attempted to effect, a compromise with the Imperial Government, concerning the reestablishment of the old constitution of the Protestant Church in Hungary, and have, to a certain degree, been successful in it. A funeral ceremony has been gone through at Pesth, attended by a very large concourse of people in commemoration of that true but unfortunate benefactor of the Hungarian nation Count Szechenyi. —A deputation of the first families in Prussia having, a few days ago, waited upon the Prince Regent to present an address, deprecating the appointment of Jews to judicial offices, his Highness was pleased to state in answer, that the present condition of the Hebrew question ought to be regarded as very different from that of a quarter of a century ago. In retiring, the deputation, according to custom, thanked his Royal Highness for the gracious reception awarded to them. It is directly denied from Berlin that Prussia has assented to the choice of Paris as the seat of the Conference, by which the claim of Switzerland to Chablais and Faucigny is to be settled. The despatches from Berlin express no confidence whatsoever that there will be a European Conference after all. —The *Patrie* and the *Pays* state that despatches have arrived from Spain confirming the statement that Count Montemolin and his brother have proposed to recognize the sovereignty of Queen Isabella. In the conference between Marshal O'Donnell and Mulay Abbas, all difficulties to the reestablishment of peace were removed. Morocco is to pay the indemnity for the expenses of the war during the

course of the year. Being desirous of regaining possession of Tetuan, she has decided to advance the time of payments. —Victor Emmanuel has arrived at Pistoja from whence he is to go to Lucca, and afterwards to Bologna. Letters from Rome to the 24th inst., state "The bishops of the Romagna have received a prohibition against taking any part in the reception of King Victor Emmanuel. The correspondent of the *Journal des Débats*, whose expulsion from Rome had been commanded by his holiness, has obtained a delay of twenty days. It is asserted that the French Minister has pronounced sentence of disciplinary punishment against two officers who were dressed in private clothes during the popular movement of the 19th of March." —The insurrection in Sicily, instead of being suppressed, is reported to be advancing. The constitutionalists have gained some advantages over the government troops, and it even reported that they have got possession of a sea-port, which is of the greatest importance to them. They are also said to have obtained an armed steamer and a large supply of munitions of war. From Paris the news has arrived that English and French men of war were hovering about the coast of Sicily; and, most important of all, it is added that Garibaldi is on his way to take the command of the patriots. Advices have been received from Naples, to the 28th ultimo, which state that the *Electrico* had arrived at Naples from Palermo, bringing families of the military. The insurgents were meditating an attempt on Palermo. A column which left Messina on the 20th of April was engaged in serious combats with the insurgents, on the 21st and 22nd, at Galati, which town was destroyed. The royal troops fell back upon Messina. Another column, under the command of General Letizia, had left Palermo, in order to subdue Trapani. It was supported by two frigates. —We learn from the American papers that the Japanese embassy to the United States had been received with great honour at San Francisco. They were made the guests of the city; the corporation had appropriated 20,000 dollars for their entertainment; and a grand public reception was held in their honour. The Japanese will have a curious story to tell on their return of the enthusiasm with which they will have been everywhere received by Brother Jonathan. —The latest reports from Sicily are contradictory but there is no doubt that the insurgents are in high spirits and that they are commanded by men of energy and ability. It was reported that a Neapolitan General had been captured by the insurgents; that the seat of government was about to be transferred to Messina; that the disembarkation of several insurgents had had the effect of thoroughly arousing the courage of the others; and that the garrison of Palermo, although it numbered nearly 20,000 men, feared to proceed into the interior. —The rumour of a rising in Calabria is again in circulation. —The latest telegrams from Italy describe the reception, by the townspeople and the peasantry of the Romagna, of King Victor Emmanuel. So all the reports that the king, under advice from Paris, would delay his visit to this new part of his dominions at least have come to naught. —The *Patrie* publishes a telegram from Madrid, stating that a general amnesty was about to be proclaimed in Spain, and that Count de Montemolin and his brother, by taking an oath of fidelity to the queen, would resume their rank as princes of the blood royal at the court. Count Montemolin and his brother Ferdinand will take their departure from Spain.

COMMERCIAL; AND PUBLIC COMPANIES.—The traffic returns of the railways in the United Kingdom, for the week amounted to £498,730, and for the corresponding period of last year to £463,190, showing an increase of £35,540. The gross receipts of the eight railways having their termini in the metropolis amounted to £213,964, and for the corresponding week of last year £202,664, showing an increase of £11,300. The receipts on the other lines in the United Kingdom amounted to £284,766, and for the corresponding period of 1859 to £260,526, showing an increase of £24,240 in the receipts of those lines, which, added to the increase on the metropolitan lines, makes the total increase £35,540, as compared with the corresponding week of 1859. —The extent to which the public have neglected the precaution of having their passbooks verified has been illustrated during the last day or two by the number of personal applications made for that purpose at the Bank of England and other banking establishments. It is also reported that so far from other banks having been careful on the point, the only instance that can be called to mind of late years of a banker having personally applied at the Bank of England to check the balance belonging to his firm occurred in the case of Mr. Strahan, who, with his partner, Sir John Paul, was subsequently condemned for appropriating the securities of his customers.

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Mlle. Piccolomini has, we are told, taken her final leave of the stage, and for this purpose a new opera has been produced with the view of furnishing another sensation piece for her admirers. Signor Campana is the favoured *maestro*, and his opera is called "Almina," it is pretty and graceful in the melodies, but has no stamina to promise a long life, but some of the quieter movements have great elegance and delicacy. The *finale* of the first act is, in some points, new. There is a good chorus in the fourth scene of act the third, the music for the tenor lies well for his voice; but that for the *soprano* appears to be less happy, owing, it may be, to the fault of Mlle. Piccolomini. Cleverly though she acted, her singing so often passed the

boundaries of what is pardonable, that we must congratulate Signor Campana on her retirement. Signor Giuglini was more prompt and less lachrymose than usual; and Signor Aldighieri appeared to unusual advantage. The plot of the opera is said to be founded on a recent trial in France, in which it was shown that a woman married against her will, fell into a trance, and was supposed to be dead; her favoured lover carried her away out of her coffin by bribing the sexton, and brought her to life again. Years elapsed; she was recognized and claimed by her husband, and a tragic *imbroglio* ensued, ending in the heroine taking poison. All this was very well acted by Mlle. Piccolomini; but her singing, such as it is, was neither better nor worse than usual. We should not omit that the scene is laid in the middle ages, which gives us an opportunity of discovering the fact that crinoline was in vogue, according to Mlle. Piccolomini, six hundred years ago. In "*Almina*" the heroine is buried in petticoats whose amplitude would do honour to Kensington Gardens on the most fashionable band day.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.—The novelty of the week has been Madame Miolan Carvalho's appearance as *Zerlina*, in "*Fra Diavolo*," on Tuesday, which was a triumphant success. The laurels which the French songstress has gained in "*Dinorah*" will not suffer any deterioration by a comparison with her new impersonation; her audience were delighted, and enthusiastically and unmercifully encoored her songs. Madame Carvalho's acting was animated and careful; and perhaps a better representative of the peasant beauty has not been seen upon the London boards. Gardoni played the brigand, singing with his usual sweetness, and acting with a trifle more vigour than is his wont. Of course the great feature of the opera was Ronconi's *Lord Alcaash*, the actor's representation of the eccentric Englishman perfectly convulsed the house; indeed, some arrangement ought to be made which would allow of Signor Ronconi having the stage to himself, for, like our own Robson at the Olympic, it is perfectly impossible for any other performer to attract attention as long as this great comedian is before the public eye. Mlle. Corbari, as *Lady Alcaash*, sang with spirit; and Signori Zelger, Neri Baraldi, and Tagliafico were well received, and contributed their share to constitute a perfect whole.

HAYMARKET THEATRE.—The reappearance of Miss Amy Sedgwick was to have taken place on Monday, but was prevented by that lady's illness. The comedy of "*Victims*" was substituted, and has been played all the week with its original strong cast; this has been followed every night by "*Box and Cox*," with the inimitable drolleries of Buckstone and Compton; and the "*Pilgrim of Love*" has worthily concluded a pleasant evening's entertainment. It is hoped that the illness of Miss Sedgwick will be subdued sufficiently for her to appear this evening in a new play by Mr. Falconer called "*Family Secrets*."

LYCEUM THEATRE.—The short season of Messrs. Brough and Falconer's management has come to a conclusion, and on the whole cannot be called unsuccessful. During the past week Sir William Don has been acting at this house; but we certainly do not think the theatrical baronet can be considered an attraction. His extraordinary height and figure always attract attention, and of course dress upon such a giant may easily be made productive of merriment; but for real humour, such as we are led to expect in a successful comic actor, we have looked in vain. The burlesque of the "*Forty Thieves*" having achieved a good run, thanks to good scenery and a liberal display of pretty legs in pink fleshings, has, we suppose, at length found its way to the tomb of all the Capulets, a melancholy illustration of a homely proverb, and a warning to managers to confide the cookery of their burlesques to one scribe in preference to a multitude of dramatic authors. The charming Miss Lydia Thompson having saved the fortunes of this theatre, is, we are told, about to recommence fascinating the habits of the St. James's Theatre with her unexceptionable legs and remarkable arrangement of drapery.

ADELPHI THEATRE.—"*The Dead Heart*" is withdrawn in consequence of the absence of Mr. Webster, who is fulfilling a round of country engagements; and the first piece this week has been "*To Parents and Guardians*." We are glad to welcome Mr. Leigh Murray back to the stage in the character of the French usher, which he played, on his reappearance, in the same finished style which has always distinguished his sketches of character; we trust he will now resume that career of success which has so long been awaiting him. Mr. Leigh Murray is well supported by Mr. Toole and Miss Henrietta Sims, who sustain the minor characters with great humour and energy. Miss Julia Daly has appeared in a new piece called "*Our Female American Cousin*," with moderate success; and the "*Fair One with the Golden Looks*" continues to draw full houses.

OLYMPIC THEATRE.—"*The Christmas Dinner*," which is now running its allotted course at this theatre, is Mr. Tom Taylor's last literal translation from the French. The original is called "*Je dine chez ma Mère*," and all that our "gifted comic dramatist" has done, has been to shift the scene from France to England and to change the names of the characters; every incident, and indeed every joke, being literally translated from the Frenchman's play, a work which would occupy any ordinary French scholar about a day, and for which we have no doubt Mr. Taylor has received a very good day's pay indeed. *Sophie Arnould* becomes *Peg Woffington* (Mrs. Stirling), the *Chevalier* is *Sir Peregrine Plumer* (Mr. Vining), the *Prince d'Hennin* is *Lord Harry Beaudesert* (Mr. W. Gordon), *Pierre Didier*, the painter, is *William Hogarth* (Mr.

Horace Wigan), and *Marion*, the lady's maid, is *Patchett* (Mrs. W. S. Emden). Thanks to this admirable cast, the pathos and the wit of the Parisians lose nothing by being thrust into an English garb; and the delineation of the heroine by the ever charming Mrs. Stirling is a masterpiece of histrionic ability; Mr. Horace Wigan makes up admirably and acts judiciously, and Mr. Vining does much with a weak part. In "*Uncle Zachary*" and "*B.B.*" Mr. Robson nightly melts his audience into tears or makes them shake with laughter; and we suppose those two pieces will enjoy the usual long life that appertains as a rule to the repertory of this theatre.

STRAND THEATRE.—A whimsical sketch entitled "*A Race for a Widow*," by Mr. Williams, was produced on Monday. *Mrs. Wilmington* (Miss Bufton), a supposed widow, who turns out to have a husband living, plays off sundry rather malicious tricks upon two mercenary fortune hunters (represented by Messrs. James Rogers and H. J. Turner) aided by an ally, one *Mr. Capricorn Pepperpot* (Mr. Bland). The piece is acted with great vigour by Mr. James Rogers, Mr. Bland, Mr. Turner, and Miss Bufton, and elicits uproarious mirth though there is perhaps too much of what may be termed practical pleasantry in this production. When Mr. Turner is not assaulting Mr. Rogers, Mr. Rogers is assaulting Mr. Bland; and so, for about three quarters of an hour, the stage is the scene of continued struggles, in which coat tails are torn off, tables knocked over, and the disorders of a row imitated on a small scale. Too much of this sort of thing becomes the reverse of funny, and partakes more of the humours of Clown and Pantaloon than of the genuine farce. The burlesque of "*The Miller and His Men*," is decidedly the best which the Easter holidays has produced, and does honour to the experienced pens of Messrs. H. J. Byron and F. Talfourd, whose joint manufacture it is. The bandit miller *Grindoff* is played by Miss Charlotte Saunders, who has in this character made a most extraordinary hit; her costume and make-up are a perfect study, and her acting marked by vigour and genuine humour. Miss Marie Wilton as *Karl* is a most elegant little groom dressed in the most perfect of liveries and the most fairylike of top boots; and the *Lothair* of Mr. J. Clarke is distinguished by the odd physical contortions which are neither to be included in the category of feats of walking or dancing, but which are evidently most congenial to the taste of the spectators who applaud vehemently all Mr. Clarke does. A most genuine, irresistible, and novel embodiment is that by Mr. James Rogers of *Ravina*, an ill-used and neglected female of curious complexion and strong passions, much given to eccentric dancing. Miss Bufton as *Claudine* and Miss Maria Simpson as *Count Friberg*, look pretty and graceful; Mr. James Bland as *Kelmer*, and Messrs. Turner and Poynter as the villains *Riber* and *Golotz*, afford portraiture wherein gesticulation and extravagance of every description are carried to the most entertaining extent. In the course of the piece Miss Rosina Wright dances a series of *pas* with her usual skill; and both in the costumes and scenery a completeness may be observed highly creditable to the management. The music is selected with taste and is well executed by the *dramatis personæ*, and there is the usual amount of the well known peculiar Strand Theatre comic dancing by the ladies in masculine costume, which is as much relished as ever.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

BRO. EDWARD MAMMATT.—We regret extremely that want of space prevents our inserting an interesting sketch of this deceased brother; which, however, will appear in our next.

"EBORACENSIS."—Certainly; his lordship held the office of Grand Warden as Earl of Ripon, before he had succeeded to the earldom of De Grey. Your second question refers to a point which interested many brethren at the time the circumstance occurred, and which may form the subject of a few remarks in our columns at an early opportunity.

"J. V. K."—We quite agree with your facetious remarks on the subject of the overcrowded state of the glee room, but we presume you did not expect your letter to appear in print.

"DIDASCULUS."—Any day between the hours of ten and four, except Saturday, when the office closes earlier.

"EXCELSIOR'S" remarks are somewhat intemperate, and at variance with the title he assumes. As far as we are personally concerned we can assure him he is very much mistaken.

"T. J. D."—We shall be happy to assist you if you will forward the particulars.

"B. D." (Brighton).—Originally there were but twelve Grand Stewards, who were first appointed in 1728.

"JUSTITIA."—A letter upon some unfortunate colonial differences is before us, which we do not at present think it advisable to print.

"KIRJATH."—Uniformity of costume might with advantage be more studied than is at present the case in some Templar Encampments; still we do not entirely admire the American style, by which our correspondent seems so much pleased.