

LONDON, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 1861.

### FREEMASONRY IN HULL.

The Humber Lodge (No. 57), whose warrant is dated in 1756, built a new lodge house in Osborne-street in 1827, which having been found too small to accommodate the increasing number of its members, the brethren, some time since, determined to make some extensive alterations in and to the lodge buildings facing Osborne-street—to convert the present lodge-room into a banquetting-hall, and to build a new lodge room. Upon this determination being come to, the Worshipful Master, Bro. C. S. Todd, placed the matter in the hands of Mr. Smith, the architect, of Hull, with instructions to prepare the necessary plans in accordance with the exigencies of the lodge. Plans in accordance with such instructions were duly prepared and submitted to and approved by the lodge in May last. The additions to the fabric of the present lodge buildings are as follows:—The existing lodge room it is proposed to use as the future banquetting hall of the new lodge, retaining its present height, length, and width, being, in fact, without alteration or change, except where the new entrances are rendered necessary in order to adapt it for its intended purpose.

Two large houses, and premises adjoining, belonging to the lodge and lying south of the old lodge room, have been cleared away, and on the site is now being built a very handsome entrance hall (23ft. long) to the banquetting hall, with folding doors; an entrance, also, to a library, 16ft. long, and a private room for the W.M.; a kitchen, with cooking apparatus sufficient to dine over a hundred and fifty members, as also hot-water apparatus for heating the lodge and banquetting hall; a steward's room, with closets and every convenience; also a private side entrance to the banquetting hall and to the Tyler's house.

The upper floor will be approached by a handsome stone Masonic staircase, leading from the entrance hall and landing in a corridor having an organ loft over it, the corridor being sufficiently large to allow of the formation of Masonic processions, and giving access not only to the new lodge itself (which will be of the same size and over the existing lodge room), but to a new preparing room, and a Tyler's room adjoining.

The Tyler's apartments will be to the east of the grand staircase, and consist of a kitchen, sitting room, and two good-sized bed rooms. The whole

will be approached by a staircase leading from the private entrance from Osborne-street to the banquetting hall, and giving also access to the lodge, kitchen, and the Steward's room.

There will be in Osborne-street a new front to the lodge buildings with a *façade* in the Italian style executed in cement, and which, when finished, will be a handsome addition to the public buildings of the town.

The foundation-stone of these new buildings was laid last week by Lord Londesborough with full Masonic honours, under a dispensation from the Grand Master.

The brethren of the Humber Lodge may be congratulated upon having so handsome a series of Masonic buildings, and upon the general prosperity of their lodge and its funds.

We are informed that during the last few years the lodge has spent in educating in their own town eight or nine of the sons and daughters of poor brethren about £300; in contributions to local charities £286; in payments and donations to the widows of deceased Masons, members of their lodge, £178; and in casual relief to distressed brethren, £652; whilst their Benevolent and Pension Fund, established by the lodge in 1840, amounts to £3,500.

The cost of the new buildings will be about £1,000, all of which has been subscribed for by the members of the lodge without touching a shilling of their invested funds. Where is there another lodge which has done, or can do, as much as the Humber?

### THE FINE ARTS IN CONNECTION WITH THE CHURCH.

An Address by Mr. W. BURGESS, at the Bristol Church Congress.

One of the very great advantages of réunions such as the present is, that we are enabled to take stock of other things than those immediately set forth in the prospectus; and I therefore most willingly seize the opportunity to examine as to the state of the fine arts in connection with the Anglican Church. Of course, the subject resolves into what we have done, what we are doing, and what we may reasonably be expected to do. Now as to what we have done. It is some twenty years or more since the Cambridge Camden Society took up the subject of Mediæval architecture. Pugin had done much, but no man can ever pretend to direct so great a subject as a change in our architecture. The Camden Society went into the breach, and, by means of a series of most useful papers, containing the results of the ex-

periences of the many, and also by means of the most unsparing criticism, it succeeded in getting us to build tolerably decent churches, *i.e.*, churches which, as regard the exterior, looked very like old ones. Not that it required any particular talent on the part of the architect to do so, for the directions for a regulation church are very plain, and may be easily found by an attentive perusal of the *Eccelesiologist*; and, indeed, so easy has the subject become, that I venture to say that almost any young architect of the present day who has been two years in an office, can design his regulation church. Another great occupation was the restoration of old churches. I do not know whether I ought properly to call this a restoration or a destruction, for so much injury has been done under this pretended restoration, that I do not hesitate to declare that we have lost a great deal more than we have gained under this head. There is really no more difficult problem in the whole practice of architecture than that of restoration; for, a man to succeed thoroughly in it, must be not only versed in modern and ancient construction, but must also be an antiquarian and something of an artist. Yet how often do we hear of young men just out of their apprenticeship, and with good connexions, beginning life with the one or two churches to build, and five or six more to restore. Of course, the new churches do not matter very much; for, as I said before, church building is the sole thing taught in an office; but it is a very different thing as regards the restored churches, in each of which we stand a chance of losing some landmark in the history of architecture. So often, indeed, has this happened, that, as a general rule, when one hears of a church having been restored, it is hardly worth going to study from. What really is wanted in the restoration of a church, is to do as little as possible. Keep it together if it is possible. If an aisle or tower is tumbling down, rebuild it, using as much of the old materials as possible, and inserting a small inscription to record the fact. Should there be any money to spare, employ it in a work of art as good as you can get for your money, *i.e.*, one stained glass window, a dossal, or a painting on a wall or roof; but then get it good, and let it tell some story—in fact, let it be such that an artist would think it worth his while to turn out of his way to look at it. As it is, we fill our churches with stained glass which a future generation will probably break to pieces; and if ever we do see a piece of sculpture, we may be sure that it is of the most mild description. The figure tells no story, for they have no expression in their faces, and do not appear to know what to do with their hands. Their hair, also, is most carefully arranged, and their noses and other features are of the most regular and unmeaning description. But to return to the new church. As I said before, the exterior is generally very like an old one, and that old one of the village type; it

is only very lately that we have become aware that town and village churches require very different modes of treatment. But suppose we open the door, and go inside—what do we see? Generally nothing at all beyond a mass of seats and a few inferior stained-glass windows, and very happy indeed are we if these latter do not positively offend the eye by their raw colouring, to say nothing of their bad drawing. The walls are plain plaster, and the roof looks like a scaffolding, so thin and meagre is it. Now, in the edifices up to the fourteenth century, I very much question whether that desideratum of ecclesiologists, an open roof, ever obtained in churches. Look at ancient twelfth and thirteenth century buildings that have not been restored, and you will find an hexagonal ceiling, the said ceiling in many places replacing the old boarding; but in some poor places, as in the little Sussex churches, it may just as likely have been original. In many instances the ceiling was even flat, or very slightly canted, as at Peterborough, Jesus College, Cambridge, and, I believe, Adel Church. Now, this boarding was useful in two ways; it afforded a surface for decoration, and it kept the church cool in summer and warm in winter. There was also a small window high up in the gable, to ventilate the air between the ceiling and roof. In our modern open roofs we have just the reverse; they are frightfully hot in summer, and cold in winter. Go into a church after a Sunday afternoon's service, and observe how close it smells. Our modern architects put the little window in the gable because they find it there in the old examples; but with them it is of no earthly use but to afford light where light is not wanted, and to show the thin scantling of their timbers.

Another important point is the treatment of the walls. No one in his senses supposes that all the Mediæval churches were decorated in brilliant gold and colours, like the Sainte Chapelle of Paris, or St. Stephen's at Westminster. Yet they were painted, and in this manner; the rubble of the walls was dubbed out to a plain surface; the angle jambs of windows and doors were made of stone, because that was the best and most durable material for the purpose. The whole of the walls was then covered with a coating of gesso (whiting and size) one-eighth of an inch thick, which was gradually thinned off as it approached the stone jambs, which were covered with only a thin coating of it, so they did not show as stone. Upon this gesso the artist painted his subjects with a red outline and shaded them up with black and red and yellow, using white for the high lights. It should be remembered that these colours were not used pure except in little bits, but were broken up with white and with one another. The seas of diaper we see in modern churches were unknown to the old artist, who, when he did employ diaper, did so only as a background, or to fill up a space unoccupied with anything more im-

portant. From remains being continually brought to light, we may confidently assert, that nearly every church in the 13th century was decorated in this manner; they were whitewashed in the reigns of Edward VI. and Elizabeth, and have, in the vast majority of instances, only been brought to light to insure their more speedy destruction from the church restorer. The interior of a modern church, on the contrary, is neatly plastered with plaster lin. or  $\frac{3}{4}$  in. thick, which stops flush with the stone quoins, which are left uncovered because the architect has been brought up to consider stone as a beautiful material for its own sake; in fact, just the same as an Italian would regard marble. The consequence is that we see every piece of stone a distinct colour from the plaster, and all the lines of the architecture become jagged and uneven. Nothing is probably more amusing, if it were not at the same time sad to read, than the congratulatory tone of the public prints when they notice the opening of a new church. We are told that there is a spacious and commodious chancel, or that the edifice is built in the appropriate form of the cross; that all the capitals have been beautifully carved into roses and lilies, or passion-flowers, by Mr. X., the architectural sculptor; that the roofs are of high pitch, and have been varnished and stained; that two of the columns of the font are of Purbeck, and two of them of Rouge Royal marble; that the stone reredos is inlaid with finely polished marble, and that the chancel has been laid down with Minton's encaustic tiles. Sometimes, indeed, our breath is taken away by our being informed that the chancel is lined with alabaster. Now, these things are not art, they are only prettinesses. They cost a great deal of money, and do not add to the solemnity of the building. How much better would it have been to have got some young artist to have told some Bible story, some event in the life of our Great Example? The picture or pictures might be done in tempora, the most lasting of vehicles where there is no damp. It might be executed in grisaille, or in the four colours like the old examples; and surely the lesson taught by our Saviour working at his father's trade, and being obedient to his parents, may in many instances be worth acres of Minton's encaustic tiles, or yards of inlaid work. But remember, in this instance, I presume the aid of a competent artist is employed; and there are many such among the younger ones who would be but too delighted to work for the church instead of painting pictures for the Academy on speculation, which are probably badly hung, and certainly not sold. Such pictures would have good drawing and expression, and such painters would be able to make cartoons which would also have these qualities, and so save us from so much rubbish which is annually placed in our windows. And here I may perhaps be permitted to pay a tribute to my late friend Charles Winston, so well known for his work on stained glass. He differed most

decidedly from the school of art to which most of my friends and myself belong. In fact, he considered the Roman architecture as our true *point de depart*; but with all this he is the unceasing and unsparing advocate of boldness in architecture to the exclusion of prettiness—such as cusps and finials—and of good drawing and good colouring in stained glass. From him I learned a very great deal, and many of the opinions I have ventured to put forward on this occasion I first heard from his mouth. Had he been spared longer he would have seen the principles he advocated in general use throughout the architectural arts; as it was, he only lived to see the beginning.

Lastly, the question presents itself as to what we are to do to beautify our churches. The answer appears to me to be in three things. The first is to use them a good deal more. At the present day, private devotion has, to a great degree, superseded public. How far such a result is desirable it does not become me, as a layman, to speculate. A man will naturally care less for a building which he enters only every seventh day, than one in which he says his prayers every day, morning and night. Perhaps if some of our city churches were kept open all day, the chancel being protected by a grille, public devotion might to some degree supersede private, and people might become to take an interest in a place so much frequented, and with which their hopes and fears are so much associated.

The second thing to do is to have a greater love of monumental art. This love of monumental art is of slow growth, and will not arise in one or two years. By monumental art I mean the painting the walls of our rooms instead of hanging pictures upon them; in spending money on objects of daily use, and in making our sculpture part and parcel of our domestic buildings. The great obstacle to such a state of things is our unfortunate law of leasehold; for who will paint walls when he knows that he has them painted eventually for his landlord and not for his descendants?

The third thing required is a better education of the architect. In nine cases out of ten, if the architect can show his client a sketch of the group of sculpture or the painting he wants introduced in connexion with the architecture, his client will let him have it done. But unfortunately when the architect, as is too often the case, cannot do this, he takes refuge in notches, foliages, cusplings, chamfers, tiles, marbles inlaying in stone, and other prettinesses which, in the end, cost more money than works of art, and are nothing to look at when they are done. An instance of this obtains in our metal-work. I should very much like to know the sums annually expended on the wretched brasswork held together with screws, that we now see in every church. We do see an immensity of it, but how is it that we so seldom see cast brass work with figures like the Albergo of Milan? Simply because it is easier to draw a thing with a pair of

compasses than to design historical groups of figures.

It should also be remembered that no artist—and no architect such as we now want is an artist—can possibly do more than a certain number of works of art. All above that must be done by his clerks, while he himself cannot have the time to properly think over even those he retains (if he does retain any) for his own special attention. One great remedy I would propose is a more general distribution of work among architects, and, at the same time, a demand for higher qualifications from them. They should also be paid as artists are paid, according to their merits, and not upon a percentage of work done. I have thus, according to the best of my ability, touched upon the present state of ecclesiastical decoration, and the means for our future improvement. The great thing is to create a demand, by opening our churches every day, and all day long. The decoration will soon follow; and a crop of artist-painters will arise which will be an ornament to our Church, and prove in this country that she follows up the proud position she has taken up of late years, viz., as the great patroness of the fine arts. At present the question is simply between art and prettinesses.

#### MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

##### IRISH OPERATIVE MASONS.

In looking over the proceedings of one of the Irish Archæological Societies, I discovered a paper "On the Secret Language of the Craftsmen of the Middle Ages in Ireland," which contains some information that may be interesting to my brethren in speculative Masonry. After alluding to the secret marks which the operatives were in the habit of placing on the products of their heads and hands, the author states that they had also a dialect called "*Bearlagair-nasair*," which means in Irish "the language of the Masons." This dialect, it appears, is still used among the Masons in the counties of Limerick, Clare, Waterford, and Cork, but principally in the latter two counties. The following are a few words of this "*Bearlagair*:" *Arriek* means "a Mason;" *Limeen*, "a trowel;" *Rochavn-thour*, "the breeches;" and *Gladeen*, "the knife." These Masons guard their secrets and peculiar language with jealous care. They pride themselves highly on their Craft, and look down with great contempt on us speculative Masons, as the following song which they are wont to sing over their foundation and finishing pots will testify. It is entitled—

"THE LADS WITH THEIR APRONS ON.

"You Masons brave, that courage have,  
To execute each artist's plan,  
I pray give ear to what you hear,  
And that from a Mason's son.  
Let Babel's height not you affright,  
Or the temple that the heavens planned;  
That pile of state was made complete,  
And built by lads with their aprons on.

"On Egypt's plains they took great pains  
To raise the Pyramids so high;  
Who had them made it is not said,  
Nor can they tell the reason why.  
How they had stood before the Flood,  
For to deny it no man can;  
But this they may sincerely say,  
They were built by lads with their aprons on.

"And you Masons bright take no delight,  
In what they call *Freemasonry*,  
Nor with their mock signs, their squares and lines,  
Or any of their d—d mystery.  
For it is well they know it was by you,  
That all their wondrous works were done,  
They'd pledge their souls to steal our trowels,  
And mock us with their silk aprons on."

—J. KINGSTON, P. Prov. G.C. for Dorset.

##### JACQUES DE MOLAI.

Will some Knight Templar kindly tell me why Jacques de Molai is recognised as a saint in Russia? His portrait is very common in Russian houses, and occupies a prominent place among the saints recognised by the Greek Church, in the houses of the nobility and peasantry.—IN TE DOMINE SPERAVI.

##### THE NEW ORDER IN AMERICA.

[There is a new secret order in America. *The Daily Telegraph* of Tuesday last, in a letter from its New York correspondent, has given such an interesting account of it that we feel it ought to be preserved in these columns for future reference. Will some of our American readers kindly furnish us with a copy of Mr. Holt's report? We should very much like to see the original from which the following account has been condensed:—

"The Hon. Joseph Holt, Secretary of War during the closing days of Mr. Buchanan's Administration, and Judge-Advocate General under Secretary Stanton, has just published a remarkable report, which really carries one back to the days of the French Revolution, when secret societies were so much in vogue, and exerted so tremendous and baleful an influence. This document would occupy no less than eight or ten columns of *The Daily Telegraph*, if it were printed in full, and, as much of it is altogether unimportant to your readers, I shall make a brief abstract of it for their benefit. It sketches the origin and history of the organisation known as the 'Knights of the Golden Circle'—regarding which so much has lately been said—gives its extent and members the strength of its armed force, its ritual oath and interior forms, its written principles, its specific purposes and operations, and the sources whence the statement made was derived. Judge-Advocate Holt states that the organisation first developed itself in the west in the year 1862, about the period of the first conscription of troops, which is aimed to obstruct and resist. Originally known in certain localities as the 'Mutual Protection Society,' the 'Circle of Honour,' or the 'Circle,' or 'Knights of the Mighty Host,' but more widely as the 'Knights of the Golden Circle,' it was, he says, 'simply an inspiration of the rebellion, being little other than an extension among the disloyal and disaffected at the North of the association of the latter name, which had existed for some years at the South, and from which it derived all the chief features of its organisation.'

"In the summer and fall of 1863 he states that General Sterling Prince, of Missouri, who was one of

the leading spirits of the order, instituted a secret association in that state; and, as he was absent with his army in Arkansas, appointed Charles L. Hunt, the Belgian Consul in St. Louis, as its chief officer. This organisation was known as the 'Corps de Belgique;' and for his connection with it, as well as for other disloyal practices, Mr. Hunt had his exequatur revoked. Meanwhile, another organisation, known as the 'Order of the American Knights,' was instituted in the North by Mr. Vallandigham and others. The plan of this, Mr. Holt states, was devised while Vallandigham was in exile; and he even goes so far as to say that its 'ritual' was arranged by Mr. Davis himself. Subsequently, all other organisations were merged into the 'Order of the American Knights,' and that designation was adopted for the society both North and South. Mr. Holt states, however, that a society, known as the 'McClellan Minute Guard,' which is apparently a branch of this general order, exists in New York and other parts of the North. Mr. Holt then goes into minute details regarding the organisation and officers, which are comparatively unimportant. He states that the strength and significance of the society lie in its military character; he depicts the 'forces belonging to the order in the various States when called into actual service;' and says further that the grand commanders 'shall be commanders-in-chief of the military forces of their respective States.' Subordinate to the grand commander in the State are the 'major-generals,' each of whom commands his separate district and army. In Indiana the major-generals are four in number. In Illinois, where the organisation of the order is considered most perfect, the members in each congressional district compose a 'brigade,' which is commanded by a 'brigadier-general.' The members of each county constitute a 'regiment,' with a 'colonel' in command, and those of each township form a 'company.' A somewhat similar system prevails in Indiana, where also every company is divided into 'squads,' each with its chief—an arrangement intended to facilitate the guerilla mode of warfare in case of a general outbreak or local disorder.

"Mr. Holt charges an individual by the name of P. C. Wright, formerly one of the editors of the *New York Daily News*, with being a leading officer of the association; but the present proprietors of that journal, it is fair to say, emphatically deny that any person of that name has ever been employed upon the paper in question. The names of many of the leaders in different States are given, and Mr. Holt states that those who have not been arrested must not take it for granted that they are unknown. The Government, he says, had them all under military surveillance; and however frequently the organisation may change its name, or to whatever devices it may resort to throw the officers and detectives off the track, all will be useless. Nor, he remarks, was the investment of the officers of the organisation with military titles meant simply to dazzle the masses. It has an armed force, and since February, 1863, its leaders have been engaged in placing it upon a military basis. In March last the entire force of the order which might be mobilised was 34,000 men; and Mr. Holt says that one intelligent witness, who has been a member of the order, estimates that in March last there were in their possession in Indiana 6,000

muskets and 60,000 revolvers, besides private arms. Another member testifies that at a single lodge meeting of 252 persons, which he attended early in the present year, the sum of 4,000 dols. was subscribed for arms. Other members present statements in regard to the number of arms in their respective counties, and all agree in representing that these have been constantly forwarded from Indianapolis into the interior. The arms were shipped principally from the East; some packages, however, were sent from Cincinnati, and some from Kentucky, and the boxes were generally marked 'pickaxes,' 'hardware,' 'nails,' 'household goods,' &c.

"Mr. Holt gives some important testimony regarding the numbers of the order, which seems incredible. He says that it was asserted by delegates to the Supreme Council of February last that the number was there represented to be from 800,000, to 1,000,000; but Mr. Vallandigham, in his speech last summer at Dayton, Ohio, stated it at 500,000, which is probably much nearer the true total. The number of its members in the several States has been differently estimated in the reports and statements of its officers. Thus, the force of the order in Indiana is stated to be from 75,000 to 125,000; in Illinois, from 100,000 to 140,000; in Ohio, from 80,000 to 108,000; in Kentucky, from 40,000 to 70,000; in Missouri, from 20,000 to 40,000; and in Michigan and New York about 20,000 each. Its representation in the other States above-mentioned does not specifically appear from the testimony; but allowing for every exaggeration in the figures reported, Mr. Holt thinks they may be deemed to present a tolerably faithful view of what, at least, is regarded by the order as its true force in the States designated.

"Some curious statements are made by Mr. Holt regarding the oaths and rituals of the order. 'The oath which is administered upon the introduction of a member into any degree,' he says, 'is especially imposing in its language; it prescribes as a penalty for a violation of the obligation assumed a 'shameful death,' and further, that the body of the person guilty of such violation shall be divided in four parts, and cast out at the four 'gates' of the temple. Not only, as has been said, does it enjoin a blind obedience to the orders of the superiors of the order, but it is required to be held of paramount obligation to any oath which may be administered to a member in a court of justice or elsewhere. Thus, in cases where members have been sworn, by officers empowered to administer oaths, to speak the whole truth in answer to questions that may be put to them, and have been examined in reference to the order and their connections therewith, they have not only refused to give any information in regard to its character, but have denied that they were members, or even that they knew of its existence.' Some instances of this refusal are cited, and then Mr. Holt gives some curious information regarding the signs, signals, pass-words, &c., of the order. By means of them he says members may recognise each other on the battle-field, and, in case of capture, may escape personal injury. In certain dwellings in Indiana, Kentucky, &c., it is stated that a likeness of John Morgan protects the property from harm in case of a raid. Extracts from the ritual and declaration of principles of the order are given to show the treasonable character of the organisation. After reviewing these, Mr. Holt

writes:—'Such, then, are the written principles of the order in which the neophyte is instructed, and which he is sworn to cherish and observe as his rule of action when, with arms placed in his hands, he is called upon to engage in the overthrow of his Government. This declaration—first, of the absolute right of slavery; second, of State sovereignty and the right of secession; third, of the right of armed resistance to constituted authority on the part of the disaffected and the disloyal whenever their ambition may prompt them to revolutionise—is but an assertion of that abominable theory which, from its first enunciation, served as a pretext for conspiracy after conspiracy against the Government on the part of Southern traitors, until their detestable plotting culminated in open rebellion and bloody civil war. What more appropriate name, therefore, to be communicated as a password to the new member upon his first admission to the secrets of the order could have been conceived than that which was actually adopted—that of "Calhoun?"—a man who, baffled in his lust for power, with gnashing teeth turned upon the Government that had lifted him to its highest honours, and upon the country that had borne him, and down to the very close of his fevered life laboured incessantly to scatter far and wide the seeds of that poison of death now upon our lips. The thorns which now pierce and tear us are of the tree he planted.'

"The 'specific purposes' of the order are then detailed. First among them is, aiding soldiers to desert, and harbouring and protecting deserters. He states that through the schemes of the order in Indiana whole companies were broken up; a large detachment of a battery company, for instance, deserting on one occasion to the enemy, with two of the guns, and the camps were imbued with a spirit of discontent and dissatisfaction with the service. Some estimate of the number of deserters at this time may be derived from a report of the Adjutant-General of Indiana, of January, 1863, setting forth that the number of deserters and absentees returned to the army through the post of Indianapolis alone, during the month of December, 1862, was nearly 2,600. The second of the objects of the organisation as enumerated by Mr. Holt is discouraging enlistments and resisting the draft. This was done by formidable combinations in certain counties in Indiana, by shooting the enrolling officers, by breaking into the Marshal's offices and destroying books and papers, by speeches, by violent newspaper articles, and by instructing members of the order who were drafted to desert to the Confederates at the first opportunity. The third object of the order was the circulation of 'disloyal and treasonable publications.' According to Mr. Holt, the order has, especially in Missouri, secretly circulated throughout the country a great quantity of treasonable publications, as a means of extending its own power and influence, as well as of giving encouragement to the disloyal and inciting them to treason. Of these, some of the principal are the following, 'Pollard's Southern History of the War,' 'Official Reports of the Confederate Government,' 'Life of Stonewall Jackson,' pamphlets containing articles from the *Metropolitan Record*, 'Abraham Africanus, or Mysteries of the White House,' 'The Lincoln Catechism, or a Guide to the Presidential Election in 1864,' 'Indestructible Organics,' by Tirga. Its fourth object was keeping up communication with, and

giving intelligence to, the enemy. This was done by protecting Confederate spies, emissaries and mail carriers, and by spies furnished by the order, among whom were many women. In Missouri and Kentucky there were wide-spread organisations for these purposes. They communicated military intelligence, apprised the rebels of weakly-defended points, and invited raids and expeditions of which they were previously well apprised.

"To show how efficient the order was in this work, Mr. Holt states that the Federal military authorities have, in a number of cases, been informed, through members of the order, employed in the interest of the Government, of impending raids, and important army movements of the rebels, not only days but sometimes weeks, sooner than the same intelligence could have reached them through the ordinary channels. On the other hand, the system of espionage kept up by the order, for the purpose of obtaining information of the movements of the Federal forces, &c., to be imparted to the enemy, seems to have been as perfect as it was secret. The Grand Secretary of the order in Missouri states, in his confession, 'One of the especial objects of this order was to place members in steamboats, ferry-boats, telegraph offices, express offices, department head quarters, provost-marshal's offices, and, in fact, in every position where they could do valuable service;' and he proceeds to specify certain members who, at the date of his confession (August 2 last) were employed at the express and telegraph offices in St. Louis. Again, the order devoted its energies to recruiting for the Confederates, and assisting them to recruit in the Federal lines. This was done extensively in Missouri and Kentucky, and it is estimated that in April and May 1864 as many as two thousand men were sent to the rebel army from Louisville alone. It also did its best to furnish the Confederates with arms, ammunition, &c. The female Confederate sympathisers of Louisville and Kentucky are represented by Mr. Holt as having rendered the most valuable aid to the Southern army, by transporting very large quantities of percussion caps, powder, &c., concealed upon their persons, to some convenient locality near the lines, whence they could be readily conveyed to those for whom they were intended. It is estimated that at Louisville, up to May 1 last, the sum of 17,000 dollars had been invested by the order in ammunition and arms to be forwarded principally in this manner to the rebels. The order has also actively co-operated with the Confederates in making raids and incursions into the Federal lines. At one time, Mr. Holt says there was a grand plan for a general rising of the order. This plan was twofold, and consisted—first, of a rising of the order in Missouri, aided by a strong detachment from Illinois, and a co-operation with a Confederate army under Price; second, of a similar rising in Indiana, Ohio, and Kentucky, and a co-operation with a force under Breckinridge, Buckner, Morgan, or some other Confederate commander, who was to invade the latter State. In this case the order was first to cut the railroads and telegraph wires, that intelligence of the movement may not be sent abroad, and the transportation of Federal troops might be delayed, and then to seize upon the arsenals at Indianapolis, Columbus, Springfield, Louisville, and Frankfort, and, furnishing such of their number as were without arms, to kill or make prisoners of de-

partment, district, and post commanders, release the Confederate prisoners at Rock Islands and at Camps Morton, Douglas, and Chase, and thereupon join the Southern army at Louisville or some other point in Kentucky, which State was to be permanently occupied by the combined force. At the period of the movement it was also proposed that an attack should be made upon Chicago by means of steam tugs mounted with cannon. A similar course was to be taken in Missouri, and was to result in the permanent occupation of the State. Various periods were fixed for this great movement. One was determined upon in the spring of this year, simultaneously with Lee's projected invasion of Maryland and Pennsylvania, and the District of Columbia. Another was expected in co-operation with a forward movement of the Southern forces on the 4th of July, and another about the time of the meeting of the Chicago Convention. All these schemes failed, in consequence of the movements of the Union army. In regard to Confederate raids, a singular feature remains to be adverted to, viz., that the officers conducting these raids are furnished with quantities of United States Treasury notes for use within our lines, and that these are probably most frequently procured through the agency of members of the order.

"Destruction of Government property was another prominent feature of the plans of the order, and Mr. Holt says that the effects of its agents have undoubtedly been successful in very many instances. It also devoted itself to the annoyance and persecution of Union men. The concluding charge which Mr. Holt prefers against the order is, that it is aimed at the establishment of a Western or North-Western Confederacy, and upon this point I give you the words of his report. He says, 'Hating New England, and jealous of her influence and resources, and claiming that the interest of the West and South, naturally connected as they are through the Mississippi Valley, are identical, and actuated further by an intensely revolutionary spirit, as well as unbridled and unprincipled ambition, these men have made the establishment of a Western or North-Western Confederacy, in alliance with the South, the grand aim and end of all their plotting and conspiring. It is with this steadily in prospect that they are constantly seeking to produce discontent, disorganisation, and civil disorder at the North. With this view they gloat over every reverse of the armies of the Union, and desire that the rebellion shall be protracted until the resources of the Government shall be exhausted, its strength paralysed, its currency hopelessly depreciated, and confidence everywhere destroyed. Then, from the anarchy which, under their scheme, is to ensue, the new Confederacy is to arise, which is either to unite itself with that of the South, or to form therewith a close and permanent alliance. Futile and extravagant as this scheme may appear, it is yet the settled purpose of many leading spirits of the secret conspiracy, and is their favourite subject of thought and discussion. Not only is this scheme deliberated upon in the lodges of the order, but it is openly proclaimed. Members of the Indiana Legislature, even, have publicly announced it, and that they will take their own State out of the Union, and recognise the independence of the South. A citizen captured by a guerilla band in Kentucky last summer records the fact that the establishment of a new confederacy, as

the deliberate purpose of the Western people, was boastfully asserted by these outlaws, who also assured their prisoner that in the event of such establishment there would be a 'greater rebellion than ever!'

"As regards the sources whence he has derived the testimony upon which he bases these formidable charges, Mr. Holt states that he has it from a variety of witnesses, including Government detectives, who worked themselves into the Order, and even became officers of high authority. Confederate officers and soldiers voluntarily disclosed their knowledge; scouts travelling through the border States, citizen prisoners, to whom disclosures have been made, have been witnesses, and members of the order under arrest have confessed to their plans. Lastly, members who, becoming fully aware of the infamous designs, have abandoned it, and revealed all they knew; and by other means much has been learned concerning this great conspiracy.

"Here you have the main point of this remarkable story, and I leave your readers to make up their own opinions as to its credibility. The reiterated assertion that such an order was in existence, and the fact that numerous arrests of persons said to have belonged to it have been made in Indiana, doubtless did much to secure Indiana to the administration in the State elections which has just transpired; and perhaps Mr. Holt hopes to make the story do duty on a larger scale in the pending presidential contest. Individually, Mr. Holt is a man of the highest character. He undoubtedly believes all he has written, but, although he is an able lawyer, it is quite possible that he may have been imposed upon."

#### KNIGHT TEMPLARY.

"Ebor" will find a *non-Mason*, connecting Templary and Masonry, before 1774, as stated in his mention of the "Histoire de l'Origine de la Franc Maçonnerie." Ramsay evidently does so in 1724. I have not the book by me, but if he will refer to Clelland's "Way to Things by Words," written, I think, before 1760, he will find that in a note he traces "Mason" to the Druids, or "Mays-on," and "Mani" (who, he asserts, is a myth), and "Pajanes," the first G.M. of the Templars, to the same root. No doubt this writer would thus account for the close resemblance between ancient Parseeism, Christianity, Templary, and Masons; indeed, later writers have used the prophetic portions of the mysteries of the ancients, as a proof that Jesus never actually existed. The thanks of an old Mason for the editorial replies to "Travelling Brother" and a "Young Man."—△.

#### THE WELSH TRIADS.

What evidence of Freemasonry is to be found in those early records known as the Welsh triads?—E. REES.—[Perhaps some of our Welsh brethren will afford the inquirer the information he seeks.]

#### MOST EXCELLENT MASTERS' JEWEL.

What is the jewel of a Most Excellent Master like?—F.B.—[Send your address, and you shall have a tracing of one by post.]

#### OLIVER CROMWELL.

Was Oliver Cromwell a Freemason?—J. B.—[We shall be glad if our readers can give any definite

answer to this question, as it is one on which great diversity of opinion prevails. At any rate the subject is worth inquiry, and we shall willingly receive replies to it.]

VOUCHING.

I am about to go abroad for the first time. I believe I can prove myself, and have my certificates; but will not a letter of introduction from some brother here help me in gaining admission to a foreign lodge?—CIRCLE.—[Your certificates and examination will stand you in better stead than any letter of introduction. How can you prove your identity as the bearer of the letter? With your hands, your tongue, and your certificates, all is in your own power.]

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

MASONIC CHARITIES.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—The verbose productions of a "W.M.," in your last impression, in reply to my former letter, if not so courteous as usual, is still deserving of my careful notice, though to satisfy a "W.M." in style of writing seems no easy matter. Surely, when one has so very simple and so very practical a subject to deal with, it is unnecessary to encumber it with flowery language, a modicum of common sense being of greater utility than a legion of unmeaning tirades.

While a "W.M." denounces my proposition as "unconstitutional," he furnishes an illustration of an exactly parallel case, as acted on by the Grand Lodge with respect to the Fund of Benevolence. If a "W.M." is fond of this constitutional discovery he will find, on referring to my former letters, that I had anticipated him, and had adopted the same principle in levying, and the identical mode of collection.

A "W.M." is disappointed that the simple question of levying half-a-crown yearly from each member for each Charity is not dealt with in a "comprehensive spirit;" he bewails a lack of "eloquence, reasoning, sympathy, and constructive theory." He even seems vexed that "inventive powers" do not alter the substance of the proposition, and throughout forgets that he had declared it would "inevitably led to good results." I am pleased to hear that our highly-respected but sorely afflicted Bro. Crew had entertained some such idea as I have suggested to benefit the Charities, and if a "W.M." will explain the "ably defined" scheme I shall be greatly obliged, for although I often heard our estimable brother dilate on the Charities "years ago," I failed to be present at the moment when he propounded his system.

The elaborate distinction drawn by a "W.M." between "paying" and "giving" is so self-evident that it hardly required the exercise of so much care; but

I can assure him that there are lodges which have for many years adopted the paying system, and still whose members have always been amongst the most liberal givers to those Charities to which they are rated. This, I doubt not, would spread on the development of the proposed scheme, for it cannot be denied that there is a lamentable amount of ignorance as to the value of the Masonic Charities, which this plan might tend to enlighten, and likewise arouse the latent feeling of beneficence to active exertion.

Passing over the hypercritical remark of a "W.M.," it may be well to observe that, as the Charities were each in the first instance an expression to which Grand Lodge might not feel justified in committing itself, having now become an established fact, substantially domiciled and carefully tended, the time has arrived for their permanent endowment. Surely it cannot be denied that they have gained a status which entitles them to a recognition by Grand Lodge, a registration in the "Book of Constitutions," and the support of every Freemason, by an equal contribution in the first place, and by continued spontaneous liberality from the more able and enthusiastic as heretofore.

As to a "change from a voluntary to an involuntary support," a "W.M." must be aware that I never advocated such a proposal; on the contrary, I maintained that the £12,500 which the scheme would easily and without cost produce, would be an addition to the £16,500 now raised by voluntary effort; nay, further, that I honestly believe the latter sum would be considerably augmented by the introduction of a supplementary system.

I am, truly and fraternally yours,

P.M.

October 31st, 1864.

P.S.—If a "W.M." will substitute the word "unconstitutional" for the misprint "unconditional," he may then understand the fifth paragraph of my former letter, in which I briefly showed the futility of basing a proposition on an unsound foundation merely to revel in its fall.—P.M.

SOUTH WALES.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Deeming your valuable journal the proper medium for the discussion of all matters relating to Masonic law and practice, may I be permitted to introduce a subject upon which there is, evidently, some difference of opinion? I have already privately placed the facts of the case before you, and received, in your "Answers to Correspondents," a reply perfectly in accordance with my own judgment in the matter, after a modest but careful study of the "Book of Constitutions" over the period of a dozen years. Allow me also to assure

you, that opinion fully coincides with that of several old and experienced Masons, whom I have consulted upon the question; but as an adverse decision has been given by the Grand Registrar and by Bro. Spiers, of Oxford, you will, perhaps, think it worth while to throw the subjects open to discussion in your pages.

The Bute Lodge was consecrated in June of last year, and the by-laws provide that the W.M. shall be elected and installed in the month of June in each successive year, and in June last the W.M. was re-elected and re-installed.

There are other circumstances, beside the desire of to be relieved of his arduous duties, which render it expedient to fix the installation for the month of December instead of the month of June. Some short time since, accordingly, the W.M. proposed an amendment of the by-law referred to, with a view of carrying out the new arrangements during the ensuing season. Your correspondent, fully coinciding with the expediency of the change, seconded that proposition, contingently upon its being constitutionally effected, but at the same time expressed a firm conviction that such a proceeding would be altogether illegal, involving, as it necessarily would, the re-election and re-installation of a second W.M., and the re-appointment and re-vestiture of a second complete set of officers, during the period of *one current year*. The W.M. stated that the objection had not occurred to him, and promised to take the ruling of the Grand Registrar upon the subject. As already intimated, I also took the precaution to consult several eminent Masons as well as yourself, and was, in every instance, informed that such a course would be unprecedented and unconstitutional.

My surprise was not small, to hear, at the regular lodge, an announcement from the W.M. that, having consulted the Grand Registrar upon the subject, that brother had given his intimation that he saw nothing in the "Book of Constitutions" opposed to such an arrangement. The communication was not given *in extenso*, but it was intimated that the opinion of the eminent brother before quoted has also been taken, and that he fully acquiesced with the recognised exponent of Masonic law. Under these circumstances, I should be glad to elicit the views of some of your many, intelligent, and experienced correspondents upon a matter of some importance, and upon which there is evidently a diversity of sentiment.

Yours truly and fraternally,

Cardiff, October 21st, 1864.

F. W.

[We have spoken to the Grand Registrar on the subject, and his opinion perfectly coincides with ours, that if the Master and Wardens have not served their full twelve months the alterations could not have taken place within that period without the W.M. losing his rank as a P.M., and the Wardens running the risk of being placed in an unpleasant position; but inasmuch as they have all served eighteen months, there can be no reason for postponing the alteration in the by-laws for another twelve months. If the decision of the Grand Registrar appeared to differ, it was only because the "cases" laid before us were differently drawn.—Ed.]

## THE MASONIC MIRROR.

### MASONIC MEM.

The annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Northumberland and Berwick-on-Tweed will be held in the Northumberland Lodge Room, Assembly Rooms, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, on Friday next, the 11th instant, at three o'clock.

### METROPOLITAN.

FITZROY LODGE (No. 569).—The first meeting of this lodge for the season took place on Friday evening, Oct. 28th, at the headquarters of the Honourable Artillery Company, Finsbury, and was well attended. Bro. Thomas Wilson, W.M., presided; Bro. May, P.M., as S.W., and Bro. Watson, J.W. Amongst the visitors were Bros. Peacock, No. 11; J. G. Morton, 812; Main, 813; C. Allen, 128 and 772; Barringer, Prov. S.W. for Herts and P.M. 194; Truscott, S.W. 1; Neighbour, 8; Cathie, 87; and H. Thompson, W.M. 177. The lodge was opened at half-past four o'clock, and the minutes having been confirmed, the first business was to initiate Dr. Gowland, on the Staff of the Honourable Artillery Company, into the mysteries and privileges of ancient Freemasonry, and the ritual of that important ceremony was most impressively rendered by the W.M. Bro. Ainsworth, who had been previously questioned as to his proficiency in the science, was passed to the degree of F.C., that ceremony being also well performed by the W.M. There being no further business the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned for refreshment, prepared by Mr. Cowney, the sutler of the Hon. Artillery Company. The cloth having been drawn, the W.M. gave "The Queen and the Craft," which was duly honoured, followed by the National Anthem, the solo parts by Bro. Vernon, of the New Concord Lodge. The W.M. next gave the formal Masonic toasts, which were enthusiastically received.—Bro. HELSHAM, I.P.M., said he had no doubt the brethren were well aware of the toast he was about to propose, which was that of the health of their W.M., and in doing so it required no words from him, for they all knew they had never had a better Master. He should, therefore, at once propose "The Health of Bro. Wilson, W.M. of the Fitzroy Lodge." The toast was drunk with great cordiality.—The W.M., in acknowledging the compliment, said he expressed his sincere thanks to the brethren for the very enthusiastic manner in which they had received the toast, and to Bro. Helsham for the flattering terms in which he had proposed it; but, at the same time, he did not deserve all that he had said in his praise. This he would say, that, as long as he had been in the lodge, he had done his best to promote its prosperity, and to make every brother in it as comfortable as he could. It was also his earnest wish to keep the Fitzroy Lodge up to its usual high state of working. He was supported by very excellent officers, and he had also been well supported by the members of the Fitzroy Lodge, which proved to him that he was respected amongst them. It gave him great pleasure to be master of a lodge that was second to none in the Craft, and he would continue, to the best of his ability, to promote its prosperity.—The W.M. said the next toast he had to propose was one that was always received with great pleasure in the Fitzroy Lodge, as it was the health of their newly-initiated brother. He was a member of the Honourable Artillery Company, a gentleman highly respected, and it was a great source of gratification to him (the W.M.) to see him come amongst them. That lodge, like others, had not the whole world to choose from, and could only take candidates from their own Company; but, when a brother did join them, they ought to receive him with more than ordinary honour. He therefore had great pleasure in proposing "The Health of Dr. Gowland, their Brother Initiate."—The toast was enthusiastically honoured.—Bro. Dr. GOWLAND said he was at a loss for suitable terms in which he could reciprocate the sentiments so kindly expressed towards him, not having prepared any speech for the occasion. He had done so once, when he was married; but the way in which his health was proposed so knocked all he had intended to say out of his head, that he intended never to prepare a speech again, but rather to trust to what might come into his mind at the time. He must say that he had for some time wished—he was infatuated with the wish—to become a Mason, and he hoped also to become a good one, and to spend a long life in the Ar-

tillery Company, trusting that he might look forward to the time when he should fill the exalted position of W.M.; and, while he added a little weight, he trusted he should be able to add additional lustre to the brightness of their institution.—The W.M. said the next toast was also a very pleasing one, and one that was always received by the members of the Fitzroy Lodge with acclamation—"The Health of the Visitors." There was nothing that gave the Fitzroy Lodge greater pleasure than to see a numerous body of visitors; they were glad to see them, and they gave them a hearty welcome. They were honoured that night by many distinguished members of the Craft, and he had great pleasure in proposing "The Health of the Visitors."—Bro. TRUSCOTT, S.W. Grand Master's Lodge, returned thanks.—The W.M. said the next toast he had to propose was the health of the P.M.'s of the Fitzroy Lodge; and amongst them present that evening were Bros. Helsham, Eglese, Matthews, Newton, and May, and they were all worthy members of the lodge. Without them they could scarcely hold their meetings, for he never missed a face from amongst them; some of them were not only the pillars, but the founders of the lodge, which he hoped would be carried on to all time, or, at any rate, as long as the Honourable Artillery Company lasted, for hundreds of years to come. They were always ready to take any post of duty, and make themselves agreeable to all. They did all they could to promote the prosperity of the lodge, and as distinguished Masons they were known throughout the Craft. He gave "The Health of the P.M.'s of the Fitzroy Lodge," and he hoped every brother would drink the toast with all the enthusiasm which it deserved.—Bro. HELSHAM said, on the part of the P.M.'s, he had great pleasure in returning thanks. They were all ready to render any assistance in their power, and he hoped that the toast would have to be proposed many times before they ceased to be members of the Fitzroy Lodge.—Bro. PETER MATTHEWS, P.M. and Treas., said he was glad at all times to see the members, and was pleased when he could do anything to promote the welfare of the lodge. Nothing afforded him so much pleasure as to see the members happy, to assist the Master, and to make those comfortable who visited the lodge from time to time, cementing mutual friendship, and carrying out the principles of unity of kindness and goodwill. He trusted that the W.M. would have a happy season, and that many members of their splendid regiment would be added to the numbers of their splendid lodge.—The W.M. then gave "The Officers of the Lodge."—Bro. NEWTON, P.M. and Steward, said he was proud to return thanks on the part of the officers of the lodge, who felt a pleasure in performing their duties; and he hoped that they should have an increase in their numbers, which would bring with them increased pleasure. After a few other observations, he thanked the W.M. for the compliment he had paid to the officers of the lodge.—The W.M. said there was one toast he had to propose, which was for the benefit of the Fitzroy Lodge. It was the health of their Treasurer and Secretary, two most worthy men and excellent Masons, for they were always at their post. Bro. Matthews, their Treasurer, took care of their funds; and having been on the audit committee, he had had an opportunity of seeing the books, and he must say that he never saw accounts kept in such a regular way in his life. Their Bro. Helsham found out a mistake of three halfpence in casting up the columns, which caused the greatest confusion to the Treasurer until the cause of the error was discovered, and, therefore, he must say that he never saw books better kept than those of the Fitzroy Lodge, and there was no lodge in the Craft that had a better balance in hand. As regarded their brother secretary (Bro. Eglese), it was his duty to read out the notices, whether of a regular lodge or extraordinary meetings, and, besides, he had to send out private notices to the Master and P.M.'s, for their attendance at the Grand Lodge. He gave them "The Health of their Treasurer, Bro. Matthews, and their Secretary, Bro. Eglese," the founders of the lodge, whose name and fame in masonry were spread far and wide.—Bro. MATTHEWS having very briefly responded, Bro. Eglese said he returned thanks to the W.M. for the very eulogistic manner in which he had spoken of him, and to the brethren for the kind way in which they had responded to the toast; and he must say that he was always ready as their Secretary to do his duty. He trusted he should see their numbers swell, for his duties were to him a labour of love, and, therefore, he should be glad to have an addition to his work. It gave him great pleasure to see that their brother initiate, and a joining member, were of the right quality, and he had no doubt that their brother initiate would find something more in Free-

masonry than what he had seen that night. From the very earnest way in which he had answered the questions put to him, he felt that he would look upon it as something more than a convivial meeting, as it tended to make the heart of man better than it was before. Bro. Davies, who had come amongst them as a joining member, was a bright example as a working member of the Craft. He was one of the stars of which others would become the satellites, and he had no doubt they would inculcate outside the lodge those worthy actions and principles which were the distinguishing features of the greatest institution of the country. He could assure them that he would never shrink from his duties, and he felt greatly obliged to them for the compliment they had paid him. The W.M. next gave "The Press," which was responded to by Bros. THOMPSON and JACKSON, who severally descanted on the social advantages which were derived from the free and unfettered press of this country.—The Tyler's toast was then given, which brought a truly happy meeting to a close shortly before eleven o'clock. Bro. Vernon sang some of Dibdin's songs in the course of the evening, and excited general applause.

ROYAL OAK LODGE (No. 871).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday, October 26th, at Deptford. Bro. G. Wilton, P.M., in the unavoidable absence of Bro. C. G. C. Stahr, W.M., opened the lodge in due form, assisted by Bros. H. A. Collington, P.M., S.W.; J. H. Pembroke, J.W.; F. Walters, P.M., Sec.; G. S. Hodgson, S.D.; J. S. Blomeley, J.D.; J. Rosenstock, I.G.; J. W. Weir, P.M.; H. Firmin, R. Phipps, W. Jeffery, A. R. Parkinson, D. Barber, H. Stevens, R. Mills, G. Holman, and many others. The only visitor was Bro. J. Bavin, S.W. 147. The minutes of the regular lodge and the emergency meeting were read and unanimously confirmed. Bros. H. Stevens and D. Barber having answered the questions in an able manner, qualifying them for the third degree, were raised to the sublime degree of M.M. by Bro. G. Wilton, P.M., who threw into the exordium that pathos which at all times delighted the ears of the brethren during his prosperous year of office. Bro. C. G. C. Stahr, W.M., then took the chair. All Masonic business being ended, the lodge was closed in perfect harmony.

## PROVINCIAL.

### CHESHIRE.

KNUTSFORD.—*De Tabley Lodge* (No. 941).—A meeting of this lodge was held at the Old Assembly Room, Knutsford, on Monday, October 17th. Present—Bros. the Right Hon. Lord de Tabley, R.W. P.S.G.W. of England, Prov. S.G.W. of Cheshire, and W.M. of 941, in the chair; the Hon. W. Egerton, M.P.; the Hon. Butler Johnstone, M.P.; John Twiss, Joseph Woodcock, the Rev. J. N. Tanner, &c. It was proposed by Bro. Lord de Tabley, W.M., seconded by Bro. Twiss, Prov. G. Org., and unanimously resolved—"That the thanks of this lodge are due and are hereby tendered to Bro. George W. Clarke for his exertions in the formation of this lodge, and for the zeal and ability he has shown in the office of its Secretary." Bro. Clarke has resigned the office of Secretary.

### DURHAM.

GATESHEAD.—*Lodge of Industry* (No. 48).—This lodge was opened on Monday, October 24th, by the W.M., Bro. William Bryden, Prov. G. Purst. of Durham, assisted by Bro. Winter, S.W.; Bro. Young, J.W., and a full attendance of brethren and visitors. Two gentlemen were initiated into the mysteries of the Order by the W.M., in his usual correct manner. Several communications were read, and the W.M. said that he hoped to be well supported at the Provincial Grand Lodge of Durham, to be held next day at South Shields. The lodge was then closed in due form. At refreshment, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly given and responded to. Bro. C. J. Banister responded for the Grand Officers of England; Bro. R. J. Banning, Prov. J.G.W. of Durham, for the Province of Durham; Bro. Winter, Prov. G.D. for the province of Northumberland, inviting the brethren of this province to visit them on the 11th of November at Newcastle-on-Tyne; and Bro. Smith, P.M., for the visitors. The E.A. song was led by Bro. Banister, P.M., and the last toast was given at nine o'clock.

## WARWICKSHIRE.

**BIRMINGHAM.**—*Althol Lodge* (No. 74).—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge—the head and star of Masonry in this province—was held on Wednesday last at the Masonic Hall, Severn-street. The lodge was opened at five o'clock, and among the brethren present were Bros. Charles Lee, W.M.; W. J. Walters, S.W.; J. W. Bowker, J.W.; J. Vaughan, P.M.; Alex. McCracken, P.M., P. Prov. G. Sec.; Matthew Smart, Sec.; C. J. Penn, Treas.; Richard Horley, B. Harker, Charles Emanuel, E. Whitlam, J. H. Davis, Thomas Jager, Isaac Lazarus, J. Richards, Charles, Symes, William Baylis, J. Hawkes, John Sinton, and T. Cooper. Among the visitors we noticed Bros. W. Bramwell Smith, W.M. 304, Prov. G. Chap. (and incumbent of St. John's, Deritend); W. J. Whittall, 482; and Thomas W. Coldicott, S.W. 432. The minutes of the last regular lodge having been read and duly confirmed, the report of the bi-monthly meeting held on the 19th ult. was received. The agenda paper contained five raisings, five passings, and four initiations. From the early hour at which it was necessary to despatch our account for the current number, we are only able to state that Bros. Davis, Hawkes, and Richards were raised to the sublime degree. The ceremony was performed by Bro. Charles Lee, W.M., in a very impressive manner.

*Elkington Lodge* (No. 1016).—The first meeting of this lodge since the consecration took place at the Masonic Rooms on Tuesday last, Bro. Alexander McCracken, W.M. presiding. Two Craftsmen were raised to the sublime degree, and one neophyte initiated into the mysteries of the Craft.

**BIRMINGHAM MASONIC HALL AND CLUB COMPANY (LIMITED).**—A special general meeting of the shareholders of this company was held on Wednesday last at the Masonic Rooms, Newhall-street. About thirty brethren were present, Bro. C. W. Elkington, D. Prov. G.M., Chairman of the Board of Directors, presiding. The circular convening the meeting, and a report from the directors recommending an extension of the quantity of land to be taken on lease, and the purchase of the interests of several lessees and sub-tenants, having been read by the Secretary, Bro. D. Malins, jun., the Chairman said that the reason they were called together that day was not that the directors felt they had not the power to deal with the subject, but that the Board wished to lay everything before the general body of the shareholders. He explained the advantages the company would possess in increasing the quantity of land taken on lease from Earl Howe, and the purchase of several reversionary interests of tenants and lessees, as embodied in the report. By the purchase of these interests an extra expenditure of a little over £1,000 would be entailed, in addition to the increased ground-rent for an additional 400 yards of land, but that they would have possession of the site on the 25th of next December, instead of the latter end of 1865. A coloured plan of the respective properties (kindly prepared by Bro. W. B. Briggs) showed the interests of the several lessees very clearly. A resolution empowering the directors to carry out the recommendations embodied in the report having been proposed by Bro. C. W. Elkington, and seconded by Bro. W. H. Borner, was put to the meeting and carried unanimously. A vote of thanks having been accorded to the Chairman, the meeting dispersed. It is understood that building operations may be looked for early in the spring.

## ROYAL ARCH.

## SUPREME GRAND CHAPTER.

The quarterly convocation of Grand Chapter was held in the Temple adjoining Freemasons' Hall on Wednesday last, Bro. Lord Sherborne, G.J., presiding as Z.; Comps. Gibbs, G. Supt. Bombay, as H.; Havers, as J.; Clarke, Scribe E.; Gole, Scribe N.; Headey, P. Soj.; Smith and Bradford, Assist. Sojs. There were also present Comps. McIntyre, G. Reg.; Young, G. Dir. of Cers.; Maudslay, G.S.B.; Wilson, P.G.S.B.; Matthews, P.G.S.B.; and about twenty other companions.

Grand Chapter having been opened, the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

The report of the Committee of General Purposes, which we

published last week, was taken as read, and ordered to be entered on the minutes.

The first question arising out of the minutes was relative to the holding meetings of the High Cross Chapter granted for Tottenham at the house of one of the members in Crutched Friars, notwithstanding a resolution of Grand Chapter in February last refusing to sanction the removal. The chapter continued its meetings in London subsequent to that decision even as late as Sept. 27th. The General Committee of Grand Chapter had suspended the chapter from all Arch Masonic functions.

The G. SCRIBE E. read a letter signed by the First and Second Principals and eight companions, praying that the suspension might be removed, and expressing their willingness to return with the chapter to Tottenham.

Comp. GOLE said that the companions being now penitent, and desiring to return to Tottenham, in accordance with the direction of Grand Chapter, he would move that the suspension be removed. There could be no doubt that the Principals were greatly to be blamed, whilst the companions could not do otherwise than they had in obeying the summonses of the Principals. Looking at all the circumstances of the case, the Committee had felt constrained to suspend the chapter; but the companions now being penitent, he thought the suspension might be removed.

Comp. WYNN seconded the motion, and expressed his opinion that, though there had been differences between the members as regarded the lodge and chapter, that the latter could now be returned to Tottenham, and everything satisfactorily arranged.

Comp. HAYERS said the letter read was the most left-handed penitential document he had ever seen. There was no expression of regret at having done wrong in moving the chapter without authority, but the companions merely asked that the suspension might be removed, on which they promised to return to Tottenham. His own opinion was that they could not withdraw the suspension without some expression of penitence. Every chapter was attached to a lodge, and ought not to be removed without the sanction both of the lodge and Grand Chapter. He would, therefore, move that the matter be remitted to the Committee, with authority to remove the suspension upon the receipt of a proper letter expressing penitence for the past and promising obedience to the laws for the future.

Comp. MAUDSLAY seconded the motion.

Comp. WARREN was not going to oppose the motion, as he felt the authority of Grand Chapter must be upheld. He would ask Grand Chapter, however, to consider how far their own laches might not have led to the original offence. A reference to the official calendar would show that not one or two, but very many of the chapters had been divorced from the lodges to which they were originally attached. He could not profess to remember many at present, but he would particularly refer to the St. John's Chapter, which, having been granted for Hampstead, had been removed to Radley's Hotel; and if Grand Chapter had not sanctioned it, they had done nothing to prevent it; and the brethren of the St. John's Lodge, who were desirous of having a chapter at Hampstead, found themselves precluded from applying for another in consequence of there being one nominally attached to their lodge, though they possessed no power or control over it.

Comp. HAYERS stated that if Comp. Warren knew of any instance in which such an irregularity had been allowed to be carried out under the sanction of Grand Chapter, he ought to

give them the full particulars of the case, as he (Bro. Havers) never remembered an instance of the kind.

Comp. WYNN was sure the chapter would make all proper submission to Grand Chapter, and, on returning to Tottenham, would work regularly.

Comp. WARREN, having been appealed to by Comp. Havers, could only state that if the case of the removal of the St. John's Chapter had not been brought directly before Grand Chapter, it had indirectly, he believed, by a petition for another warrant for the lodge.

Comp. MCINTYRE said a chapter could not be removed without the authority of the lodge to which it was attached, and it did not appear in the case mentioned by Comp. Warren that consent had not been obtained. In the case of the High Cross Chapter now before them, he felt that, it having been investigated by the General Committee, who had suspended the chapter until due submission had been made, they could not remit the suspension on such a letter as that before them, which was altogether most lame and impotent.

The amendment referring the matter back to the Committee was then put and carried unanimously.

The next paragraph in the Committee's report ran as follows:—

"The Committee have also to report that the Alfred Chapter (No. 306), Leeds, which was suspended in October, 1863, for neglecting to comply with the peremptory orders of the Committee, have memorialised for a removal of the suspension, and the chapter having furnished the Committee with the information required, and sent in their charter and minute book, they beg to recommend that the prayer of the memorialists be granted, their suspension be removed, and the members of the chapter restored to their Arch Masonic functions."

Comp. GOLE moved that Chapter 306 having made all due submission, the suspension be withdrawn, and the brethren restored to their Masonic functions.

Comp. MCINTYRE seconded the motion.

Carried unanimously.

A letter was then read by the G. SCRIBE E. from Comp. White Melville, G. Scribe E. for Scotland, stating the determination of Grand Chapter at their convocation in August relative to the receiving Scotch Royal Arch Masons in English chapters, and the reason why the Grand Chapter of England declined to receive a representative from the Grand Chapter of Scotland, had been laid before that Grand Chapter on the 21st of September, and was considered as satisfactory.

The letter was ordered to be entered on the minutes.

Warrants were then granted to Comps. Henry Murray as Z., William Thomas Mercer as H., John Ball as J., and eight others, for a chapter to be attached to the Zetland Lodge (No. 525), Hong Kong, China, to be called the Victoria Chapter, to meet at Hong-Kong, on the 18th day of every month; and to Comps. Peter Clymo as Z., Richard Hawke as H., John Ough as J., and seven others, for a chapter to be attached to the St. Martin's Lodge (No. 510), Liskeard, in the County of Cornwall, to be called the St. Martin's Chapter, to meet at the London Inn, Liskeard, on the first Tuesday of every third month.

Bro. S. S. BURNEX then rose to move that the correspondence that has taken place between the Principals of Chapter 784 and Grand Scribe E. be produced and read in Grand Chapter, as the Chapter 784 feels most aggrieved at the Committee of General Purposes declining to lay their complaint (regarding an un-Masonic letter addressed to them by a P.Z. of 784, through their Scribe E.) to the notice of Grand Chapter, and that the

sense of Grand Chapter be taken on the matter originally complained of against the P.Z. of 784.

This gave rise to a long and somewhat personal discussion, which it could do no good to publish, and resulted in the whole matter being remitted to the General Committee, with instructions to report thereon to the next Grand Chapter, by which time we hope a much respected companion, who is evidently in the wrong, will have made such an apology to the Wellington Chapter as to prevent our hearing any more of the matter.

All business being ended, Grand Chapter was closed a little before ten o'clock.

[With regard to the discussion on the first question, we may add that the St. John's Chapter granted for Hampstead was removed to Radley's Hotel, Blackfriars, and having *conveniently* lost its charter, applied for a warrant of confirmation. This Comp. Warren opposed on the ground that, the charter having been granted for Hampstead, the chapter had no business in London; but he was overruled by Grand Chapter. But more of this anon.—ED.]

#### DURHAM.

GATESHEAD.—*Chapter de Burghli* (No. 614).—This chapter was opened in solemn form at the Grey Horse, Gateshead, on Wednesday, October 26th, by P.M.E.Z. Comp. C. J. Banister, P. Dir. of Cers. of the Grand Chapter of England, assisted by P.M.E.Z. Comp. Hotham, M.E.H. Comp. R. J. Banning, and P.M.E.Z. Auty Clapham. The ballot was taken for Bros. J. Heaward and J. Curry, which was unanimous in their favour; and both being in attendance, they were duly prepared and presented by P.M.E.Z. Auty Clapham to the Acting M.E.Z., who performed the ceremony for M.E.Z. Comp. Gillespie, he being unable to preside from indisposition, Bro. Smailes, M.E.Z. of the Chapter De Swinburne, taking the part of P.S. with his usual kindness. Business over, the chapter was closed in solemn form. At refreshment, presided over by P.M.E.Z. Auty Clapham, the usual toasts were done justice to, and a happy evening was spent. On the following day, Oct. 27th, the regular meeting was held, the chapter being again opened by P.M.E.Z. C. J. Banister as Z., M.E. Comp. R. J. Banning, H., and P.M.E. Comp. H. Hotham as J. The minutes of last meeting and chapter of emergency were read and confirmed. P.M.E.Z. Auty Clapham then presented the M.E.H. for installation as Z., which ceremony was performed by Comp. C. J. Banister with great care. Comp. H. Gillies, H. elect, not being able to attend owing to a death in his family, Comp. W. Bryden, J. elect, was then presented by Comp. Clapham, and installed by the Acting M.E.Z. The following officers were then invested:—Comps. Allen, S.E.; R. S. Lottinger, S.N.; P.M.E.Z. A. Clapham, Treas. Several candidates were proposed, and the business of the chapter over, it was closed in solemn form. The banquet was all that could be desired; the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were done justice to, and the companions separated at nine o'clock, after spending a very happy time. Visitors present—Comps. Straun, Thompson, Jenson, &c.

#### NORTHUMBERLAND.

NORTH SHIELDS.—*Oyle Chapter* (No. 431).—The annual convocation of this chapter was held in the Masonic Hall, Norfolk-street, on Thursday, the 27th of October, M.E. Comp. John G. Tulloch, P.Z., presiding as Z. (in the unavoidable absence of the 1st Principal, M.E. Comp. E. Shotton), assisted by the other Principals and companions. After the minutes of the previous meetings had been confirmed, the Principals elect were duly installed in their respective chairs by M.E. Comps. J. G. Tulloch, P.Z., and W. Twizell, P.Z., assisted by M.E. Comp. H. Hewison, P.Z. of St. Hilda's Chapter (No. 240). The following are the Principals and officers appointed and installed for the ensuing year:—M.E. Comps. James Symington, as Z.; Hans Christian Hansen, as H.; James Patterson Simpson, as J.; W. Twizell, P.Z., as Treas.; John G. Tulloch, P.Z., as E.; Comps. J. Kelly, as N.; Joseph Gibson, as P.S.; W. Quarrie and Septimus Young, as Assist. Sojourners; and John Evans, Janitor. After receiving propositions, the chapter was closed in ancient form. The companions then adjourned to a splendid

banquet at the Albion Hotel, served up in Bro. Manning's usual first-class style, and the day was spent in a most harmonious and agreeable manner.

## ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED RITE.

### NORTHUMBERLAND.

**NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.**—*Royal Kent Chapter Rose Croix.*—This chapter was opened in due form at the Masonic Hall, Newgate-street, on Friday, October 28th, by the M.W.S., Bro. H. G. Ludwig, assisted by his generals. The petition of Sir Knt. J. Jenson was presented by the Grand Marshal, Bro. Hotham, and he being unanimously elected, was admitted and perfected by Bro. C. J. Banister, 30°, and P.M.W.S. of this chapter, in his usual careful manner. The newly-perfected Prince was proclaimed by the Heralds. The ceremony was completed, with the assistance of the Princes, to the satisfaction of all present. This being the time to elect the M.W.S. for the next year, Sov. Prince Edward Shotten, the 1st General, was unanimously elected M.W.S. P.M. W. Sov. H. G. Ludwig was re-elected Treasurer, and the business of the chapter over, it was closed in solemn form.

### KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

#### WOOLWICH.

**KEMEYS TYNTE ENCAMPMENT.**—An emergency meeting of the fraters of the Kemeys Tynte was held at the Masonic Hall, William-street, Woolwich, on Friday, the 28th ult. The following Sir Knts. were present—J. W. Figg, as E.C.; Lieut. Col. Clerk, P.E.C., as Prelate; P. Laird, as 1st Capt.; Capt. Dadson, 2nd Capt.; J. R. Thompson, as Expert; Matthew Cooke, G. Org., Capt. of Lines; Capt. N. G. Phillips; Capt. Boyle, and C. Horsley, Stuart Encampment, Watford. Companions H. S. le Strange and J. P. Langlois were installed Knights of the Order. A Priory of the Order of Malta was afterwards held, when the newly installed Sir Knts. and the visitor were received into the Order of S. John of Jerusalem by Capt. Boyle, Em. Prior. The business being concluded, the Sir Knts. adjourned to Bro. De Grey's to dinner, and spent a most agreeable and happy evening.

### MARK MASONRY.

#### NORTHUMBERLAND.

**NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.**—*Northumberland and Berwick-on-Tweed Lodge (E.C.).*—Wednesday, October 26th, being the regular night of meeting, the lodge was opened by the W.M., Bro. C. J. Banister, P.G. Overseer of the Grand Mark Lodge, assisted by Bros. A. Gillespie, P.M.; H. Hotham, as S.W.; Wm. Loades, J.W.; and a full attendance of members. The ballot was taken for three candidates, and each unanimously elected. Bros. Newcastle and Pearson being in attendance, were each severally advanced to this degree by the W.M. with earnestness and care. The election for W.M. was then proceeded with, and on examining the balloting papers, Bro. Saneter was duly elected. Bro. Lambton was unanimously elected Treasurer. Three brethren were proposed as candidates for this degree, and the lodge was closed in solemn form at nine o'clock.

### CHANNEL ISLANDS.

#### JERSEY.

**LODGE LA CESAREE (No. 590).**—The monthly meeting was held in the Masonic Temple, on Thursday, October 27th. The lodge was opened at seven p.m. by Bro. C. Le Sueur, W.M., assisted by Bro. P. E. Le Sueur, S.W., Bro. Ch. Benest, J.W., and Bro. Dr. Hopkins, acting as P.M. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The lodge was opened in the second degree. The Senior and Junior Wardens and Bro. P.

Binet having given a strong recommendation, from long personal knowledge, of Mr. J. P. Picot as a candidate for initiation, a ballot was taken, which proved unanimous in his favour; but owing to his absence from the island, the ceremony was deferred. The W.M. announced a present to the lodge from Bro. Catley, J.D. of a handsome box, decorated with carvings of Masonic emblems, for the reception of the balloting balls, on which a vote of thanks to that brother was unanimously passed. Bro. F. J. Amy having been presented as a candidate for the third degree, the W.M. put the usual questions, and inquired if any brother wished to subject him to further examination, on which Bro. Schmitt rose and put a long series of questions, which elicited a thorough acquaintance on the part of Bro. Amy with the tracing board of the second degree. They were answered so accurately, that the W.M. complimented the candidate, and expressed a hope that so good an example would have a beneficial effect on others. Bro. Amy was then entrusted, and retired for preparation. The lodge having been opened in the third degree, the candidate was re-introduced, and duly raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason by the W.M., Bro. Schmitt giving the charge and the explanation of the tracing board. The W.M. having announced that he had relieved two distressed brethren, the amounts given were ordered to be repaid to him. A deputation was appointed to present to the lady of the W.M. the vote of thanks on parchment agreed upon at a previous meeting for a present she had made to the lodge. Bro. Manuel called the attention of the meeting to the acoustic disadvantages of the room, and it was determined to confer with the architect on the subject. A gentleman was proposed for initiation, and a brother to be admitted as a joining member. The lodge was closed at a quarter past nine, and the brethren adjourned to the banquetting-room for the usual light refreshment.

### INDIA.

(From the Masonic Record of Western India.)

#### KURRACHEE.

The ceremony of the Installation of the Worshipful Masters elect of Lodges Union and Industry took place on St. John's Day, 24th of June, in the presence of a large number of Masons, some of whom came down from Kotree. Amongst those present were—John Brunton, E. T. Beauvais, J. J. Martin, and W. A. Brunton, P. M.'s, Captain J. Macdonald, W.M. of Lodge Hope; Bros. H. Stone, Robert Brunton, Fisher, Taverner, Philips, Martinnant, Knapp, Waddington, Gildea, Bright, Rosetti, Bell, Hamilton, Gardiner, and some others. After the Lodge had been opened in the 3rd Degree, Bro. Goulding, S.W. of Lodge Industry, W.M. Elect of the same Lodge, was called to the pedestal by Bro. J. Brunton, and after the usual interrogatories, he was placed in the Eastern Chair, proclaimed in the three several degrees as W.M. of Lodge Industry, and the brethren requested to salute him as such, during which Bro. Martinnant, who presided at the harmonium, played some suitable marches. The same ceremony was observed with regard to Bro. W. A. Brunton, W.M. elect of Lodge Union. After the ceremony of Installation was concluded, Bro. W. A. Brunton proceeded to elect the Office-bearers of Lodge Union, who were severally invested with the badges of office—Bros. J. Brunton, P.M.; J. D. Swiney, P.M.; E. T. Beauvais, P.M.; C. Goolden, Hon. P.M.; Bros. E. K. Wilkinson, S.W. and Treas.; E. F. de Rosetti, J.W.; Henry Stone, Sec.; W. Phillips, S.D.; G. F. Taverner, J.D.; R. Fisher, I.G.; E. T. Martinnant, Org.; and Thomas Gardiner, Tyler. There being no further business, the Lodge was lowered and closed with prayer. Lodge Union held its first monthly meeting on the 19th inst., when Bro. Gardiner was passed to the Fellow Craft's Degree, and Bro. Robert Brunton raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason; Bros. J. Baucroft and S. S. Elson were admitted as joining members.

#### MHOW.

**LODGE ST. PAUL (No. 389, S.C.)**—The monthly meeting of this lodge took place on the 3rd June. In the absence of the W.M., the S.W., Bro. Allen, officiated. The minutes of the last regular meeting were read and confirmed. The accounts for the quarter ending 30th March were laid before the lodge, showing a balance of Rs. 15-10-7. The ballot was taken for

Mr. Hormusjee Nusserwanjee, which proving favourable, he was introduced in due and ancient form, and initiated into the mysteries of Freemasonry. There being no further business before the lodge, it was closed in peace and harmony. The monthly meeting took place on the 8th July, Bro. J. J. Pope, W.M., in the chair. The minutes of the last regular meeting were read and confirmed. The ballot was then taken for Mr. James Robertson, which proving favourable, he was introduced in due and ancient form, and initiated into the mysteries of Freemasonry. There being no further business before the lodge, it was closed in peace and harmony.

#### ROYAL ARCH.

KURRACHEE.—*Chapter Faith and Charity* (No. 72).—This chapter held an emergent meeting on the 20th July, when the following companions were present:—M. E. Comps. J. Berrie, P.Z.; G. Elander, H.; W. Meiklejohn, J.; E. Comps. E. T. Martinant, Scribe E.; J. B. Tapp, Scribe N.; E. Leggett, Prin. Soj.; E. F. de Rosetti and W. Pegler, Sojourners; T. D. Fleming, Janitor; Visiting Comp., W. A. Brunton. The following brethren were exalted:—Bros. D. MacNeil, John Robson, Rowland Fisher, G. F. Taverner, W. P. Prichard, T. W. Edwards. Comp. W. A. Brunton, of Keystone Chapter, Bombay, was admitted a joining member by a show of hands. The chapter is in good working order, and the furniture and clothing complete.

#### COLONIAL.

##### BRITISH GUIANA.

##### LAYING THE FOUNDATION STONE OF ST. PHILIP'S CHURCH.

Thursday, the 29th Sept., being the feast of St. Michael and All Angels, the ceremony of laying the corner-stone of St. Philip's new church, Werk-en-Rust, Georgetown, took place in the presence of a very numerous and respectable assemblage.

It may be necessary to mention, for the information of distant readers, that the building of this new church had been rendered necessary not only from the rapid decay of the present church, erected of wood in 1845 as a temporary building until funds could be obtained for providing one more permanent, but also from its utter insufficiency of accommodation to the wants of the congregation.

The exertions of the respected incumbent, the Rev. Richard L. Webber, M.A., and of his churchwardens, Messrs. Henry and Oliver, having placed them in a position to warrant the commencement of the new church, a contract was entered into for the erection of a handsome Gothic structure 135 feet in length by 67 in width, with a tower and spire 130 feet in height. The building will accommodate a thousand persons, and the cost will exceed £8,000.

Considerable interest was added to the proceedings of the day by the intimation that the Masonic body of British Guiana would be present and assist at the laying of the stone with all the ceremonial peculiar to the Craft, an event unprecedented in the annals of the colony, and which may probably be ascribed to the fact that Mr. George Henry Oliver, one of the wardens of St. Philip's, is an enthusiastic Mason as well as a zealous churchman.

A commodious platform had been raised on the site of the intended church, and pleasantly shaded from the heat of the sun with the large leaves of the cocoa-nut tree. Long before the hour fixed for the ceremony this was filled with ladies and gentlemen, amongst whom we recognised most of the principal inhabitants of the city. Around the stone and wherever a view of the proceedings could be obtained were large numbers of well-dressed persons. At one o'clock the Governor drove up in an open carriage, attended by his private secretary and aides-de-camp. His Excellency was dressed in the civil service uniform befitting his rank, and appeared to be in capital health and spirits. In the next carriage was Mrs. Hincks, the Governor's wife, who had kindly consented to lay the stone. The Governor and his amiable lady had scarcely taken their places on the platform when the strains of distant music announced the approach of the Masonic procession, which marched from Bishop's College, preceded by the band of the Georgetown militia.

On entering the ground the 132nd Psalm was chanted.

On the procession reaching the platform, the ceremonial commenced with the chanting of the following sentences:—

V. The Lord is in His holy temple:

R. Let all the earth keep silence before Him.

V. Our help is in the name of the Lord:

R. Who hath made heaven and earth.

V. Behold, saith the Lord, I lay in Zion a chief corner-stone, elect, precious:

R. And he that believeth in Him shall not be confounded.

V. The stone which the builders refused:

R. Is become the head-stone of the corner.

V. This is the Lord's doing:

R. And it is marvellous in our eyes.

V. Praise ye the Lord:

R. The Lord's name be praised.

Which was followed with the singing of the 84th Psalm.

This was followed by four appropriate prayers.

The rev. incumbent then placed in a cavity of the lower stone four newspapers of the day, with several coins of this year, and an illuminated record as well as a photograph of the building as it will appear when completed. The inscription on the illuminated record was as follows:—

"In nomine Patris, et Filii, et Spiritus Sancti, hujusce Ecclesie, Sancto Philippo dicatae, fundamenta posuit Martha Anna, Excellentissimi Francisci Hincks, C.B., Guianæ Britannicæ Prætoris culta conjux, A.D. III. Kal. Oct. MDCCCLXIV; Gulielmo Piercy Austin, D.D., Episcopo; Ricardo Legg Webber, M.A., Eccles. Præpos; Isaac Henry, Georgio Henrico Oliver, Gardiator."

He then presented a handsome silver trowel with an ivory handle, richly chased and bearing the following inscription—"Presented to Mrs. Hincks, the wife of his Excellency Francis Hincks, Esq., C.B., Governor of British Guiana, upon the occasion of her laying the corner-stone of St. Philip's new church, on the feast of St. Michael and All Angels, 1864," to Mrs. Hincks, with these words:—

"Mrs. Hincks, in my own name, and in the names of the wardens of St. Philip's, and the building committee of the church, I beg leave to present to you this trowel. We trust that the future church will be of such a character, that the reminiscences called up in after years by the sight of the trowel will give you pleasure in the thought that you assented to the application which we now make, that you would be pleased to lay the corner-stone."

With this trowel Mrs. Hincks proceeded to lay the mortar in a very artistic manner, and the stone, a cubic block of granite, was lowered by the contractor for the building, Mr. Manifold, from its flower-wreathed shears into its proper place, while Mrs. Hincks repeated the following words:—

"In the faith of Jesus Christ, we place the foundation-stone of this church, to be set apart for ever to the service of Almighty God, in the name of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost. Amen."

A hymn was then sung, beginning—

Blessed City, Heaven by Salem.

The Masonic ceremonial was then conducted as follows:—

Ode.—Hail, universal Lord.

Chaplain.—Almighty Father, and Supreme Ruler of the Universe, Thou that hath set Thy glory above the heavens, we invoke Thy benediction on the purpose for which we are this day assembled. We desire with all humility to acknowledge that except the Lord build the house, their labour is but vain that build it. Grant, therefore, we beseech Thee, that the foundation stone of this structure being laid in Thy name, the superstructure to be raised thereon may prove a godly temple to Thy praise. And, finally, O Great Architect of the Universe, vouchsafe to us at all times and in all places such a measure of Thy holy spirit, that we may be builded up a spiritual house to Thy service, so that after our sojourn in this world we may ultimately ascend to the Grand Lodge above, and inherit the kingdom prepared for us from the foundation of the world. So mote it be.

W. Master.—Brethren, in ancient times, Freemasonry was operative as well as speculative. To the pious care and skill of our ancestors are we indebted for those stately edifices, which have elicited the admiration of all ages. And, although at the present time we may be more speculative than operative, still the traditions of the latter remain with us, and on occasions like the present are put in practice.

W. Master.—Bro. J. Warden, the insignia of your office is the

Plumb, the emblem of uprightness: will you apply that instrument to the stone, and see if it is duly upright.

J. Warden.—Worshipful Sir, the stone is fixed upright.

W. Master.—Bro. S. Warden, the insignia of your office is the Level, which teaches us that we all partake the same nature, and share the same hopes: apply that instrument to the stone, and report if it is duly level.

S. Warden.—Worshipful Sir, the stone is level.

W. Master.—Brethren, Bros. Senior and Junior Wardens, having tested the stone with the insignia of their office and proved it correct, I with the Square, and emblem of my authority, and the acknowledged criterion of all perfection, will also prove its position, so that if correct the superstructure to be raised thereon may be upright, level, and square.

W. Master.—Brethren, the stone is well-formed, true, and trusty.

W. Master.—Worshipful Past Master, will you bring hither the corn, wine, and oil, that in conformity to the ancient custom they may be offered on this foundation?

The Rev. Chaplain then read the following prayer:—

May the All-bounteous Author of Nature assist in the erection and completion of this building. Protect the workmen against any accident, and long preserve this structure from decay. And grant to us all in needed supply the corn of nourishment, the wine of refreshment, and the oil of joy. So mote it be.

The W.M. having struck the stone thrice with his mallet, the public honours of Masonry were given, the time being given by the W.M.

The Chaplain then delivered the following address:—

"Your Excellency, Ladies, and Gentlemen,—You have just witnessed a ceremony which, to some of you, may seem an empty form, or at best, one of very trivial significance, and many of you wonder, no doubt, what connection there can be which should bring the Masonic body to take a prominent part in laying the foundation-stone of a Christian church.

"You have been told that Freemasons at the present day are speculative, not operative, workmen, and this, perhaps, will only increase the apparent difficulty; I shall, therefore, endeavour to show you that in keeping up the time-honoured custom of Freemasons assisting practically in laying the foundation-stone of a place of Christian worship, something more is signified than what at first sight meets the eye—more, indeed, than when they take part in the erection of buildings which are to be used for purely secular purposes.

"Freemasonry in its present organisation as purely speculative may be of recent origin; but Masonry as an institution is coeval almost with mankind; and one of its great objects, indeed, as regards dignity and importance. I may say, its greatest object has ever been to protect the worship of the One True Living God Most High.

"With this object in view, not only did our great forefathers carefully preserve and inculcate the knowledge of the Most High, but they practically pronounced His worship as Operative Masons by assisting in the erection of buildings dedicated to His name, and in exercising those principles of architecture, which at the first were almost exclusively cultivated and practised by them, indeed, so exclusively, that at one time these principles actually became 'secrets,' and were known only to the initiated.

"We find traces, and we have traditions which those traces confirm, that Freemasons not only acted in their operative capacity, but also in their speculative character, in the erection of some of those gigantic temples erected in primitive times for purposes of worship, and of which little now remains save stupendous ruins, little now is known save what those ruins teach; and yet enough may nevertheless be gathered to show that however much the worship in them may have been, as it undoubtedly was, subsequently perverted from its original simplicity, their erection was intended for the adoration of the One Great Architect of the Universe.

The speculative teaching of Masonry was transmitted through Abraham in all its purity, and when the Great I AM designed to reveal Himself to Moses in the burning bush, He spoke of Himself as being the 'God of his father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob,' and Moses recognised in Him that Great Creative Being whom he, as a Speculative Mason, and learned to own and to adore.

"To that Great I AM did he erect his tabernacle in the wilderness; to Him, and to His honour, the great and wise King Solomon erected and dedicated that magnificent Temple in the Holy City Jerusalem, in the building of which the traditions

of our Order are borne out by the testimony of Holy Writ. And this was the time when an organization was given to the Institution (elaborated, it would seem, by Solomon on a previously existing one) and which with slight modification exists to the present day.

"In the rebuilding of the Temple after the return of the Jews from their captivity, both the speculative and the operative characteristics of the fraternity were again brought into play, and by their aid a place where 'His Great Name should dwell' and His Worship be carried on, was again established.

"And now leaving this highly favoured race, with whom God had for so long a time been pleased to dwell, we pass on from their times and come to that period alluded to during the present ceremony, when Freemasonry blazed forth with a brighter light than perhaps ever before—when having amongst its Masters and Fellows learned men, devoted Christians, and skillful artificers—enrolling men of all ranks and professions, emperors, kings and princes, warrior knights, and loyal companions; pious bishops, priests, and monks; learned doctors and clerks, as well as skilled and industrious workmen, who revived the old organization and formed lodges, and travelled about from place to place planning, erecting, and dedicating those places of Christian worship, those magnificent cathedrals and minsters which adorn our mother country and Central Europe, in the construction of which beauty, wisdom and strength are so marvellously combined that they almost defy imitation, and are the wonder and admiration of the whole civilized world.

"Amongst this goodly company there are several whose names I cannot refrain from mentioning, feeling assured that they are still held in happy and grateful remembrance; not only by the Masonic body, but also by all English Churchmen. I refer to S. Alban, the protomartyr of England, S. Augustin, the good King Alfred, Walter Stapleton, Bishop of Exeter, William of Wyckham, Bishop of Winchester.

"Since the period when they lived the principles of architecture have become more widely known, and the working mason's trade is open to all. Freemasons, therefore, have been content to remain a speculative fraternity.

"As regards its principles, they are well known; its organisation and rules are promulgated to the world, its muster roll of members is lodged with the civil authorities, and unlike secret societies strictly so called, whose tendency is to subvert order, it constantly endeavours to inculcate upon all the duty of submitting to lawfully constituted authority, and urgently insists upon, and endeavours to propagate, a love of order; and it is among other things, as evincing this love of order, that Freemasons attend the laying of the foundation-stone of a new building, and go through the form of ascertaining that that stone is correctly laid, as the rule and constituted standard of accuracy, according to which, in due order, the remainder of the building is to be raised. If that stone be laid square, level and plumb, then the whole building will rise square, level and plumb; if not so laid, then it is untrusty, and the building must be continued without a standard, and cannot fail to be irregular, disorderly, and imperfect.

"While then we thus keep up our connection with the operative fraternity of ancient times, we, in assisting at the laying of the foundation of this new Church, continue to carry out the object of speculative Masons of all ages, and thus it is that though we, who this day wear the Masonic badge, may not all belong to that Communion according to whose beautiful ritual prayer and praise is to be here offered up, yet forgetting every difference, we can all heartily join, as in a great Masonic duty, in assisting in the erection of this House of Prayer, intended as it is for the Worship of the Great and Adorable Lord God, the great I AM, the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, and may He grant that the work thus begun in order may be conducted in peace and ended in harmony.—'So mote it be.'"

The Rev. Mr. Webber thus addressed the meeting as to the steps taken to secure the erection of the Church, and said,—The result has been the plan which I now hold in my hands, skillfully drawn for us by Mr. Inspector Bury. This Church is of lofty proportions and considerable ornament, the latter essential being obtained by having the columns and rafters and the principal parts of the tower constructed of cast iron. It will be 135 feet in length, only 15 feet shorter than Solomon's Temple of wondrous beauty and glorious fame. The internal height will be 55 feet from the floors to the apex of the roof, thus providing within coolness and ventilation, and an imposing appearance without. We propose to obtain that internal beauty and solemnity which speaks home so powerfully to the heart, by the

introduction of stained glass windows, drawings of which have been received by the present mail, and are now in your hands. The eastern window is exceedingly beautiful, being in form the exact copy of the east window of a noble church in Northamptonshire. I sincerely hope that the liberality of the community will enable us to complete this portion of the design. It is, in my opinion, of no ordinary moment. Externally the most attractive feature will be the tower and spire. Graceful in form, and rising to the towering height of 130 feet, it will recall in many of us the sunny memories of our early home, when, roam where we might, the eye seldom failed to behold somewhere in the perspective the old church tower pointing upwards with its tapering spire, as with a finger to that pure Heaven above, which we all long and pray, and would that we were all striving to secure one day as our happy and eternal home. I do hope, and may my hope be not a vain hope, that every well-wisher of the Church will feel it a duty to give some help to us. Not only will they be thus working a good work, in building up a glorious House to their ascended Lord, the Great Corner Stone, the beginning and the ending of all our work on earth, but they will also lighten most materially those cares and anxieties which naturally devolve on those who are engaged in a work like the present one. Most fervently do I myself pray—"God speed our work." For we, one and all, unhesitatingly acknowledge that, except the Lord build this our house, all our labour is but lost who attempt to build.

His Excellency the Governor, in a few well-chosen words, spoke to the following effect:—I am very happy, ladies and gentlemen, that I have appeared here in my official capacity to-day, and I trust that though a very inadequate, yet a faithful exponent of the feelings of our beloved and gracious Sovereign, I need scarcely remind you that upon all occasions Her Majesty is ever ready in supporting works of this description, and takes a lively interest in them, not only in the United Kingdom, but throughout the whole extent of her dominions; but, of course, every one must be aware that to take an active interest in all such works in all the colonies would be impossible. But you must all be aware of the support she has given to the cause of church accommodation in the diocese of the Bishop of London. I feel, therefore, that I should fail very much in my duty, as her representative, although an inadequate one, if I did not give all possible support to an undertaking of this sort. But, secondly, I feel it my duty to be the exponent of the feelings of the Legislature of the colony on this occasion. The reverend incumbent has told you of the unanimity of the Legislature in coming forward and granting the land for the undertaking. I feel assured that I am the faithful exponent of my colleagues in the Court of Policy, not only the officials with whom I am more intimately connected, but also of all the elective members, when I say that they take a lively interest in the work commenced here to-day; and, finally, I trust I may say, in behalf of myself, that I take a most sincere and lively interest in the undertaking, and that you may rely upon my cordial support on all occasions, and my assistance so far as it lies in my power to give it. I am well aware that it is an undertaking of a formidable nature, considering the district in which it has to be carried out; but it is wonderful what can be done by continued exertion and perseverance. He had only to hope, then, that the result would answer the expectations of the congregation.

The Venerable the Vicar-General having also addressed the meeting, a collection was made, during which the following hymn was sung:—

"Placed in form the corner-stone,  
True and trusty, brothers, own:  
Come and bring in thought sincere,  
Hands to help and hearts to cheer.  
Come and bring, &c.

"Marked with love the Master's will,  
Kindly proved the works of skill;  
Beauteous forms in grace shall rise  
'Neath the arch of favoring skies.  
Beauteous forms, &c.

"Join we now our offering true,  
While our homage we renew;  
Bear to Him whose praise we sing,  
Thanks that from each bosom spring.  
Bear to Him, &c.

"When on earth our work is o'er,  
Be a dearer life in store;

Each in form, in heart, upright,  
Taught by Truth's unerring light.  
Each in form, &c."

This was followed by

"All people that on earth do dwell,"

At the conclusion of which, the Vicar-General offered up a prayer, and pronounced the benediction.

Thus ended one of the most interesting ceremonies perhaps ever witnessed in the colony, and one which will long linger in the memories of those who witnessed it.—Abridged from the *Royal Gazette*.

## Poetry.

### THE DEPARTURE OF SIR HUGH WILLOUGHBY.

(EXTRACT FROM "THE EXILE OF SIR HUGH.")

BY WILLIAM BRADFIELD.

On the bosom of the river,  
Where the sunbeams flash and quiver,  
Crafts of all dimensions come and go,—  
Gaily decked with flag and banner  
In the sea approved manner,  
And crowded from the stern unto the bow.

The day is one of pleasure  
Ta'en and given without measure,  
The sunshine and the greetings full of joy;  
And tho' it is the parting,  
No woful tears are starting  
The triumph of the moment to alloy.

'Tis a grand inauguration,—  
There are men of every station,  
In thousands upon thousands, on each shore;  
Old England with its glory,  
Sung in song, and told in story,  
Had never seen a braver sight before.

And when the hour arriving,  
Complete the last contriving,  
And the vessels, weighing anchor, start away.—  
Old Father Thames so quiet  
Is startled with the riot  
Of the ringing and the rattling hurrahy.

On the shouting and the cheering—  
Young and old, their voices tearing—  
A thousand throats hurrahy out of time;  
And yet, amid the roaring  
With excitement, tune ignoring,  
Their sympathy becoming quite sublime!

The distant bells are clashing,  
And the guns all ready, flashing,  
Awaken up the echoes with a bang.  
'Tis made a day of wonder,  
For, with grander human thunder,  
The vaults of azure Heaven never rang.

And see—the vessels starting,  
And brave Sir Hugh departing,  
To discover to the East another way;  
While every heart is leaping,  
And not an eye is weeping,  
Except at the excitement of the day.

## MASONIC FESTIVITIES.

### BRITISH GUIANA.

One of the most magnificent and brilliant entertainments which has ever taken place in the city of Georgetown was given on the 29th Sept. by the Worshipful Master and members of Union Lodge. The large and lofty Assembly Rooms, which visitors have (perhaps too flatteringly) declared to be the finest in the West Indies

were elegantly decorated for the occasion. We almost despair of conveying to our distant readers even an idea of the dazzling appearance they presented when lighted up by innumerable chandeliers and candelabra. We can only attempt a faint description of the scene. The double entrance to the hall on either side of the eastern end was through arches of palm leaves. The front of the music gallery was covered with various bright-coloured flags, in the centre of which, resting on a background of scarlet cloth, was a five-pointed star four feet across, composed of innumerable small balls of silvered glass, which reflected the light thrown upon them in a very brilliant manner and formed altogether a most splendid ornament. Under this, on a dais, were arranged many Masonic devices and emblems which it would be difficult to describe to the uninitiated, but which by their grouping produced a very pleasing effect. Radiating from the large chandelier in the centre of the ceiling were six long wreaths of flowers reaching to the next rows of lights. The ten windows in the south side of the room were draped with curtains of red and white cloth depending from large rosettes over the centre of each window, and between the windows and springing up so as to form an arch over each were the long tapering feathery branches of the cabbage palm, the lowest end of which rested on ornamental brackets bearing a number of graceful statuettes. Under these were various Masonic devices about two feet in length, composed of flowers, such as the triangle, double triangle, triple tau, and the forty-seventh problem of Euclid, &c. The arches on the other side of the room leading into the gallery were draped in a somewhat similar manner to the windows, having, in addition, pendent from the centre of each and attached to long spear-headed staves, the banners of the Union encampment of Knight Templars. Three of these were private ones bearing the names and coats of arms of their owners, the Sir Knights Oliver, Imlach, and Daly; the others were the banners of the Order. The long gallery was hung with Chinese lanterns, but the most elaborate decoration appeared to have been reserved for the west end of the room. Here was erected a lofty crescent-shaped screen divided into four compartments, each of which was richly draped with festoons of the Masonic colours, viz., white, blue, purple, and scarlet; each angle was surmounted by a coronet, and from the point of each sprung a long spear-headed staff bearing a banner, the centre one being the device of the Knight Templars, and the others the emblems of the man, the lion, the ox, and the eagle. From the centre of the screen hung the Masonic coat-of-arms, and beneath this were bouquets of the choicest flowers arranged in ornamental vases. At either horn of the crescent there stood a tall column of white marble with gilded capital, on which rested a globe. The *tout ensemble* was perfect, and it was universally admitted that the rooms had never before been so elegantly arranged.

The guests began to assemble shortly before nine o'clock, and a few minutes after that hour his Excellency the Governor and family arrived. Mrs. Hincks was met at the door by the Worshipful Master of the Union Lodge, who, preceded by the Inner Guard, and accompanied by his Deacons, escorted the lady to her seat at the west end of the room, immediately in front of the screen—the fraternity forming a double line to receive their guest as she passed to her place.

Dancing commenced immediately to the music of the string band of the Georgetown Militia. The ball was opened by the Worshipful Master and Mrs. Ready, the

Governor's daughter. The quadrille at the upper end of the room being composed, so far as the gentlemen were concerned, of officers of the Union Lodge. After this was over, several of the fraternity disappeared, but shortly presented themselves in the more elaborate costume of the Knights Templars. Another quadrille was then formed, in which were none but the Sir Knights and their fair partners. An exception, however, being made in favour of his Excellency the Governor, who led off this dance with Mrs. Ingram.

About this time the ball-room presented an exceedingly gay and picturesque appearance. Nearly four hundred lights threw a flood of illumination on the numerous banners and other decorations, and the bright dresses of the ladies, mingled with the uniforms of the military, the semi-eastern costumes of the Sir Knights, and the varied insignia of the Masons, combined to produce a magnificent effect. Between twelve and one o'clock an elegant supper was served, after which dancing was resumed, and the rosy-fingered morn had nearly tinged the eastern sky before the last devotee of Terpsichore had quitted the festive scene. As nearly as we could judge, there were about three hundred persons present, and but one feeling, and that of pleasure, seemed to animate all at the unceasing attention and kindness of the Worshipful Master and his mystic fraternity.

#### THE WEEK.

**THE COURT.**—The Queen returned to Windsor from Scotland on Saturday, accompanied by the youthful members of her family, including the infant son of the Prince and Princess of Wales. Her Majesty appeared to be in excellent health, and though no state or ceremony was observed in greeting her return to the old castle of her ancestors, she graciously acknowledged the salutations of the crowds who lined the streets from the railway station to the castle gate. The Princess Louise, who is said to have been suffering from an attack of typhoid fever, was not sufficiently well to undertake the through journey. Her Royal Highness alighted at Carlisle on Friday night, and remained in the Border city until Saturday, when she resumed her journey southwards. Prince Alfred has gone to Bonn to prosecute his studies. A telegram was received from Hesse Darmstadt on Tuesday, announcing that her Royal Highness the Princess Alice of Hesse was safely delivered of a daughter in the course of the day. The Prince and Princess of Wales are still on the continent.

**GENERAL HOME NEWS.**—The mortality of London is on the increase. Last week it rose as high as 1,409, which is an excess of 210 deaths above the average number. Bronchitis and phthisis were active sources of death, and the mortality was very severe among the young. The births for the week were 2,031, which is 105 more than the previous year.—The return issued by the Statistical Office of the Poor-law Board shows that though an increase of pauperism has taken place in the cotton districts, it is, compared with the two previous statements, in a decreasing ratio—2,520 last week against 3,970 and 6,580 in the third and second weeks of the past month. The unions which now exhibit the largest accessions are Bury, 540; Haslingden, 420; Manchester, 310; and Todmorden, 360. On the other hand, several unions have decreased: Blackburn by 170, Oldham by 220, Stockport by 280, and two or three others by smaller numbers. The adult able-bodied paupers are now 27,439; last week 1,091 came on the rates. The week's disbursement for outdoor relief was £6,194; this, of course, being in addition to any assistance in money or in goods granted by the local relief committees.—At the meeting of the Central Executive Relief Committee on Monday, Lord Derby

pointed out the importance of inviting relief committees in those districts where money has been advanced, under the Public Works Act, to put themselves into communication with the local authorities for the purpose of stimulating the employment of cotton operatives on the public works. This proposal seems to have met with the general concurrence of the Committee, and it was decided to issue a circular embodying the suggestion of the noble Earl.—The Corporation of Dublin will welcome the new Lord Lieutenant with a somewhat remarkable address. The address states that the abolition of the vice-regal office is resisted, not because such a measure would prove a loss to the Dublin shopkeepers, but because it would be “another step in that pernicious policy of centralisation,” and so forth. Attention is called to absenteeism, and also to the fact that the rents of the land, “as well as the bulk of the proceeds of the taxation of the country, are constantly remitted to England without any adequate return.” The “best and hardiest” of the children of the land are described as “eagerly flying to happier shores,” and the Corporation is not ashamed to affirm that that monstrous job, the Galway packet service, was brought to grief by “the narrow spirit and the jealousy with which it had to contend.” Then it is declared that Queens-town has not been made a great dockyard because of its “geographical situation in Ireland creating jealous and unjust opposition.”—The *Morning Post* gives what appears to be an authoritative denial to the story that Parliament is about to be dissolved. Parliament has been formally prorogued until the 13th of January.—The Marquis of Exeter died on Sunday. The accession of his eldest son, Lord Jermyn, to the peerage causes a vacancy in the representation of West Suffolk.—Mr. W. Morris, a Liberal, and a relative of the late member, has been elected for Carmarthen without opposition.—Mr. John Leech, almost the last of a great brotherhood of workers on *Punch*, died on Saturday, in the full prime of life. The tidings of the death of this highly-gifted artist will come to many homes in England and in other lands as the mournful announcement that a genial friend and instructor has passed away. He was only forty-seven years of age.—The report of the Select Committee appointed to inquire into the nature of the arrangement between the Foreign Office and the Board of Trade, with regard to commercial matters, has just been published. Our English merchants have frequently complained that the interests of English commerce have suffered from the present system; and the Committee suggest, by way of improving the relations between the two departments, that the Board of Trade be placed more nearly upon an equality with the Foreign Office than it is at present, in order that its opinion, when asked, may have due weight; that it be put in direct communication with the members of the diplomatic and consular services; and that an officer or officers be appointed in the Foreign Office to conduct its correspondence with the Board.—Mr. Bright, though “in no manner solicited or invited” to do so, has plunged into the great political contest between the Democrats and the Republicans of the Northern States of America. In a letter to Mr. Horace Greeley, he says that, so far as he has been able to observe, “all those of his countrymen who have wished well to the rebellion” are in favour of the election of General McClellan, while, on the other hand, all those who regard the restoration of the Union “as a thing to be desired and prayed for by all good men” are “heartily longing” for the triumph of Mr. Lincoln. He proceeds to eulogise the public conduct of the President, and says he believes that the re-election of Mr. Lincoln “will convince all men that the integrity of your great country will be preserved, and will show that republican institutions, with an instructed and patriotic

people, can bear a nation safely and steadily through the most desperate perils.”—General Todleben, the famous Russian engineer who planned the defences of Sebastopol, and whose recent work on the expedition to the Crimea is at present causing so much discussion, has arrived in this country on an apparently professional visit. He has been received with every mark of distinction. He dined with the Commander-in-Chief, and next week he will be the guest of the Army and Navy Club.—Garibaldi is said to have declined the splendidly equipped yacht which his friends in this country have purchased for him.—A deputation from Chatham had an interview yesterday with Earl de Grey and Ripon in reference to the powder magazine at Upnor Castle. Earl de Grey and Ripon, replying to their representations, said he had already appointed a commission to inquire into the matter.—The Hebdomadal Council at Oxford had under their consideration on Tuesday a proposal, emanating from the Vice-Chancellor, for the endowment of Professor Jowett’s chair, with emoluments to the extent of £400 a-year. After some discussion the proposal was negatived by one vote.—The Salford Town Council has unanimously adopted the Public-houses Closing Act, which is already in force in Manchester. The act also has been adopted by the Liverpool Town Council.—All the vigilance of the police, aided by the proffered reward of £100, has failed as yet in leading to the detection of the murderous ruffians who shot Mr. Wood and robbed his house at Whitecroft, in the Forest of Dean. Offer of a free pardon to an accomplice is now made, in the hope of inducing one of the band to come forward. The unfortunate man still lies in a critical condition.—Mr. Odell, the Irish barrister, who shot a bailiff’s messenger that had come to take his goods in execution, was tried before the Criminal Court of Dublin last week. The trial lasted three days. There was no dispute as to the facts of the murder; but it was contended that the prisoner was insane at the time he shot the man. The jury took this view, and on Saturday they returned their verdict, acquitting the prisoner on the ground of insanity.—The Old Bailey has seldom been the scene of more intense excitement than was witnessed in and around that gloomy court on Thursday last week. The anxiety to see the alleged murderer, Franz Muller, pervaded all classes, and though few could have their desires gratified, yet hundreds lingered round in the hope of catching the first intimation of any new phase that might come out in the evidence, or at lowest of seeing those who had seen the prisoner. Muller appeared to be the only man unmoved in the assembly within the court. He pleaded not guilty in a quiet but firm voice, and elected to be tried by a jury of Englishmen. The evidence was carried down as far as the circumstances attending the finding of Mr. Brigg’s body and the description of the wounds on his person, together with the identification of the prisoner as the person who exchanged Mr. Brigg’s chain for another one. His friends, the Repsches and Haffa, with whom he spent the greater part of the Saturday of the murder, and the persons with whom he lodged, were also examined. The second day of the trial brought the case for the prosecution to a close, and advanced the defence as far as the speech of Mr. Serjeant Parry. The principal feature of the day was the examination of the cabman and his wife. The cross-examination of these witnesses did not bring out any new facts, though some small discrepancies and variations of statements were pointed out. The learned serjeant, in his speech for the defence, did not attempt to set up anything as to the murder; he confined himself to the argument that the evidence had not brought the case home to Muller, and he undertook to call witnesses to show that Muller was elsewhere when the murder was done.

The trial closed on Saturday. The day began with the summoning of witnesses for the defence, the principal of them being called to prove an *alibi*, which, however, was not so precise in point even of time as to make it impossible that Muller might have committed the murder. The Solicitor General then addressed the jury in reply, and the Lord Chief Baron summed up the principal points of the evidence with great clearness and with scrupulous impartiality. The jury retired for about a quarter of an hour, after which they returned into court and delivered their verdict—Guilty. Baron Martin, after stating that the Chief Baron and he fully concurred in the verdict, solemnly sentenced the prisoner to death. Muller was a good deal agitated, and in a few broken words said he had been convicted on false evidence, and that he would die innocent. According to present arrangements, Muller will be executed on the 14th inst.—A melancholy loss of life at sea is reported from Hartlepool. The crew of a foundered vessel, consisting of seven men and a boy, had taken to the dingey, and were tossed about in a rough sea, when another vessel bore down to their rescue. They got alongside, and were in the act of securing the boat previous to being taken on board, when some awkwardness occurring the dingey was upset, and the whole of the men were precipitated into the sea, and perished in the sight of the men who had come to their deliverance.—A young man named Haigh was apprehended at Chester on Saturday last on a charge of having forged cheques to the extent of £2,000 at Huddersfield. After some time expended in tracing him from his native town to Chester, he was apprehended in a first-class carriage, with a through ticket to Cork. It seems he had possessed himself of a cheque book belonging to his brother, by which means he was enabled to carry out his frauds.—The stockbroker Burrows, who was apprehended some time ago when attempting to abscond with some £10,000 worth of Confederate Bonds, was brought up before the magistrates at the Guildhall on Saturday last, when some further evidence was given in the case, after which he was again remanded.—Another person, Duncan McLean Wright, of Liverpool, has been taken custody on the charge of being connected with the attempt to defraud Messrs. Garcia, Rubet, and Brothers of wine to the value of several thousand pounds. It will be remembered that a person named De Witt is already in custody on this charge. The prisoner made no defence and was remanded. It appears that the prosecutors are likely to recover all the property of which it was attempted to defraud them.—Early on Monday morning a servant in the family of Captain Dow, of Rodwell, Weymouth, alarmed the household by cries of "Murder," and on some of the inmates going to her room, she stated that a man, who had just escaped from the window, had pounced upon her while she was asleep. Marks of violence were found on the girl's neck, a ladder had certainly been raised against her window, and at daybreak the body of a marine was found at the bottom of a railway cutting behind the house. It was clear, from the footmarks, that this was the man who had entered the room, but his object in doing so is a matter of doubt.—A lamentable circumstance occurred at the Horley station of the London and Brighton Railway on Saturday morning. An elderly lady entered upon the platform just as the train came in, and either stooped or fell down upon the rail, when one of the wheels of a carriage rested on her chest. She had been staying in the neighbourhood, and was to have returned by that train to her own residence at Peckham.—The inquest on the gas-fitter who was found in the Green Park has been concluded. It was clearly proved that the poor man had sustained injuries which must have been inflicted by blows; but there was no possibility of tracing their infliction.

The jury therefore returned an open verdict, but censured the authorities at St. George's Hospital for sending the man away under the impression that he was drunk when he was really in a fit.—An inquest was held on Saturday on the body of a girl who was found dead in a house of ill-fame. Her relations thought she had been murdered, but surgical evidence showed that she had died from disease of the heart, accelerated by her dissipated habits, and the jury returned a verdict accordingly, with a censure on the parties who draw the rents from such disreputable houses as that in which the girl died.—A destructive fire broke out in Hull on Tuesday morning in a corn warehouse, which was stated to have contained at the time an immense quantity of grain. The flames were first seen about three o'clock in the morning, and in a short time the whole building was one mass of flame. It is not known how the fire occurred.—A meeting of colliers was held at Coseley on Saturday last, at which it was agreed that, with some exceptions, the strike should be terminated and the men should return to their work. It was admitted that the men had endured great privations during the strike, which has lasted for seventeen weeks.—It would seem that the whole of the colliers on strike in South Staffordshire, excepting those in the West Bromwich and Oldbury districts, are about to resume work. The West Bromwich and Oldbury men will remain out, and will be supported by those who have found it hopeless to continue the struggle with the masters.—The Canadian steamship *Jara* ran ashore at Crosby Point, Liverpool, a few days ago, but on the tide ebbing she was left dry on a bank, and broke in two amidships.—About a fortnight ago the ship *Galloway* arrived in the Thames from Calcutta, with several of the crew ill; and one old seaman, aged 68, died soon after he was brought ashore. As it was reported that the crew had suffered from a scarcity of provisions a coroner's inquest was held, which was resumed on Wednesday last, when several of the crew were in attendance. It was proved that the crew had been put on short allowance of water, and had run out of vinegar and lime-juice. But the death of the sailor was traced to natural causes, and the jury returned a verdict to that effect, adding that it was accelerated from the want of stimulants.—A serious fire broke out at an early hour on Wednesday morning in Finsbury. The premises of Mr. Cook, an extensive cabinet maker, were entirely gutted, and the adjoining houses were for a time placed in much danger; but by the great exertions of the firemen they were preserved and the lives of the inmates saved.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.—The visit of the Emperor Napoleon to the Czar at Nice was limited to one day. On Saturday the Emperor set out on his return, stopping at Toulon to inspect the squadron, and at Lyons to review the troops. On Saturday he was at Marseilles, and returned to St. Cloud on Monday evening. During his brief stay at Marseilles the Emperor had an interview with the King of the Belgians. The proposed establishment of a *Caisse des Travaux Publics*, with power to issue six per cent. Bonds without the control of the Legislature, has caused much distrust in commercial circles, and is looked on as a return to the system of unlicensed credits which was abolished on the accession of M. Fould to office. An official report in the columns of the *Moniteur* records the enthusiastic reception given to the Emperor by the inhabitants of Marseilles. The Convention still forms the subject matter for long and fierce discussion to the French press; but that is probably for want of something new upon which to exercise their controversial powers. Nearly all that can be advanced *pro* and *con.* that piece of diplomacy must have already been said. Several of the Vienna journals assert that a con-

plete understanding has been come to between the Czar and the Emperor Napoleon on the subject of a Congress, and that Count Stackelberg, the Russian Ambassador at Vienna, is about to leave for Berlin, where all the Ambassadors and Ministers to the different European Courts have been convoked to be present on the arrival of the Emperor of Russia. A despatch from the British Embassy at Vienna to the Foreign Office confirms an announcement that the treaty of peace between Denmark, Prussia, and Austria, was signed on Sunday, and adds that the ratification is to take place in three weeks, and that Jutland is to be evacuated by the German allies within three weeks from the time of the ratification. The Danish Rigsraad are summoned to meet on the 7th November for the ratification.—The semi-official *Provincial Correspondenz* of Berlin asserted that the resignation of Count Rechberg had nothing to do with any question affecting the relations between Austria and Prussia. Count Mensdorff-Pouilly is convinced, according to this journal, in order to further the common interest of Germany, a really close and intimate relation of the two Great Powers is necessary. The Austrian Government has therefore hastened to assure the Cabinet of Prussia that the change of Ministers in no way affects the situation of the two Powers.—A despatch from the British Legation at Athens confirms the previous announcement that the Greek Assembly had finally passed the new Constitution, and adds that King George will speedily give his assent to it, and that Greece is tranquil.

INDIA AND CHINA.—The Calcutta and China mails have arrived at Suez, whence telegrams announce that the European squadron had "successfully attacked" the forts which the Prince of Nagato had erected for the purpose of blocking up the Straits of Semonosaki. The Japanese, who are said to have made a stout defence, but to have inflicted little loss on their assailants, are reported to have sued for peace, and to be now willing to open the inland sea to European shipping. The only news from India is the announcement that on the 5th October Calcutta was visited by a terrible hurricane, which did enormous damage to property. Out of about 200 European or American ships which were lying in the Hooghly, scarcely 20 escaped undamaged, and some 15 or 20 were totally wrecked. None of the Peninsular and Oriental Company's steamers were wholly lost, though all were more or less injured; but five of the Indian Navigation Company's steamers were destroyed. Despatches published by the Paris journals state that 12,000 persons were drowned, that a great part of the city of Calcutta was flooded, that the villages on the river banks were under water, and that the total damage was estimated at £3,000,000.

AMERICA.—The *China* has brought us New York journals of the 22nd ult. There was little or no news from the neighbourhood of Richmond, as no fresh operations had been undertaken by either army. In a reconnaissance made by two Federal divisions on the north of the James River, on the 13th ult., the Federals had been repulsed, with a loss of some 400 men. General Sheridan had reported that on the 15th ult. his troops had moved to attack General Longstreet's army, which had appeared in the neighbourhood of Strasburg, but that the Confederates withdrew hastily before his vanguard, "without giving the opportunity for any serious conflict." A brief despatch, dated New York, 21st October, states that "General Sheridan defeated Gen. Longstreet near Strasburg, on Oct. 18, capturing 50 guns, including 20 lost early in the engagement." The Confederate army under General Hood had undertaken serious operations against General Sherman's line of railway communication; but the accounts were very obscure. The report that Rome had been taken had been contradicted; but it appeared

that the Federal posts at Resaca and Dalton had been captured by the Confederates, and that some fifteen miles of railway north of Resaca had been torn up by them. General Sherman had marched against General Hood; and official despatches published by the War Department at Washington stated that Hood, after having struck the railroad in the neighbourhood of Dalton and Resaca, had fallen back before Sherman without fighting. General Hood's main force was in the neighbourhood of Lafayette on the night of the 16th inst., and was said to have marched southwards on the following day. General Sherman's troops were at Ship Gap on the 16th instant, and were ready to follow General Hood, whom some rumours represented as intending to enter Tennessee. General Slocum's Federal corps occupied Atlanta, and was officially declared to be "all right, with plenty of provisions and forage." In Missouri, General Price's Confederates had occupied Lexington and Warrensburg on the 15th ultimo; and, consequently, the Federal authorities in Kansas entertained apprehensions which had caused them to call out the militia. Several merchants in Baltimore and Washington had been arrested on charges of carrying on a contraband trade with the Confederates. The final result of the Pennsylvania elections was yet uncertain. In a long report addressed to the Secretary of War, Judge Holt had asserted that an extensive conspiracy against the Union, under the presidency of Mr. Vallandigham, had been formed, principally in the north-western states, and that the conspirators, who numbered several hundred thousand men, were mostly armed and organised. The *Jura* has brought intelligence from New York to the evening of the 22nd ult. The telegram by the last mail announcing the defeat of the Confederates by Sheridan, with the capture of 50 guns, is now confirmed. Sheridan is stated to have captured 1,000 prisoners. It has proved, however, a costly victory to the Federals; for according to the *New York Herald* their losses are estimated at 5,000 men. Price in Missouri had captured Glasgow, and was receiving a vast number of recruits to his army. Curtiss had attacked his advance, but no result is mentioned. Forrest has invaded Western Kentucky. Southern journals assert that Sherman must of necessity soon evacuate Atlanta. President Lincoln in a speech has disclaimed any purpose of interfering with the operation of the constitutional law, whatever may be the result of the elections. According to a telegram from Lisbon, the Brazilian mail steamer *Magdalena* has brought the news that the well-known Confederate steamer *Florida* has been captured off Bahia by the Federal cruiser *Wisconsin*. The Federal steamer *Roanoake* has been captured by a Confederate lieutenant named Brain. She was taken to Bermuda; her passengers were landed, and she was burnt. Subsequently Brain was arrested by the British authorities. Twenty-five armed men had made a raid from Canada into St. Albans, Vermont, plundered a bank there, and killed two citizens. The thieves were, however, were for the most part captured, the Canadian authorities assisting in their arrest.

#### TO CORRESPONDENTS.

INQUIRER, whose letter appeared last week, is informed that a foreign brother, being a member of an English lodge, cannot wear jewels or badges of the high degrees taken either in England or abroad in a Craft lodge. For the brother to sit in lodge without his apron was equally reprehensible.

P. P.—We will make inquiries.

T. B. H. (Hamilton, Canada West.)—The P.O.O. for £1 10s. 4d. has come to hand quite safe.