

LONDON, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1862.

THE GRAND LODGE PROPERTY.

The Committee recently appointed to consider how best this property can be laid out for the advantage of the Craft, so that suitable accommodation may be given for the performance of our ceremonies, irrespective of the Tavern—with all requisite offices for the business of the Order—coffee rooms, library, lecture rooms, &c., and the placing the Tavern on a footing second to none in London, must also have their attention directed to the limitations necessary to be placed on the use of that portion to be dedicated to Masonic purposes.

It is well known that under the English Constitutions, Ancient Freemasonry is declared to be confined to three degrees, including the Royal Arch; but that other degrees are worked, such as the Masonic Knights Templar, the Ancient and Accepted Rite, &c., the members of which must be Freemasons before they can be admitted into them is equally notorious. Whether these degrees, or any of them, are to be permitted to be worked within a Masonic Temple, the property of Grand Lodge, must be determined. Which way the question may be decided is a matter of indifference to us, and we venture to say equally so to the supreme bodies of the Orders to which we have alluded, as they will well know how to provide for themselves, should it be determined that they cannot meet in Great Queen-street.

The Supreme Grand Council of the Ancient and Accepted Rite have already ignored the existence of the Tavern and the property by removing its Grand East to Ludgate-hill, and Grand Conclave will not be slow in following their example if they are to be subjected to the petty annoyances which are now uniformly thrown in their way. Now, let us examine under what circumstances the Knight Templars have, for the last thirty years, met in the Hall or Temple, and see, at all events, if it is not sufficient to give them a prescriptive right to some attention and indulgence. The late Grand Master of England of Craft Masonry, H.R.H. the Duke of Sussex, was Grand Prior, and afterwards Grand Master of the Knights Templar and the Grand Conclave regularly met and conducted their business in the Grand Lodge Property, occupying the Temple for that purpose ever since it was built. On the death of H.R.H., when Earl Zetland was elected Grand Master of Craft Masonry, Colonel Tynte, a very old Mason and Provincial Grand Master, was elected Grand Master of the Knight Templars, and was allowed the free use of the Temple, the approaches thereto, and the Grand

Master's room, without let or hindrance—nobody ever dreaming that the Masonic Knights Templar were in any way desecrating the Property.

A few months since, Colonel Tynte was called to rest with his fathers. Sir Knight Stuart, who is honoured with the confidence of the Earl of Zetland, was elected to succeed him, from which time a series of petty annoyances were commenced—first, the use of the Grand Master's and robing rooms could no longer be allowed, and now the Temple may be used, but the only convenient access to it shall not; but the Sir Knights are compelled to intermingle with the guests of the Tavern, because the door of the library—best known as the black-hole—cannot be opened to them. Any one who has ever been in this so-called library, must know that it is the dullest and darkest room in the whole building, and we can find no reason for its having been appropriated to the purpose of a library, excepting to drive brethren from seeking access to its treasures, which has been most effectually accomplished, especially as it is only open to the brethren during those hours when business men cannot possibly attend it.

We are sometimes informed that the Temple having been consecrated to Masonry—when we know not—cannot be let for other than Masonic purposes. But has any one ever yet put forth the same plea on behalf of the back staircase and library, which is nothing but an anteroom to the Temple. Then, again, is the meeting of the Grand Conclave of Masonic Knights Templar a "Masonic purpose?" If not, why is the meeting allowed to take place in the Temple at all? And if so, why is it to be deprived of free access to it? Again, is the dirty brown holland which covers the dais, and which appears never to have been made acquainted with the virtues of soap and water for the last quarter of a century at least been consecrated? And if not, why is it held so sacred that that even must not be removed, on occasion of the meetings of a body of brethren within the Temple without special permission, and that permission being as difficult to obtain, as it would be to get a dispensation from the Grand Master to set aside some of our most cherished landmarks.

We are not going to enquire from whom emanates the orders relative to the letting or nonletting of the Temple, or the amount of accommodation which may or may not go with the permission. Suffice it for us to know that there is an anomaly which ought to be removed; and if the Board of General Purposes cannot do so, the new Committee on the Grand Lodge Property must, and if they have not already got the power, as we believe they have, they must seek it from the Grand Lodge itself.

At the same time we warn the Committee that delays are dangerous; and already are we threatened with independent Masonic Temples to the east and to the west of Great Queen-street. Ere long, a building will, we have reason to believe, be opened in Bedford-row, which the High Grades are likely to make their home, and to which will be attached coffee rooms, library, and reading rooms—in other words, club accommodation for the use of all brethren who think fit to pay for it. Again to the west we know that a scheme is in embryo for the opening of spacious premises in the neighbourhood of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, with handsomely furnished lodge and chapter rooms, with coffee and reading rooms, and banquetting rooms furnished with every appliance and comfort of modern art, whilst the country brethren will be tempted to support it by all the *agremens* of a first-class hotel and private home in the very centre of London, at the most moderate expense. We shall not more clearly designate the spot, as it is not our business to give an enhanced value to the property against the projectors, should the scheme be carried out; but we call the attention of the Committee to what is going on, because they may, and probably will, become material elements in determining the value of our Tavern property, when we have to offer it, under the new arrangement, either to the present or other lessees.

And all this has arisen from the dissatisfaction engendered by the length of time in which the property has been allowed to remain in its present position—from the want of a definite understanding as to what is, or what is not, a "Masonic Purpose"—and from needless obstructions being thrown in the way of the brethren having free access to their own property.

As to whether the meeting of Grand Conclave is or is not a "Masonic Purpose," as we have stated, we shall abstain from giving an opinion; but that Knight Templarism is not altogether ignored by the authorities is shown by the fact that the Duke of Sussex was Grand Master of the Order; that we hold amicable relations with the Grand Lodge of Ireland, under which Masonic Knight Templarism is worked; and last, though not least, the Most Worshipful Grand Master has lately allowed a new Irish Masonic Calendar to be specially dedicated to him (the British and Colonial), which bases its chief claims to support upon the fact that it gives full information relative to the Craft and higher Degrees, and embracing all the bodies in the United Kingdom, Canada, and the British Colonies, with an outline of those throughout Europe and the United States, showing at least that the Grand Master does not consider this antagonistic to Ancient Freemasonry.

FROM WEST TO EAST—FROM EAST TO WEST.*

FROM WEST TO EAST.

"How ought a Mason's lodge to be situated?—Due east and west. Why so?—Because all churches, chapels, and places of divine worship ought to be so situated. For what reason?—Because the sun rises in the east and spreads its influence towards the west; and because the Gospel was first preached in the east, and afterwards propagated in the western parts of the world."—*FROM AN OBSOLETE RITUAL.*

In Freemasonry, the East, or sun rising, constitutes an unchangeable landmark; and accordingly in an ancient Masonic MS., which was reputed to have been copied by Leland, the celebrated antiquary, we find the following passage:—"Where dyd ytt (Freemasonry) begynne? Ytt dydd begynne with the ffyrste menne of the Este, whych were before the ffyrste menne of the Weste; and comynge westlye ytt hathe broughte herwythe alle confortes to the wyld and comfortlesse." Mr. Locke's presumed annotation on this passage induced Bro. Preston to observe that "the opinion there were men in the east before Adam is a mere conjecture, although it may be countenanced by some learned authors; but Masons comprehend the true meaning of the Craft taking its rise in the East and spreading to the West, without having recourse to the preadamite theory." East and West are terms peculiar to the society, and when Masonically adopted are very intelligible, as they refer to certain forms and customs established many centuries ago, a few of which will form the subject of the present lecture.

In a Mason's lodge the W.M. is placed in the east as a type of the rising sun, which opens the day, that the inhabitants of the world may go forth to their labour, and the behests of the Most High executed to his glory and the advantage of his creatures.

"Let there be light, said God; and forthwith light
Ethereal, first of all things, quintessence pure,
Sprung from the deep, and from her native East
To journey through the airy gloom began,
Sphered in a radiant cloud."—MILTON.

The candidate is obligated in the East and invested in the West; advances from West to East by right lines and angles, to typify the necessity of an upright life and well-squared actions; and he is subsequently placed in the North-East to receive instruction, as a corner-stone, from which a superstructure is expected to rise, perfect in its parts, and honourable to the builder. The brethren, with their faces to the East, reverently attend to the dictates of wisdom which proceed from the chair, in commemoration of the same custom used by the early Christians; for light, truth, and virtue, as Bro. Dunckerley, in his code of lectures, predicates, "sprang out of the darkness which overshadowed this globe when the work of six days began."

I now proceed to explain on anomaly which has crept into our lodge practice, and which many brethren would be glad if they could distinctly understand. In the traditionary history of Masonry, as it was embodied in the primitive ritual, we are informed that "our ancient brethren, after the completion of King Solomon's Temple, travelled from one country to another in search of employment, and for other Masonic purposes." Amongst the rest certain Entered Apprentices are said to have proceeded from the West

* From Dr. Oliver's *Freemason's Treasury*.

to the East, "hailing from the Lodge of St. John at Jerusalem," for the purpose of receiving scientific instruction from their more experienced brethren. And this declaration occupies a prominent place in the system adopted by most Grand Lodges at the present day; but having sustained some alteration, a difficulty has arisen which requires a brief notice.

It is easy to imagine that, as the East is a place of light and wisdom, a novice might beneficially travel thither to seek for information in the science; for, if our traditions are to be relied on, the Dionysiacs, who built the Temple of Solomon, travelled *eastward* from Jerusalem, bearing with them their skill and taste in architecture, and other secrets of the Fraternity, into various countries, where they were more readily employed, and received better wages than those who did not possess the same advantages.

In many places where they sojourned they obtained special privileges; and because they taught their secrets only to the freeborn, their successors acquired the name of FREEMASONS; constituting lodges and erecting stately piles of building under the patronage of great and wealthy princes, many of whom were accepted as members and brothers of the Order, and became Grand Masters, each in his own dominions, in imitation of King Solomon, whose memory as a Mason was revered by all other peoples, and will be till architecture shall be consumed in the general conflagration.*

It follows, therefore, that the above formula was strictly correct when applied to Solomon's Masons, for they proceeded literally *from the West to the East*, hailing from the lodges at Jerusalem, which constituted the undoubted origin of this peculiar phraseology, and, having been embodied in our primitive rituals, still applies with accurate consistency to the practice of the Fraternity in India and the Australian Islands. But how is it borne out *in countries westward of Jerusalem*? That is the question to be considered.

The discrepancy in the phrase from West to East, starting from the Lodge of St. John at Jerusalem, as it was expressed in the ordinary ritual of the last century, and applied to the several countries of Europe and America, where the institution at the present time flourishes in its greatest purity, appears to have entered into the deliberations of the Committee appointed, in 1814, to reconstruct the Lodge Lectures; and being unable to solve the difficulty, like Alexander they cut the knot, by utterly repudiating both St. John (who is styled by Preston "our ancient and venerable patron") and his lodges, and expunging his honoured name from the ritual, although it was probably introduced at the formation of the York Grand Lodge; and not only acknowledged by Calcott, Dunckerley, and Hutchinson, but advisedly embodied by Preston in his version of the lectures, which contain a plain record of the fact. But the misfortune is, that the alteration was accompanied by no certain clue to direct us how to account for the anomaly. The lectures simply stated that the visitor, or more correctly the Senior Warden of the lodge, who was the actual respondent, came from the West for instruction; and when the name of his lodge was demanded, he distinctly replied "the Holy Lodge of St. John at Jerusalem," with a recommendation

from "the Right Worthy and Worshipful Brothers and Fellows of that lodge, who sent their hearty greeting." But the Lodge of St. John of Jerusalem lies geographically eastward of this country; and therefore the sojourner in his course from thence to Europe or the new world, would not literally proceed from West to East, but from East to West. This is the difficulty. How is this to be reconciled? The solution of this problem will form the subject of another lecture.

FROM EAST TO WEST.

"If you are a Master Mason, as I suppose you are, I trust you are not ignorant of the rule of three. The rule of three I understand, for the key of this lodge is at my command. The name shall make you free; and what you want in Masonry shall be made known to thee. Good Masoury I understand, for the key of all lodges is at my command. You speak boldly. From whence come you? From the EAST. Whither going? To the West."—FROM AN ANCIENT RITUAL.

"More than a hundred years ago,
Numbering but twelve in all,
They met within a little room,
And, ere the night was gone,
Had worked a good Masonic Lodge,
And named it for ST. JOHN."—VAN ZANDT.

"To all worthy Masons, wheresoever dispersed under the wide and lofty canopy of heaven."—SECTIONAL CHARGE.

In forming speculative Masonry with a system, its founders, whoever they may have been, evidently intended to advance gradually through the existing degrees in a well-regulated climax. For this purpose, with great ingenuity, they constructed a series of Landmarks on a corresponding principle; amongst which must be included the references to the equatorial points of the compass. Thus the E. A. P. is taught to say that he comes *from West to East* for instruction; the F.C. that he travels, or rather that his forefathers travelled, *East and West*; those who went eastward sought for instruction, and when they journeyed westward, it was to propagate the same in various parts of the world; and the M.M. is represented as going *from East to West*, in search of something that had been lost, and which, according to the primitive system, *he finds*: although modern interpretation makes him unsuccessful, and furnishes certain substitutes which fall infinitely short of the thing required. Hence this reference to the cardinal points was formerly a literal and grammatical climax, which the alterations of Dr. Hemming and his associates have utterly destroyed.

Now it is clear that a great many precedents, from a remote period of time, might be adduced as prototypes of the custom of proceeding from West to East, and from East to West. At the dispersion from the plains of Shinar, for instance, the migrating tribes spread themselves over the earth towards all the four quarters of the compass. I have already observed that Solomon's Masons, when the Temple was finished, travelled from West to East in search of employment. The sun, the glory of the firmament, apparently travels from East to West, but in reality it is the earth that proceeds in its diurnal rotation from West to East. The camp of the Israelites, as well as the Tabernacle, which was a type of our lodges, was placed due East and West. The Magi, conducted by the Blazing Star, travelled from the East to the West in search of the expected Deliverer; and evangelical and moral truth had their origin in the East, and travelled westward to enlighten mankind

* See Anderson's "Const.," pp. 16. 17, ed. 1738.

with the bright beams of revelation, and to dispel the primitive darkness of ignorance, superstition, and error.

But all these illustration, of the custom of travelling from West to East for instruction, throw no light whatever on the anomaly of hailing from the Lodge of St. John, which, though omitted in the present code of English Lectures, must not be altogether lost sight of, for it undoubtedly constituted a Landmark of Ancient Masonry, distinctly recorded in the primitive Ritual. Now, as regards ourselves, this lodge is situated in the East instead of the West; and being a place of greater traditional light and knowledge than can be found elsewhere, is very unlikely to send out its acolytes to other quarters for instruction.

In our earliest Lectures we find it recorded that every Freemason's Lodge was, by dedication, a Lodge of St. John;† and therefore to reconcile the anomaly under discussion, it will only be necessary to omit the locality, and the indefinite article. The respondent will then intelligibly state that he is travelling from a Lodge of St. John in the West to another in the East, in search of instruction; for the East being the seat of Light and Wisdom, and Jerusalem the chief city of God's peculiar people, and the locality where all the typical celebrations by which our lodges (as antitypes of the Tabernacle and Temple) were consummated would necessarily be a place peculiarly adapted for Masonic instruction. I commit this conjecture to the consideration of the Craft.

It is a fact corroborated by Masonic history and tradition that the privilege of hailing from Jerusalem amongst Solomon's Masons served as a certificate of recommendation; and whoever possessed that testimonial was freely engaged in all the countries where the craft might seek employment. Hence the custom might pass traditionally through successive ages till it reached the times of our primitive brethren, the Christian architects of the mediæval ages, and was adopted by them as a formula technically necessary to ensure the kind reception of a sojourner amongst strangers.

It is no valid answer to this reason that the St. John's have been ignored by the English system, and their place occupied by two Jews—Moses the law-giver, and Solomon, the king of Israel—because all other existing Grand Lodges retain the landmark, and still acknowledge the two St. Johns as the patrons and parallels of Masonry; whose names form a substantial basis, from which all speculations on its nature and tendency ought to radiate. The Scottish Grand Lodge has raised an effectual bar to this modern innovation by denominating the Order specifically and exclusively "St. JOHN'S MASONRY," which is a very correct appellation; and the observance of their ritual may be thence considered as the true practice of the genuine Ancient Craft.

† Thus, in the ritual used in the time of Sir C. Wren, we find the following passage:—"What Lodge are you of? *The Lodge of St. John.*" And the Continental formula used about the same period is correspondent thereto. "Comments'appelle cette Loge? *La Loge de S. Jean.*" And this explanation was appended:—"que c'est le nom de toutes les Loges." Whence the old charge at the end of the fifth section of the E. A. P. Lecture:—"To the pious memory of the two St. John's, the two great parallels in Masonry; may we follow their precepts and profit by their example."

ARCHITECTURAL DEVELOPMENT ABSTRACTLY CONSIDERED.

(Continued from page 446.)

"History," says Dionysius, is "Philosophy teaching by examples," which is a truism equally applicable to the history of Architecture.

The farther we pursue our considerations, the more we are convinced of the truth, that the results of the past, in Architecture, are pregnant with teaching for the future; and that they are the only sources from which to expect either a new Architecture, or even the rudiments of one. We have endeavoured, at the risk of tiring our readers' attention, to show those national, and other influences, which have helped to shape previous developments, as well as those circumstances which have been most favourable to them. These we summed up, under the national, intellectual, and mechanical expressions, or qualities of Architecture, and glanced at the main processes, or means, by which they are induced. We will now try to exemplify still more our views, and in a more abstract manner.

If history furnishes us with the proof of one truth stronger than an other, it is the undeniable one, that the growth of Architecture has always been the result of the growth of nations; that it has always kept pace with the nationalities and habits of different civilisations, and become their exponent.

Styles of art may be considered the fashions, which successive nations shaped; each style the creation of various circumstances combined; never the offspring of one or two creative imaginations, however gifted. A style must be developed by degrees, out of previous elements, by the soil which surrounds it; by external and internal influences; and it must, as we have before said, spontaneously, or voluntarily, consent, or yield, to these influences, never be forced suddenly by them, still less by individual efforts. It must either be the result of some developing principle, of the capabilities or susceptibilities of the elements of a previous style; or otherwise it must be derived from the combination or adaptation of some new principle of construction, as in the Roman and Early Pointed styles. Of both these instances, introduced features were the origin; in the case of the Pointed arch, the introduction was by slow degrees, and in many of the earliest specimens of Early English the transition from the Norman was so susceptible as to be hardly noticed. (See Temple Church; Farringdon, Berkshire; St. Cross, Hampshire.) The generalities of previous styles have always been thought of, and the salient or common features of them known, before new principles were grafted on them.

The two great primeval civilisations—the Egyptian and the Assyrian—which contemporaneously used the beam construction, may be said to have worked out this system independently.

There can be little doubt, however,—whether the Egyptians in the 13th dynasty ever held Assyria in subjection for some centuries, or not,—that the remains we have belonging to the period, from Ninus about the 14th century B.C. to the time of Alexander the Great, or the 4th century C.B., show unmistakable traces of Egyptian features; the most brilliant age of this long period, being towards the latter end of the Assyrian Empire, or from the time of Arbaces 821 B.C., to the taking of Nineveh by Nebuchadnezzar 600 B.C. The ruins of the palaces of Nineveh and Babylon, the palaces of Khorsabad by Sargon, and Nimrod by Eshorhaddon, the remains at Passargadae, the remains of the halls and palaces of Darius and Xerxes at Persepolis—though the full-grown examples of a mature development—manifest more or less Egyptian peculiarities, though the later Persian examples are tinged by Grecian and Roman taste.

The tumuli, and Lycian tombs of Asia Minor, the latter evidencing a wooden origin, were contemporary with Persian architecture, and however much Persian influence

may have affected them, they show us more the native uninfluenced character of early Asiatic architecture or a family likeness to the Pelasgian. We may note, unlike the monumental character of Egyptian architecture—the Assyrian and Persian was chiefly palatial. The Ionic forms are justly considered by some to be derived from Persepolitan ones.

It would be interesting to discover how far Assyrian and Persian elements moulded Grecian architecture; and how far Egyptian features characterised it, as well as the extent of the influence which Lycian and Pelasgic forms had in giving Grecian expression.

The admixture of foreign elements confusedly,—without the concurrence of those principles which are common to all styles, or the discretion necessary to their proper combination, and which principles must always direct architectural composition,—would be fraught with results much akin to some of our debased Elizabethan and Jacobean examples, or to the still worse attempts of the cinque-cents *rococo* productions of a Louis XIV and XV age.

These attempts, though entitled to be called styles, from the fact of their being the exponents of the disingenuousness and meretriciousness of their respective ages, will always be considered contemptible from the circumstance of their violating those canons of sound taste which have invariably moulded the finest and most distinctive developments of art.

True styles have always required time to acclimatise the foreign features they have adopted, as well as to nationalise them with the native elements to which they are united. Thus, the columnar ordinances the Romans adapted from the Greeks, were gradually transmuted and localised: the masculine Doric of the Parthenon was attenuated and elaborated to the beautiful, though less majestic column seen in the Theatre of Marcellus; the Grecian Ionic of the Erechtheum was modified to that of the Temple of Concord, though it lost in simplicity and elegance; the Corinthian of the Choragic Monument of Lysicrates was enriched and profusely elaborated as at the Pantheon and Temple of Jupiter Stator; from the Corinthian the Roman Composite order emerged, which, though a combination, was yet a happy one, and deserves less the strictures of those who would concede no intrinsic merits to Roman composition; the Grecian colonnade was Etruscanised, or Romanised into the Arcade; while the severe, simple, and rectangular temple, as the Parthenon, was transfigured into the Pantheon, and the super-columniated Colosseum, in which the arch, dome, and a variety of plan (truly national adaptations) relieved the monotony of the beam system, and gave Roman architecture a locality and a name. The multifarious requirements of the Romans needed a more varied architecture. Their temples, basilicas, amphitheatres, *thermæ*, &c., prove how they met these requirements, and how they nationalised their architecture. It must be forgetful of these to say they never possessed a truly national style, or that it lacked originality.

Again, the Gothic and Lombard invaders of the Roman Empire nationalized to their own wants and tastes the arched system of their predecessors; infusing into the enervated and expiring forms of Pagan art that Teutonic vigorousness which was destined to develop Mediæval Architecture. They eagerly seized on the arched features, and carried out what the Romans themselves would have done, had they continued free from corruption, a distinct round-arched style. From the time of Justinian, in the 6th century, the Byzantine became more distinct and individualized as an Eastern style allied to the Greek Church; and from Charlemagne's accession to the Empire of the West, in the 8th century, the western varieties of the Romanesque had received various local expressions. Even the intermixture of race, which the Astro-Gothic nations created under Theodoric the Great's monarchy after the extinction of the Western Empire, in the latter part of the 5th century, was not destructive to that in-

digenousness of character, if we may so call it, which pervaded the Scandinavian and Teutonic races no less than their architecture; the Roman elements of which, like the old institutions, being preserved under Theodoric's rule. The Western styles of the Visigoths also retained the native peculiarities of their several countries, though compounded with new features: Voluntary native growth, then, is an essential ingredient of national styles, as it is in a language or a literature, and hence the assertion we previously made, that a true style must be a "spontaneous, indigenous development out of preceding styles," is confirmed, though some may have misinterpreted it. Indeed, we may say that it is to the want of an indigenous character we must attribute the debasement of art of the 16th century, or to a national disaffection.

Neither fusion of styles, nor the emanations of creative fancy alone, will ever realize a style adapted to the present day, any more than hasty fusion of different languages or dialects, or the effusions of one or two gifted imaginations, would realise a new language or literature. What would become of our architecture, for instance, if one were to mix Egyptian with Gothic features; another, Grecian with Chinese; a third, Egyptian with Moorish or Italian? We leave our readers to guess.

Creative fancy—though the life of a style, an element in design which counteracts an overdue attachment to literalism or undue imitation, and gives a charm to many an otherwise prosaic structure, as it sparkles in many a poem, or glows in many a romance—is like the oxygen we breathe, and requires to be kept in check by combination with other elements of an antagonistic kind, to subserve the requirements of a national architecture so essentially utilitarian as our own.

Hence the hypothesis may be assumed that architectural design, to be really flexible and expressive of our wants, should represent the various constituent qualities of a nation's character; that they should be translated into those material forms of beauty and of expression, which aptly utter its sentiments, and which a style of art should embody and convey in proper proportions. The undue prominence of any one of these is destructive, as representing only one section or element of national character; in other words, as this character is the joint effect of many opposite moral and intellectual qualities, so a national architecture is the joint result of the like dispositions translated into the language of art.

To make a style too versatile, is to destroy its claims to be called one—a certain share of individuality and homogeneity being necessary. The Saracen style, in which creative and poetic fancy had more play than any other, still shows in all its varieties a directing spirit as well as the association of local elements.

The Syrian and Egyptian developments, derived more or less from the Byzantine, are less distinctive than subsequent ones, though the latter style shows in its later forms of the 13th and 14th centuries, as seen in the mosques of Cairo, distinctive peculiarities.

The Persian and Indian varieties of the 14th and 15th centuries exhibit a still more advanced stage, though the earlier germs of the former are not to be traced, early Persian architecture having been of a temporary nature. During the 14th, 15th, and 16th centuries, mosques arose out of the zeal of the devotees of Ali and his martyred sons, in which a greater luxuriance of fancy and richness of colouring were manifested. The Indian development produced tombs and mosques in which no Arabic elements are discernible; the conquerors of this country being of the Tartar race, infused a Tartar character into the old local Hindu style, thereby giving it an individual peculiarity.

In Spain the phase it assumed was, perhaps, more characterised by fertility of imagination; but even here it was controlled by conventional treatment, by Roman and Byzantine influences, and by local habits—the pointed arch seldom occurring in Southern parts.

The conquest of Constantinople by the Turks, in the middle of the 15th century, induced them to model their architecture from the church of Sta. Sophia, as the mosques of Solymán and Achmet prove, although the style began to be individualised. Thus we see the style originated by the Mahometan conquests of the Arabs, by degrees receive form and local impress—this latter character generally predominating in those countries where the victorious Arabs left the subjected people their own forms of architecture, merely influencing them with the peculiarities of the Mahometan faith; and we see it was not till these were combined that a tolerably homogenous character which resulted in the imaginary and poetic fancy which gave such a sparkling brilliance to some varieties. Natural imitation, especially human representation, prohibited by the Koran, was replaced by that conventionalism of ornament, combined with those flights of Eastern fancy glowing with colour and gold, which so profusely enrich the mosque of Cordova, and blaze still more in the palace of the Alhambra Moors of Granada. It has been reasonably suggested by some that the stalactite arches, the diapering, and other features which are so remarkable in the Arabian and Moorish buildings, tell of their tent-archetype; and we may also note the semblance of the interlacing character of their ornament generally, with the like character so significant of Byzantine ornamentation.

Thus the Saracenic styles, exhibiting as they do such fertility of form, still retain analogies to antecedent types—many early varieties, as we have seen, being hardly distinguishable from Byzantine. We might multiply examples to show how sparingly other styles of architecture have introduced radical changes; and, when they have, how slowly they have supplanted preceding types.

Plan, no less than architectural detail, has evidenced the same gradual development which we have been considering. The change from square parallelogrammatic forms, to circular and complex, seems to have been slow. The varied requirements of luxurious nations chiefly effected this change. The monumental character of Egyptian, Assyrian, and other architecture; the templar character of Grecian and Gothic; and the palatial character of Persian, Roman, and other architecture, may have influenced, more or less, the forms of arrangement common in these different nations.

It is interesting to see how the Roman basilica, for instance, grew into the mediæval cathedral; how the forum, or atrium, became the Early Christian, narthex, or porch; how the circular baptistery was supplied by the font; how the Pagan apse developed into the Christian chancel; till the perfected cruciform cathedral was produced. The processes by which the early timber roofs of the basilican churches were gradually supplanted by cylindrical and groined vaults, as well as the stages of spire and dome growth, were naturally conducive to complex ichnography; and show, moreover, that love for elaborating existing forms which we have before noticed.

Were it necessary, we might go on enumerating examples to substantiate those principles and views of Architectural development we have advanced; though many will readily suggest themselves to our readers in proof of what we have said. Exceptions there are to every rule, and cases might be instanced as exceptional, at first thought, to some of our conclusions, though, on closer investigation, they will be found to confirm them.

Whether we take Assyrian, Grecian, Roman, Byzantine, Saracenic, Romanesque, or the Gothic developments, the principles of selection or discriminate imitation of features, is, more or less, found in all; the principle of adaptation or an indigenoussness of character, is also clear in the most distinctive styles; while the process of elaboration has shown itself in all those varieties whose prolific and fertile elements were susceptible of growth or capable of refinement.—*Building News.*

OUR PUBLIC STATUES AND MEMORIALS.

The great decennial Exhibition which we have just closed, comprised, notwithstanding all its mismanagement and shortcomings, such an aggregation of the arts and industries of the whole civilised world, as they existed in the year 1862, as did not fail attract vast numbers of foreign visitors of all countries to our metropolis. Men of science, literature, and art naturally formed an unusually large proportions of the vast multitude of strangers drawn together on such an exceptional occasion; and we have consequently had to undergo a course of criticisms which, though occasionally severe and often unjust, was yet, in the main, truthful; often exposing shortcomings of various kinds to which our national self-sufficiency induced us to close our eyes. It is well to be occasionally reminded, of our national defects, especially through the medium of foreign visitors; who, viewing us from their own stand, which is very different from ours, naturally perceive blemishes (occasionally rather remarkable ones) which we had never looked for, and of which, in our insular self-sufficiency, we had not indeed believed the existence possible.

Nothing so much struck the artistic section of our crowds of foreign visitors during the present season as the extreme poverty of our public memorials and honorary statues. They appeared to our continental critics utterly unworthy of the intellectual and artistic eminence of our nation; and so, in fact, they are; and the foreign critics, however sarcastically unpleasant they may have been in their mode of stating it, were perfectly correct in their general verdict.

Let us ourselves examine a few of our public statues and memorials, from the dingy kings in the dingy out-of-the-way squares, to the caricature of the Great Duke at Hyde-park-corner, the monstrosities of Trafalgar-square, and the clumsy masonry of the monument of Waterloo-place.

We have, as a rule, adopted bronze statuary instead of marble, on account of our variable climate, which proves speedily fatal to the beauty of the fair Carrara product. This necessity ought to have led to a more careful study of statuesque outline; for it is the character and general perfection of the main external lines of a group or figure that can alone impart attractive effect to bronze statuary, which soon changes its naturally deep hue to one of positive black. Characteristic outline is as necessary to a bronze statue, unless gilt, as to a shadow on the wall, as no details within the external line can be made expressively visible, when blackened by a London atmosphere, except in a very favourable light. Yet this necessary feature in bronze statuary has not been successfully studied in any of our principal public statues. Take, for instance, that of Pitt, in Hanover-square. Like many others, its general outline is entirely without meaning; the figure being, after a kind of artistic substitution which prevails amongst us, muffled up in a kind of cloak or toga. It is true that this statue of Pitt, by Sir Francis Chantrey, one of the artist's best works, has a dash of characteristic life about it, in the outstretched arm, and in the fine head, which is thrown back with that defiant air which the orator often assumed in rebutting the attacks of a talented and powerful opposition. But here all effective outline ceases; the rest of the figure bundled up in a mass of unmeaning cloak, such as assuredly Pitt never wore while addressing the House, nor we should think under any other circumstances. There is, moreover, a little lump of this wrapping gathered together just above the left arm which, at a little distance, is altogether unintelligible. Only the other morning, while taking a round among our public monuments, guided by the official list recently called for in Parliament, we stood before this work, at about the proper focal distance, pondering upon what could be the meaning of the lump of something over the left arm; and it was not till after a much closer and very careful examination of the nature of the excrescence, that its

true character as a little bundle of drapery was discoverable. Of the baldness of the pedestal of this production, and of those of many other similar works, we shall have something to say further on.

The statue of the Duke of Kent, at the upper end of Portland-place, is still more defective than that of Pitt as regards the general treatment of the outline. In the first place the nearly black statue is placed immediately in front of a mass of equally black London shrubbery, against which it is impossible that its outlines, such as they are, should define themselves with clearness of effect. In the second, the forms of the figure itself are so intermuddled with the inevitable cloak and drapery, and further complicated by a square mass of semi-architectural accessories, that at a short distance the whole becomes an unmeaning and apparently shapeless lump of darkness. The pedestal of this characterless mass of bronze presents no decorative feature to relieve or support it; indeed, it possesses no feature intended to do so, being merely a cubic mass of granite put together, by means of very careless masonry, as though its only object was that of serving as a rough sort of tablet for the inscription.

Chantrey's equestrian statue of George IV., in Trafalgar-square, is somewhat better, in point of distinctness of outline, than either of the works just described, inasmuch as the artist has found it impossible to put any sort of cloak or toga upon the horse, the outline of which tells out, in consequence, with proper distinctness. The figure of the King is, however, betoga'd in what was the usual fashion, the whole work being, in fact, a weak imitation of the well-known statue of Marcus Aurelius, which all Italian tourists have seen on the Campidoglio at Rome. The other statues of this arena are still less satisfactory. Trafalgar-square seems, in short, destined to become, as was lately observed by a contemporary, a sort of out door "Chamber of Horrors." The statue of Napier vulgarises, in a very painful manner, the well remembered aspect of one of the greatest of our modern heroes; and that of Havelock, with its large heavy head, is scarcely less objectionable; while the statue of Nelson, placed almost out of sight on the top of a column (disfigured by a very ugly lightning conductor), justifies the simple remark of the old Chelsea pensioner, who exclaimed, when first taken to see it, "Why, they've mast-headed the Admiral."

The masonry of the uglier column, on the top of which stands the statue of the Duke of York, is still more coarse and unsightly than that of the Nelson column. In short, we do not seem to be aware of the kind of thing that a public iconic memorial ought to be. Opposite to this is the memorial to the Guards who fell in the Crimea, in which, though the figures of the Guards, below, are in many respects very excellent, yet the whole fails as a public metropolitan monument, in consequence of the general poverty of the accessories. It has been improved lately, and doubtless the sculptor would willingly have done more. The pedestal is, on two sides, ornamented with bronze shields, bearing the names of Alma, Inkerman, and Sebastopol. These shields are enriched with exceedingly well-designed branches of oak; but they are both precisely alike—both cast in the same mould. It is in this way that we have invariably failed in all our recent monuments of this class. Our artists or our committees do not appear to possess that feeling for rich monumental compositions which so remarkably distinguishes their brother sculptors and architects of the Continent. In this monument one might imagine that the bronze figure on the top, and the finely modelled group of Guardsmen had been placed where they are in a temporary manner, on a few rude blocks of granite, just roughly prepared, in order to raise them to a proper height for exhibition, while a fitting architectural framework and supports, highly enriched with decorative sculptures of a suitable character were being prepared for their more permanent location.

In a public memorial of the statue form it is not merely necessary to obtain the statue and place it on a lump of stone of sufficient height; it is, above all things, important that the statue should be presented to the public in a dignified manner, with such appropriate surroundings and enrichments as are calculated to add sufficient richness and artistic importance to the work as a whole. Costly and varied materials, abundance of appropriate ornament, and elaborate minuteness of detail, combined with an imposing grandeur of general outline and character, should accompany a statue or general monument intended to perpetuate the memory of those who have deserved well of their country. These should be well conceived and artistically wrought emblems, within delicately covered borderings and mouldings; and in important monuments there should also be additional figures secondary to the principal ones, but wrought with equal care and beauty. Such are the legitimate resources of the designer of a grand public memorial.

The simple figure of the prince, or hero, or civic worthy, is not capable of much artistic decoration; and indeed, in such subjects, simplicity of treatment is generally the most successful, in so far as the figure by itself is concerned. But then it is not a single figure, not a mere family portrait, that we are speaking of; it is a public memorial—a monument which is intended to be an ornament to the metropolis as well as a honour to departed worth; and, therefore, the simple portrait figure is not enough. The simply utilitarian view is not applicable to public monuments. The artistic Greeks, who well understood the theory of decorative and monumental art, did not allow a purely iconic statue to be set up, except in very rare cases, that of Miltiades being one of the very few exceptions. They considered that the positive features of any individual man could not possess that general ideal beauty which public monuments should possess, and which they sought, not only in the elegance of accessories, but in the idealization of the chief figure itself. The portrait of Alexander the Great, for instance, appears on his coins idealized as Hercules, his head picturesquely hooded with the skin of the Nemean lion. In the magnificent modern monument, St. Peter's, at Rome, the sepulchral images of the Popes of the fifteenth, sixteenth, and seventeenth centuries are but comparatively small features in the gorgeous compositions of which they form the nucleus; and in most of the exquisite sepulchral monuments of the sixteenth century, especially those which enrich the churches of Italy, France, and Spain, the iconic statue of the deceased, though the central object of the composition, is yet but a very small portion of its varied adjuncts and details, or of its general magnificence.

In our own days, monuments have arisen in Paris and other continental cities which vie with those of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries in their display of that true understanding of decorative monumental art without which neither grandeur nor beauty can be made to adorn public works of that class. One might cite the Berlin monument to Frederick the Great, of which a charming model was lately to be seen in the International Exhibition; or the magnificent millenic memorial just erected in Russia, composed of a whole crowd of statuary and countless details of extraordinary richness; but modern Parisian monuments may serve our purpose better as an example of what such works ought to be.

It is now several years since the monument to Molière was erected in Paris, on the site of the house in which he was born, in the Rue de Richelieu. The figure of the great dramatic poet forms, of course, the central object of the composition; but scarcely less important features are the "Tragedy" and "Comedy," by Pradier; and these, again, are framed, as it were, in rich surroundings of differently-tinted marbles, heightened in their effect by decorative sculpture and carved borderings, introduced with the most lavish profusion. The whole composition, including delicately-sculptured emblems and other ornamental features, is of large and imposing cha-

acter, forming, as a whole, an artistic object which at once arrests the attention of the spectator, and seems a worthy tribute of the art and genius of the present to the art and genius of the past—a worthy monument to the author of “Le Misanthrope,” “Le Tartuffe,” and “Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme.” Why have we not such a monument to Shakspeare? It is not that we cannot afford it, or that we have no artists to execute such a work. It is that in matters of art in a public form there is a niggard feeling among us that affords our artists few opportunities of practising monumental decoration on so brilliant a scale as on the Continent. Our House of Commons is more narrowly parsimonious in voting money for the protection of the fine arts than for any other item in the whole length of the annual budget. It was not always so. In times not very far distant, and in which we have been taught to believe the arts languished for want of protection, much more liberal patronage seems to have been extended to artists in general, and more especially do the fitting enrichments of public monuments seem to have been far better understood and far more willingly paid for. In some very interesting archæological gossip, recently published in the *Builder*, we find no less a personage than Grinling Gibbons himself employed to decorate the pedestal of the statue of Charles II. at Windsor. The importance and beauty of the ornaments may be judged of from the charge, which, considering the general value of artistic work at that period, appears enormous. The memorandum in the royal account, dated from October, 1678, to September, 1680, contains, among other charges by Gibbons, the following:—“Cutting and carving of the 4 white marble panels of y^e pedestal of his Maj^{ty} statue on horse-back, £400.”

If such artists in decorative sculpture were now employed on our public monuments, and paid after this fashion, we should soon see them more fitly enriched with the right sort of work. Purely ornamental sculpture was equally cared for in the reign of William III. We find from the researches of the same zealous antiquary that Caius Gabriel Cibber, the well-known decorative sculptor, was constantly employed on carvings of a purely ornamental character at Hampton Court, for which he was most liberally paid. Here is one of his bills:—“To Caius Gabriel Cibber, carver, for a great *vauze* of white marble enrich with divers ornaments, with a pedestal of stone, also enrich, £234. More for a great marble urne, with divers base-relieves and figures, £521 12s.; in both £755 12s.” If we now appreciated ornamental sculpture in this spirit, and if the decorative surroundings of our public statues were paid for at the present day after this fashion, we should soon, as we have said, have national memorials springing up in various parts of our metropolis, which would not fear comparison with the most celebrated foreign works of this class. But there has been an artistic misconception concerning the true character of public memorials in this country. The statue itself, even if of inferior character, has been deemed the one thing necessary, whilst, on the contrary, it is in the manner of presenting that statue to the public eye that the true character of a public monument should consist, and this has often been said before in the *Builder*.

When an eminent living person is about to be received on some mark occasion by the authorities, and the general public of a great city, he is not requested to walk in on foot, unattended, and with nothing to distinguish his entry on that occasion from the entrance of an ordinary man in the routine of daily business: the very reverse is practised. Arches of greenery, enriched scrolls, emblems, and other decorations meeting him at every step, the houses are festooned with flowers, and groups of lovely children, as symbols of purity and joy, arrayed in festal dress, greet him with the joyous cheers of their young voices. It is so that our living worthies are presented to the public, and it is so that their marble representations, after death should be presented, in the more permanent forms of

bronze or marble. The statue is there, not to be put upon a blank and solitary pedestal, but to be surrounded with signs of respect and gratitude, in that permanent form which art, when properly directed, can so fittingly bestow. The pleasant arches of living greenery that welcomed the living should be transformed to marble wreaths to honour the dead. The festoons of flowers should also be there, not in their perishable form, but in some long enduring material; and the smiling children, too, in gilded bronze in rare stone, in perennial granite, or in the purity of whitest marble, may be there too. It is the manner in which the statue is honoured, not the mere presence of the statue itself that gives grace, value, and beauty to the memorial. Instead of this, the appendages of our public statues are always niggardly, and often confined to a mere inscription, which is not unfrequently very carelessly executed. The plain granite stage-work of the Guards' memorial in Waterloo-place is clumsily built up of separate blocks, put together in a way that shows every staring joint, with its wretched mortar, in a very offensive manner, while in a work of such importance the common processes of construction ought, above all things, to be entirely concealed. All should seem the work of the artist: not a single trace of the mechanical labour should appear: not a joint but should have sought refuge under some ornamental moulding, or against some inlaid slab of rare material, or beneath some highly-wrought symbol or trophy. A Grinling Gibbons—and we have plenty of them—should have furnished his “4 white marble panels for y^e pedestal,” and have further enriched it, as he did the twenty-eight seats and stalls at Windsor, which, according to his bill, he “carved with fruit, flowers, palms, laurels, and pelicans,” and there should have been a Caius Gabriel Cibber to embellish the angels, at different elevations, with “great *vauzes* of white marble enrich with divers ornaments,” and with “great marble urnes with divers bas-reliefs and figures.” We have plenty of Caius Gabriel Cibbers ready for the work; but we live in an age when sculptors are found who are fully convinced that they do not require the assistance of the decorative carver, and architects who care nothing for the aid of the sculptor and painter. We have abundance of artistic genius in every class, but the team does not run well together. The different branches of art require combination. The sculptor, the decorative carver, the architect, the painter, do not yet fully appreciate how entirely a monument of the highest class depends upon the well-balanced and harmonious union of all their various arts, blended by a common feeling into one harmonious whole.

We have been induced to make these remarks in the hope of convincing our designers of public monuments that the placing of a memorial statue on a badly-built heap of grey granite is not the proper way of presenting the statue of a departed worthy to the eyes of posterity. We may be told in reply of recent statues placed in fine Gothic niches, but a mere framing of conventional Gothic can seldom form a very appropriate kind of decoration to a memorial statue erected in the present day; and on a future occasion we may have something more to say on the subject of Mediæval monuments to modern heroes.—*Builder*.

NOTES ON LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AND ART.

A life of Victor Hugo, written it is said, by his wife, is shortly to be published in Paris.

Like Lady Morgan (says the *Athenæum*), Miss Pardoe never told her age; she described herself as having been born early in the present century; in which case she must have been a public character at the age of 12 or 13. The list of her works is very long, and as most of her works appear in three volumes a collection of them would fill a shelf. *The City of the Sultan* had in its day a certain share of success, but neither that nor any

of its fellows had the strong quality which keeps a book alive. The writer's reputation was of the kind which belongs to a day—like a fashion in dress or a caprice in music.

The great success which has attended the publication of Miss Braddon's clever novel, entitled *Lady Audley's Secret*, seems to have inspired a member of the aristocracy to try a "sensation" story (says *Public Opinion*), with an equally mysterious title. The book in question is a novel in two volumes, called *The Prophecy*, and the authoress is no less than Lady Rachel Butler, a near relative of Earl Russell, and wife of Lord James Butler, of Drumcondra Castle. The tale is founded upon a manuscript discovered at Brussels in the year 1822 by the late Lord Clancarrig, at the time our ambassador at the Hague. This nobleman subsequently gave it to the Earl of Ormonde, who deposited it among the family records in Kilkenny Castle, where it now lies.

The *Figaro-Programme* states that M. Veillot is about to publish a *brochure* in reply to the allusions of which he has been the object in M. Emile Angier's comedy.

The New Society of Painters in Water Colours has put forth a scheme for obtaining aid towards relieving the Lancashire distress. Each member has been invited to contribute a painting or sketch in water colours, and every member of the profession known to paint in water colours is solicited to carry out the object. The whole collection is to be exhibited in London, Manchester, and Liverpool, and afterwards allotted to subscribers as prizes. The whole of the receipts of the exhibition and subscriptions received, less working expenses alone, will be devoted to the end named.

A memorial is being prepared in Glasgow, soliciting a pension of £100 a-year for the widow of Mr. Sheridan Knowles. A memorial to the same effect should be sent from Belfast, where he was so well known and highly esteemed.

Mr. Woolner is commissioned to execute the statues which are to decorate the new Manchester Assize Courts, now in the course of erection from the designs of Mr. Waterhouse.

A magnificent white Carrara marble staircase, says the *Union*, which is to cost not less than 150,000*f.*, is at this moment being prepared at Vaugirard. It is to be sent in pieces to Baron de Rothschild, of London, in whose residence it is to be placed.

MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

MASONRY IN THE XV. CENTURY.

It is said that the abode of the French Argonaut, Jacques Cœur, at Montpellier, was very curious, and bore the name of "La Loge." Borel, who gave an account of it, tells us it would seem probable that he belonged to the fraternity of Freemasons and his being represented, on the friezes of his house, with a trowel in his hand gives an indication that such was the fact. Borel describes "La Loge" thus. "Three portals may there be seen in the form of furnaces, similar to those of Nicholas Flamel. On one there is, on one side, a sun all over *fleur-de-lis* and on the other [side] a full moon, also covered with *fleur-de-lis*, and surrounded by a hedge or crown, as it were, of thorns, which seems to denote the solar and lunar stone arrived at perfection. On another portal is seen, on one side, a fruit tree with branches of roses at its foot and on the tree the arms of Jacques Cœur; on the other there is an escutcheon and within it what would appear to present the chymic character of the Sun. On the third portal, which is in the midst, there is, on one side, a stag bearing a banner, and having a collar of *fleur-de-lis*, environed with a branch of a tree which represents mercury, or the philosophical

matter which, at the commencement, is volatile and light as in the stag; on the other side is a shield of France supported by two griffins." The author from whom the above is taken goes on to say, "it is not part of my theory to repudiate the idea of these sculptors representing symbolical figures of the great work, because the search for the philosophers' stone was a mania of the time, and it is by no means unreasonable that Borel should thus interpret them. There was considerable affinity between the seekers after the great secret and the associated brothers of the Masonic art. Mystery was, at that period, the very key-stone of all knowledge." The symbolism above described will be very readily understood by members of the Supreme Grand Council of the 33°, and others holding under them.—M. C. 30°.

THE SCRUPULOUS BRETHREN.

In the calendar it is said that certain scrupulous brethren destroyed several ancient MSS., relating to the Order. What is known of this proceeding?—E. S.—[We give an extract from Bro. the Reverend Dr. Oliver's *Revelations of a Square*, as embodying the most lucid account of the vandalism. He says:—

"Bro. Desaguliers, in 1721, made a public profession of a Mason's faith, in an Oration, which was printed and distributed plentifully both in the metropolis and provinces; in which he enlarged on the re-organisation of the Grand Lodge, and stated *seriatim* the peculiar benefits, both moral and intellectual, which may be derived from a regular attendance on the duties of a lodge. And Bro. Anderson published a well-written pamphlet on the rise and progress of the Order, and its application to the practical sciences."

"In the same year, September 2nd, the Duke of Montagu being Grand Master, and Bros. Vileuean and Morrice, Grand Wardens, a Grand Lodge was holden at the King's Arms Tavern, St. Paul's Churchyard, at which Bros. Desaguliers, Payne, and Anderson, were ordered to examine the old Gothic Constitutions, and to digest the same in a new and better method; and at the succeeding Grand Lodge, in December, a committee of fourteen expert brethren was appointed to revise the manuscript when completed; and to make their report accordingly. In pursuance of this order, our worthy Bros. Desaguliers, Payne, and Anderson, commenced their proceedings by searching for manuscripts and authorities in every part of the kingdom where they were supposed to exist. They communicated with many lodges under the Constitutions both of York and London, and in most cases were successful in the search; yet a few instances unfortunately occurred where certain fastidious brethren took the alarm, and committed many valuable manuscripts to the flames concerning ancient usages, regulations of lodges, charges, and secrets,—particularly one written by Nicholas Stone, who was Grand Warden to Inigo Jones,—lest they should fall into the hands of our friends, and be submitted to public inspection in a printed form.

"At one of our lodges, when this design was in progress, Bro. Payne expressed his indignation at the superlative folly of those misguided brothers in no measured language; and it was seriously debated whether it would not be expedient, for the purpose of preventing a repetition of the offence, to move a vote of censure against them in the ensuing Grand Lodge for contempt. This was decided in the negative, as it was considered to be inquisitorial, and alien to the general design of Masonry, for the Grand Lodge to interfere with the disposal of private property."

"It was agreed, however, at the same lodge, that the R.W. Master, Dr. Desaguliers, should move, that the ancient office of Stewards be revived to assist the Grand Wardens in preparing for the feast, and in other things appertaining to the annual general assembly of Masons. Bro. Desaguliers accordingly proposed the appointment of twelve brethren for those purposes; and the motion was unanimously agreed to. At the same Grand Lodge it was reported by the committee that they had perused Bro. Anderson's manuscript containing the History of Masons, the Charges, Regulations, and Masters' song; and, after some amendments, had approved of it. In consequence of this favourable report, the brethren requested the Grand Master to order it to be published; and its appearance produced a wonderful impression on the public mind, and insured the triumph of the Craft."]

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

METROPOLITAN.

EXOCH LODGE (No. 11).—The monthly meeting of this lodge took place on Wednesday, the 10th inst., at Freemasons' Tavern, when Bro. W. J. Ruel, the W.M., with all his officers, were as usual punctual in attendance. Mr. Henry H. Buxton was ably initiated into Freemasonry by the W.M. and Bro. J. S. Liscombe of the Fidelity Lodge, Devonport, was raised to the third degree. The very able S.W., Bro. W. F. C. Moutrie, was elected W.M. for the ensuing year; Bro. W. Williams (18 years P.M. of the lodge) was re-elected Treasurer; and Bro. Crawley, Tyler. Some unimportant business having been transacted, the brethren retired to a very excellent and agreeable banquet, presided over by the W.M., who was supported by his Officers, and Past Masters Bros. Isaac Bird, C. Watson, G. E. Sewell, W. Williams, Peter Matthews, Frederick Ledger, a numerous body of visitors, and nearly thirty brethren. The usual Masonic toasts were given and heartily responded to. The vocal enjoyment was very great, three brothers from Windsor, belonging to the Royal Chapel, having honoured the lodge with their company, viz., Bros. F. Marriott (alto), T. Dyson (tenor), and H. Whitehouse (bass), who gave the glee, "Willie brew'd a peck o' maut" most excellently. Bro. Whitehouse rendered the song "Speed on, my bark, speed on," to perfection, and the ballad of "Sweet Mary of the vale," by Bro. Dyson, was sweetly executed. Bro. Venables, Organist to the lodge, presided at the pianoforte, and proved himself a musician of much skill and taste. Bro. Donald King also greatly added to the harmony, and was never in better voice. Among the visitors we noticed Bros. W. Graygoose, W.M. 169; J. W. Roper, 72; A. Howse, 219; T. Davies, 183.

MOUNT LEBANON LODGE (No. 87).—This old established well known lodge held its last meeting for the year, on Tuesday, December 16th, at the Bridge House Hotel, Southwark (Bro. Spencer's). The business of the evening was two passings and two initiations. Bro. D. Davis, P.M. and Treas., assisted by Bros. Walters, Moore, Harris, Elliott, and Davis, opened the lodge. Bro. Davis, in his usual excellent manner, passed Bros. Mackenzie and Watson to the degree of Fellow Craft Freemasons. Bro. Dr. Dixon, P.M., then took the chair, and in his accustomed first rate style initiated two gentlemen into the secrets and mysteries of ancient Freemasonry. This being the election night for officers a ballot was taken for the W.M. for the ensuing year, which was declared to be unanimous in favour of Bro. Frederick Walters, J.W. A ballot was taken for Treasurer when Bro. D. Davis was unanimously re-elected. Bro. Aldhouse was unanimously re-elected Tyler. After business was completed the brethren sat down to an excellent banquet, prepared in the first-rate style, for which this house is so justly celebrated. Visitors, J. Dawbarn, P.M., 116, R. Welsford, P.M., 805, &c.

LODGE OF JUSTICE (No. 172).—This flourishing lodge met on Wednesday, December 10th, at the White Swan Tavern, High-street, Deptford (Bro. J. Porter's). There were two raisings and three initiations. This being election night for officers, caused rather more than the average attendance of members. The ballot for the W.M. for the ensuing year was unanimous in favour of Bro. J. A. Green, S.W. Bro. G. Bolton, P.M. was re-elected Treasurer, and Bro. S. Garrett, P.M., was elected Tyler. It was carried that a five guinea Past Master's jewel be presented from the lodge funds to Bro. J. Cavell, W.M., as a

slight recognition of the valuable services rendered to the lodge. Our correspondent considers that a Past Master's jewel ought to be given by the voluntary contributions of the members of the lodge, and not from the lodge funds, although it is very frequently given from those funds, thinking there is no better plan for disposing of surplus lodge funds than strenuously supporting all of our brightest jewels, viz., the Masonic Charities. It is suggested to our excellent Bro. Cavell (if not too late), to express his wish that the lodge will be pleased to alter the vote for a jewel making him a Life Governor of one of the Masonic Charities. The proposition having been made by a young member of the lodge, it might not have occurred to him to speak of the charities instead of the P.M.'s jewel. It has been noticed with great pleasure that a retiring Past Master in some lodges has expressed a wish for a Life Governorship instead of a jewel, no doubt remembering that "Charity, ever lovely in itself, is one of the brightest gems, &c." There were several visitors amongst whom we noticed Bros. Tibbles, P.M. 198, Liddiard, J.D. 805, Smith, I.G. 805, &c.

WELLINGTON LODGE (No. 805).—This lodge held its usual monthly meeting at the Clarendon Arms Tavern, Upper Lewis-ham-road, Deptford, on Tuesday, December 9th. There was a large assemblage of the members in consequence of its being the election night for officers. Bro. John Stevens, jun., P.J.W., was elected W.M. for the ensuing year. There was one passing. The brethren were pleased at seeing the much respected Bro. Stevens elected W.M., inasmuch as it has rectified a mistake which the W.M., Bro. Bentley, made when he passed over Bro. Stevens, who is, and will be, one of the best officers the lodge has amongst its members. Our correspondent remarked in the MAGAZINE at the time of the appointing of officers that it was thought the worthy Bro. Bentley, W.M., had erred more in his head than heart when he passed over several good working officers, and now time has proved those who thought so were quite correct in the opinion. There were several visitors.

HORNSEY LODGE (No. 1192).—The brethren of this young and prosperous lodge met on Friday, the 5th inst., to instal Bro. Horner as W.M., which ceremony was ably performed by the immediate P.M., Dr. Job Austin, at the conclusion of which the W.M. appointed Bros. Wreford, S.W.; Webb, J.W. Subsequently the new W.M., in a very efficient manner, initiated Mr. Drevitt into the mysteries of the Order. After closing the lodge the brethren sat down to a banquet, under the presidency of the W.M., who was supported by Bros. T. Beard, P.M. of the Temple Lodge, D. Forrester and James, as visitors.

COSMOPOLITAN LODGE (No. 1219).—On Wednesday, December 10th, this lodge held its fourth meeting at the Great Western Hotel, Paddington, the W.M., Bro. Hugh Hutton, presiding, assisted by his Wardens and officers and several brethren. The business of the day was to initiate Mr. J. Brown, and to raise Bro. C. Shimmelmann, which ceremonies were performed in a very impressive manner. That which remained to be done being of little importance the brethren retired to banquet; the viands and wines reflected the highest credit on the manager of the establishment, and the members are much gratified with having secured so splendid and commodious a suite of rooms for their use, which, combined with their lodge fittings, reflect great credit on the committee of management. The usual Masonic toasts were given and responded to by several brethren, among them the initiate, who expressed himself as being deeply impressed with the ceremony just performed; and a visitor, Bro. W. Horn, of the Athenaeum Lodge, Paris, spoke of the great pleasure he felt in witnessing these ceremonies, they being performed in a style totally different from that worked on the continent. In the course of the evening the Junior Warden, Bro. E. S. Stillwell, addressed the brethren in an earnest manner in the cause of the Masonic charities, and on his concluding, the sum of ten guineas was subscribed by them to support the W.M. as Steward for the approaching festival for the Boys' School; this is the second donation which this lodge has made to that institution, the former one being upwards of £20. From the spirit shown by the members of this new lodge it may be anticipated that much good will be done for our Institutions, and all of them are equally to share in the benefit, as it is intended to take them in turn year by year. The brethren having spent a very agreeable evening separated at an early hour, looking forward with much pleasure to their next meeting.

PHOENIX LODGE (No. 202).—The second meeting of the season of this flourishing lodge was held at the Freemasons Tavern on Saturday last, when Bro. Harrison, P.M., who occupied the chair,

had a full agenda of business before him, the whole of which was efficiently gone through. Bros. Slater, Faulkner, and Simpson were raised to the third degree; Bros. Coppock, Kenyon, Paterson, Stanton, and Gardiner passed to the second degree; and Messrs. Lowe and Denison duly initiated into the Order. Three gentlemen were proposed for initiation next time, and the resignation of a brother who has passed the chair of the lodge received with regret. Bro. George Wilson volunteered to serve the office of Steward to the Boys' School, and was promised a liberal support by the brethren. All business being ended, the lodge was closed in due form, and the brethren adjourned at a rather late hour to dinner, which was presided over by the W.M., Bro. Morris. The usual toasts were drunk with all the honours, and the pleasures of the evening much enhanced by the musical exertions of Bros. Slater, who presided at the piano; Weeks, Tl Distin, Carter, G. Wilson, and M'Davitt, the latter brother being a visitor to the lodge. The proceedings were brought to a close shortly after eleven o'clock.

INSTRUCTION.

ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL OF ROBERT BURNS LODGE (No. 25.)

The anniversary festival of this excellent Lodge of Instruction was held at Bro. Adams's, Union Tavern, Air-street, on Friday the 12th inst.; and to show how well Bro. J. W. Adams caters for his supporters, we append the bill of fare—premiering that the price of the tickets was only 3s. 6d. each:—

FISH.

Turbot.	Crimped Cod.	Stewed and Fried Eels.
	Smelts.	Fried Whittings.
Torbay Soles à la Normanby.	Red Mulletts.	Sauce Piquante.
	Lobster and Oyster Sauces.	

SECOND SERVICE.

Haunch of Mutton.	Ribs of Beef.
Roast and Boiled Turkeys.	Rump Steak Puddings.
Jugged Hare.	Ham: Roast and Boiled Fowls.
Cotelettes de Mouton, Sauce Tomata.	
Lobster and Oyster Patties.	
Black Game.	

Brussels Sprouts, Braized Onions, Cauliflowers, and Potatoes.

SWEETS.

Plum puddings.	Apple and Greengage Tarts.
	Jam Tourts.

Fancy Pastry.	Custards.
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CHEESE.

Cheshire.	Stilton.
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Bread, Butter, Celery, &c.

The chair was occupied by Bro. Caulcher, the W.M. of the parent lodge, who was faced by Bro. J. A. Adams, P.G. Purst. (no relation to the worthy host, by-the-bye) and supported by about fifty other brethren, amongst whom were several Past Masters of the parent lodge, including Bros. Le Gassick, Apted, Clements, Gladwin, &c.

On the removal of the cloth, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proceeded with. In proposing "The Health of the Earl de Grey and Ripon, Deputy Grand Maater, and the rest of the Grand Officers," which he coupled with the name of Bro. Adams, P.G. Purst., the W.M. said that all who had listened to the fervid eloquence of the D.G.M. in Grand Lodge in proposing the grant of £1000 in aid of the Lancashire Distress Fund must have felt how well he was fitted for his high office. Indeed, the more they saw of the D.G. Master he was sure the more they would appreciate him, and the services of so distinguished a nobleman could not fail to reflect honour on the Craft. Of their respected Bro. Thomas Adams he need not say anything. They all knew him—they all respected him. (Cheers.) He was a constant attendant at this and other lodges of instruction and always willing to impart information to the brethren, there being, as a Masonic instructor, none more competent than Bro. Adams. (Cheers.)

Bro. ADAMS, P. G. Purst., returned thanks for the compliment, and assured the brethren that nothing gave him greater pleasure than to be among them, and impart that Masonic knowledge which he, in his early Masonic days, had received from others. He was sure, on behalf of the Earl de Grey and Ripon, of whom he could not say too much in praise of his attention to his Masonic duties; and the other Grand Officers, he could conscientiously assert, they one and all exerted themselves to the best of their ability to promote the best interests of the Order. He again thanked the W. Master, than whom there was not a better Mason in the Craft for the kind manner in which he had been pleased to speak of

him, and the brethren for their handsome response. At the same time, he must ask them to excuse his retiring, as he was labouring under indisposition, and had been up the whole of the previous night, in the carrying out of a professional engagement.

Bro. ADAMS here retired amidst loud applause, and was followed by the W.M., who had a previous engagement.

The Chair was then taken by Bro. Gladwin, P.M., and the Vice-chair by Bro. Clements, P.M.

Bro. GEO. STATES asked to be allowed to give the next toast, "The Past Masters of the Parent Lodge and the Lodge of Instruction." As they were then met to celebrate the anniversary of the Lodge of Instruction, he would couple with the toast the name of its oldest Past Master, and the oldest initiate of the Robert Burns Lodge present, Bro. Henry G. Warren. (Applause.) That brother was well known throughout the Craft, and highly respected and appreciated by all who knew him, as a brother of talent, of independence, and most charitable feelings. He was a liberal supporter of all their Charities, both by his money and his pen, and had done more than any man to place them in their present proud and prosperous position. Wishing him long life and happiness, he gave them "The Health of Bro. Henry G. Warren and the Past Masters of the Robert Burns Lodge, Parent and Instruction." (Cheers.)

Bro. HENRY G. WARREN acknowledged the compliment. He had not the honour of being a Past Master of the Parent lodge, but he had the honour of being the oldest Past Master of the Lodge of Instruction then present. It was now, within a month, twenty-two years since he had been initiated in the Robert Burns Lodge; and within twelve months of that time he had more than once passed the chair of their Lodge of Instruction, of which he continued for some time to be a constant attendant. He was always pleased with the opportunity of meeting the brethren of the Robert Burns Lodge; and though some little differences had caused them to part for a time, those differences, like lovers' quarrels, only gave the greater zest to the renewal of his connection with the lodge. (Cheers.) His friend Bro. States had spoken most kindly of his exertions, and the more especially with regard to what he had done for the charities. He could only observe that he had supported them to the best of his ability, and he might be allowed to say, that he did regard with pride the result of his exertions to obtain the establishment of an annual, instead of a triennial, festival for the Royal Benevolent Institution for Aged Masons and their Widows. For three years he had fought the battle both through THE FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE and in person, and had ultimately prevailed in overcoming the scruples of the head of the Order with regard to the alteration. And what was the result? Why, instead of obtaining £1500 in three years, they now never got less than £2000, and on one occasion they received upwards of £3000. But taking it at the lowest, it was surely more to the advantage of the Institution to receive £6000 in three years than £1500. (Cheers.) Moreover, there was a time when they could not have their annual election for want of funds, but immediately after holding their first annual festival, they were enabled to take on their funds some ten or a dozen candidates. They had now, he believed, 72 annuitants, but there were 30 or 40 candidates still looking out for the benefits of the Institution, and he, therefore, trusted the brethren would liberally patronise the forthcoming festival on the last Wednesday, in January next. They had between fifty and sixty stewards, but there was yet room for a few more. There was no doubt that he held a power in his hands capable of either great good or great mischief. He endeavoured to use it for the former, and so far as the Charities were concerned, had now advocated the case of any candidate, until from seven or eight applications it became evident, from their residence in remote districts or other cause, they had no means of successfully pressing their claims on the support of the brethren. Three such cases, an aged brother and two widows, had he taken in hand and he was happy to say, through the kindness and liberality of the brethren, always with success. He felt that he had travelled out of the record (no, no), but he would not detain them further than to thank them once more on behalf of himself and the other Past Masters of the lodge for the kindness with which they always received them. (Cheers.)

The W. MASTER begged to propose the health of one to whom the lodge of Instruction was greatly indebted, and who in carrying out the arrangements for that evening had been most indefatigable, the worthy secretary, Bro. Gibson.

Bro. GIBSON returned thanks. He was, as yet, young in

office, and he hoped they would take his services, such as they were, only as an earnest of what he intended in the future.

Bro. CLEMENTS proposed "The Health of the W.M., Bro. Gladwin," the immediate P.M. of the parent lodge. He had had the honour of introducing Bro. Gladwin into the Craft, and from the commencement he had ever shown himself most assiduous, both in the lodge and the Lodge of Instruction to promote its interests. They were much obliged to him for the able manner in which he had presided over them that evening, having by his *bon homie* and good temper added much to the general enjoyment of the meeting.

Bro. GLADWIN in acknowledging the toast said, that so far from any thanks being due to him, his were done to the brethren for the kindness with which they at all times received him. He was happy to be amongst them, and from the day of his initiation had endeavoured, to the best of his ability, to promote the prosperity of both the parent lodge and the Lodge of Instruction, and should continue to do so so long as he was blessed with health and strengtn.

The W.M. next gave the health of their old Past Master, Bro. Watson, who was prevented being present by the gout, trusting that he would soon be sufficiently recovered as again to come amongst them.

Bro. WARREN hoped he might be allowed to give them a double toast—"The Health of the Vice-President who had retired and the one who remained." Of Bro. Adams he need say no more than that he was always welcome amongst them, and if Bro. Clements was not quite so well known in the Craft he was no less endeared to the members of the Robert Burns Lodge. He had had the honour of the acquaintance of Bro. Clements for twenty eight years, and after an absence of some eight or nine years from the Robert Burns Lodge he was pleased to find that Bro. Clements had, after several years abstinence, entered on office and was rapidly making his way to the chair, which he had since most efficiently filled. He could well understand why a commercial man should be reluctant to take upon himself the duties of office in the early part of his career, whilst those were growing up around him who might afterwards take his place in business during his absence, and if it were somewhat late when he determined to do so, he had the pleasure of feeling that it was only his own diffidence which prevented his attaining the highest honours the brethren could bestow upon him at a much earlier period. Having the greatest respect for Bro. Clements which he was sure was shared by all present, he begged to propose his toast. (Cheers.)

Bro. CLEMENTS thanked the brethren for the manner in which they had responded to the toast, which was only a renewal of past kindnesses. He had taken great interest in the lodge into which he was happy to say he had introduced three of his boys.

Bro. STATES then gave "The Masonic Press," which was briefly responded to by Bro. Warren.

The W. MASTER said that nothing gave Freemasons greater pleasure than to meet at their social gatherings brethren from other lodges and other climes. In proposing the visitors, therefore, he should couple with the toast the name of Bro. Minns, of the Union Lodge, Barbadoes. Bro. Minns was evidently imbued with the true spirit of Masonry, and he had great pleasure in introducing him to the brethren.

Bro. MINNS, a coloured gentleman, thanked the W.M. and brethren for the compliment they had so kindly paid him. He had been eight years a Mason, and had ever taken the greatest interest in its beautiful teachings, but he had never so truly experienced its advantages as since his arrival in London. He had been most kindly received by the brethren wherever he had gone, and he had seen with pleasure the excellent working of the Robert Burns' Lodge of Instruction. He had also had the pleasure of meeting with several brethren of whom he had been in the habit of reading when at home, and he was glad to have that evening met with, Bro. Warren, whose opinions were looked up to with the greatest confidence in the colonies. THE MAGAZINE could not be more highly appreciated in England than it was in the Colonies, and Bro. Warren was universally respected for the manly and independent part he had taken in Grand Lodge, and the earnest advocacy with which he had supported the claims of their excellent charities. He intended to sojourn in London for some time, and hoped to have many opportunities of renewing and cementing his acquaintance with the brethren of the Robert Burns and other Lodges of Instruction, through which he felt he should derive an amount of instruction and benefit which would be most useful to him on his

return home, and which he should always treasure up with lively feelings of gratitude to the brethren for the kindness with which they had received him. (Cheers.)

The Stewards and one or two other toasts followed, including a special bumper to Bro. J. W. Adams and Mrs. Adams for their excellent catering for the enjoyment of the brethren. The last-named toast was briefly and appropriately responded to by Bro. Adams, and the proceedings were brought to a happy close, the harmony of the evening being much enhanced by the musical exertions of Bros. Gibson, W. Adams, J. W. Adams, States, Minns, Ellison, and others.

PROVINCIAL.

CHANNEL ISLANDS.

THE NEW MASONIC TEMPLE, JERSEY.

The "brethren of the mystic tie" were summoned to assemble at the Hotel-de-Ville at noon, on Wednesday last, and as the completion of the arrangements was to occupy an hour, the procession was to start at about one o'clock.

The following psalms, hymns, &c., were sung on the occasion:—
Firstly, the 133rd Psalm will be sung. (Prayer-book version.)
After the Provincial Grand Master declared the stone duly and Masonically laid, the following hymn:—

This stone to thee in faith, we lay;
We build the temple, Lord, to thee;
Thine eye be open night and day,
To guard this house and sanctuary.

Here, when thy people seek thy face,
And dying sinners pray to live,
Hear thou in Heaven, thy dwelling place,
And when thou hearest, O forgive!

Thy glory never hence depart,
Yet choose not, Lord, this house alone!
Thy kingdom come to every heart,
In every bosom fix thy throne.

After the consecration of the foundation by the Provincial Grand Master, the following was chanted three times, viz., after the scattering of the corn, the pouring of the wine and oil:—"Glory be to God," &c.

After Bro. Rev. Launcelot Lee, Provincial Grand Chaplain, had offered up a prayer, the following Masonic hymn was to be sung:—

Unto thee, Great God, belong,
Mystic rights and sacred song!
Lowly bending at thy shrine,
We hail thy Majesty Divine.
Glorious architect above,
Source of light and source of love;
Here thy light and love prevail;
Hail, Almighty Father, hail!

Whilst in yonder regions bright,
The Sun by day, the Moon by night,
And the Star that gilds the sky,
Blazon forth thy praise on high;
Join, oh Earth! and as you roll
From East to West, from Pole to Pole,
Lift to Heaven your grateful lays,
Join the universal praise.

Warmed by thy benignant grace,
Sweet friendship linked the human race;
Pity lodged within the breast,
Charity became her guest.
There the naked raiment found;
Sickness, balsam for its wound;
Sorrow, comfort; hunger, bread;
Strangers there, welcome shed.

Still to us, O God! dispense
Thy divine benevolence;
Teach the tender tear to flow,
Melting at a brother's woe.
Like Samaria's sons that we
Blest with boundless charity,
To the admiring world may prove
They dwell in God, that dwell in love.

Concluding with "God save the Queen."

JERSEY.—*Lodge La Césarée* (No. 860).—An emergency meeting was held on Thursday, December 11th, for the purpose of initiating several candidates who were anxious to take part in the ceremony of laying the foundation stone of the proposed Masonic Temple on the 17th, and for a further consideration of the bye-laws. The lodge was opened at half-past five by Bro. John Durell, W.M., assisted by Bro. P. Le Sueur, S.W., and Bro. Binet, P.M., acting as J.W. The circular convening the meeting having been read, several letters were handed in, and personal testimony was given in favour of all the candidates for initiation by several of the brethren, as a result of which the ballot was declared to be unanimous in favour of all of them. Messrs. Auguste Desmoulins, G. J. Renouf, Ste-Croix Blampied, and Philip G. Laurent, were then introduced, and admitted to the mysteries and privileges of Freemasonry, in a style but rarely equalled for correctness, fluency, and impressiveness, by the W.M., who afterwards gave the usual charge. A call was made upon Bro. Rondeux to address the newly initiated, who immediately responded. A letter was read from a distressed brother, expressive of gratitude for a donation of £5 recently granted by the lodge, and of a hope that, under more prosperous circumstances, he might, at a future time, be able to repay it, and thus afford the means of rendering a like service in time of need to another brother similarly situated. The W.M. announced that Mr. Philip Picot, who, though not a Mason, ought, from the largeness of his heart, to belong to the fraternity, had intimated his desire to present to Lodge La Césarée the pall used at the funerals of the late lamented brethren Dr. Cuquernelle and John Asplet. It was proposed by Bro. Schmitt, P.M., seconded by Bro. Robert, and carried unanimously, that the best thanks of the lodge be presented to Mr. Picot for his liberal and acceptable present. In commenting upon it, Bro. Schmitt noticed the kind sentiments of the donor in reference to the Craft in general, and Lodge La Césarée in particular; he observed that the present was one of considerable value, involving an expenditure of not less than £15, and that it was the more acceptable having been in a manner consecrated by the use to which it had been applied, and thus rendered the more valuable as a memento of the late respected brethren, who had been deemed worthy of public funerals. It was afterwards settled that this resolution should be inscribed on vellum, and in that form forwarded to Mr. Picot; also that he be requested to accept six platform tickets on occasion of laying the foundation stone of the Masonic Temple. On the proposition of Bro. Mannan, seconded by Bro. Baudains, P.M., it was determined that the care of the pall should be entrusted to Bro. Croad, so long as he should remain a member of the lodge. Bro. Manuel stated that the time was come when, being on the point of building a Masonic Temple at the expense of a company, some measures should be taken relative to an amount in his hands of about £160, which had been raised several years ago for the purpose. Of this, £100 had been given by Lodge La Césarée, £40 by brethren who had since taken shares in the company, and the remainder in small sums by other brethren, by gentlemen not Masons, and even ladies, favourable to the project. In the two former cases it was manifest that the amounts should be returned to the donors, but he must have authority for this by a special vote. In the latter instance, the money having been given in small sums for a specific purpose, it was proposed that with it, and such other amounts as might be added, shares should be purchased to become the property of the Company, and that any interest or dividend annually accruing therefrom, should form a fund for the relief of the orphans and widows of Masons. He proposed a resolution to this effect in the following terms, "that a fund be raised for the purpose of purchasing shares, the interest or dividend on which shall be applied to the relief of the widows and orphans of Masons. That the purchased shares shall be invested in the names of the Trustees of the Masonic Temple Company (Limited); the charity to be distributed by the Board of Management." This having been seconded by Bro. J. T. Du Jardin, was put to the meeting and carried unanimously. After some discussion, it was determined to postpone the consideration of the revised bye-laws to a future evening, the business having already occupied more than three hours. The lodge was then closed in due form. Although this was an emergency meeting, upwards of sixty brethren were present, of whom only four were visitors, a proof of the devotion of the members to their routine duties. At the subsequent social gathering for refreshment, a common sentiment of joyousness seemed to prevail, at the near approach of the realization of hopes long cherished, by the laying of the foundation stone of the proposed temple on Wednes-

day, December 17th. After due honour paid to "The Queen and the Craft," and "The Earl of Zetland," the W.M. proposed a toast in honour of Bro. H. L. Manuel and Bro. Dr. Hopkins, with whom the name of Bro. Ratier, though far away, was subsequently associated; the first deserved honour as having been indefatigable in his position as Chairman of the first Building Committee in the promotion of the scheme, labouring in season and out of season in every way that could lead to its accomplishment; the second had earned their thanks by his literary labours, in connection with THE FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE, and on all occasions where his pen could be available for the advantage of the lodge, as well as in various other ways; of the third, it was unnecessary among the brethren to speak in terms of eulogy, since, though distant, and unable to join in the approaching ceremony, his heart was with them, as testified by several letters from him, portions of which were read, containing a promise personally to assist in the inauguration of the temple on its completion. The toast having been duly honoured with enthusiasm, Bros. Manuel and Hopkins made suitable replies, the former expressing his satisfaction at having been the proposer of the fund for orphans and widows. Bro. Durell, W.M., Bro. Barlet, and several others promised donations in its favour. The health of the newly initiated brethren having been given from the chair and accepted by those present, a feeling response was made by Bro. Desmoulins, who declared that in his novel position he found the realization of aspirations and hopes and ideas long cherished, and that he could verify the statement made in the admirable address of Bro. Rondeaux, that he was in truth a new man. This was followed as a matter of course by the Entered Apprentices' song. Several other routine toasts were appropriately honoured, and after an evening of more than usual kind feeling and enjoyment, the brethren separated at half-past ten. It may be added that the charitable fund alluded to in the preceding report for the purchase of shares in the Temple Company now amounts to upwards of £50.

DEVONSHIRE.

DARTMOUTH.—*Hawley Lodge* (No. 1099).—The monthly meeting took place on Monday last. Two gentlemen were raised, a candidate initiated, a joining member elected, and two candidates admitted for the ballot at the next meeting. The Rev. W. Langley Pope, M.A., Assist. Chap., gave a learned discourse on the Volume of the Sacred Law as the standard of truth. The lodge simultaneously rose and thanked the rev. brother for his elaborate and very chaste exposition of the subject. Resolutions were entered into with the view of celebrating the coming festival of St. John; and on that occasion the J.W. will favour the lodge with an address on the reasons usually assigned among Masons for keeping that day. The second section of the first Lecture will be worked on the next regular lodge evening, if time permit. On this occasion there was a large attendance of brethren and visitors.

DURHAM.

SUNDERLAND.—*St. John's Lodge* (No. 95).—On Tuesday, December 9th, a regular lodge was held at the house of Bro. George Shiel, Queen's Hotel, Fawcett-street. The lodge was opened in due form and solemnity by the W.M., Bro. David Clark, assisted by the Wardens. There were present the recently installed W.M. of the Phoenix Lodge (No. 111), Bro. Blythe, with Bro. Gilmore, P.M., and a number of other brethren. There were also present a number of brethren from the Palatine Lodge (No. 114), including the W.M., Bro. Thomas Hanson, and the W.M. elect, Bro. J. Hamilton. After the ordinary business of the lodge had been attended to, the W.M. announced that the great and most important part of the business of the evening would now be entered upon, viz., the installation of Bro. John Graham, W.M. elect for the ensuing year, and expressed his conviction, that the general feeling would be one of pure gratification, on having to place Bro. Graham in the chair of the W.M., the highest honour that the lodge could confer upon him, and to which his merits and ability so eminently entitled him. Bro. Graham was then advanced to the East, and subscribed to all the preliminary requirements, when the whole of the brethren, with the exception of those who had passed the chair, were ordered to withdraw, and the ceremony of installation, under the superintendence of Bro. Thomas Elven, P.M., was duly performed. The brethren being re-admitted, the usual salutations were given, and Bro. John Graham was declared

W.M. of the St. John's Lodge (No. 95), on the Registry of the Grand Lodge of England. The following officers were then appointed: Bros. David Clark, immediate P.M.; Andrew Skilling, S.W.; Robert Sangster, J.W.; Thomas Godfordson, Treas.; Robert Hodgson, Sec.; G. Blacker Morgan, S.D.; Wm. Craven, J.D.; Peter Gumerics Hvistendahl, I.G.; Wm. Martin Laws, Tyler; Bros. Samuel John Wade, and Simon Wanlass, Stewards; Bros. James Murray, Wm. Hall, and John Hutchinson, Auditors. The lodge was subsequently called from labour to refreshment. After which followed a most genial and harmonious evening, in which each and all seemed to be animated by the true spirit of Masonry. Among the numerous toasts that were given during the course of the evening, were the following:—"The health of the Master, Wardens, and brethren of Phoenix Lodge (No. 111)," responded to by Bro. Blythe. "The health of the Master, Wardens, and brethren of the Palatine Lodge (No. 114)," responded to by Bro. Hanson. It may be worthy of remark, that the two preceding speakers, in their neat and excellent speeches, paid high compliments to the newly-installed W.M., and spoke auspiciously prophetic of the success that must attend his rule. They congratulated the brethren of St. John's on their wise and judicious selection—a selection that could not fail to do honour to the Craft. The W.M. proposed "The health of the immediate P.M., Bro. David Clark," and awarded him a hearty, but well-deserved, meed of praise for the able and efficient manner in which he had performed the duties of W.M. for two successive years. Bro. Clark was never known to be absent from either a regular or an emergency lodge. Bro. Clark replied in a very feeling manner to the compliments paid him. Bro. Thomas Elwen proposed "The health of the newly-installed W.M." Bro. Graham, W.M., responded in appropriate terms, promising to use his best endeavours to merit the high encomiums passed upon him by Bro. Elwen, and trusted to be aided and assisted by the counsel and experience of the Past Masters of St. John's, which for some years past had been exemplary for the discharge of their lodge duties. The W.M. then gave "The health of the Past Masters of St. John's," making signal and honourable allusion to Bro. Mark Douglass, one of the oldest of the Past Masters present, to which toast Bro. Douglass, P.M., responded in a lengthy and forcible speech, characterised by his usual energy and ability. At length, however, the column of the J.W. gave token that the evening, so redolent of joy and good feeling, must be brought to a close. The lodge was then called to labour, and closed in due form.

KENT.

FOLKESTONE.—*Temple Lodge* (No. 816).—A meeting of this lodge took place on Monday, the 15th inst., at the Town Hall, for the purpose of inaugurating the new lodge furniture, which has been recently manufactured by Messrs. Cox and Son, and Messrs. Peard and Jackson, from the handsome designs furnished by Bro. William Boucher. A numerous assemblage of brethren were present, including a large party from the Lodge of Peace and Harmony, Dover, as also other brethren from Shorncliffe, and the neighbourhood. The lodge was opened in due form by the W.M., F.S. Tolputt, when the usual business was transacted. Several propositions of new candidates were made, and a vote of thanks was passed to Bro. Boucher for his gratuitous services, and ordered to be printed in gold on vellum, and presented to him. After the lodge was closed, the brethren adjourned to the King's Arms Hotel to partake of a banquet, supplied by Mr. W. Medhurst. A very pleasant evening was spent, enlivened by numerous songs from the brethren present. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and responded to with unusual heartiness, and the brethren separated at an early hour.

ASHFORD.—*Invicta Lodge* (No. 1011).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held on Friday, the 5th inst., when Bro. R. C. May, C.E., of London, was installed in succession to Bro. B. K. Thorpe, whose year of office will long be remembered, particularly in connection with the Masonic Charities, the W.M. of this lodge having become, *pro tem.*, Life Governor of the Boys' School. There was a full attendance of members, both resident and from a distance, and likewise visitors:—Bros. Chubb, P.M. No. 1; Toamin, P.M. 147; Godden and Poole, 816. Previous to the installation, Messrs. Thorpe, of Battle, Sussex; and Willoughby, of University College, London, were balloted for as candidates for initiation, which, having been unanimously declared in their favour, they were admitted into the Order in a solemn and impressive manner. These ceremonies and other

business completed, a Board of P.M.'s was formed, when Bro. Eastes proceeded to instal the W.M. elect in his usual easy and eloquent manner, the performance of which excited the applause of the brethren present. The W.M. was duly saluted, and proclaimed in each degree. He then invested the following brethren as his officers. Bros. Mansell, S.W.; Goldberg, J.W.; B. K. Thorpe, Treas.; Greenhill, Sec.; Kingsnorth, S.D.; Robinson, J.D.; Frank Collins, I.G. The Installing Master then addressed the officers individually and the brethren generally. Bro. Eastes proposed and Bro. Hallows seconded Mr. W. Blewitt, of Rainham, Essex, as a candidate for initiation. The labours of the evening having ended, the lodge was closed in due form at six o'clock. The brethren then adjourned to the George Hotel, and sat down to banquet. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and received, and the company parted, happy to meet again.

DEAL.—*Wellington Lodge* (No. 1086).—Bro. Holmes, S.W., was elected W.M. for the year ensuing, on Thursday, the 11th inst. The next regular lodge will take place on Monday, the 22nd inst.

SOMERSETSHIRE.

BATH.—*Lodge of Honour* (No. 528).—On Monday, the 8th inst., the members of this lodge held their annual banquet at the Castle Hotel. Previous to the banquet, lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, at which Bro. J. Wedgwood Yeates was installed as W.M. of the lodge for the ensuing year, the installing Master being Bro. Marshall, P.M., of the Royal Sussex Lodge, by whom the ceremony was most impressively performed. The following are the officers appointed by the W.M.:—Bros. Muttlebury, S.W.; McDougal, J.W.; Atkins, S.D.; Palmer, J.D.; R. A. Cook, I.G. At the banquet, the W.M. presided, being supported by his officers and the following brethren of the lodge.—Bros. J. S. Bartrum, H. St. J. Maule, Vaughan Jenkins, R. Cook, Greyston, and Palmer. The following members of the Royal Sussex Lodge (No. 61), were also present as visitors:—Bros. Davey, Prov. G. Chaplain; Dr. Falconer, P.M.; Commans, P.M.; Oliver, P.M.; and E. T. Payne, P.M.

STAFFORDSHIRE.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—*St. Peter's Lodge* (No. 607).—This lodge was held on Thursday, the 4th inst. Bro. Cooper, W.M. presided, and was supported by a goodly muster of the brethren. The lodge having been duly opened according to ancient form, the W.M. proceeded to raise Bro. Fellowes to the sublime degree of M.M. Bro. Haseler, P.M., delivered the charge. This being the annual election of W.M., Treas., and Tyler, the Secretary read the bye-laws, when, upon the motion of the W.M., Bro. Sidney Cook was elected as W.M. for the ensuing year. Bro. King, P.M., having declined to be again elected as Treasurer (the duties of which office he has faithfully discharged for a number of years), Bro. Joseph Walker was chosen as his successor. Bro. Jones was re-elected Tyler. Two gentlemen were nominated for initiation.

YORKSHIRE (WEST).

SHEFFIELD.—*Britannia Lodge* (No. 162).—There was a large gathering of the members of this lodge, on Thursday, 11th inst., at the Freemasons's Hall, Surrey-street, to do honour to the installation of the W.M. elect. Bro. Alexander Hay, W.M., presided, and was supported by Bros. Wm. Longden, P.M.; J. A. Eadon, P.M.; E. T. Buxton, P.M.; Wm. White, Jun., P.M. and Prov. G.D.C.; E. Drury, W.M. 373; Henry Webster, W.M. 1206; W. R. Parker, W.M. designate, Pelham Lodge, Worksop; Crowther, P.M. 342, Huddersfield, and about forty others. Bro. White, P.M., having presented Bro. Septimus Arden, S.W., and W.M. elect; the W.M. in a dignified and impressive manner installed him in the chair of K.S., according to ancient and solemn form. He was then saluted, proclaimed, and presented with the working tools of the several degrees, after which the following officers were appointed, and the duties of their respective offices pointed out to them by their newly installed W.M., viz.:—Bros. Graham Stuart, P. Prov. G. Org., S.W.; Wm. Short, J.W.; Robt. Waterhouse, J.D.; J. S. Pratt, I.G.; and Edward Wilkinson, Tyler. The chair was then taken by Bro. Wm. White, P.M., who ably initiated Mr. Williams, of Worksop, into the mysteries and privileges of Freemasonry. After the lodge was closed a considerable num-

ber of the brethren partook of a substantial banquet, provided under the superintendence of Bros. Garnett and Arnison, the Stewards, when the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured.

RIPON.—*De Grey and Ripon Lodge* (No. 1139).—The members of this lodge held their annual gathering on the 5th inst. for the installation of the W.M. elect, Bro. J. Denton, who had been unanimously elected to that exalted position at the November meeting. Bro. John Lee, P. Prov. S.W. and P.M. Philanthropic Lodge (No. 382), performed the ceremony of installation in his usual able and impressive manner; and Bro. John Denton was warmly congratulated on being exalted to the chair of K.S., who appointed his officers as follows:—Bros. Morton, S.W.; Collinson, J.W.; Tutin, S.D.; Pitchforth, J.D.; Wright, I.G.; Kendal, P.M., Treas.; H. Clark, Sec.; Stephenson, Org.; Thwaites, Steward; Stark, Tyler. Bro. Binns was passed to the Second Degree by the W.M., who explained the working tools in a most impressive manner; after which the lodge was closed, and the brethren retired to Bro. Collinson's, the Unicorn Inn, where due justice was done to the ample repast provided by the host in his usual style. After the cloth was drawn, and the usual loyal and Masonic toasts and a variety of others given, the health of the W.M. was proposed and responded to by all with a right good will. The W.M. was highly complimented by all the brethren present for the able manner in which he had performed the various duties he had been called upon to perform during his progress to the chair, but more especially for the efficient manner he had performed the arduous duties of the chair on this his first night, proving to the brethren that much might be expected from him during his year of office, and it behoved all and sundry to avail themselves of his assistance and instruction during his presidency; it was clearly proved this day beyond all doubt, that they had got the right man in the right place. The W.M. in returning thanks, addressed the brethren and especially the officers, in a very impressive manner on the Masonic virtues expected as a duty incumbent upon every Mason. After an evening spent in the "feast of reason and the flow of soul," the brethren took leave much gratified with the enjoyment and wishing many happy returns of the season.

BLACKBURN.—*Lodge of Perseverance* (No. 432).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Old Bull Hotel on Thursday evening, the 4th instant, under the presidency of Bro. Charles Tiplady, W.M.; Bros. J. Bell and F. Thomas, P.M.'s, acting as Wardens. The following brethren were present, viz., T. Birtwistle, P.M.; J. Pilkington, P.M., Treas.; J. Pearson, P.M.; Tyler; E. Heath, J.W.; J. Garsden, S.D.; A. Duckworth, J.D.; R. Abbott, Sec.; B. Ellston, W. Hirst, E. Eastwood, R. Hoyle, W. Riley, C. Tattersall, W. W. Tattersall, and W. Thompson (No. 534). The lodge having been opened in the first degree, the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The lodge was then opened in the second degree, when Bro. W. Riley presented himself for examination, previous to being raised to the sublime degree of M.M., which being exceedingly creditable to Bro. Riley, and highly satisfactory to the brethren, the ceremony was performed by Bro. Bell, P.M., in a very able manner. The lodge was then closed to the second degree, when the W.M. requested Bro. Thomas, P.M. (in the absence of Bro. Clough, P.M., who has for many years installed the W.M.) to perform the ceremony of installation. Bro. Tiplady, W.M., then presented the W.M. Elect, Bro. Elles Heath, J.W. (who was unanimously elected at the previous meeting) for installation. A Board of Installed Masters having been formed, Bro. Heath was duly installed into the chair of K.S. The brethren were then readmitted, and saluted the W.M. in each degree as the lodge was closed down, the working tools being presented by the Installing Master in due order. The ceremony was most impressively rendered by Bro. Thomas, and it is but doing that worthy and justly esteemed brother justice to say, that although called upon at a moment's notice, it was faultless, and elicited the well-merited encomiums of the brethren. The lodge having been closed to the first degree, the W.M. then appointed his officers as follows, viz., Bros. I. Garsden, S.W.; A. Duckworth, J.W.; B. Ellston, S.D.; T. Robinson, J.D.; J. Pilkington, P.M. Treas. (by election); R. Abbott, Sec.; E. Eastwood and W. W. Tattersall, Stewards; C. Tattersall, I.G.; and J. Pearson, P.M. Tyler. On the motion of Bro. Charles Tiplady, P.M., the sum of ten guineas was unanimously voted from the lodge funds as a donation to the Lancashire Relief Fund of this town, in lieu of St. John's Festival, which the brethren thought, considering the present depressed state of trade, might

very judiciously be postponed until there was some more cheering prospects of a speedy revival of trade, and the employment of thousands of our present poor unemployed operatives, whose silent and uncomplaining conduct has been the theme of universal admiration. May the G.A.O.T.U. look down upon and bless them, in this their present hour of trial and suffering. After some routine business, the lodge was closed in ancient and solemn form. The brethren then adjourned to the supper room, and did ample justice to the good things of this life, so liberally supplied by the worthy host, Bro. Bolton. The cloth having been removed, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were severally given. Speech, song, and sentiment was the order of the evening, and after the last toast, "To all Poor and Distressed Masons," the brethren separated, highly delighted with the evening's proceedings.

ROYAL ARCH.

YORKSHIRE (WEST.)

SHEFFIELD.—*Chapter of Paradise* (No. 162).—The regular meeting of this chapter was held in the Freemasons' Hall, Surrey Street, on Monday last, 15th inst., Comps. Danby, P.Z. as Z; Bartolomé, P.Z. as H.; Longden, P.Z. as J.; Thomson, P.Z., and many others being present. Comp. Danby having been re-elected to the 1st chair, proceeded in his usual able and impressive manner to instal Comp. Henry Harrison as H.; and Comp. Wm. White, jun., as J. The following companions were then appointed officers of the chapter, viz., Hy. Webster, E.; W. R. Parker, N.; G. Stuart, P.S.; F. W. Primrose, A.S.; R. Arnison, A.S.; and H. J. Garnett, Treas. Bro. Short of the Britannia Lodge, was then introduced and exalted according to ancient form, the whole of the lectures being given, and the ceremony throughout conducted in a very excellent manner.

MARK MASONRY.

BURSELEM.—*Jerusalem Lodge.*—A meeting of the brethren of this lodge was held at the Assembly-rooms, on Wednesday afternoon, December 3rd, to transact the usual business of the Order. It was presided over by Bro. William Hall, P.R.W.M., and W.M. elect of the Combermere Lodge (No. 880), Cheshire, who advanced several of the Craft brethren to this honourable degree (in the absence of the R.W.M. Bro. J. C. Daniels.)

MASONIC FESTIVITIES.

HULL AMATEUR THEATRICALS.

When the Masonic amateur theatricals were established some years ago, under the presidency of Bro. Arden, as W.M. of the Minerva Lodge, for the purpose of forming a benevolent fund for the relief of poor and distressed Freemasons, it could hardly have been anticipated, even by the most sanguine, that they would have continued so long to afford the same pleasure as on the night when the curtain first fell on *Bombastes Furioso*. Instead, however, of showing any want of vitality, these charming performances have so steadily and surely advanced in public favour, that the committee have this year been enabled to produce two excellent entertainments, half the proceeds of which is to be given to the distressed factory operatives in Hull.

At the first performance, which took place on Thursday, December 4th, the plays were well chosen and well acted, and the audience, we hesitate not to add, was well pleased. An extempore stage was erected at the end of the room, opposite the orchestra, and the scenery and fixings were admirably adapted to the occasion. Naught was wanting to render the performance a great success, and everything seemed to pass off

to the satisfaction of one of the most brilliant assemblages that ever graced our Music-hall. The curtain rose upon the comic drama, *A Wonderful Woman*; the part of the Cobbler being taken by Bro. Bethel Jacobs, the Marquis de Frontignac by Bro. J. F. Holden, and the Rich Widow by Miss Simpson, of one of the London theatres. The acting was clever and intelligent throughout, and the subordinate characters were equally well sustained. Bro. Jacobs' "make-up" and "bye-play" were exceedingly good, though he hardly seemed at home when he essayed the practical part of the cobbler's vocation. The second piece was a "new and original burlesque by Bro. Brough," entitled *Perdita, or the Royal Milkmaid*. In puns—good, bad, and indifferent—in word-torturings, and in all manner of extravagances—this burlesque abounds. In its absurdities lay its chief merit. Conceived in the true spirit of the ludicrous, it makes fun of everybody and everything it has to do with, and is, on the whole, as laughable a production as we ever came across. The leading characters were sustained by Bro. Bethel Jacobs, as the fierce, wayward, though relenting King of Sicilia; Bro. Arden, as the King of Bithynia; Bro. R. Harrison, as the Prince Florizel, who falls in love with the Royal Milkmaid, Miss Simpson; Bro. H. Harrison, as Autolychus, who is truly described as a rogue and a vagabond, whose chief employment is to go "robbing around." The characters of Hermione, Paulina, and Time, were ably sustained by ladies from the Queen's Theatre. Miss Jenny Wilmore, as "Time," sang one or two songs in a very pleasing style. Miss Simpson, too, has a very good voice, and she used it very effectively.

The entertainment on Monday, December 8th, commenced with *The Bonny Fishwife*, a pretty little comic drama, played by four characters only, all of which were, however, capitally portrayed. Bro. Bethel Jacobs, as the irritable, but kind-hearted, Sir Hiccory, was admirable, and his assumption of the old Highlander, who "fought with the great Duke of Wellington," excellent, and his broad Gaelic dialect and allusion to his "Marciated bodie," elicited great applause. Bro. Arden, as fighty young Wildoates, was equally at home, and dashed off the part with the spirit and ease of a professional. In the *role* of the Gentleman's Gentleman we have already had occasion to praise Bro. John Harrison; but his gaiters, on Monday evening, outshone any previous attempt, and his "make-up" as the old Fish Fag, and his comic dance with Bro. Jacobs, literally brought down the house. Miss Ada Dyas, of London, played the Bonnie Fishwife most charmingly, and although perhaps she is not so well up in stage matters as the more experienced Miss Simpson, her pretty figure, expressive and flexible features, and piquante acting, ingratiated her at once into the good graces of the audience and stamped her as a general favourite. Who indeed could wonder at the impressible Wildoates surrendering at discretion to the charms of such a "Bonnie Fishwife." The burlesque was played with more spirit than on the previous occasion, as all the performers were thoroughly up in their parts, and made considerable additions to the business of the piece. The grotesque but most natural assumption of the part of the Bear by Bro. Rust, and a comic "Pierrot" dance (expressly arranged by Bro. Charles Jackson), are especially to be commended. Miss Dyas was again charming as the Royal Milkmaid, and her singing, especially a duet with Florizel, was much admired; in short, all did their best to render the burlesque—which it really was—one of the best attempts of the Masonic amateurs.

The general arrangements were, as usual, entrusted to Bro. Arden, to whose artistic taste we are also indebted for the two best scenes of the burlesque—the sheep-shearing and the Hall of the Statue. Our thanks are also due to the indefatigable stage manager, Bro. Mosely, to whose punctuality and promptness in arranging the properties, the success of both pieces is in a great measure due. Bro. Fred. Jackson ably presided at the piano, and some clever amateurs acted as the orchestra, under the direction of Bro. Edward Jacobs. Mrs. Wolfenden and Bro. Melbourne again kindly placed their establishment at the disposal of the amateurs; and the dresses, which were first class, were from the establishment of Bro. May, of London.

It has been whispered to us that, elated by their success, the committee contemplate giving two performances annually, half of the proceeds to be given in turn to the most deserving of our local charities. This is as it should be, and if the tenets of Freemasonry are so thoroughly universal in their charity, we—although not of the mystic tie—cordially wish the cause God speed, and would say of the Minerva Lodge especially, with the Roman poet of old, *Esto perpetuo*.—*Eastern Counties Herald*.

Poetry.

VERBUM SAPIENTIAE.

While here in Lancashire abides the stress
Of wintry season and of sharp distress,
A story I would tell—an ancient fable—
With such unvarnished skill as I am able.

A dervise came to Bagdad when the crown
Sat on the mighty forehead of Haroun,—
A prince whose sway was feared by every khan,
From ancient Nile to distant Khorassan;
In whom the people own'd so firm a trust
That he was named Al Raschid, or the Just;
And who so held his court, that in a word,
None came or went but might be daily heard.

The dervise prostrate bow'd, then raised his head,
And to the monarch spake, and thus he said—
"O Caliph, in the Prophet's name, to whom,
Across the Syrian desert, have I come,
From mournful groves of palm where Ta d'mor lies,
Distraught by women's wail and children's cries;
They and the chiefs who once were first in war,
Struck down by famine and an hunger'd are;
Their stores consumed of corn, and wine, and oil,
Their flocks a prey to murrain, and a spoil.
Whence shall this people in their need be fed,
If not by thee, O king?" The dervise said,—
"To thee they cry, ere yet their strength be spent,
In this great vengeance which the Lord hath sent.
Allah's decree is just, though it be sore;
We crave thine aid till Allah's wrath be o'er."

The caliph mused. "How say'st thou, then," he said:
"Does Allah justly pour on Tadmor's head
His heavenly wrath?" "Yea, so," was the reply.
"Then," quoth the caliph, "to what end should I
Transgress the fiat of the Will Most High?
Whatever ill befall, it is most fit
To reach some good transcendant: so 'tis writ."
The dervise answered,—"Far as thy renown
Hath stretched o'er land and sea, most sage Haroun,
For learning taught in schools of Magian lore,
But little hast thou conned the sacred store:
Know, then, it consorts with divine decree
That men should learn divinest charity!
Should feel that holier life is understood
Alone in deeds of gracious brotherhood.
Feed, then, the hungry, that thou may'st perceive
How nobler far to give than to receive;
And so thy mind shall rend the veil, and see
The secret purpose of hard Fate's decree."

Then, turning to Giafar, his good vizier,
Than whom ne'er Eastern king possess'd the peer,—
"Go," said the caliph, "send the hungry food;
'Tis Allah's will we should all do good."

Moral: If any doubt how good should come out of bad,
Forget you not the Caliph of Bagdad.

JAMES HIBBERT.

THE DRUM.

FROM THE GERMAN OF RUCKERT.

Oh, the Drum—it rattles so loud!
When it calls me with its roll
To the battle—to the battle,
Sounds that once so charmed my ear
I no longer now can hear;
They are all an empty hum
For the drum—
Oh, the drum—it rattles so loud!

Oh, the drum—it rattles so loud!
At the door with tearful eye,
Father—mother to me cry—
Father! mother! shut the door!

I can hear you now no more !
 Ye might as well be dumb,
 For the drum—
 Oh, the drum—it rattles so loud !
 Oh, the drum—it rattles so loud !
 At the corner of the street,
 Where so oft we used to meet,
 Stands my bride and cries, " Ah, woe !
 My bridegroom wilt thou go ?"
 Dearest bride, the hour is come,
 For the drum—
 Oh, the drum—it rattles so loud !
 Oh, the drum—it rattles so loud !
 My brother in the fight
 Bids a last—a long good night !
 And the guns, with knell on knell,
 Their tale of warning tell ;
 Yet my ear to that is numb,
 For the drum—
 Oh, the drum—it rattles so loud.
 Oh, the drum—it rattles so loud,
 There's no such stirring sound
 I heard the wide world round
 As the drum that, with its rattle,
 Echoes Freedom's call to battle ;
 I fear no martyrdom
 While the drum—
 Oh, the drum—it rattles so loud !

NOTES ON MUSIC AND THE DRAMA.

Musical entertainments here (says the Brighton correspondent of the *Queen*) continue to be well attended, and the crowd at the Pavilion to hear the band of the 9th Lancers, and at St. Paul's Church to witness the mummery going on there, seems as great as ever, although everybody says Brighton is thinning.

M. Verdi has arrived from Paris on his way from St. Petersburg to Madrid.

The *Messiah* was given on Monday, at Exeter Hall, by the National Choral Society, with the following cast:—Miss Banks, Miss Palmer, Mr. Sims Reeves, and Mr. Lawler; conductor, Mr. G. W. Martin. The band and chorus consisted of nearly 700 performers, and it was one of the finest performances ever heard in Exeter Hall.

At Her Majesty's Theatre, a performance of Handel's oratorio the *Messiah* is to be given on Christmas Eve. The principal vocalists will be Mdlle. Titiens, Miss Palmer, Mr. Sims Reeves, and Mr. Santley; and the band and chorus, under the direction of Mr. Benedict, will be 500 strong.

Mr. Cocks, of Burlington-street, has issued an album of music which does credit to his firm, both as regards the beauty of the illustrations and the superiority of the original pieces of music, which have employed the pens of some of the best composers of the day.

Galignani says:—"It will be remarked with regret that since the retirement of Mario no other tenor is spoken of to take the lead at the Grand Opera, Paris, and it would hence appear that the public is once more to be thrown back on M. Gueynard, a respectable singer no doubt, for second-rate characters, but wholly without pretensions for anything higher. Strange that a theatre so nobly supported by the munificence of the state as the Grand Opera of Paris, cannot demand first-rate talent, while the Opera in London, unassisted by any subvention whatever from the government, nevertheless is enabled constantly to engage all the leading singers of Europe."

Shakspeare's *Macbeth*, the translation of M. Lacroix, is now in rehearsal at the Odéon.

THE WEEK.

THE COURT.—Sunday last being the anniversary of the death of the Prince Consort, the Queen remained in perfect seclusion, and divine service was "performed" in the morning, in her Majesty's apartments. This melancholy anniversary has been most appropriately marked by the publication of a volume, in which our widowed Queen tells a sympathising nation of "the ever-present, watchful, faithful, invaluable aid which she received from the Prince Consort in the conduct of the public business. The new Royal mausoleum at Frogmore was consecrated on Wednesday by the Bishop of Oxford. The Queen, with her family, was present, and a large number of ladies and gentlemen were in attendance. Immediately after the ceremony her Majesty returned to Windsor. The mausoleum is not yet completed, but the central portion in which the royal sarcophagus is to be placed is entirely closed. It is reported that Prince-Alfred is about to visit Australia.

GENERAL HOME NEWS.—Under the influence of morgenial weather the mortality in London has greatly decline during the past week. The number of deaths during the last week does not amount to more than 1408, which is a decline of more than 200 on the previous week, and 340 below the week before that. It is still, however, though very slightly, above the corrected average for the last ten years, which is 1393. The births during the week amounted to 1886, the average number for the ten years being 1903.—It seems that there is to be no public distribution of the Exhibition prizes by the Prince of Wales. The Commissioners have addressed a letter to His Royal Highness, in which, while thanking him for consenting to distribute the prizes, they intimate that it would be practically impossible for a single occasion to light and warm the building. The distribution could not be postponed beyond the end of January, and therefore the Commissioners have come to the conclusion that they would not be justified in inviting His Royal Highness to preside at a ceremony, the success of which would depend on the doubtful chance of a fine day.—The *Observer* confirms the rumours which have for some time been current, that Her Majesty's Ministers have set themselves to work to pare down the naval and military expenditure. If we may believe our Sunday contemporary, a "material retrenchment" has been decided upon; and this, it would seem, is to be accomplished, so far as the army is concerned, not so much by reducing the effective strength of the force as by administrative reforms, especially in the staff arrangements. With regard to the other service, we are told that the transition state in which our navy still is will require a continued outlay for purposes of construction that will, in all probability, neutralise in a great measure retrenchments made in other directions."—The Liberals of Edinburgh have decided to invite Lord Palmerston to a public banquet in that city. His Lordship is expected to pay an early visit to Scotland in connection with his election to the Lord Rectorship of the University of Glasgow, and it is hoped that it will be convenient for him on that occasion to accept the proffered hospitality of his friends in the Scottish capital.—Mr. Cobden, on Tuesday, addressed a meeting of his neighbours, at Midhurst, on the subject of the distress in Lancashire. The hon. gentlemen was naturally led, in the course of his speech, to refer to the war in America; and it is hardly necessary to say, that he strongly deprecated any interference, on our part, in that disastrous conflict.—Dr. Rowland Williams and the Rev. H. B. Wilson, the two writers of *Essays and Reviews*, who have been prosecuted in the Court of Arches, have been sentenced to one year's suspension *ab officio et bene-*

ficio. The rev. defendants have appealed to the Privy Council.—It appears from the proceedings of the Central Relief Committee that the destitution in the cotton-manufacturing districts is still on the increase. In eight out of the twenty-seven unions included in the weekly tabular statement of Mr. Farnall an improvement seems to have taken place, but taking the whole number together the Commissioner has to announce an increase of 3014 persons in receipt of parochial relief. The total amount received by the Central Committee up to the 10th inst. may be given in round numbers at £360,500; and on Saturday last there was a balance at the bank of rather more than £233,500. The parish of St. George's, Hanover-square, have met on the question of the Lancashire distress. The Earl of Camperdown, one of the churchwardens of the parish, occupied the chair; and resolutions were moved by Lord Calthorpe, the Rev. Dr. Howarth, the rector; Sir John Shelley, the Hon. Mr. Cowper, and other speakers, and letters enclosing subscriptions, were forwarded by the Marquis of Lansdowne, the Duke of Grafton, and others. Several handsome donations were received in the room, and there is little doubt that the amount of the subscription will be worthy of the wealth and public spirit of this the most aristocratic parish in London.—At the last weekly meeting of the Metropolitan Board of Works, the principal business was a report from the engineer, recommending that a subway should be formed along the Thames Embankment, and setting forth the advantages which would accrue to the public interest from its formation. The additional expense of the roadway from the construction would be about £20,000. The board unanimously agreed to sanction this great improvement.—At the last meeting of the Royal Geographical Society, Captain Sherard Osborn and Mr. Lay explained the objects of the service they have undertaken to conduct in China. Mr. Gladstone was present, and on being invited to state his views with reference to the expedition which is about to leave our shores, the right hon. gentleman, in his own name and on behalf of his colleagues, bade our gallant countrymen "God speed" in the work upon which they are about to enter—feeling confident that, under their direction, such a mission must add to the name and character of England in the far East.—The proposal to make another effort to lay a telegraphic cable between Ireland and Newfoundland appears to have been taken up with considerable spirit. The surveys recently made for the old Company are held to have satisfactorily settled the practicability of the scheme; and at a meeting of the shareholders it was determined to raise, if possible, a fresh capital of £600,000. The chairman of the Company, Mr. Stuart Wortley, stated that the directors had issued circulars on the subject, and that in three days the respectable amount of £75,000 was subscribed.—The Crystal Palace Company have held a general meeting, at which a dividend of 3s. per share was declared. The management of the Palace underwent some varied criticism, but upon the whole the policy of the directors met with the approval of the meeting. Lieut.-Colonel Young brought forward his usual motion against opening the Palace on Sundays. It met, however, with a very unfavourable reception, and an amendment of the previous question was carried by a large majority.—The great Christmas Smithfield Cattle-market was held on Monday. It may with pride be compared to any former year's exhibition, and with equal pride may the world be challenged to produce its equal.—Whatever may have been the character of some of the garotte stories which have recently been published, it would seem pretty clear from the police reports that the streets of London are infested with a body of ruthless desperadoes. On Monday two were reported from Bradford and two from Hull; while an outrage of a most

daring character was committed in the neighbourhood of Wigan on Saturday morning.—During an interview with a deputation of the magistrates of London, on Monday, Sir George Grey gave official confirmation to a statement that a commission is about to inquire into the whole subject of the treatment of criminals. The deputation strongly urged a recurrence to transportation, but the Right Hon. Baronet guarded himself against any definite expression of opinion on the subject.—Meanwhile, the discussion to which the crimes of violence in London have given rise continues to be carried on in the newspapers and Grand Jury rooms. Sir Walton Crofton, in a letter to the *Times*, expresses his entire approval of a well-developed system of "deportation," but he believes that our present convict outlet, Western Australia, can, by the exercise of great care, be made capable of receiving as many convicts as we may find it necessary to send. He is also of opinion that our present legal machinery, if wisely employed, is sufficient to meet the difficulties which have arisen; but, he adds, "our practice must be more in accordance with our theories, and the protection of the public be more considered than the interests of the liberated convict." The Grand Jury at Chester made a presentment on Saturday condemning the ticket-of-leave system. Mr. Adderley pronounces strongly against the proposal to fall back upon the system of transportation. He not only views a recurrence to this form of punishment as utterly impossible, but contends also that banishment would be less certain and terrific than even penal servitude. He urges that, before flying to other resources, we should endeavour to give certainty and vigour to existing punishments, and he ventures to assert "that if the first infliction in the process of punishing a garotter were only 50 lashes, such as our soldiers and sailors undergo for less appropriate offences, we should hear no more of garotting than we do of shooting at the Queen." On the other hand, Mr. Justice Mellor, in charging the Grand Jury at Worcester, argued in favour of a return to the system of transportation.—A sad state of things appears to exist in and about the town of Chesterfield. The English and Irish inhabitants of the lower class are at open war, and for some time past the district has been the scene of most disgraceful disturbances. The local authorities seem to be wholly unequal to the task of maintaining public order against the two factions, to whose feuds at least one fatal outrage is attributed. There appears to be little doubt that the present state of things may be traced to a visit paid to Chesterfield some time ago by the person who calls himself the "Baron de Camin."—At the Central Criminal Court, Frederick Pearce, a smith, charged with the manslaughter of Thomas Searle, arising out of circumstances of great provocation, was found guilty, but recommended to mercy, and was sentenced to nine months' imprisonment; Salome Newman, indicted for the wilful murder of her child at Dalston, was found guilty of concealing the birth, and was sentenced to 18 months' hard labour; William Crane, found guilty of embezzling £2 10s., was sentenced to nine months' imprisonment; Frederick Layton, found guilty of being "feloniously at large before the expiration of a certain sentence of penal servitude," was relegated to the same condition for a term of 15 years; Edward Wood, convicted of stealing £80, was condemned to two months' imprisonment.—An old man, named Ockold, was sentenced to death at the Worcester assizes, on Saturday, for the murder of his wife, at Oldbury, in November last. The Jury, while finding a verdict of guilty, recommended the prisoner to mercy on account of his advanced age.—An Austrian, named Petrina, has been sentenced to death at the Winchester assizes for murder on the high seas. Petrina was second mate of the British ship *Winthrop*, and it seems that on the 4th of October, while on the voyage from San Francisco to Monte Video, he murdered the captain, the captain's wife, and the first mate.—At the Liverpool assizes, a man named Edwards was sentenced to death for the murder of a young woman with whom he had been living for some time. The jury recommended the prisoner to mercy on account of the provocation he had received before making the fatal attack on the deceased, but the learned Judge held out but little hope that Edwards's life would be spared.—Ruxton, the Liverpool shipowner, who was indicted for conspiring to destroy one of his own ships at sea, with the view of defrauding the underwriters has been acquitted. He was no sooner discharged, however, than he was re-apprehended on other charges.—Mr. Norris Taylor, the registrar of the Rochdale

Cemetery was tried on the charge of illegally removing bodies from one grave to another. He was found guilty, but was released on his own recognisances to appear when called up for judgment.—A coroner's jury in Manchester have found a house agent, named Chorlton, responsible for the death of a young woman, who was killed by the giving way of a portion of the brickwork of the house in which she lived. Chorlton was the agent for the property, and it appears that his attention had been repeatedly, but without effect, called to the insecure state of the wall which fell in and caused the poor girl's death.—The inquest on the bodies of the nine men who were killed by the boiler explosion at Masborough has resulted in a verdict of manslaughter against the person who had charge of the boilers. The explosion was attributed to this man's negligence in failing to regulate properly the supply of water; but there seems to have been also a want of due care in other quarters.—A coroner's jury sitting at Kingsland, to determine the cause of death of a female child, whose life had evidently been taken with violence, has found a verdict that the deceased (whose body was found wrapped up in paper) was murdered by some person or persons unknown. The jury recommend the parish authorities to offer a reward for the apprehension of the murderer.—The Rev. P. M'Lauchlan, a Roman Catholic priest, has been sentenced to thirty days' imprisonment at Glasgow, for refusing to answer a question put to him as a witness in a criminal trial. It seems that a letter, containing two half sovereigns, was entrusted to a man named M'Ghee, for the purpose of being posted. This letter did not reach its destination, but a few days afterwards the person to whom it was addressed received an anonymous communication along with the money which "had gone amissing." This second letter, it was found, was written but not posted by Mr. M'Lauchlan, and the rev. gentleman was called as a witness when M'Ghee was brought before the magistrates. He declined however, to state whether the prisoner was the man to whom he delivered the "restitution letter" for the purpose of being posted. Mr. M'Lauchlan did not obtain a knowledge of the felony in the confessional, but while exercising his duties as a spiritual adviser, and he submitted that he could not reveal the secret which the conscience-stricken thief had imparted to him under such circumstances. The Bench endeavoured to remove his scruples, but he remained firm in his determination not to give the required evidence, and he was finally sent to prison. A singular part of the case is, that as soon as M'Ghee heard the decision of the Bench, he offered to alter his plea of not guilty, if it would have the effect of saving the priest from imprisonment. The proposition, of course, came too late, and the prisoner was discharged, in consequence of the incompleteness of the evidence against him.—Mr. Baron Bramwell has given a salutary lesson to the Irish rioters who have evinced so strong a disposition to put down freedom of discussion in this country by means of bludgeons and brickbats. At Chester, on Wednesday, his lordship sentenced one of the Birkenhead rioters, who had made a murderous attack on the police, to fifteen years' penal servitude, nine of the other male prisoners to two years', and three to one year's hard labour; one woman to a year's hard labour, and the remaining female prisoners to six months' hard labour each.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.—We learn, from Athens, that the "election" for the vacant kingship is over, and that out of 10,127 votes, 9,889 were for Prince Alfred. It is well known that the Prince, or we should probably say, the English Government, will not accept the election. It has been determined to recommend to the Greeks King Ferdinand, the father of the present King of Portugal, and who acted as Regent during his son's minority, for election; but it is asserted that His Majesty has declined the honour, having no wish to leave his retirement. Russia, it is stated, does not agree in the recommendation.—The *Morning Post* announces—and its statement is confirmed by the *Globe*—that the English Government, if the consent of the powers who signed the treaties of 1815 can be obtained, is willing to abandon the protectorate of the Ionian Islands and to cede them to Greece. "The special mission of Mr. Elliot to the provisional government at Athens," adds the *Morning Post*, "has reference to this and to other important questions bearing on the future of Greece."—The Emperor of the French paid, on Tuesday, his expected visit to Baron James Rothschild. The visit only occupied a few hours. Among the company assembled were Lord Cowley, Prince Metternich (the Austrian Ambassador), Count Walewski, Count Persigny, and M. Fould.—The *Moniteur* announced that a treaty of commerce, on the largest basis, has been concluded between France and Madagascar, and

that all nations will be admitted to the enjoyment of the benefits secured by it to the French. The *Moniteur* adds that the treaty "makes no mention of territorial concessions, a subject which might have given rise to grave difficulties." The same journal announces, with considerable parade, among its latest intelligence from Mexico, a victory obtained before entering Jalapa, by General Berthier's vanguard of 100 Chasseurs, over about 200 Mexican Lancers,—"the best volunteer cavalry of the country." The Mexicans had fifteen men killed and thirty-five wounded, while of the French two were killed and five wounded. The victory had the effect of demoralising and causing to disperse a corps of between 3000 and 4000 National Guards, placed to guard a strong point—"which," says the *Moniteur*, "the Mexicans defended against the Americans." At the approach of the French they entirely dispersed. It does not appear that Jalapa was defended.—Committees have been appointed at Nice and Florence for the purpose of collecting subscriptions in aid of the Lancashire operatives, and Messrs. Tripp, English bankers at Paris, have sent a letter to *Galignani*, urging that a similar course ought to be adopted in the French capital. At Lyons a subscription has been opened—a step which has received the warm approval of the *Salut Public*, of that city. "We support," says our French contemporary, "with all the more sympathy a movement which does so much honour to our city, because England is at this moment the great outlet for our trade, and because it has at various times assisted our operatives. The warm welcome, too, which our delegated workmen received from their English comrades at the London Exhibition is fresh in all memories."—Paris letters mention the existence of rumours of an alarming character, relative to the Italian policy of the Emperor of the French. The clerical party in France just now are on the tip-toe of expectation as to the presumed chance of Prince Murat ascending the throne of Naples—an eventuality which does not appear very probable. In more purely political circles in France attention is about to be drawn to an approaching Imperial pamphlet on the Italian question. The Emperor, it appears, has corrected the proof sheets. The new French Ambassador at Rome, M. de la Tour d'Auvergne, had a private audience of the Pope on Wednesday to present his credentials. The audience lasted an hour.—In Austria the new Constitution is on the whole working well. The best understanding is maintained between the two chambers, and the Upper House has adopted the war budget precisely as voted by the Chamber of Deputies. The session was to be closed on Thursday by the Emperor in person.—General Prim, who commanded the Spanish troops which were sent to Mexico, has made some curious disclosures in the Spanish Cortes. He read some "confidential letters" addressed to him by the French Admiral Jurien de Lagraviere; and from those letters, we are told, it appeared that General Almonte had declared that the Emperor Napoleon and the Archduke Maximilian had authorised him to propose the Archduke as a candidate for a Mexican crown, and that "the French troops would guarantee the throne of Mexico to the Archduke." General Prim had been directed to observe the provisions of the Treaty of London, which stipulated that neither France, nor England, nor Spain, should attempt any interference with the Mexican form of Government; and the English representative had received similar instructions. General Prim, therefore, deemed it expedient to re-embark his troops. Long discussion ensued, and the amendment which General Prim, in justification of his Mexican conduct, moved to the address was rejected; but the general debate still turns upon the same question. The majority of voices was strongly against the General, and, indeed, we note only one defender who had appeared in the Senate to justify the spirited and honourable course taken by him in regard to the Mexican expedition.—Attention having been called to the fact that certain large importations of arms through Wallachia into Servia had given the Porte much alarm, the Prince of Servia has given an explanation on the subject, in which he distinctly denies that he is making any preparations whatever for war, and affirms that he has no intention to break from his engagements or to encourage any hostile acts towards his suzerain. The arms, it is stated, were merely collected for the ordinary wants of the public service in Servia.

CHINA AND JAPAN.—By intelligence from China, ranging from the 25th of October to the 6th of November, we learn that the Imperialists have lately been very successful in their movements against the Taepings. They have captured the rebel stronghold near Ningpo, and the Mohamedans in Shensi have

been utterly routed and reduced to submission. By the latest advices it was thought the Taepings would attempt to recover their lost ground, but the Imperialists were on the alert to receive them. A large quantity of cotton is about to be sent to this country. The *Duke of Lancaster* was wrecked off Formosa; captain and crew saved.—The news from Japan is unsatisfactory. The Tycoon confesses his inability to avenge the recent murder of an Englishman, and has applied to the British Minister for assistance. It is said that a revolution is going on in Jeddo. The cholera is also virulent in that capital.

AUSTRALIA.—Accounts from Melbourne state that the Murray River and Sandhurst Railway was opened on the 15th of October. A meeting was about to be held of deputies from all the colonies to establish a common tariff and free trade.

AMERICA.—By the arrival of the *Persia* and *Jura* we have intelligence to the 8th inst., including President Lincoln's speech on opening Congress. The President congratulates Congress that the foreign relations of the Government of Washington, if "less gratifying than at former periods," are at all events "certainly more satisfactory than a nation so unhappily distracted might have apprehended." America has "attempted no propagandism and acknowledged no revolution," and has left other nations to settle their own affairs. Foreigners have regarded the American struggle with reference only to their own interests, real or supposed; but "complaint on the part of the Federal Government, even if it were just, would certainly be unwise." The blockade of the Southern ports has been unavoidably accompanied by mistakes and unintentional injuries to foreigners. The President has redressed complaints on such subjects whenever they were manifestly well founded; but there are many cases respecting which the Federal and foreign Governments cannot come to an agreement. He has consequently proposed to England, France, Spain, and Prussia, to conclude mutual conventions for the investigation and decision of such cases; but the proposal, though "kindly received," has not yet been formally accepted. Having thus referred to the foreign relations of his Government, President Lincoln proceeds to the consideration of domestic affairs. The public expenditure has, he says, been promptly disfrayed, and "the public credit is fully maintained." The issues of Treasury notes have "satisfied partially for the time a long-felt want of a uniform circulating medium;" but he recommends Congress to pass an act for the incorporation of banks, to which the Government "might furnish circulating notes on the security of United States bonds deposited in the Treasury." After urging an early completion of the Pacific Railway, and recommending on military and commercial grounds, an enlargement of the canals communicating with the great lakes, the President proceeds to advert to the subject of slavery. He declares that "there is no line, straight or crooked, suitable for a national boundary upon which to divide;" and the existing strife must be settled by the existing generation. He consequently recommends that Congress shall propose to the legislatures of the several states, as amendments to the Federal Constitution, enactments declaring that any state which may abolish slavery before the 1st January, 1900, shall receive Federal interest-bearing bonds for each slave shown by the last census to have existed in the state; that all slaves whom the chances of war may have set at liberty before the end of the "rebellion" shall be for ever free, although "loyal" owners shall be compensated; and that Congress may appropriate money for the colonisation of negroes beyond the borders of the Union. This plan President Lincoln thinks cannot fail to restore the Union, and is "plain, peaceful, generous, and just." Its adoption will not stay the prosecution of the war, or revoke his emancipation proclamation, and will secure a speedier and cheaper restoration of peace than a reliance upon force alone can ensure. The message was accompanied by the customary reports from the Secretaries of War and of the Navy; but the presentation of the Treasury Secretary's report had been delayed. Mr. Stanton states the Federal army now numbers 800,000 "fully armed and equipped," and that it will be raised to 1,000,000 men when the quotas are filled." Mr. Welles reports that the Federal navy consists of 323 steamers and 104 sailing vessels, carrying altogether 3268 guns. He adverts to the cruise of the *Alabama*, and says that, as she sailed from England to destroy American shipping it is matter for grave consideration how far and to what results this abuse may be carried with impunity to the government which tolerates it." The British Government was informed of the *Alabama's* character, but came too late to prevent her sailing; and, to what extent, under these circumstances, the British Government is bound, in honour and

justice, to make indemnification for the destruction of private property, is a question which may present itself for disposal. No important debate seems to have occurred in the Federal Congress up to the 8th inst., though resolutions approving President Lincoln's emancipation proclamation, and "denouncing any proposal for peace "on any other basis than the integrity of the Union as it existed before the rebellion," had been introduced. The Treasury Secretary's report, which had been presented to Congress, estimated that for the current year he should require loans to the amount of 220,000,000 dollars, and proposed to raise 50,000,000 dollars by a tax on the issues of notes by banks. Mr. Chase, we are told, recommends no more paper money schemes, though he proposed that the banks should issue notes based on the security of Federal stocks. He estimated that on the list of July next the Federal debt would amount to 1,120,000,000 dollars, and that if the war should continue with undiminished disbursements, it would attain the sum of 1,744,000,000 dollars in 1864. He recommended that the issues of treasury notes should not be increased, and that any requisite funds, beyond the receipts from taxation, should be obtained by loans. No important movement had been made by either belligerent armies in Virginia, and the Confederates and Federals were alike engaged in fortifying their positions on the banks of the Rappahannock. General Banks's expedition, which had sailed from New York, was composed of land forces estimated at 20,000 to 40,000 men; and some transports and iron-clad steamers had also sailed from Fort Monroe "under sealed orders." The Southern journals asserted that 30,000 Federals were at Suffolk, and were preparing to move against Petersburg, and that the Federal forces at Newbern, North Carolina, were to operate against Weldon. They likewise expected an attack on Wilmington or Georgetown, and on Mobile. There had been a sharp engagement in Tennessee, at a place called Hartsville, between the vanguard of the Federal forces from Nashville and the Confederates under General Morgan. The Federals were worsted, and a whole brigade was captured by General Morgan, who was subsequently, however, defeated in an attack on Gallatin. General Grant continued to advance in Mississippi, and had occupied Abbeville, which had been abandoned by the Confederates. "The Federal expedition which went up the Mississippi," we are told, has discovered that the crop of cotton remaining in the states of Mississippi, Louisiana, and Arkansas "has been over-estimated. The destruction of cotton having been very considerable, only a few thousand bales remain in the counties bordering the river. The new crop will be very small." In New York measures had been taken to raise contributions for the relief of the Lancashire operatives; and some 40,000 dollars had already been subscribed. The West India mail steamer brings us some intelligence respecting the proceedings of the Confederate cruiser *Alabama* and her audacious commander, Captain Semmes. It appears that the *Alabama* had been "doing mischief," and that she had arrived at Martinique, after having captured and destroyed a Federal East Indiaman, laden with a valuable cargo. She landed her prisoners at Martinique, and while she was there the Federal steam-frigate *San Jacinto* arrived, and ran alongside of her, in the harbour, but was "ordered off" by the French Governor. Captain Semmes, repeating the exploit which he performed at the same place in the *Sumter*, "managed to escape during the night;" and the *San Jacinto*, which went in pursuit of him, could not fall in with him, and was afterwards compelled to touch at St. Thomas's for coals.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

SPECIAL NOTICE.—Next Thursday being Christmas-day, we shall be obliged by our correspondents forwarding their communications so as to come to hand not later than Wednesday, as otherwise they will be unavoidably postponed.

J. S.—A Master can only be installed at the regular meeting of a lodge.

J. J. T.—We shall be always glad to hear from you.

J. R.—A notice given at a meeting of the lodge, emergency or otherwise, that a lodge will be held on a given day, to pass a brother, will not be sufficient. Every brother must receive notice by summons.

H. H.—Your request has been attended to.