

LONDON, SATURDAY, MAY 23, 1863.

THE GRAND LODGE PROPERTY.

We are requested to state that the Chairman of the Committee regrets to say that an accident has unfortunately occurred to the ground-plan drawing of the set of designs marked "Experientia."

The Chairman has no means of communicating with the author of that design, save through the public prints. He could not bear that it should be exhibited in its damaged state, or run the risk of being further injured, he has, consequently, had it repaired by a first-rate artist, and trusts that this expression of his regret will be kindly accepted by the author.

We are glad to find that we were misinformed as to the exhibition of the plans being about to take place at the Royal Free Hospital, Gray's-inn-lane, being assured that though the place was spoken of, it was never brought before the Committee. The plans are to be exhibited in St. Martin's Hall, which is admirably situated for the convenience of the Craft, from May 25th to June 3rd; and though we could have preferred that the exhibition should have taken place in our own Hall, we are bound to admit that no reasonable objection can be found to St. Martin's Hall.

MASONIC CONTEMPORARIES.

BRO. FINDEL.

Bro. Findel (Gottfr. Tos. Gabriel*) was born Oct. 21st, 1828, at Kupferberg, in Bavaria. After some years of preparatory studies at the gymnasium of Bamberg, he entered the University of Munich in the autumn of 1848. There he took a part in the movement of the following year in favour of a constitution of a German empire. Compelled to appear in court, and arrested on account of his free discourses, held in the assemblies of the students in the Prater, and for some too liberal articles published in the daily paper, *Gradans*, which he then conducted, he was released after a custody of ten months. Forced by these circumstances to look out for new pursuits he resolved to embrace a literary career, and entered, as an apprentice, the house of T. C. B. Mohr, bookseller, at Heidelberg. There he found the opportunity of following the scientific lectures of several learned and eminent men (Hettner, Moleschott, Kuno Fischer, Haussler &c.), and to become acquainted with several of them, especially with Dr. Karl Hagen. His leisure hours were consecrated to study and to literary productions, several of which have been published with success. It was through his principal, Mr. Mohr, by whose open and noble character he was strongly attracted, and who was a member of a lodge of Frankfurt, that Bro. Findel's attention was for the first time directed towards Freemasonry. From that moment

he eagerly followed all the publications relative to the history of the Craft, especially the libels published against the Order by Hengstenberg and Eckerb, which even induced him to enter the Masonic bond. His initiation took place Oct. 1856, in the Lodge "Eleusis zur Verschweigenheit," at Bayruth, the second and third degrees being conferred on him the following year. In June, 1858, he founded at Leipzig, in connection with his friend, Rudolph Seydel, Dr. Phil., the weekly Masonic journal, *Die Bauhütte*, of which he became the sole conductor. The aim of this periodical is to reflect the active life of the lodges as well as the movement and new opinions arising amidst the Masonic bond, in order to reanimate its ideal principle and to create a literary organ in which the greatest Masonic difficulties and most divers opinions might be balanced and discussed, in accordance with the spirit of the age. Having been affiliated in Nov., 1858, to the Lodge "Minerva zu den drei Palmen," at Leipzig, he withdrew from the same in Feb., 1860, on account of some differences with the *directorium* of that lodge, it endeavouring to control and to restrain the Masonic press. Bro. Findel then returned to his mother lodge at Bayruth. By his journal, *Die Bauhütte*, he took the most active part in the foundation of the new Masonic society called "Verein deutscher Maurer," established in 1860, of which he became a member of the directing committee. In 1861-2 he published his great Masonic work, "Geschichte der Freimaurerei von der Zeit ihres Entstehens bis auf die Gegenwart." (Leipzig: Hermann Luppe, 2 vols.) This difficult and meritorious labour, sustained by the most conscientious investigations, and grounded on documents partly unprinted, brought upon its author the greatest praise, both from the native and foreign press, and has been translated into different languages. Considering this great labour and other services rendered to the Craft, the author was named honorary member of a great number of lodges from Germany and abroad. As to his other profane works we quote: "Die klassische Periode der deutschen Nationalliteratur im Mittelalter," von K. Barthel; Bearbeitet und herausgegeben, von J. G. Findel (Braunschweig, 1857); "Die klassische Periode der deutschen Nationalliteratur im 18ten Jahrhundert" (Leipzig: H. Luppe, 2nd edit.); "Quickborn der Lebensweisheit; Bandsteine zur Dialetik der Seele" (2nd edit., Leipzig: H. Luppe, 1860).

THE DUTIES OF FREEMASONS.

The following inauguration address was delivered on the opening of St. Aubin's Lodge (1260), at St. Aubin's, Jersey, on Wednesday, May 6th, 1863, after the consecration of the lodge, and his installation as W.M. by Bro. Dr. Henry Hopkins, W.M. 1260, P.M. 51, Past Prov. S.G.W. for Warwickshire, Past Z. Royal Arch Chapter, 857:—

Brethren,—Having originated the idea of the formation of a lodge at St. Aubin's, and by your kind co-operation been assisted in carrying it out, thus becoming one of its founders, I feel that I should be wanting in the performance of a duty as the Master, were I to omit to inaugurate our proceedings by a short address suitable to the occasion. I beg your patient attention then, for a few minutes, to the following remarks.

* From the German of the "Handbuch für Freimrei. Zweite Aufl. von Lenning's Encyclopädie." Translated by Bro. C. M.

Brethren,—Our initiatory efforts have now been crowned with success; our temple is reared and consecrated, though possessing no material adornment, and indeed not having a fixed location, it yet is, I trust, internally replete with moral and intellectual beauty; our lodge is perfect; our preparations are complete, so far as present circumstances admit of it. Our labours in the cause committed to our charge, our attempts to acquit ourselves worthily in regard to the responsibilities placed upon us, commence from this day. To what they will lead, how far those connected with us will be benefitted during the career on which we are entering, is a problem which it will devolve on us to solve. May we be found equal to the task; may the inhabitants of the surrounding district have reason, in time to come, to bless the proceedings of this day, by which the influence of the light of Freemasonry is spread abroad, regarding us as the humble instruments of advantages moral, social, and intellectual, though they cannot comprehend the origin thereof, nor the ties that bind us together to pursue them.

We are taught in one of our ceremonies, that it is the duty of all such as have attained a certain position in the Craft, to afford assistance and instruction to those in the inferior degrees. How much more may this be said to be the case with regard to one who holds the exalted position in which your favour and a confidence, I trust not ill-founded, have this day placed me. Heretofore long "a ruler in the Craft" in another and somewhat distant part of the Masonic world, it is a source of much personal gratification that, after a residence of some years among you, doubts and suspicions have been cast aside, and I have won a position in your estimation which has induced you to place authority in my hands; authority not irresponsible and unlicensed, but guided by fixed principles which are acknowledged by all good men, whether Masons or not; authority, of which, as being exerted over yourselves, you cannot fear an improper exercise, or you would not have bestowed it; authority, on the due and judicious employment of which in the first instance, will greatly depend the exaltation or depreciation of our Craft in this new district. I thank you sincerely for the ratification you have this day given in the consecration ceremony, to the nomination of myself to the first chair of this lodge, made by the Most Worshipful the Grand Master of England at your suggestion. Brethren, giving my full assent to the qualifications of a good master, as laid down by a well-known Masonic writer, I cannot be supposed to be insensible to the importance and arduous nature of the task I have undertaken, to the fulfilment of which my best energies shall be directed. Allow me to quote a portion of his words, that you may at least form an estimate of my desire, however imperfectly it may be carried out.

"The master has been invested with power, that he may promote the happiness and prosperity of the lodge. He feels that much will depend on his own example; for how excellent soever the precepts he enforces may appear, they will lose half their value if they be not borne out and verified by his own practice. This is the mainspring which actuates and gives vitality to the whole machine. If his power be exercised tyrannically, the brethren will not love him; if he allows the reins of government to be too much

relaxed, they will despise him; if he be irregular and dissolute in his habits, they will condemn him. He must be a pattern of correctness to his lodge, and never allow his authority to be pleaded in extenuation of any serious delinquencies. He allows no innovations to be practised in the ceremonial or mechanism of the order; no private committees or separate conversation among the brethren, but keeps them rigidly to the business before them; no jesting or ludicrous behaviour which may disturb the serious avocations in which they are engaged; no disputes nor unbecoming language among themselves; he carefully avoids all excess, and never suffers the harmony of the lodge to be disturbed by altercations on the forbidden subjects of religion and politics. He is regular in his habits, both in the lodge and in the world. Punctual to a moment in opening and closing the lodge, as a stimulus to the correct attendance of the brethren; for nothing shows to so much advantage in the pillar of wisdom as this exactness with regard to time. In performing the rites of Masonry, he exhibits a seriousness of deportment, and earnestness of demeanour which attract the attention, interest the feelings, and contribute to recommend the beauties of the system, while they inform the understanding and improve the heart."

In carrying out the views expressed by the Masonic author now quoted, which I have much curtailed, I feel assured that I shall have that support and co-operation which are naturally to be expected from efficient officers. To you who have this day been placed in positions of trust, which, in proportion as you discharge your duties, will in due course lead you to hope to fill this chair, I confidently appeal, urging you to acquire a thorough knowledge of what is required of you, that so, you may not only maintain the dignity of Freemasonry in general, and of our own lodge in particular, but may prepare yourselves, by practically knowing those duties, to require their proper fulfilment on the part of your subordinates, when you in turn become rulers in the Craft. Not till then, however, will you be able entirely to appreciate the importance of good and accurate working, its effect on the novitiates, its advantage to the lodge; for fluency, impressiveness, and precision on the part of a Master are of little avail, unless he be well seconded by those who sustain the minor but not less important parts of the ceremonies, so that all may mutually dovetail into each other, and form a compact whole. I entreat of you, therefore, to spare no pains adequately to prepare yourselves, and to allow no feeling that you are intruding on my time to prevent your application to me for assistance in private, assuring you in all sincerity that I shall consider no amount of trouble too great, in order to accomplish the object.

A few of you who have combined to form this new lodge, know well by experience the responsibilities resting on the Master. You are at least my equals in Masonic position and knowledge, and there is one who is greatly my superior. To you, as Past Masters, I shall be entitled to look for advice, assistance, and support, which I am sure you will accord to me whenever required, and I feel honoured in having such a privilege from the commencement. All of you, however, have had some experience of Freemasonry in another part of the island; you may be supposed to

be conversant with its advantages; the willingness with which you have united on the present occasion, show that while not neglecting or diminishing your interests in those branches of our beloved institution in which you first saw the light, you are anxious to extend those advantages to others, and to spread the benefits of the Craft in a district where they have been unknown for some considerable time past. It has been said that Freemasonry in Jersey was first planted in the little town in which we are now assembled, while others dispute the accuracy of the statement; which opinion is correct I have not been acquainted with the island sufficiently long to determine. I find that the number 360, said to have been that of the lodge formerly existing here, is a blank in the calendar. The warrant, therefore, must have been lost; at any rate, it was preceded by the Yarborough Lodge (No. 202), which still survives and flourishes, as testified by the honour paid us in having some of its members present on this occasion. The question is of little consequence, however, but there is no doubt that at a former period our rites were practised in this western district.

We then, to make an allusion to one of our beautiful allegories, have come from the East to the West to seek for that which has been lost. May we be able to find it; may we succeed in proving that the sacred truths of Freemasonry can produce a solid effect upon the inhabitants of this town and neighbourhood; and, while leading them to a knowledge of our mysteries, by joining our ranks, cause them to develope and illustrate those hidden virtues and moralities, which our Craft teaches us to cultivate and admire. Among the foremost of these is Charity, a leading feature of our system, which we shall this day have an opportunity of displaying, by contributing towards a local institution for the instruction of the young,—of those who are destined hereafter to fill our places,—while at the same time we shall not be unwilling openly to evince the religious tendency of our science, by joining in thanksgiving to the Great Architect of the Universe for his manifold mercies, by praising him for his goodness, by adoring him as our Creator, our constant benefactor and preserver, our redeemer, and our final judge. Brethren, by such means it is that we shall disarm prejudice, remove doubts, win esteem. In the address usually delivered to a candidate on his initiation, he is strictly charged, when reminded of his duties to God, to his neighbour, and to himself, to implore divine aid in all his lawful undertakings. I cannot conceive a more fitting occasion for us to unite in such a public act, accompanied by contributions for a charitable purpose, than the present, thus carrying out the injunctions on the first two of these points, when we have just consecrated this lodge previous to entering on the duties connected with it, and showing to those who this day join our ranks, as well as to those of the external world who witness a portion of our proceedings, that ours are not mere empty professions, to be forgotten on again resuming our respective stations in life. I know that there are some in this district, as there are many elsewhere, who regard us with suspicion, nay, who even impute to us sinister motives, immoral and licentious objects, and communion with evil spirits. In one of his works, the Rev. Bro. Dr. Oliver tells the following story, the

truth of which we have no right to question, coming as it does from a clergyman of no mean standing, and a writer of much celebrity.

"I once initiated a Welsh rector, who was full of the Horatian urbanity as he could hold. Alas! he is gone to the world of spirits, and a better man does not occupy his place. He told me before he was made, in his off hand way, that being desirous of a private interview with his Sataanic majesty, he sought initiation as the most probable means of attaining his point; for he understood that he was found in *propria persona* at our meetings, and amused the brethren by beating a tattoo on the board with his hoofs. These then constitute some of the absurd conjectures of those unquiet spirits, who are ever restless in their search after facts which constantly elude their grasp. One half the time and talent which they bestow upon the acquisition of illegal knowledge, where their toil cannot fail to be fruitless, would, if they had received initiation, like my friend the rector, and their inquiries been directed into a legitimate channel, have converted them into good and worthy brothers, and given them an insight into the poetry and philosophy of Masonry."

Brethren, we may be amused at the credulity of those who know us not, but we must at the same time grieve over, and endeavour to remove it, by all legitimate means. You may imagine that on such an occasion as the present, the story I have quoted is irrelevant and out of place. You will probably, however, take a different view, when I inform you that a similar imputation has been recently cast upon us by some not far from our place of meeting, on whom, therefore, it must be ours to bring our best influences to bear, by scrupulously abstaining from every act which may attach discredit to the fraternity, by exhibiting in our daily conduct deeds of love and mercy, not ostentatiously paraded, but as the general habit of our lives. Permit me then to appeal to you, and to charge you to keep this object steadily in view.

It was my desire to bring to bring a variety of subjects before you on this the first day of our constitutional existence as a lodge, but time fails. I fear I have trespassed too long on your patience, and we have yet much profitable occupation before we separate. I will, therefore, briefly allude to one other point, the importance and beneficial tendency of a regard to which I have proved in my limited domestic circle. As the ladies of our respective families are necessarily unable to appreciate our system beyond the effect it produces on ourselves, or to take part in our proceedings, it is not only fair, but an imperative duty, that we should carefully avoid any and every infringement on their comfort and happiness. I have met with many instances in which the importunities and fears of a wife or a sister, have prevented the husband or the brother from seeking admission to our ranks. Hence a serious objection to protracted meetings and late hours, to which I desire it to be understood at the outset, as your appointed Master, that I can be no party, and that I shall deem it a duty to discourage them in others. Thus it happens that I find at home a generous partisan of our Order, instead of a bitter opponent, as would have been the case had I pursued a different course. Allow me, therefore, to press this upon your serious consideration.

In conclusion, let me offer to the members of St.

Aubin's Lodge (No. 1260), my congratulations on the facilities which have been afforded to us in many ways, not only by some among ourselves, but also by those belonging to other lodges, who have generously tendered their contributions to our as yet limited furniture, as well as their moral support, thus evincing an interest in our undertaking. Especially is our gratitude due to the R.W. the Prov. G.M. of Jersey, for several distinct acts of kindness; to his daughter, Miss Hammond, for a valuable present, one quite in keeping with her well-known regard for sacred things, no less an addition to our lodge, than the volume of the sacred law, the first and most important of our emblematical lights, that which is to be at once the basis and the guide of all our proceedings, which will, if studied in conformity with our authoritative Masonic precepts, direct our steps in the paths of happiness, and teach us the whole duty of man. To the Césarée Lodge (No. 860), do we owe thanks, for the cheerfulness and promptitude with which our request for a recommendation, as required by the *Book of Constitutions*, was complied with; to Bros. James and Charles Johnson, Past Masters, and Bro. Rogers, who have kindly presented portions of our apparatus. In every instance a personal appeal to any one of our own number has been met by a ready compliance. These I need not particularise. Let it be our endeavour to show that these benefits have not been misplaced, by ourselves acting in close conformity with the constitutions of the fraternity; by making ourselves practical illustrations of the beauties of Freemasonry; by refraining to admit any to a participation in our privileges, secrets, and mysteries, unless we have strong ground to believe that they will reflect honour on our choice; by making the sacred volume our study and rule of conduct; by being good citizens, good members of families in domestic life; and by imprinting indelibly on our minds the sacred dictates of truth, of honour, and of virtue.

THE TEACHINGS OF FREEMASONRY.

The following Oration was delivered at the consecration of St. Aubin's Lodge (No. 1260), Jersey, by Bro. Dr. Hopkins, W.M., P.M. 51, &c.

Right Worshipful Sir, your Excellency, Provincial Grand Officers, and Brethren,—It is customary for an oration on some leading feature of our institution to be delivered at the close of the ceremony of consecration. I have been selected, probably as a ruler in the Craft of some standing, and as this day again entering on active duty, to meet the requirement, though with an injunction to be brief. Being unwilling to depart from the general rule, I comply with the desire, from which, however, I should have been glad to be exempt, because I had already prepared an inaugural address, not suited to this occasion, but which will find an appropriate place at a later stage of our proceedings. Bear with me then for a few minutes only, that the custom may be honoured, for I conceive that order, as "Heaven's first law," is one of the primary features of Freemasonry, and that the tendency of the whole system is to foster and illustrate it. Hence it is that we have certain landmarks from which no departure is allowed, serving as means for the perpetuation of our peculiarities and mysteries, as beacons to point out our path, as warnings to prevent our going astray, as safeguards against unauthorised intrusion, as tend-

ing to promote united and undeviating action, and thereby to increase our power for good; little can be accomplished by desultory efforts, but when they are combined with energy, with perseverance, with a determination to concentrate them on one point, experience shows that no result is so great as to be unattainable; this is especially the case with our science, which, while it produces an effect on the lives and actions of all its votaries in their individual capacity, maintains a general harmony in the whole body, however extensively spread, the varied results of which often excite the wonder and the admiration of the external world, who yet lack the courage to join our ranks. And what are the results of which Freemasonry is capable, and which may be reasonably expected from it? They are so numerous, that the bare catalogue of them would exceed our present limits. Let us mention a few only; the inculcation of a perfect system of morality; the breaking down of many of those barriers which set nation against nation, sect against sect; the elevation of the soul to God and a nearer approach to his perfections; the preparation for a future immortal state of existence; instruction in our duties towards our fellow-men; the leading of the mind in the paths of virtue and science; the practice of universal beneficence and charity, in act as well as in word, in its broadest and most comprehensive sense, of which the relief of distress is the most common, but by no means the most important form; the expansion of our intellectual faculties; the power of using the good things of this world and not abusing them, and making them subservient to the highest objects.

By what means are the teachings of Masonry carried on? In great measure by symbolism and allegory that form which in the earliest ages was best adapted to the state of the human intellect, and the then condition of mankind. It is alleged, however, by our opponents, that with the extension of knowledge, and in an advanced state of society such a mode of instruction is no longer applicable, and that we need no figures of imagery in order to impress our minds with all that is good and noble, to give us an idea of the power, the glory, the majesty of the Divine essence, and to bring our hearts into communion with God. This cannot be the case, we cannot dispense with such a mode of teaching, so long as the sacred volume exists, and is made our study and our guide, for in the course of that study we cannot fail to catch some of the inspiration of the men of olden times; we must receive a portion of their poetic fire; we must become impressed with that bold and glowing imagery which pervades all their writings, a portion of which it transferred to Freemasonry, and indeed constitutes its very foundation. To such as tell us that we have little to do with these things, and that Christianity has superseded the old economy, we would reply that we are authoritatively told to "search the scriptures" which pertain to the dealings of God with his creatures in the early stages of the world, and that the very last book of the New Testament forbids us, by its style and character, to dispense with that peculiar mode of operating on the heart and the intellect.

My own experience tells me that whereas, on initiation into our mysteries, all appeared strange, dark, and incomprehensible—whereas the symbolical teachings, when not yet understood, seemed of but little

value, and incapable of producing even a temporary, much less a lasting, effect on the understanding and on the conscience, by degrees, their beauty, their power, their aptitude, became more and more appreciable, and it is my firm conviction that that heart must indeed be cold and dead which cannot derive benefit from a constant regard of them, from inquiry into their hidden meaning, and from the instruction conveyed in their moral application. Let it be fully understood that the Masonic obligations abrogate nothing from Divine truth, from the influence of Christian principles. They furnish additional motives to purity of life and conduct, of which frail human nature stands greatly in need, for different minds receive impressions of infinite variety, and the more numerous the incentives to virtue, the more likely is it that the main object will be attained.

It is very easy for those who understand us not, to sneer at our symbols and allegories, to make light of our pretensions, as a newspaper critic has done in a review of one of my Masonic publications, in the following terms:—

"The Doctor gravely argues that a man acquires deeper views of the watchfulness of Providence, by contemplating at his lodge meetings a glaring eye, such as that which Grimstone uses to illustrate the advertisements of his eye snuff; that a useful lesson in moderation is inculcated by fixing observation upon a pair of Masonic compasses, which, if true, would render architects' journeymen the most prudent and economical individuals in existence; that a man walks all the more uprightly for having a plummet-line always in his mind's eye, as is the case with bricklayers' labourers; and that morality is ensured by the occasional inspection of a builder's square."

This short extract from a long article is sufficient to show the animus of the writer. Setting aside the form of ridicule with which he has invested these remarks, we confess we are "puerile" enough to assert that the habit of "observation" just described, if carried out by the aid of Masonic light, and in the spirit of docility, inquiry, and a desire to receive practical benefit therefrom, would conduce to the advantages named. Let the man who can so treat the matter as a jest enter our Order and pursue the study into its varied ramifications, moral, social, intellectual, and philosophical, and we verily believe he would repent in sackcloth and ashes. Nay, more, we have seen those who "came to scoff remain to pray." We have witnessed instances in which light and irreverent conduct on first entering the precincts of the lodge at initiation have speedily been laid aside, yielding to impressions which no thoughtful mind and plastic heart can resist.

Freemasonry is aptly described as "a peculiar system of morality, veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols." Yes, it is especially so; but those allegories and those symbols will be useless to each of us, as to those referred to by the critic whose words have been quoted, if we study them not by the aid of our science, if we remain content with the good fellowship, the kindheartedness, the benevolence, which are also characteristics of the Order. We are instructed to know ourselves, to dive into the inmost recesses of our hearts, "to keep down all vain and inordinate desires," to probe our consciences, to obey their gentle whispers, to regard our relation to the

Eternal, and to form the most lofty conceptions of that Divine Being, who, in the figurative language of the sacred law, "rideth on a swift cloud," who "is seen in the whirlwind and the storm;" and who "hath prepared his throne for judgment." Let us look to it that we neglect not so to cultivate the science as to obtain at least some of the advantages which it affords. I have had time merely to glance at one important feature of our institution, and now conclude by requesting you, my brethren, not to consider what has been said as an exposition, but merely as a text, which may expand to an unlimited extent; and the more you do so, the better will you be enabled to comprehend the true end and aim of Freemasonry, to carry out its spirit, to understand its hidden mysteries, to believe in its Divine origin, to appreciate its privileges, to render it practically useful to yourselves, and to make its influence felt in the world.

HER MAJESTY'S FATHER ON MASONIC TEMPLAR Y.

[Sir Knt. J. Rankin Stebbing alluded, at the last meeting of Grand Conclave, to a letter he had seen from Prince Edward to Sir Knt. Dunckerley, M.E. and S.G.M. The original is in the possession of Sir Knt. Forbes, of Portsmouth, and is addressed to Bro. Dunckerley, who was Prov. Grand Master and Grand Commander of Hampshire, besides two or three adjoining provinces. It is very interesting as shewing the view of Freemasonry entertained by the illustrious father of her present Majesty and Grandfather of the Prince of Wales, as well as the close connection between Grand Lodge and Knight Templar. The following is the letter referred to:—

The following letter from Prince Edward was read in open chapter, on the return of the knights companions from the Temple Church, when a Grand Conclave was opened.

Quebeck, 27th October, 1792.

"Dear Mr. Dunkerley,—I have the pleasure of acknowledging the receipt of your two kind letters of the 28th May and 21st July. I request that you express to the noble Knights my particular thanks for their most acceptable present of your portrait; it is a masterpiece of execution and extremely like. You may be assured that I value it doubly, as being their gift, and remembrance of you. I hope you are sufficiently acquainted with my sentiment of regard and esteem for your person, so that I trust my repetition on that head will be needless. Nothing gives me greater pleasure than to hear of the advancement of that Order, which, in my humble opinion, is of all Masonry the most valuable. I believe I mentioned to you at Carlton House my good predilections for the lodges of that high order, being decorated with complete hangings adapted to the class of the Craft. Pray let me have your opinion and that of the Knights on the subject, for on my return to England, which I hope will be in 1794, or 1795, I should be pleased to find this idea carried into execution for the Grand Conclave. I have received the different Masonic papers with which you favoured me. In answer to your kind inquiries after my health, I have the pleasure of informing you that it continues good, notwithstanding the prodigious variation in this climate from the month of June to that of October. I shall now, with the sincerest wishes for your health and happiness, conclude with subscribing myself,

"Your most truly, devoted,
"and obedient humble Servant and Brother,
"EDWARD, Colonel of the Royal Fusiliers.

"Thomas Dunkerley, Esq."

It is desirable to know into whose hands the papers, &c., of the late Joseph Hume, M.P., fell at his decease, for as he was the active and worthy executor of his late Royal Highness, the Duke of Kent, there might, possibly, be preserved some of Dunckerley's letters and other

Masonic correspondence amongst them, and, if so, no doubt a respectful application would be met with a permission to take copies of them. Who can tell where Dunckerley's portrait, for which the Prince returns thanks, is to be seen now?

MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

THE HIGH GRADES IN 1731.

Within a very few days a charter, empowering certain high grade Freemasons to confer the Rose Croix and 30th degrae, dated 1721, and signed by Prince Charles Edward Stuart (James III. as he was called by his adherents in 1715), with a very perfect seal of the chapter of Arras, was placed in my hands as a curiosity worthy of attention. Its possessor has also, in his collection, several letters of Charles I., in which Freemasonry is distinctly mentioned. I am not at liberty, at present, to say more, but I hope this note will be acceptable to Delta who has written so learnedly and conclusively on the antiquity of Masonic degrees.—MATTHEW COOKE.

ANCIENT YORK MASONS.

An old Masonic writer says "the ancient York Masons and their constitution, was entirely dropt at the revival of the English Grand Lodge in 1717." By whom was the York rite dropped, so entirely except by Sayer, Desaguliers, and Co.? Was not York Masonry English Masonry? The inference to be drawn from the quotation above is, that it was not. The Yorkshire brethren of the present day are said to be the most bright of all Masons, does this follow from their being the descendants and countrymen of the old York Masons?—J.T.W.—[The York rite has never been dropped, it is in daily use and flourishing in more than half the universe. The passage is ambiguous, the writer intended to make the Grand Lodge of 1717 the Grand Lodge of England, in opposition to the Grand Lodge of York, and expressed himself so awkwardly as to produce a momentary doubt, such as occurred to J.T.W., but his meaning cannot really be misunderstood. There is no question as to the Masonic talent of the Yorkshire brethren, but there are, in every province, quite as bright Masons as they, and as to their connection with the old York rite it is as nothing.]

THE MAINWARINGS.

A brother some time ago made inquiry respecting the Mainwarings:—"The only child of Joshua Radcliffe, Esq., of Todmorden, married Roger Mainwaring, of Kerringham, in the county of Chester, who dissipated the possessions, and, about the year 1700, sold the Todmorden estates."—Baines. Δ.

SUPPRESSION OF RELIGIOUS ESTABLISHMENTS.

In a short account of York, I find the following respecting the "Pilgrims of Grace," which account is extracted chiefly from Grand Master Drake's *Eboracum*; it may help us to a proper understanding of the secret meetings and secret methods of the York brotherhood, as well as the interference of Elizabeth in 1561 (two years after the second dissolution of the Order of St. John). Was the Order of St. John revived at York during the reign of Mary? Could any brother give me proof, previously to 1787, that York Templary included the Order of St. John? This is denied by some, whilst on the other hand it appears probable such was the case; and wherever the York degrees are practised, the two Orders are united; under any circumstances the Templars must have been the predominant element in the North. I trust no attempt will be made to make the Order of Malta a higher degree, as the Templars were always considered the more noble order.

Judging from the minutes of the Scottish lodges, previously to Bro. Desagulier's visit to Edinburgh, the meetings in the crypt could not apply to a craft lodge. Also, I would observe that if our present ceremonies were pos-

sessed by the craft masons, our master's degree, according to the minutes and even to the sense of its own legend, must necessarily have been the Fellows' Ceremony. What, then, was the speculative masters' ceremony? It is not sufficient to refer me to the ceremonies established after 1717, because there is ample evidence that the best part of the speculative ceremonies, as practised centuries before, were omitted, and it is useless attempting to conceal the fact that, until a very recent period, all Masonry was Christianity. It is rather singular De Quincey should fix on the date 1646 as the period when the Rosicrucians assumed the name of Freemasons. These Rosicrucians had several degrees, and was it not about that period the Templars, Free and Accepted Masons, &c., in England, claimed to represent —by some supposed imaginary—fraternity of the Cross of Roses?

"From this period the annals of York contain scarcely any important transaction, till the year 1536, the 27th Henry VIII., when the suppression of the monasteries and the progress of the Reformation excited a great sensation in the northern counties. The suppression of the religious houses inflicted a terrible blow on the grandeur of York. In the reign of Henry V., this city contained, besides the Cathedral, 41 parish churches, 17 chapels, 16 hospitals, and 9 religious houses, including the noble Abbey of St. Mary, without Boothwood Bar. No sooner, says Drake, was the word given, than down fell the monasteries, priories, chapels, and hospitals in this city, and with them, for company, I suppose, 18 parish churches, the material revenues of all being converted to secular uses. The lazars, sick and old people were turned out of hospitals, and priests and nuns out of religious houses, to starve or beg their bread. The natural consequences of such sweeping and indiscriminate reforms was to excite a spirit of rebellion, and in Yorkshire a formidable insurrection was raised by Robert Aske, a gentleman of considerable fortune, who possessed great influence in the county. The other chief persons concerned were Sir Robert Constable, Sir John Bulmer, Sir Thomas Percy, Sir Stephen Hamilton, Nicholas Tempest, and Wm. Lumley, Esquires. Their enterprise they called 'the Pilgrimage of Grace,' and they swore that they were moved by no other motive than their love to God, their care of the King's person and issue, their desire to purify the nobility, to drive base-born persons from about the King, to restore the Church, and to suppress heresy. Allured by these pretensions about 40,000 men, from the counties of York, Durham, and Lancaster, flocked to their standard, and their zeal, no less than their numbers, inspired the Court with apprehensions. When the army was put in motion, a number of priests marched at their head, in the habits of their Order, carrying crosses in their hands; in their banners was woven a crucifix, with the representation of a chalice, and the five wounds of Christ, and they wore on their sleeve an emblem of the five wounds with the name of Jesus wrought in the middle. All that joined them took the oath that they entered into this Pilgrimage of Grace for the love of God, the preservation of the King's person, the restitution of the Church, and suppression of heretics. The rebels succeeded in taking both Hull and York, and laid siege to Pontefract Castle, in which the Archbishop and Lord Darcy, at the head of a body of the King's troops, had thrown themselves. The Castle speedily surrendered, and the Prelate and the noblemen joined the insurrection. The Duke of Norfolk, at the head of a small army of 5000 men was sent against the rebels, and the King issued a proclamation, in which he told them that they ought no more to pretend to give a judgment with regard to Government than a blind man with regard to colours! and we, he added, 'with our whole council, think it right, strange that ye, who are but brutes and inexpert folks, do take upon you to appoint us who be meet or not for our

council.' The Duke of Norfolk encamped near Doncaster, where he entered into a negotiation with the rebels, which was protracted till the Pilgrims of Grace, reduced almost to a state of famine and dispirited by the recent rising of the Don, at two different times, when they meditated an attack, began to disperse and suffered their leaders to be taken prisoners. Some of them with the abbots of Fountains, Jervaux, and Rivalx, were executed at Tyburn. Sir Robert Constable was hanged in chains over Beverly gate, at Hull; Lord Darcy was beheaded on Tower Hill; and Aske, the leader of the insurrection, was suspended from a tower, probably Clifford's Tower, at York. Yorkshire, during the reign of Mary, surnamed the Bloody, enjoyed repose, and it does not appear that this ancient city was the scene of any of her persecutions. The long and splendid reign of Elizabeth affords few materials for the historian of York. In her reign, a rebellion broke out in the north, headed by Thomas Percy, Earl of Northumberland, and Charles Nevil, Earl of Westmoreland, the object of which was to restore the Roman Catholic religion. The failure of this enterprise involved many of the conspirators in ruin, and on Good Friday, the 27th March, 1570, Simon Digby of Askew, and John Fulthorpe, of Issebeck, Esquires, with Robert Penneyman, of Stokesly, and Thomas Bishop, of Pockington, gentlemen, were drawn from the Castle of York, to Knavesmire, and there hanged, headed, and quartered. To strike terror into the inhabitants, their heads with four quarters, were set up in different other parts of the country. The Earl of Westmoreland found means to escape out of the country, but Northumberland was taken, and being attainted by Parliament, was beheaded August 22nd, 1572, on a scaffold erected in the pavement, at York, and his head set on a high pole, on Micklegate bar. This was the last open attempt made to restore the Roman Catholic religion in this kingdom.—△

ALCHEMY AND ROSICRUCIANISM.

The following may interest some of your readers:—"The science of alchemy and transmutation of metals,—that *igneus fatuus* which always exhibits a dawn, but never produces the fruition of day, had the honour to rank among his votaries Henry VI., the unfortunate representative of the House of Lancaster (1458). Though he had, on a former occasion, commissioned three philosophers to make the precious metals, without receiving any return from them in gold and silver, his credulity, like that of many wiser men, was unshaken by disappointment, and he issued a pompous grant in favour of three other alchymists, who boasted that they could not only transmute the inferior metals into gold and silver, but could also impart to men perpetual youth, with unimpaired powers of mind and body by means of a specific, called *The mother and Queen of medicines, the inestimable glory, the quintessence, or the elixir of life*. In favour of these three "lovers of truth and haters of deception" as they modestly styled themselves, Henry displeased with the law passed by his royal grandfather against the undue multiplication of gold and silver, empowered them to transmute other metals into those more precious ones. This extraordinary commission had the sanction of parliament, and two out of the three commissioners, there is little reason to doubt were the heads of leading families in Lancashire, Sir Thomas Ashton, of Ashton-under-Lyne, and Sir Edmund Trafford, of Trafford. The two worthy knights obtained a patent in the 24th of Henry VI., 'for making alchemy and changing several metals.' These sages imposing probably upon themselves, as well as upon others, kept the King's expectation wound up to the highest pitch; and in the following year he actually informed his people that the happy hour was approaching, when, by the means of the stone, he would be able to pay off all his debts." Following *Baine's History*, we again hear of these sages in connection with the establishment of the

Manchester Grammar School, April 1st, 1624, the trust deed containing, amongst others, the names of "Edmund Trafford, the Alchemist, and Richard Aston, son of his coadjutor." The College of Manchester was dissolved during the regency of Edward VI., but renewed in 1558, and comprehended one ward priest, B.D.; four fellow priests, B.A.; two chaplains, or vicars, and four children skilled in music. Dr. Chaderton succeeded John Wolton, and held the wardership of Manchester College till 1595, when he was succeeded by John Dee, A.M., the friend of Camden, and a celebrated mathematician. This divine was addicted to the occult sciences. Some few months ago you favoured your readers with a most valuable extract from the papers of this learned Rosicrucian brother, and there can be very little doubt that the *Rite of Rose Criox of Heredom* has been conferred, in Manchester, from a very distant period, as the *Jerusalem Conclave* claims to have met in Manchester from time immemorial as the head of that rite.—▽

THE KNIGHTS OF ST. JOHN OF JERUSALEM.

(Ird S. iii. 270, 289.)

I thought that the extinction of the English Langue of the Order of the Knights of Malta was now an admitted fact, and the insignia, when now conferred upon English subjects, must be considered in the same light as that of any other foreign Order.

You seem, however, to have correspondents interested upon the subject, and having some time since endeavoured to learn the history of the separation of the English from the other Langues, I send you the result at which I arrive, and which led to the conclusion that the English Langue does not exist under any legal foundation, nor is it recognised by the governing authorities of the surviving foreign Langues.

The Order of St. John of Jerusalem, once the most celebrated equestrian Order, combining a military with a religious character, and possessed originally of large revenues, has been known throughout Europe under the several designations of Knights Hospitallers of St. John, Knights of Rhodes, and Knights of Malta.

From its earliest foundation, an English branch or Langue of this Order was united to the original body, and the Grand Prior of England, under the title of "The Prior of St. John of Jerusalem," had place and seat in Parliament. The Order is said to have been introduced into Scotland under King David I. (1124), and into Ireland by the Earl of Pembroke about 1174.

The house or hospital of the English branch was at Clerkenwell, and the Order was countenanced by the pontiff and every potentate in Europe.

In the commencement of the fourteenth century (1322), the Order, by a decree of its chapter held at Montpelier (or Avignon, as some writers say), was divided into seven Langues or nations; and in that council England was placed sixth in rank, and soon afterwards an eighth division was made called Castile and Portugal, so that the Langues or nations stood thus:—

Three French—1. Provence; 2. Auvergne; 3. France; 4. Italian: 5. Spanish or Aragon; 6. English; 7. German; 8. Castile and Portugal. After a lapse of four centuries the overthrow of this independent Order has been in great degree accomplished.

The last locality of the Knights as a body was Malta, and its sovereign independence was considered extinguished when Napoleon Buonaparte, in 1798, took possession of that island, and confiscated the estates and revenues of the remaining Knights, who were disunited, and had degenerated from their former greatness.

The Order within the limits of France had ceased to exist by an enactment of the Constituent Assembly in 1792, Rohau, elected in 1775, being at that time Grand Master. By the capitulation of June 12, 1798, with the French (Ferdinand de Hompesch then Grand Master), Malta was lost to the Order; but it is alleged that the supreme executive authority remained vested in the Grand Mastership and Sacred Council of the Order, and that the

overthrow of the Order by its expulsion from Malta did not affect any one existing language more than another.

Rohan, in 1797, foreseeing and fearing the intentions of the Directory of the French Republic to seize upon Malta, had sought the protection of the court of Russia for the falling brotherhood, but he died on the 13th July, before Baili Count de Litta (whom he had despatched to St. Petersburg) returned. Ferdinand de Hompesch was elected in his place Grand Master; he was a member of the German Langue, had been ambassador of the Order at the court of Vienna, and afterwards Grand Bailiff of Brandenburgh, Chief of the Anglo-Bavarian Langue, added to the Order in 1782.

The Emperor Paul had just succeeded to the crown, and yielding to Rohan's solicitations, restored to the Order their possessions in Poland, which had fallen to Russia upon the partition of that kingdom, and converted the Polish Priory, largely augmented in revenue, into a Russian Priory. On November 29, the Emperor was decorated with the Grand Cross of the Order, and assumed the title of "Protector of the Order of Malta."

The great body of the knighthood, who, upon their expulsion from Malta became destitute, proceeded to Russia, the emperor having retained the title of "Protector of the Order;" and although the Grand Master, Hompesch, was the undoubted head, they assembled in conclave, and elected the emperor Grand Master on October 27th, 1727*

The Emperor Paul died in 1801, when Alexander, his successor, convened a council of the Order of St. Petersburg (which called itself the "Sovereign Council of the Order") on June 22 in that year, wherein a substitute was proposed for the original mode of election of the Grand Mastership, as required by the condition in which the Order was then placed. The nomination from amongst the names contained in the several lists to be returned being left to the Pope, as supreme chief of the Romish Church, and as superior of all religious orders. Under this decree John de Tomasi was named by the Pope Grand Master, and he resided at Catania until his death, in 1805, since which period the executive functions of the Order have been carried on by lieutenants of the Master in succession, down to his Excellency Count Colleredo, Lieutenant, who succeeded in 1847, but now deceased.

Whether the nomination of the Emperor Paul was informal or imperfect, from the fact of Hompesch being alive, and not having resigned or surrendered his office of Grand Master, or from a want of the proper elements necessary to a valid election under the statutes, I cannot say; but it is clear that the Emperor Paul was proclaimed Grand Master, exercised the office, and was recognised as Grand Master of the Sovereign Order by the English Government, by sanctioning the grant on September 20, 1799, of a licence, at the instance of his imperial Majesty, to Captain Homes Rigg Popham, R.N., to receive and bear in his own country the insignia of Commander and Knight of the Sacred Sovereign Order, which his Imperial Majesty had in that character conferred upon that officer.

Under this view the original institution or fraternity of the Knights Hospitallers of St. John would seem never to have ceased, although there was a defalcation or extinction of some of the original Langues or nations. The executive, now residing at Rome, has at this time a minister received at Vienna as representative of this Sovereign Order, which still bears the character more of a religious than an equestrian Order.

The Emperor's acceptance of office is dated November

* The proclamation states the members taking part were only the Bailiffs, Grand Crosses, Commanders, and Knights of the Russian Priory, with all other members of the Order of St. John then present in St. Petersburg, being no doubt the fugitive members from Malta. At the time of the cession of Malta, there were in the convent the following knights:—Of the three French Langues, 200; Italian, 90; Spanish, 25; Portuguese, 8; German, 4; Anglo-Bavarian, 5; total, 382. Of which number, 280 were capable of bearing arms.

13, 1798, Hompesch not actually resigning until July 6, 1799. His Imperial Majesty erected a new Russian Priory for such of his subjects as were members of the Greek Church, in addition to that which existed for those of the Church of Rome within his kingdom.

The English Langue of the Order flourished under a Grand Prior for England during three centuries and a half, until its destruction in the reign of King Henry the Eighth. In April, 1540, an Act of Parliament passed, vesting in the Crown all the possessions, castles, manors, churches, houses, &c., of the Order of St. John. The site of its Priory and its precincts were granted away. Out of its revenues certain provisions were made for the late Prior, Sir Richard Weston, the last legitimate Grand Prior. Queen Mary, by charter, April 2, 1551, restored, replaced, and refounded the said Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem in England, under the same title of St. John of Clerkenwell, which it possessed before the said dissolution, and appointed Sir Thomas Tresham, Knight, Prior of the said Hospital, and Richard Shelley, Turcopoliere of the Turcopoliere, &c., and other persons, who were formed into a body corporate, with perpetual succession, under the title of the "Prior and Brethren of the Hospital of St. John in Jerusalem," and at the same time transferred to them the possessions formerly vested in the Order, then in the hands of the Crown.

It is very questionable whether the charter of Queen Mary, incorporating the Prior, Bailiff, and Commanders of the Hospital of St. John, can be construed to revive or constitute a corporation of the English language: it is to be observed that the knights were not included in this charter of incorporation, though they formed part of the Langue of England.

The question then arises as to how the society in London has acquired any position, and by what means the English Langue, said to be extinguished in the reign of Elizabeth, has been attempted to be revived.

The last Grand Prior sat the 1 and 2 parliament of Queen Elizabeth; but in the year 1559 that Queen destroyed the Langue of the Order, and it has ever since remained in a defunct state until an attempt made in 1782 by the Grand Master, De Rohan, to revive it, by combining it with that of Bavaria under the title of the "Anglo-Bavarian Langue;" but this does not in any way assist the case of the society alluded to.

In the preface to a tract entitled *The Ritual of Profession of the Knights and Religious Ladies*, by John Bowyer, Esq., M.P., and Knight of the Order (now Sir George Bowyer), it is stated, page 6, that in the year 1811 "a commission of the Langues of Provence, Auvergne, and France was constituted at Paris, with faculties from the Grand Mastership and Sacred Council (as appears from the bull registered in the Chancery of the Order at Rome) to administer the affairs of those three Langues. It was presided over by the Baili de Clugny, and then by Prince Camille de Rohan, Grand Prior of Aquitaine." This commission at first did many things for the benefit of the Order, but the Prince de Rohan having died, and the other surviving chiefs of the commission having become old and incapable, its affairs fell into the hands of an unprincipled secretary, who made a most illegal and dishonest use of the authority of the commission, and even usurped powers belonging to the Grand Master and Sacred Council, the only Supreme Executive authority of the Order. It has been stated (we know not whether truly) that three different instruments were given under colour of the authority of the commission, bearing dates respectively June 14, 1826, August 24 and October 15, 1827, purporting to re-establish the extinct or dormant Langue of England, and it has been alleged that the objects of those instruments were carried into execution by divers acts between 1826 and 1831.

In the year 1825, the proceedings above referred to were made known to the Grand Mastership and Sacred Council, who then recalled and annulled the faculties of the commission of Paris, and declared void, and protested

against its acts and proceedings. Thus ended the unfortunate Paris commission; but the secretary and some of his associates contumaciously set the authority of the Order at defiance, declared themselves a permanent chapter, and among other things, it is said, executed the instruments above referred to.

The commission had no power regarding England, and against the proceedings of this society the protest of the Vice-Chancellor and Secretary of the Order, now exercising its functions at Rome, is directed. They protest against the Knights so nominated by the said society in England being considered as having, either in reference to the origin of the Order or at any later period, being connected with its personal composition or its action, and maintain that the Langues of Italy and Germany are the only ones which retain a legitimate existence according to the statutes, with a reservation in respect to the Grand Bailliewick of Brandenburgh.

The alleged revival of the Order by any proceedings taken by Sir Robert Peat as an individual, in 1834, before the Chief Justice, must be a mistake. Sir Robert Peat, moreover, was not elected by competent authority. The property acquired by the Hospital under this charter was seized by Queen Elizabeth in 1559, and the body corporate extinguished. Nothing but a re-grant from the Crown could restore vitality to the corporation.

The assumption of the power of creating or electing Knights of St. John by the society in London, called "The Sovereign Order of St. John of Jerusalem Angliae," seems to be without authority.

On reference to a copy of the Treaty of Amiens, March 25, 1802, especial reference will be found to the subject, under Article X., No. 2, by which it seems declared that there should no longer be recognised either a French or an English Langue, viz.:—

"The Government of the French Republic and of Great Britain, desirous to place the Order and island of Malta in a state of entire independence with respect to themselves, agree that there shall not be in future either a French or an English Langue, and that no individual belonging to either the one or the other of these powers shall be admitted into the Order."

—J. R.

[I can inform "Historicus," on the authority of a letter from the late Sir Richard Broun, "Grand Secretary to the Langue of England," that the principal agent ("The Agent General employed by the French authorities," he styles him) of the *soi-disant* French Commission of 1826-7 in the work of re-establishing the said "Langue," was an army tailor, named Currie, who kept a shop in Waterloo-place, where he dealt in tartans, and such like Scottish gear.

I have every reason to believe that the same Mr. Currie was the "Envoy Extraordinary representing the Continental authorities," mentioned in the *Synoptical Sketch*, who assisted at a chapter of the "English Knights," held on January 29th, 1831 (*vide* "N. and Q.", 3rd S. iii. 271).

Indeed, Mr. Currie told me himself that he had acted officially as the agent of the Order in France (*i. e.*, the *soi-disant* Capitular Commission) in other affair: and Sir Richard Broun, in his letter, says, that neither he (Sir R. B.) nor the "English Langues" had ever any personal knowledge of any of the French Knights.

"Historicus" also inquires what and who was the *Mandataire Général*, the Baron Notred de St. Lys? and whether he was the same individual who figured, in 1858, before the Correctional Police in Paris for trafficking in titles and decorations? Perhaps the following extract from Sir R. Broun's letter may enlighten him on that point:—

"Our papers of late have contained paragraphs relating to the discoveries made in Paris as to the traffic in titles, decorations, &c.; and I regret to see among the names of persons implicated that of the Baron Notret (*sic*) de St. Lys, with whom, some years back, we had correspondence as a *Mandataire Général* for the Langues in France, &c. Judging merely from the style of these letters (*for we have never seen any of the French Knights*

*here**), I would have supposed him to be a respectable character, more so than the Marquis de M.† I now begin to suspect that that N—— and N——‡, &c., have been imposed upon by the latter, for their diplomas came through his hands, &c."

I am afraid these disclosures will go far to make your readers conclude that, notwithstanding the grandiloquent flourish about the "French, Spanish, and Portuguese Authorities of the Order" (whose agent Mr. Currie was), and the "Executive Government of the Order concentrated in the Paris Commission" ("N. and Q." iii., 270), and the "Executive Sovereignty of the Order, which may be said to have been exercised exclusively by the six languages, &c." ("N. and Q." iii., 289), all which assertions are magnified into extraordinary importance by the writer of the *Synoptical Sketch* (Sir R. Broun), the much vaunted re-establishment of the "Venerable Language of England" has been mainly brought about through and by the instrumentalities of a Tailor, and a Chevalier d'Industrie.—INVESTIGATOR.]

THE M.W.G.M NOT A W.M.

When was the law made that the M.W.G.M. could not hold the office of W.M. of a subordinate lodge?—H.—[Where does our correspondent find any such law?]

LEISSING "DIALOGUES POUR LES FRANCMACONS."

A few words from my common place book, whence originally derived I do not know, suffice to describe this work, of one of Germany's most celebrated writers. "Lessing cherche à établir que la Francmaçonnerie n'est autre chose que le désir et les efforts de tous les gens de bien pour faire disparaître les obstacles qui s'opposent à l'union et à la bonne intelligence entre tous les hommes." —CHARLES PURTON COOPER.

KNIGHTS OF ST. JOHN AND THE FREEMASONS.

The various articles which have appeared lately in "N. and Q." on the above Order have naturally led to an inquiry which I hope some correspondent will answer. It is tolerably well known that the Order of St. John of Jerusalem has long been kept up in a certain way by the Freemasons. It forms one of the Orders of what they term Masonic Knighthood. It is not to be supposed that the real authorities of the Order have ever acknowledged this incorporation with Freemasonry; but it would be interesting to know when, and upon what occasion, it took place; and what can be the object of continuing what at best must be regarded as an assumption, if not something even less dignified.—F. C. H.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

THE PRINCE OF WALES.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER.—It has been a matter of surprise to many brethren of my acquaintance that no notice has been taken by the Masons of England of the marriage of the Prince of Wales.

Surely, from the great interest which their Royal Highnesses, the late Dukes of Sussex and Kent, the last Prince of Wales, and other members of the Royal Family took in Masonry, something should be done to testify the esteem in which they were held, either by an address to the Queen or to the Prince himself. I am informed the Irish Grand Lodge has done so. Let us hope that General Red Tape is not the gentleman who stops the way. Can you enlighten us on the subject, and oblige,

Yours fraternally,

May 20th, 1863.

A PAST MASTER.

* The italics are mine.

† I suppress names for obvious reasons.

‡ Members of the "Langue of England."

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

MASONIC MEMS.

At the meeting of the Board of Benevolence, on Wednesday last, Bro. John Creaton, P.G.D., in the chair, eleven petitioners were relieved to the extent of £135 10s., and three recommended to Grand Lodge, two for £50 and one for £30, making a total of £265 10s.

GRAND LODGE.

The business for the forthcoming Grand Lodge, will include 1. The reception of the report of the Board of General Purposes, out of which, we believe, no particular question will arise. 2. The presentation of the report of the Committee of the Grand Lodge property, stating that they have selected three of the plans deposited for the premiums offered, and asking Grand Lodge to authorise the Committee to employ the architect who has gained the first premium, to proceed with the building. 3. An appeal against a decision of the Prov. Grand Master of Quebec. 4. An appeal against a decision of the Prov. Grand Master of the Isle of Wight. 5. A communication from the Grand Lodge of Ireland, with extracts of letters from the Prov. Grand Secretary of Victoria, under the Irish Constitution, relative to the rights of Masters in English Lodges. 6. The election of the Board of General Purposes; Colonial Board; and Representatives of Grand Lodge on the Committee of the Royal Benevolent Institution. The number required only being nominated, there will be no ballot. The following notices of motion have been also given:—

1. To appoint a committee to consider the present formation and reconstruction of the Board of Benevolence.

2. To grant £50 to supply the inmates of the Asylum, Croydon, with coals.

3. A further and final grant of 50 guineas to Mrs. Moss, the wife of Bro. George Percy Moss, late a clerk in the Grand Secretary's office.

4. An address of congratulation to Her Majesty, on the marriage of the Prince of Wales.

[We trust the last will be taken first—and that it will also include an address to the Prince himself.]

ROYAL BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION FOR AGED MASONS AND THEIR WIDOWS.

The annual meeting of the governors and subscribers of this most excellent charity was held at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Friday, the 15th inst., Bro. Udall, P.G.D., V.P., in the chair.

The minutes of the last meeting, and the various committees, having been read and confirmed,

Bro. Farnfield, the Secretary of the institution, proceeded to read the report of the committee of the institution. It congratulated the subscribers on the continued prosperity of the institution. The annual festival in January last, at which Bro. John Havers, J.G.W., most ably presided, supported by sixty-one stewards, resulted in the handsome collection of £2,203. From this and other sources the committee, under the regulations governing the society, had invested £600 on account of the male fund, and £500 for the widows'. The funded property now stand as follows:—

Male Fund £15,600 0 0

Widows' Fund 6650 0 0

Sustentation of Building 942 7 9

The permanent income, including the grants from Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter was for the male £1068, and the widows'

£614 10s. After the election last year, the number of male annuitants was seventy-eight, of whom seven had since died, and the committee recommended the election of eight, making the number seventy-nine. After the last election, also, there were forty-five widows on the list of annuitants, of whom four had since died, and the committee now recommended the election of six, making the number forty-seven. There were also five widows receiving half their late husbands' Annuities. Of the male annuities at present on the list, eighteen came from London, receiving £414, and fifty-three from the country, making a total of £1586 per annum. Of the widows, twenty came from London, receiving £450, and twenty-one from London, £415; of those receiving half their late husbands' annuities, one came from London, receiving £12 10s., and four from the country, receiving £45, making a total of £922 10s., the gross total paid in annuities being £2508 10s. per annum. Since the number to be elected had been decided upon, three male annuitants had died, one in London and two country. The Asylum was in a perfect state of repair. The £50 voted by Grand Lodge for coals for the inmates of the Asylum was all expended, they having been supplied 4 cwt. per month each from the month of September to the month of April. The Stewards of the late Festival had handed over £20 4s. 2d., the balance of the deposits after paying the expenses of the Festival, to the Widows' Fund. At the request of several of the brethren, Bro. Havers had had his address in proposing the toast of the evening at the late Festival printed, and had handed over £16 2s. 6d. to the Widows Fund as the result of its sale.

The balance-sheet showed the receipts of the past year for the Male Fund (including a balance of £723 13s. 6d. from the last account), to be £3501 12s. 9d., and the disbursements (including £558 15s. for the purchase of £60 stock), £2517 6s. 7d., leaving a balance of £984 6s. 2d., to be carried forward. For the Widows' Fund the receipts (including £691 72s. 5d. for the last account), were £2351 12s. 5d., and the disbursements (including £465 12s. 6d. for the purchase of £500 stock), £1610 6s. 9d., leaving a balance of £741 5s. 7d. to be carried forward. On the sustentation of the building account, the receipts were £179 18s. 5d., and the expenditure (including the purchase of £100 stock), £104 19s. 3d., leaving a balance of £743 19s. 2d., making the total balance £1800 10s. 11d.

The report having been adopted and the officers for the year appointed, the election of eight male and six female annuitants was proceeded with, and resulted as follows:—

	MALES. SUCCESSFUL.
Davies, Thomas.....	8845
Sutherland, Robert	8811
Brown, Thomas.....	7526
Beckett, H. James	7306
Allen, John Wallis	7076
Dark, Samuel W.....	6992
Bowey, John	6935
Knight, Henry	6680
 UNSUCCESSFUL	
Deck, Robert.....	6930
Butter, Barnabus	5140
Maxwell, Honer,	4816
Stratton, William H	4726
Winter, James	4349
Hinde, Christopher	3291
Plymen, John	2473
Mitchell, Barnett	2375
Thompson, John	1285
Sankey, Samuel Hurst.....	1372
Bagley, William	892
Butley, William Brook	792
Taylor, Jesse.....	467

Julyan, Samuel	280
Warren, William	252
Broadbent, John	188
Priest, Edward C.	184
Adams, Richard	580
Morley, John	142
Lucas, John	105
Lyon, George	76
Adams, Robert	64
Green, Thomas	22
Martin, Henry	12
Redfern, Joseph	11
WIDOWS.	
SUCCESSFUL.	
Mordey, Margaret	4025
Lowe, Lydia	3553
Gamauf, Charlotte	3183
Hudswell, Elizabeth	3078
Yeates, Alice	2990
Clitz, Charlotte	2984
UNSUCCESSFUL.	
Puttock, Jane	2573
Cooke, Catherine	2522
Barton, Mary Elizabeth	2392
Cresswell, Mary	2237
Swain, Mary	614
Dale, Margaret	527
Partington, Betty	468
Wilkins, Elizabeth	242
Mayoh, Rachael	209
Marson, Mary	191
Dixon, Sarah	177
Tiseo, Ann Isabella	160
Slater, Ann	29
Stansfield, Betty	10

Vote of thanks to the Chairman and Secretaries concluded the proceedings.

METROPOLITAN.

MOUNT LEBANON LODGE (No. 87).—This celebrated and flourishing lodge held its last meeting for the season on Tuesday, May 19th, at Bro. Spencer's, Bridge House Hotel, Southwark. Bro. Frederick Walters, W.M., assisted by his officers, Levy, Davies, Harris, Watkins, Goody, Lake, and Donkin, opened the lodge. There was a heavy programme of work, viz., two raisings, four passings, and two initiations. Bro. French was, in an impressive manner, raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason. Bros. T. Moore, Cathie, Smith, and Fenner were each passed to the degree of a Fellow Craft Freemason. Mr. Lee was then ably initiated into the mysteries and privileges of ancient Freemasonry. All the ceremonies were gone through in a superior style, and elicited the unanimous approbation of the brethren. The lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to a superior banquet, replete with every delicacy of the season. After a few hours spent in social enjoyment, and the Steward for the Girls' School, Bro. Levy, S.W., had made his report of that Festival, the brethren separated, highly pleased with their evening's entertainment. Visitors:—J. W. Halsey, P.M. 156, J. Patte, I.G. 172, &c.

LODGE OF JUSTICE (No. 172).—This flourishing and prosperous lodge held its last meeting for the season, on Wednesday, April 13th, at the White Swan Tavern, High-street, Deptford. Bro. T. A. Green, W.M., assisted by his officers. Bros. Cavell, Hollins, Bavin, Lightfoot, Chapman and Patte conducted the business of the evening, which consisted of one initiation and two raisings. The whole of the ceremonies were impressively and beautifully performed, and each candidate was introduced separately. The veteran Bro. G. Bolton, P.M., in his usual first rate style rendered efficient service at the raisings, by giving the traditional history and tracing board. The W.M.'s working was all that could be desired, and he met with great support there being no less than twelve installed Masters present, together with a large body of visitors, in fact it was more like the usual gathering of an installation night than an ordinary lodge meeting. Apologies sent from the other two candidates for initiation, who were unfortunately both suffering from illness. After the business was completed, the brethren sat

down to an excellent banquet. Visitors:—Bros. F. Walters, W.M. 87; J. Donnithorne, 87; F. Baxter, 87; Wingfield, S.D. 198; Vesper, P.M. 802; R. Weisford, P.M. 805; R. Bentley P.M. 805; Gibbons, W.M. 752; J. W. Weir, P.M. 1173; J. H. Pembroke, S.D. 1173, &c.

DORIC LODGE (No. 1235).—The members of the above elegantly-furnished and beautifully-worked lodge met for the last meeting for the season, at the Earl of Eglinton, Coborn New Road, Bow, on the 13th inst., Bro. Bradley, W.M., presiding, supported by Bros. Gilchrist, S.W.; Scurr, J.W.; Gottbeil S.D.; Fox, J.D.; Fletcher, I.G.; Grant, Tyler; also by Bros. J. Cocks, Ward, Lawrence, Levett, Barnes, Johns, Bragger, H. Cocks, and other members; and a number of visitors, amongst whom we recognised Bros. Saquin, P.M. 25; Norton, P.M. 1133; James, P.M. 264; Griffiths, S.W. 112; Wright, J.W. 1133, &c. The minutes of the previous lodge being read and confirmed, the W.M. proceeded with the business of the evening, which comprised the whole of the ceremonies, and the lodge was opened in the several degrees. Bros. Levek and Barnes, after proving their proficiency in the most satisfactory manner, were raised to the sublime degree of M.M., the W.M. performing the ceremony in an impressive and solemn manner for which he is so proverbial. Bro. Freystadt was afterwards passed to the degree of F.C., and, being a foreigner, excited great interest in the lodge, the W.M. being obliged to communicate through an interpreter, which was most ably and satisfactorily done by Bro. Lehman. The ballot having been taken for Messrs. J. Hollingsworth, F. Soillieux, and W. Kerresey, they were each and separately initiated into the secrets of the Mystic Art, the ceremony being gone through with the care and perspicuity which so distinguishes the working of Bro. Bradley. Several propositions for new members having been made, and the lodge giving its sanction to a Lodge of Instruction being held under its warrant, the brethren adjourned to the banquet, which was served up in Bro. Cocks best style, much to the enjoyment and satisfaction of the brethren. The worthy W.M., who seemed in high spirits, gave the several toasts with appropriate addresses and with that geniality of feeling which kept all in great hilarity, particularly insisting that as all the officers had done their duty so well, so they must each promote the harmony of the evening which they did most cheerfully, in some instances with duets, &c.—Bro. Rule, P.G. Purst., returned thanks for the D.G.M. and the rest of the Grand officers. The next, the Tylers toast, which in this lodge follows that for the Grand officers, was most heartily responded to, as was evinced by the subscriptions to the Benevolent Fund.—The W.M. then proposed the health of the Initiates, which he was sure would be well received, and from the manner in which they had undergone their probationary degree it augured well for their future progress.—Bros. Hollingsworth, Soillieux, and Kerresey severally returned thanks for the honour they had received at the hands of the lodge, words could not express their feelings, and they hoped the future would prove they were fully sensible of the obligations they were under.—The next toast, the visitors, was heartily received and responded to by Bro. James, P.M., 264, in a very humorous speech, in which he expressed his delight with the lodge. Prosperity to the sister lodges in the east was most warmly received. Bro. Morton, P.M., 1,133, and Bro. Stevens, 812, responding in eloquent terms, the latter with his accustomed comicality and wit.—Bro. Rule, P.G. Purst., proposed the health of the W.M. He was sure that Bro. Bradley's abilities as a hard working Mason and his determined energy to conquer every difficulty were so well known and appreciated, that he might worthily be called a pillar of the Craft, and especially adapted for the W.M. of the Doric Lodge, which was the emblem of strength, as was well evinced in the admirable working of this evening, more especially considering the difficulty of performing one of the ceremonies by an interpreter.—The W.M., in reply, said he could scarcely find words to acknowledge the spontaneous and hearty salutation he had received. He could not deny that he had Masonry very much at heart, and was continually labouring for its welfare. He had to express his gratitude to those brethren from whom he had received instruction, and the most effectual way to do so, in his humble judgment, was to communicate to others what had been so freely and bountifully given to him. He charged them to attend their Lodge of Instruction and otherwise perfect themselves in their duties to the Craft.—The W.M. then proposed the health of the Officers of the lodge in very eulogistic terms, and thanked them for the assistance they had given him in the lodge.—Bro. Scurr, in returning thanks, stated they were

both anxious and determined to do their duty, which was rendered much easier from the kindness and instruction they all received from their W.M., who stood so high in their affection and esteem.—The brethren then separated, much delighted with the business of the evening.

NEW CONCORD LODGE (No. 1115).—The closing meeting for the season, of this flourishing lodge, was held on Friday evening, May 15th, at the Rosemary Branch Tavern, Hoxton. Bros. Arthur Osmond, W.M.; Estwick, S.W.; and Baker, J.W. The lodge was numerously attended, and there were several visitors. The lodge having been opened in the first and second degrees, Bros. Towley, Bartlett, Bailey and Vernon were questioned as to their proficiency, with a view to their advancement, and in every case the proper answers were given without assistance, proving the interest the respective candidates felt in Freemasonry, and the pains they had taken to qualify themselves for the degree that was about to be conferred upon them. The brethren were entrusted with the secrets of the degree of M.M. Bros. Fordham, Smith, Field, Wilson, J. S. Merrett, and Moss were passed to the degree of F.C. There were six gentlemen named as candidates for initiation, but none of them arrived in time, and the lodge was closed in due form. The brethren then adjourned for refreshment, but this being an off night only, a portion of the usual toasts were given.—Bro. EMMENS, P.M., said although this was an off night, yet as it was the last night of their meeting for the season, he thought the brethren would agree with him that it would be impossible that they should part without doing justice to their W.M., for the very able manner in which he had performed his duties. He believed that those duties could not have been better performed than they had been by Bro. Osmond, their W.M., and he concurred in the expression used by Bro. Estwick at the last lodge as to the success which had attended it since Bro. Osmond had been installed their W.M. They would not regularly assemble before September, but as they had five or six gentlemen as candidates, he believed it very probable that they would in the meantime have a lodge of emergency to admit them and advance others in their degrees. He wished just for a moment to allude to their Masonic Charities, and he was happy to say that, at the Festival for the Girl's School, which he attended, the subscriptions amounted to £3700. On the Monday previous, he attended the election for aged Freemasons and their Widows when six men and three women were elected, and on Sunday he visited the Asylum for Aged Freemasons, at Croydon, where he spent a truly happy day. He met with one there who had been a member of the Old Concord Lodge, and had taken tea with several others, and although some of them had in their time been in very affluent circumstances, he found them contented and comfortable, and they said they had never been so happy in their lives as they were at that moment. Therefore, he said, as regarded the support of their institutions, there was no society in existence to be compared with Freemasons. He felt happy in being permitted to make these few remarks, and he begged to thank Bro. Osmond for the very kind and able manner in which he had performed his duties, and when they met again he had no doubt he would show the same kindly feelings he had ever evinced towards them. He proposed the health of Bro. Osmond, W.M.—The W.M. thanked the brethren for the kind way in which the toast had been proposed and responded to, and he felt assured that they would not make use of expressions which they did not mean to convey. He was glad to meet with their approbation, and it should be his earnest endeavour to carry out the principles of Freemasonry in general and to that lodge in particular. He did not shrink from work, and the more they gave him the better he should like it, and he hoped they would give him plenty of initiations to the close of his year.—Bro. ESTWICK, S.W. and Treasurer, said, as that was the last time they should meet Bro. Stannard as their host, he thought they ought to pay him that compliment which he deserved. They wished to express their regret at his leaving, and trusted in his successor they would find as good a man. He concluded by proposing the health of their worthy and esteemed friend, Bro. Stannard, and long life to him.—Bro. STANNARD said he felt rather low-spirited that night, having been mixed up with the lodge for the last three or four years, and he felt regret at leaving his old friends behind. That was his feeling, but he felt obliged to them for the handsome manner in which they had supported him, and he asked the further favour that they would transfer that favour to his successor, and he hoped he would be able to cater better for

them than he had done. He should continue to be a member of the New Concord Lodge, and concluded by thanking them heartily for the kindness they had always shown towards him.—Bro. THOMSON proposed the health of Bro. Emmens, P.M. and founder of the lodge, and alluded to the great success which had attended it, both as regarded the number of its members and the efficiency of its officers. Bro. Emmens said he could only repeat what he had said before, that there should be no lack of exertion on his part to promote the interests and welfare of the New Concord Lodge. He could assure the brethren that if at any time they wanted assistance, he should at all times be most happy to render it to them to the extent of his abilities. He trusted that, during the vacation, they would enjoy health and happiness, and he believed that when they should assemble again, the longer must continue to be prosperous so long as they had officers who felt an interest in its welfare. So long as they elected to the chair masters who were fully competent to their duties, so long must the lodge prosper. He thanked them sincerely, and hoped he might meet them again as happy as they were at that moment, that Freemasonry should flourish, and that long life and prosperity might ever attend them. (Cheers.) This terminated the proceedings, and the brethren soon afterwards separated.

PROVINCIAL.

BERKS AND BUCKS.

LINSLADE.—*Lodge St. Barnabas* (No. 1250).—The consecration of this lodge took place on Monday, the 18th inst., at the Elephant and Castle Hotel, Linslade, Leighton Buzzard, near Bucks, the consecrating brother being the Worshipful Bro. A. A. Le Vean, P.G.S.B. The brethren assembled in goodly numbers, and among them appeared Bros. J. W. Williams, Prov. G.D.C. of Bucks and Berks, J. C. Farmbrough, P. Prov. G.C., and several brethren from the Scientific Lodge (No. 1142) and Bucks Lodge (No. 861). The lodge being opened in due form and with solemn prayer, the brethren proceeded to the Church of St. Barnabas, in full regalia. The officiating clergyman being the Rev. Bro. D. Carson, the P. Prov. G.C. for Herts and the Chaplain Elect of the Lodge of St. Barnabas, assisted by the Rev. Bro. J. Farmbrough. A full service was performed, the beauty of which was greatly enhanced by an anthem, brilliantly executed by Bro. T. Dyson. On the return of the brethren to the lodge, the petition, the dispensation, and the warrant, or charter of constitution, was read by the Secretary. The worshipful brother, A. A. Le Vean, the Consecrating Master, then proceeded to consecrate the lodge. The brethren having signified their approval of the officers named in the warrant, Bro. J. M. Shugar, P.M. and P. Prov. G.W., was duly elected and installed First Master, Bro. Frederick Gotto, Senior Warden, and Bro. George Shrimpton, J.W. were duly invested and installed in their respective chairs by the worshipful Master, Bro. J. M. Shugar, who also invested Bro. Dixon as Secretary, Bro. Lovell, S.D., and Bro. Sherman, J.D., *pro tem.*, and Bro. S. H. Wichello, I.G., after which the business of the day was proceeded with. It was proposed and carried unanimously that Bro. A. A. Le Vean, the Consecrating Master, should be elected a honorary member of this lodge. Bro. A. A. Le Vean expressed himself much gratified and said he should feel happy to accept the honour, and trusted that he should be able to be with the brethren at their first raising. The worshipful, Bro. A. A. Le Vean expressed himself much pleased with the kindness and courtesy displayed towards him by every member of the lodge, and the strict attention paid by the brethren during the solemn ceremony at which he had presided. The Lodge of St. Barnabas being now the third lodge in the County of Bucks entitles the Shire to be raised to a province, and we trust that no time will be lost by the members of the several lodges in the county petitioning the Grand Lodge with that view. The banquet was served in splendid style by Bro. G. Sherman, the host of the Elephant and Castle Hotel, Linslade, and was enlivened by the vocal performances of Bro. T. Dyson.

DEVONSHIRE.

STONEHOUSE.—*Lodge Fortitude* (No. 122).—On Wednesday, May 15th, a meeting of this ancient lodge was held in the lodge-room at the Prince George Hotel, Stonehouse, for the purpose of passing two brothers who had been initiated at the previous lodge meeting, and of raising to the sublime degree of

M.M., Bros. Isaac Latimer, of Plymouth, and Hicks, of Fowey. There was a very numerous attendance. The ceremony was performed by the W.M., Bro. R. Rodda, who was duly assisted by Bro. Phillips, P.M., P. Prov. G. Treas. After the ceremony had been gone through the W.M. informed the lodge that he had had the pleasure of receiving a warrant from the Grand Lodge, which would entitle all the members of the Lodge Fortitude to wear a centenary jewel. They were greatly indebted for this honour to the D. Prov. G.M., the Rev. Bro. John Huyshe, who had used his utmost exertions in seconding their wishes on this matter. The W.M. then read the warrant, which was engrossed on vellum, with a copy of the jewel, and its ribbon in the margin. The warrant stated that it appeared by the records of the Grand Lodge that on the second day of January, in the year 1759, a warrant of constitution was granted to certain brethren therein named, authorising and empowering them and their regular successors to hold a lodge of free and accepted Masons in Plymouth. It then set forth the changes in the number of the lodge, till it settled down in 1832, and became as it now stands on the register of the United Grand Lodge of England—No. 122, under the title of the Lodge of Fortitude. The warrant then went on to say—"And whereas the brethren present composing the said lodge are desirous, now that 100 years have expired since the constitution of the lodge, that they may be permitted to wear a jewel commemorative of such event, and have prayed the sanction of the Most Worshipful Grand Master for that purpose; and the M.W.G.M. having been pleased to accede to this request, doth hereby give and grant to all and each of the actual subscribing members of the said lodge, being Master Masons, permission to wear in all Masonic meetings suspended to the left breast by a sky blue ribbon, not exceeding one inch and a half in breadth, a jewel or medal of the pattern or device in the drawing in the margin hereof as a centenary jewel. But this jewel is to be worn only by those brethren who are bona fide subsisting members of the said lodge, and so long only as they may pay their subscriptions thereto, and be returned as such to the Grand Lodge of England. Given at Freemasons' Hall, London, this 24th day of March, 1863, by command of the Right Hon. the Earl of Zetland, Most Worshipful Grand Master, W. Gray Clarke, Grand Secretary." The medal bears upon its centre an emblematical figure of Fortitude. On his right there is an open Bible, with the square and compass; on his left the five-pointed star. Immediately over his head is the All-seeing eye. The medal is surmounted by a crown, and surrounded on one side by a lotus leaf, and on the other by the open leaf. At the bottom is the number of the lodge 122, and on the centre bar of the ribbon is A.L. 5759; on the lower bar the word "Fortitude." The W.M. warmly eulogised the D. Prov. G.M., the Rev. John Huyshe, for the interest he had taken in behalf of the lodge in getting the honour conferred upon it, and proposed that a vote of thanks be passed and communicated to him. Bro. Harfoot, P.M., seconded the motion, and it was unanimously agreed to. [A similar favour has been conferred upon St. John's Lodge (No. 83), in Plymouth, that lodge also being more than 100 years old. St. John's has adopted a medal and ribbon, similar in their general features to that of Fortitude, only with an emblematical figure of St. John.]

DEVONPORT.—*Lodge St. Aubyn* (No. 1256).—An emergency meeting of this lodge was held on Monday last, the 18th inst., for the purpose of initiating an officer of one of Her Majesty's ships, whose stay in the port is uncertain. The ceremonial peculiar to the first degree was rendered in the most impressive style by the W. Bro. who so happily presides over 1256, and the charge and tools effectually given by the Wardens. The visitors where the W. Bro. Harfoot, of 83, and Bro. Thomas, of 182, who adjourned with the brethren to the Great Western Hotel, were refreshment was provided. Bro. Harfoot in responding to the toast of the visitors, remarked that he felt very proud in being present to witness Lodge St. Aubyn work. He was surprised to find such perfect working, considering that many of the officers were young members of the Craft. He should fail in his duty were he to neglect to congratulate his very dear friend, Bro. Chapple, on the energy he always displayed in his Masonic career. Bro. Kent, S.W., had delivered the charge very ably that night, forcibly reminding him of the time that his brother, now on his right, had delivered it to him; never could it be effaced from his memory, and since that memorable time a fraternal link had been made between him and Bro. Chapple, never he hoped to be separated. The W. Bro. then briefly alluded to the fact that No. 1256 was established so fairly, and he trusted, that all the brethren would

work together with admirable energy, when he doubted not from the talent displayed that night that there would be little trouble in finding efficient officers for the work. He thanked the brethren for their hospitality, and resumed his seat amidst loud applause. Bro. Kent, S.W., proposed "The Health of the W.M." which was duly responded to. The Master then gave "The Senior and Junior Wardens and other Officers," responded to by the S.W., who said he would devote any amount of time to the welfare of the lodge, and to the acquirement of Masonic knowledge. The J.W. said that with such luminaries as his brothers in the East and West, he thought it would be strange if he did not emulate their example. The last toast was then proceeded with.

LANCASHIRE WEST.

BIRKENHEAD.—*Mersey Lodge* (No. 701).—The usual monthly meeting of this well-worked lodge was held on Thursday, the 14th inst., at the Masonic Chambers in Hamilton Square, by Bro. Joseph New, W.M., assisted by Rev. G. H. Hobson, S.W., Rev. H. G. Vernon, J.W., and about thirty members and visitors. After the confirmation of the minutes, a ballot was taken for W. St. George Ross, Benj. Lee, and Thos. Summerfield, and they were all unanimously elected and admitted to light by the W.M., in his usual impressive manner. Bro. Geo. Blundell was passed by Bro. Wm. Wade, Junior, P.M. of 701 and 1026, and Prov. G.P. for Cheshire, the W.M. having courteously handed over the gavel by special request. Bro. Lewin, P.M. of 701 gave notice that at the next meeting of the lodge, he should propose that a portion of each initiation fee be handed over to the funds of the Cheshire Educational Institution, recently established in the province. This will, no doubt, meet with the cordial concurrence of the members of the lodge, and we trust that the example will be followed by all the Cheshire lodges. The advantage accruing from meeting in private rooms has been shown in this instance in a marked manner by the steady increase, not only of candidates, but also of joining members during the last eighteen months.

MIDDLESEX.

UXBRIDGE.—*Royal Union Lodge* (No. 536).—The members of this lodge held their regular meeting on Monday, May 18th, at the Chequers Inn, under the presidency of Bro. Cobham, W.M., assisted by his officers, Bros. Coombes, S.W.; Herring, J.W.; Chegwidden, S.D.; Williams, J.D.; Gaball, I.G.; Watson, Steward; Gawthrop, Hon. Sec.; Weedon, Tyler. The following were also present: Bros. Hicks, Mills, Claissen, Zink, Guy, Bishop, Jordan, Felsenthal, Wurzfeld, Cocke, and other brethren. Visitors: Bros. Runting, P.M. 1051; Stuart, W.M. 209; and others. Messrs. Dyke and Armbrecht were initiated, and Bros. Guy, Bishop, Jordan, Felsenthal and Wurzfeld were passed. Messrs. Wm. Brough and J. Gothknecht were balloted for and unanimously elected. Bro. Newall rose and said that it having been intimated to him that the worthy host, Bro. Line, was likely to be deprived of the occupancy of the house in which the lodge was held, he would propose that the officers and brethren should subscribe to a testimonial he had prepared, expressing their sympathy with Bro. Line under the circumstances in which he was placed; and thanking him for the handsome manner in which he had catered for them, and the great courtesy they had always met at his hands, hoping that some satisfactory arrangement might be made, and that for many years he should continue to be their host. This was agreed to, and signed by all the brethren present. Business over, the brethren, numbering about twenty-four, adjourned to banquet. After the usual loyal and Masonic toasts had been given, the W.M. proposed "The Initiates," "The Visitors," "The Past Masters," replied to by Bro. Newall, who then proposed the health of the W.M., Bro. Cobham. Bro. Cobham replied and stated his determination to perform his work in a manner satisfactory to the brethren, and that the words of the installing Master, when handing him the charter of the lodge, that "he was sure it would leave his hands unsullied as he received it," had made a great impression on him, and consequently he was determined to uphold the character of the Royal Union Lodge. He should use his utmost endeavour to do his work in a strictly correct manner, and he expected the same amount of attention from his officers, for without good officers no Master could properly conduct the work of his lodge to a successful issue. He thanked his officers for the assistance they had rendered him, and hoped that if at any time he should find fault (which he should if there were occasion) the brethren would take it kindly, and

attribute it to his zeal for the welfare of the lodge. Bro. Coombes, S.W., and Herring, J.W., briefly replied. The W.M. next proposed "The Press." They again two had members of the press among them—Bro. Mills, of the *Era*, and Bro. Gaball, of the FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE. He considered the Royal Union Lodge was under very great obligations to the press, and especially to the FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE, for to the glowing reports in that paper he attributed much of the notoriety and popularity enjoyed by their lodge. He would not say he had been inundated with letters, but he would say that, if he had invited every brother who had congratulated him in consequence of reading the report of the last meeting, he feared that the accommodation of the Chequers Inn, extensive as they were, would have been rather overtaxed. Bro. Mills briefly replied, thanking the W.M. for the compliment paid to the press. After some other toasts, Bro. Newall gave "To all Poor and Distressed Masons," thus bringing to a close another of the happy meetings always enjoyed by the brethren of 536. The evening's enjoyment was enhanced by the vocal and musical exertions of Bros. Stewart, Newall, Hicks, Gaball, and others.

WARWICKSHIRE.

BIRMINGHAM.—*Faithful Lodge* (No. 669).—The annual installation meeting of this Lodge was held on Tuesday, April 14th, at the Masonic Rooms, Newhall Street, Birmingham. The lodge was opened by Bro. W. H. Dawes, W.M., and Mr. Henry Bonus regularly initiated into Freemasonry. Bro. Dawes then resigned the chair, which was afterwards occupied by Bro. J. J. Turner, P.M., P. Prov. Assist. Purst. of Warwickshire, when Bro. Dawes presented Bro. Wm. Hutton, S.W., as W.M. elect, to receive the benefit of installation, who was accordingly duly installed and proclaimed. The newly-installed W.M. Bro. Hutton then appointed and invested his officers for the ensuing year as follows—namely, Bro. E. Hooper, S.W.; G. Beech, J.W.; S. Fenn, Treasurer; C. T. Nelson, Hon. Sec.; S. A. Parker, Hon. Assist. Sec.; Bro. B. N. Smith, S.D.; W. C. McEntee, S.D.; J. Darwin, I.G.; J. J. Turner and W. Cresswell, P.M.'s, Dirs. of Cers.; D. Malin, jun., Org.; and Bros. Underhill, Bingley, Pickering, Williams, Price, and Cornforth, Stewards. Bro. J. J. Turner delivered the several addresses in his usual impressive manner. The lodge was then duly closed, after which the brethren assembled at the Royal Hotel to attend the annual banquet. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were then given in routine, that of the W.M. being received with much enthusiasm, who responded in very Masonic and feeling terms. Amongst the company, which numbered nearly seventy members and visitors, was Bro. C. W. Elkington, D. Prov. G.M., Warwickshire, who, in an excellent speech, dilated upon the claims of the Royal Freemasons' School for Female Children, and enlisted the sympathy of the brethren towards that Institution, which held its anniversary on May 13th, 1863, and nearly £10 was collected. The health of the newly-initiated brother was given in the usual Masonic manner, and a most agreeable evening spent.

INDIA.

(From the Indian Freemasons' Friend.)

CALCUTTA.

LODGE COURAGE WITH HUMANITY (No. 551).—A regular meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday the 12th February, present: Bros. J. H. Linton, W.M. Taylor, P.M.; John Wm. Brown, Hon. P.M.; and several others. Bros. Freeman and Sagriell were elected joining members. Messrs. F. W. Appel, H. Proctor, and H. W. W. Robinson were initiated; Bros. Carvalha, Rodrigues, Nelson, and Coleman, were passed; and Bro. Captain W. Willis was raised. The third degree was conferred by Bro. John Wm. Brown, who had been specially invited for the purpose, and who received a vote of thanks for the important services rendered to the lodge on this and on many previous occasions. Another meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday the 26th February; Bro. J. H. Linton, W.M., presiding. Bro. F. J. D'Eboux, late a member of Lodge Marine (No. 282), was elected a joining member of the lodge, and Mr. Thos. Cunningham, Second Officer of the ship *Wide Awake*, was initiated.

LODGE SAINT JOHN (No. 715).—A regular meeting of this lodge was held on Friday the 27th February. Present: Bros.

Frank Powell, M.D. W.M.; John Wm. Brown, P.M.; E. Wm. Pittar, M.A. S.W.; Rambart, J.W.; W. G. Baxter, Sec. and Treas.; Robert Henry Torrens, S.D.; Stephen Nation, of No. 126, J. D.; Pinto, of the same, I.G.; Bro. Newham, *pro tempore* O.G. owing to the absence of Bro. Daniel through indisposition, Bro. Dugald Lattey, an old member of the Sister Lodge Industry and Perseverance (No. 126), was elected a joining member by acclamation. Another meeting of this lodge was held on Friday the 13th February. Present: John Wm. Brown, P.M. presiding; E. W. Pittar, (Barrister-at-Law), S.W.; Rambart, J.W.; W. G. Baxter, Sec. and Treas.; and others. The work set down in the summons did not come off, owing to the absence of the nominee. Bro. C. T. D'avis, a member of the lodge, and P.M. of the Sister Lodge Industry and Perseverance, was elected an honorary member.

LODGE EXCELSIOR (No. 1127).—A regular meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday the 17th February. Owing to the unavoidable absence of Bro. Abbott, Master of the lodge, Bro. John Wm. Brown, P.M. of Lodge Saint John (715), was invited to attend the meeting and preside. Bro. Doctor Frank Powell, Master of the same Lodge, officiated as P.M.; Bro. Captain Aeneas Perkins, S.W.; Bros. Peach, J.W.; W. B. Farr, Sec. and several others were present. Bro. Wroughton, a visitor to the lodge, introduced by Bro. Barron, was, after due trial, admitted and obligated by Bro. Brown. After labour, the brethren adjourned to an excellent banquet. The band was in attendance, and played many lively airs. Bros. Emmanuel and Chardon contributed to the pleasure of the evening by their performances, respectively, on the piano and the violin, while the worthy Junior Warden, Bro. Peach, kindly entertained us with the cornet à piston. Another meeting was held on Tuesday, the 3rd March, present: Bro. W. H. Abbott, W.M., presiding; Bro. John Wm. Brown, P.M. of Lodge Saint John, (No. 715), as P.M.; Bro. Fergusson, S.W.; Peach, J.W.; and several others. Bro. John Wm. Brown, having been specially invited by the W.M. to aid in the work, passed two brethren and initiated Mr. Charles Henry Brown. The W.M. of the lodge raised three brethren to the M.M. Degree. Bro. Jordan, W.M. of the Cawnpore Lodge (not known), having been examined by Bro. Brown, was by him introduced into the lodge, where the W.M. obligated and welcomed him.

ROYAL ARCH.

LANCASHIRE (WEST).

GARSTON.—*Chapter of Harmony* (No. 267).—The companions of this chapter assembled together on Thursday, the 14th, at the Wellington Hotel, presided over by Comps. Pepper, Z.; Banister, H.; May, J. Bro. White, W.M. 183, Warrington, and Bro. Shaw, 845, were unanimously accepted and exalted. A sum of money was voted to a poor brother, when several propositions for exaltation, at the next chapter, concluded the business. At the banquet table the three Grand Principals were duly honoured, and Comp. Banister, G. Dir. of Cers., responded, and brought before the companions the ease of Bro. Sankey, a candidate for an annuity from the Royal Benevolent Fund, when several pounds were unanimously subscribed to enable Comp. Banister to purchase votes on behalf of Bro. Sankey.

LIVERPOOL.—*Chapter of Friendship* (No. 294).—At the regular meeting, held on Monday, the 18th inst., at the Masonic Temple, 22, Hope-street, a candidate was elected to the supreme degree of Royal Arch Mason by Comp. Kearne, M.E.Z., assisted by Comps. Maudeley, H., and Eaton, J., the lectures being delivered by the respective chiefs, after which Comp. Younghusband, P.M.E.Z. 294, delivered the lecture on the Five Platonic Bodies and Explanation of the Royal Arch Jewel, which elicited the cordial approbation of the companions present. A vote of thanks was unanimously accorded to Comp. Younghusband, and a request conveyed that he would take an early opportunity of repeating the lecture, with which he promised to comply at the next regular meeting on the 15th of June. It is believed that this is the first time this lecture has been delivered out of London, and Royal Arch Masons who have not an opportunity of going there to hear it would do well to attend the next meeting of the Chapter of Friendship.

DEVONSHIRE.

DEVONPORT.—*Chapter of Friendship* (No. 238).—A convocation of this chapter was held at the Masonic Rooms, St. Stephen Street, Devonport, on Thursday, the 14th inst. The E. Comps. Rogers, Z.; Fox, J.; Elphinstone, H. A ballot was taken for two of the officers of Lodge St. Aubin (No. 1256), the same being perfectly clear they were exalted to this supreme degree. This being the night for nomination of officers, the following were proposed Comps. Elphinstone, for Z.; Fox, H.; Crocker, J.; March, Scribe E', and Ellis, Scribe N. The business was brought to a close after receiving a proposition for one joining companion.

ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED RITE.

ISLE OF WIGHT.

BONCHURCH.—FETE—MEETING OF THE SUPREME GRAND COUNCIL AND VECTIS ROSE CROIX CHAPTER, AT DR. LEESON'S.

A grand *fête* in commemoration of the marriage of their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales, took place at Dr. Leeson's grounds, Bonchurch, on Wednesday, the 13th inst. This *fête* was a complete novelty, as it included several special elements, and not to break up them entirely, we shall chronicle the proceedings, Masonic and non-Masonic, as they occurred.

Tuesday, the 12th, was a day long to be remembered for its stormy character, and as we crossed from Portsmouth to Ryde, it blew a perfect hurricane, so violently that the captain of the steamboat declared he had not experienced such "dirty weather" since the previous November, hence we believe arose the absence of a large number of high-grade Freemasons who intended to have been present. Wednesday morning, however, brought a change, and with it one of the most lovely days that could be imagined. How we reached Bonchurch, or to describe the beautiful views from Ryde thither is no part of our plan, because "the garden isle" is more or less familiar to numbers of our Order, so suffice it to say, that about one o'clock we reached the scene, and a more beautiful one never was presented to mortal eye.

Of Dr. Leeson's property it will be necessary to attempt some slight description, in order that the events of the day may be fully understood, although nothing like justice can be done to its natural or artistic beauties. Continuing the main road, after a branch of it turns down a hill towards Ventnor, the road terminates at Dr. Leeson's property. This consists of four separate houses, erected in various portions of the undercliff all having communication with each other, yet at same time being entirely separate and distinct. The first is called Rose Mount, the second, Pulpit Rock, the third (Dr. Leeson's residence), The Maples, and the fourth St. Boniface. Each of these have most ample gardens and being placed on various terraces, naturally formed by the undercliff, are at different altitudes. Below them are numerous other villas, and still lower the cliffs which back the beach whilst the sea is open as far as the eye can reach. At the back of all rises the undercliff itself, to a height of some 800 feet above the level of the sea. This undercliff is formed of rock covered with earth, on which the most choice and luxuriant evergreens, trees, and plants grow in the greatest profusion. At the top of the undercliff there is a small fort which mounts a flag staff, and the view from which is most extensive and diversified. This is reached by steps made from one terrace to another in the face of the cliff, and at the head of each terrace, and in the walks about them, there are seats of every description. Nearly under the fort, in the grounds above Rose Mount, there is a natural cave, which has been partially hollowed out and the roof supported by art. This cave has two entrances, two chambers, two passages and a recess, and in it the Vectis Chapters held its Rose Croix meeting, but of that more presently. Looking down from the fort the eye naturally catches the reflection of a

glass roof, and descending to ascertain what it is the enquirer passes in front of the Maples and down a flight of stone steps to an orchard house, in which exotics of the rarest and choicest kinds are in full bloom, the air, hot and damp of course, loaded with perfumes of delicate fragrance, and nature in all its tropical beauty is seen to great advantage. Gold and silver fish abound in quaintly constructed aquaria, fruit is rapidly ripening both before and above you, and all that a love of botany, seconded by a liberal purse, can purchase and secure attention for, is here displayed. Passing on a descent or two lower, we at last reach the high road, and on the other side of it find ourselves at a stand erected on one of the doctor's fields, called Bank Acre, from which point the business of the day may be said to have commenced.

The proceedings opened by the Ventnor Companies of the Isle of Wight Volunteers forming a parade in Bank Acre, amid a concourse of some five or six hundred elegantly-dressed ladies and civilians. For a time they went through the evolutions consequent on an inspection, and a certain portion of them being told off as an attacking party, proceeded to glide away under the cover of hedges, houses, and every available shelter, towards Dr. Leeson's grounds. In the meantime the fort, before referred to, had been garrisoned by six coast-guardsmen (who were to serve the three cannon it mounted) and several volunteers as its defenders. A few civilians were also on the fort, and had a capital view of the mode of attack. After the attacking party had quitted Bank Acre, they placed in their caps boughs of evergreen and like "Birnam wood coming to Dunsinane," then crossed the high road and made their preparations to take the fort, over ground at least half a mile distant from their place of rendezvous, and fully five hundred feet above its level. The attacking party having managed to reach the rear of the Maples unobserved, one of them showed himself for an instant, and immediately he was saluted by the discharge of some six or eight rifles from the fort. The former finding their approach discovered, then returned their fire, the cannon from the fort opened, and the skirmishing became general. Darkly clad riflemen were to be seen mounting from terrace to terrace, sheltering under every cover, forming in sections upon every unexposed landing, and the defenders as quickly giving them a reception from their rifles and cannon. Some judgment may be formed of the really up-hill work the attacking party had when it was nearly three-quarters of an hour of hard ascent and firing before they took the fort, drove its defenders over the palisades on to the highest portion of the under cliff, hauled down the flag, and running up other colours in their place. The captors now stood the brunt of an attack, in turn, from those who, after having been driven out, had been reinforced and formed on the heights above, and who poured in such volleys as made it too hot for the attacking party to hold, and at last they charged them, cleared the fort, replaced their flag, and drove the enemy back; the latter defended themselves resolutely during every step of their retreat, and from every "quoins of vantage," until they once more reached Bank Acre. They then proceeded to dine together in Bonchurch, not without having well earned their repast.

Dr. Leeson's grounds were then thrown open to a very large portion of the general public, and the cave before referred to was densely thronged by ladies and gentlemen anxious to see all they could; one of the latter actually seizing a brother by the coat and saying—"I say, are you one of these Masonic swells? If so, tell us all about it;" and some ladies hiding themselves in one of the passages of the cave, when discovered, said, "Oh! you can let us stay here, we won't interrupt you; we only want to see it all." A very elegant and abundant luncheon had been laid out for the ladies, under Mrs. Leeson's kind provision, at the Maples, where that lady played the part of hostess with great amiability. At Rose Mount, there was a very *récherché* luncheon provided for the Masonic brethren, to do justice to which, better than any other description we could offer, Colonel Bowyer's words amply illustrate when saying, "the Dr. has invited us here as sovereign princes, and it is evident that he intends actually treating us as such."

The grounds being pretty well cleared, the brethren assembled began to clothe themselves in the drawing-room of Rose Mount, and assembled at the cave. The chapter-room was hung with banners of the Supreme Grand Council, many private banners and other banners belonging to individuals. It was lighted by a profusion of Chinese lanterns, which had been made for the purpose by Mr. Leeson, jun., to whose artistic pencil a very telling and appropriate transparency was also due. There were stars, crosses, and monograms formed of variegated lamps, and

a more appropriate place, as well as a mysterious character given by it to the ceremony, cannot be imagined. Dr. Leeson, of course, was far too busy superintending the preparations for the after display, to be present in the chapter; and, after getting the cave clear of the ladies, the following brethren were found to be present: The SS.G.II.G. Col. Bowyer, Henry Charles Vernon, — Winsor, and Dr. Kent, 33°; Hyde Pullen, 33°, Sec. Gen. to S.G. Council; Matthew Cooke, 30°, Organist to Sup. G. Council; Bros. Ollard, Newman, Herne, Moore, Ratcliffe, and Fisher, 18°, all members of the Vectis chapter. Visitors: Bros. Captain Elliott and Lieut. Cox, 18°, Royal Naval Chapter, and Brother Edward Turner, 18°, of the Metropolitan Chapter. The Ill. Bro. Hyde Pullen, 32°, M.W.S. of the Vectis Chapter, with the S.G.I.G., Col. Bowyer, acting as Prelate, opened the chapter. Bros. Ollard, Raphael, Newman, G. Marshal, 30°, and Matthew Cooke, 30°, Organist to S.G. Councils at the harmonium. The ceremony of reception was most excellently given by the officers, who were well up in their parts, and Bros. Thomas Matthias Baker, Alfred Henry Tattershall, and George Burt were admitted to the rank of Sovereign Princes Rose Croix. After the chapter had been closed the brethren assembled to dinner in the drawing-room at Rose Mount, the dinner, for elegance, profusion, delicacy, and perfect appointments, being matchless. After dinner the brethren were reminded by the worthy Dr. that the illumination of the Bonchurch cliffs would take place, and he urged their immediate adjournment to the stand in Bank Acre, but Bro. Pullen, who had, at the Dr's. request, taken the head of the table, would not allow them to disperse without two toasts: the Queen, Prince and Princess of Wales, and Royal Family, pithily given and heartily responded to. This he followed by the health of the M.P. Sov., G. Com., Dr. Leeson, which was received with great applause. The venerated chief of the Order returned thanks, and the remembrance of his words sank deeply in the hearts of all present. An adjournment was then made to the Bank Acre, where carriages full of visitors were ranged in triple and quadruple rows, and an assembly of, certainly, not less than 5000 persons, taking those on the road and every available position where a sight could be obtained, must have been congregated. As before stated, this field, the road, and other places on the same level, is nearly three-quarters of a mile distant from the background of the undercliff, which is some 600 feet above the field, so that the Bank Acre was the very best position that could be had for seeing the effect of the illumination of the Undercliff. This was done by Bengal lights, which had been arranged by Dr. Leeson, and there were three distinct colours applied, first green, then crimson, and afterwards blue. The effect of these fires baffle all description. For a mile and a-half in extent the whole cliff, with its natural and artificial beauties, were brought so prominently before the spectators that, although each one knew the distance and the height the foliage and rocks were above him, it seemed only to require the hand to be put out to break off the most delicate branch, or pick up a peculiar shaped stone. The vividness of the ensemble was complete, and the cheers of the spectators evidenced their appreciation. Bro. Joseph Southby, for many years pyrotechnist at Vauxhall, having set his pieces in front of Dr. Leeson's house, then commenced his part of the programme, which we will not attempt to describe more fully than by enumerating flights of tourbillons, rockets of every kind, shells and stars of amber, sapphire, green, gold, crimson, blue, and all the changes that can be effected in such things, besides six artistic devices, and a finale of a transparency of the Prince and Princess of Wales with changing borders, vases throwing coloured globes, and various ingenious forms which revolved around. This brought to a close the public portion of the spectacle, and we were glad to hear three hearty cheers given for Dr. and Mrs. Leeson. Some of the brethren then returned to meet the doctor in the banquet-room, where "The Health of the Supreme Grand Council," "The M.W.S. of the Vectis Chapter, Bro. Hyde Pullen, 32°," and "The FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE," were given and replied to, and shortly after the brethren dispersed, grateful to their chief for this entertainment, pleased to have been present on a day so full of real enjoyment, happy to see Dr. Leeson, Mrs. Leeson, and his son in the enjoyment of such good health, and hoping—yea, praying in their hearts—that they all might long be spared to enjoy the princely property he owns, and which he so unselfishly throws open to gratify rich and poor alike, to whom, in the words of Virgil, we may say, in conclusion, "Forsan et haec olim meminisse juvabit."

Poetry.

THE FREEMASON'S PATER NOSTER.

(FROM THE GERMAN OF BRO. WEGENER.)

I CALL on Thee
Whom myriads worlds proclaim,
Whom thousand hearts do *Father* name,
I call on Thee!
The wonders of Thy hands I view,
Thy *beauty, wisdom, strength* anew,
Thee self—I see Thee not.
I hear thy word's melodious tongue,
With thundering voice the heavens along,
Thee self—I see thee not.
Though heavenly king, thy throne of light
Be hidden from my mortal sight,
Thee, Father, do I find.
The holy of the holiest place
In Thy creation's widest space
There seek I Thee, and pray:
Our Father, Who art in Heaven!

I praise Thee, Lord!
Which is the tongue that speaks Thy glorious name?
No mortal tongue calls Thee the same.
I praise Thee, Lord!
Though Isis, Bramah, Allah called,
By man named God, by seraph, Lord,
No word can speak Thy name.
In lightning does the savage see Thy throne,
Great Demiurgos prays the Greek alone;
I find another name:
The Universe's great Architect
I call Thee. Shall Thy child be checked
For this? Yet hallowed be Thy name.

I pray to Thee!
'Midst noble champions Thou my place,
To seek for *truth*, Thyself didst trace.
Do grant my prayer:
For all my brethren let the source
Of wisdom flow, the chain of force
That binds us, never rend.
Who's erring in a foreign land,
Be it the pole—the desert's sand,
Let them be all thine own.
Let all the brethren tread at length
In bond of *beauty, wisdom, strength*.
Thy kingdom come we pray.

Thine am I, Lord!
What would I be without Thy mighty hand?
A stone from thine own temple rent.
Thine am I, God!
To my dim soul Thy light and grace
Do show, and let Thy *compass*'s trace
The path I am to tread.
When selfish ties my heart constrain,
Grant that I rend them bold in twain,

For humbleness the Mason suits.
These be, O Lord, my soul's pursuits!
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven?

What's mine is thine !
I pray thee not for honours, gold, and glee ;
They are but trash, if not hallowed by thee ;
Rich am I, Lord !
But where a brother's lineaments bleak,
Demanding mercy silent speak,
When want and need seek aid in vain ,
Where hunger spreads with cruel pain,
There may for e'er with powerful blow,
The Mason's trowel its craft bestow ;
With open hand and brotherly zeal
What's gathered in the sash he'll deal
Among the poor, and humbly pray—
Our daily bread give us to-day ?

Forgive us, Lord !
When others trespass near at hand,
Do grant me that a rock I stand
Before Thy sinless eye.
Whene'er a brother wronged me hard,
That never I with cunning art
His wrongs repay in deed or word.
That ne'er in blood be drenched my sword !
For who would say, my sins are none ?
The greatest Master is but One ;
Thou merciful, all-gracious Lord !
Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who have trespassed against us.

Lead me' good Lord !
The Mason's course in this hot, threatened day
Be with the square and compass's in array.
To check the light of Masons' zealous work
Both tyranny and malice oftentimes lurk,
And adder-like, 'midst pleasure e'en and jest,
The world's false joys besiege the Mason's breast.
O Thou who art, who wast, and e'er will be,
Thy children all cry unto Thee—
Protect us, Lord ! And if a brother erred,
By foul temptation lured and stirred,
Then let him flee unto Thy part ;
Our lodges' altar will afford
Him peace and hope. The holy Three
Will teach him how to pray to Thee—
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil ?

Hallelujah ! heavenly Master ! Thine eternal columns stand
Firm as rocks, though worlds do perish in the realm ruled
by Thy hand.
Deeply grounded stands Thy temple reaching far beyond
the earth ;
Thousand hearts are fondly beating, thousand hands do
build with force.
Teach me, Lord, Thy ways to wander through this world's
wild surgy sea,
Till I view Thy heavenly glory in the port hallowed by Thee ;
Till my T ∵ the portal opens of Thy temple high and holy,
To whose altars thousands wander freed from care and
earthly folly.
*For Thine is eternal wisdom and power and glory, for ever
and ever. Amen.*

WILLING TO BE TRIED AGAIN.

I never have denied—
I'm willing to be tried—
A call for sympathy from sorrowing man ;
My own hard griefs impel
My heart for such to feel,
And I am willing to be tried again.
The claim, tho' often made,
For shelter and for aid,
I never have refused, and never can :
And though my purse was scant,
The poor did never want ;
And I am willing to be tried again.
I've suffered many a wrong,
From evil hand and tongue—
I've learned forgiveness from no common MAN !
Forgiveness I have shown,
As God to me has done ;
And I am willing to be tried again.
Each night on bended knee,
The All-seeing Eye doth see ;
My body suppliant at a throne Divine ;
And there for brothers' need,
As for my own I plead ;
And I am willing to be tried again.
I'm dying fast as soon—
My life has past its noon—
I've had a premonition that was plain :
My heart was strong in faith
That Christ would smile in death ;
An am willing to be tried again.

ROB. MORRIS.

THE WEEK.

THE COURT.—Her Majesty, with the younger members of the Royal Family, left Windsor Castle in the course of the evening of the 16th, and proceeded to Scotland, arriving at her residence in Balmoral about four o'clock on the following morning. The journey was made without accident and almost without a break, and the Royal party arrived at their Highland residence in good health and spirits. The Prince and Princess of Wales held a drawing-room at St. James's Palace, on Saturday. The attendance was extremely numerous, and the streets leading to the Palace were occupied for several hours with the carriages of the aristocracy waiting for their turn of admission. In the course of the day his Royal Highness was elected a Fellow of the Royal Horticultural Society at a special meeting of the Society the usual forms of election being dispensed with in the case of his Royal Highness. On Tuesday morning their Royal Highnesses visited the Polytechnic Institution, and after having heard the "Ghost" lecture, had [the mystery of the delusion fully explained to them "behind the scenes" by Professor Pepper. In the evening their Royal Highnesses had a grand evening reception at St. James's Palace, and in the "wee hours" of the following morning, on the departure of the company, the Prince, accompanied by the Prince of Hesse, went to the *Times* office to examine the machinery and mysteries of that establishment. In the course of Wednesday the two Princes proceeded to Epsom to witness the run for the Derby.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.—On Thursday, the 14th, the House of Lords did not sit, it being Ascension Day.—On Friday, Lord Ellenborough called attention to the Schleswig-Holstein question, and contended that Denmark had yielded every point which the German Powers had a right to demand. He strongly condemned the policy shadowed forth in Lord Russell's famous despatch on this question, and urged that England and France should endeavour, by means of a Congress, to put an end to a

danger which threatened the peace of Europe. Lord Russell defended the policy of the Government, and insisted that Denmark was bound to fulfil engagements into which she had solemnly entered. Lord Derby submitted that the Foreign Secretary's despatch had greatly increased the difficulties of this question, and that the recent proclamation of the King of Denmark ought to be accepted as a fair compromise. After some remarks from Lord Wodehouse, who opposed the pretensions of the German Powers, the subject dropped.—On Monday, the Marquis of Clanricarde urged the Government to adopt vigorous measures for checking what he called the illegal captures of British vessels by Federal cruisers. He contended that the authorities of the United States were setting international law at defiance, and he saw no prospect of a more satisfactory state of things, unless her Majesty's Government took steps of "a more energetic and decisive character." Lord Russell replied that Mr. Seward had over and over again intimated that no vessel must be seized unless there was sufficient ground to justify such a step, and in almost every case of seizure which had been brought under the notice of the Foreign Office; the law officers of the Crown had reported that there was "no rational ground of objection." With regard to adopting measures for the protection of English commerce, he said Admiral Milne had been ordered to send a ship or ships to the neighbourhood of Matamoras, but from the crowded state of that port, it would not appear that the proceedings of the Federal cruisers had had any effect in checking legitimate trade. With regard to the American Prize Courts, their impartiality and desire to do justice must for the present be unquestioned. The noble Earl, in conclusion, referred to the case of the Alabama. He denied that that ship had been fitted out with the cognisance of her Majesty's Government, and said there was no desire on the part of this country to "interfere unfairly" in the civil war. After a few remarks from Lord Derby, who agreed generally with Lord Russell, the subject dropped.—On Tuesday, Lord Ebury moved the second reading of his bill providing for the repeal of the present stringent declaration of assent to every word contained in the Book of Common Prayer which is required of all candidates for holy orders.—The Archbishop of Canterbury strongly opposed the measure, and moved the usual "this day six months" amendment.—The Bishop of London submitted that the present declaration was not merely useless but also mischievous.—Lord Lyttelton and the Bishop of Oxford opposed the bill, which was supported by the Bishop of St. David's.—The Bishop of Llandaff regretted the course taken by the Primate, and trusted that some concession would still be made to the scruples of conscientious persons who could not give an unqualified assent to all that was contained in the Prayer Book—After some further discussion, the House divided, when the bill was thrown out by a majority of 40. The Customs and Inland Revenue Bill was read a second time. Their lordships adjourned at ten minutes eight, for the holidays.—In the HOUSE OF COMMONS on Thursday, the 16th inst., Mr. Berkeley intimated his intention of bringing the ballot question forward as soon as possible after the Whitsuntide recess. In reply to a question from Mr. Dawson, in reference to the loss of the *Anglo-Saxon*, Mr. Milner Gibson said the Board of Trade had considered the desirableness of establishing fog signals at Cape Race, but the shipping interest had declined to sanction the payment of tolls for such a purpose, while the Atlantic steamship companies had refused to establish a system of signals on their own account. The New York Associated Press had offered to place a Daboll's fog trumpet at the Cape, but the Colonial authorities would not sanction such a step on the part of a foreign company. The United States government had re-

commended a Daboll trumpet, but they declined to guarantee its efficiency. The Marquis of Hartington moved the second reading of the Volunteer Bill, a measure based upon the recommendations of the Commission which recently inquired into the state of the volunteer force. After a short discussion, the bill was read a second time.—On Friday, Lord Palmerston, in reply to a question from Mr. Darby Griffith relative to the Suez canal, said Her Majesty's Government had expressed their approval of the determination come to by the Sultan and the Viceroy of Egypt to put an end to forced labour. In a speech on the Italian question the other night, the Premier stated that Rome was the head-quarters of a Committee which organised and sent forth bands of cut-throats into the Neapolitan territory. On Friday night Sir George Bowyer asked the noble Lord on what authority he had made that statement. Lord Palmerston replied that he was in the habit of receiving interesting information from different parts of the world; but, for obvious reasons, he declined to name his correspondents. He, however, referred the hon. Baronet to the account given by the Roman correspondent of the *Morning Post*, of a sermon recently preached before the ex-King of Naples by a Jesuit Father, named Curci. This reverend gentleman who would seem from his antecedents to be anything but favourable either to civil or religious liberty, reproached the Neapolitan emigrants for their refusal to accept the decrees of Providence, and submit to the change which had taken place. He further censured their dissolute habits and their efforts, by promises of money and inflammatory writings, to hound on the scum of society to deeds of pillage and slaughter.—Mr. Liddell delivered a speech against the policy of the government in China; and moved for papers in order to give the House an opportunity of discussing the question. The motion was negatived without a division. Mr. Cobden, and one or two other members who probably intended to take part in the threatened debate, expressed surprise at the manner in which the subject had been got out of the way. Lord Naas, however, promised to give the House another opportunity of discussing the question.—On Monday, Mr. Layard, in reply to a question from Mr. Pollard Urquhart as to whether the Brazilian Minister in London had demanded his passports, stated that the correspondence between his Excellency and her Majesty's Government was still going on, and that it would be inconvenient to lay any of the papers on the table at the present moment.—Sir George Bowyer returned to the "case" of Mr. Odo Russell, the representative of this country at Rome, but Lord Palmerston declined to give any information which might be made use of for the purpose of fomenting a quarrel between that gentleman and the French and Papal authorities.—After some discussion, the Prison Ministers Bill was read a third time and passed, by a majority of 29.—On Tuesday, Mr. Gladstone stated, in reply to a question from Sir H. Verney, that he could not positively say for what price the Exhibition building could be purchased, but on the re-assembling of the House after the holidays he hoped to be able to make a statement of the views of the Government on the subject. He added that if the Government did obtain possession of the structure it would be devoted to purposes of art.—Mr. Layard, in reply to questions from Mr. Warner and Sir James Fergusson, defended the conduct of the Government in dismissing Mr. Magee, the British vice-consul at Mobile, for the course he had taken in shipping specie from that port without giving due notice to Lord Lyons.—Mr. Hennessy again called attention to the Polish insurrection. He condemned the apathy of the Government on this question, and denounced the conduct of the Prussian authorities who allowed Russian troops to march through Prussian territory, and, instead of disarming them, re-

supplied them with ammunition.—Lord Palmerston, in reply, said he feared that Prussia was now playing the same game she played during the great revolt of 1831, when she materially assisted Russia in quelling the insurrection.—The House now stands adjourned for the Whitsun holidays.

GENERAL HOME NEWS.—The mortality in the metropolis continues high, but it is subsiding. The returns for last week amounted to 1350, which was about 100 below the number reported for the first week in May. It is, however, 130 above the estimated average, so that London is still a good way off from its normal state of health. The deaths from small-pox are falling-off, but they are still above 60 in the week. The births were 1875, which is about, though slightly under, the estimated average.—The Convocation of the Province of Canterbury re-assembled at Westminster on Tuesday. The Upper house did little beyond voting an address to the Prince and Princess of Wales on their marriage, and receiving petitions on and discussing the Colenso heresy. In the Lower House the report of the committee appointed at the last sitting to examine and report upon Bishop Colenso's books was presented. It was of great length, and summed up by describing Dr. Colenso's views as mischievous and dangerous. The report was adopted.—The Upper House of Convocation of the Province of Canterbury was engaged on Wednesday in a discussion in reference to Bishop Colenso's book. An answer to the report of the Lower House on the subject was proposed by the Bishop of Winchester. This answer declared the book to be dangerous in character and subversive of faith in the Bible, but added that as their lordships had reason to believe that it would be shortly submitted to the judgment of an ecclesiastical court they declined to further action in the matter. The Bishop of St. David's objected to the declaration as to the dangerous character of the book on the ground that no reasons were given for the conclusion arrived at. The Bishop of Salisbury objected to the second part of the answer, on the ground that convocation ought not to wait for the action of an ecclesiastical court before proceeding in the matter. Eventually the answer was adopted.—A meeting of the members of the National Rifle Association was held last week, at Willis's Rooms, the Duke of Cambridge in the chair. The discussion related chiefly to the forthcoming rifle competition at Wimbledon, which is fixed for the 18th of July. For the Queen's prize 920 competitors had already entered. There is to be an Alexandra prize, instituted in honour of the Princess of Wales, to be shot for with rifles of the Government pattern, and generally the propriety of encouraging the use of the Enfield rifle was admitted.—Sir Roderick Murchison has received a letter from Captain Speke, in which that intrepid explorer announces that the great lake is unquestionably the main source of the Nile. Sir Roderick is also able to inform the numerous friends of Mr. Consul Petherick in this country that that gentleman and his wife, who were some time ago reported to have been drowned in crossing a river, joined Captain Speke and Grant on the 23rd of February.—The landowners and other inhabitants of Radnorshire have determined to perpetuate the memory of Sir G. C. Lewis in some tangible form. It is also proposed to erect a memorial of the deceased statesman at Hereford.—Mr. Western Wood, who was elected member for the City of London only a year or two ago, died on Monday morning, at his country seat in Kent. The hon. member was in the 59th year of his age.—We regret to hear that Lord Clyde has been seriously, and even dangerously ill. The latest account of the gallant veteran's condition is that "he may almost be pronounced out of danger."—The great domestic event of Wednesday was a piece of business which was got through in about three

minutes—the race for the Derby. The weather was not particularly favourable for *al fresco* holiday making, but Epsom Downs was thronged, as is usual on the Derby Day, with "all sorts and conditions of men," women and children. The Prince of Wales and Prince Louis of Hesse, were among the thousands who witnessed the triumph of Macaroni.—On the 9th inst., as we gather from the weekly returns of Mr. Farnall, 182,564 persons were receiving parochial in the 27 unions affected by the cotton famine—a decrease of 5,071 as compared with the previous week, but an increase of 275 per cent. as compared with the corresponding period in 1861. The average per centage of pauperism on the populations of the unions referred to on the 9th inst. was 9·2, whereas in 1861 it was 2·4. The balance held by the Central Relief Committee amounts to about £350,000.—The Corporation of Blackburn has adopted a memorial to the Government, praying that the necessary steps may be taken by legislative enactment or otherwise, for enabling the borough to borrow £70,000 at a low rate of interest, in order that the local authorities may at once proceed with the execution of public works of utility, and thus give employment to a large number of cotton operatives who are now supported either out of the poor rates or by public benevolence. The Town Council of Stockport has followed the example of the Corporation of Blackburn.—The Lord Mayor has tendered his resignation as Major of the London Rifle Brigade. It seems that Lieutenant Colonel Warde has proposed that the lieutenant-colonelcy of the 2nd battalion of the brigade should be given to the Hon. W. S. Knox, M.P., and this proposal meets with the support of the members of the brigade. The Lord Mayor and his friends consider that as major of the the battalion he is entitled to the lieutenant-colonelcy, and as he is to be passed over he resigns his commission.—The launch of an iron-cased vessel, built for the Russian service from a Russian design, took place at the Thames Iron Works and Shipbuilding Yard, Blackwall, on Tuesday. She is named the *Pervenetz*, or "*Firstling*," and she is the first iron-clad ship in the Russian navy. That Government appears to have made a good start in her design. To take only one of her qualities—she draws 14 feet of water, which is lighter than any ship in the English iron-cased fleet except the *Enterprise*, and she is only one-third the size. The nearest approach to her in size is the *Royal Sovereign*, now converting on Cowper Coles' principle, but she is calculated to draw 22 feet of water. It will be seen, therefore, that the Russian designer has shown great skill in his plans.—Our readers will probably remember the curious trial, where a Miss Annie Russell prosecuted Mr. Adams, the surgeon, for breach of promise of marriage, but which failed, as the evidence chiefly rested in certain professional visits that Miss Russell and her mother had requested him to make. The sequel of the case has been brought out in the Bankruptcy Court; Miss Russell, as a bankrupt, having sued for her release. The principal creditors opposed to her were Mr. Adams for his taxed costs in the case, and her own solicitor. It appears that the mother of Miss Russell has also become a bankrupt.—An unusual incident occurred on Saturday at the Southwark Police-court, when three constables were convicted of making use of their position to extort money. It appears that the keeper of a public-house, who had been convicted of allowing disorder under his management, was waited upon by the officers, who offered for a consideration to get his licence quietly transferred to another party. They denied the charge, but the magistrate held it to be proved, and sentenced them to imprisonment; but the severer punishment will be dismissal from the force.—An adjourned inquest upon the body of Mr. Doggett, a wealthy ironmonger, who resided in

Shoreditch, and against whose wife great inhumanity and drunkenness had been alleged, was held on Monday, when, after hearing further evidence, the jury returned a verdict of "Manslaughter against Mrs. Doggett."—An inquiry into the death of Mr. Roberts, the baker, at Woolwich, who hanged himself in consequence of his servant girl charging him with having induced her to put poison in her mistress's supper beer, has been held. The widow was examined, and stated that the girl had confessed to her she had put the poison in the beer, but said nothing about the complicity of her master. Several witnesses deposed to the depressed spirits of the deceased, and the jury returned a verdict of temporary insanity.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.—The Prussian Chamber of Deputies have not only adopted the proposition of their committee, but have resolved that an address shall be sent to the Ministers, summoning them to be present at their sittings, in accordance with the 60th Article of the Constitution. The Ministry has obtained from the Upper House, which seems determined to mark in all things its opposition to the House of Deputies, a vote thanking the King for the "attitude taken up by the Government on the Polish question." The Lower House has addressed to the King a remonstrance against the insolent refusal of Count Bismarck and his fellow ministers to attend the sittings of the House, but the King has replied by approving the conduct of his Ministers; and there are some rumours that the session immediately afterwards will be closed. The area of the Polish insurrection is extending to a very serious degree. With the exception of two districts the whole of the Ukraine is in a state of insurrection, and a provisional insurgent chief has been proclaimed. In four districts of Podolia the insurrectionary spirit has manifested itself, the peasants, however, remaining quiet; and in Volhynia the insurrection has broken out at five different points. The amnesty has been spurned on all sides. Advices from Warsaw represent the National Committee as becoming daily more bold in the issue of proclamations regulating the government of the country. One of the later proclamations relates to financial operations, and declares all financial acts and ordinances of the Russian Government to be null and void, and another forbids the Parisian banker, M. Alexander Laski, accepting the presidency of the Warsaw Bank. The Lithuanian Provisional Government has issued a proclamation emancipating the peasants of Volhynia, and assuring to them religious liberty and the partition of all landed property. The Norwegians have seized the occasion of the visit of Prince Czartoriski to Christiana to manifest their sympathy with the Poles, at the same time according to the Prince a most enthusiastic reception.—The Prussian ambassador at Paris has officially denounced as false the letter published in the *Czas*, attributed to the Prussian Commander at Ironclau, arranging with a Russian general the movement of troops on the frontier. The ambassador also points other inventions of the same character, and complains of the practice indulged in of calumniating the Prussian Government.—It is asserted that the Sublime Porte has more or less reluctantly yielded to the pressing instances of the French ambassador, and has consented to despatch to St. Petersburg a note making such representations in favour of the Poles as have already been urged by France, England, Austria, and several minor States.—Marshal O'Donnell, Duke of Tetuan, has met with rather a severe accident. His horse threw him, and he received considerable injuries.—Prince Napoleon has presented Ismail Pasha, Viceroy of Egypt, with the grand cordon of the Legion of Honour.—Despatches from Vera Cruz, under date of April 22, announce that the siege operations at Puebla promise favourably for the assailants. The French had obtained several advantages—which,

however, are described in the very qualified phrase, "partial," and it is understood that reinforcements are about to be despatched from France to Mexico.

AMERICA.—The advance of General Hooker across the Rappahannock and towards Richmond, we learn by the *Fersia's* news, was not long before it was checked by a counter movement on the part of General Lee. On the 2nd inst., the right wing of General Hooker had reached Chancellorsville, and was there met by the forces of General Lee, which had made a flank movement from Fredericksburg, and the Federal army was driven back. On the following day (Sunday), the division of General Hooker came to the support of the beaten troops, and the fight was renewed, and after a desperate struggle of several hours the Federals again retired. They did not, however, recross the Rapidan, and the fight was, no doubt, renewed on the Monday, and could scarcely fail to be attended with important results, as both armies were in so critical a position that a defeat was sure to be disastrous. As the Federal Government had withheld any report of that day's fighting, it is inferred that General Hooker has been defeated. The Federals were still engaged in a variety of movements against Vicksburg, and it is supposed that Generals Grant and Sherman will now make a combined attack on that place. The Federal attack on Grand Gulf it is now certain was a failure. The attack on Charleston was to be renewed, and the 4th was the day fixed for the iron-clads again to cross the bar. General Sedgwick's corps, which had previously crossed the Rappahannock, and had on the 3rd inst. carried the heights in the rear of Fredericksburg, was fiercely assailed by superior Confederate forces under General Longstreet. A sanguinary engagement ensued, and General Sedgwick's troops suffered so severely that they gave way, and their commander ultimately deemed it necessary to recross the Rappahannock in the night. During the passage of the stream, which lasted from midnight till two o'clock in the morning of the 5th instant, General Sedgwick's rear was hotly pressed by the Confederates, and his men suffered from the fire of the Southern artillery, which raked the bridge. But as soon as he had reached the northern bank of the Rappahannock, General Sedgwick marched towards United States Ford. The Confederates had, it appears, established themselves on the southern bank of the Rappahannock, near United States Ford, and had planted guns, which had shelled the Federal waggon trains assembled on the northern bank, and had caused a panic among the waggoners. The French mail steamer which arrived on Sunday at Lisbon from Brazil, has brought us some intelligence regarding the depredations of the Confederate steamers Alabama and Florida. Those redoubted vessels had been cruising in the neighbourhood of Pernambuco, and had captured seven Federal merchantmen, the *Kingfisher*, *Charles Hill*, *Louisa Hatch*, *Kate Corey*, *Lafayette*, *Henrietta*, and *Oneida*. Of these vessels, one was bound from Liverpool to Calcutta, another from Liverpool to Monte Video, and a third—which was laden with a cargo of coals that must have been very useful to her captors—from Cardiff to Ceylon.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

P. M.—We will endeavour to consult your wishes.

A BROTHER.—The *Masonic Mirror* was first published in Nov., 1854. The union with the *FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE* took place in January, 1856.

S. S.—The Ancient and Accepted Rite.

P. J.—All Dr. Oliver's works may be obtained from Bro. Spencer, in Great Queen Street.

JOSHUA.—We do not profess infallibility—to err is human.