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MOTHER KILWINNING.

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No. XV.

In the erection of a new lodge, when circumstances interfere to cause delay in its completion, a "Working Warrant," carrying with it all the privileges of a charter, is granted by Grand Lodge of Scotland. Such was also the practice of Mother Kilwinning when possessed of her independence. In 1800 we find her issuing a "Letter of Permission" of the following tenour to the petitioners for the constitution of a lodge in the town of Eagleshame, under the *firm*, "St. James Kilwinning:"—

" . . . In the meantime, in order you may not be kept back of your good intentions in promoting the good of Masonry, you have the authority of the mother lodge to proceed at your discretion in forming yourselves into a regular lodge—entering Apprentices, passing Fellow Craft, and raising deserving brethren to the sublime degree of Master Mason, than which the mother lodge acknowledges no higher degree of Masonry. Wishing you much success in your undertaking, and hoping that true friendship and brotherly love shall subsist betwixt the mother Lodge Kilwinning and her daughter lodge, St. James's Kilwinning, in the new town of Eagleshame, as long as sun and moon endures. And may the Great Architect of the Universe take you under his own care and keeping, and direct you in all your meetings to brotherly love and charity, which are virtues that adorn the Craft, and emblems of that true goodness which the mother lodge hopes will ever distinguish her daughters in all their actions and conduct through life."

Ever careful to have the minds of her daughters impressed with the fact that in the sublime teachings of the third degree was comprehended the highest *step* in her Masonic practice, Mother Kilwinning, in her incorporation with Grand Lodge, seems to have been strengthened in her contempt for the so-called "higher degrees." In 1811 her Master is found vetoing the erection of a third lodge in the "capital of Carrick," from a conviction that the parties soliciting a charter had done so "with the view that they might thereby be enabled to practise the higher orders of Masonry." To this assumption the promoters of the

"Union Maybole" demurred, as, if acted upon, likely to "stop the progress of Masonry, and hurt the funds of the Grand Lodge." But by other considerations did they urge their suit. "We all most belong (say they) to different lodges, and on our attending the lodges of Maybole, we are sorry to say that we think we are not treated as becometh brethren. We are seated in a *solitary corner* of the room, nor indulged to mingle with the rest of the brethren; and often are we forced to hear hints from the brethren which must wound the feelings of sensible minds, and must asert much to the dishonour of the men who offers them." This dolorous plaint—occasioned apparently by a violation of the principle by which upon the chequered floor all to whom admission is given are, or ought to be, welcomed with the most fraternal courtesy—failing to move the mother lodge, the desiderated hiatus in their "theological ladder" debarred the complaining brethren from escaping from the "coventry" into which they had been placed, or of penetrating through the clouded canopy of a blue lodge to the arch not made with hands, preparatory to entering upon their career as pilgrim warriors.

While thus exercising her prerogative in preventing, as she thought, the spread in Ayrshire of spurious Masonry, with what astonishment would she view herself approached as the mother *encampment* by a band of militant brethren supplicating her authority for the transference of a warrant under which might be assumed the "scollop, scrip, and shoon" of an order unknown at Kilwinning. The application—contained in a *franked* letter addressed to "The Master of the Knight Templars Lodge, Kilwinning," bearing date "Dover, Jan. 7, 1813," and signed by fifteen individuals—is here given as illustrative of the disorganised condition in which the R. A. and K. T. degrees then existed, and of the widespread belief in Mother Kilwinning's connection therewith:—

"BROTHER SIB KNIGHT TEMPLARS AND KNIGHTS OF MALTA.—We, the undermentioned brothers, Knight Templars, and Knights of Malta, at Dover, wish to obtain a Knight Templar's Warrant to work upon that degree. We have found one in the Westmeath Militia, under your sanction (No. 4); and as the Irish lodges work all their degrees under the Master Warrant, and it is of no use to them, and they want to part with it, we will purchase it with your permission, and will register all the members in your Grand Lodge at Kilwinning and receive your Grand Lodge certificate, and pay all due obedience to the same. . . . If the warrant No. 4 is of no use to us, send us word what a new warrant will come to, as we wish to purchase one, and we will send the money by the return of post. Please to

put in the Post-office with your letter one penny, and the letter you receive from us will come post free."

The K. T. warrant spoken of as holding of Kilwinning would in all probability be one of those issued by the High Knight Templars of Ireland Kilwinning Lodge, erected by the mother lodge in 1779, and afterwards known in Masonic circles by the self-bestowed title of "The Kilwinning Chapter of High Knights Templars of Ireland;" but as a matter of course the Lodge of Kilwinning, in reply to the "Sir Knights" of the Shropshire regiment of militia, repudiated the existence of any maternal tie between herself and any society of Masonic knighthood, and confessed her inability to "communicate upon Masonic business farther than the Three Steps."

We next find Mother Kilwinning, through her Proxy-Master, advocating the passing of a law excluding "from the right of sitting or voting in the Grand Lodge of Scotland all Masons who may hold offices in Masonry that acknowledges a higher degree than the first." This was in 1817, and when in autumn of the following year overtures were made by the heads of the newly-formed Supreme Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland for union with Grand Lodge, on the presumption that "the Royal Arch was truly a real and intrinsic part of Master Masonry, without which no Grand Lodge can be complete," so thoroughly hostile was the mother lodge to the movement, that notwithstanding that the communication craving a conference with Grand Lodge bore the signatures of two Past Grand Masters, her representative in the Supreme Court of the Order led the opposition to the contemplated conference by moving the rejection without reading of the communication referred to—which motion, against the amendment, that it be read, made by the Master of the Canongate Kilwinning, was carried by a majority of 51 to 32. Thus did Mother Kilwinning, in the several cases we have instanced, exert her influence in discountenancing any Masonic degree higher than those conferred in the Sanctum Sanctorum of the Lodge of the Holy St. John.

SAY what is right, and let others say what they please. You are responsible for only one tongue, even if you are a married man.

NEVER pride yourself on having done a particularly wise thing; it may hereafter show itself to have been particularly foolish.

WHENEVER we drink too deep of pleasure, we are sure to find a sediment at the bottom of the cup, which embitters the draught we have quaffed with so much avidity.

INITIATION OF EMIR ABD-EL-KADER.

(From the *Bulletin du Grand Orient de France*.)

At the time of the grave political troubles that were aroused in Syria through religious fanaticism, and followed up by those sanguinary scenes that are still in all our readers' remembrance, the Lodge Henri IV., of Paris, sent a congratulatory epistle to Emir Abd-el-Kader, whose conduct during those occurrences had evinced a magnanimous spirit of toleration and fraternity.

The Emir, much affected by these marks of sympathy, replied by a letter which was inserted in the *Bulletin* of the Grand Orient of France for September, 1861, requesting to be initiated in the doctrines of Freemasonry. This request was couched in too flattering terms not to be complied with; the Lodge Henri IV., therefore, despite the impediments involved by the distance of the place of residence of the neophyte and the prescription of the "Statute," endeavoured to win such an eminent adept to the Craft.

At last a journey undertaken by Abd-el-Kader to Egypt afforded the desired opportunity, and the Lodge Les Pyramides, of Alexandria, acting on behalf of its superior Lodge Henri IV., in its sitting of June 18th last, bestowed the light of our institution upon one who, for many years, had in vain impugned the ideas of civilisation in the name of religion.

This ceremony, which was witnessed by many visitors and a deputation from the Pompeia Lodge, produced a very deep impression at Alexandria and throughout the Levant.

The minute of the meeting, having stated the reading of the Emir's replies to the ritual questions put to him, gives the following account of the effect produced on the audience:—

"The reading of these replies was received with a deep feeling of admiration. The philosophical thoughts, developed with all the poetical impetus of this eastern genius, marked a free-thinker whose meditations reach the ideal of the most perfect civilisation. They showed us the great soul that desired no other master but nature and God. His psychological definitions of Fraternity, Charity, Soul, and its immortality evinced a most absolute logic. In this lucubration the Emir appeared in a new light. The value of his argumentation was certainly equal to his martial gallantry; and, since the time when, at Damascus, this illustrious neophyte drew his sword for the protection of his fellow-creatures, he had never shown the strength

that was supplied to a good cause by the powerful help of undaunted faith and invincible fraternity."

After the initiation, Bro. Custon, the W.M. of the lodge, denoted in a few deeply felt expressions the sincere and fraternal friendship the Emir was entitled to claim from his brethren. The orator, Bro. Nicoulaud, in addressing the lodge, enumerated all the glorious and Masonic claims the neophyte had to the friendship of his associates; he recalled to the Emir's mind all the obligations and duties inherent to Masonry; he crowned the W.M.'s work, as it were, by giving to the Emir in a certain manner the intellectual baptism subsequent to the moral and symbolical consecration.

These two speeches are destined to produce an excellent effect in the Levant; they will contribute, there is no doubt, to the development of Masonry in those regions.

The Lodge Henri IV., at a solemn meeting, endorsed the initiation that had taken place in its name through the instrumentality of Lodge Les Pyramides; and we cannot help congratulating it upon the successful result of its endeavours.

ORNAMENTED AND STAINED GLASS.*

I purpose giving an account of the different methods now used in England of ornamenting glass, and of the mode of producing stained glass windows in ancient and modern times.

If a window space is to be filled in the cheapest manner, merely to be seen through, and as a defence from the weather, you would use common German sheet glass, which can be bought for 1*l.* to 4*d.* per square foot.

If the glass is not required to be seen through, but only to admit light, you would use either rolled plate (say 7*d.* per foot) or common ground glass; the latter being, from its exceedingly cold aspect, the worst thing to be used in any case.

Now, for about 6*d.* per foot extra, this German sheet glass may be ornamented with any simple device or geometric form, the pattern being of transparent glass, on a semi-transparent ground formed of white enamel.

This production, and some of its varieties, are termed "enamelled glass;" their manufacture give employment, at Messrs. Chance's and Messrs. Pilkington's works, to about fifty hands, chiefly girls.

This is the manipulation: lay the sheet of glass on two strips of wood about 3in. high, on a bench; paint over one side with white enamel, finely ground on a glass slab with a muller, and afterwards mixed with a little weak gum-water;

* A paper read by Mr. C. Heaton at the Architectural Association.

you must not paint it as you would a door, but put on a thin coating of the enamel with a flat camel-hair brush, and, before it is dry, make it perfectly even with a broad badger-brush, using it backwards and forwards all over the sheet, at first heavily, afterwards very lightly. Now cut your pattern out of a small sheet of tinfoil or annealed copper, the same way as letter-plates for marking linen are cut, and place it on the dry coat of enamel. Then with a nail-brush remove the enamel, until the clear glass appears in the parts not covered by the plate. Continue this all over the sheet of glass. If the enamel is not easily rubbed off, there is too much gum in it; if the pattern-plate works up the ground, there is too little. Then, after removing the metal plate, put the sheet into a glass-stainer's kiln for the purpose of fixing the enamel.

The white enamel is thus made: take one part of oxide of tin, or any other white substance not liable to change at a red heat, such as calcined bones or china clay, and mix it with three parts of a flux composed of three parts of red lead and one of sand, melted together for one hour at a white heat. The mixture, when finely ground with water, is the white enamel in common use.

The ordinary white enamel used for watch-faces may be bought in cakes at the Whitefriars Glass Works for 2*s.* per lb., and answers every purpose.

The principle of engine-turning, as applied to the backs of watches, is also sometimes adapted to the cheap production of enamelled glass.

Or, a pattern may be etched out with a stick as in etching on copper. A piece of the wood of which butchers' skewers are made, cut to a broad point, is generally used.

Another way is this: paint the patterns with common whiting and gum-water, and, when this is dry, cover the whole surface of the glass with the white enamel mixed with turpentine. The whiting, which has in the trade the name of "never stick," prevents the enamel from adhering. A similar process is used in calico-printing.

Patterns are supplied in large quantities by these simple process, and are, as a rule, very good: in many of them there is a want of simplicity, and the outside appearance of the raw white of the enamel is very disagreeable.

A tint of colour, such as pink or blue, is sometimes used, instead of the white; but the greatest improvement would be making the white of an agreeable tone by the mixture of small quantities of coloured enamel, and ruling it with lines nearly close together, made with a needle-point. This would be discernible on the outside, and would give the inside a more brilliant surface.

I have now to speak of embossing, some specimens of which are met with in most of the large shops in London, especially in public houses. It is remarkable easy of execution, and competition has brought down the price so low as to render

the production of it by itself almost worthless as a trade.

Plate glass, the contract price of which is 3s. 3d. per foot, is usually selected for this enrichment. An ordinary pattern can be embossed on this for 1s. 6d. per foot; one very elaborate for 3s. 3d. This is the way to emboss. The plate of glass, carefully cleaned with whiting, is placed over the drawing, which is usually a bit of unhealthy scroll-work; and the ground of the pattern is painted with common Brunswick black, to resist the action of the acid. When this is quite dry, a bank is built round the edges of the glass. This bank may be formed of strips of glass, made water-tight at the lower edges with hot tallow and carbonate of iron, laid on with a brush. Then pour on fluoric acid, which should be of medium strength, and let it remain for about half an hour. When the pattern is bitten in, say a sixteenth of an inch, scrape off the Brunswick black, and grind the surface of the glass with emery and a piece of plate glass about 2in. square. A clear pattern on a frosted ground is thus produced. If the acid is too weak, the Brunswick black will come off before the pattern is sufficiently bitten in: if too strong, the engraved surface will be very rough. If, therefore, the acid is too strong, or when it bites unevenly, keep the surface of the glass stirred with an old brush. If fluoric acid of excessive strength is placed upon glass, corrosive action is instantaneous, and an appearance is given to the surface like that seen upon old glass by the action of the atmosphere for several centuries.

Any one with an ordinary knowledge of the use of the pencil, and with 20s. in his pocket, may set up as an artist in this pursuit. A bottle of Brunswick black 1s.; one pound of fluoric acid in a gutta-percha bottle, say 3s.; with a rest for his hand, a few pencils, and a packet of emery; these form his humble stock-in-trade. The facility and cheapness of execution and competition have caused embossed glass to become one of the items in builders' contracts; and although it should not from that cause become an inferior production, yet I do not believe there are a score patterns in all London equal to what ornamental drawing should be. In most cases too much is attempted; an utter want of knowledge is shown; and what would become interesting through invention, is a vile compound of unmeaning scraps, cooked up without skill and taste.

A study of the ornamentation of the early Greek vases in the British Museum, and the acquirement of knowledge generally, would have great influence in correcting these feeble and intemperate productions. In embossed glass, skilful linear ornament and invention may be hoped for, but nothing more. In Mr. Crace's office doorways, Wigmore-street, are specimens of the highest character, and these are instances of its utmost capability.

There is also some good work in the windows of the Hero of Waterloo public-house, near Waterloo

Station (Messrs. Hill & Co. architects), but the patterns are all alike. The ceiling of the library of Orleans House is of this kind of glass, but the effect is painfully cold, and unworthy of imitation.*

We now come to the method of staining and colouring sheets of white glass, a process used principally for hall-lamp squares. The manufacture is almost confined to Messrs. Chance's glass works. The yellows and dull reds are produced by a silver stain, afterwards described; the blue is a semi-transparent enamel, made with the black oxide of cobalt, melted with a soft flux. Green is produced by painting one side blue, and staining the other side yellow; browns and flesh reds by the peroxide of iron mixed with a flux.

About thirty years ago, before the production of stained glass windows was understood, some of our church windows were ornamented by this process. Reynolds's window, in New College, Oxford, is an instance. I lately examined this window, and found it in an excellent state of preservation. Not so the Van Ling windows in Christ Church, Oxford, also of this kind, painted in 1630 on squares of white glass, but now decaying in large patches.

The productions of the modern Munich school, which are but little more than transparent paintings, are largely indebted to this enamel system of painting. The Peterhouse Church, at Cambridge, with the exception of its fine old window at the east end, is full of these German transparencies. Occasions might arise when this system of glass ornamentation would be required; but it is an unskilful way of painting, and may be left to ornament cheap lamp squares without regret.

Both white work and embossing may be made good of their kind, and the effort to produce skilful specimens will fit the artist in some measure for work of higher import. One test for good ornamental work is the axiom advanced by the Marlborough House authorities, that "ornament must have some near or remote signification."

The art of glass painting—that is to say, painting made of pieces of coloured glass united together with bands of lead, was invented in France about the middle of the twelfth century.

At the beginning of the thirteenth century, it became a part of the system of the decoration of French Pointed architecture, spreading at the same time all over the north-west of Europe, wherever Northern Pointed architecture became established.

During the whole of this century there was such a rage for this decoration, that not a window was constructed without inserting stained glass, or intending to insert it.

There are some few existing specimens of

* There are manufactured in the glass works sheets of white glass veneered with thin coatings of red and blue. These coatings are easily removed with fluoric acid, and thus are produced the white patterns on red or blue grounds which border the windows of our newly-built stucco villas.

twelfth-century glass. They occur at the abbey church of St. Denys, and at Poissy, in France, and in the aisles of the choir of Canterbury Cathedral; but the remains of stained glass of the thirteenth century are abundant.

In the south and south-east of Europe the system of decorating the interiors of buildings with mosaic work had been long established; and the most marked examples are the coarse work at the Cathedral of Kiev, in Russia, and the more refined paintings of St. Mark's, at Venice.

There was at first much similarity between glass painting and mosaic painting. The Byzantine mosaics (of Roman origin) were made of rough cubes of coloured opaque glass, imbedded in cement; and the earliest stained windows are believed to have been made of small pieces of translucent glass, imbedded also in cement.

There are but few remains of windows of so perishable a construction. There are some specimens in England that have been brought from the Continent, but are of uncertain date; and Mr. Burges mentions that the Mosque of St. Sophia, at Constantinople—a Byzantine building of the tenth century—was so glazed, and that it is still a custom in the East to make the windows of glass and cement alone.

A great improvement on the use of cement was the method of fastening together the small pieces of translucent mosaic with leaden bands, having a groove on each side; and we have to thank the inventor, whoever he may have been, but who lived somewhere about the twelfth century, for this mode of constructing stained windows, very many specimens of which have endured for seven centuries.

The construction of a stained window by means of glass and leaden band only, must have been a tedious work; and, in time, means were discovered for greatly accelerating the process, by making the glass in larger pieces, and by the addition of enamel painting.

Take, for instance, the head of a saint: this, before the introduction of enamel painting, would have been made up of different coloured glasses—one colour for the hair, another for the beard, and white glass for the eyes; the lines of the eyebrows, ears, nose, &c., would have been expressed by the lines of the leaden bands, which also serve to unite the different pieces of glass.

But, after enamel paintings had been invented, the process would have been this: a piece of glass as large as the head would be shaped to the required size. The features would then be painted with opaque enamel, and afterwards the glass would be exposed to a full red heat to cause the enamel to adhere.

The composition of this enamel paint is in glass painting a very important matter. The ancient enamel is in many instances perfect to this day, and occasionally has preserved from decay the glass itself; while in many modern windows, after

a few years, it altogether disappears. There are many stained windows, some of them of great repute, executed within the last ten years, that have required nearly as much restoration from this cause as windows of the thirteenth and fourteenth century.

Enamel is composed of a mixture of metallic oxide, and a flux; this flux answers the same purpose as copal varnish in decorative painting; it effects the adhesion of the colour to the surface. In the decorative paintings of the Houses of Parliament, a mixture of copal varnish and turpentine was used, and I think it the best material for the purpose. In glass painting, a flux is required that shall melt at a lower temperature than the glass itself, and that shall not in course of time decay by the absorption of moisture.

Borate of soda, potash, soda, or salt, all deliquescent materials, are often used for glass-painters' colour; and they all, sooner or later, disintegrate through absorption of moisture.

A colour that you may trust is composed of red lead, sand, and oxide of iron. Melt for two hours, at a white heat, three parts of red lead and one part of white sand, and pour it into water; then pound it fine, and mix about four parts of it with one of oxide of iron (Indian red) or burnt umber, and a little manganese; grind it very fine with a muller on a glass slab, and paint the glass with it, using either a little loaf sugar and water, or turpentine mixed with old turpentine that has become thick.

Potash and soda, you are aware, are both used in conjunction with silica in the manufacture of glass; the silica and alkali are mixed in such proportion as to neutralise any further action of the alkali. Not so in the flux composed of potash or soda. To obtain the requisite low point of fusion, the alkali must be used in excess, and, not being neutral, it will soon become hydrous. The cause of the decay of some of the ancient glass was its having been mixed with too great a proportion of alkali, which in course of centuries has absorbed moisture enough to work the mischief.

At the earliest time in the history of glass-painting the pre-existing mosaics appear not only to have suggested the invention of stained windows, but to have been the mine whence the painters drew some of their materials. There is a striking passage bearing on this point in the treatise of Theophilus, a translation of which you will find in Winston's "Hints on Glass-staining." Theophilus was a learned and pious monk, who wrote in Greek several treatises, but when, and at what time, no one seems certainly to know; but, from his perfect knowledge of stained-glass windows, he most probably lived about the thirteenth century.

There are found in the ancient buildings of the Pagans in Mosaic work, different kinds of glass, viz., white, black, green, yellow, sapphire, red, purple; and the glass is not transparent, but dense

like marble. They are, as it were, small square stones from which are made works inlaid in gold, silver, and copper. There are also found various little vessels of the same colours, which the French, who are skilful in this manufacture, collect; they fuse the sapphire in their furnaces, adding to it a little clear and white glass, and they make tables of sapphire, which are precious and useful in windows. They make tables of purple and green in like manner.

The supply of coloured glass by the Pagan mosaics would not have gone very far in supplying the demand for the great manufacture of thirteenth century windows. The French, there is reason to suppose, were quite able to make all the coloured glass they wanted, and to supply the wants of others even beyond the seas.

In the seventh century they were noted for their glass work. At the end of that century Bishop Wilford brought glass-makers from France to glaze the windows of Hexham Church, and also those of the cathedral of York. The materials necessary for the construction of a thirteenth century window were a flat table, the size of the window, to work upon: on this the design of the window was drawn, and most likely coloured; great care was taken in arranging their colours. Then small sheets of glass, of about seven colours, were obtained. You will not find many more colours in any early window, and these sheets were made out of cylinders of glass split open and flattened. They were thicker than our window glass, very uneven, and more like horn than glass.

Out of these sheets were cut to shape each separate item of the window; the heads, hands, and feet were cut out of flesh glass, the tunic, say, out of green, the girdle brown, the legs red, and shoes blue, perhaps. When these pieces were laid down on the drawing they fitted almost close together, and would look very much like a dissected puzzle that children play with—only that the lines of junction went round the hand instead of across it; but if the hand or dress were larger than the sheets of glass, they did not care much where the joints ran, excepting in large faces, when they would make lines of junction round the eyes, nose, mouth, beard, hair, &c. Each piece of glass was brought to shape with a red-hot iron and a grozing iron. If you lay a red-hot poker on the edge of a piece of window glass, you will soon hear and see a slight crack in it; now move on your hot iron, keeping it on the glass, and the crack will follow until you may bring it round to the place it started from. The cracks that sometimes occur in our own plate glass windows, and which would eventually run across the square, are led round with a hot iron in a small circle, and rendered harmless. By these means the men of the thirteenth century fashioned their thousands of bits of vitreous horn in making windows. It was long before the use of the diamond in cutting glass was discovered. If the piece were not truly fashioned with the hot iron,

workmen chipped away pieces from the edge with a piece of iron with a square notch in it. This was the *grozing-iron*.

Then followed the process of copying on the glass, with the dark-colour enamel, the features, hair, drapery, lines, &c., and in all cases using a little what you may, by a stretch of imagination, call shadow, but which was only a thin film of the tracing colour, used in a very conventional manner, to assist the traced lines in giving expression to the faces and drapery. The pieces of glass painted with enamel were then placed on iron trays, over which had been sifted dry ashes, to prevent the glass sticking to the iron, and put into a close earthenware box, around which the fire played until the whole was red hot. Then the fire was withdrawn and the box and its contents were allowed to cool gradually for the purpose of annealing the glass. The pieces were then placed in their former position on the drawing, and the workman put a band of lead round each piece. The bands of lead were cast in a mould, and had a groove on each side, into which the glass fitted.

Each joint, and wherever one lead touched another, was soldered together on both sides of the glass; and the window was completed by rubbing into the interstices some cement to keep out the wind and rain; oil and whiting, possibly.

The completed window was then fixed in its place; and, if of moderate dimensions, had simply iron saddle-bars set into the stonework on each side, and to these the window was tied with strong strips of lead, soldered to the leadwork of the window.

If the window was large, an iron frame, an inch or two in thickness, was wrought to the leading lines of this design, and to this the window was tied, in a similar manner to the saddle-bars.

This was the construction of a thirteenth-century window, and with some few modifications, it is the construction of the windows of the present day.

These old windows presented several excellences. Firstly, of material—because the thick, uneven glass was the cause of what Ruskin calls “palpitation of colour,” a rich jewelry effect which cannot be produced by a thin material. Secondly, excellence of workmanship, because the painting was well and artistically done; it also presented great individuality, unskilful painting being a rare exception. Thirdly, excellence of construction. The division of the glass into small pieces tended to subdue the glare which stained glass, however thick, has in some degree. It also very materially strengthened the fabric, and it has been the cause of so many specimens being left to this day in such good condition. The wrought iron frame not only gave strong leading lines to the design, but was a most workmanly way of construction. Fourthly, excellence of colour; because, with not more than about half-a-dozen colours, they were well coloured,

never gaudy, but always rich. Of a series of windows, in one green, perhaps, was made to predominate; in another, blue, and so on. Just so were managed the windows in the clerestory of Sherborne Minster, by Clayton and Bell, some years ago. Fifthly, excellence of design. This, with the rare management of colour in the thirteenth century windows, gives them their greatest value. The design is always original and full of invention and feeling, and always suited to the place it occupies. There was no particular law as to the introduction of canopies, or medallions, or ornamental work. In the latter, colour was more considered than form, which was always very severe and conventional.

But about the representation of the human figure, there has been the greatest diversity of opinion. I adhere to the opinion that has often been expressed, that the figure-drawing in the thirteenth century was of equal value with the sculptures and wall decorations of the same period; that the artist did not see the necessity of representing the human figure in any other way than as symbolical representations; as such they tell their stories well, and in the simplest manner, and they always show the qualities most valued in all other sacred illustrations, invention, feeling, and colour.

Ruskin, in his "Stones of Venice," has explained in a few words what I feel greatly at a loss to express:—

"It did not take five centuries to find out the appearance of natural objects—but it took five centuries to make people care about representing them. An artist of the twelfth century did not desire to represent nature. His work was symbolical and ornamental. So long as it was intelligible and lovely, he had no care to make it like nature: as, for instance, when an old painter represented the glory round a saint's head by a burnished plate of pure gold, he had no intention of imitating an effect of light; he meant to tell the spectator that the figure so decorated was a saint, and to produce splendour of effect by the golden circle. It was no matter to him what light was like. So soon as it entered into his intention to represent the appearance of light, he was not long in discovering the natural facts necessary for his purpose."

(To be continued.)

MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

SINAI AND PALESTINE.

The Dean of Westminster, after travelling with the Prince of Wales in the Holy Land, published a volume entitled *Sinai and Palestine*. Reading it lately it appeared to me there were some portions which might be acceptable to more than myself, and I accordingly transmit them with the following observations:—The name *Sinai* is referred to the word *Seneh*, which is the *Acacia* of the Holy Land, the plant so famous in the legends of the Royal Craft. The mountain is known formerly to have abounded with acacia. It is the tree of the burning bush of the Royal Arch, the shittim wood of the Tabernacle. Its botanic name is *Nimosa Nilotica*; its trivial name *Sont* and *Sayal*.

Though the chief growth of the desert it is rare in Palestine. Abel-Shittim, "the meadows of the Acacias," was about six miles from the Jordan. The acacia is never found on the mountains.—Ex. Ex.

"High in the centre of the platform of Mount Moriah rises the remarkable rock now covered by the dome of the *Sakrah*. It is irregular in its form, but measures about sixty feet by fifty. It projects about five feet above the marble pavement, and the pavement of the mosque is about twelve above the general level of the enclosure, making this rise seventeen feet above the ground. It appears to be the natural surface of Mount Moriah; in a few places there are marks of chiselling; but its south-east corner is an excavated chamber, to which there is a descent by a flight of stone steps. This chamber is irregular in form, and its superficial area is about six hundred feet; the average height, seven feet. In the centre of the hollow cave, there is a hollow slab of marble, which, being struck, makes a hollow sound, thereby showing that there is a well or excavation beyond.

"This mass of rock, standing where it does, must always have been an unaccountable disfigurement of the Temple area. The time for arriving at a positive conclusion respecting it is not yet come. But it may be worth while to give the various explorations respecting it, fabulous or historical, during the successive stage of its known history.

"1. The Christians, before the Mussulman occupation of Syria, regarded it as the rock of the Holy of Holies, and as such, so different was the feeling of the Christian world with regard to the Old Testament between the fifth century and our own, used every effort to defile it.

"2. Regarded as the site of the Holy of the Holies by Caliph Omar, it was then by his successors invested with a sanctity only less than the Kaaba of Mecca; believed to be the rock of Jacob's pillar at Bethel; the stone of prophecy which would have fled in the extinction of that gift, but which was forcibly detained by the angels in anticipation of the visit of Mahomet to Jerusalem in his nocturnal flight, when it bowed to receive him, and retained the impression of his feet as he mounted the celestial Borak. Within the cave every prayer is supposed to be granted, and in the well are believed to rest the souls of the departed between death and the resurrection.

"3. Recovered by the Crusaders, it was exhibited as the scene of Apparition of the angel of Zacharias, and of the Circumcision of Christ, as also of many other events in the Gospel history of His life. The footmark of Mahomet was then represented as the trace left when He went out of the Temple to escape the fury of the Jews.

"4. In modern times it has been the centre of the most conflicting theories of sacred topography. Mr. Ferguson, chiefly from architectural arguments, has maintained that the dome of the *Sakrah* is the Church of Constantine, and consequently that the rock beneath is the rock of the Holy Sepulchre. Mr. Falconer and Mr. Thrupp suppose it to be the rock, or part of the rock, on which stood the town of Antonia. Prof. Willis urges its claim to be the rock of the threshing-floor of Araunah, selected by David, and afterwards continued by Solomon and Zerubbabel as the unhewn stone on which to build the altar; the cave within being the sink described in the Talmud as that into

which the blood and offal of the sacrifices were drained off. Undoubtedly, if the measurements of the area would allow of it, this last hypothesis would be the most satisfactory, except so far as it fails to produce adequate examples of a rock so high and so rugged used for either the purposes of a threshing-floor or an altar.

"Meanwhile, the rock remains, whatever be its origin, the most curious monument of old Jerusalem, and not the least so from the unrivalled variety of associations which it has gathered to itself in the vicissitudes of centuries.

"Joppa is now styled *Joffa*. The word (Joppa) signifies *beautiful*. Joppa is traditionally the most ancient seaport in the world. It was to the tribe of Dan to which, in the allotment of the land of Canaan, Joppa fell. Joppa, like the other ancient Philistine cities, is remarkable for the extreme beauty and profusion of the gardens which surround it, the scarlet blossoms of the pomegranates, and the enormous oranges which gild the green foliage of its famous groves. Well might Joppa, *the beautiful*, be so called. Joppa received the rafts which floated down the coasts from Tyre."

EXTRACTS FROM OLD NEWSPAPERS.

In the *Public Advertiser* of January 1st, 1756, one hundred and nine years since, is the following notice:—"By order of the Grand President—The brethren of the Right Worthy and Amicable Order of Antigallic Masons are desired to attend the lodge to-morrow, the 2nd instant, at Bro. Hopping's, the Fox, in Castle-street, Southwark, at six o'clock in the evening, in order to elect a Grand President, and on other special affairs."

Any comment upon this *un-Masonic* use of Masonic phrases and principles is needless; it is only another point in the evidence that in all ages *imitations* of Freemasonry have abounded.

The following is from the same paper, a day later: "True Britons—The brethren of the Grand Lodge of this Honourable Order, held at the White Tavern, without Bishopsgate, are desired to meet at their lodge this day, being the 2nd of January, at 6 o'clock in the evening, in order from thence to attend the G. Master and officers to constitute a lodge at Bro. Cooley's, the Red Lion, in Phenix-street, Spitalfields. By order of the Grand Master."

During the same week we find, "The Brethren of the Laudable and Honourable Association of Loyal Britains," required to observe that "the Grand Annual Meeting" of said society will occur, &c. The brethren of the Most Antient and Honourable Order of Celtiberians are summoned, "by order of the Grand." No names, only initials, are appended to these notices.

"The Laudable Association of Antigallicans" is frequently alluded to. "The Past Grands and present officers of Albion Lodge" are summoned to attend, &c.

An announcement appears under date of March 6, "to attend the corpse of Bro. John Newland, late Senior Warden of No. 14, *it being his desire*." How readily this desire can be understood by every Freemason!

"The Antient and Honourable Brotherhood of Loyal Georges" are summoned to assemble, &c.

The well-known phrase, "without fee or reward," is found in the papers of this period.

The application of Masonry to mercenary purposes is not new, as the following theatrical notice proves: "To the Free and Accepted Masons:—The Brethren who intend to favour Bro. Lander with their company at his benefit, on Thursday, the 8th inst. (April 8, 1756) at the New Theater, in the Hay Market, are desired to meet at Bro. Bankins', in Bear-street, Leicester Fields, at 4 o'clock, that afternoon. Boxes, 5s.; Pit, 3s.; Gallery, 2s. A Freemason's song to be sung by Mr. Lander."

The Masonic relief of that period is alluded to thus:—"All former and present Grand Officers, as also the Masters of all regular lodges of the Antient and Honourable Society of Free and Accepted Masons, who have contributed towards the General Charity of the said Society, within twelve months preceding the date hereof, are desired to meet in a committee, for the disposal of the said charity, at the Anchor and Baptist Head, in Chancery Lane, to-morrow evening, at 7 o'clock—whereof all persons concerned are desired to take notice. By the Grand Master's command. J. Revis, Sec'y."

"To the Brethren of the most Antient and Honourable, Free and Accepted Antient York Masons—this is to give notice that your company is desired, viz., such as are concerned in E. G. commonly called R. A., at Bro. Sargent's, the Prince of Wales' Head, in Caple-street, near Wellclose Square, this day at six in the evening, to accommodate P. L. R. S., as your forefathers were. By the order of P. T. Z. L. J. A., President. Jer. Coleman, Sec'y."

"The Brethren of the Antient and Honourable Order of Gregorians, belonging to the Rummer Chapter," are summoned to meet and pay a visit to the "Pope's Head Chapter" of the same respectable society!

The following is sufficiently amusing:—"Solomon—In the lips of him that hath understanding wisdom is found; but a rod is for the back of him that is void of understanding. The Brothers of the Antient, Original, Free, and Accepted Sols., are desired to attend the Grand Master and Committee at the Grand Lodge, held at Bro. Standish's, the Coach-Makers' Arms, in Long Acre, on Tuesday next, the 27th inst., at seven in the evening, to fix the Winter Feast, and other special affairs. J. P., Sec'y."

"The Brethren of the Antient and Honourable Order of Bucks" advertise a meeting at "Brother Treacher's," for the purpose of visiting "the Grand and Brethren of the Pewter Platter Lodge."

"This resembles one above given: This is to acquaint all the brethren of the Most Honourable, Free, and Accepted Masons, concerned in A. G. (in the former it is E. G.—one, of course, is erroneous) commonly called R. A., that your company is desired to meet at Bro. Watson's, the Feathers, in St. Alban-street, next Friday, at the hour of five, to accommodate P. L. R. S., as your forefathers were. By the order of the P. T. H. J. L. L., President. Jer. Coleman, Sec'y."

"The nobility, clergy, and gentlemen, disposed to meet the Honourable Society of Antient Britons, are desired to join them," &c.

"The Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Free Britons, are desired by order of their Grand Master," &c.

An announcement from the Belgrades appears frequently. One is in these words:—"Belgrades—Your father will broach a fresh tun on Friday next, and desires your attendance on special affairs. S. P., Inspector."

Here is an announcement genuinely Masonic: To the Brethren of the Most Antient, Honourable, Free and Accepted Masons—Your company is desired to attend the corpse of Bro. Anson, of No. 30. To meet at Bro. Watson, at the Feathers, in St. Alban-street, near Pall Mall, in proper clothing, to-morrow, the 22nd inst (January 22, 1756) to attend the corpse to the new burial ground, at the hour of two in the afternoon."

The following occurs under the date of March 18, 1730:—

Just published, dedicated to the Right Honourable the Lord Kingston, "The Antient Constitutions of Freemasons;" containing the Rise, Progress, Patronage, and Intent of the Science of Masonry, with the Solemn Charges and Orders; also the usual Songs, all curiously engraved on copper. To which is added a speech, delivered at the Grand Lodge in York; and a speech delivered to a lodge in London, setting forth the utility and excellency of the Craft, with instructions for the Society in general; likewise the prologue and epilogue, spoken by a Mason and a Mason's wife, at the Theater in Drury Lane. Printed for, and sold by, B. Creake, at the Red Bible, in Ave Mary Lane, Ludgate-street; and at his house at the Bible, in Jermyn-street, St. James' (who also selleth Bibles and Common Prayers, French or English, of all sorts and sizes, with cuts or without, rul'd or unrul'd, in all sorts of binding; also, Books of Devotion on the Sacrament, and School Books, of all sizes, Wholesale or Retail, at reasonable rates), and Benj. Cole, Engraver and Copper-plate Printer, at the corner of King's Head Court, near Fetter Lane, Holborn. Price—3s. bound."

Is this the oldest newspaper announcement of a Masonic publication?—THE COLLECTOR.

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION PAPERS.

It is believed that these abstracts of the business done at Grand Lodge first commenced in 1843. The querist has an object in desiring to see the entire series from the beginning until now. How can he accomplish it? Any brother affording this information will very greatly oblige a—W.M.

WANTS TO BE A GRAND OFFICER.

I am a Master Mason of ten years' standing. How can I get to be a Grand Officer?—EXPECTUS.—[By attending to your duties, supporting the charities, and the favour of those in authority.]

OLD ENGLISH QUOTATION.

"Yf mo broder do not reke w^t hys fellowes ne let hym neuer be call to accompt amongst hem in y^e lodgge." Where does this come from?—E. C. L. B.—[If it is genuine—which we very much doubt—most probably from some guild law. Because the words brother, and lodge are to be found in it—unless the context gives further grounds for supposing so—it does not follow that Freemasonry is intended. All guilds were brotherhoods. Many called their associates fellows, and lodges were their places of meeting when they were not assembling in churches or religious

houses. If our correspondent had said where he obtained it we might have given a clearer answer, but as we receive it so we reply.]

CONTRADICTORY THEORIES.

Having carefully read the FREEMASONS MAGAZINE for two years and over, I am sadly at fault to ascertain what is the real scope and intention of Freemasonry. Some say it is religion, others the purpose of practical charity, and last week I see a brother advocates it as an excuse for social gathering and mutual society. In the midst of such conflicting, some would say contradictory, theories, what is a young brother to think? Will the brethren who advocate these various phases of the subject be kind enough to offer an argument or two in support of their views?—R. P.

GRAND MEETINGS.

Wanted, a list of places where the Grand Lodge meetings were held previous to the building of the premises in Great Queen-street, by—L.W.—[Consult Anderson, Entick, Noortouck, or Preston; they all give them.]

ANOTHER MASONIC JURISDICTION.

Under whom do the Knights of Constantinople hold their meetings? Are there not already sufficient departures from Masonic unity without erecting another Masonic jurisdiction?—FIRST PRINCIPAL.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

THE MASONIC CHARITIES.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Surely there must be some error in the surmise of "A Subscriber," in your last MAGAZINE, that a commission is paid for the funds of the Charities collected at the festivals. The various boards would hardly tax the exertions of many, who, like myself, have worked hard to raise sums of money, and have never known nor troubled any collector. I can speak for the labours of all the Secretaries, but I am totally ignorant of the duties of collector, beyond giving a receipt, which should, or might, be done by the Treasurer.

If such officials are necessary, by all means let them be paid for the work they do, but in the case of amounts with which they have no trouble, in all fairness let them go untaxed. I think, with "A Subscriber," that there is something even more than this which requires inquiring into. For instance, I notice pensions of an extravagant amount given to old servants, and I have heard of others in prospective. It is time some line was drawn on such extravagance, or some date fixed for their reduction. I am aware the plea can be put in that they have done good service in their day, for which it is fair to presume they have been amply paid; but, really, a limit should be put on retirements. The Charity Board will do well to look into these things, and not allow personal friendships to be an impediment to the labours of those who anxiously study the welfare of all the Masonic Charities.

I am, yours fraternally,

ANOTHER SUBSCRIBER.

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

MASONIC MEM.

At the Lodge of Benevolence, on the 15th inst., Bro. J. N. Tomkins, P.G.D., in the chair, thirteen petitioners were relieved with various sums, amounting in the aggregate to £132, and a brother recommended to Grand Lodge for a grant of £100.

METROPOLITAN.

ROSE OF DENMARK LODGE (No. 975).—A regular meeting of the above lodge was held at the White Hart, Barnes, Surrey, on Saturday, the 11th inst. The lodge was opened by Bro. R. W. Little, W.M., assisted by Bros. H. G. Buss, P.M., as S.W.; J. Cockburn, J.W.; G. H. Oliver, S.D.; C. Page, J.D.; F. Newens, I.G.; Sutherland, Tyler; Goodall, E. Goodall, Samels, Squire, Barnes, Dixon, Beaumish, &c. The minutes having been duly confirmed, ballots were taken for three gentlemen to be initiated, and for one joining member, all of which proved favourable to the candidates. The lodge was then opened in the third degree, and Bro. Beamish raised to the sublime degree of a M.M. The next ceremony was the initiation of Mr. W. Harrison, after which Bros. Dadd, Graham, and Buswell were passed to the second degree. The lodge was then closed in peace and harmony, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet. After the usual formal toasts, the W.M. proposed the health of the initiate, to which Bro. Harrison made a suitable response. The W.M. then introduced the toast of "The Visitors," and, in doing so, reminded the brethren that Bro. Brett, P.M. 177, the First Principal designate of the Rose of Denmark Chapter, was one of the guests at their festive board. He (the W.M.) would not dilate too much upon the Masonic abilities of Bro. Brett, as they were known so widely, but must bear testimony to the many genial qualities by which he was distinguished. Any brother who had the good fortune to be exalted into Royal Arch Masonry under Bro. Brett's auspices would never regret the step he had taken. Bro. Brett, in his reply, said that he had been present at the consecration of the Rose of Denmark Lodge, and had often since heard not only of its prosperity, but of the harmony and brotherly feeling which existed among its members. It was, therefore, with great pleasure that he accepted the W.M.'s invitation to be with them that evening, the more especially as he was one of the heads of the new chapter at Barnes in conjunction with the W.M., Bro. Little, and Bro. Hubbard, W.M. 173; and he hoped to see every member of the lodge a member of the chapter. The ceremonies of Royal Arch Masonry were very beautiful, and when correctly rendered, as he was sure they would be by the officers of the Rose of Denmark Lodge, could not fail to make a deep impression on the minds of every lover of the mystic art. Bro. Potter, P.M. and Treas., then proposed the health of the W.M., of whom he said he could not speak too highly. Every one present had seen the efficient manner in which he had performed the arduous duties of the chair that evening, initiating, passing, and raising candidates in a faultless manner; and he was sure the brethren would heartily respond to the toast. The W.M.'s health having been drank with Masonic honours, Bro. Little rose and returned thanks. He was extremely obliged for the compliment paid him, but felt that, without the assistance of the P.M.'s and officers, he could not have performed his duties so well as they were pleased to say he had. He, therefore, tendered his warmest thanks to one and all for the cordial support he had received, and concluded by proposing the health of the P.M.'s, eulogising the services of Bros. Smith, I.P.M., and Buss, the respected Secretary of the lodge, who had so largely contributed to its present flourishing and happy condition. This toast having been cordially responded to, Bro. Potter, Treas., rose and expressed his gratitude for the good feeling evinced by the reception of the toast. He regretted equally with the W.M. that he was the only representative of the P.M.'s present, but they all knew that Bro. Buss had been present at his post in the lodge, although he was unable to remain to banquet. For his own part, he was always ready to relieve the brethren of their spare cash—(laughter)—but he trusted only to make a good

use of it. "The Officers" having been given and heartily responded to, Bro. W. H. Farnfield, S.W., thanked the W.M. and brethren for their kindness, and stated, on behalf of himself and the officers, that they would continue to do their best, and to support Bro. Little during his year of office. The Tyler's toast brought the proceedings of this very pleasant meeting to an end, and the brethren separated. The visitors were Bros. Brett, P.M. 177 and 862; Jager, P.M. Chigwell Lodge; Lacey, and Cramp, 780. We may mention that the brethren of this lodge have presented Bro. J. Smith, P.G. Purst., with a handsome silver claret cup, value ten guineas, in recognition of his services as first Master of the lodge.

PROVINCIAL.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

TEWKESBURY.—*St. George's Lodge* (No. 900).—The installation of the W.M., Bro. Nathaniel Treasure, and the Festival of St. John, were celebrated on the 3rd inst, with equal attention to Masonic discipline which distinguished this lodge in the three previous years. The lodge was opened at four o'clock, in due form and with solemn prayer. There was a very full attendance of the brethren, who unanimously confirmed the election of Bro. Treasure as their W.M. for the ensuing year. The ceremony of installation was solemnly and impressively performed by Bro. W. S. Wallace, P. Prov. G.S.W., and P.G.S. for Charities, Gloucestershire. The W.M. having received the greetings of his brethren, commented very happily upon the dignified manner in which the I.P.M., Bro. T. W. Swinburne, had performed the duties of W.M. during the past year, and proposed a vote of thanks to him, with a P.M.'s jewel, which was unanimously carried. Bro. Swinburne thanked the lodge for their kindness, and drew a very lively picture of Freemasonry, which had so long withstood the invasion of anarchy, and which, in the present day, maintained its purity among the enlightened nations of the world. The W.M. then addressed his brethren on his installation to the important office, and emphatically called upon them to support him during what, to him, would prove an eventful year. The lodge was then closed in due form and solemn prayer, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet, which was supplied by Bro. Trotman in his usual elegant style. "Non nobis Domine" preceded the toasts of the evening. The W.M., in the course of the evening, delivered his sentiments with much propriety and taste. The Wardens (Bro. Frederick Moore in particular) and the other officers displayed considerable knowledge of their Masonic duty. Bro. Wallace proposed "The Health of the Worshipful Master, and Prosperity to the St. George's Lodge," adverting very concisely to the merits of the presiding officer, the character of the lodge, and the respectability of its members. The W.M., in reply to the compliment of his distinguished guest, for his own part felt how needful it was to solicit indulgence upon the present occasion, when, although pledged, from the peculiar situation in which he was placed, to maintain the character of the lodge and its members, still he was also warranted in relying upon them all, as Freemasons, to overlook on his part any want of oratory. Bro. Wallace might be safely trusted to exercise his indulgence on this evening, but he could assure the visitors collectively that he was but the organ of every individual member in sincerely bidding them a hearty Masonic welcome, and also in expressing towards them the high sense of gratitude felt by the lodge at the fraternal manner in which their invitation had been accepted. He concluded by wishing prosperity to all other lodges.

HAMPSHIRE.

WINCHESTER.—*Lodge of Economy* (No. 76).—The celebration of the Festival of St. John was observed by the Lodge of Economy, Winchester, on Wednesday, the 7th inst. The importance of this assembly was greatly enhanced by the visit of Bro. Stephen Barton Wilson, P.G. Deacon of England, who presided, and several other distinguished members of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement, London, for the purpose of installing Bro. Edward Sheppard, the W.M. elect, and also for working the lectures embracing the three degrees of Craft Masonry.

There were present at the lodge on this occasion the following installed Masters:—Bros. J. Rankin Stebbing, S.G.D. of England, W.M. 76; Stephen Barton Wilson, P.J.G.D., P.M.; Thos. W. Fleming, M.P., P.G.M. Isle of Wight; Hyde Pullen

D.P.G.M. Isle of Wight; John Savage, P.S.G.D. of England, P.M.; Frederick Binckes, Sec. Boys' School, P.M.; Thos. Fenn, Assist. G. Dir. of Cers. of England, P.M.; Geo. Powell, W.M. 142; Col. Meeham, P.M. 257; Jno. Naish, P.M. 76; Chas. Sherry, P.M., S.G.W. Hants; Alfred Smith, P.M. 76; C. W. Wyndham, 76, and W.M. 586; E. Batchelor, Edwin Galt, H. Hollingsworth, Mark Frost, S. D. Forbes, P.M.'s 487; E. Booth, P.M. 130; W. Miles, P.M. 130 and 359; T. P. Payne 76, P.M. 130 and 359; W. Tuohy, P.M. 903 and 342; H. Carter, W.M. 903; H. Compigne, P.M. 304, P. Prov. Dir. of Cers. Hants; H. M. Emanuel, P.M. 342; J. L. Rusbrick, P.M. 342, P.G.S.W.; R. S. Pearce, W.M. 394; Wm. Furber, P.M. 394; R. S. Hulbert, P.M. 694; A. B. Barnard, P.M. 471; J. Milner, P.M. 319; S. H. Harris, W.M. 35; T. Cousins, 487; T. Gibson, P.M. 325; G. Wilkins, W.M. 302; Charles Bromley, P.M. 394; J. Purnell, W.M. 804; E. Sheppard, W.M. elect 76; T. Ruff, 76; A. P. Fabian, 804; J. R. Weston, 130; O. Low, 257; Henry Huggins, Sec., John Huggins, James Harris, W. B. Stubbs, J. Waterman, E. Rawlins, H. Newnan, R. G. Ireland, 76; H. Cuming, 359; H. R. Trigg, 804; together with many brethren and officers from the lodges at Aldershot, Basingstoke, Bourne-mouth, Fareham, Gosport, Havant, Lymington, Newport, Petersfield, Portsea, Portsmouth, Ringwood, Ryde, Southampton, Ventnor, Cowes, &c., numbering altogether upwards of 130.

The lodge on this occasion assembled in the spacious ball-room of the George Hotel, and was close tiled at high noon. Every Mason in Hampshire was invited to visit the lodge. The business transacted included the balloting for and initiation of Mr. Edward Rawlins, of Winchester, and the balloting for Bro. Gibson, of Winchester, proposed as a joining member. The sections of those lectures which embraced the ceremonies of initiation, passing, and raising were rigidly worked by Bro. S. B. Wilson (in the chair), assisted by Bros. Fenn, Binckes, Pullen, Powell, Massa, and other distinguished Grand Officers and brethren.

When in the third degree, the ceremony of installing Bro. E. Sheppard, W.M. elect of the Lodge of Economy, was gone through, Bro. S. B. Wilson presiding; and, during the installation, no less than thirty-eight past and present Masters of lodges were in attendance. The working of the ceremony was done in a manner that elicited the unanimous admiration of the lodge. At the close, votes of thanks were passed to the installing brother and the Grand Officers who had assisted in working the lectures; also to Bros. Fleming and H. Pullen, the Master and Deputy Master of the Isle of Wight.

When the whole lodge were again assembled, the W.M. of the Lodge of Economy appointed his officers for the ensuing year, as follows:—

Bro. T. Ruff	S.W.
„ R. S. Hulbert	J.W.
„ C. Sherry	Treas.
„ H. Huggins	Sec.
„ T. Stopher	S.D.
„ Jas. Harris	J.D.
„ Jno. Huggins	Dir. of Cers.
„ J. Waterman	S.S.
„ W. B. Stubbs	J.S.
„ T. King	I.G.
„ C. Richards	Tyler.

The banquet, which followed at a subsequent hour, at the Black Swan Hotel (Bro. C. Sherry's), was a most recherché affair, and was joined by most of the distinguished visitors enumerated above, the company numbering altogether upwards of 70 brethren.

The cloth having been cleared, and the dessert set on—

The W. MASTER said, as there were many toasts to give, he would hasten at once to proceed with the list. There was one toast that always stood first in every other assembly, as well as that of the Freemasons. The person it alluded to was one who could not be a Mason by initiation, but he believed she possessed many of the peculiar qualities of Masonry, and especially those of benevolence and charity. (Cheers.) He gave them "The Queen and the Craft;" and as they were not yet supplied with their "hods," he would beg them to drink it with three cheers. (Great applause.)

The W. MASTER said he should propose to add a little harmony to their proceedings, and he could not do better than call upon Bro. Wyndham to commence.

Bro. WYNDHAM then sang, with great power and sweetness, "The meeting of the waters."

The W. MASTER proposed "The Health of the Grand Master of England, the Right Hon. the Earl of Zetland." Not yet having been to Grand Lodge, he had not experienced the pleasure of seeing the Grand Master; but he hoped, in his new position, soon to enter on that *terra incognita*, and he could then judge of those good qualities he had hitherto understood the Grand Master to possess. The toast was drunk with the usual honours.

Bro. A. SMITH, P.M., proposed the health of the Deputy Grand Master, the Earl de Grey and Ripon, and the rest of the Grand Officers. It was a privilege to drink the health of any officer in such a high position, and the noble Earl was admired by the brethren for his punctuality in performing his important duties. He (Bro. S.) had lately been visiting in a province (Yorkshire West) over which the noble Earl presided; and he knew that his lordship set a good example to the Grand Masters in other parts of the country. (Hear.) That day they had four or five of the officers of Grand Lodge present with them, and one had come especially to teach them, and had gone through the ceremonies in a manner they had never witnessed before. One, now of senior rank in Grand Lodge, had been Master of their own lodge, and they had viewed with pride his elevation to the dais, and witnessed with satisfaction his zeal and his independence throughout his Masonic career. (Hear.) When the Grand Master honoured Bro. Stebbing with the purple, then they rejoiced, because they knew it was one of themselves who was so honoured. He would give the toast of "Lord De Grey and Ripon, and the Officers of Grand Lodge," coupling with it the name of Bro. J. Rankin Stebbing, S.G.D. (Loud applause.)

Song, Bro. Payne—"Love's request."

Bro. STEBBING, on behalf of himself and colleagues, begged to express his warmest thanks for the way in which the brethren had drunk the toast. He was bound to express first his obligations for the honour done to the Grand Master of England, who was entitled to the warmest acknowledgments of Masons in every part of the country, and was to be admired for his attachment to Masonry and his associating with it so worthy a brother as the Earl de Grey and Ripon. (Cheers.) He must again pay a compliment to that distinguished brother who represented the Grand Master in his absence, an accomplished nobleman, a true hearted Mason; and, in his position as a British statesman, every Englishman must respect him. It was a good thing that in this country they could pay a compliment to a brother who enjoyed the incorruptible character of a British statesman, who would be honoured in his own time, and afterwards in the history of his country; and this could be said of the Earl de Grey and Ripon, who throughout all the stages of this life, and in the future, would be so honoured with the warmest admiration and attachment. (Hear.) They must love and respect the noble earl for the kindness with which he sometimes threw aside the cares of state and came and mixed with his Masonic brethren. (Cheers.) He would pass from these distinguished members of the Craft to other brethren, to the honourable representative of that city in Parliament (Bro. Fleming), and many other busy workers in the hive of Masonry then present. Having received distinctions in Masonry, they still remained interested in its objects, the same as when seeking possession of the greater honours of the institution. He would not attempt to anticipate what might be said by that distinguished Mason, Bro. Stephen Barton Wilson, whose name would never be forgotten in the future history of Masonry; and he was sure none of them would ever forget the lesson he had given them in the lodge that day. They were also obliged to Bro. Pullen, the D. Prov. G.M. of the Isle of Wight, and to Bro. John Savage, who was untiring in his zeal to promote the benefits of Freemasonry, and who was at home in every lodge in London, lending his assistance wherever and whenever it was required. (Hear.) Of the distinguished brother who had so ably discharged the chief duties of that day, he would say no more than that they had great pleasure in hearing him. He wished, however, to thank those brethren who had done him the honour of accepting his invitation that day. He rejoiced to find that in Grand Lodge there was a disposition to take notice of any who had devoted their time and talent to Masonry, in their own province and out of it. He was delighted with the attendance of Bro. Binckes, who was so concerned and connected with the gentler ties of Masonry—its splendid Charities. He knew that the province of Hampshire felt gratified in honour being shown to one of themselves, and with that knowledge he had experienced the greater pleasure in

accepting the honour offered to himself. (Hear.) For his kind reception on the present and former occasions, and their kindness to his colleagues in office, he offered from his heart his very best thanks. (Applause.)

The W. MASTER then proposed the toast, "The Right Worshipful the Grand Master of this Province, Bro. Admiral Sir Lucius Curtis, and the Deputy Provincial Grand Master and Officers." In speaking of their Prov. G.M. and his officers, he could not say a great deal, merely because he was not yet much acquainted with them; but in his new position he hoped to be thrown more in their company. He had always understood that the gallant Admiral was a most energetic and really hearty Mason. (Cheers.) The toast was drunk with warm and hearty applause.

Bro. C. SHERRY, S.G.W. Hants, on behalf of the Prov. G.M., his Deputy, and other officers, returned his best thanks. It had given him great pleasure to meet them all that day, on such an auspicious occasion, and he was particularly thankful to Bro. S. B. Wilson and the other Grand Officers who came down with him to assist the Lodge of Economy on that important occasion. (Hear.)

Bro. J. NASH, P.M., proposed the next toast with a vast deal of pleasure, and felt his task rendered the lighter because he was sure it would be well received. It was "The Health of the Provincial Grand Master of the Isle of Wight," whom they knew very well, as having the affairs of the state on his hands, as well as other gentlemen at their meetings. When they come from their important occupations to attend the lodge, they must deserve great thanks. Bro. Fleming was always anxious to be present, and was entitled to their warmest acknowledgments, and he was sure the present toast would meet with a very hearty response. (Loud applause.)

Song—Bro. Carter, 903, "When is a man less than a man?"

At this interval Bro. W. W. Beach, M.P., entered the banqueting room, and was loudly cheered.

Bro. FLEMING offered his very sincere thanks for the complimentary manner in which his health had been proposed and drunk. It was most pleasing to be so acknowledged, and it was his great delight when he came there to be received and looked upon as a member of the lodge. Whenever he came, he always found the brethren striving all they could to raise their lodge higher and higher in the estimation of Masons; and they had never done better than when they raised Bro. Stobbing to the Master's chair (hear), for he had done more than any other brother before him, however well intentioned previous Masters had been in their efforts for the lodge's prosperity and honour. He found himself that night surrounded by many excellent Masons, and they had taught him a lesson that night which he could not easily forget. It would be his delight to promise them in his own province such a lodge and meeting as that day convened. In so mingling together in convivial companionships it could not but prove good for Masonry, and particularly for the lodge in which the brethren found themselves on such occasions. He hoped that would not be the last time they met like the present. Bro. Stebbing had not only wished them success, but he had come up from Southampton with many other brethren; and those of Winchester he was sure would long remember having such a worthy and excellent brother to preside over them. He hoped soon to return that day's compliment, for it was their intention in the Isle of Wight to hold a gathering shortly, such as in fox hunting would be termed a "favourite meet," and it was his anxious wish that the brethren of the Isle of Wight would succeed in entertaining their visitors. (Applause.)

Bro. Col. MEEHAN, W.M. 257, complied with the request that he should propose the next toast. Though he could have wished that some one more able had been deputed for the task, he was sure none had greater pleasure in performing it. The toast was "Bro. Hyde Pullen, Deputy Provincial Grand Master, and Officers of the Isle of Wight." (Hear and cheers.) He was sure there would be an enthusiastic response, for he had known the brother named for some time, and could judge of his great Masonic qualities. He had met him in the higher degrees of Masonry, and it afforded him very deep gratification thus to propose his name. (Applause.)

Bro. HYDE PULLEN felt the greatest pleasure in returning thanks for himself and his brethren of the Island, and in doing so he would express the gratification afforded to him in being allowed to assist, though in a small extent, in the working of the lodge that day. He hoped that would be the first of a long series of such meetings, as he was sure they would tend greatly

to their common advantage; and he trusted his Grand Master would very soon do something of the sort in the Isle of Wight. It happened frequently in some lodges that considerable work had to be done in the way of initiations, passings, and raisings, and then the other and more important parts of their ritual could not be entered into; but on occasions like the present day the different lectures could be worked carefully and correctly, to the edification and improvement of every brother present. (Hear.) As far as it laid in his power he would aid Masonry in this way, as well as in respect to its excellent Charities; and in conclusion he begged to say that he should be glad to see the brethren in the Isle of Wight, and give them as cordial a welcome as he had experienced that day. (Applause.)

Bro. STEBBING said they were now arrived at the point when he would propose what he must term the toast of the evening (hear), and he need not tell them that consisted in the paying of a proper compliment to Bro. S. B. Wilson, the eminent friend who had presided that day in the lodge, and the able and learned brother who had accompanied him. (Applause.) It was strictly their duty to be loyal and faithful, and to look up with respect to the great chiefs of Masonry, such as they had with them on this happy occasion; for it was these brethren, through whose talent and excellence they were enabled to keep the ceremonials of Masonry intact, and enjoyed the opportunity of handing down unimpaired and unchanged to future age and time, the tenets and landmarks of the Order. (Loud applause.) They were bound to look to the governors and the laws which ruled them, as in the Grand Master of England on the one hand, and the teachers of Masonry on the other. He alluded to a veteran in Masonry who had presided over the Emulation Lodge for 40 years, succeeding Bro. Peter Gilkes, of blessed memory, and from whose time the brethren had been brought into a happy unity, as to lectures, ceremonies, landmarks, and the obligations of Masonry; and thus become a powerful system, such as it should be handed down to all time. There was this one brother who, by his great aptitude became the means by which their ceremonials and landmarks and doctrines were truthfully conveyed—that brother was then amongst them, and if he was not, in the words of the poet,

"In the freshness of immortal youth."

he certainly seemed untouched by time, and in as good health as ever blessed mortal man. (Applause.) It was not often they were favoured in the provinces with the presence of these "great guns" amongst the provincial "swells," as Bro. Fleming was apt to term them (hear), but it was a red-letter day in the province of Hants, and more than a red-letter day, for it stamped the good working of the province; and in future they in Hampshire would glide on in the even stream and perfect system of Masonry. Although they had been delighted on that occasion with their distinguished visitors, and seen the ceremonies worked with great accuracy, yet he considered that they had found very little to learn. It was for the very purpose of confirming their own accuracy that they had had such a distinguished brother there with them. It was good to witness his clear and agreeable style, but the process was not much superior to their own. It was a great thing to obtain purity. They would yield to them their high position, and if they were even angels, then they were only a little lower than the angels. (Hear.) They might use a word too many here, or too much emphasis there, but all the differences had been solved that day. They were not like pigmies, which they never had been, but like giants refreshed, and brave because they were confirmed in their right course. The Emulation Lodge of Improvement in London threw open its portals to all Masons, and the acting Master had caught one of his busy bees (Bro. Pullen) in that province, and even a member of the Lodge of Economy—a double brother, viz., Bro. Binckes who was then present representing one of the Charities of their Order; and he was anxious to show a reason why Hampshire should do more for the Charity he represented. He hoped to see a generous support to Bro. Hubbert's list for the Boys' School that year. (Hear.) He should delight in dwelling on the merits of the distinguished brethren present that day, but time forced him to speak of them collectively, though he paid a warm testimony to Bros. Fenn, Powell, and Massa. Bro. Wilson was at the head of his profession, and he had heard much the other day to his honour in a matter with which he was concerned as an architect. Bro. Wilson gave up half his time without a shilling reward, so desirous was he of doing something for Masonry, and he was a light that shone out on those with whom he was associated. In that lodge over which he presided there were many rising brethren on whom

his mantle might descend. His light would not die out, and what he had taught would never be lost. There would always be a good man springing up in the Emulation Lodge when required. He would now conclude by asking the brethren to drink to "The Health of Bro. Wilson, and the able Officers accompanying him," and say, with all their hearts and strength, "God bless them!" (Great and long continued applause.)

Bro. S. B. WILSON fully appreciated the compliment paid to himself and the brethren who had accompanied him on that occasion. Although it seemed to him to be somewhat out of the usual course, yet he knew it was the custom in some lodges to honour the visitors before the Worshipful Master. He did not for a moment wish to censure what was done in that lodge, and he knew that Bro. Stebbing had acted in his sense of extreme goodness in so early giving the present toast. (Hear.) With regard to himself individually, he had only done what it was the duty of every Mason to do—to communicate the light he may possess to every brother of the lodge. With regard to the various brethren then standing up with him, he could say a very great deal. (Hear.) The Deputy Master of the Isle of Wight (Bro. Pullen) was one of his oldest friends and pupils, who carried out Masonry in its entirety, and of whom he could speak with the greatest confidence. (Hear.) Bro. Fenn was one of the Emulation Lodge, and Bro. Stebbing had been pleased to refer to him in eulogistic terms. He was truly one of those to whom he looked with a great deal of confidence, because he was one of the ablest he had to depend on, and the lodge had great faith in him. (Hear.) He could not say anything of Bro. Binckes, except that he followed strictly the system of the Emulation Lodge; and he said thus much gladly, because he was so well known as to need very little commendation, but the charity he was connected with deserved every assistance. His time was usually so taken up that he could hardly communicate his wishes to the brethren he had brought down with him; if he had brought more of them, the brethren would have been kept longer from their banquet for the sake of further information. All lodges delighted to pay their W.M. the attentions he was entitled to. He had been instrumental that day in putting their W. Master in the chair, and he had participated in the ceremony with great pleasure, because he knew they would not have elected him if they had not thought him worthy. (Hear.) He thought their new Master would prove a credit to the Craft and that province in particular, and he therefore, with pleasure, said he had taken a part in putting him in the chair, and thought they would never regret his being placed there. (Hear.) He had been in many of the provinces, but there were none he had visited with greater pleasure than this, and because he had been received, and his brethren of long standing with him, with the greatest enthusiasm. If any lodge had shown a greater degree of enthusiasm than another, it was the Lodge of (Economy, and he was inclined to give them the palm. (Applause.) Those things of the past were not felt so vividly in their effects as those of the time present, and he was sure, though Bro. Stebbing had perhaps said a little more than they were justly entitled to, that they should endeavour still to earn all the praises bestowed upon them; and if at any time in the future their services were again required, they would only be too happy to come and render them. (Applause.) He said nothing respecting the banquet; it was according to the usual custom, and he could only return their sincere thanks; it was what they expected, and what lodges generally did; but the kind and exhilarating manner of their reception they could not forget. He hoped what he had said would be taken in all sincerity, and he wished prosperity to them all and to their lodge, and a return of the kindly sentiments expressed towards him and his friends and colleagues present. (Great applause.)

Bro. W. W. BEACH, M.P., said he offered the next toast with considerable pleasure, though not without diffidence, as he felt like a truant that had been away from school. He felt that he ought to have been there that day, and he regretted sincerely his absence, because it was known he took a deep interest in their welfare, and it was a matter of regret to any true Mason to be absent, though it may be unavoidable. He had learnt from what he heard, and he was certain, from the character of Masons there that day, that they had experienced a rich treat in Masonry. He had been pleased to hear the eloquent sentences falling from Bro. Stebbing, in giving adequate praise to the able brethren who had come from the metropolis to give the lodge their valuable assistance. (Hear.) The toast he was about to give would more properly have fallen to the hands of the Installing Master, Bro. Wilson, for it was the health of

their new W.M. (Applause.) It was a proud position for any one to be raised to the proud position of Master of a lodge; the ceremony was of the highest honour the Craft could bestow, and when a brother came to that high honour, it was no light responsibility and no light duty he was called upon to undertake. (Hear.) Their new Master had a still more difficult task to enter upon than many others before him, because he had to succeed one whose name in that province and throughout the country was recognised as the very landmark of Masonry. It was very difficult to follow such a brother, but he hoped their W.M. would prove so perfect in his duties, in the coming year, that the brethren would have no cause to regret for a moment their selection of him to preside over them. (Hear.) He knew that hitherto their choice had been earnest in his duties, and he would certainly continue to carry out the same principle. If their W.M. could rely on his brethren's cordial help he would be sure to succeed, and he therefore asked the whole of the lodge to give him their very best assistance. He then proposed "The Health of the Worshipful Master." (Loud applause.)

The W. MASTER, in returning thanks, said he was sorry that what the distinguished brother last speaking had said was too true. (Hear.) He certainly had an arduous task to perform, as regarded his prospects, but he was determined to do his best to surmount the difficulty before him. He ought not to shrink from it, for it was his daily occupation to teach others, not how to avoid, but how to meet and overcome the troubles that beset them; and he therefore should confidently await his own difficulties. He might give an illustration of the position. When the great Nelson resigned the command of his ship, and was succeeded by another, there was soon apparent symptoms of dissatisfaction and insubordination; and why was this? Not because of the successor's deficiency in any respect, but that the crew had been commanded by a Nelson, and could not brook being commanded by any other. In the case in question, the new commander was a good officer and a humane man, but when compared with England's sailor, he fell short. (Hear.) This was the peculiar difficulty he had to meet. He did not look upon the duties of the office as particularly difficult, though the Mastership of a lodge was no sinecure. He considered that every one called to the chair was bound by every principle of honesty and gratitude to fulfil the office to the best of his ability, or any other lower office he might be required to accept. (Applause.) The very circumstance of difficulty intervening, contained within itself a source of pleasure in defeating it. He hoped, at the end of his year of office, to be assisted in reaching the happy summit attained by his predecessor, and he rested confidently on his assistance to help him there. (Hear.) There were other encouragements; and he could not help alluding to one. It had been his good fortune, since he had been connected with the lodge, to be presided over by officers whose efficiency had been guaranteed. There had been Bros. Haslam and Smith, his Masters, and the last connection, Bro. Stebbing, all of whom had set a noble example. Once a brother was initiated, and saw the example of these men, he could not but be influenced for good. It was not only Masonic heads but Masonic hearts, and they generally went together. Wherever they found an intellectual Mason, they found a good-hearted Mason. (Applause.) "Tis not in mortals to command success," but he hoped the brethren at the end of his year of office would yet be pleased to say that Bro. Sheppard, while in the chair, did his best to deserve it. (Enthusiastic approbation.)

Comic and characteristic song.—Bro. WYNDHAM.

Bro. HULBERT said the toast he was about to propose was sure to be well received in the Lodge of (Economy and other lodges. He, this year, had the honour to be Provincial Steward for one of the Charities of the Order, and he well knew where to look for ready assistance. He need scarcely mention the name of Bro. Binckes, as the Secretary of the Boys' Institution; it was utterly impossible to find a more energetic man. (Hear.) He thanked the brethren of the Province for the kindness in securing the election of the boy Howe, whom he had well known and respected. They had an initiation that day and he could not forget the superior manner in which the ceremony was gone through; the feeling of charity therein was most beautifully exemplified. He proposed the health of Bro. Binckes, and the Charities. (Drank with warm applause.)

Bro. BINCKES said he had a short time back thought the festivities of the evening were to be preferred to any further formalities, and the brethren inclined to enjoy themselves; and, therefore, he had not been led to expect the introduction

of more serious subjects. But, in the Province of Hampshire, he should not be surprised at what took place, and he was quite sure the Masonic Charities would not be forgotten. His good friend, Bro. Hulbert, was one of the respected Stewards for the Province at the next Festival of the Boys' School, and there was no more zealous and earnest worker; and he was surrounded, too, by many others equally zealous in the good work in hand. They had an initiate brother with them that evening, who had heard the ancient charge delivered to him, in which it was enjoined upon all Masons to practice every social and moral virtue. (Hear.) They, as Masons, knew that some in the outer world denied to them the possession or practice of many of those virtues, but, unquestionably, whatever they had, or whatever the outer world denied them, they most decidedly practised hospitality and charity! There was practised a gorgeous hospitality throughout that province, and in the higher virtue of charity Hampshire always set an example to all the world. (Applause.) He did not mean to say that Hampshire did as much as other provinces more numerous and more wealthy, but he did claim for Hampshire that it was one of the best with which he was associated. It was a province that year after year consistently gave its magnificent support to each and all of the Masonic Charitable Institutions. (Hear.) That kind of rivalry leading to animosity he did not approve, but he could not help expressing his encouragement of a honest, beneficial rivalry in doing the greatest good to those who most deserved it. (Great applause.) He said with a great deal of pride and gratification that since his connection with Freemasonry he had never received anything but the greatest kindness and the warmest support from the Province of Hampshire collectively. He was as thoroughly identified with the province as most of them then present, and he had been made one of them in every sense of the word. He had never made an appeal for the Boys' School in vain, and their support had increased steadily from year to year. Less than this justice and gratitude would not allow him. (Applause.) They were thoroughly acquainted with the claims of the several Charities, the Aged and Decayed, and the Girls' School, and they also knew that it was for the Boys' Institution he was the most concerned. He made his appeal the more earnestly, because they had lately undertaken a great work, which, when accomplished, would afford accommodation for 100 boys, and in a further limited space of time, for 150 boys, and when perfectly accomplished, for 200. This, of course, would involve a great outlay, no less than £30,000, and towards effecting it they had spent not less than £15,000 of their funded stock. After the expiration of two years, then there would be a deficiency of £10,000. The Benevolent Asylum for the Aged and Decayed Brethren and Widows accommodated thirty-four inmates; this Institution's building was all paid for, and it had a permanent income from Grand Lodge and funded property of over £1,000, and £24,000 funded property. The Girls' School contained 100 children, who were educated and clothed in the best possible way, and the building paid for, whilst it had an income of nearly £1,000 a-year. Contrast the state of these Institutions with that of the Boys' School. That had not one shilling's worth of funded property, whilst it was £10,000 in debt, and only an income of £160 a-year from the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter. The Boys' School ought to be placed not in a position superior, but one equal to the other Charities, and then Masons might well congratulate themselves upon the three Institutions they possessed. Until this change was achieved they would hear of him everywhere, for he should continue to raise his voice in the hope of touching their hearts and opening their purses, because he believed it was not consistent with the performance of the highest duties and obligations of Masons to allow such a Charity to be neglected. He had been told, he would admit, that he could not expect to make the Boys' Institution so attractive as the Girls', but he would say that the boys should be the real bone and sinew of the country, and if they were properly educated and trained, upon them would properly depend the very life and sustenance of the weaker sex. (Applause.) Good husbands and fathers made good citizens, and these the best of Governments. If the boys were neglected they ran the risk of turning out the chief Arabs of society. It had always puzzled governments most what they could do with those who could not help themselves. (Hear.) When the breadwinner of a family happened to be taken away by a sudden illness, leaving a widow and youthful orphans behind him, could they be taunted with the saying, "Oh, boys can always take care of themselves?" Yes, they might, but

the consequence was the gallows were fed. (Hear.) Let the country take care of and well train the boys; some of them so befriended occasionally rose to distinguished positions in the professions and businesses of the nation, and he might enlarge upon this topic to any length. At present he had to speak to them on behalf of seventy-two boys, and next season he should probably have eighty-two Lewis's with an especial claim in their adversity. He might truly say that he had never yet needed support, and he had occasion to speak more in thanksgiving than in supplication. He meant to say, after all, that the Boys' School was the most important Institution they had; it was through the medium of their Boys' School that the glory of Freemasonry should be made known to the world. (Applause.) When they came to be men they could fill distinguished positions, for the highest were open to every one under our free constitution. (Hear.) Their object should be to do the greatest good to the greatest number. That day month was the Anniversary Festival of the Boys' Institution, and he, by an accident, had been deprived of many opportunities of getting further support, and through bad health he should go to the Board with less means than heretofore; for this reason it was that he so earnestly asked those brethren who had not given already to give now, and those who had given before to give more liberally in future. (Great applause.) To state his case simply, he might say that the Boys' Institution was at least £20,000 worse than any other. (Hear.)

The W. MASTER then proposed "The health of the Officers of the Lodge of Economy;" those of the past year, and those whom he had had the pleasure of investing. As in an army, unless the chief valued the officers under him he could not succeed in the field. In the drama, success depended no more on the plot or the dialogue than it did on the actors. Their lodge did not depend more upon their glorious constitution than on their beautiful bye-laws, and all these would be useless unless they acted up to what they were told in the duties of the several offices. They had the right men in the right place, and he hoped at all events that at the end of his period of office they would be enabled to say with truth that they had passed through another successful year. (Applause.)

Bro. T. RUFF said, as the Senior Warden of the lodge, it devolved upon him, and he availed himself of the privilege, to return thanks, and he could assure the assembled brethren that the officers thanked them most heartily for drinking their healths in the positions they respectively filled. It did not become those who had just put on the armour of office to boast like those who had taken it off, but he trusted they would not be disappointed in their Senior Warden. He must congratulate the lodge on the splendid manner in which the W. Master had been inducted into office; to see such was a privilege few had the opportunity of enjoying, and he only hoped to see the same on every occasion in the future. He hoped those brethren who had come down from London and shown themselves so well versed in Masonic lore were fully appreciated for their kind services, and he thought they would be all exceedingly to blame if they did not ensure improvement from such high examples of excellence. (Applause.)

Bro. HULBERT asked Bro. Wilson his opinion as to the necessity of "firing" in the reception of Masonic toasts.

Bro. WILSON, amidst much laughter, said it was generally expected that a gentleman in entering a ball room should be attentive to all the rules of courtesy; and there might be no objection to it if he chose to show his dexterity by turning a summerset; but, like the "firing" in receiving Masonic toasts, it was not absolutely necessary. Still, it was not wise or necessary to interfere with old customs of certain provinces. (Hear.)

Bro. BINCKES said there were many old observances followed in the North of England, and especially among the Masons of Yorkshire; and they would not give them up, let others legislate as they might.

Bro. A. SMITH said there was no fear of legislation on such a matter. He had been trying for months to get Grand Lodge to legislate upon an important question—"Can a Warden initiate?" and he wished for the support of as many brethren as possible.

Bro. WILSON observed that the Board of General Purposes would, no doubt, have to report on the question mentioned, and referred to them. The Grand Lodge alone had power to make laws.

Bro. PULLEN said he was not on the Board of General Purposes and he had no objection to give his opinion on the

question mooted. He thought, as to a Warden having the power to initiate, certainly "No." (Hear.) If he could, where was the utility of the Master? It was the Master's duty to work all ceremonies; and if a Warden could initiate, he could do any other ceremony he liked.

This conversation having dropped, after observations from one or two other brethren,

The W. MASTER proposed the health of the newly-initiated brother, and would give him a little advice as to his future action. He would persuade him to work hard, though at the bottom of the ladder, and not mind much for one false step. The motto of the college in their locality was "Manners make the man;" but he thought it was "difficulties" that made the man. He should endeavour to impress this upon the brethren. He proposed the health of Bro. Rawlins, and a speedy accession to office and the successive steps. (Loud applause.)

Bro. RAWLINS was extremely grateful to the brethren for drinking his health. He had no doubt they did the same kindness to every new brother, and held the hope that every man who joined the Craft would become a good and honest Mason. He had found himself in a strange position, and he had not known what to do; but what he had heard he trusted would not be thrown away upon him. He had found good fellowship, and he would say, if they accepted him as one of their body, he would do all he could to become a good and a working brother. (Applause.)

Bro. FERN proposed the health of Bro. Beach, M.P., and alluded to his efforts in the cause, both here and in Canada. (Applause.) Bro. Smith had given a hint that Grand Lodges neglected certain questions; but, generally, there was no time for discussing suggestions in Grand Lodge. They were referred to the Board of General Purposes for them to report on, and that board had given no question so much time and attention as to that one referred to by Bro. Smith. Probably, at the next Grand Lodge, that brother would find things in so satisfactory a state as to give hopes of a settlement of the point.

Bro. BEACH said it gave him great pleasure to be present that evening, though only for so short a time. Taking a deep interest, as he always had, in the cause of Freemasonry, it afforded him much gratification to hear of the working of the lodge ceremonies in the manner they must have been conducted that day. He had often heard of the Lodge of Emulation and Improvement, and from the first moment he entered Masonry he had constantly heard the brethren of the lodge cited as examples to the Craft. The local lodge must feel much indebted to those brethren for coming down to impart instruction. A brother had alluded to his visit to Canada. He had not encouraged the thought that so humble a member as himself could effect a reconciliation of the differences existing between Grand Lodge and the Lodge of Canada; but he found no difficulty in presenting himself in the lodges as an individual with good motives. He found things there flourishing in regard to the working of Masonry, but could distinguish no hopes of any reconciliation. When the colony once determined to be free, and thought they could rule themselves better than the Grand Lodge of the mother country, it was better that they should rule themselves than that the mother country should rule over unwilling subjects. The colonists carry out Freemasonry in a beautiful manner, yet they prefer to manage themselves, in a sincere desire to go on without the rule of the Grand Lodge of England. He came back to England firmly impressed with a belief that it would be better for the Grand Lodge of England to accord them perfect freedom, than to endeavour to coerce them to an unwilling rule. The Grand Lodge did soon afterwards concede the freedom of rule to the Canadian Masons. They beautifully worked in the lodges there, and carried out Masonry in that far country in such a manner that he could say in no part of the world were Masonic principles better understood than by the North American subjects of our Queen. (Applause.) He thanked the assembled brethren most sincerely for the kind manner in which they had received the toast of his health. (Cheers.)

Bro. HYDE PULLEN said he had one more toast he should like to give. It was "The Lodge of Economy;" may it be abundantly prosperous, and the reign of its new Master and officers marked with especial success. He hoped to see some such a gathering as celebrated Bro. Stebbing's retiring day on the retiring day of the present Master. He looked upon those beautifully conducted meetings as abundantly useful to the cause of Freemasonry.

The W. MASTER returned thanks, and hoped the many good wishes expressed towards him would be fully borne out. He thought it would be their own fault if they did not succeed, and he should make it his duty to act upon many suggestions held out that day. It had been his good fortune to be installed under circumstances rarely experienced in that province; in fact, the proceedings of the day had been a great Masonic treat to the whole of the brethren; and that such treats may be more frequent in the future he sincerely hoped. Every lodge in the province would be benefited if they got such meetings throughout the year. Bro. Stebbing, during his year of office, had exerted an amount of influence which it was impossible he could even hope to meet with; but, nevertheless, nothing would more contribute to his happiness than to exert himself to the utmost for the good of the cause. (Applause.)

Bro. BINCKES proposed "The Health of the worthy Host of the Black Swan Hotel." He should have been sorry if that happy party had broken up without making some acknowledgment of the anxiety, zeal, attention, and forethought displayed in providing for the comfort of those who were to meet under that roof. He had been told that this probably would be the last Masonic celebration in that house under Bro. Sherry's direction, and that fact was an additional justification for honouring that toast. With regard to the Masonic Charities he was indebted to few more than to Bro. C. Sherry. (Hear.) Again, what would they have done that day if Bro. Sherry had failed them in celebrating their convivial meeting? He hoped the toast would not be the less welcome because he threw into it his own debt to Bro. Sherry for his kindness on every occasion he came there on his own account individually, or in connection with the business of Masonry. He gave them the health of Bro. Sherry, together with prosperity to every member of his excellent and respected family. (Applause.)

Bro. SHERRY responded in grateful terms for the handsome manner in which Bro. Binckes had proposed his health. It was quite true that it was his intention to retire from the business of an hotel-keeper, but they might rest assured he should not give up the active duties of Freemasonry. In those duties he should not cease to take a deep interest, as he ever had; and he felt very proud of the opportunity that had been afforded to the distinguished brethren who had come down and done them the honour of visiting the oldest lodge in the province of Hampshire, for a more intellectual treat they had never before witnessed; and he begged to thank them most heartily for the great favour they had conferred, hoping the present would not be their last visit to Winchester. (Cheers.)

After a few more toasts, the brethren resolved themselves into a convivial meeting, and eventually departed at the hour of high twelve.

HERTS.

WATFORD.—*Watford Lodge* (No. 404).—On Friday, Feb. 10, the members held their monthly meeting. Amongst those present were Bros. H. G. Martin, W.M.; G. Francis, D. Prov. G.M.; Burchell Herne, D. Prov. S.G.W., Sec.; H. C. Finch, P.M., Prov. G. Reg.; Rogers, P.M., Treas.; Sedgwick, P.M., Prov. G. Sec.; Birchell, W.M. 795; Brett, P.M.; Humbert, P.M., and other brethren. The business of the day was to raise Bro. Pattison, in the performance of which ceremony the W.M. exhibited his usual ability. Before closing the lodge the W.M. read a letter from Bro. Copeland, stating his regret at his inability to attend that meeting, as he was desirous of joining in an expression of regret at the loss the lodge had sustained by the death of Bro. Henry Miles, P.M. and P. Prov. G.W., and his hope that the brethren would record their sense of the social and Masonic virtues of their departed brother by an entry on the minutes. The W.M. said he fully concurred in every sentiment in Bro. Copeland's letter, and requested some brother to propose a resolution in accordance with it. Bro. Finch then proposed, and Bro. Francis seconded, a resolution to be entered on the minutes, which was unanimously carried, expressive of the deep regret the death of their truly worthy brother had given the brethren of the Watford Lodge, and of the remembrance they would ever cherish of his kindly feelings towards all of them, and of the brotherly and social virtues which had always characterised him. Bro. Burchell Herne said that being allied to Bro. Miles by marriage, having known him nearly half a century, and been the means of his joining the Watford Lodge, he could not but feel extremely gratified at the expressions of respect and regard to his memory which had

been so unanimously elicited. Five of his nephews had been initiated in the Watford Lodge before they had attained twenty-one, and each had seen hard service either in the Crimea, India, or China, in their military and naval capacity. Four of them still happily survived, and he would take care that they should be apprised of this gratifying testimony to their uncle's memory. As the lodge was about to be closed, the Prov. G.M., Bro. Stuart, who had been unavoidably detained in London, arrived, and was received with the accustomed honours. The lodge then adjourned.

LANCASHIRE (WEST).

GARSTON.—*Lodge of Harmony* (No. 220).—This lodge met at the Wellington Hotel on Monday, the 6th inst. The lodge was opened by the W.M., Bro. Thomas Marsh, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The ballot was taken for two gentlemen, one of whom, being in attendance, was duly initiated into Ancient Freemasonry by the W.M. The lodge was then opened in the third degree, when Bros. M'Nichol, Marquis, and Greaves were duly raised to the degree of M.M. in a very impressive manner by the W.M. The lodge was then closed to the first degree, when two gentlemen were proposed for initiation and one for joining, after which the lodge was duly closed. At refreshment, the loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to for the Grand Lodge of West Lancashire by Bro. Hamer, P.G. Sec.; "The Visitors," by Bro. Robert Gospel, P.M. 623, with true Masonic spirit, expressing the pleasure it afforded him and the visiting brethren to visit them. He was much pleased with the good working of the lodge, and hoped at no distant time to be again able to visit them. After the toasts of "The Officers," &c., the lodge was closed at nine o'clock.

WARWICKSHIRE.

BIRMINGHAM.—*Fletcher Lodge* (No. 1031).—The fourth meeting of this newly-established and flourishing lodge was held at the Masonic Rooms on Friday, the 10th inst., when, in addition to the officers and members, the following visitors were present:—Bros. Dr. Bell Fletcher, P.D., P.M.; J. H. Bedford, P.M. 43, P.G.M.; Rev. W. B. Smith, W.M. 301, P.G. Chap.; C. Stillman, P.M. 43; G. Nattan, 925; A. Rooke, 925; W. Thompson, 925; S. H. Needham, 175; C. J. Penn, Treas. 74. In the absence of Bro. Bland, J.W., Bro. the Rev. W. B. Smith officiated. The W.M., Bro. Thomas Partridge, opened the lodge in due form with solemn prayer. The usual preliminary business having been gone through, the following brethren were entrusted in the different degrees, retired, and afterwards raised, passed, and initiated:—Bros. James Lear to the third, R. Field to the second, and George Jackson to the first. Two candidates for initiation were then proposed, after which the lodge was closed according to ancient custom and with perfect harmony. The brethren then adjourned to the banquet-hall, and partook of a simple repast. The usual Masonic toasts were proposed, received with honours, and responded to. Several of the visitors expressed their gratification at the excellent working of the officers, and Bro. W. B. Smith, P.G. Chap., stated that he had visited the Lodge of Emulation in London, and found that, through Bro. Bedford's assistance and instruction, the Birmingham lodges worked by the same ritual, and with almost the same degree of perfection. The brethren separated at an early hour, expressing themselves as most "happy to meet, sorry to part, and happy to meet again."

MASONIC FESTIVITIES.

OLD CONCORD LODGE (No. 172).

The annual ball of this lodge took place at the Queen's Concert-rooms, Hanover-square, on Thursday, the 2nd inst., which, as usual, was attended by a numerous and elegant company—the officers of the lodge and many of the visitors appearing in their collars and jewels. Dancing commenced soon after nine o'clock, to the enlivening strains of Marriott's band, conducted by himself, who introduced most of the new and fashionable music.

When the supper rooms were thrown open, about four hundred ladies and gentlemen partook of a very excellent supper, which was well served by Messrs. Englefield; and the wines, supplied by Bro. Jackson, of the Hyde Park Hotel, were highly praised.

Bro. Corben, W.M., President, proposed "The Health of Her Majesty the Queen," which met with a loyal and hearty response. Bro. Emmens, P.M., Hon. Sec., then rose to address the company, and said he did not intend trespassing on their valuable time for more than a few moments; his first duty being to thank them most cordially for the kind patronage and liberal support again bestowed on their annual ball, trusting that the arrangements had met with their approval. He thought the Stewards must feel highly gratified on seeing themselves again surrounded by so numerous and elegant an assemblage as he had then the honour of addressing, particularly when such an assemblage was annually brought together without any public announcement whatever. This, he said, was their twenty-sixth anniversary, and during that long period he had much pleasure in saying some hundreds of pounds had been given in Masonic Charity; and he felt quite sure the pleasure of that evening would be increased in knowing that, by the continued support rendered to their Masonic ball, they were assisting to maintain the young in their Masonic Schools, or lending a helping hand to the aged and infirm in their asylums.

Bro. Emmens was greatly applauded, and concluded by calling on the gentlemen to charge their glasses, and join with him in drinking to "The Health of their very excellent President, Bro. Corben," who briefly returned thanks, and proposed "The Ladies." Bro. Waters, P.M., responded to this toast in a very humorous and excellent speech, after which the company returned to the ball room, and resumed dancing with much spirit until the programme was exhausted. Bro. H. A. Taylor gave great satisfaction as the M.C., whilst the Board of Stewards, consisting of Bros. Davis, P.M.; Waters, P.M.; Gurton, P.M.; Jackson, P.M.; Sallast, S.D.; Masterman, Dir. of Cers.; Mansfield, Bosting, Dorsett, with Bro. Corben, W.M., as the President, and Bro. Emmens, P.M. as Hon. Sec., carried out all the arrangements to perfection.

As usual, the proceeds of this very excellent and successful ball will be devoted to Masonic charity, and we make no doubt the surplus will again be considerable.

WEST INDIES.

DEMERARA.

UNION LODGE (No. 247).—The brethren of this lodge met on the 20th December last, when, after confirmation of the minutes, the W.M. elect, Bro. G. H. Oliver, was duly obligated to the ancient charges by the W.M., Bro. Abraham. A board of Installed Masters was then formed, consisting of Bro. Abraham, W.M.; Bros. Haley, Imlach, Klein, Duff, Ingram, Seon, P.M.'s, all of 247; and Bro. Devonish, P.M. 345. Bro. Oliver was then duly installed as W.M., Bro. Ingram, P.M., officiating as installing officer, assisted by the other P.M.'s present. The W.M. having been regularly proclaimed and duly saluted, proceeded to appoint and invest his officers as follows:—Bros. Captain Beresford, S.W.; W. B. Pollard, jun., J.W.; Huley, P.M., Treas.; Imlach, P.M., Sec.; Dawes, S.D.; J. Jack, J.D.; Cox, I.G. The Treasurer's account showing both the lodge fund and the building fund to be in credit, a debt of 500 dollars was ordered to be paid off; and this leaving the new building free of debt, a committee was appointed to consider what further could be done to beautify it. Labour being over, refreshment was served in the banquetting hall, and the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were done justice to. The health of the new W.M. was drunk with great enthusiasm. Bro. Oliver (nephew of the well known Masonic writer, Dr. G. Oliver), in returning thanks, stated that he was but a young Mason compared to many whom he saw around him, but he trusted he was none the less devoted to the cause. In the appointment of officers he had also called to his assistance mostly young Masons—not that he expected they would do their duty better or more zealously than the older hands—these had already most of them given proof of what they could and would do; but he wished to stimulate the younger hands to exertion, and he trusted they would stand by him, and

show that they were not behind the old hands in zeal and activity. Several other speeches followed, and the brethren adjourned at an early hour.

ROYAL ARCH.

UNION CHAPTER (No. 247).—The companions of this very flourishing chapter assembled on the 27th December, 1864 (St. John's Day), for the purpose of installing the Principals elect for the ensuing year. Present—Comps. Haley, M.E.Z.; Klein, H.; Luckie, J.; Imlach, P.Z., E.; Abraham, N.; Duff, P.Z.; Ingram, P.Z. (278); Lovegrove, P.S. (acting) Soj.; Arthur and Jacobs, Assist. Sojs. The chapter having been opened in solemn form, Comp. Klein, Z. elect, Luckie, H. elect, and Abraham, J. elect, were presented to the M.E.Z. A council of Installed First Principals was then formed, consisting of M.E. Comps. Ingram, Z.; Haley, H.; Imlach, J.; Duff, P.Z., and the Principals elect were then severally installed in due and ancient form. M.E. Comp. Haley was regularly invested as P.Z. The companions having been readmitted, the M.E.Z. invested the following officers:—M.E. Comp. Imlach, P.Z., E.; Comp. Arthur, N.; Comp. Shine, Treas.; and stated that he much regretted that Comp. Oliver was too ill to attend for investiture as Prin. Soj.; that he had nominated Comps. Lovegrove and Cox Asst. Sojs. These companions were invested accordingly, and M.E. Comp. Ingram having given the installation charge, the chapter was closed, and the companions adjourned to refreshment. The remainder of the evening was passed in social enjoyment.

Obituary.

BRO. EDMUND BANNISTER, P. Prov. G.S.B.
HANTS.

The death of this veteran member of the Craft, which took place on Saturday, the 4th inst., has caused deep regret among the brethren, by whom he was well known and much respected, as an honest and upright man, and, in every sense of the word, a good Mason. His Masonic career, extending over a period of forty years, was most distinguished, and he was at all times at the call of every brother and lodge in the province. As a working Mason his loss will be most severely felt. He had passed the chair, and had held a variety of offices in different chapters in Hampshire. He had also filled the office of Provincial Grand Sword Bearer, being held in the highest respect by the Prov. G.M., Admiral Sir Lucius Curtis. He had at different times been presented with testimonials, including a silver snuff-box by the Royal Sussex Lodge, a P.M.'s jewel by the Phoenix Lodge, and a P.P.'s jewel by the Portsmouth Chapter. His mortal remains were consigned to their last resting-place on the 10th inst., when the brethren of the Craft, to the number of nearly a hundred, attended to pay the last tribute of respect to their lamented brother. They assembled at the Royal Sussex lodge-room, St. George's-square, at two o'clock, and proceeded in mourning coaches to Kingston Cemetery, preceded by the hearse and coaches containing the deceased's relatives. On arriving at the cemetery, the brethren, each of whom carried a sprig of myrtle, walked in procession to the chapel, the junior members being first, and having formed in line on each side, the corpse was conveyed into the chapel, followed by the relatives. At the conclusion of the service in the chapel, the brethren again formed in line on either side of the path. After the corpse had been carried past, they reformed in procession, the senior members now taking precedence, and followed to the grave, around which they formed a circle, and during the service, which was most impressively performed by the Rev. E. Burton, each brother deposited his sprig of myrtle in the grave. The pall-bearers were Bros. White, Bradley, Ogburn, Stapleford, T. Batchelor, and Hollingsworth, P.M.'s. The brethren present included members of the Phoenix, Royal Sussex, Gosport, Havant, and Chichester Lodges, and the W.M.'s and their officers.

BRO. HENRY MILES.

On the 25th ult., at his chambers, Raymond-buildings, Gray's Inn, Bro. Henry Miles, of the Middle Temple, Barrister-at-Law, aged seventy-one. The estimation in which he was held in the Watford Lodge will be seen by a reference to our report of the proceedings of the lodge in another page.

Poetry.

ADIEU.

To those Brethren of the Right Wing of H.M.'s 95th Regiment who were Members of Lodge Felix (No. 335), on the occasion of their embarkation at Aden, en route for Kurrachee.

Adieu! when many years have past
I'll fondly think of you and thine;
And feel assured, unto the last,
That you'll remember me and mine.
For though wide oceans do us part,
And many a bill may rise between,
No space can change the faithful heart,
Or friendship such as ours has been.

Through life, its varied tints and shade,
Its every turn for weal or woe,
Perchance, we'll move through every grade,
Its every phase we yet may know.
Still should this be, no change of sphere
Effaces from the constant mind,
Fond memories of the friendship dear,
Held once for those we leave behind.

Should rumour falsely thee defame,
Or strive to lay thine errors bare,
I will, in thy defence, declaim,
E'en by the sacred ties we share.
For what has life so sweet to give
As constancy and friendship true?
Dear brethren, wheresoe'er you live,
Remember, I'll remember you.

—C. McMILLAN.

LITERARY EXTRACTS.

A MAORI PREACHER.—Among the prisoners was an old fellow of the name of Paul, a native preacher, who was found lying on his back in the field of battle. Being seventy years of age and very decrepit, none of our soldiers thought it worth while to give him the *coup de grace*; at length one more humane than the others, being attracted by his groans, raised him up from the ground and found a rifle concealed beneath his body. We often had a quiet joke with old Paul the preacher about the rifle found under his body. We more than insinuated that he thought it quite consistent with his position as chaplain-general to the rebel forces to have an occasional shot at the Pakehas, and that he had proved himself literally a true member of the church militant. There was often a sly winkle in the old fellow's eye, which showed that he had a certain sense of humour and understood our allusions. We have no doubt that he took part in the flight—as well as an old lady, who was seen to fire more than a dozen shots from the verandah of her house at our men. And yet Paul the preacher was a man of distinguished piety, whose good report was in all the churches.—*Fraser's Magazine*.

THE GENERAL'S WINE-GLASS.—General Grosdos, who retained many of his army habits, was dining at a

minister's house in Paris. When a livery servant came to fill his glass with wine, he anticipated the movement by wiping it with all his might and main. The hostess, fearing that some little accident had occurred, signed to the valet behind her to change the glass. The wiping process was recommenced, and the glass immediately changed, up to a third, and a fourth, until the general, losing temper, whispered to his neighbour, a senator's wife, "Does M. le Ministre mean to make game of me, by asking me to dinner to wipe his glasses?" The lady, with some difficulty, got him to understand that what might be necessary in a camp canteen was quite unnecessary in a Parisian dining-room.—*London Society.*

THE WEEK.

THE COURT.—Her Majesty and the younger branches of the Royal Family continue at Osborne. The Prince and Princess of Wales are in London, patronising the theatres, and other places of public amusement.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.—In the **HOUSE OF LORDS** on Tuesday, the 9th inst., the Lord Chancellor made a statement respecting the operation of the new Bankruptcy Act. During the past year, he said, there were 7,324 adjudications in bankruptcy, and the property recovered amounted to £677,536. Of that sum, however, no less than 143,872 was swallowed up in costs, and if they added the £140,000 paid for the salaries and ordinary expenses of the courts, they would have a total of £283,872 expended in dividing £533,664. He remarked that would be a question for the consideration of Parliament whether such a state of things should be allowed to continue. At the same time, the act of 1861 had not proved a complete failure. The provision for voluntary arrangements between debtors and creditors had worked satisfactorily, and had been made available for the distribution of upwards of £5,000,000. This statement was not followed by any discussion.—On Friday the business was unimportant.—On Monday the only business was a motion by Lord Houghton for certain poor-law returns; which was, of course, agreed to.—On Tuesday, the Lord Chancellor made a short statement as to the result of the act recently passed authorising the sale of the small livings in his patronage; while Lord Leitrim made another attack upon the Irish magistracy and police, whom Lord Granville warmly defended against the wholesale denunciations of their eccentric assailant.—In the **HOUSE OF COMMONS** on Thursday, the 9th inst., various notices of motion were given, including one by Mr. Baines of the re-introduction of the Borough Franchise Bill. The people of Ireland are to have a *solatium* for the withdrawal of the Galway postal subsidy.—Lord Clarence Paget having announced, in answer to a question from Mr. Hennesy, that the Navy Estimates will include a vote for the establishment of a dockyard at Cork.—Mr. Milner Gibson stated, in answer to a question from Mr. Bentinck, that the Government had no intention of bringing in a bill providing for the better security of railway passengers. Many of the recommendations of the Select Committee of 1858, he said, had already been adopted by the railway companies, and he believed that the others were now under their consideration.—Mr. Bazley called attention to the extraordinary robbery of Mr. Charles Ashworth, at Shrewsbury, and asked whether the magistrates who so efficiently, though of course unconsciously, assisted the thief on that occasion had been removed from the commission of the peace. Sir George Grey replied that no complaint or official information on the subject had been brought before him.—On the motion of Mr. Moffat, a committee was

appointed to inquire into the defects of the Bankruptcy Act.—Mr. Hadfield obtained leave to re-introduce his Abolition of Qualification for Offices Bill; and Lord Robert Montagu to bring in bills for the better protection of rivers, and for facilitating the utilisation of town sewage.—On Friday, among the numerous questions put to the Government was one by Mr. Peacocke, respecting the reported dismissal of Mr. Coursol, the Canadian judge who discharged the St. Albans raiders. Mr. Cardwell stated that he had received no report of Mr. Coursol's dismissal; and whatever steps might be taken by the Governor General in the matter would be taken on the advice of his responsible Ministers, and not at the instigation of the Colonial Office.—In reply to a question from Mr. Western, Sir George Grey stated that the Government did not intend to bring in a general bill for the abolition of turnpike trusts; and in answer to Lord Stanley, Sir C. Wood said that Sir John Lawrence had entirely reversed Lord Canning's policy in Oude.—Sir John Walsh moved for papers relating to the notice given by the United States Government for the abrogation of the Reciprocity Treaty, and of the convention securing the neutrality of the Canadian lakes. The Hon. Baronet said he regarded the course taken by the Government of Washington as the prelude to a declaration of war. Lord Palmerston explained that the notice with reference to the lakes was to be viewed as a merely temporary measure, designed to protect the commerce and property of the citizens of the United States. He could not deny that events had taken place of which the Government of Washington had good reason to complain, and they were "amply justified" in having recourse to the step now contemplated. The convention, however, was open to renewal at a future time. With regard to the Reciprocity Treaty, no intimation had been made to her Majesty's Government of a proposal on the part of the United States to put an end to it. He declined to follow Sir John Walsh into a discussion of the state of our relations with America—a discussion which at present would not be conducive to the public interest; but he asked the House not to assume gratuitously that the American people were animated by feelings of hostility towards this country. Sir John Walsh withdrew his motion, and the subject dropped.—Leave was given to bring in bills providing for new courts of justice.—Mr. Dodson, one of the members for East Sussex, was elected Chairman of Committees in the room of Mr. Massey, who goes to India as Minister of Finance.—On Monday, Mr. Sheridan gave his annual notice on the subject of the fire insurance duty, and the Attorney-General intimated his intention of bringing in a bill to alter the law respecting the forfeiture of the goods of convicted felons.—Mr. Hadfield's bill for the abolition of the declaration required to be made by persons appointed to certain municipal and other offices was read a second time, and ordered to be referred to a Select Committee.—Sir George Grey obtained leave to bring in a bill similar to that introduced by the Government last year, but ultimately withdrawn, for securing uniformity in the enforcement of hard labour and other forms of punishment in our prisons. The right hon. baronet declines to deal with the much-vexed question of dietary, as he had found it impossible to devise a uniform scale.—Mr. Newdegate brought in another bill for the commutation of church-rates, and Sir Robert Peel laid before the House a measure, which was read a first time, for the protection of such inventions as may be displayed at the forthcoming Dublin International Exhibition.—On Tuesday, Mr. Gladstone, in reply to questions from Mr. Roebuck and Mr. Vincent Scully, said the Government had no intention of bringing in a bill this session for the revision of the tariffs, or for the purchase of any of the railways of the United Kingdom

under the Act of 1844. All they proposed to do at present was to issue a Commission of Inquiry with a view to bring the facts and all the information bearing on the question in a state to be thoroughly available for Parliament and the public at large.—In answer to a question from Mr. Long, Mr. Villiers said he did not intend to ask for the reappointment of the Select Committee on the position and grievances of union medical officers.—Mr. Cardwell stated, in answer to a question that the bill authorising the annexation of British Kaffraria to the Cape colony would be introduced without delay.—In reply to Mr. W. Forster, Mr. Gladstone said the Government Annuities Act would come into operation in about a month unless Parliament thought fit to object to the life tables, which had been laid upon the tables.—Mr. Cox obtained leave to bring in a bill for a modification of the Public-houses Closing Act.—On Wednesday, Lord Naas moved the second reading of the Mortgage Debentures Bill. He described the measure as being the result of inquiries instituted by the House of Lords. It proposed to allow companies to advance money on real estate, and to issue debentures to a certain extent on the mortgages. He explained at great length the provisions of the bill, and concluded by expressing his willingness that the measure should be referred to a select committee. Sir George Grey on that understanding would agree to the second reading, but it must be understood that in doing so he by no means pledged himself to the principle of the bill. The bill was read a second time and ordered to be referred to a select committee.—Two other bills on the same subject were also read a second time, and referred to a select committee.

GENERAL HOME NEWS.—The rate of mortality decreased in the course of last week, though it is still above the average. In London the excess is 85, viz., 1,589 in place of 1,504. In the ten cities of the kingdom the deaths were 3,299, while the births were 4,428. In two of the cities, Liverpool and Dublin, the deaths exceeded the births; and it is remarkable that the rate of mortality per thousand was smaller in London than in any other town, with the exception of Birmingham. The highest rate was in Liverpool. The births in London alone were 2,336, which was about 100 in excess of the average.—The Duke of Northumberland died at Alnwick Castle on Sunday morning. He is succeeded in the dukedom by his relative, Lord Beverley.—The death of Cardinal Wiseman took place on Tuesday morning. His Eminence had been in a hopeless state for many days past. His death will excite a feeling of sorrow far beyond the limits of his own Church.—Convocation met at Westminster on Wednesday for the despatch of business. The Archbishop of Canterbury presided in the one House and Archdeacon Bickersteth in the other. In the Upper House the Bishop of London presented a petition in favour of an extension of lay agency in the Church. The Bishop of Oxford moved an address to the Crown in favour of an extension of the episcopate. Several of the Bishops spoke in favour of the motion, and it was agreed to. In the Lower House, the subjects discussed were the judgment on "Essays and Reviews" and the Burial Service.—Mr. Purdy reports this week a net increase of 1,800 paupers in the cotton manufacturing unions. Seventeen unions have more, and only three have fewer, paupers. Eight remain without change. The most marked increase took place in the seven following unions, viz.:—Chorlton, 270; Haslingden, 160; Manchester, 470; Oldham, 280; Preston, 200; Saddleworth, 180; and Warrington, 130. The union of Ashton-under-Lyne, however, has decreased by 210. The adult able-bodied have decreased upwards of 700 during the week. The total is now 24,850 for the district. The Guardians expended in outdoor relief, £6,062, or £132

more than in the previous week. Some increase of pauperism is due to the state of the weather, which has recently diminished the employment on the public works, and some to the closing of the relief committees. It appears, from Mr. Maclure's last report, that of the original 180 only 53 of these bodies are "still in active operation."—The *Mark Lane Express* gives a very favourable estimate—based upon information collected from all parts of the country—of the cereal crops of 1864.—The negotiation of a commercial treaty between this country and Austria has been entrusted to the Vice President of the Board of Trade, who will immediately proceed to Vienna to complete the work in which Mr. Beaumont has for some time past been actively engaged.—At the Metropolitan Board of Works a discussion of some importance took place with respect to the cost of the main drainage scheme. Mr. Furness, the contractor for the northern outfall, has sent in a bill of costs considerably exceeding the terms of his contract, and Mr. Bazalgette proposed to the Board that, as suspicious had gone abroad respecting his relations with Mr. Furness, an independent engineer should be called in to examine and report on the accounts, and he (Mr. Bazalgette) would pay the fee.—A *séance* given by the Brothers Davenport at Liverpool, on Wednesday, terminated rather abruptly. Before the rope-tying commenced the performers objected to Mr. Cummins, one of the "committee" selected by the audience. They ultimately, however, gave way, but on Mr. Cummings proceeding to bind him, one of the Davenports complained that his wrist was being injured. The "lecturer," Dr. Ferguson, thereupon cut the rope, and Davenport showed a wound on his wrist. Mr. Cummins declared that the wound had been caused by the knife Dr. Ferguson had used—an allegation which gave rise to great uproar, amidst which the Brothers retired. The audience then rushed upon the stage, pushed Dr. Ferguson into the cabinet, and finally smashed the "structure" to pieces.—The *Morning Post* was last week cast in an action for libel, and was awarded to pay £1,000 damages to the plaintiff. The case arose out of the extraordinary legal proceedings respecting the Egmont estates in Ireland. The last Earl of Egmont left the estates to a friend of his. The present earl, on coming to the title many years afterwards, challenged the will, and it was for some comments on the conduct of the plaintiff, who was mixed up in the cause, and while the matter was still in dependence, that the action was brought.—A case of breach of promise of marriage, possessing some features of unusual interest, was tried on Saturday before the Lord Chief Justice and a jury. Colonel Powell, the member for Cardiganshire, had promised to marry a Miss Lewis, the sister of his private secretary. He is only 49 years of age, and the lady is 41; but it appears that he suffers from a paralytic affection; and it was explained to the lady that he wanted a nurse rather than a wife. Eventually, however, he changed his mind, and not only declined to carry out his promise, but cast imputations on the plaintiff's character. These imputations, it was said, led to the bringing of the action, and before the trial they were withdrawn, as utterly unfounded. The jury awarded the plaintiff damages to the extent of £2,000.—An Italian, named Gregorio Moggi, has come forward and declared that he was the person who committed the Saffron Hill murder—the crime for which Polizzioni is now lying under sentence of death. Gregorio has been examined before the police magistrate at Clerkenwell. Several of the witnesses who were examined on Polizzioni's trial were examined again, and their evidence went to the fact that Gregorio was not the criminal. It was plain, however, that the public-house where the murder was committed was and had for some considerable time been in a state of great uproar and confusion, and some of the witnesses

varied as to the facts. In the end the magistrate decided on committing Gregorio, or Mogni, as his surname appears to be, for trial on the charge of wilful murder.—On Wednesday, David Roberts, who described himself as a weaver, was charged with being one of the burglars who broke open the premises of Mr. Walker, the jeweller, of Cornhill, and plundered that gentleman of property to the value of £5,000 or £6,000. Some of the stolen property was found on him. After some witnesses had been examined, he was remanded.—The police of Manchester have in custody seven persons who are charged with having been concerned in the recent robbery of jewellery in that city. None of the stolen property has been recovered, as at present the only evidence against the prisoners is supplied by the housebreaking implements seized at the house where the first capture was made. It is alleged that a part of a broken drill has been recovered which corresponds in a remarkable manner with a portion of an implement left by the thieves in Mr. Howard's shop. Six of the prisoners were on Tuesday brought before the City Magistrates, and remanded after a formal statement of the case against them. The seventh prisoner, a woman named Barker, has given birth to a child since her apprehension, and is now at the Workhouse.—Victor Townley, who, it will be remembered, murdered Miss Goodwin, and afterwards escaped hanging by a singular quirk in the then existing state of the law, committed suicide in prison on Sunday morning. He was returning from chapel, when he leaped over the staircase and fell a considerable height, receiving a concussion on the brain. He lingered insensible till eight o'clock in the evening, when he died.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.—The Emperor of the French opened the Chambers at one o'clock on Wednesday, in a speech which referred more to domestic affairs and less to foreign policy than most of its predecessors. It alluded of course to the Italian Convention, to Mexico, and to Algeria, but said nothing beyond that which might have been expected as a matter of course. No allusion whatever was made to the American struggle. An indirect and very mild rebuke was administered to the contumacious bishops and clergy. The speech promised many important domestic reforms, particularly in the decentralisation of administrative power, the endowment of municipal bodies with something like real self-government, and the release of labour from injurious restrictions. The Emperor referred in terms of great gratification to the increase in the foreign commerce of France, which has resulted thus far from the liberal policy he has followed. The tone of the speech is entirely Pacific.—On Saturday the Court of Cassation at Paris dismissed the appeal of the Thirteen. The sentence passed on them will therefore be now enforced. Some of the Paris journals report that the King of the Belgians is seriously ill.—A grand ball was given by Prince Napoleon on Saturday evening, to which invitations to members of the Paris press were numerous, the representatives of several foreign journals being included in the list of guests. The gathering was honoured by the presence of the Emperor and the Empress. One item of expenditure in connection with the *fête*—flowers for decoration—is set down at £100.—The Spanish Government has approved of the publication of the Encyclical, excepting those portions which are contrary to the Royal prerogative—an exception which extends to a large portion of the document.—A decree issued by King Victor Emmanuel authorises the publication of the Pope's "encyclical" throughout the kingdom of Italy, but reserves the rights of the State and Italy, and declines to admit the validity of those passages which are opposed to the institutions and laws of Italy.—In a rescript addressed to the nobility of Moscow, the Em-

peror Alexander says that the reforms already proposed or effected are a sufficient proof of his desire for improvement. But no subject has a right to anticipate his resolutions, and no class is entitled to speak in the name of others. Such a breach of the law can only retard his plans; and he expects that such obstacles will never again be offered by his faithful nobles.—“Instructions for the re-organisation of the kingdom of Poland” have been issued by the Russian Cabinet, and their execution will be tantamount to the complete incorporation of the kingdom with the Russian empire. The office of Governor-General of Poland is to be abolished; and the different branches of the administration are to be departments of the ministries at St. Petersburg.

AMERICA.—The *Canada*, from New York, brought advices to the 3rd inst., which state that Vice-President Stevens, Judge Campbell, and Mr. Hunter, of Virginia, had arrived at Fortress Monroe, and asked permission to visit Washington. Their mission was to discuss peace unofficially. Mr. Seward had gone to meet them, and President Lincoln had also left for Fortress Monroe, it is said, in consequence of a telegram from Mr. Seward. The *Hibernian*, arrived from Portland, brings a day's later news from New York. The most important part of it is that the peace negotiations have failed. President Lincoln and Mr. Seward had returned to Washington, and the Confederate Commissioners to Richmond. The press, both North and South, speculate on what took place. The Richmond journals profess to be especially anxious for the war to go on. The Republican party in the Federal Congress is represented as being opposed to the peace negotiations. Fernando Wood had made a strong war speech. The amendment of the constitution abolishing slavery had passed Congress. The Maryland, Pennsylvania, and Massachusetts Legislatures, and the New York Assembly had ratified the constitutional amendment as to slavery. In the Senate Mr. Sumner had introduced resolutions declaring the consent of the rebel States to the measures to be unnecessary while they are in rebellion. The war news is not important. Sherman was marching into South Carolina. At Wilmington there was no change.

INDIA, CHINA, AND AUSTRALIA.—The papers to hand from India, China, and Australia, contain little besides some details of the news already received through the telegraph. The decapitation of two men as accomplices in the assassination of Major Baldwin and Lieutenant Bird is considered as a sign of a desire on the part of the Japanese Government to conform to the usages of civilised life. The two French sailors who were killed at Yokohama are said to have been drunk and riotous—nevertheless, the act betrays the ill-will the lower orders of the Japanese bear towards foreigners. Tranquillity was completely restored in China, and little or nothing is heard of the remains of the rebels.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

SEC.—The advertiser is either an impostor or a perjurer. It is not more than three years since a well-known Masonic jeweller (now deceased) was reprimanded by the Board of General Purposes for selling so-called rituals. The circular you have forwarded us shall be laid before the Board in due course.

R. S. T.—We will inquire.

JUDEX.—Is it fair to take the opinion of the G. Sec. on any given subject, and then to ask for ours? You have not given us the G. Sec.'s reply; but we have, under the circumstances, a right to suppose it does not agree with your own view. We shall not, in this instance, join issue with the G. Secretary.