

LONDON, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 1866.

WHY BRETHREN CEASE TO TAKE ANY INTEREST IN THE ORDER.

That a great number of our brethren who once were zealous in the cause of Freemasonry, who took an active part in everything belonging to the Craft, and who were constant in their attendance at lodge duties, now no longer take any interest in our Order, no longer join in our assemblies, is but too patent. This is, indeed, a subject of regret—a regret which is frequently deepened by the reflection that these are the very men whom we can least afford to lose. They are, in many instances, good men and true, pious, benevolent—the very men whom we should be glad to hold up to the uninitiated as examples of Masonic virtue.

It, therefore, becomes an inquiry of considerable moment as to why these men have deserted us, and as to how they are to be brought back, and retained in the Masonic fold.

In numerous cases the causes of the withdrawal of brethren from taking any active part in Freemasonry, and their ceasing their lodge membership, are so obvious as to need merely a passing allusion. They are such as are caused by straitened circumstances, increased domestic responsibilities, removal to a distance from the place of lodge meeting. Much though we may regret that worthy brethren should be obliged to withdraw from us for reasons such as these, which are, of course, too often inevitable, yet we cannot blame them. Every man is best acquainted with the state of his own resources, what he can afford, what accomplish, and there the matter must rest.

But are there not too many members of the Order who retire from the activity of Masonic life in positive disgust, excited either by misapprehensions as to several portions of it, which at first sight may prove stumbling blocks, but from which a further acquaintance and more earnest research would remove all difficulties, or from the inconsistencies of their brethren, or faultiness or slovenliness in the working of the degrees, and the transaction of the general business of the lodge? To these queries a decided "Yes" must be uttered.

We have ourselves known many Masons who were perfectly horrified by the OB, and who objected to the Order as being a secret one.

Others, again, look on the whole thing as cant and hypocrisy. They say, "At our last lodge meeting our W.M. pronounced an admirable charge, inculcating morality, reverence for God and His word, and universal philanthropy. Now, what is the life of that man, and of several others who joined in the ceremony on that occasion? Is it not a lie to the very principles which they are constantly propounding in open lodge? Are they not immoral men, profane, living in malice and hatred, hateful, and hating each other? I cannot countenance such a 'humbug,' and I shall use any influence that I may possess in dissuading others from being deceived by it."

It is not long since the writer of this paper received a letter from an author of distinction, who in early life was admitted into the Craft, but who was so disgusted by the blasphemous and profane tenets which were upheld by members of his lodge, that he withdrew from all connection with the Order, and in that letter he gave it as his solemn conviction that Masonry was an exceedingly dangerous thing, and quite beneath the notice of a Christian man.

Now, what is the remedy for all this? The above-named misapprehension as to the OB and the secrecy of the Craft would all be dissipated by a slight acquaintance with the aim and objects of Freemasonry. Hence the cultivation of Masonic literature is one great remedy for the wide-spread secession that prevails. The apathy that exists on this point is, surely, disgraceful to us. What proportion of the brethren in this country, or any other, subscribe for and peruse the organs of the Craft? We fear only an infinitesimal portion. In fact, so callous are a great many on the subject, as positively not to be aware of the existence of the FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE at all.

For the disgust occasioned by the inconsistent lives of some who occupy elevated positions in Masonry, the simple and obvious remedy which must be preached over and over again, whether offence be thereby given or not, is to be careful as to the selection of candidates for initiation. Blackball determinedly and unceasingly those whom you believe in your heart to be unworthy of participation in the mysterious secrets of Freemasonry.

Let these two remedies—the diffusion of our literature, and strictness as to the initiation of candidates, and the appointment of officers—be applied to the bleeding body of our Order; and

we shall assuredly find that good men will no longer secede from us, and that many now standing aloof will be attracted towards us, who will serve to make Masonry, powerful though she is, still more powerful and, blessed as she is, still more blessed.

J. K.

ORATION ON MASONRY.

Delivered by Bro. L. P. METHAM, Prov. S.G.W., Devon, at the Meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge, Aug. 30th, 1866.

Very Worshipful Sir and Brethren,—By command of the Provincial Grand Master, and in accordance with the ancient custom usual on occasions like the present, the duty devolves on me of delivering an address on the merits and obligations of our Order. Were I as able as I am willing, the task would easily be accomplished, for the materials are, indeed, abundant to prove its antiquity and its value. Masonry was practised by the shepherd-astronomers and astrologers of Chaldea, by the priest-kings of Egypt, by the Brahmans of India, and by the philosophers of Greece, and it reached its meridian splendour when Solomon, the then Grand Master of the Order, surrounded by his brethren, laid, with Masonic honours, the foundation stone of the temple which he intended to dedicate to the service of God. We have the authority of a credible Roman historian for saying that when Julian, the apostate, 1,800 years after, cleared the foundations of the same temple, the vaulted chamber was discovered in which our ancient brethren had assembled, with its most sacred and most secret symbols perfect and undisturbed. These symbols are to be traced among nations wide as the poles asunder, differing as much in their language, creed, colour, and character as to the period at which, and the land in which, they lived. They are to be found on the pyramids of Egypt, the caves of Elephanta, the temples of classic Greece, the Round Towers of Ireland, the courts of the Alhambra, and the arches of our sublime cathedrals. Whence then this universal presence and permanence? Because its foundations rest not on the mutable and perishable circumstances of external life, but on sentiments which spring from, and appeal to, the most deep-seated affections of our nature, and are founded on the purest principles of piety and virtue. The volume of the Sacred Law is never closed in our lodges;

from its pages we derive our duty to God, our neighbours, and ourselves. We learn to look up to God as the one great cause, to implore His aid on all our lawful undertakings, and to bend with resignation to His divine will. We are taught to regard the whole human race as the children of one Father, whom we are to treat with justice, to relieve in want, and comfort in sorrow. For ourselves, we are taught to be prudent, temperate, enduring, and just. As citizens we are enjoined to be loyal and peaceful, our motto being, 'Fear God, honour the Sovereign.' Under every emblem in our lodges there lie solemn and important truths, tending to purify the morals, to improve the understanding, bind the human family more closely together, and to raise the soul to God. The implements of labour teach us the use we are to make upon earth of the talents committed to us by our Great Creator and Judge, and remind us of the account we must surrender of their use when we are summoned to His presence in the Grand Lodge above. Freemasons, in those dark ages when might made right, guarded with jealous care the feeble ray of light which was in hourly danger of being extinguished by the violence of rude and untutored savages. Sustained by the felicitous combination of the love of art and the sublime truths of religion and morality which Freemasonry taught them, they fanned the feeble spark until it burst into a bright and enduring flame, which has shown its fruits in the creation of those miracles of art which still astonish, delight, and instruct the world. Again, Freemasonry has bound men more closely together than any other human institution. In those dark ages to which I have alluded, Freemasonry not only protected those who were within its pale, but threw its shield, like its offspring Chivalry, over all who were suffering and oppressed. In our more fortunate age it has cemented friendships, restored the credit of the bankrupt merchant, succoured the shipwrecked and exiled, set the prisoner free, fed the hungry, clothed the naked, visited the widow and orphan, and even arrested the uplifted steel thirsting for a foeman's blood. It has an universal language, and an universal fund of benevolence. It brings all classes of men together in equal and social intercourse. In our lodges are those whose birth is noble, whose possessions are vast, whose talents are great, and whose taste is refined; by their side sit those who possess none of these things, and whom the outer

world deems insignificant, because they are poor; yet to them the rich man yields precedence and obedience in the lodge, and in the public streets and market-place salutes their brothers. Thus each learns to read and value the mind of the other, and to feel a deep sympathy for each other in the wants and pains of their common nature. The scrupulous exclusion from our lodges of all topics of religious and political discussion—those fruitful sources of envenomed dissension elsewhere—maintains this good feeling, and gives permanence to our institution. The names of Alfred the Great and many other sovereigns, William of Wykeham, Cardinal Wolsey, Newton, Locke, Sir Christopher Wren, Inigo Jones, Wellington, and Washington, silence calumny, and show that our science has a deep and abiding interest for the statesman, the minister of religion, the patriot, the man of science, and the philanthropist. And now, my brethren, let me ask how shall we best maintain and transmit the dignity of our Order unsullied to our successors? I answer by simply remembering that to each of us great talents, pure Masonic jewels, of which those we wear are but the emblems, have been committed, which it is a sin against Him who confided them to us to bury in a napkin. Let each remember that he is a stone forming part of the great Masonic temple, whether in the foundations, the buttresses, the walls, or the pinnacle, to which he can give strength, grace, and lustre by a life modelled on Masonic principles, or dim its brightness and sap its foundations by forgetfulness of his obligations. Whatever good thing we find to do let us do it at once, and with all our might, for 'the night cometh when no man can work.' Our own cup has been filled to overflowing by the great Dispenser of All Bounty, with corn and wine, with oil and salt; let us show our gratitude to the Giver by extending the readiest and amplest relief to every being who bears His image, who depends upon His providence, who is fed by His bounty, and who relies on His all-comprehending mercy. Brother Masons, let us look beyond the narrow limits of particular institutions, and recognise in every child of Adam a brother of the dust. Let us strive to bind the whole human family together with the strong chain of brotherly love, relief, and charity in thought, charity in word, and charity in deed, engraven on each golden link. When this shall be accomplished, then shall the whole race of man, of every sphere, nation, colour, creed, and

language be fused into one universal brotherhood, —sending up to the great I AM the most acceptable offering and oblation, one universal song of praise, bursting forth as from one tongue, welling up as from one soul:—

Father of all! in every age,
In every clime adored,
By saint, by savage, and by sage,
Jehovah! Ruler! Lord!

To Thee whose temple is all space,
Whose altar, earth, air, skies,
One chorus let all being raise,
All Nature's incense rise.

When that day comes we will lay aside our working tools, for our labours will be ended. Then will our lodges be closed, and our secrets may be proclaimed from the housetop, for the mission of Freemasonry will be accomplished. Let all the brethren unite with me in saying—So mote it be.

PHYSICAL QUALIFICATIONS OF CANDIDATES.

The solution of the question "whether a man who has been disabled by the loss of a limb may be admitted into the pale of the Masonic Fraternity," has acquired a paramount importance in consequence of the late civil strife in the United States, and still more recently by the war in Central Europe, through which thousands of men who might otherwise be well qualified, have suffered physical injuries liable to debar them from becoming active members of the Craft. The question was recently laid before the Grand Master of the State of Alabama and received from him the following decision:—

Can one who has lost a leg be made a Mason? Can one thus situated, whose loss has been supplied by artificial means, be made a Mason?

In answer to the first question, I quoted the language of the Constitution as the law, "that the candidate must be free from such corporeal deformity as would render him incapable of teaching and practising the ritual of the Fraternity;" and that every subordinate lodge was a jury, whose duty it was to pass upon the fact, whether the candidate could come up to the requisition. Here I rested my decision, declining to interfere in what I conceived to be the proper duty of the subordinate lodge. At the same time, however, I expressed an opinion adverse to the reception of such candidates, even though the loss of a limb was supplied by artificial means. . . .

In this, as in almost every other question, it is well to recur to the elementary principle as the starting-point from which we must not depart, and by which we must be guided, if we wish to avoid error. It may be well also to remember, that though we live in a "progressive age," yet there is nothing progressive in the character of Masonry. It is the same to-day as it was yesterday, —the same it was centuries ago.

By the loss of a limb, one certainly ceases to be of

able body, and capable of practising the ritual of the Fraternity. It is possible—nay probable—that one thus situated might be able to comprehend, and perhaps even teach the ritual; but he could not practise it; and, without ability to do so, such persons remain embraced within the category of those who shall not be accepted as Freemasons.

The standard, then, of physical qualifications, as I understand it from the ancient landmarks and our own constitution, is the ability of the candidate to teach and practise the ritual of the Order, in every particular and in its most minute details. It matters not how the candidate may be deprived of that ability. His misfortunes may command our sympathy, but sympathy does not remedy the difficulty.

To this “finding,” our transatlantic contemporary, the *Freemasons' Monthly Magazine* makes the following remarks:—

“The late rebellion has given an importance to this subject which it never before possessed. Thousands of our most enterprising and reputable young men have come back from the battle-fields, and are knocking at the doors of our lodges, young men whose physical condition would perhaps, under a rigid and exact interpretation of the ancient and original regulation on the subject, disqualify them for admission. But it is not impertinent to inquire whether such a strict construction of the law is demanded by the present condition or the interests of the Institution.

The first regulation on the subject of which we have any knowledge was probably adopted in the early part of the tenth century; and it requires that every candidate for the mysteries of Masonry shall be “freeborn, of nature and discreet age, of good report, of sufficient natural endowments, and the senses of a man, with an estate, office, trade, occupation, or some visible way of acquiring an honest livelihood, and of working in his Craft.” It further declares, that he “must also be upright in body, not deformed nor dismembered, at the time of making, but of hale and entire limbs.”

A similar regulation was adopted at a general assembly of Masons, held at London in 1663, at which time the Earl of St. Albans was elected Grand Master; and Sir Christopher Wren, the architect, Junior Grand Warden. It was in the following words:—

That no person hereafter shall be accepted a Freemason but such as are of able body, honest parentage, good reputation, and an observer of the laws of the land.

Taking these regulations as they stand, and interpreting them literally, there can be no doubt as to what should be the physical qualifications of a candidate for the honours of Masonry. But they were adopted at a time when the fraternity was almost exclusively an operative association.

The admission of the deformed and maimed, who were disqualified for manual labour, was therefore to be guarded against as a practice calculated unnecessarily to burthen the brotherhood, and, as a consequence, to lessen their ability to afford pecuniary relief to those of their fellows who from sickness, or the occurrence of accidents peculiar to their occupation, might require it. The regulation under such circumstances was wise and salutary. But does the same necessity for it now exist? The Institution has ceased to be operative, and has become a purely speculative or moral and benevolent fraternity; and it is certainly very clear that it is not at the present day so essential that the candidate should be of “hale and entire limbs,” if he be of good report, of sufficient natural endowments, has some visible way of acquiring an honest livelihood, and is capable of working in his Craft. We would preserve our ancient laws as a sacred legacy; but does it necessarily follow, that, in order to do this, we must be governed by the letter, without any regard to the spirit of them, or the changes wrought by time in the character and purposes of the Institution? A regulation adopted during the reign of James II. provides, “That no fellowe goe into the town by night, except he have a fellowe with him, who may bear him record that he was in an honest place.” All will admit that it would be more than inexpedient to attempt to enforce the letter of this regulation at the present time. It was undoubtedly originally wise and salutary, and demanded by the then condition of the brotherhood. The spirit of it is, that a Mason should walk uprightly in his vocation, avoiding all evil company and licentious habits. A more literal construction would now be an absurdity. Do we not, therefore, perform our whole duty when we regard the spirit of regulations, the letter of which has by necessary and unavoidable circumstances become obsolete, and is not demanded for any useful purpose?

Let us apply this reasoning to the oldest of the regulations above cited. We have seen that one of the objects proposed by it was to protect the Institution against the embarrassment and injurious effects which must necessarily follow the admission of persons having no visible means of acquiring an honest livelihood, or ability to work in their Craft. And here it may be asked, whether the spirit of this regulation is impaired by the admission of a candidate possessing such visible means, and in all respects capable of working in

his Craft, but who is labouring under a physical deformity? We answer, that if the deformity be not such as to disqualify him for receiving the necessary instructions, and imparting the same to others when required, the true intent of the regulation in our opinion remains unimpaired; and we believe this construction to be sustained and sanctioned by the usages of the fraternity for at least a century past. In the book of "Ancient Constitutions," published in England in 1754, we find a corresponding regulation in the following terms:—

No Master should take an apprentice unless he has sufficient employment for him, and unless he be a perfect youth, having no maim or defect in his body that may render him incapable of learning the art, or of serving his Master's Lord, and of being made a brother, and then a Fellow Craft in due time.

This clearly sustains the construction, that where the deformity does not amount to inability to obtain an honest livelihood, nor render the candidate incapable of receiving the necessary instructions, it does not operate as a bar against his admission to the privileges of the Institution.

The present regulation of the Grand Lodge of England is, "that every candidate must be a free man and his own master, and, at the time of his initiation, be known to be in reputable circumstances. He should be a lover of the liberal arts and sciences, and have made some progress in one or the other of them." Possessing these qualifications, with a good character, and acknowledging the existence of a superintending Providence, nothing more is required of him. But the best rule on the subject that we have met with, and that which most nearly covers the whole ground, is the following from the Constitutions of the Grand Lodge of Maine:—

Sect. 78.—By the ancient regulations, the physical deformity of an individual operates as a bar to his admission into the Fraternity. But as this regulation was adopted for the government of the Craft at a period when they united the character of operative with that of speculative Masons, this Grand Lodge authorises such a construction of the regulation as that, when the deformity of the candidate is not such as to prevent him from being instructed in the arts or mysteries of Freemasonry, and does not amount to an inability honestly to acquire the means of subsistence, the admission will not be an infringement upon the ancient landmarks, but will be perfectly consistent with the spirit of our Institution.

By a strict attention to the requirements of this rule, our lodges will find very little difficulty in determining, physically at least, the eligibility of any candidate who presents himself for admission. It is clear that one who is deaf, or blind, or who has lost his right arm, is incapable of receiving or

imparting instruction in the arts or mysteries of Freemasonry. But it does not follow that because he has lost a finger, or an eye, or an ear, or that his body is not as straight and well-formed as other men's, that he is incapable of doing so, and should therefore be rejected. We have known many good Masons who were cripples. Walter Scott had a club-foot, yet his brethren were proud of his Masonic connection. We have known a Grand Master with an artificial left hand, and many a good and expert brother with an artificial foot; and since these physical defects clearly do not amount to a positive inability to impart or receive instruction, it may well be questioned whether any violence is done to the spirit and intent of the law by the admission of candidates so deformed."

PROBABLE DATE OF THE SECOND CHARTER GRANTED BY THE SCOTTISH CRAFT TO SIR WILLIAM ST. CLAIR.

By D. MURRAY LYON, P.S.W. of Mother Kilwinning Lodge, and one of the Grand Stewards in the Grand Lodge of Scotland.

In a recent examination of the M.S. records of the Ayr Squaremen Incorporation—a Craft Association originally composed of masons, wrights, sievewrights, coopers, slaters, and glaziers—dating from February 16th, 1582, downwards, I came across a minute which throws some additional light upon the probable date of the second charter granted by the Scottish Craftsmen to Sir William St. Clair, of Roslin, appointing him, his heirs and successors, to be their "patrons, protectors, and overseers in all time coming."

Bro. Laurie, in his invaluable "History of Freemasonry and the Grand Lodge of Scotland," shows that while the MS. copy of said charter, preserved in the Advocates' Library, fixes 1630 as the year of its issue, the books of the Lodge of Edinburgh make it "appear to have been executed between 1626 and 1628, these being the years during which William Wallace, who subscribes the charter as Deacon of the Edinburgh Masons, acted in that capacity."

By the fresh evidence that has come into my hands, similar to that drawn from the records of St. Mary's Chapel, the question of date is still farther narrowed.

Among the signatures attached to the deed in question are — "Hew Douok dikon of the

Measounes and Vrichtis off Ayre and George Liddell deacan of quarimen and nov quarter-master." Now, on consulting the minute book of the Ayr Squarimen Incorporation, I find that Hew Douok was the Deacon during the year ending October 13th, 1628, his immediate predecessor in office being George Liddell, and John Massoune his immediate successor.

The fact I have stated would not of itself furnish proof that the charter was executed within the period above indicated, as Hew Douok was Deacon of the Incorporation at various times, Liddell holding the office of "Visitor" under the Deaconship of Douok during the years ending October, 1615, 1616, 1621, and 1624; but when taken in conjunction with the collateral evidence gathered from other sources, the circumstance I have mentioned seems to establish with tolerable certainty that the charter was signed between October 16th, 1627, and October 13th, 1628.

George Liddell's designating himself "Deacan of Squairmen* and now Quarter-Master," may be accounted for in this way:—"At several times prior to 1628, Liddell had been Deacon of the Squarimen, and according to use and wont would ever afterwards enjoy the title as one of courtesy. At the period of which I speak, there was no such office as Quarter-Master of the Incorporation of Squarimen. The records of Mother Kilwinning, however, which, it may be remembered, date only from 1642, furnish evidence of the office of Quarter-Master for the District of Kyle being, up till the end of the seventeenth century, almost invariably held by a Freeman of the Craft in Ayr; and as, on the other hand, the names of many such Quarter-Masters appear in the sederunts of meetings of the Squarimen Incorporation, it may reasonably be concluded that Deacon Liddell was in 1628 a member also of Mother Kilwinning, and one of its Quarter-Masters. Hence, then, the prefix and appendage to Bro. Liddell's name, as borne on the charter under notice.

It may be mentioned that "visitors" of Squarimen were in olden times charged with the performance of duties somewhat akin to those devolving upon the Quarter-Masters of the Lodge of

* "Quarimen" is evidently a mistake on the part of the transcriber; for, although a quarry is known to have been worked in Ayr early in the sixteenth century, quarrymen are not found to have at any period between the years 1582 and 1719 been admitted as Freemen of Craft within the Burgh of Ayr. And it is certain that in Ayr quarrymen have never, at any date subsequent to 1582, existed as a corporate body.

Kilwinning, viz., uplifting dues, reporting "transgressours against the Actis and Statutis of the heid Masoun Court," and otherwise exercising delegated authority in their respective districts.

Hew Douok was a wright, "entert and ressavit" in 1609 a Freeman of the Craft, by Deacon George Liddell, seaffwright, whose reception as "Brother and Fallow of Craft" took place in 1596.

John Massoune was a leading member of Mother Kilwinning, and his signature appears in the records of that lodge, under date December 20th, 1642, as submitting "himself to the Ludg and to the Actis and Stattutis thairof;" he was also present at a Mason Court held at Ayr by the Lodge of Kilwinning, January 8th, 1647, and was one of six commissioners appointed to inquire into a case of insubordination on the part of certain brethren in Mauchline.

From certain *domatick* Masons, members of the Ayr Squarimen Incorporation, sprung the Squarimen Ayr Kilwinning Lodge (now Ayr Kilwinning, No. 124), chartered by Mother Kilwinning in 1765, and confirmed by Grand Lodge in 1771.

MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

VOLTAIRE'S INITIATION.

In looking over my Masonic collections I have unexpectedly come upon a slip of paper which enables me to answer the question of "C. D.," as to Voltaire's initiation. The slip of paper contains the following words:—" . . . Tandis qu' Helvétius fondait la loge célèbre 'les Neuf Sœurs,' qui eut l'honneur de donner l'initiation à Voltaire." On the back of the slip of paper is a memorandum that the words are taken from the *Monde Maçonnique* for October, 1860, No. 6, page 353. Chance threw this number of the *Monde Maçonnique* in my way, and it is no longer in my possession.—CHARLES PURTON COOPER.

THE RELIGION OF SOCRATES AND THE RÉLIGION OF FREEMASONRY AS A UNIVERSAL INSTITUTION.

My answer to the letter signed "A Masonic Inquirer" is as follows:—"The Religion of Socrates was Natural Religion. The Religion of Freemasonry as a Universal Institution is Natural Religion. (See my communication, "Nature's Religion—Freemasonry," page 130 of the present volume. It follows that the Religion of Socrates and the Religion of Freemasonry as a Universal Institution are one and the same.—CHARLES PURTON COOPER.

TRUE FREEMASONRY AND PURE CHRISTIANITY.

Good Brother My words were, "That true Freemasonry is pure Christianity's not unworthy handmaid."—CHARLES PURTON COOPER.

ADVICE.

Brother You avow yourself a Theist.

Your wife is a pious Christian. Your children are all very young. Leave to the mother the religious education of the children. Let their mother teach them, as your mother taught you.—CHARLES PURTON COOPER.

DISCONTINUANCE OF ATTENDANCE AT CHURCH.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—In your report of the meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Dorsetshire, I observe that among other resolutions then agreed to, is one, "for discontinuing the procession to and attendance at church at the annual meetings of Provincial Grand Lodge."

I must say that I read this resolution with considerable regret, for it seems not to be a step in the right direction, but rather a retrograde movement.

Surely, Freemasons should be forward in evidencing to the world that they honour and adore the Great Architect of the Universe, and that they are not ashamed to confess that belief.

I have had the privilege of attending a meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Dorset, and was very much pleased with the orderly and imposing procession to church; and I know, from remarks which I heard from several of the uninitiated, that a very favourable effect was produced thereby on the public. The church was crowded by a most respectable and attentive audience, and the greatest interest was evinced in the proceedings by the inhabitants of the town in which the Grand Lodge assembled.

However, it will be said, "the Dorset Grand Lodge is the best judge of the matter." Be it so. I cannot, however, help feeling disheartened, and I believe that many will share in the feeling, when I find men, and especially Freemasons, turning their backs upon Him from whom all our blessings in this world flow, and through whose grace and mercy alone, we hope to inherit the joys of that which is to come.

Yours faithfully and fraternally,

"ONE WHO THOROUGHLY BELIEVES IN THE
VOLUME OF THE SACRED LAW."

FREEMASONRY AND VIRTUE.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—If there be aught in virtue beyond the name, the subject to which I am about to request your attention is extremely momentous. I have said in *virtue*, because, as our Institution embraces all modes of faith; and as I consider that, of the numerous branches of religion, virtue is the radix. I have assumed that, as the most comprehensive word whereby we can express all that is good in the whole system of nature or providence, if between these terms there be any distinction. My ideas will, perhaps, bear the stamp of singularity; yet I am content if, whether singularly, just or erroneous, they be worthy of discussion. In Masonry, as in religion, it must be granted (and I do not see why the concession should disgrace the pure principles of the one, any more than it diminishes our veneration of the other), the professors do not give to the perfection of the system all the support that were to be wished; and if it be possible for tongue or pen to

persuade the brethren to reflect on the importance of the subject, I shall feel bold enough to invite the aid of those who, possessed of superior talents, can effect by their abilities what I am about to propose from zeal. This proposition, then, is to draw together by the pure principles of our Order a select number of brethren from the Fraternity at large, who, properly impressed by the tenets of the profession, shall have courage to carry them into practice, and make them the unerring guide of their conduct through life. The moral and theological virtues, I believe, comprehend the whole view and include the utmost aim of the Institution.

Forearmed against the fear of ridicule, I declare my belief that from the lodges of Freemasons in London and its environs, a very numerous and respectable selection might be made to give effect to so desirable a purpose. To be guided by temperance in our commerce with the world; to have fortitude to resist temptation, and to check improper desires; to let prudence be the ruler of our actions, and to render to every man his due, without distinction—in short, to rule and direct our passions, to have faith and hope in God and charity towards man, I consider as the objects of what is termed speculative Masonry (the operative branch of the system I leave to the discussion of those who, from their peculiar bias of mind, or connection with the arts, have made it more particularly their study). If these, then, really form the ground plan of the fabric, and they were strictly enforced by the practice of the Craft, the Masonic must surely be an inestimable Institution.

But theory without practice, though it may attract admiration, will never gain respect. To be honoured—in short to be useful—a system must have the qualities of stability, of practicability, and of effect. Now, it is, perhaps, the strongest and most invincible objection with those who attempt to argue against Freemasonry; that to an institution so specious, and from which so much excellence might be expected to result, the members do not give by their general conduct the necessary support. Fortunate, indeed, would it be if the ministers of the Gospel, or the advocates of any system, divine or human, could controvert this as a general proposition; but I am sufficiently happy to be able to affirm that instances are very numerous, indeed, wherein Masonry has operated with the happiest influence.

Our society can only acquire its proper rank in the scale of human institutions by a general and faithful obedience of its own precepts. Very much may be expected from the junction of well-disposed individuals who shall be inclined by the constant tenor of their lives to recommend the profession, and to prove that Freemasonry is only another name for *inflexible virtue*. It is matter of real regret when we see men whose principles and whose practice would do honour to our Order, deterred from uniting with us, by the improper and indefensible conduct of a few members of the Fraternity; and till some mode of selection like that above proposed be attempted, reproach, I fear, must continue to occupy the place of respect, and prejudice counteract the efforts of an incomparable scheme of morality.

I am, dear Sir and Brother,

Yours faithfully and fraternally,

JAMES FREDERICK SPURR.

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

* * All communications to be addressed to 19, Salisbury-street, Strand, London, W.C.

MASONIC MEM.

ROYAL ARCH.—*Lancashire West.*—The consecration of the Elias Ashmole Chapter (No. 148), Warrington, is appointed for two o'clock on the 26th inst. We understand it is the intention of the M.E. Prov. G. Supt. to summon an emergency convocation of the Provincial Grand Chapter on this occasion.

GRAND LODGE.

At the quarterly communication on Wednesday, the 5th inst., Bro. Bagshaw (in the absence of the Earl of Zetland) on the throne, and Bro. the Rev. Sir John Hayes, *Bart.*, officiating as Deputy Grand Master, the proceedings consisted simply of reading the minutes of the last quarterly communication, the report of the Board of Benevolence for the months of June, July, and August, and the report of the Board of General Purposes, which were severally put for confirmation, and adopted unanimously.

The report of the Board of General Purposes is as follows:—

1. A complaint was preferred by the Lodge of Benevolence against the Samaritan Lodge (No. 368), Sandbach, for having certified that a brother had been a regular contributing member thirty-six years, whereas it appeared from the Grand Lodge books that dues had been paid for the said brother for twenty-three and a-half years only. The Master and Wardens were summoned to attend the Board with the warrant and books, but the same being sent up, personal attendance was dispensed with. From the written explanation furnished, and from the books, it appeared that the lodge had been in abeyance between the years 1833 and 1843, and that during those periods no monies had been received by the Treasurer, or paid by the lodge. On consideration of all the facts, the Board, finding that although the statement made by the lodge as to the brother's membership was not entirely correct, yet inasmuch as there was nothing to show that any money, the property of Grand Lodge, had been retained, accepted the explanation, and ordered the warrant and books to be returned to the Master.

2. A complaint was preferred against the Eaton Lodge (No. 533), Congleton, for having certified that a brother had been a regular contributing member for four years and six months, whereas it appeared from the Grand Lodge books that dues had been paid for the said brother for one year only. The Master and Wardens were summoned to attend the Board with the warrant and books, but personal attendance was dispensed with on the same being sent up. It appeared from the written explanations furnished, and from the minute book, that the brother in question was initiated in 1846, and his name appeared from time to time as taking part in the business of the lodge, and as holding office down to the year 1850, and he was stated to have left the neighbourhood in the beginning of 1851, after which no mention of his presence in the lodge is recorded. The Treasurer's book was very imperfectly kept, no separate entry being made of the names of brethren paying money, and no signature or attendance book appears to have been kept. There being no evidence to show that the said brother had been a member for a longer period than that stated by the lodge, and dues, on his behalf, for the full period having

been sent up as soon as the lodge was made aware that the same had not been paid at the time, the Board, after consideration of all the circumstances, resolved—"That the lodge be admonished, and be ordered in future to keep a fuller and more regular record of its proceedings in the minute book, and to procure an attendance book for the signature of brethren attending the lodge, and that with reference to the Treasurer's book, it be required that separate entries be made of the sums paid by each member; and that the lodge be also admonished to be more regular in making its returns and payments to Grand Lodge. The Board directed the above admonitions and requirements to be communicated to the Master, and the warrant and books to be returned to him."

3. The Book of Constitutions being out of print, the Board have ordered an immediate reprint thereof, and have embodied in the same, in their proper places, the new laws that have recently been passed by the Grand Lodge, and have also made such verbal alterations and transpositions of paragraphs as appeared necessary to render the sense more clear.

The Acting G. MASTER said he had to make a communication from the Earl of Zetland, viz., that his lordship grants the rank of Past Assistant Grand Secretary to Bro. Wm. Farnfield, with the same precedence which he now has.

This announcement was received with evident manifestations of approbation by every one present in Grand Lodge.

There being no subject before Grand Lodge which could give rise to any discussion, the proceedings terminated very early.

PROVINCIAL.

DEVONSHIRE.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

Dedication of the Huyshe Masonic Temple and Consecration of two lodges.

The Provincial Grand Lodge of Devonshire was holden on Thursday, the 30th ult., at Plymouth. The duties commenced at half-past ten a.m.; the first part of the business being to dedicate the Huyshe Masonic Temple, and to consecrate two new lodges, the Erme, No. 1,091; and the Huyshe, No. 1,099. The Temple is a building in Princess-place, formerly a picture-gallery, but recently purchased for the Order, and converted to the purposes of Freemasonry. The new lodges are the Huyshe, the one recently opened at Stoke, and the Erme, the lodge recently opened at Ivybridge. The attendance was very large, the ante-rooms and retiring rooms being closely crowded. A few visiting members from other provinces also attended, among whom were the very worshipful Bro. Aeneas John McIntyre, the Grand Registrar of England, and standing conspicuously among his brethren, was the portly figure of Colonel Peard, Garibaldi's Englishman, the S.G.W. of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Cornwall; Bros. Lord Elliot, *M.P.*; Capt. Edye; R. J. Laity, ex-Mayor of Devonport; Rev. J. E. Risk, P. Prov. G. Chap., At eleven the Grand Lodge assembled on the floor of the Temple, the representatives and members that attended of the various lodges of the province were summoned and admitted, and the lodge was duly opened. The Grand Registrar, the Provincial Grand Master, the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, and the officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge were marshalled to their respective seats by the Director of Ceremonies. The Grand Registrar appointed his Wardens pro tem. The Provincial Grand Master requested the Grand Registrar to dedicate the Temple. To this the Grand Registrar assented, and with the aid of Bro. the Rev. G. Ross, vicar of Tywardreath, Prov. G. Chap., and other Provincial Grand Officers, proceeded with the ceremony in ancient form. The Temple, although a fine building, unusually large for a Freemason's lodge, was densely crowded, and found insufficient to contain the brethren assembled, between 400 and 500 being present. When the Tylers were directed to tyle the lodge they were obliged to tyle at the entrance of the vestibule of the lodge, in order to accommodate all the brethren, and the screen was raised in order that all the

brethren might witness the ceremonies. At the close of the dedication of the Temple, the Provincial Grand Master re-assumed the rule of the lodge, and proceeded to consecrate the Erme and Huyshe Lodges with great effect in all ancient and solemn form.

After the consecration, Bro. L. P. Metham, Prov. S.G.W., advanced to the right of the Master's chair, and delivered an eloquent oration of Masonry, which will be found on another page.

In the course of the proceedings, a set of very beautiful paraphernalia proper to the office of a Deputy Provincial Grand Master, was exposed to the gaze of the members present. It was a testimonial of fraternal regard from many of the members to their old and esteemed brother, the late Prov. G. Sec., Bro. W. D. Moore, now D. Prov. G.M., as a recognition, in a slight degree, of their appreciation of his very valuable services, and of their personal esteem for one who, by his savviness and courtesy towards all with whom he has come in contact as a Grand Officer for more than thirty years, had endeared himself to the brethren generally. The duty of presenting this testimonial was confided to

Bro. L. P. Metham, the Prov. S.G.W., who passed an elegant and deserved eulogium on the D. Prov. G. Master. In the course of his address he said:—Initiated into Masonry nearly forty years ago, he has ascended by regular gradations to his present eminent rank, assiduously performing the duties of every office, and teaching his younger brethren, both by precept and example, to value every chair in the lodge, however lowly, and to perform every duty, however irksome, as the object of a laudable ambition, and a self-satisfactory stepping stone to promotion in the Provincial Grand Lodge. As an instance of this, I may mention that after he had arrived at the honourable position of Past Master, he volunteered for and acted as Inner Guard, in order to break down the bad system of having a paid officer to perform its somewhat onerous duties. Of the hundreds of brethren who surround me, there are not more than two or three whose initiation is coeval with his own; there are scores who were not even born when our brother took upon himself the onerous, responsible, and delicate duties of Provincial Grand Secretary. The spirit and integrity with which he has performed the duties; the clearness with which he has infused his meaning into the minds of others; the quiet firmness with which he has made discipline acceptable where it was before distasteful; with which he has made the constitutions of the Order cared for where they were before neglected; the zeal with which he has made that practical which was before only speculative, and with which he has made that a vital force which was before but a formal ceremonial or dead letter, are known to all. He told us himself when he laid down his office to assume the more eminent, but not more important position of Deputy Provincial Grand Master, that he looked back in vain through his Masonic career for a single circumstance which had left behind it one drop of the gall of bitterness. Animated, then, by the sentiments which are naturally engendered by witnessing such qualities and zeal, your brethren, dear Bro. Moore, beg your acceptance of this their gift, as a token that they appreciate your lifelong, unbought, and indefatigable services, and that they warmly cherish the memory of their association with you, rejoicing that that association is only altered by circumstances so honourable to yourself. Not severed altogether, they fervently pray that the Great Architect of the Universe will prosper you in all your undertakings, Masonic, civil, and domestic, and that, for our own sakes and for your own, you may be long spared, in bodily health and mental vigour, to enjoy your new and justly deserved honours, and exercise your talents among us, as you have always done, for the best interests of Masonry.

Bro. Moore, D. Prov. G.M., on proceeding to reply to the kind address which had just been delivered to him, was received with a renewed outburst of Masonic cheers. He said it was utterly impossible for him to give expression to the feelings which then overwhelmed him. He could hardly imagine any position more gratifying than that in which he then stood. The presentation of that splendid testimonial was only a repetition of the kindness and good feeling which he had received during the whole of the time that he had been in office. He could not recall any single act of unkindness received during the whole of that time from any single brother. For any man to be able to say that of the thousands of brethren with whom he had been associated, was a proud and most gratifying position. For this he was indebted to the true Masonic feeling which belonged to the brethren of Devonshire. Nor did that observa-

tion apply alone to those of Devon, but also to the Freemasons wherever he had met them. He had now arrived at a time of life when if honours were to be attained at all they must come upon one, and he knew that they would not come except by endeavours to deserve them. He concluded by expressing his determination to carry out the duties of his new office to the best of his ability.

After the business had terminated, the lodge was closed and the brethren formed into procession, and, headed by the band of the 65th Regiment, walked to St. George's Hall, Stonehouse, where the business of the Provincial Grand Lodge was continued. The hall was beautifully fitted up, and looked remarkably pleasing. Here there was ample space in the noble assembly room for the accommodation of all the brethren. The Prov. G.M. was saluted in due form as was also the Grand Registrar of England, and the D. Prov. G.M. The brethren were received with a beautiful air on the fine organ, by Bros. Thynne and Adams. The minutes of former meetings were read and confirmed. Bro. Moore, D. Prov. G. M., then stated that the committee of petitions had had before them the sad case of Mary Toms, the widow of Bro. Capt. Toms, of the *Speedwell*, who was lost with his son, who served as mate, in the Bristol Channel, and had been left with five female children. The committee had voted ten guineas to her, but they would be glad to hear of something being said in her favour that would enable the lodge to vote her a larger sum. It was at once proposed that twenty guineas should be given to Mrs. Toms, and the proposal was unanimously carried. Bro. Rodda, P.M., then proposed that £5 should be given to an old and respected Freemason, a member of one of the Plymouth lodges. This was agreed to, and the Prov. G.M. said that the Grand Registrar was going to use his influence, which would, no doubt, prove successful to get their afflicted friend on the annuity fund of the Grand Lodge of England. The D. Prov. G.M. recommended that the local lodges should give him their votes. It was then agreed that £20 should be voted to the Royal Benevolent Institution, and £20 to the Fortescue Annuity Fund.

The Prov. G. Master then read a very important letter which had been sent by command of the M.W. the Grand Master of England, the Earl of Zetland, to all the Provincial Grand Lodges, enjoining care in the election of men into the body of Freemasons, and urging that especial reference should be had as to the character and position of all candidates, so that no person who was not a worthy and good man and citizen should be admitted into the mysteries of the Order. This letter was thought to be of so much importance that it was determined that it should be printed, and copies sent to all the lodges in the province, for one to be furnished to each member. One of the matters urged was that no person should, except under special and known circumstances, be admitted into a lodge away from the neighbourhood in which he resides. The object of this was to allow of the candidate's character being fully known.

The Provincial Grand Master then proceeded to appoint and invest the officers for the year, which now stand as follows:—

The Rev. John Huyshe, M.A. 112	Prov. G.M.
W. Denis Moore, 112	D. Prov. G.M.
L. P. Metham, 189	Prov. S.G.W.
Major Deacon, 112	J.G.W.
Rev. John Russell, 251	} Grand Captains.
Rev. Morris Fallor, 666	
Isaac Watts, 156	G. Treas.
C. Spence Bate, F.R.S., F.A.S. 139	G. Reg.
W. S. Rogers, 112	G. Sec.
H. Watrond, 303	S.G.D.
W. F. Finemore, 70	J.G.D.
F. P. Holmes, 70	G. Supt. of Works,
Sydney Force, 444	G. Dir. of Cers.
Conelius Jennings, 202	G. Assist. Dir. of Cers
Lieutenant Shanks, 189	G.S.B.
A Adams, 280	G. Org.
Richard Lose, 159	G. Purst.
W. H. Geaschias, 39	} G. Stewards.
George Glanfield, 321	
T. H. Harvey, 156	
Henry Miller, 223	
John R. H. Spry, 954	
W. H. Maddock, 189	} Grand Tyler.
J. Gregory, 39	
John Rogers, 202	

The labours of the Grand Lodge having been duly closed, the

brethren adjourned to the Royal Hotel, Plymouth, at four o'clock. The dinner, supplied by Bro. S. Pearce, was a cold one. The Prov. G. Master presided, and was supported by the Grand Registrar; Bros. Moore, D. Prov. G.M.; Colonel Peard (Garibaldi's Englishman), Signor Brizzi, Walrond, and other officers wearing the purple. Bro. Metham, Prov. S.G.W., occupied the chair.

After the cloth was withdrawn, the Prov. G. Master gave the usual loyal toasts, "The Queen," "The Prince and Princess of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family." The room was then close tyled for the Masonic toasts. We have, however, drawn so largely on our space that we can only briefly indicate the remainder of the business. The Prov. G. Master, in proposing "The Earl of Zetland and the Earl de Grey and Ripon, the Grand Master and Deputy Grand Master of England," highly eulogised them for the manner in which they had carried out the duties which devolved on them in the high position that they filled. He also eulogised the Grand Registrar of England, and adverted to his having had under his care the Province of Devon, during the whole of the time that it was without a Grand Master, and yet of his being so satisfied with the manner in which the duties were carried out that he never once came down to interfere, and his first visit to the province was paid when he came to instal him as the Grand Master of the province. On that occasion he travelled all night down and all night up—a distance of 400 miles—when he had very heavy engagements, in order to assist in his (the Master's) installation. Now he had come down at his request, to be present at the dedication of that beautiful temple, and the way in which he had performed the duties must have won the heart of everybody present.

The Grand Registrar replied in an eloquent speech for the Grand Officers of England. He said that the Earl of Zetland had shown that he was perfectly satisfied with the manner in which the affairs of the province of Devon had been carried out by never interfering, and he thought he himself had acted properly in not coming down when the province was being so wisely ruled by the firm and gentle hand of Bro. Huyshe. Any interference by a stranger might have been prejudicial to their interests. But when the time came for Bro. Huyshe to be placed in his proper position, it afforded him the greatest pleasure to come down and instal him into his right office. He had now come down as his guest, at his own house, and had been brought down for the purpose of seeing what Masonry in Devon really was. The Grand Registrar dwelt with satisfaction on his visit to the West, and concluded by proposing "The Health of the Provincial Grand Master," which was greeted enthusiastically with Masonic honours.

The Prov. G. Master returned thanks, and then proposed "The Health of his *alter ego*, Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Denis Moore."

Air—"Auld Lang Syne."

The D. Prov. G. Master acknowledged the compliment, and spoke of his past services in the cause of Freemasonry. On the death of the late excellent Dr. Carwithen, the D. Prov. G.M., a writer reflected upon him in terms which no man could endure for a moment. As Secretary he felt it his duty to vindicate the character so aspersed, and the calumniator was silenced.

The Prov. G. Master then proposed in very warm terms "The Health of the Senior Grand Warden, and the other Provincial Grand Officers," to which Bro. Metham responded in a characteristic speech. Bro. Watts also returned thanks for the honour of having been elected G. Treasurer.

The D. Prov. G. Master next proposed "The Health of the Grand Master of Cornwall, Bro. Augustus Smith, and the Officers of the Province." The toast was duly responded to by Bro. Colonel Peard, who having been adverted to as Garibaldi's Englishman, also spoke of his friend Garibaldi as being a Freemason and Grand Orient of Italy. The name of the Liberator of Italy was received with an outburst of cheering, such as greeted the noble Italian's ears when he was among us on his visit to England.

A few other toasts brought a most pleasant day's business to a most happy conclusion.

SURREY.

CHERTSEY.—*St. George's Lodge* (No. 370).—At the August meeting of this lodge held at the Masonic hall, Chertsey, on Saturday, the 25th ult., a handsome testimonial was presented by the members of the lodge to the V.W. Bro. George Harcourt, D. Prov. G.M. for Surrey, and a P.M. of *St. George's Lodge*, in

recognition of his long continued and unwearied labours in the cause of Freemasonry, both in the lodge and in the province, and as a mark of respect and gratitude towards him as one of the oldest and most zealous members of the lodge.

The testimonial consisted of a silver-gilt claret jug with a rich frosted border, on which was engraved the emblem of a P.M., and underneath, the following inscription:—

"Presented to Bro. George Harcourt, D. Prov. G.M. for Surrey, and P.M. of *St. George's Lodge*, Chertsey, No. 370, by the members, past and present, in testimony of their high esteem for his character, and in appreciation of his untiring energy and zeal, which during a period of twenty-eight years, have so greatly promoted the welfare of the lodge."

The presentation took place at the banquet, when, after the second toast, to the M.W. Grand Master, was given and drunk with all the honours, the W.M. rose and said:

Brethren,—I am now about to make a slight deviation from the usual order of proceeding, but I think you will agree with me, that the occasion fully justifies me in doing so, and in proposing to you a special toast, which I am sure the brethren of *St. George's Lodge* will drink, I will not say with pleasure, but with enthusiasm, and in which I am equally sure our visitors will join us with cordial sympathy. But in order to introduce the toast, it is necessary that I should first address a few words to a worthy and very worshipful brother on my right. The W.M. then addressed Bro. Harcourt as follows:—

Bro. Harcourt,—The brethren of *St. George's Lodge* are anxious to mark their deep sense of the many and important services rendered by you to Freemasonry, and at the same time to give expression to the feelings of esteem and affectionate regard which they entertain for yourself personally. Upon me, as the Master of the lodge, devolves the pleasing duty of making this communication to you; and although I am painfully conscious that any words of mine would but very imperfectly indicate the depth and extent of the estimation in which you are held by us, yet I cannot but consider myself most fortunate in being placed in the east on this auspicious occasion; and I therefore, in the name of the lodge, request you to add one more to the many obligations which we owe you already, by accepting from us this testimonial of our respect for your character as a man, and your exalted talents as a Mason. It is the first offering, not only of the present members of the lodge, but also of those brethren, who, although they have ceased to be members, have not ceased to retain a lively and grateful recollection of your disinterested devotion to the welfare and prosperity of *St. George's Lodge*, as well as of your untiring zeal and energy in the cause of Freemasonry generally, and who, together with ourselves, have eagerly embraced this opportunity of investing their feelings with form and substance.

I ought to mention, that it has been our desire to confine this demonstration to the members, past and present, of the lodge, but there are one or two members of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Surrey, whose request to be allowed to participate with us, we could not, under the circumstances, refuse.

We and they, Bro. Harcourt, one and all, unite in the hope that this memorial of our esteem and gratitude, besides serving that, its main purpose, may prove useful to you in other ways; and we fervently pray that you may long be spared to enjoy health and happiness amongst us; to adorn, by your presence, the various degrees of Freemasonry, and to witness the good results of your long-established labours in its cause; and to instruct by your bright example, to enlighten by your wise counsels, and to enliven by your cheerful and open-hearted nature, us, the members of *St. George's Lodge*, of which you are, and have long been, so distinguished an ornament.

And now, brethren, you will have anticipated the toast which I am about to give you, namely, "Long life, health, and happiness, to our Very Worshipful Bro. Harcourt."

The toast was then drunk with Masonic honours, and acknowledged by Bro. Harcourt, in very feeling terms, as follows:—

W. Master.—In the charge to the initiates this evening, so admirably given by you, secrecy, fidelity, and obedience were forcibly illustrated, and you, brethren, have given proof that those virtues are acknowledged and practised by you for, until now, I had no idea you intended to astonish and gratify me by this splendid testimonial offering. It is said out of the fulness of the heart the tongue speaketh, but I feel my grateful heart to be so overwhelmed with your kindness that my tongue will fail in adequate language to express my grateful thanks for this proof of your fraternal regard. It has been during a long professional life my good fortune to receive

many presents, but those have been given because I have had it in my power to relieve pain, to sympathise in affliction, and to render various kinds of attention, but with you I have not been able to render any of those blessings, on the contrary I fear that occasionally I may rather have given pain by a hasty word or manner, if I have I sincerely regret it. You, W.M., have been pleased to say I have rendered benefits to this lodge; if I have, you know full well how to acknowledge benefits by the return of benefits. This, then, my dear brethren, will be most prized; and in time to come when, perhaps, we may be separated, will recall with honest pride, not only our pleasant meetings, but that I was considered a worthy brother amongst you, and that we loved one another.

Amongst the members present on this interesting occasion, were: Bros. W. F. Harrison, W.M.; G. Harcourt, E. Phillips, Blenkin, W. G. Smith, Dr. Willett, W. Smith, Bird, Sir P. Colquhoun, Spencer, Playford, and Gilbard, P.M.'s; Chaldecott, J.W.; Francis, Sec.; Boss, I.G., &c. Bro. Case, P.M., Grand Master's Lodge, &c., visitors.

YORKSHIRE (NORTH AND EAST).

SCARBORO'.—*Old Globe Lodge* (No. 200).—The last meeting of this lodge was held on the 15th ult., when the chair of K.S. was occupied by Bro. Knight, W.M., supported by his officers, Bros. Armitage, S.W.; Crosby, J.W.; Pennock, S.D.; Middleton, J.D.; Rooke and Stewart, P.M.'s; Martin, P.M. and Hon. Sec.; Harrison, Org.; Ash and Saunders, Tylers; Smailes, Browning, Livingston, Gurnett, Mervin, R. H. Peacock, Chapman, Milner, J. D. C. Jackson, Woodcock, Ruddock, Fletcher, Glaves, Gibson, Gibb, Iuskip, Almond, Sefton, and Pritchard. The lodge was opened at half-past six p.m. The minutes were read and confirmed. Bro. L. G. Sefton of No. 314 was balloted for and elected a joining member. Mr. J. Kirby, builder Scarboro' was balloted for and elected a candidate for initiation. Bros. Smailes, Browning, Livingston, and Thompson, passed a satisfactory examination in the 1st degree, and retired, and were readmitted and passed to the 2nd degree. Mr. Mosey, of Scarboro', and Mr. Kaliski, of Leeds, were proposed for initiation. All business being finished, the lodge was closed with solemn prayer at nine o'clock p.m.

ROYAL ARCH.

METROPOLITAN.

UNION WATERLOO CHAPTER (No. 13).—The last regular convocation of this chapter was held on the 22nd ult., at the Freemason's Hall, Woolwich. Comps. Thompson, M.E.Z.; Grayden, H.; and Cook, J., presided. One brother was exalted in a manner which reflected great credit upon the efficiency of the officers. The chapter was honoured with a visit from Comp. F. Walters, M.E.Z., Nos. 73 and 169. The chapter being closed, the companions retired to Comp. De Grey's Freemasons' Tavern, Woolwich, and partook of a dinner prepared and served in an excellent manner.

CANONBURY CHAPTER (No. 657).—The last regular convocation of this hard working chapter was held on the 23rd ult., at the George Hotel, Aldermanbury, under the presidency of the indefatigable Comp. W. Watson. There was little business to be transacted. One brother was exalted. The companions afterwards retired to an excellent banquet admirably served by Comp. Todd.

DEVONSHIRE.

MORICE TOWN, DEVONPORT.—*St. Aubyn Chapter* (No. 954).—This Royal Arch Chapter was convened on the evening of Friday, the 24th ult., when a ballot was taken for two M.M.'s, which proving unanimous, they, with the two candidates elected at a previous meeting, were exalted to this supreme degree. The duties of the Ex. 1st Principal's chair was most ably filled by Ex. Comp. I. Watts, in the absence of Ex. Comp. Chapple. The chairs of H. and J. being respectively occupied by Comps. Elphinstone and Spry. A copy of the new by-laws of the chapter was handed to each companion present. The labours of the evening having been completed, the companions withdrew to the adjoining room for slight refreshment. Comp. Watts, P.Z., presided, and gave the usual Masonic toasts, which were duly honoured.

MARK MASONRY.

METROPOLITAN.

SOUTHWARK LODGE OF MARK MASTERS (No. 11 S.C.)—After the long vacation, or rather recess, the opening meeting of this flourishing and prosperous lodge was held at the Green Man Tavern, Tooley-street. In the unavoidable absence of the W.M., Bro. A. P. Leonard (caused by his professional duties), Bro. Frederick Walters, P.W.M. and Sec., took the chair. He was supported by the following brethren, viz., Bros. H. Massey, as S.W.; R. Ord, as J.W.; A. D. Loewenstark, P.W.M., Treas.; G. Morris, M.O.; M. A. Loewenstark, S.O.; A. Oberdoerffer, as J.O.; J. Read, as Condr.; J. J. Hayho, as S.D.; G. Schuck, as J.D.; Read, as J.K.; and W. Y. Laing, Tyler. Amongst a large number of visitors were Bros. W. Watson, P.M., P.Z.; C. Swan and C. A. Cottebrune, P.M.'s; A. Oberdoerffer, M.O. 86; J. J. Hayho, J.O. 86; and others whose names we were unable to ascertain. The minutes of the adjourned meeting held in April were read and unanimously confirmed. Ballots were taken for Bros. E. Prince, 73, and J. W. T. Barrett, 871, which were declared to be unanimous in favour of their admission. Bro. C. A. Cottebrune, P.M. 8, then took the chair. Bros. Allender, Beckham, Prince, Groom, Laundy, and Pitt presented themselves as candidates for advancement, and having proved that they were properly qualified, withdrew. On their readmission they were regularly advanced to the ancient and honourable degree of Mark Master. This being the election night for officers, a ballot was taken for the W.M., which was declared to be unanimous in favour of Bro. F. J. Lilley, D.W.M. A ballot was also taken for Treasurer, and declared to be unanimous in favour of Bro. A. D. Loewenstark, P.W.M., this making the third time that he has been elected to that office. Bro. W. Y. Laing was unanimously elected Tyler. The audit committee was appointed, and agreed to meet on Wednesday, the 26th inst., at seven p.m., at the lodge house. It was agreed by almost universal voting (there being only one dissent) to return the warrant to Scotland, and get a new warrant from the Grand Lodge of Mark Masters of England. The lodge was then closed until Monday, October 1st, at half-past six p.m. punctually. There were several candidates proposed for the next meeting.

DEVONSHIRE.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

On Monday, the 27th ult., the Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Masters for Devon, was held at the Huyshe Masonic Temple, Princess-place, Plymouth, at half-past six p.m.. The brethren met in the small lodge room, which proved quite inadequate to contain the members with any degree of comfort, but as the temple was engaged for the Provincial Grand Chapter at eight p.m., the best was made of the circumstances by Bro. Richard Rodda, P.M., Prov. G. Sec., who was indefatigable in his exertions, and contributed much to the success of the meeting. The Provincial Grand Lodge was opened about the time stated by Bro. the Rev. John Huyshe, M.A., P.G.M., who called upon Bro. Finemore, P.M., to act as Prov. S.G.W., and Bro. J. R. H. Spry, W.M., No. 64, to act as Prov. J.G.W., in the unavoidable absence of the proper officials.

The minutes were read by Bro. R. Rodda, Prov. G. Sec., and carried unanimously. There was a capital muster of the brethren, amongst whom we noticed Bros. Vincent Bird, Grand Master Overseer; Bro. Dr. R. Dowse, D.P.G.M., for Devon, J. C. Radford, Past Prov. G.M.O.; R. H. Rae, W.M. 35; Thomas Heath, P. Assist. G. Sec.; William James Hughan, P.M., 78, and 94, Junior Grand Overseer, and Adjutant Shanks, R.M.L.I., Prov. G.S.B.; Merrifield, P.M., &c.; W. H. Maddock, S.W., No. 35, and numerous others.

It was surely a matter for surprise that the officers of a Provincial Grand Lodge numbering some twelve lodges, and hundreds of members, had neither Provincial collars nor jewels on; and certainly the fact was as wanting in dignity and respect to the province and Grand Lodge, as it was paying a poor compliment to the Mark Degree, when numerous lodges had procured their own jewels and collars even by raising subscriptions when the lodge funds would not permit of paying for them.

The various Mark Lodges in the province were generally well represented, and much interest was exhibited throughout the proceedings. The Prov. G. Master appointed the following brethren as his officers for the year ensuing, and we hope as

prosperous a term of office is before them and their Prov. G. Master, as the latter deserves for the admirable manner in which he manages the province:—

Bro. Dr. R. Dowse	D. Prov. G.M.
„ C. Spence Bate	Prov. S.G.W.
„ Joseph Matthews	J.G.W.
„ W. F. Fenemore	G.M.O.
„ George Hilson	G.S.O.
„ W. H. Maddock	G.J.O.
„ Rev. J. E. Risk, <i>M.A.</i>	G. Chaplain.
„ John Head	G. Treasurer.
„ S. K. Gudridge	G. Registrar.
„ Richard Rodda	G. Secretary.
„ Thomas Heath	Assist G. Secretary.
„ Martin Williams	S.G.D.
„ Charles Warren	J.G.D.
„ John R. H. Spry	G. Dir. of Cers.
„ Jonah Austin	G. Assist. Dir. of Cers.
„ Adjutant Shanks	G. Sword Bearer.
„ T. S. Bailey	G. Supt. of Works.
„ Charles Carey	G. Purst.
„ James Auten	„ Stewards.
„ John Brown	
„ Matthew Paul	
„ John Gregory	„ Tyler.

Bro. J. R. H. Spry, publisher of the Devon and Cornwall Masonic Calendar, was thanked most warmly by the Prov. G.M. for the service he had been to the Craft, and not only passed a high eulogium on his Masonic qualities, but also informed him that honour and preferment were before him in the province of Devon. Bro. Richard Rodda was also highly complimented for his valuable services as Provincial Grand Secretary, and the reward he thus received was but the legitimate wages of an able Mark Master for his meritorious labours. The business having been concluded, the lodge was closed in due form. Having a little time to spare we inspected the Huyshe Masonic Temple, of which a description appeared in the FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE during the month of July, and expected to find it something extraordinary to warrant the extravagant remarks that have been made about it. We were told that St. Aubyn Lodge at Morice Town, Devonport, was unique in its way, but now it was superseded by this newly finished temple. The latter is certainly a fine hall, and is just the same size as the St. Aubyn, but without such a spacious ante-room as the latter, and certainly inferior in its furniture and other important Masonic accompaniments. The chandeliers have a most artistic effect, and light the hall admirably. Unfortunately the building was not designed for Masonic purposes, and hence the W.M., although professedly in the east, has to occupy his chair in the dark north, and the other officers are similarly situated as the S.W. in the south, and the J.W. in the west. Now the St. Aubyn Lodge at Devonport has no such faults from the fact that the whole building was made with due regard to the wants of the Craft and high degrees, and neither time nor expense were spared by its promoters—who are known through England and Scotland to be in the foremost ranks of Masonic historians, enthusiasts, and ritualists—to make it in every sense worthy of our ancient and honourable Institution. However, Bro. Richard Rodda and the Decorative Committee of the Masonic Huyshe Temple deserves much credit for the great trouble and pains they have taken, and through their exertions, the last two lodges meeting in hotels in the three towns, have retired from such questionable associations, and joined the St. John's Lodge at the Temple in Princess-street.

CHANNEL ISLANDS.

Bro. Dr. Hopkins, P.M. 43 and 958, &c., having announced to the Césarée and St. Aubin's Lodges that he was about to remove to Guernsey, from considerations of health, after a residence of eight years in Jersey, and having given parting addresses to the members of both, which have been published in the columns of the FREEMASON'S MAGAZINE, and copied into a Jersey local paper, the principal Masonic friends of Bro. Dr. Hopkins invited him to an evening reception and supper at the Temple, on Monday, July 30th, in order to testify their attachment and to take a final leave of him before his departure. We regret that we are unable to give a detailed account of the pro-

ceedings. Bro. E. C. Malet de Carteret, P.M., presided on the occasion. In the course of the evening a document was presented by Bro. Schmitt, P.M., on behalf of the Césarée Lodge, of which the following is a copy:—

A . . L . . G . . D . . G . . A . . D . . L'U . .

Sous les auspices de la G . . L . . Réunion d'Angleterre, O . . de Londres.

L . . La Césarée, No. 590.
O . . de Jersey.

Nous, les officiers dignitaires de la Res . . Loge La Césarée, No. 590, certifions et constatons, que c'est avec un profond regret que nous voyons notre Ven . . F . . Dr. H. Hopkins quitter et la loge et la province de Jersey, à cause du climat, qui ne convient nullement à sa santé et d'autres circonstances aussi sérieuses blessant les sentiments d'homme et de Maçon.

Ce divorce forcée, indépendamment de notre volonté, laissera des traces profondes de chagrin dans notre cœur à la suite des liens intimes d'estime et d'affection qui se sont établis entre nous, et qui ont existé pendant plusieurs années.

Nous constatons aussi, que les membres de notre Atelier ressentent douloureusement cette séparation d'avec un frère distingué, zélé, éminemment utile à propager et disséminer les principes de notre Ordre, par l'étendue de ses connaissances littéraires et philosophiques; et nous déclarons enfin que la vide qu'il laisse parmi nous ne sera pas de si tôt comblé.

Arons nous besoin d'affirmer, que cet estimable frère nous quitte de la manière la plus honorable, donnant, toujours l'exemple de régularité en toute chose, sans en excepter celui de ses contributions.

Delivré à St. Helier, le 26 Juillet, de l'an de la V . . L . . 5866, E . . V . . 1866.

HENRY LUCE MANUEL, V.

JOHN OATLEY, 1^{er} S.

L.S.

ALR. VIEL, 2^d S.

CLEMENT LE SUEUR, Ven. d'Hon.

A. Schmitt, ex-Ven . . P.Z. 244 and 290, Sec . . &c.

Another document, printed on parchment and handsomely framed, from the St. Aubin's Lodge, was exhibited and formally presented by the presiding brother. As, however, the signatures of the officers had not been appended, it was left in the hands of the W.M. for the purpose of completion. This having been at last effected, Bro. Long, W.M. 958, and Bros. C. Le Sueur and Schmitt, P.M.'s of 590, went to Guernsey, on Monday, August 27th, as a deputation for the purpose of presenting it, and were received by Bro. Dr. Hopkins at his new residence. The document runs thus:—

At the
Third annual meeting
of

St. Aubin's Lodge of Freemasons,
No. 958,
held at

The Masonic Rooms, St. Aubin's, Jersey,
May 15th, 1866,

on the proposition of

Bro. E. C. Malet de Carteret, P.M.,

Seconded by

Bro. R. G. F. Smith, *M.D.*, P.M., &c.,

It was resolved unanimously,

That the members of St. Aubin's Lodge, No. 958, beg respectfully, on the occasion of W. Bro. Dr. H. Hopkins, P.M., &c., leaving the island, to tender their grateful, heartfelt, and sincere acknowledgments for the zeal and activity he has displayed in the working of our ceremonies, for the interest manifested on all occasions by him for the welfare and progress of the Order, and for his answering fidelity in assisting and wisely directing the course the Infant Lodge had to pursue, of which he is the founder. The desire he has always evinced to foster the honourable and ancient institution of Freemasonry, causes them to regret exceedingly his departure from these shores, and they beg to assure the W. Brother that his name will ever be remembered by them with affection, that he carries with him their best wishes that his future career may be marked by success, honour, and distinction, and that health and happiness may be his lot and that of his lady.

WILLIAM HENRY LONG, W.M.

JOHN OATLEY, S.W.

MATTHEW SURGUY, J.W.

Extracted from the *Jersey Express and Channel Islands Advertiser*, of August 2nd, 1866.

We have to announce to our readers the approaching departure from Jersey, chiefly on considerations of health, of a gentleman who has resided among us upwards of eight years, and who, as an occasional correspondent in each of our local papers, is no doubt well known to most of our readers. We refer to Dr. Hopkins, who, whatever may be thought of the opinions he has at various times expressed, has had an honourable career in this island. On two points especially, the Jersey public are indebted to that gentleman. Previous to his arrival here, there was a delivery of letters out of St. Helier only on three days in each week. By his representations to the London authorities, arrangements were made for a daily delivery in the more populous portions of Jersey, and also for an extension of the hour at which certain district offices are closed, from six to nine, p.m. We have mainly to thank him, too, for the reduction in the price of gas from 6s. 8d. to 5s. per 1,000ft., since, though the threat of a new company was the immediate cause, the ground had been prepared by a series of newspaper articles founded on statistics, Dr. Hopkins took the trouble to obtain from many towns in England and Scotland, extending over more than a year, by which he clearly proved that a reduction of price, combined with certain economical arrangements in the management, would be advantageous both to the shareholders and the public. By a large portion of the Masonic body he is respected, and we understand that an especial evening meeting has been held in his honour. He has taken leave of the two lodges, La Césarée and St. Aubin's, in which he is best known and appreciated, by delivering two formal addresses, given in extenso in the FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE. They contain so much matter for thought, that though referring to a body which is somewhat exclusive in its character, yet we think they may be perused with advantage by all. Under such an impression, we publish the addresses in our columns.

CANADA.

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

HAMILTON.

Grand Conclave of Masonic Knights Templar.

The Provincial Grand Conclave of the Royal, Exalted, Military, and Religious Order of Masonic Knights Templar, and Knights of St. John of Jerusalem, Palestine, Rhodes, and Malta, was held on the 15th ult. The attendance was good, and fully equal to that of last year. The V.E. Sir. Knt. Col. W. J. B. McLeod Moore, Prov. G. Commander (by patent from the Supreme Grand Conclave of England and Wales) presided with his usual dignity, and conducted the business most satisfactorily. After a very interesting session, the V.E.G. Commander was pleased to instal the elective and appointed officers for the current year as follows:—

- E. Sir Kt. T. D. Harington, Ottawa D.G. Com.
- " Thos. B. Harris, Hamilton G. Prior.
- " W. B. Simpson, Kingston G. Sub-Prior.
- " Rev. J. A. Preston, M.A. G. Prelate.
- " T. McCracken, London 1st G. Capt.
- " S. S. Finden, Ottawa 2nd G. Capt.
- " C. D. Macdonnell, Peterboro' ... G. Chancellor.
- " J. Moffatt, London Vice G. Chancellor.
- " J. Seymour, St. Catharines..... G. Registrar.
- " L. H. Henderson, Belleville ... G. Treasurer.
- " J. W. Murton, Hamilton..... G. Chambertain.
- " W. M. Jamieson, Sarnia G. Hospitaller.
- " D. Curtis, Brantford G. Expert.
- " J. J. Curran, Toronto 1st G. Std. Bearer.
- " E. Goodman, St. Catharines ... 2nd G. Std. Bearer.
- " W. Reid, Bothwell G. Almoner.
- " H. Poetter, Ottawa 1st G.A.D.C.
- " B. E. Charlton, Hamilton..... 2nd G.A.D.C.
- " I. H. Stearns, Montreal G. Dir. of Cers.
- " W. H. Day, Trenton G. Capt. of L.
- " H. Robertson, Collingwood 1st G. Herald.
- " W. Doctor, Belleville..... 2nd G. Herald.
- " A. G. Smyth, London G. Sword Bearer.
- Comp. R. Graham, Kingston G. Equerry.

Before the proceedings terminated, the officers of a new encampment for St. Catharines were installed. The next assembly will be held at Ottawa.

REVIEWS.

The Force of Facts; or, the Pentateuch and the Prophets Examined. By a Layman. Author of "Searchings of Scripture, and its Teachings." London: James Nisbett and Co., 21, Berners-street. 1866.

THE writer of this useful little work is well known to us as an active and zealous lay member of the Church of England, and a man forward in every work of benevolence and charity.

He is a firm believer in the volume of the Sacred Law; and a former work on the same Holy Book, "Searchings of Scripture and its Teachings," was received on its appearance some years since, with considerable favour.

In his own words, "the design" of the treatise now under review is to "set forth how the divine inspiration of the whole canon of Holy Scripture is asserted, or assumed, or apparent in each and every one of the sacred prophets of the Old Testament, under a great variety of manner and form and manifestation, but all testifying that the spirit of the Lord was with His servants in what they wrote in His name."

We are bound to state that the object thus proposed has been well wrought out.

As Freemasons we thank the author of "The Force of Facts," for having added another buttress to the inspiration of a book which is the "great light in Masonry."

We should be glad to see many gentlemen of independent means and influence, and with love for God and man in their hearts, thus coming forward in defence of the Scriptures of truth, which, according to our beloved Queen—and surely every impartial inquirer must agree with her—have been the source of England's greatness, but which a few hapless sceptics are striving to impugn, to their own destruction and that of those who are so weak as to be led away by their specious arguments, which have been over and over again refuted.

The Servants' Magazine. S. W. Partridge, 9, Paternoster Row.

WE have the September number of this little serial before us. It is admirably adapted for the class for which it is written.

Servants are either a bane or a blessing to our households. That they are so frequently the former may, perhaps, be attributed to the neglect with which they are too often treated by the heads of the households, as regards moral and religious influences.

We feel quite sure that *The Servants' Magazine* will be found a very useful auxiliary in servant improvement and reformation. We would strongly recommend our brethren to take it in for their domestics. It is plain, simple, and sound, and costs but one penny per month.

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

OLYMPIC.

Mr. Hastings has been very fortunate in having secured what we consider to be the leading attraction of his company, in the person of the coloured American tragedian, Bro. Morgan Smith, P.M. of the Athenæum Lodge, Pennsylvania, U.S. We witnessed the other evening with considerable interest the admirable and accomplished acting of our coloured brother, we greet him well, and must congratulate him upon the thoroughly appreciative manner in which his performance in the tragedy of "Othello" is received by a crowded and criticising house, many of whom had previously witnessed the performance

of our coloured brother's predecessor, Ira Aldridge. Bro. Morgan Smith evidently possesses all the points necessary to ensure for him the celebrity and position obtained by his predecessor. There is an attractiveness in Bro. Morgan Smith's acting which causes us to believe that the wishes of the most sanguine of his well-wishers will be fully realized.

PRINCESSES.

"The Huguenot Captain" still continues commanding here, the lively interest of a crowded and *élite* audience.

DRURY LANE.

Mr. Chatterton has issued his arrangements for the ensuing season, commencing Saturday, September 22nd, with Shakespere's "King John," followed by the "Comedy of Errors." Mr. Phelps is announced to take the part of the king in the tragedy.

HAYMARKET.

Miss Amy Sedgwick has remained dormant since our last in "An Unequal Match," and, doubtless, our country cousins are looking forward to the appearance of this accomplished actress in our provincial theatres. The benefit of Mr. W. H. Sleigh, the acting manager, took place on the 6th inst., and that of Mr. John Nelson is announced for next Wednesday, the 12th inst. On this occasion Miss Amy Sedgwick will take the part of *Pauline* in "The Lady of Lyons."

NOTES ON LITERATURE, SCIENCE, MUSIC, DRAMA, AND THE FINE ARTS.

A GOSSIP ABOUT OLD SADLER'S WELLS.

Referring to the notice which appeared in our last upon the subject of the 100th anniversary of the opening of this theatre, the following particulars, under the head of "A Gossip about Sadler's Wells," which we take from our contemporary, *The Era*, will be read with interest:—

"Whilst most theatres have, from time to time, been burned down and rebuilt, and others have been so remodelled that little more than the site of the original structure remains, Old Sadler's Wells may fairly claim a continued existence of one hundred years, during which it has only undergone those needful repairs which have been required for the security of the property. From a history, such as no other edifice of the kind possesses, we may venture at this season to collect a few facts which will enable the peruser to measure the distance of the objects which present themselves from this standpoint in the survey of the past.

"As in other spots about this part of London, the discovery of a mineral spring early attracted the seekers after health and amusement to the fields of Clerkenwell, and long before the time of Henry the Eighth there was a building here to afford diversion to the water drinkers. At the period of the Reformation this spring was stopped up by the authority of the State, in order, as was alleged, to check the impositions of the priests of the Priory of St. John of Jerusalem, who extorted money from the people by making them believe that the virtues of the water

proceeded from the efficacy of their prayers. The well being closed, the place declined, the amusements ceased, and the virtue of the waters grew out of remembrance. In the year 1683 one of the labourers employed by Mr. Sadler, a surveyor of the highways, discovered, as he was digging in the garden of his master, who had just built what he called 'A Musick House,' the celebrated well. Sadler was not long in turning the discovery to profitable account. Physicians of repute gave him their testimony to the value of the water, which had a strong, ferruginous taste, resembling the mineral waters of Tonbridge, but not so strong a chalybeate. Hundreds of persons daily came to drink them, who were recommended to eat carraways whilst taking the waters, or to drink a glass or two of Rhenish or white wine, and smoke a pipe of tobacco, and for these visitors it was obvious some amusement might be advantageously provided. Accordingly, Sadler laid out his garden, and planted it with flowers and shrubs, constructed a marble basin in the centre to receive the waters of the principal spring, and built a long room on the lawn, with a platform, or stage, at the end. He further engaged posturers, tumblers, and rope-dancers, whose performances were generally in the open air, and without any expense to the visitors, unless they volunteered their sixpence a-piece towards any favourite exhibition. At this date we find a Mr. Pearson was 'engaged to play on the dulcimer every evening at the end of the long walk,' and a band was stationed on a shell-work rock to supply music for those who liked to dance, so that we may fancy our forefathers had found their medicinal water-drinking all the pleasanter for enjoying with it the diversions of a miniature Cremorne. These amusements, which were at first but a secondary, soon became the principal, inducement for the public to visit 'Sadler's Music House,' and thus encouraged he built a temporary theatre, which continued to prosper. In 1702 a new proprietor took possession of the house and grounds, and identified them with his own name as 'Miles's Music House.' The place now had an organ loft and gallery, decorated in front with mythological pictures, and if 'Ned Ward,' of 'The London Spy,' may be trusted, was not always filled with the most reputable company. The great attraction at this time would seem to have been the man who performed the disgusting feat of eating a fowl alive. In the reign of George the First the old name of the place was restored, and the property fell into the hands of Francis Forcer, a musician and composer, who appears to have given a creditable vocal and instrumental concert, and who was the first to introduce rope dancing as a prominent feature of the amusements. In the *Weekly Journal* of the 15th of March, 1718, we read the following:—"Sadler's Wells being lately opened there is likely to be a great resort of strolling damsels, half-pay officers, peripatetic tradesmen, tars, butchers, and others musically inclined." A Mr. Garbott, who wrote a curious poem with very indifferent rhymes on the subject of 'the New River,' thus records the style of entertainment which then prevailed:—

'Now to the show-room let's awhile repair,
To see the active feats performed there;
How the bold Dutchman on the rope doth bound
With greater air than others on the ground.

What capers does he cut! then backward leaps,
 With Merry Andrew eyeing all his steps.
 His comic humours with delight you see,
 Pleasing unto the best of company.
 The famous tumbler lately is come o'er,
 Who was the wonder of the other shore:
 France, Spain, and Holland, and High Germany,
 Sweden, and Denmark, and famed Italy,
 His active feats did with amazement see,
 Which done by man they thought could never be.
 Among the rest he falleth from on high
 Head foremost from the upper gallery,
 And in his fall performs a somerset
 (The women shriek in dread he'll break his neck),
 And gently on his feet comes to the ground,
 To the amazement of beholders round.
 Black Scaramouch and Harlequin of fame,
 The ladder dance, with forty I could name,
 Full of diverting and of later date,
 You may see there at a much cheaper rate
 Than at the House; as well performed too;
 You only pay for liquors, not the show,
 Such as neat brandy, southern cider fine,
 And grape's true juice as e'er was pressed for wine."

The payment for the beverages consumed, and not for the entertainment provided, was obviously to evade the law, and it is of some significance that young Forcer, who now managed the concern, was a barrister; and in 1735 he is known to have petitioned Parliament for a licence. When Forcer died, at an advanced age, in 1743, a person named Warren was his successor; and the following year Sadler's Wells was declared by a presentation from the Middlesex Grand Jury to be a place injurious to public morals. The next proprietor was Mr. Rosoman, a builder, whose name still survives in the adjacent Rosoman-street, and in 1753 Sadler's Wells was opened by him with a regular licence granted by the county magistrates, under the provisions of that very Act, the 25th of George II., which, then but newly passed, is now again the subject of so much attention. He soon after pulled down the old wooden building and raised what we may consider the present theatre, which, in August, 1766, was declared completed. The admission was two shillings and sixpence to the boxes, one shilling to the pit, and sixpence to the gallery. An additional sixpence entitled the visitor to the boxes to have a pint of wine. From Rosoman the theatre descended to Mr. Arnold, who gave a share of the property to his son, and had also for a partner Thomas King, the comedian of Drury-lane, celebrated for his performances of *Sir Peter Teazle*, of which part he was the original representative. Under this management, which dates from 1772, the admission was raised to three shillings the boxes, one shilling and sixpence the pit, and one shilling the gallery, an extra sixpence still entitling the visitor to enjoy a pint of port, mountain, Lisbon, or punch, whilst a shilling was required for an extra pint. In 1778 the prospects of the speculation looked so encouraging that the interior was reconstructed and embellished at some considerable expense, and the entertainments then began to assume a recognised dramatic character.

"It is curious to observe that though the performance at the time when King was manager were limited only to the summer months, the principal difficulty was to provide for the security of the worthy citizens who had to get back to their habitations in a less lonely part of the town after their visits to a theatre which was on the extreme point of

the northern outskirts of the metropolis. A familiar announcement at the bottom of the old bills and advertisements was this, 'A horse patrol will be sent in the New-road that night, for the protection of the nobility and gentry who go from the squares, and that end of town. The road, also, towards the city will be properly guarded.' In a playbill of June, 1783, we read, 'Patrols of horse and foot are stationed from Sadler's Wells Gate along the New-road to Tottenham-court turnpike; likewise from the City-road to Moorfields; also to St. John's-street, and across the Spa-fields to Rosoman-row, from the hours of eight to eleven.'

"In 1778, when the theatre had been refashioned by Thomas King as to its stage, the character of the performances, as we have said, were greatly advanced, and when Arnold, who had been one of the partners, purchased his interest, as well as that of another named Sargeant, and brought Richard Wroughton, the Drury-lane comedian, into the concern, a vigorous effort was made to stop other minor theatres from following their example. At Astley's and at the Royal Circus, pieces of a dramatic class had been tried experimentally, and the proprietors of Sadler's Wells caused a Bill to be brought into the House of Lords for leave to continue without opposition. Astley, Hughes, of the Circus, and Palmer, of the Royalty, drew up a statement of their case in reply, and when Lord Thurlow, referring to the demand of the Sadler's Wells proprietary, said, 'Is it because they are the oldest offenders that they claim this? No! all or none.' The bill was ordered to lie on the table, and the various managers were left to be as content as they could with the restrictions imposed by the old magisterial licences.

"As a specimen of the performances which took place under this management, we may furnish the following reprint of an old 'board bill' of the theatre, and which, in respect to size and topography, might not be disadvantageously compared with those of the present day:—

'SADLER'S WELLS.

MONDAY, APRIL the 17th, 1797.

The Entertainments will consist of a Musical Farce, written and composed by Mr. Dibden, now first performed, called

FIRST COME FIRST SERVED.

The Characters by Mr. Dighton, Mr. Lewis, and Dr. Davis (his first appearance on the stage); Mrs. Rossy and Miss Sims (being her first appearance on any stage).

An entirely new Comic Ballet, taken from a Swiss anecdote in 'Count Holberg's Travels,' lately published, called

BRITAIN'S DEFENDERS;

OR,

A FIG FOR INVASION.

Founded on the recent Landing of a Body of French Criminals in Wales, with a Characteristic View of

BRITISH UNION IN THE HOUR OF DANGER.

The Favourite and Elegant Exercises of

THE TIGHT ROPE.

By Mr. Richer, relieved and contracted by the Comic Exertions of Mr. Dubois.

In the course of the Evening will be presented by a Company of Mute Performers (their first appearance on the Boards of Sadler's Wells),

SELECT MECHANICAL FEATS OF AGILITY IN MINIATURE.

The Amusements to conclude with an entirely new Harlequinade, called

THE MOUNTAIN OF MISERIES;

OR,

HARLEQUIN TORMENTOR.

The subject taken from a Tale in 'The Spectator,' for which see the Books to be had at the Theatre.

To conclude with a Display of the
TEMPLE OF HARMONY.

With a Personification of 'Patience on a Monument smiling at Grief.'

Boxes, 4s.; Pit, 2s.; Gallery, 1s. No Money to be returned. The Doors to be opened at Half-past Five o'clock, and begin at Half-past Six. Servants to keep places till Half-past Seven.

"After King retired, Wroughton, Siddons, husband of the famous actress, Hughes, and Coates purchased shares of the property, and in their hands, with varying success, it continued for some years, during many of which the average profits were five thousand pounds a year, and one year above seven. In 1806 all the old partners except Hughes sold out, and the firm was then Hughes, Thomas and Charles Dibden, Reeve, Andrews, Burford, and G. Arnold. Thomas and Charles Dibden had half of the property, the rest was proportionately divided. In 1809 the yearly expenditure of the proprietors was estimated at seven thousand pounds, and their annual income was calculated at twelve thousand. The nightly charges of the house to a performer who took a benefit was fifty-seven pounds. The theatre opened on Easter Monday, continued open six nights in the week during the summer season, and the prices of admission were:—Boxes, four shillings; pit, two shillings; and gallery, one shilling. No half-price was taken. The performance began at half-past six. The Pantomime was usually played first, to enable Grimaldi to appear as clown the same night at Covent-garden.

A very attractive feature, for a summer theatre, was introduced in 1805, and for many years after continued to give the place a special peculiarity. Pieces with elaborate aquatic effects were produced, for which a reservoir, or tank, was contrived under the stage. This tank was of an irregular shape, about ninety feet long, and in some places twenty-four feet wide, the depth being something under five feet, but sufficient for men to swim in. The stage was drawn up by machinery, and there were pipes and engines at the side for the hydraulic supply. At the top of the theatre was another tank fifteen feet square and five feet deep, for the purpose of producing waterfalls. For many years these entertainments preserved their popularity. A play-bill, of the date of Easter Monday, April 12th, 1819, when the season began, announces Grimaldi as clown in the Pantomime of 'The Talking Bird,' with a new song called 'Hot Codlins,' composed by Mr. Whittaker. In the following year, on Easter Monday, April 3rd, 1820, the theatre was opened under the management of Mr. Howard Payne, with a strong company, but with unprofitable results.

"From 1822 to 1824 the theatre was rented by Mr. Egerton, of Covent-garden Theatre, and under his management it flourished considerably. He did not, however, perform here, but Mrs. Egerton by her fine impersonations of heroic characters—notably in Fitzball's 'Joan of Arc'—secured the success of the speculation. Mr. Williams, son of the proprietor of the famous 'Boiled Beef House,' in the Old Bailey, next took the theatre, having the Surrey at the same time, and he worked both theatres with one company, having carriages specially built for the purpose of conveying the performers backwards and forwards. This economical notion turned out a complete failure.

"In 1825 the theatre passed into the hands of the London Wine Company, who appointed Tom Dibden as stage manager and stock author. They revived the old custom, which had been discontinued since 1807, of

selling wine on the premises, and thus the wine superseded the water effects. The charge for wine was 3s. 6d. per bottle from the wood, and the saloon, or wine room, was an important part of the building. It was at Whitsuntide, 1825, that half-price was for the first time taken, and the season was now to run the twelve months through, instead of being limited to six. Let us briefly record that the first season ended with a loss of £1,400. The next year pony races were tried in the area attached to the theatre, and the management, which now included Grimaldi, cleared a sum between Easter and Whitsuntide alone equal to their losses of the preceding year. Grimaldi's benefit and last appearance here was Monday, March 17th, 1828. Through a rapid succession of managers the theatre next passed. In the summer of 1832 it was opened under Mrs. Fitzwilliam's direction, and the 'Pet of the Petticoats' proved the hit of the season. In 1833, 1834, and 1835 the late George Almar was manager. In 1836 Almar failed, and was succeeded by Osbaldiston, who had then Covent-garden, and who had here Mr. Nelson Lec for his manager. In March, 1837, Messrs. Rogers and Taylor became lessees, then in February, 1838, Osbaldiston returned, but he speedily surrendered the property, and Mr. Robert Honner and Mr. Greenwood became managers, with infinitely better results. The last great event in the history of the theatre must, however, be dated from Monday, May 27th, 1844, when the season commenced with 'Macbeth,' and Mrs. Warner, Mr. Phelps, and Mr. Greenwood commenced that famous legitimate campaign which was gallantly fought out through eighteen years. On the retirement of Mr. Greenwood, Mr. Phelps became sole lessee, opening the theatre Saturday, September 8th, 1860, with 'As You Like It.' Mr. Phelps was succeeded by Mr. Robert Edgar, the theatre thus opening under the direction of Miss Marriott, in September, 1863, and from that time Mr. Edgar has remained the responsible lessee.

"As a refresher for the memory of those who remember more readily dates which are associated with rhymes, we may appropriately end our 'Gossip' with a song written some years ago by Mr. Greenwood, and which supplies us, as far as it goes, with a convenient summary:—

THE HISTORY OF SADLER'S WELLS.

OR, A CHAPTER OF MANAGERS.

Tune—"Collins's Chapter of Kings."

You ask for a song, and my Muse now tells
A short but true history of Sadler's Wells;
What kings bore the sceptre, what monarchs held sway,
Since the days when old Sadler himself led the way.
Then barring all pother, both one and the other
Shall learn now who governed in turn.

Certain monks we are told for their vile misdeeds
Came from Clerkenwell thither to count their beads;
But in process of time flaunting beaux and belles
Came to take their hot rolls and souchong at the Wells.
And barring all pother, both one and the other
Come to the tea-gardens in turn.

Next Rosoman rose, and extended its fame,
Rope-dancers from France and from Italy came;
Burletta succeeded, and well I opine
Pleased the cits in the pit as they tossed off their wine.
And barring all pother, the one and the other
A bumper tossed off in his turn.

Tom King next appeared, and mildly all own,
Swayed the sceptre with wisdom and graced long
the throne;

By all parties beloved, by his foes e'en admired,
The veteran midst plaudits and honours retired.
And barring all pother, not one or the other
Has managed so well in his turn.

Dick Wroughton came next, and without saying grace,
Of actors imported a four-footed race;
Who brought their own wardrobe, their music, and togs,
An active young troop of gay French dancing dogs.

And barring all pother, yet somehow or other
They certainly drew in their turn.

Stone-eaters and jugglers of famous renown,
With La Belle Espagnole, next drew the town;
Then the deuce was to pay—war and mutiny raged,
For the Great Little Devil himself was engaged.
And barring all pother, my friend Paulo's brother
And Lucifer drew in their turn.

With highness for seasons none dared to cope,
Such wonders he nightly performed on the rope:
Till Richer appeared, like a comet so bright,
When the Great Little Devil sought refuge in flight.
And barring all pother, not one or the other
Has danced half so well in his turn.

Say who was the next in the Manager's shoes?
Ah, can I forget my old friend Richard Hughes?
Who governed so well that for years he held sway,
Till time gave the cue, and Death bore him away.
And barring all pother, not one or the other
Has managed much better in turn.

Attraction was needed the town to engage,
So Dick emptied the river that year on the stage;
The house overflowed, and became quite the *ton*,
And the Wells for some seasons went swimmingly on.
Yes, barring all pother, it somehow or other
For seasons went swimmingly on.

The merry Charles Dibdin then ruled the roast,
Who the family genius and talent could boast;
Of frolic and fun Nature furnished a stock,
And truly a chip he was of the old block.
And barring all pother, not one or the other
Has written much better in turn.

Charles in council adopted his ancestor's plan,
Allowing a pint of old port to each man:
But not like their ancestors, morals were shrunk,
Modern dandies each night in the boxes got drunk.
And barring all pother, each manager, brother,
With the audience got drunk in their turn.

Grimaldi, indignant, determined to reign,
But soon yielded the sceptre to young Howard Payne;
Yet, somehow or other, his reign was cut short,
For management was not at all Yankee's forte.
And barring all pother, yet somehow or other,
Payne managed one season in turn.

Next Egerton rose, and dispelling the mist,
Determined fresh troops of the line to enlist,
Who appeared one and all when he opened his plan,
And swore they would triumph or fall to a man.
And barring all pother, he, somehow or other,
Had a lease for three seasons in turn.

Grimaldi a second time took his degrees,
To whom little Williams had yielded the keys;
With voice, heart, and band each man joined in the cause,
And Joey enjoyed all his well-earned applause.
And barring all pother, Joe, Momus's brother,
Now governed the tank in his turn.

THE WEEK.

THE COURT.—The Queen drove out on the morning of the 20th ult., accompanied by Princess Louise. In the afternoon her Majesty, accompanied by Princess Louise and Princess Beatrice, and attended by Lady Churchill, went to her Majesty's Shell, in Glen Gelder. The Queen, accompanied by Princess Louise, drove out in a pony carriage on the morning of the 29th ult. In the afternoon her Majesty and Princess Louise rode on ponies in the neighbourhood of the Castle. The Queen, accompanied by Princess Beatrice, drove out on the morning of the 30th ult. In the afternoon her Majesty, accompanied by Princess Louise and Prince Leopold, drove to the Lynn of Muich. The Queen, accompanied by Princess Louise, went out in the grounds

on the morning of the 31st ult. In the afternoon her Majesty, accompanied by Princess Louise, and attended by Lady Churchill, drove through Castleton to meet their Royal Highnesses Prince and Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, who travelled to Perth by the mail train and then posted over the Spital of Glenshee. On their Royal Highnesses' arrival at Balmoral they were received by the tenantry and servants of her Majesty, who had erected a floral arch close to the bridge, where they presented an address congratulating their Royal Highnesses on their first visit to the Highlands, and giving them a most cordial welcome; after which the carriage proceeded at a foot pace to the Castle, preceded by the Royal pipers, and accompanied by the tenantry and servants.——The Queen, with Princess Louise, attended by Lady Churchill, went out on the morning of the 1st instant. In the afternoon her Majesty, accompanied by Prince and Princess Christian, and Princess Beatrice, drove to Alt-na-Guithasach. The Queen, Prince and Princess Christian, Princess Louise, and the Duke of Edinburgh, attended by the Ladies and Gentlemen in Waiting, attended Divine service in the parish church of Crathie, on the morning of the 2nd inst. Dr. Tulloch, Principal of St. Andrew's and Chaplain to her Majesty, officiated. The Queen went out driving on the morning of the 3rd instant, with Princess Christian and Princess Louise. In the afternoon the Queen and Princess Louise, attended by Lady Churchill, rode on ponies in the Balloch Birie.

GENERAL HOME NEWS.—The weekly return of deaths issued by the Registrar General last night up to the 1st inst., shows a very satisfactory decrease in the number of deaths from the prevailing epidemic. The deaths from cholera during each of the last five weeks, have been 1,053, 781, 455, 265, and 198; and from cholera and diarrhoea together, 1,407, 1,045, 649, 394, and 326. Divided into districts the 198 deaths from cholera in last week, were distributed as follow:—West, 6; north, 15; central, 9; east, 122; and south, 46. While in the east districts the cholera has declined rapidly, it is nearly stationary in those of the south, the deaths happening chiefly by the river at Deptford and Woolwich, where (says the Registrar General) it is to be feared the authorities and people are negligent, and where the pumps demand attention. A very interesting supplement on the water supply is appended to the report. It is also added that at Liverpool, after a small decrease on the previous week, there has been a serious increase for the week ending last Saturday. Out of 592 deaths registered, 225 are referred to cholera (79 more than last week) and 78 to diarrhoea.—The cattle plague returns show a slight increase this week as compared with last. The number of attacks reported up to August 25th, were 148 against 127 in the previous week. There were fresh outbreaks in seventeen farms.—A meeting was held on the 30th ult., in Bartholomew-close, to protest against the conduct of the Earl of Hardwicke and other peers in entertaining Mr. Ex-Governor Eyre at Southampton. There were probably 1,500 persons present, and strong speeches were delivered in denunciation of the conduct of Mr. Eyre in Jamaica, and of those who entertained him at Southampton. The meeting pledged itself by resolution to support the Jamaica Committee in bringing Mr. Eyre to justice. On the other hand, the committee which has been formed to get up a defence fund for Mr. Eyre, met on Wednesday. Mr. Thomas Carlyle was in the chair. He of course approved of what Mr. Eyre had done. It was stated that a great number of noblemen and gentlemen were prepared to subscribe to the fund, provided it was not called a Testimonial Fund. It seems, therefore, that these gentry have some qualms of conscience. They are willing to defend Mr. Eyre, but they are not willing to endorse what he has

done.—The meeting of the London, Chatham, and Dover Railway Company, which has been looked forward to with much interest, took place on the 31st ult. in St. James's Hall. The proceedings were of a stormy character, and some extraordinary revelations were made. The conduct of Sir Morton Peto, in respect to an over issue of debenture stock, was especially called into question. A committee of investigation was appointed, and the meeting was adjourned to the 12th of October, when the committee is to make its report.—In the Sheriffs' Court, on the 1st inst., a case was heard which seems to point to a defect in the law. A man was sued for 11s. for the rent of two rooms. He said the landlord had bought the houses recently, and had at once raised the rent of the two rooms from 5s. 6d. to 7s. 6d. Defendant declined to pay this, and the landlord told him if he would go out he would forgive him two weeks' rent then due. He went out, and now was sued for the 11s. for the two weeks' rent. The promise to forego the rent does not seem to have been denied, but Mr. Commissioner Kerr decided that it was not binding, and that the sum claimed must be paid.—The inquest on the bodies of the four boys who were drowned the other day while bathing at Brighton has been held. It resulted in a verdict of accidentally drowned, and the jury expressed their opinion that Mr. Taylor the schoolmaster, in whose care the boys were, was in no wise to blame.—The Atlantic cable of 1865 has been picked up. On the 2nd inst., at twenty minutes to six o'clock, signals were received through the cable at Valentia, and the information was conveyed that those on board the ships were engaged in splicing the old cable to the portion on board the *Great Eastern*. This is good news in a double sense; for it not only gives the assurance of the speedy opening of a second wire but it fully justifies the calculations of its promoters. Further, it shows that the cables do not deteriorate in the water, and thus the value of the existing cable must be increased in the public mind. There has hitherto been a feeling of fear lest the newborn communication should be snapped. The picking up of the old cable is proof that there is nothing to fear from natural causes.—An extraordinary attempt to murder an aged lady was made near Birmingham on the 1st instant. A woman named Jones went to the house of Mr. Charles Dickinson Sturge at Edgbaston, and asked to see Mrs. Sturge. She was shown into a room, and while there Mrs. Clark, an old lady who was staying with the family, entered the room. Jones, after a few words had been exchanged, rushed upon Mrs. Clark and stabbed her in the throat with a carving-knife. The shrieks of the wounded woman brought help, and the would-be murderess was got away. She is evidently insane. Mrs. Clark is in a precarious condition.—Thomas Grime was hung at Liverpool, on the 1st instant, for the murder of James Barton, near Wigan. Nearly 50,000 persons were present at the execution. Grime seems to have been fully resigned.—The news from the *Great Eastern* up to the 3rd instant was favourable. Notwithstanding that a heavy gale was blowing, she was paying out continuation of the cable of 1865 most successfully.—A meeting was held on the 3rd inst. to consider the propriety of raising a fund to present a testimonial to Mr. Edmond Beales on account of his removal from the office of revising barrister by the Lord Chief Justice. The meeting was held in the lower St. Martin's Hall, and was most numerously attended. A committee was formed to receive subscriptions.—A meeting was also held on Clerkenwell-green to express indignation at the conduct of Mr. Ex-Governor Eyre. Mr. Osborne presided, and at least 2,000 persons were present. Resolutions declaring the opinion of the meeting that Mr. Eyre had been guilty of great cruelty were unanimously passed. Subsequently an

effigy of Mr. Eyre was burnt.—An industrial exhibition possessing some new features has been opened at the Agricultural Hall, by Mr. Hanbury, M.P. for Middlesex. Excepting the great international shows of 1851 and 1862, the exhibitions we have had in the metropolis hitherto have been confined to particular districts. This exhibition represents the cleverness and talent of the working classes of the United Kingdom and Australia. It is in this, therefore, and in other respects quite a novelty in the industrial exhibition line. The promoters and managers of the present exhibition are the same gentlemen who carried the North London Exhibition of 1864 to such a successful issue. In fact, the exhibition now opened owes its existence to the successful and gratifying results of the previous exhibition. There was a very large assemblage of persons present at the opening ceremony, and everything seems to have passed off very satisfactorily.—A man named Sullivan was murdered in Rosemary-lane on the 1st instant. He had been quarrelling with a man named Timothy Murphy, who was heard vowing that he would kill him. Both men lived in the same house, and late in the evening met in the passage of the house. There was a struggle, in the course of which Sullivan was stabbed to the heart, and died almost immediately. Murphy is in custody.—The landlord of some houses in Caledonian-street, Islington, has been summoned by the Vestry of St. Mary's, Islington, for having one of his houses in such an overcrowded state as to be prejudicial to health, and for allowing persons to dwell in underground rooms, contrary to the provisions of the new Sanitary Act. He was ordered to pay costs and penalties amounting to fifty-eight-shillings.—The evidence of Lieutenant-Colonel Dawkins before the Totnes Bribery Commissioners is very curious. He was very anxious to get into Parliament, in order that he might expose what he considered to be the injustice of his own case. Mr. Spofforth, the Tory Manager-General of Elections, introduced him to Totnes. He went there, spent £4,699 16s. 8d., chiefly in bribery, and was not returned. Full of anger, he petitioned against the return of Mr. Pender and Mr. Seymour. Negotiations were opened for the withdrawal of the petition, and Colonel Dawkins's terms were his own election expenses and the institution of an investigation into his case by the House of Commons. The commissioners very naturally inquired who he expected to move the House to such an investigation. Colonel Dawkins promptly replied to the Minister at War. He did not expect the Minister to be a party to the compromise, but he did expect him to move for an investigation. As we all know, the negotiations were broken off, and the petition went for trial.—The *Great Eastern* was successfully laying the Atlantic cable on the 4th inst. The weather was fine, and the sea calm.—The great national Eisteddfod has been opened at Chester, under the presidency of Sir W. W. Wynn, Bart. M.P. The proceedings were of an interesting character. They are to be continued during the week.—The Commercial-road station of the Greenwich railway has been the scene of rather a serious accident. It appears that, in consequence of some mismanagement of the signals, an empty engine was allowed to proceed on the Bricklayers' Arms siding, and it ran into a passenger train proceeding to Greenwich. We are glad to learn that no fatal consequences resulted, and that the traffic of the line was not stopped.—The *Great Eastern* had on the 5th inst. made fair way in completing the old Atlantic cable. She was going on all well, and the continuity and insulation of the cable were perfect.—The adjourned inquest on the bodies of the sufferers by the accident on the *Great Eastern* railway near Ely, was held on

the 5th inst. Several witnesses were examined, including Capt. Tyler, the Government inspector. The jury returned a verdict of accidental death, coupling with it a recommendation that a break van should be attached to the last carriage of every passenger train.—A parish contractor has been brought before Mr. Burcham, the Marylebone Police-court magistrate, charged with having circulated forged bills of exchange, amounting in the aggregate to £15,000. The accused is a George Carnock, represented as being a contractor employing a large number of persons in the parish of St. Pancras. He had been for a number of years the principal contractor for the scavenging work of that parish, and had been until now a man of repute in the district. It appears that the accused has a brother named Thomas Carnock, a farmer residing at North Hyde, Middlesex, and that the prisoner had signed his name to bills of exchange for a large amount, of which not less than £5,000 worth had been dishonoured. One bill, purporting to be accepted by the country brother, amounted to £198 11s., and other forged acceptances, in all estimated at £15,000, were said to have been perpetrated. The accused laid all the blame on his clerk. He was remanded.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.—Austria and Prussia have come to an understanding with respect to the Elbe Duchies. Prussia takes over all the responsibilities which Austria undertook in the Duchies, and promises to pay all the salaries and pensions which Austria paid or bestowed. The ratification of the treaty of peace between the two Powers has taken place at Prague. The text of the treaty is to be published simultaneously at Berlin and Vienna. Both the war and the following peace negotiations have been got through with unprecedented rapidity. It is to be hoped that the peace will be lasting.—Both Houses of the Bavarian Legislature have endorsed the treaty of peace with Prussia. It is not easy to see how they could have done otherwise. A very significant motion has been brought forward in the Lower House. It urges a closer drawing together of Prussia and Bavaria. In all probability the Bavarians generally would not have been sorry if they had been annexed even as Hanover has been annexed. Prussia, however, waits.—The gossips on the Continent have got up a story now of a close alliance pending between France, Italy, and Austria, the object of which is assumed to be the curbing of Prussia. There are grave reasons for doubting whether any such alliance is even meditated. Italy and Austria have not yet come to love one another very warmly, and there is not much probability that Italy would readily turn against Prussia, which has helped her to all she has got in the late war. The rumours are kept up doubtless for alarmist purposes. Meanwhile Count Von Goltz has gone to Berlin for a short holiday, and we are assured that every difficulty in respect to Venetia is removed.—The work of retrenchment has begun in Austria. As might be expected, her finances are in no very satisfactory state. A large portion of the Imperial retinue has been dismissed, considerable reductions are to be made in the salaries of the chief Court functionaries, and the amount fixed for the expenditure of the Court next year has been ordered by the Emperor to be reduced from 7,500,000fl. to 5,000,000fl.—A banquet in honour of the American embassy has been given at St. Petersburg by the Russian Emperor, at which his Majesty drank “to the prosperity and consolidation of the United States.”—The *Moniteur* of the 1st inst. tells us exactly what is to be done with Venetia. Not content with giving the information editorially, it quotes the letter of the Emperor Napoleon to King Victor Emmanuel. The treaty respecting the cession

has been signed, and now the Austrian Commissioners will hand over the provinces to the French Commissioners, who, in turn, will require the authorities of the province to take the opinion of the people by universal suffrage, as to what shall be their future. The Emperor says that by this act he finishes the programme which he sketched years ago, and secures to Italy her freedom from the Alps to the Adriatic. The satisfactory thing is that Austria is out of Venetia.—M. Drouyn de Lhuys has resigned his post as French Minister for Foreign Affairs, and the Marquis de Moustier reigns in his stead. The Emperor does not let M. Drouyn de Lhuys go without bestowing something upon him. Napoleon writes that he deeply regrets that circumstances oblige him to accept the resignation of M. Drouyn de Lhuys; but in order to keep the benefit of his services he makes him a member of the Privy Council. We hear nothing of the cause of his resignation. In 1855, M. Drouyn de Lhuys, who was then Foreign Minister, resigned his portfolio because he was disappointed at the result of the Vienna conferences. Not impossibly dissatisfaction with the result of the recent negotiations and the recent war has caused him to retire again now.—The Empress and the Prince Imperial left Paris on the 1st inst., for Biarritz, and it is believed that the Emperor will follow them.—Count Bismarck made rather a remarkable speech in the Prussian Chamber of Deputies. The Chamber was discussing the Indemnity Bill which was opposed by several members. Count Bismarck endeavoured to show that there was very little real difference between the objects of the majority of the House and those of the Government. The most important questions now were those relating to foreign policy. The Austrian official press and the South German people were, he said, friendly to Prussia; but, on the other hand, there was scarcely a single European Power which had willingly aided in the establishment of the new unity of Germany. Then came a significant passage. The task of Prussia was not yet finished; its accomplishment would require the combined exertions of the entire nation. At first sight it would seem that Count Bismarck is a little sore at the attitude of the European Power in respect to Prussia. What he means, we take it, is that the reorganisation of Germany is purely the act of Germany herself, and that she must not hold back until it is completed.—There is fighting again in the Caucasus. The people have risen, and on the 27th July they drove the Russian garrison from the town of Soukoum Kalé. Reinforcements were brought up, and the town was recaptured. The *Invalides Russe* assures us that the insurgents have sent delegates to the Russian commander stating their readiness to submit. This must be taken with a good deal of allowance.—The Indemnity Bill has passed the Prussian Chamber of Deputies, and the peace between the Government and the Parliament may now be considered complete. Count Von Eulenburg, Minister of the Interior, expressly declared that the measure was not to be regarded simply as an armistice between Government and people. Its adoption would be the preliminary of a real and lasting peace. There is reason to doubt whether everything will be quite as rose-coloured as it now seems. As Count Bismarck said, there is much work yet to be done before the reorganisation of Germany is complete, and in the process there may be many causes of difference between the Government and the Parliament.—There are various rumours of a drawing together of Austria and Italy, but as yet we have no confirmation of them. It has been said that the negotiations for the conclusion of peace between the two Powers were nearly concluded; but a Vienna journal says

they have not even begun yet. There have been some preliminary conversations, but nothing of a formal and official character.—A Paris correspondent writes that the impression in that city is that M. Drouyn de Lhuys has resigned because a more active policy than he could approve is about to be carried into effect with respect to German affairs. His great anxiety is that peace should be preserved, and because he saw reason to fear war he resigned. Another account gives a very different view of the affair. It is said that the Emperor, feeling his own humiliation in respect of the rejected demand for the Rhine provinces, makes M. Drouyn de Lhuys the scapegoat. The Minister wrote the demand, which was rejected, and he is sacrificed because a mistake was made. Whatever may have been the cause of the resignation of M. Drouyn de Lhuys, it assuredly was not that which we have just mentioned. The Emperor would not ostentatiously make a Privy Councillor of the man whom he wished to hold up as having committed a grave blunder.—It is said that Count Bismarck has refused to see a deputation representing the inhabitants of Schleswig, who had gone to the trouble of making a journey to Berlin in order to present a petition for the union of Northern Schleswig with Denmark. This will very naturally be interpreted as meaning that Denmark is to have nothing out of the duchies. But it must be remembered that the treaty of peace between Austria and Prussia expressly stipulates that the people of Northern Schleswig shall, if they will it, be joined to Denmark.—The treaty between Prussia and Hesse-Darmstadt stipulates for the payment of an indemnity to Prussia, and for the cession of certain territory, including Homburg.—The King of Prussia has just put an extinguisher upon Hanover. The other day he received a deputation of Hanoverians, praying him not to annex the kingdom to Prussia, but to be contented with making it part of the North German Confederation. The King replied at considerable length. He was very suave, but very resolute, and gave the deputation clearly to understand that Hanover was gone as a separate kingdom. One of the deputation told him that this resolution would cause much discontent in Hanover, but the King was not to be moved.—It appears that the statement that Count Bismarck had refused to receive a deputation from the Danish people of Schleswig, who proceeded to Berlin in order to present a petition to the King is incorrect. He only told them he was too busy to see them just then. Probably they do not see much difference between the two statements. As a matter of fact, they did not see the Count, who had more weighty matters requiring his attention.—It has been a favourite theory of some political gossips that an alliance between Austria, Italy, and France was on the carpet. They must have been wild dreamers who thought such a thing possible yet. Our correspondent in Florence describes the feeling in Italy as one of intense indignation against France for the manner in which the Emperor is dealing with Venetia. The people are angered greatly, and only wait their time to give proof of their passion. With Prussia, on the other hand, closer relations are being cultivated. Prussia in notifying to Italy the conclusion of peace with Austria, expressed very warm sentiments towards Italy, and promised to do all that was possible to strengthen the cordial relations between the two countries. Italy replied in the same strain to Prussia, and there is little doubt that the two countries will cultivate the alliance.—The negotiations for the treaty of peace between Austria and Italy have commenced, and some of the articles have already been agreed upon. Italy, however, is not waiting for the conclusion of peace to reduce her military establishment. She has ordered the dismissal of 120,000 men. No

one can doubt that this is wise policy. Italy has a prosperous future before her, if she now sets to work in real earnest in the improvement of her finances and the extension of her commercial relations with foreign countries.—A telegram informs us that the French Commissioner is busily engaged in arranging with the Austrian officers for the surrender of Venetia. The Austrians are reported to be evacuating the Quadrilateral, but it is likely to be October before Venice is freed from the presence of the *Tedeschi*.

AMERICA.—The all-absorbing topic at present in America seems to be the proceedings of the National Union Convention at Philadelphia. Some of the items of general news brought by the New York are important. We have the text of the President's proclamation concerning the Emperor Maximilian's decree for the blockade of Matamoros. Mr. Johnson declares the decree to be null and void as far as the United States are concerned, and that any attempt to enforce it will not be allowed. The reported riot at Helena, Arkansas, turns out to be a mere street row. An official report states that the number of persons killed at the late riots at New Orleans was 38, and the wounded 146. The cholera was no longer epidemic at New York or Philadelphia, but it was still severe at several points in the interior. It appears the Fenians in America are still at work. A great Fenian pic-nic was being arranged when the mail left. It was to have been held at some place within a mile of Fort Erie on the American side. Ten thousand persons were expected to be present, including, it was said, the most prominent Fenian "officers." The Canadians are preparing to receive the Fenians in as loyal, imposing, and warm a manner as possible, in case those noisy heroes should be so indiscreet as to venture again on such a Quixotic movement as the invasion of British possessions.—By the Atlantic Telegraph we have the news that President Johnson had visited New York, and had been received with an enthusiastic reception. We have some account of his previous doings in the papers brought by the *Java*. Mr. Johnson had declared Texas restored to the Union, and that peace and civil authority now exist all over the United States. The deputation appointed by the Philadelphia Convention waited upon the President, and presented him with a copy of the resolutions. Mr. Johnson, in receiving them, spoke of the Convention as the most important since 1787, and said its resolutions were a fresh declaration of independence. He further announced his determination to persevere in the policy he has adopted. It is noticed as a significant thing that General Grant stood by the side of the President while he made this speech. The Fenian prosecutions have been abandoned.—The news from Mexico is that the French had retaken Monterey, with a large number of prisoners. Cortinas had captured Reynosa from the Liberals, and had declared for the Imperialists.—If we are to credit the news received this morning, there is every reason to believe that, notwithstanding the bold front assumed by the people of Canada, no bloodshed will, at least for the present, result. It is officially stated that the Turkish and Egyptian commanders are using their best endeavours to bring about an understanding between the contending parties.

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