

LONDON, SATURDAY, JANUARY 19, 1867.

HISTORY OF FREEMASONRY IN
CORNWALL.By ✠ Bro. WILLIAM JAMES HUGHAN, 18°, &c,
(Continued from page 22.)

The Lodge of Love and Honour, No. 95, assembled on the 27th of December, 1783, to keep up the Festival of St. John the Evangelist, according to ancient custom, and, as was usual, to choose their officers for the ensuing year. The office of Secretary up to this date was filled by decision of the lodge, so that the Worshipful Master had but to appoint the two Wardens. The list of officers we find to be as follows:—Bros. Aaron Delisser, R.W. Master; John Tre-sidder, W. Senior Warden; Thomas Hull, W. Junior Warden; John Bellhouse, W. Treasurer; Peter Perry, W. Secretary; James Wrangham, Tyler.

After the above brethren were elected and appointed, the "R.W.M. made a motion that the thanks of this lodge be given to Brother Williams our late Master, for his regular attachment to the lodge (though he was unwilling that such vote of thanks should be made). It passed unanimously. After a most excellent lecture on the third degree of Masonry, the lodge was closed in due form." The lodge still retains its favourable numerical position, notwithstanding its proximity to other lodges, and especially the fact of another being in existence in the same town, viz., the Lodge of Regularity and Reputation.

An emergency meeting was called on the 9th of February, 1784, to initiate Brother Richard Oates. At the conclusion of such ceremony, "the question being proposed by our R.W.M. respecting the bill of expenses incurred this night, which amounted to the sum of £1 18s. 6d., whether Brother Oates was liable to pay it, as it had considerably exceeded his expectation, the motion was warmly debated by several of the members. It was, therefore, agreed it should be determined by ballot, and which was carried by a majority of seven, that Brother Oates should only pay the sum of one guinea towards the bill, and that the remainder of the expenses to be borne by the lodge. Whereupon it was further resolved that in case any lodge of emergency should be in future convened, the whole expenses attending such meeting to be paid by the person then admitted."

To this we must take exception. Surely no candidate for the science of Masonry should be compelled to pay for the gustative propensities of some of its members. Such practices have produced wrong impressions in the minds of many, who would otherwise have joined our ranks, and become ornaments of the Craft. I know that the writer is now treading on tender ground, even as to the system adopted by several lodges in the present day; but will not the thoughtful and intelligent Mason agree with him in stating that the less Freemasonry is brought directly or indirectly in connection with any such custom the better? These remarks will not, of course, apply with the same force to those lodges who receive an extra annual contribution for festivals (or, in other words, the "good of the house") as to those just referred to; but were all lodges to keep the banqueting expenses wholly distinct from the regular Masonic fees and contributions, we conceive the true prosperity and interests of the Craft would be materially advanced.

It is high time that the custom adopted by several small lodges especially, of "enjoying themselves" mostly at the expense of their funds was abolished, as poverty is the consequence, and charity is thereby neglected; for were their whole fees received for initiation and annual contributions retained for the legitimate purposes of Masonry, they would be barely sufficient from being so miserably small in amount, and paid most irregularly even then.

The following rule was agreed on, and ordered to be read on every lodge night, viz., "That no brother do presume to come into the lodge intoxicated, swear, or call for liquor, and if any is wanted he is to address himself to the chair, which, if thought necessary, the Master will give orders accordingly. That every brother do behave himself with decency to each other, with proper respect to the Master and the presiding officers, and in case of default in either of these particulars, the brother or brothers so offending shall forfeit the sum of two shillings and sixpence to the funds of the lodge." This we take to be a consequence of the lodge's connection with the Standard and King's Arms. A private room or hall would be less likely to need such a humbling resolution to be posted on its walls each night.

Again have we to record a most praiseworthy act of benevolence by the lodge. The lodge contributed to the relief fund of the poor inhabitants.

of the town of Falmouth, by giving them 102 bushels of coals, which was raised by subscription "from the members to support the distressed under the inclemency of the severe weather."

The thanks of the lodge were given to the R.W.M. and Bro. Quash for their unremitting attention in disposing of the coals to the proper objects of charity.

One hundred of the by-laws were ordered to be printed, and their execution was entrusted to the Secretary. The Secretary was also "ordered to write the Grand Secretary respecting the omission of our name as subscriber to the Hall fund, for copy of which see letter book." A meeting was held 31st March, when Brothers "Louis Videloup and Jean Carpentier, Frenchmen," attended as visitors. "Col. Rogers, an American officer, having under the name of a brother applied for relief, it was disputed whether this was from his character to be considered as an object worthy of charity, and, being balloted for, a majority of two votes appearing in his favour, it was resolved to appoint a committee to examine him as to whether he really was a brother, which, on being accomplished, he was relieved with a sufficient sum to carry him by water to London."

On the 12th of May an assistant Tyler was appointed by show of hands. The officers for the next half year were Bros. Thomas Williams, R.W. Master; Thomas Hull, W.S. Warden; Peter Perry, W.J. Warden; John Bellhouse, W. Treasurer; John Pearce, W. Secretary.

The R.W.M. requested the members to attend on the 24th of June to celebrate the Festival of St. John. Brother John Tresidder moved "that all brethren (not members of any lodge) residing at or sailing in vessels belonging to or hailing from the Port of Falmouth, who shall in future visit this lodge, shall on every such visit pay as a visiting fee four shillings, and that all other visiting brethren, members of the Lodge of St. John only, shall pay two shillings as a visiting fee, as usual, and that all visiting brethren, members of any particular lodge, shall pay as a visiting fee so much as is usually paid on that account to the lodges to which they may separately belong." Brother George Doubt received the full benefit of the rapid advancement prevalent under certain restrictions at this time on the 9th February, 1785. "Being about to sail for Jamaica, he was immediately balloted for, admitted,

and raised to first, second, and third degrees of Masonry."

If he remembered no more of the imposing ceremonies than some of my friends did lately under similar circumstances in a sister Grand Lodge, I am afraid his impressions subsequently must have partook much of a misty or hazy character, and probably by the time of his arrival at Jamaica, his little acquaintance with Freemasonry had gradually been forgotten and disregarded.

Brother Thomas Williams, Junior, was proposed for initiation into the mysteries of Masonry, and on account of his being under age, an application was to be made to the R.W. Brother the P.G.M. for a dispensation for that purpose.

What "being under age" at this time was we know not, but we expect the same law held good as was the rule in 1756 (Enticks Constitutions), and in 1723 (first Printed Constitutions), viz., "that no lodge shall make any man under the age of twenty-five years (who must be also his own master), unless by a dispensation from the Grand Master." It would be interesting to know when the law was altered to twenty-one years. We believe the minimum age in Scotland is now eighteen. The night following this youthful candidate was formally accepted and admitted to the first and second degrees in Masonry. The R.W.M. stated that he had obtained a dispensation from the P.G.M., together with a letter of thanks from the R.W. Brother for the attention and compliment paid him. About thirty brethren attended on the 27th April, 1785, to transact the business of the lodge. "John Penchant, belonging to a French ship, was initiated with two others, and subsequently passed. Brother Thomas Hull was elected R.W.M., 8th June, and he directed the members to attend in order to celebrate the Festival of St. John the Baptist, when a dinner was ordered accordingly." On July 13th, "Bro. Mahamet Celiby was a visitor from the kingdom of Algiers." The next proceedings of the lodge were most important.

(To be continued.)

ON THE PRINCIPLES OF FREEMASONRY.

By Bro. Sir Archibald Alison, Bart.

Referring to the account in our issue of the 5th inst. of the Masonic Festival at Glasgow, the following is the address delivered upon that occasion by

the Prov. G.M., Bro. Sir Archibald Alison, Bart., who prefaced his address by remarking that often as it had been his privilege and great gratification to preside at meetings of this kind, he could safely say that he never rose at them with so much pleasure as he did on the present occasion—seeing before him an assembly unprecedented he might say in Scotland, in point of numbers, respectability, and influence. He was delighted to see such a large gathering of people to testify their adherence to and approbation of the principles of Freemasonry. They could easily see that some cause must have been at work to produce so great an accession to the ranks of Freemasonry as was proved by the assembly before him, and it was not difficult to tell what that cause was. Sir Archibald then adverted to the proceedings in connection with the recent appointment of a Grand Master for Renfrewshire. He rejoiced in what had taken place, because it showed how highly the offices of Freemasonry were regarded in Scotland, when two gentlemen of high character and position and great fortune competed so ardently for the post in question. The result of this had been great additions to the ranks of Freemasonry, and the present festival showed that the Freemasons of Glasgow, if they conducted their contests like men, concluded them like Freemasons. It was good that their quarrels ended, like those of lovers, in the renewal of amity.

The Prov. G.M. then proceeded as follows:—He was sure it was the desire of all present that the principles of Freemasonry should spread widely throughout society, and he could assure them, from a recollection which he was sorry to say extended over sixty years, that the world has seldom, if ever, in the course of his experience been so divided or the principles of Freemasonry so much set at naught as at present. Since those re-unions began, wonderful changes had taken place, and most of these changes for the worse had arisen from setting the principles of Freemasonry at naught. The expected reign of peace, justice, and equality in the Republic of America had been broken by a contest of unprecedented vehemence and devastation—a contest which in four years had cost the lives of about 400,000 men and the contraction of 600 million of debt. If they looked to the other side they saw in Germany nothing but the indulgence of the selfish passions. They saw Denmark spoliated without

a vestige of protection. They had likewise seen a great Power conclude a dreadful war in seven days. South of the Alps they saw the Pope about to be driven from his capital, which his predecessors had held for a thousand years. Again, on the other side, westward, he was sorry to say, they found that the demon of war had even infected our own shores. They were every day in expectation of an outbreak, and that very day they had received intelligence of the first serious act of hostility. Where would they find a remedy for this state of society, in which the angry and selfish passions had acquired so great a preponderance? He had no hesitation in saying that it could only be found in the spread and increased influence of the principles of Freemasonry. They need not be surprised at greater results arising from less promising causes. Let them recollect that the fate of the world had been changed by a faith which began from still smaller numbers. Eighteen hundred years ago, principles were preached on the shores of Galilee, which then had the most unpromising of all appearances; for they were surrounded by hostility on every side. Where were these principles now, and where were the powers which endeavoured to oppose them? The principles of Freemasonry were the principles of loving their neighbours as themselves—the principles of the Gospel. Having laid Freemasonry on that foundation, he left it there to take its chance in all future ages. There was another circumstance which he thought he should bring under their notice on this occasion, as commemorating an event of unprecedented importance and interest which had occurred within these few months. By the patriotic efforts of English merchants, aided by the skill and talent of English philosophers—among whom he was happy to say their friend and countryman, Sir William Thomson, bore a high place—they saw a cable laid betwixt Great Britain and America. They saw, as it were, two nations separated by 3,000 miles of ocean shaking hands at the bottom of the great sea. They might well be astonished at such an event, and to observe how human ingenuity and perseverance and talent acquired such a marvellous power over the most evanescent and the most ephemeral power of nature. We saw that these powers of nature gave way to the effects of human perseverance. So rapid was the progress of science in these respects, and so wonderful the changes made, that he did not despair, if he lived a few

years longer, of being able at this annual festival to send a message to New York at the commencement of the proceedings and to get an answer in return before they separated. There was one peculiarity of this which was even more extraordinary. It was, that the researches made to discover the lost cable had shown that the bottom of the Atlantic was composed of a white blanket or covering of powder, which stretched over the surface 1,500 miles in length and 1,300 miles in breadth. In this soft bed the Atlantic cable was lying, and the power of the electricity was every day acquiring additional force, so that it was found the lost cable, which had lain in this white bed, had an electric power far greater than that sent in by the hands of the workmen. Here, then, was this provision of a snowy bed for the Atlantic cable by the hands of nature; and by whom was it made? Was it made by the giants who were said to have once inhabited the earth? No. Was it made by the conquerors who had brought to bear on it the powers of empires? No. It was made by little creatures, so small that they were quite invisible to the naked eye, and could be detected only by the power of a microscope, and 10,000 of which could be put into a walnut shell. Was it possible to conceive of anything so extraordinary as that a substance of this description should have been spread over such a surface from time immemorial, and done by living agents like these, and that it was by means of their agency that the great problem of uniting Great Britain and America—he trusted in perpetual bonds—had been accomplished? This was a most extraordinary proof of the Divine prescience; and if any man, after seeing that, and how it had come about, did not believe in the existence and superintendence of a Supreme Power, he would not be converted though one rose from the dead. But there was more more in that than this. This powder lying at the bottom of the ocean was made of limestone, a most fertilising ingredient. Now, observe what has been going on. By the operation of these little impalpable creatures, while the world had been fighting and struggling on the shore, why the creation of a new continent had been going on, not under our eyes, but almost under our feet. The Atlantic was stored with vegetable matter, and also with the remains of fishes, and there was also this white powder made by these little labourers which was of this essentially fertilising

character. Down below in the bowels of the earth there was an enormous mass of perpetual fire. It was not generally known, but it had been ascertained that at the distance of 35 miles below the earth where we stood the heat was so intense that not only would it melt any metal, but hold the very rocks of granite themselves in solution. What was the purpose of nature in covering so large a part of the earth with the waves of the ocean? The object he apprehended was—it was a speculation of interest, but he could not avoid mentioning it—that the Atlantic ocean was the great workshop in which Nature was preparing additional land for the use of man. The time would come when the superabundant heat would expand, when the ocean would be raised up, and a new earth would rise out of the bottom of the Atlantic. Thus, should the old world become choked up with inhabitants and new space be required for the human race, this space would be found provided in this new continent created by the little labourers, and from the animal remains at the bottom of the ocean. Should that time ever come, they might feel assured of one thing—that the new earth for man would be as well adapted to his necessities and to promote his happiness as that which we now inhabit. They might be sure that the earth would be inhabited by a happy, industrious, and prosperous race, and they might be sure that the labour of man would overcome all obstacles. And when that time came the voice of praise, he trusted, would ascend from the temple, the song of birds be heard in the fields, and the principles of Freemasonry overspread the earth as the waters cover the sea. The learned and eloquent baronet concluded with the lines—

“Then shall the flocks on thymy pastures stray,
And shepherds dance at summer’s opening day.
Each wandering Genius of the lonely glen
Shall start to view the glittering haunts of men,
And silence mark on woodland heights around
The village curfew, as it tolls profound.”

SKETCH OF A GENTLEMAN.—Moderation, decorum, and neatness distinguish the gentleman; he is at all times affable, diffident, and studious to please. Intelligent and polite, his behaviour is pleasing and graceful. When he enters the dwelling of an inferior, he endeavours to hide, if possible, the difference between their rank in life; ever willing to assist those around him, he is neither unkind, haughty, nor overbearing. In the mansions of the great the correctness of his mind induces him to bend to etiquette, but not to stoop to adulation; correct principle caution him to avoid the gaming table, inebriety, or any other foible that could occasion him self-reproach. Pleased with the pleasures of reflection, he rejoices to see the gaieties of society, and is fastidious upon no point of little import. Appear only to be a gentleman, and its shadow will bring upon you contempt; be a gentleman, and its honours will remain even after you are dead,

THE NEMESIS: A TALE OF THE DAYS OF TRAJAN.

By BRO. A. ONEAL HAYE, K.M., K. Cal., Corresponding Member of the German Society, Leipzig; Knight Templar, Scot.; Author of "The History of the Knights Templars;" "Vava Queen;" "Gatherings in Wanderings;" "Songs and Ballads;" "Poemata;" "Legends of Edinburgh." &c., &c., &c.; Poet Laureate of the Canonsgate, Kilwinning; P.M. St. Stephens; P.P.Z. of St. Andrews, R.A. Chap.; &c.; &c.

(Continued from page 29.)

CHAPTER XVII.

UPON THE PONTINE MARSHES.

Oh! that the desert were my dwelling place,
With one fair spirit for my minister,
That I might all forget the human race,
And hating no one, love but only her!
Ye elements!—in whose enobling stir
I feel myself exalted—Can ye not
Accord me such a being? Do I err
In deeming such inhabit many a spot?
Though to converse with them can rarely be our lot.—Byron.

Adrian returned gladly to Rome, in spite of Lemo's wish for him to remain longer at Memphis. He could not have told the reason why, had he been asked, he could not account for the feeling himself. There was a something which quickened the pulses of his blood, a fair young face forced itself upon his dreams, and as he gazed upon the deep blue waters of the Mediterranean, a form seemed to beckon to him to come to her. The sighing winds bore the sweet accents of a timid voice, and their murmur dissipated philosophy and linked him once more to the earth. Man, after all, is human, the influences of good and evil spring from his humanity, the human race are his teachers or disciples—and the only escape from earth is through the gates of death, through those close barred gates, which hide the distant world from us.

Did he the proud and learned, the rich and noble born, love the daughter of one whom he suspected was a dishonourable man, did he love her of whom he knew nothing, entangled by a face, overcome by a voice? He dared not think of such a thing, he trembled as the shadow of such an event crossed his soul. But what did she do forth at such a late hour? Hast thou a right O Adrian, philosopher of Rome to ask such a question? Go to, the stars above await thy gaze, and the mysteries of nature woo thy searching eye. Still it is sweet to love, to know one heart is true and constant though all the world should turn against us, and prove false. Perhaps his lonely life, his solitary studies made him long for

sweeter music than the wisdom of Plato, sublimer truths than the treaties of Pythagoras.

The morning after his arrival at Rome, he went in search of Paulus, who had his residence on the dreary Pontine Marshes, away from all society, living and seemingly untouched by the malaria of these deadly swamps. He easily found his residence, and crossing over some stepping stones knocked at the door. A few seconds elapsed before it was opened, and then he was admitted, and warmly welcomed by Paulus. A fire of logs burned on the hearth, the house though poorly furnished was neat and clean, and an air of comfort pervaded the apartment.

"Why Paulus do you not have a bridge placed over that water course instead of these stepping stones?"

"Adrian replied the other with a gentle smile, "in life the stepping stones are for the poor, the rich alone can afford the bridges. But how fared your voyage?"

"Excellently well. Cossus is placed under the charge of Lemo, who will doubtless make him a good and better man than he was likely to have been under the influence of Roman society. I hear that Cassius has offered a reward for his discovery, and that he is firmly of belief that the author Cenna has been murdered."

"Yes, but the murderers of Cenna are as likely to be discovered as the abductors of Cossus."

"Have you any suspicions who they are?"

"Only suspicion. It is currently reported that Cenna had discovered a sect of Bacchanals in Rome. They, in all probability, had learned this and made away with him. The Suburra was searched by the Emperor's orders, but no trace could be found of the sect."

"Could they learn nothing of his doings on the day of his suspected murder? Can they discover no trace?"

"Nothing. It is the most extraordinary crime that has yet taken place in Rome within men's remembrance."

"You call it a crime. Was it one?"

"I hear that he was first poisoned; he had on a festal gown when found on the Tiber's bank; and he seems then to have been thrown into the water, in the hope that the river would carry him down to the sea."

"You know that?"

"I saw the body, and such was my impression."

"It was a fortunate thing," said Adrian, after a pause, "that the extreme penalty of the law was not enforced against Cossus. Had his body been found, we would have been accused of both. You have no idea who killed Cenna?"

"Suspicion I have told you points to the Bacchanals."

"Do you know of any in Rome?"

"That is a question that I dare not answer, Adrian. Lives hang upon such, and I may not tell."

"Do you know the Athenian Murtius, who now lives in Rome? Moscus told me you did."

A faint flush rose on the brow of Paulus at this homethrust, and for a moment he bent his head upon his breast, and muttered a prayer. Raising his head he answered—

"I knew him in Greece, but have not seen him since. My only son was acquainted with the family."

"I crave your pardon, Paulus, if I have opened an old wound rudely. I have heard that you loved your son dearly, and that when he died you surrendered honour and wealth and became what you now are."

"Aye, Adrian, I loved my son, he was a beauteous boy, and good as he was beautiful, but he died, died in his prime, when the flowers of a great life were ripening into fruit."

"Let us change the subject, my friend, believe me I sympathise most deeply with you in that sorrow."

"Nay Adrian, rather let us talk of him for he was good and just, and death brought no terrors to him. Better that he should have died young and pure, than old and wicked."

"Very true, still it is sad to hear of one dying young," said Adrian, a dreamy expression gathering on his face. "There is still in the death of the young a promise of a glorious hereafter, perhaps the immortals speak to them at such an hour."

"There comes upon the flowers before decay a richer velvet, and through their tiny bells a richer ichor flows. The sun grows broader as he hastens to the west, and his wild rays roll wilder over the sky, as Hesperus plumes his airy way along the sky, pilot-like seeking for the trembling moon, a passage through the strand of starry reefs. All true things grow lovely as they die, the younger, still do they seem the lovelier."

"Yet methinks this hastening to decay is very

sad. Is it not sad to see all fair things fade, and watch the lean chops of woe gorged with fat joy. Oh Paulus, is it right that this should be; is it right that all things beautiful should melt like snow upon the hungry deep, or that the smiles of artless maidenhood should vanish, when the passions wake to life."

"'Tis wearisome, I grant you, to see life lie panting on the hilly breasts of sin, but yet it is the fate of our humanity to suffer woe and sorrow here."

"Is it not thrice accursed when the stormy strife of fortune crashes on to the goal, and hurls our fragile bark upon a low born shore, where shipwreck has its home by a blood dyed rock, where demons lurk to drag our souls to Hades. From these there is no escape. Far out at sea, low hidden beneath the screech of waters they have their habitations. We near them, and with a bounding rush our ruin is complete, no more of us remains but a low wild laugh, or a wayless echo wailing at a half moaned note."

"There is still something sadder, Adrian, to be a ruin, and yet not know it for the parasitic ivy of worldly glory and self complacency. To know that your life is spiritually-speaking beggared, is to know the worst, and is the first step to riches; but he who fancies himself rich in a false love, has as much chance of fortune as an honest jewel trader with worthless pebbles instead of diamonds emeralds, and rubies."

"But what is true love?"

"The true knowledge of oneself, and of the cause which sent you into this world to live, to suffer, and at last to die. Happiness founded on earthly things is a chimera, a baseless vision, the soul alone gives true joy. Could the secrets of each heart be read, could that strange book be opened to us, and we had an eye to read it equal to that of the Great Spirit, who reads the truth upon the seething wave of life, how would we stare to find those patterns of happiness and peaceful bliss, sad, full of bitterness, and anxious for death. Then would we see the soundest base, rotting at the core, the tallest, fairest column a hollow cheat, through which the mire of crime flowed up to capital and arch. Then instead of diamonds we would see worthless stones, instead of gold brass."

"Nothing but falsehood everywhere, Paulus, I have long known that, but where is truth. What a solemn mockery is earth, a mass of earthen ice.

girding a fire, which may at any moment burst and hurl us to destruction. Deceit in life, deceit in death, naught else. A lie within the sacred joys of home, a lie upon the altar, a lie upon the earth, within the sea, perhaps in yonder stars. What is existence, but a lie to death, hope a gay cheat, joy a pickpocket. Have we not sighed in the midst of roaring glee, battled with pain with smiles upon the lip, struggled with despair, and showed a dauntless front to the world. Rushing forth from halls of revelry to gloom and silence, spurning the rose buds to embower ourselves among the nightshade's deadly leaves, tossed like a feather on each gust of wind, gloom closing forward, closing fast behind our trembling wretched raft. Sin in the rowers' banks pulling false strokes, and death at the helm steering full on—what?"

Adrian paused for a few minutes while Paulus watched him with intense sadness. The old man saw the struggle of the soul, the tossing up of the mind in the search for truth, and he thought how glorious it would be to open to him those mysteries, which put death at defiance, and set a beacon up to light the lands beyond the grave. He at length spoke—

On to the grave, it is the goal of all, the noble, mean, the rich, the poor, the haughty conqueror, and the slave. There, fixed by the Great Spirit is the post, round which we turn and leave the earth behind, which when we reach we gaze back and see all time, which when we reach we know at once all love, which when we reach we find at last relief.

"Does then the dull grave that blights the poets' wreath, and snatches from the victors' hand the crown give to earth's children ought but nothingness. Shall we not turn to dust, incorporate with dust that thought and dreamed such dreams as ours. The flowers that bloom and dress so fair the grave, die, but in dying leave behind the germs, from which still rarer gems will blush in spring. So man departs but leaves behind a race, that has his all and adds more to that store. In turn they die, bequeathing all their wealth of knowledge to the upgrowing race they leave behind them. This do we know, but when the portals close that shut our life out and turn our flesh to dust, no knowledge of the past has plainly told that we shall have an after life, or that the mind is immortal, or that it incorporates with the minds of those, whose dust mingles with its body."

"The wise men of the past tell that the soul is everlasting, and knows not death, but they have not told what will become of the soul when freed from the body. Vague have been their dreams. The bright globes which deck the brow of night have been called storehouses of the soul, where journeying on from star to star, they gather from each a portion of its attribute, until they reached perfection, and then can know no further change. Dreams all. The play is ever the same, the argument ever the same. They tell you that the actors only change, not life, and that our knowledge only leads us to know nothing. Adrian this is false reasoning. Too long have we bowed at the shrines of false gods, the day is coming when the true Deity will appear."

"Who is then the true Deity?"

"You are not ready for the tidings yet, my son, examine well your heart, lay aside the Sophisms of the school, examine nature, and then come to me when these studies are exhausted."

"You then know sure land, a terra firma beyond the quagmires of our superstition?"

"Because I know it, therefore am I as I am, no longer the noble and wealthy Corinthian, the possessor of an ancient name and great riches. I have abandoned all for this cause, and my labours have not been in vain."

"Our order, is it in its mysteries?"

"Our order is a means towards an end. Use its doctrines, study the earth, cleanse yourself from all the pride of knowledge, and I shall lead you from the creature nature, up to its creator."

"You promise me this?"

"I do, be patient, you know not how soon the knowledge may be communicated to you."

(To be continued.)

MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

THE LIBRARY.

I find among my papers the following memorandum:—At the Grand Lodge held May 2nd, 1814, the Duke of Sussex, M. W. G. M., said: "As an object of literary and antiquarian research, the science was highly curious to the scholar and the divine. For this purpose it was his wish, among other things, that a library should be formed for Masonic investigations, and it would be found that this would be by no means a trifling or an easy acquisition; for such a library could not contain any of the trash foisted on the vulgar as Masonic history, but must embrace a very numerous collection of rare and valuable books in Hebrew, Celtic, Greek, Latin, and Oriental languages." This was received by the numerous body assembled with the warmest applause.

This was the first meeting of Grand Lodge after the union, and more than 200 Masters of lodges were on this occasion introduced to the G.M. Some contributions to the library were made from time to time, but the place assigned being in almost total darkness at mid-day, it became useless.—J. HOW.

THE FREEMASONRY WHICH EXCLUDES NO MAN ON ACCOUNT OF HIS CREED.

The letter of a brother writing from Auteuil discusses a matter respecting which I entertain no doubt. In my communication, "Toleration in Freemasonry," *Freemasons' Magazine*, vol. xiv. p. 466, it is said by me that in true Freemasonry there can be no toleration of opinions inconsistent, in any material degree, with its great and essential doctrines concerning God, man's duty, and a Future State." Now in the Freemasonry which excludes no man on account of his creed, there must necessarily be toleration of opinions of this nature, and I therefore hold such Freemasonry not to be true Freemasonry.—CHARLES PURTON COOPER.

FIELD LODGES.

Replying to the query put by "Jonathan" in the last number of the "Freemasons' Magazine," Field Lodges have also been defined as Military or Army Lodges, being Masonic bodies organised in armies which move with them. They are eminently useful in relieving the monotony of the soldiers' life, and mitigating the horrors of war. In the war of the American Revolution they were formed in both of the belligerent armies, and also in the Civil War of 1815. During the Bonaparte wars they sustained and illustrated the principles of Freemasonry in the Allied and French armies. There are also now regiments in the British army having military lodges.—△.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

MASONIC ARCHÆOLOGY.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—At page 19, No. 392, of your Magazine, are these words, "809th anniversary of the Lodge of Glasgow, St. John (No. 32)." A little lower down, I also read, "it having been erected by charter from King Malcom in 1057."

Now as there are few charges which have been, and still are, more frequently brought against our Order, than that we advance claims which we cannot substantiate, and make use of dates which we cannot verify, I am anxious to ask the writer of that notice, or some other skilled Scottish brother, and many such exist,—What is the authority of such a statement? What is the historical evidence on which it rests? If I remember rightly, Bro. Laurie, in his valuable work, does not apparently set much store by the alleged charter of King Malcolm. May I then inquire further where it is now, and whether it can still be seen or examined by an investigating brother?

If anyone is anxious to learn by personal experience, how utterly useless are prejudices and prepossessions, how futile are inaccurate and unsupported assertions, when we have to analyse evidence and sift traditions; let such a one, give himself up for a time to the study of Masonic archæology. He will then find, as I have found, how hard a task

it is to reconcile such irreconcilable authorities, as we still hear quoted in Masonic literature; how much more difficult to reduce to historical accuracy the "disjecta membra," of old traditions.

Masonic archæology, is at the present a standing reproach to our Order, and we seem to grow no wiser by the lapse of time, but parrot-like to repeat those time-honoured, if mythic, claims to antiquity which are valueless, and worse than valueless, if not based on historical evidence!

Some of my Scottish brethren may perhaps aid me in this matter.

Yours fraternally,
HISTORICUS.

BYE LAWS. BYE-LAWS. BY-LAWS.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I have often been struck with the variety of ways in which a very important Masonic expression or word is used. On many of the railway platforms the traveller will observe a board with the *Bye Laws* of the Company. In Masonic documents will be found numberless instances of *Bye-Laws* of certain lodges, &c., and I am under the impression that Grand Lodge itself is not exempt from the error. There is no such word as either *Bye Laws* or *Bye-Laws* in the English language. I have looked through a baker's dozen of dictionaries, and find the word *Bye* in only three of them. 1st, Ash, edition 1775, he states "Bye (s. obsolete), a dwelling." 2nd, Barclay, who admits it thus, "By, Bye," but when conjoined with another word as by-road, by-law, by-way, &c., there is no e in the twofold word. 3rd, Maunder, who gives "Bye, a dwelling," the same as Ash, but he does not say it is obsolete. In Johnson's 4to. edition, 1785, which is now before me, the word "bye" is not once named. On the word "by" he says, "in composition it implies something out of the direct way, and consequently some obscurity as a by-road; something irregular, as a by-end; or something collateral, as a by-concernment; or private as a by-law." It should be observed that in no instance does the obsolete word "bye" appear, and it is to be regretted that it is so often used by legal gentlemen, and those high in office in our own fraternity. Let us hope that by ventilating the subject the practice of mis-spelling will in time be discontinued. It should be observed that the *first* method is perfectly inadmissible, the hyphen - or note of conjunction is indispensable. I hope these remarks will be received by your readers in a fraternal spirit; they are made solely for the benefit of the Craft.

I am, dear Sir and Brother,
Yours fraternally,
W.M. 1101.

MASONIC SONG.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—A few days ago I heard a Masonic song, ending with the chorus—

"We meet upon the level,
We part upon the square;
What words of precious meaning
Those words Masonic are."

Where can it be got or found? An answer in the "Magazine" will oblige

Yours fraternally, W. B.

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

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

MASONIC MEMS.

INSTRUCTION.—On Friday, January 25th, at seven o'clock p.m., punctually, at the Gregorian Arms, Bermondsey (Bro. G. Drapper's), the fifteen sections will be worked. Bro. David Rose, S.D. 73, in the chair.

MASONIC BALL.—It is notified that the Stewards must make their final return of tickets disposed of not later than Wednesday next, the 23rd inst. We understand a number of very influential brethren have intimated their intention of being present at the ball.

METROPOLITAN.

MOUNT LEBANON LODGE (No. 73).—*Installation Meeting.*—The regular meeting of this old prosperous lodge was held on Tuesday, January 15, at the Green Man Tavern, Tooley-street, Southwark (Bro. C. A. Cathie's). Punctually at five o'clock p.m. the lodge was opened by Bro. Frederick Walters, P.M., assisted by Bros. G. Morris, S.W. and W.M. elect; T. J. Sabine, J.W.; E. Harris, P.M. Treas.; J. Donkin, P.M. Sec.; F. H. Ebsworth, S.D.; D. Rose, J.D.; N. A. Loewenstark, I.G.; A. P. Steadman, Dir. Cers.; G. Free, W.S. The minutes of the last lodge meeting were read and unanimously confirmed. The report of the audit committee was read and unanimously received. Bro. J. C. Gooddy, W.M. then took the chair. Ballots for the candidates for initiation and two joining members were taken and declared to be unanimously in favour of all their admissions. Messrs. Skeens, G. Hill, J. Elliott, and Dudley being in attendance, were in an able manner duly initiated into Freemasonry. Bro. H. Moore, I.P.M. then took the chair. Bro. F. Walters, P.M. presented Bro. G. Morris, S.W. and W.M. elect for installation, and he was duly installed in a board of installed masters, composed of fourteen members. He appointed Bros. P. J. Sabine, S.W.; F. H. Ebsworth, J.W.; E. Harris, P.M. Treas.; J. Donkin, P.M. Sec.; D. Rose, S.D.; M. A. Loewenstark, J.D.; G. Free, I.G.; R. Ord, D.C.; G. J. Grace, W.S. Bro. Dr. Dixon, P.M. presented Bro. C. Gooddy, I.P.M., in the name of the subscribers, with a six guinea P.M.'s jewel, contributed for him by voluntary subscriptions. Bro. J. C. Gooddy, I.P.M., returned his thanks for it in an appropriate speech. A gentleman was proposed for initiation. Business being ended the lodge was closed. The usual good banquet followed. Visitors were Bros. T. G. Dickie, P.G.P.; G. Bolton, P.M. P.Z. 169, P.M. 147; N. Wingfield, W.M. 169; W. Andrew, S.W. 871, J.W. 147; C. G. Dilley, 147; T. Carter, P.M. 733; R. Welsford, P.M. 548; A. D. Loewenstark, P.M. 548, P.M. 733; J. T. W. Barrett, 871, and many others whose names we were unable to ascertain.

Lodge of Justice (No. 147).—This old lodge held its installation meeting on Wednesday, January 9, at the White Swan Tavern, High-street, Deptford. Bro. J. Lightfoot, W.M. presided, supported by his officers: Bros. G. Chapman, S.W. and W.M. elect; J. Patte, J.W.; J. Bavin, P.M.; Sec. W. Andrews, S.D.; Batt, J.D.; Percival, I.G.; G. Bolton, P.M.; J. A. Green, P.M.; L. Cowell, P.M.; F. Walters, P.M.; H. Moore, P.M.; Clothier, P.M., and a large number of members. Amongst the visitors were E. Bumstead, P.M. 548; H. J. Wells, 871; J. W. T. Barrett, 871, and others. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and unanimously confirmed. The report of the audit committee was read and confirmed. Bro. D. Davies was passed to the second degree in an able manner. Bro. G. Bolton, P.M. then took the chair. Bro. F. Walters, P.M. presented Bro. G. Chapman, S.W. and W.M. elect for installation. Bro. G. Bolton, P.M. then, in his usual efficient manner, regularly installed Bro. G. Chapman, W.M. for the ensuing year. The W.M. appointed the following brethren as his officers, viz.: J. Lightfoot, I.P.M.; J. Patte, S.W.; W. Andrews, J.W.; J. Lightfoot, P.M., Treas.; J. Bavin, P.M. Sec.; Batt, S.D.; Percival, J.D.; J. Whiffin, I.G. The Tyler was not elected. The

usual charge and addresses were delivered by the installing master in a most able manner. A vote of thanks was unanimously carried and ordered to be recorded on the lodge minute book to Bro. G. Bolton, P.M. for the able manner in which he worked the ceremony of installation. The W.M. presented the five guineas P.M. Jewel voted by the unanimous wish of the lodge to Bro. Lightfoot, I.P.M. for his valuable and efficient services rendered to the lodge during his year of office (1866). Bro. J. Lightfoot, P.M. returned his thanks for the present. Some candidates were proposed for initiation at the next meeting. Notice of motion was given to increase the initiation fee to six guineas. The lodge was closed. The usual first-class banquet followed, served up in Bro. J. Porter's usual superior style.

LION AND LAMB LODGE (No. 192).—The installation meeting of this numerous and flourishing lodge was held on the 10th inst, at the George Hotel, Aldermanbury. The lodge was duly opened by Bro. C. Hosgood, W.M., assisted by Bros. Bryant, S.W., Cates, P.M. as J.W. and a large number of brethren. After the confirmation of the minutes the lodge was opened in the second degree, when four candidates for raising were examined and acquitted themselves satisfactorily; and the lodge having been opened in the third degree, the same brethren were solemnly raised to the sublime degree of M.M. No less than four more brethren were passed to the second degree in the course of the evening, and Messrs. G. Trot and Roberts were initiated into the mysteries of the Order. All the ceremonies were admirably rendered by Bro. Hosgood, W.M., who also at the close of the initiations delivered the charge in a very pleasing and correct manner. The lodge was again opened in the second degree, when Bro. Bryant, W.M. elect, was presented to the W.M. for installation; and after the usual preliminaries, the new Master was regularly installed by his predecessor, Bro. Hosgood, assisted by Bro. Muggeridge, P.M., and in the presence of a full board of Masters. After the customary salutations and addresses, the lodge was closed and the brethren adjourned to the banquet room, where a sumptuous repast awaited them, and as this was the first meeting of the lodge at the George Hotel, Bro. Todd, the host, used his utmost endeavours to please the most fastidious, and we need hardly say they were crowned with perfect success. The cloth having been drawn, and the loyal and Masonic toasts duly honoured, Bro. Muggeridge, P.M., rose and in glowing terms expatiated upon the many merits of the outgoing Master, Bro. Hosgood, upon whose breast he placed a ten guinea jewel, voted by the lodge—an apron with silver ornaments, and a collar and jewel being added by the members' individual subscriptions. Bro. Muggeridge stated that Bro. Hosgood had initiated twenty-four members during his year of office, and had won the esteem of the brethren by his faultless working, as well as by the display of many genial and social good qualities; and in affixing this splendid jewel to his breast, he (Bro. Muggeridge) in the name of the lodge wished Bro. Hosgood many, many years of happiness and prosperity. Bro. Hosgood cordially thanked Bro. Muggeridge and the brethren for their extreme kindness and for the hearty support he had received during the past year. He should ever retain a grateful recollection of the many courtesies he had experienced, and would prize the magnificent tribute of respect which he had that evening received at their hands as the tangible expression of their generous and fraternal feelings. Bro. Hosgood also responded for the P.M.'s, and Bro. Marsh (P.M. 28), the newly-appointed S.W., returned his acknowledgments for the compliment paid to the officers of the lodge in drinking their healths. Among a number of visitors present were Bro. Dr. Goldsbro', F.S.G.W., Salop, and P.M. 201 and 998; Riley, P.M. Stuart Lodge; Turner, S.W. 1056; Penny, 72; and others whose names we are unable to specify.

PROVINCIAL.

BERKS AND BUCKS.

READING.—*Grey Friars' Lodge (No. 1,101).*—The first meeting of this lodge since the installation of the W.M. took place on Thursday, the 10th inst, when there was a good attendance of members present. The minutes of the former lodge and installation were read and confirmed, and the lodge was worked in the first and second degrees. Bro. A. Welch having given proof of his efficiency was duly advanced to the degree of

F.C. On resuming in the first degree, the W.M. read the ancient charges out of the "Book of Constitutions." We commend this practice to the consideration of young lodges; it impregnates the mind with the true spirit of Masonry, and tends to remove that spirit of coldness and apathy which mere routine of business produces. On next lodge day it is the intention of the W.M. to read the bye-laws, a practice we also commend both to old and young lodges, as no member will have excuse for breaking them.

CORNWALL.

TRURO.—*Lodge of Fortitude* (No. 131).—A meeting of this, the largest lodge of Freemasons in the province of Cornwall, was held on Tuesday, the 8th inst., at four p.m. precisely, at the Masonic Rooms, Quay-street, Truro. The ancient Lodge of Fortitude was honoured with the presence of Bro. Augustus Smith, the Prov. G.M. (one of its members), and a very numerous attendance of visitors and members. Bro. Stephen Holloway, W.M., occupied the chair. The minutes having been read and unanimously confirmed, the business of the lodge was rapidly and most efficiently proceeded with. Bro. F. B. Michell was duly examined, and subsequently passed to the second degree, Bro. Thomas Chirgwin, P.M., P. Prov. J.G.W., being in the chair of K.S. at the time, and all who are privileged to attend a lodge under his working will be aware how ably the ceremony was rendered. The W.M. elect, Bro. W. C. Oke, S.W., was then presented, and on the retirement of the qualified brethren, he was installed in the presence of more than a dozen P.M.'s, Bro. Thomas Chirgwin officiating as Installing Master. The board being closed, the brethren re-entered, and the following brethren were appointed as the officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. William James Hughan, S.W.; Edward Edwards, J.W.; Stephen Holloway, Prov. G.S., I.P.M.; Thos. Chirgwin, P.M., Treas.; William Boase, Chap.; Richard John, Sec.; Thomas Mann, S.D.; William H. Rouse, J.D.; William Eglinton, Dir. of Cers.; Richard Hitchins, I.G.; Samuel Reed, Org.; Theophilus Dorrington, and—Chapman, Stewards; and John Longdon, Tyler. Letters of apology for absence were read from Bros. F. M. Williams, *M.P.*, W.M. elect No. 331, Rev. B. Bullocke, *M.A.*, and others. Bro. William J. J. Johns, P.M., P. Prov. G.S.B., was appointed the Charity Steward for the Cornwall Masonic Annuity Fund. When the business was concluded, the brethren adjourned to the Royal Hotel to partake of their annual banquet, which was served in an admirable manner by the host, Bro. Wade. Bro. W. C. Oke, W.M., occupied the chair, and Bro. W. J. Hughan the vice-chair. Amongst those who were present we noticed Bros. Augustus Smith, Prov. G.M.; Reginald Rogers, D. Prov. G.M.; Dr. Hugoe, W.M. 699, Dr. Bannister, Chap. 1,006; E. H. Hawke, P.M. 1,106; John Ninness, P.M., &c.; Thomas Solomon (mayor of Truro); John Mackay, P.M., P. Prov. Supt. of Works, Devon, &c. A number of complimentary toasts concluded the evening's pleasure, and ended one of the most brilliant Masonic meetings we have ever attended.

TRURO.—*Phoenix Lodge* (No. 331).—The ceremony of installing Bro. Frederick Martin Williams, M.P., S.W., as the W.M. of the Phoenix Lodge, is fixed for the 29th January, at 3 p.m., and the banquet at the Red Lion Hall is to be served at 4.30 p.m.

LAUNCESTON.—*Lodge Dunheved* (No. 789).—This lodge had their annual banquet at Bro. Facey's, King's Arms Hotel, on Friday, the 4th inst., when Bro. P. D. Maddox was installed as W.M. for the ensuing year. The ceremony was most impressively conducted by Bro. Pearce, P.M., P. Prov. J.G.D. Bro. Maddox appointed as his officers, Bros. W. R. Bray, S.W.; J. Oliver, J.W.; F. Thorn, S.D.; W. D. Pearse, J.D.; D. Thompson, Treas.; A. Metherell, Sec.; W. Dingle, I.G.; T. Wise, Tyler. Two candidates were previously initiated. The dinner was excellent and did great credit to Bro. Facey. Bro. Maddox, W.M., presided, and was well supported by Bros. C. Pearse, P.M., P. Prov. J.G.D.; and W. Derry Pearse, P.M., P. Prov. S.G.W. A most agreeable evening was spent, and the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed, and duly responded to.

REDRUTH.—*Druid's Lodge of Love and Liberality* (No. 589).—On Wednesday, the 2nd inst., the annual festival of St. John was celebrated. Bro. T. Davey was installed W.M. for the ensuing year, and the following officers were appointed: Bros. W. Tregay, S.W.; F. W. Mitchell, P.M., J.W.; F. W. Dabb, Treas.; J. Job, Sec.; J. F. Penrose, S.D.; J. H. Mitchell, J.D.; W. Lidgley, I.G.; W. Wales and J. H. Reynolds, Stewards; John

Bray, P.M., Dir. of Cers.; J. Polkinghorne, Tyler. A banquet was provided by Bro. Tabb, at which all the delicacies of the season were introduced, and several visiting brethren also favoured the lodge with their presence. The usual Masonic toasts were given, and a very pleasant evening was spent by the brethren.

CRACEWATER.—*Boscawen Lodge* (No. 699).—The brethren of this lodge celebrated their annual festival on Thursday, the 3rd inst. The lodge was close tyled at noon, when the W.M. elect, Bro. Hugoe, was duly installed as W.M. for the ensuing year. Bro. Ninness, P.M., acted as Installing Master with great ability, the P.M. Board being formed by Bros. Brey, Hall, Hawke, Holloway, &c. The W.M. then selected as his officers, Bros. Buckingham, P.M.; Couch, S.W.; Pearce, J.W.; Ninness, P.M., Treas.; Paull, P.M., Sec.; Skinner, S.D.; Walls, J.D.; Pasco, I.G.; Hall, Dir. of Cers.; Climas, S.S.; Tyack, J.S.; and Lean, Tyler. The lodge having been duly worked down and closed, the brethren adjourned to the Britannia Hotel, where an excellent banquet awaited them. The dinner was abundant and the wines good, and the catering reflected great credit on host Paull. After the cloth was removed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and heartily responded to, and one of the most pleasant evenings ever spent in connection with this lodge, was at a seasonable hour brought to a close. The various lodges in the district were represented on the occasion, and amongst the visitors were Bros. Solomon, P.M., and Hughan, Sec. of the Phoenix Lodge, Truro; Holloway, W.M., and Oake, S.W. of the Fortitude Lodge, Truro; Hawk, P.M., and Mitchell, W.M. of the Tregullov Lodge, St. Day; and Trejay, S.W.; Mitchell, J.W.; and Job, Sec., of the Druids Lodge, Redruth.

POWEY.—*Fowey Lodge* (No. 977).—The annual festival of the Fowey Lodge was celebrated by the members of this new and flourishing lodge on Monday, the 7th January. Bro. the Rev. Dr. Treffry was installed as the W.M. of the lodge, by the Rev. Bro. George Ross, M.A., Prov. G. Chap., assisted by Bro. Bate, P.M. 856, Lostwithiel. The W.M. then appointed his officers for the ensuing year as follows: Bro. W. T. Sobey, S.W.; Bro. W. S. Slade, J.W.; Bro. H. W. Durant, Treas.; Bro. W. M. Abbot, Sec.; Bro. William Smith, S.D.; Bro. A. A. Davis, J.D.; Bro. J. Slade, I.G.; Bro. Wreford, Dir. of Cers.; Bros. P. Salt and C. Morrett, Stewards, and Bro. James Pain, Tyler. Bro. Wreford was appointed Charity Steward for the Cornwall Masonic Annuity Fund, and the sum of two pounds was voted towards the same most worthy institution for aged and infirm indigent Masons of the province of Cornwall. The brethren then adjourned to the banquet, and after some hours of enjoyment finally concluded their annual festival at the hour of eight p.m.

DEVONSHIRE.

MORICE TOWN, DEVONPORT.—*St. Aubyn Lodge* (No. 954).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday, the 8th inst., when four Entered Apprentices were, upon due examination, admitted to the F.C.'s degree. Two candidates were initiated to the mysteries pertaining to the first degree, the whole of which duties were performed by the W.M. A resolution was carried by a committee appointed to carry out the necessary arrangements for a social reunion and conversione, to be held in connection with the lodge, on the 30th inst. A candidate for initiation was proposed, which, after the usual choral service, closed the proceedings. Several visitors were present, and remained to do honour to the W.M. at the festive board.

TEIGNMOUTH.—*Benevolent Lodge* (No. 303).—The brethren of this lodge met at their room last week, to instal Bro. Waldron as W.M. for the third time, and after the dispensation was read by the Prov. G.M., the W.M. proceeded to appoint the following brethren as his officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. H. M. Bartlett, S.W.; C. H. Croydon, J.W.; Blanchford, Sec.; Whidborne, Treas.; F. Hallett, S.D.; R. Ward, J.D.; J. Bentley, I.G.; Chapman and Martin, Stewards. The brethren then adjourned to Bro. Chapman's for refreshments, which were well served.

DURHAM.

SUNDERLAND.—*St. John's Lodge* (No. 80).—The brethren of this lodge met on the 3rd inst., at the Queen's Hotel, Fawcett-street, to celebrate the annual festival dedicated to St. John the Evangelist. Bro. Peter Hoistendahl, W.M., occupied the chair, supported on the right by Bros. Crookes, Savill, and

Crosby, P.M.'s; on the left by Bros. Sangster, Elwen, and Morgan, P.M.'s. Bro. S. J. Wade, S.W., occupied the vice-chair. Upwards of sixty brethren were seated to an excellent banquet, served up in that superior manner for which Bro. Shiel has become so well known. The brethren having done full justice to the dainties that were spread before them, they seemed better prepared to enter upon the higher source of enjoyment that was in store for them, for (to use a hacknied quotation from one of the poets) then commenced "the feast of reason and the flow of soul," where kind greetings, hearty responses, song, and sentiment, were harmoniously blended. The usual toasts, to which Freemasons at all times give priority, as expressive of their loyalty to the Queen and fealty to the chief officers of the Craft, were given, with the respect and earnestness due to them, the same being interspersed with songs of a higher than ordinary kind, indeed, the vocal element seems to preponderate in the St. John's Lodge just now, as in the recent accession of new members, we have Bros. J. N. Ditchburn, J. Smith, and J. Gibson, who ably supplement Bro. T. Charlton and others, when conviviality is allowed the ascendancy, and whose efforts on the present occasion tended much to enhance the harmony of the evening; but the primary event on the present occasion and which gave an additional interest to the proceedings, was the presentation of a testimonial of respect to Bro. Thomas Godfordson, the Treasurer, and also one of the oldest and most esteemed of the brethren of St. John's Lodge. It consisted of a pair of massive gold spectacles, in a silver case, the case being beautifully embossed, with a plain centre part, bearing the following inscription: "Presented to Bro. Thomas Godfordson, Treas. of St. John's Lodge, No. 80, Sunderland, by his brethren, as a token of esteem and respect, and in acknowledgement of his valuable services for many years. January 3. A.D. 1867." The presentation was made by Bro. W. H. Crookes, P.M. and P.G.S., in a highly, yet deservedly, complimentary speech, given in his usual fluent and hearty manner, in which he recounted the many services that their Treasurer had rendered to the lodge, having for several years performed the duties of Secretary, and subsequently those of Treasurer, having held the latter responsible office for more than ten years, during which time economy had ever been a guide to his duties, a salutary check to anything wildly speculative and a willing pedestal for all necessary requirements. He trusted that the token he was presenting would enable Bro. Godfordson to see double, that by looking through those spectacles he would be able to discover any little error that might inadvertently creep in, so that he might continue to keep his accounts, with the same strict accuracy that he had hitherto done, and that by looking on them, he would be able to see himself as his brethren see him, as a Mason, good and true, worthy of the confidence reposed in him, he expressed a hope that Bro. Godfordson would live to wear them, and that they might be of use to him for many years in the discharge of his duties as Treasurer of St. John's Lodge. Bro. Godfordson, on rising to reply, was received with a round of hearty cheers, he first expressed his gratitude for the valuable token of esteem that had, unexpectedly on his part, been presented to him. He stated that he had been a member of St. John's Lodge for nearly thirty years, and had known that, when the annual festival came, they had to guarantee to the host a number, even below twenty; but in succeeding years they were enabled to extend their guarantee, and such had been the progress made, that now, without any guarantee being required by the host, upwards of sixty of the brethren had assembled to do honour to the feast. He called to mind the old proverb, that "A rolling stone gathers no moss," but he thought that it did not apply to the St. John's Lodge, for it had been a rolling lodge, and had changed its place of meeting not less than six times in fifteen years; but still, as it rolled, it kept gathering and gathering, that now he felt proud to witness how wonderfully it had increased, both in numbers and respectability. He concluded an excellent speech by again thanking the brethren for the honour they had done him. A further impulse was given to the good feeling then existing, by Bro. W. H. Crookes proposing the "Masonic Charities," while Bro. P. J. Wade, in a neat speech, gave the toast, "Our Absent Brethren." A happy evening was spent, and the proceedings terminated at a seasonable hour.

HAMPSHIRE.

BOURNEMOUTH.—*Hengist Lodge* (No. 195).—On St. John's Day the brethren of this lodge met at their lodge room, a

after transacting the usual business, Bro. Peter Tuck was elected the W.M., and Bro. Lamb, Treas., for the ensuing year. The brethren then adjourned to the Bell Vue Hotel, where a sumptuous banquet was provided by Bro. W. M. Bill, of which a large number of the brethren partook. Amongst the company were Bros. Sir Henry Drummond Wolff, Bart.; Dr. Coates, J. Haggard, M. Webb, &c. The lodge is in a flourishing condition, many persons having lately joined the Order.

FAREHAM.—*Lodge of Harmony* (No. 309).—At the regular monthly meeting of this lodge, held at the Red Lion Hotel, on Thursday, the 3rd inst., the chief business was the installation of the W.M. elect for the ensuing year, and the appointment and investment of officers. Bro. David Harris, S.W., who had been duly elected W.M. at the previous lodge meeting, having been presented to the lodge, was duly installed into the chair by Bro. J. Ogburn, P.M., Royal Sussex Lodge, No. 342, P. Prov. J.G.W., Hants, by whom the ceremony was most ably performed. The W.M. afterwards nominated the following as his officers, and they were duly invested by Bro. Ogburn, viz.:—Bros. J. Douglas, S.W.; C. S. Woollons, J.W.; W. Edmonds, P.M., Treas.; J. Tayler, P.M., Sec.; F. Stubbington, S.D.; E. G. Holbrook, J.D.; W. B. Salisbury, I.G. The lodge having been duly closed, the brethren adjourned to the banquet-room, and partook of an excellent repast, the newly-elected W.M. presiding.

GOSPORT.—*Gosport Lodge* (No. 903).—The ceremony of installing the Worshipful Master of the lodge for the ensuing year took place on Tuesday, the 8th inst. There was a numerous attendance of the Craft at the lodge, Star Hotel, among those present being Bros. A. P. Fabian, W.M. Portsmouth Lodge, (No. 487), Prov. S.G.W. of Hants; W. C. Redward, W.M., Royal Sussex Lodge (No. 342), P. Prov. G. Supt. of Works; Captain Elliott and Captain Murray, *R.M.L.L.*, P.M.'s 903; G. Wilkins, P.M. 342, P. Prov. G. Sword Bearer, &c. The lodge was opened by Bro. J. Wallinford, W.M., Prov. G. Sword Bearer, and Bro. J. Wilson, W.M. elect, having been presented to the brethren, the ceremony of installation was most ably and impressively performed by Bro. Captain Elliott, P.M. The W.M. then appointed the following as his officers for the year ensuing: Bros. J. Wallingford, I.P.M.; E. T. Main, S.W.; J. Egles, J.W.; E. Groves, Treas.; J. Gibbs, Sec.; J. Cooper, S.D.; J. Brodie, J.D.; J. Lawson, I.G.; G. Spratt, Dir. of Cers.; Arnold and Jones, Stewards. The lodge was then opened in the second degree, and Bro. Murran having answered the usual questions, retired, when the lodge was opened in the third degree. Bro. Murran was then again admitted, and the ceremony of raising him to the degree of a Master Mason was ably performed by the W.M. The lodge having been closed down to the first degree, in the customary manner, the W.M. then presented Bro. J. Wallingford, P.M., with a very handsome testimonial, consisting of a vote of thanks, passed by the brethren at the previous monthly meeting, inscribed on vellum and framed in gilt, with the emblems of the Craft affixed. The W.M., in making the presentation, stated that Bro. Wallingford had never once been absent from his lodge during his year of office. Bro. Wallingford suitably returned thanks. The W.M. then proposed that a vote of thanks to Bro. Capt. Elliott, P.M., for the able manner in which he had carried out the duties of installing master be recorded in the minutes. The proposition was seconded by Bro. Capt. Murray, P.M., and carried unanimously. Bro. Capt. Elliott thanked the brethren for the compliment they had paid him. Two joining members were then balloted for, and the lodge was closed. The brethren afterwards partook of an excellent banquet, at which the W.M. presided. After the banquet the usual loyal and masonic toasts were duly honoured, and the evening was spent in perfect harmony.

PORTSMOUTH.—*Portsmouth Lodge* (No. 487).—The members of this lodge met at the Masonic Hall, St. Mary's-street, Portsmouth, at four o'clock on Thursday afternoon, the 10th inst., when Bro. H. Hollingsworth, P.M. was installed into the chair as W.M. for the ensuing year, the ceremony being ably performed by Bro. E. Gait, P.M. The W.M. appointed his officers as follow: Bro. A. P. Fabian, of Hants, Prov. S.G.W., I.P.M.; S. Hogg, Prov. G. Dir. of Cers., S.W.; J. Douglas, Prov. G.S., J.W.; E. M. Wells, P.M., Treas.; M. E. Frost, P.M., Prov. G. T. Sec.; C. B. Elliott, S.D.; A. Cudlipp, J.D.; C. C. Michell, I.G.; Bros. E. Pratt and Swanson, Stewards. There was a good attendance of the brethren, including several P.M.'s and W.M.'s. At the banquet the W.M. presided, and the usual toasts were given.

LANCASHIRE (EAST).

BLACKBURN.—*Lodge of Perseverance* (No. 345).—The brethren of this lodge held their usual St. John's festival, on Thursday, the 27th ult., at the Old Bull Hotel, on which occasion there were present Bros. Thomas Clough, Prov. G.R., East Lancashire; R. Radcliffe, Charles Tiplady, G. P. Hushly, Franklin Thomas, and R. H. Hutchinson, P.M.'s; Rev. Charles Hughes, Chap., and many other brethren belonging to the lodge. There were also present visiting brethren from Clitheroe, Over Darwen, Clayton-le-Dale, Accrington, and Manchester. The lodge having been opened, and Bro. Thomas Robinson, S.W., presented in due form, Bro. Thomas, in a most impressive manner, proceeded to instal him W.M. of the lodge for the ensuing twelve months. He was afterwards saluted in the different degrees in ancient Masonic form, and greeted with all the honours of the Craft. The W.M. then proceeded to invest his officers as follows, viz.:—Bros. Edwin Eastwood, S.W.; Joseph Callis, J.W.; Joseph Brierly, S.D.; Thomas Copeland, J.D.; Rev. Charles Hughes, Chap.; Charles Tiplady, Treas.; Denis Baron, Sec.; John Rigby, I.G.; John Banister, Tyler; Messrs. Duckworth and Mateer, Stewards. The lodge was, after some necessary business, called from labour to refreshment, when from sixty to seventy brethren sat down to a sumptuous and well-served banquet, reflecting the highest credit on Mr. Evans, the manager of the hotel. Full justice having been done to the good things on the table, the W.M. proceeded to give the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, which were all duly honoured. The company were much edified by the speeches of several brethren, especially Bro. Bidder, of Manchester. Bro. Thomas Clough, P.M., in responding to the toast of the Present and Past Prov. Grand officers of East Lancashire, remarked that, without making any offensive reflections on the Prov. G.M., that it was singular the Lodge of Perseverance, 345, had never had the honour of a single provincial officer for the last twenty years, though he believed the brethren were among the best Masons in the province, and several of them had been liberal donors to the Masonic Charities, and energetic members of the Charity Committee. Probably the Prov. G.M. would look to the Blackburn lodges, which numbered between them 150 members, as he was sure if some of the provincial honours were distributed in the town it would give satisfaction. It was now nearly seven years since a Prov. G. meeting had been held at Blackburn. The last one, he understood, was to have been holden there, but happening on the first day of November, it was found to be very inconvenient to the brethren, several of whom would be fully engaged in municipal affairs, especially the principal P.M.'s and officers of the lodge. Bros. Baron, Towers, Abbott, and Birkett sang some part songs and glees in admirable style, and were loudly applauded. Bro. George Ellis's fine artillery volunteer band played during the dinner, and at 10.30 the W.M. proposed the last toast of the evening, and the brethren separated in harmony.

OLDHAM.—*Lodge of Friendship* (No. 277).—A meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Hall, Angel Hotel, on the 26th ult., Bro. Captain J. F. Tweedale, W.M. in the chair. Amongst a goodly gathering of the brethren were Bros. John Potter, S.W.; J. Dodd, J.W.; J. Taylor, S.D.; W. Bagshaw, J.D.; W. Chadwick, I.G.; and Brown, Holt, and Cooper, P.M.'s. After the solemn opening of the lodge, &c., Bro. Cooper, P.M., presented Bro. P. Croxton, the W.M. elect, to receive the benefit of installation into the chair of K.S. This ceremony was most effectively performed by the W.M., who has earned the warmest approval of the brethren for the admirable manner in which he has performed all the ceremonies during his year of office, and also for the graceful and appropriate act of personally installing his successor. The following officers were then appointed, Bros. John Taylor, S.W.; W. Bagshaw, J.W.; W. Chadwick, S.D.; W. Bodden, J.D.; Albert Kenworthy, I.G.; J. F. Newton and W. Myott, Stewards; W. C. Lees, Tyler; and Robert Hall, Sec. The newly-installed W.M. afterwards initiated Messrs. Braddock, Hollingworth, and Lord into ancient Freemasonry. Bro. John Lees, Hon. Organist, presided at the harmonium during the evening. The lodge was subsequently closed in due form, and with solemn prayer, The festival of St. John the Evangelist, was celebrated at the same place, on the 9th inst., Bro. T. Broxton, W.M., in the chair. Present, Bros. J. Taylor (Mayor of Oldham), Major Blackburne, Captain Tweedale, J. Bamford, W. Rye, W. Blackburne, J. S. Hague, Reuben Cooper, James H. Hayes, P.M.'s, and a numerous gathering of visitors and brethren of the lodge. The banquet was admirably served (punctuality not being overlooked) by Bro. Cheadle of the Angel Hotel. After the brethren had shown their full appreciation

of the good things provided, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and, it is needless to say, received with acclamation. Bro. John Greaves, Dir. of Cers., conducted the honours with hand and heart, enthusiasm guiding the latter, and energy the former. Bro. John Taylor, P.M., in proposing "The Health of the Worshipful Master," congratulated the brethren upon their selection of the W.M. for the ensuing year, and trusted that under his guidance and direction, they would strive to acquire not only a knowledge of the practical working of the lodge, but also an acquaintance with the theoretical meaning of the various ceremonies. Several other interesting addresses were delivered in the course of the evening. A Masonic glee party added greatly to the enjoyment of the brethren, Bro. John Lees presiding at the pianoforte with great taste ability.

LANCASHIRE (WEST).

WARRINGTON.—*Lodge of Lights* (No. 148).

The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Monday, Dec. 31st. The chair of K.S. was occupied by Bro. G. Greenall, M.P., R.W.S.G.W. of England, who was assisted by Bros. W. Smith, S.W.; Robert Stevenson, J.W.; H. B. White, P.M., Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; John Bowes, P.M., Prov. G. Dir. of Cers., Cumberland and Westmoreland; R. G. Stringer, P.M.; John Pilling, P.M.; Jos. Maxfield, P.M.; D. Finney, J.D.; C. Ekkert, Org.; James Hepherd; Drs. Spinks and Pennington; John Pierpoint; B. P. Coxon, C.E.; W. Woods, Colonel Greenall, W. H. Spring, John Brown, W. Richardson, W. Savage, John Anderton, Jos. Bancroft, James Woods, Thomas Jones, Captain Reynolds, A. Waring, W. Mossop, Jonathan Wilson, H. Syred; Jabez Plinston, George Blackhurst; E. Talbot, A. S. L. Leonhardt, C. Wood, A. H. Beckett, Thomas Donville, Philip Smith, Jos. Robinson, James Johnson, Tyler. Visitors—Bros. Rev. F. Terry, P.M., Prov. G. Chap., Cheshire; Rev. A. A. O'Niell, P.M. 730, P. Prov. G. Chap., Lancashire West; Rev. E. O. Herbert, No. 1, Ireland; R. Roberts, 758; H. Smith, 758; Captain Mott, P.M. 241; Prov. G.S.B.; J. Byrne, P.M., Burdikin, Treas. 1061; W. J. Bullock, P.M. 979; Captain White, Prov. G. Steward; S. P. Bidder, P.M. 104; Robert Wright, 758; W. G. Bennett; Thomas Gleare, 220.

The lodge was opened in solemn form, and the minutes read and confirmed. The ballot was then taken for Bro. T. Donville as a joining member, and also for Mr. Philip Smith as a candidate for initiation. In both cases the ballot was unanimously in favour. Bro. Talbot claimed preferment, and having proved his claim, was entrusted, and retired. The lodge was opened in the second degree, when Bro. Talbot was re-admitted and duly passed by Bro. H. B. White, P.M., &c. The lodge was closed in the second degree, when Mr. Philip Smith was admitted in due form, and initiated by Bro. White. The auditors presented their report, which was in every respect satisfactory. Votes of thanks were voted to the auditors (Bros. Smith, S.W., and Finney, J.D.), the Treasurer (Bro. H. B. White), and the Hon. Sec. (Bro. Bowes). The lodge was opened in the second degree, when Capt. Mott, P.M., &c., took the chair as Installing Master. Bros. Gilbert Greenall and H. E. White presented Bro. Robt. Stevenson, W.M. elect, for the benefit of installation. The Installing Master having delivered an address, called upon Bro. Bowes, hon. sec., to read the summary of the ancient charges, to which Bro. Stevenson gave his assent in due form. The lodge was opened in the third degree, when all brethren below the chair retired. A board of Installed Masters having been opened, Bro. Stevenson was duly and solemnly installed in the chair of K.S. The board was closed, and the W.M.'s, the F.C.'s, and E.A.'s were successively admitted to and saluted the W.M., who was proclaimed on each occasion.

The W.M. then appointed and invested the following brethren as officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. Col. Greenall, S.W.; David Finney, J.W.; H. B. White, P.M., Treas.; John Bowes, P.M., Hon. Sec.; William Mossop, S.D.; William Richardson, J.D.; Christoph Ekkert, Org.; Joseph Robinson, I.G.; James Johnson, Tyler.

Bro. Capt. Mott delivered the whole of the charges in an able and impressive manner.

The banquet was served at the Lion Hotel. The chair was occupied by the W.M., and the Wardens occupied their "constant places."

The musical arrangements were kindly undertaken by Bros. Armstrong, Prov. G. Parst. Seaf, Graham and Haswell. *Non nobis Domine* having been sung, the cloth was withdrawn. The following is the list of toasts:

Bro. H. B. White, P.M., &c., very efficiently discharged the duties of Dir. of Cers.

The W.M. said the first toast needed no words of eulogy from him to ensure it the reception it deserved, "The Queen—the Daughter and Niece of Masons."

National Anthem.

The W.M. next, in a few appropriate words, proposed "The Prince and Princess of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family." Solo and chorus, "God Bless the Prince of Wales."

The W.M., in an able manner, proposed "The Army, Navy, Militia, Volunteers, and Royal Naval Reserve."

Glee—"The Evening Drum."

Bro. Capt. Mott responded for the Navy, and

Bro. Colonel Greenall, for the other branches of the service, and their remarks were well received.

Bro. H. B. White, P.M., Prov. G. Dir. of Cers., at the command of the W.M., proposed the next toast, "The Most Worshipful Grand Master, the Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, and the Grand Lodge of England." He expatiated at length on the Order generally and the merits of our Masonic rulers, and coupled with the toast the name of the I.F.M. of the Lodge of Lights, Bro. Gilbert Greenall. Drunk with full honours.

Song by Bro. Graham.

Bro. Greenall, M.P., P.M., R.W.S.G.W. of England, said it was his privilege to reply to the toast which Bro. White had just so kindly proposed. It afforded him great pleasure to do so. He knew something of Earl Zetland, and the R.W.D.G.M., and he knew enough of them to be able to say that they highly deserved the esteem and affection of this lodge and of every member of the Craft. Lord Zetland had a kind feeling for them all. When his lordship was good enough to offer him the distinguished position he had the honour to hold in the Grand Lodge, he did not hesitate to accept it, not so much on his own account, but because he knew that it would indirectly reflect honour on the lodge to which he belonged—the Lodge of Lights—it would in some measure be an honour to them all. On behalf of the Grand Lodge he thanked them most cordially for the very kind manner in which they had received the toast. He (Bro. Colonel Greenall) rose with pleasure to propose the next toast, "The Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master, Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Thomas George Hesketh, Bart, M.P., and the Provincial Grand Lodge of West Lancashire." The brethren present were so well acquainted with the subject of the toast that he need not occupy their time by dilating on the merits of the Prov. G. M. or the lodge over which he presided. He proposed the toast without further preface. Drank with full honours.

Glee—"King Canute."

Bro. Captain White, Prov. G. Steward, responded at length, and in doing so took occasion to pass a high eulogium on their local Masonic ruler. He proposed "The Provincial Grand Masters of East Lancashire, Cheshire, and the neighbouring provinces," and coupled with it the name of Bro. S. P. Bidder, P.M.

Glee—"You Gentlemen of England."

Bro. G. Greenall, M.P., P.M., R.W.S.G.W. of England, rose and said, he had very great pleasure in proposing the next toast—"The health of the newly-installed W.M., Bro. Stevenson." That was a very important toast, and it was not as a mere matter of form that he proposed it. Bro. Stevenson was a good man, and a true Mason, and he cordially rejoiced to see him in that chair. He heartily rejoiced, too, that he (Bro. Greenall), was succeeded by one so worthy as their present W.M. He trusted Bro. Stevenson might be spared to discharge his high and important trust with credit to himself and satisfaction to the brethren. He felt sure he would do honour to the office they had been pleased unanimously to elect him, and that none of the ancient dignity of Freemasonry would suffer in his hands. He would not, on that occasion, make a long speech—brevity, on such an occasion, was often best—but before he sat down, he would like to assure the brethren that he had a deep sympathy with Masonry in general, and of this lodge in particular. He had great pleasure in proposing the health of Bro. Stevenson.

The toast was drunk with full musical honours.

Glee—"Prosper the Art."

The W.M., Bro. Stevenson, was very much obliged to Bro. Greenall for the kind manner in which he had proposed his health, and to the brethren for the very flattering way in which they had received the mention of his name. He could assure

Bro. Greenall and the brethren he felt deeply the importance of the honour they had been pleased to confer upon him. He accepted the office with a deep sense of its responsibilities, and with a full determination to discharge its duties to the best of his ability. He had so recently thanked them in another place for their kindness, that he felt it unnecessary now to make a long speech. Bro. Stevenson concluded by again repeating his thanks to the brethren.

Bro. Hephherd was called upon to propose, "The P.M.'s, Wardens, and Officers of 148."

Bro. Hephherd said he felt there were others in the room who could have better proposed that toast than himself, but he was sure none had a deeper sympathy with Freemasonry. There were several P.M.'s present, and among them brethren who held high positions in the Craft. These gentlemen would be an honour to any lodge. Much of the success of a lodge depended upon its working, and he was proud to think that they had brethren as officers in 148 who were well qualified to take its management. He had very great pleasure in proposing the toast, and would couple with it the name of one of the most active officers of the lodge, viz., that of Bro. Bowes, P.M.

The toast was drunk with musical honours.

Song by Bro. Armstrong.

Bro. Bowes, P.M., thanked Bro. Hephherd for the truly fraternal manner in which he had commended the toast to the notice of the brethren, and all present for the reception they gave it. He was sorry he had been called upon to reply, as there were P.M.'s present much his superior in age. They all, however, had but one wish, and that was, the continued prosperity of the Lodge of Lights, No. 148. It had been his (Bro. Bowes') privilege to be an active officer of this lodge some years, and he rejoiced to be able to state that never was it in a more flourishing condition. He begged to thank them again for the warm reception they had given the toast.

The W. Master then proposed in suitable terms, "The Visiting Brethren," and in doing so coupled with it the name of Bro. Byrne, P.M., a veteran in the service.

Glee—"The winds whistle cold."

Bro. Byrne, in a long, interesting, and instructive speech, replied, during the delivery of which he was frequently and heartily cheered.

Bro. Bowes having obtained permission to propose a toast not inserted in the list, said they should be wanting in gratitude if they forgot the "Musical Brethren." Without their sweet strains the meeting would not have borne the same aspect. They came from Liverpool and gave their services; he therefore called upon all present to give the toast a right hearty reception, with musical honours, and he would ask Bro. Wood for a song while Bro. Armstrong collected himself.

Song, Bro. W. Wood.

Bro. Armstrong responded, and in doing so said, that it afforded them great pleasure to be present. The brethren of No. 148 took too favourable a view of their claims. He could assure them, however, that at any and at all times they should be glad indeed to give their services.

Bro. the Rev. A. A. O'Neill, P.M., &c., rose to propose a most important toast that of "The Masonic Charities," their value and importance could not be exaggerated. He had seen much of their charities, and he was bound to say, that the more he saw of them the more he admired their excellent management. He then sketched the scope of each of the four great central charities, and passed a warm eulogium on the local Masonic educational establishments, and coupled the name of Bro. Capt. Mott with the toast. Drank with all honours.

Glee—"Fair Flora decks."

Bro. Captain Mott responded. He showed first, that the charities merited all the kind words that were said of them, and then detailed the working of the West Lancashire Masonic Institution with which he was intimately connected. Its objects received the benefit, and few indeed knew where it came from. He earnestly appealed for increased support, and succeeded in making a marked impression on all present.

Bro. Colonel Greenall proposed "The Ladies," which was drunk with great enthusiasm.

Glee—"Just like Love."

Bro. A. Waring was called upon to respond, and discharged his duties in a most satisfactory manner, considering that he was a bachelor. It was a matter of great regret that the ladies were not present to hear what their representative said for and about them.

The W. Master asked if any brother wished to propose anything further before he called for the last toast. Colonel Greenall asked if Captain Mott would sing "Old King Cole" (Masonic version). This was readily assented to and much merriment was caused by it. His Majesty's condition on the night of initiation is "more easily imagined than described." The musical brethren were then asked to sing another of Bishop's glees, which having been done the W.M. called for the Tyler's toast.

Bro. Bowes obeyed the call. He proposed the toast with no ordinary feelings. We professed to admire "that most excellent gift"—Charity,—they now had an opportunity of proving themselves. Unforeseen calamity and misfortune had fallen very heavily upon certain brethren in the west. He referred to the frightful distress caused by the recent hurricane which passed over some of the West Indian Islands, particularly Grand Turk. He then detailed in a touching manner, the particulars of the catastrophe, which were listened to with the attention their painful importance merited. He also read a resolution which was passed at a meeting of the members of Turk's Island's Forth Lodge (No. 617). Bro. T. Ockenden, the I.P.M. of that lodge, was a personal friend of his. He had known him intimately for more than thirty years, and a better man or a better Mason did not exist. It grieved him bitterly to think of the sufferings that he and others had been exposed. He had no doubt the Grand Lodge, the Provincial Grand Lodges, and the brethren generally, would readily afford the assistance needed. He left the matter in their hands, and might the Great Architect of the Universe dispose their hearts to do their duty! Brethren, "To all poor and distressed Freemasons throughout the globe, and speedy relief to them," especially at this time, our brethren in Turk's Islands.

KIRKDALE.—*Prince of Wales Lodge* (No. 1035).—A regular meeting of this lodge was held at the St. Mary's School-rooms, Everton Valley, on Thursday, 10th inst. There were present Bros. Sutcliffe, W.M.; Newell, S.W.; H. Williams, J.W.; J. Boyers, Sec.; G. Draper, S.D.; Lloyd, J.D.; Jones, I.G.; Bros Lovelady and Carver Stewards, and Bro. J. Fozzrul, I.P.M., and numerous visiting brethren. The lodge was opened at six o'clock by the W.M. Bro. Sutcliffe. The minutes of the last regular lodge night, also the minutes of the emergency of the 27th Dec., were read and confirmed. The ballot was then taken for five candidates for initiation, who were duly elected. Messrs. Welding and Rees, two of the candidates, being in attendance were regularly initiated into Freemasonry, and declared themselves subscribing members. Bro. Williams explained the tools and Bro. Newell the charge in that degree. Bros. C. C. Simpson, Byrne, and Marsden were examined and proving satisfactory were intrusted, and retired for preparation. The lodge was then opened in the second degree. When the before-named brethren were passed Bro. Newell very ably explained the tools in that degree. Bros. Byron and Almond were then examined, and having passed satisfactorily, were entrusted, and retired for preparation. The lodge was then opened in the third degree, when Bros. Byron and Almond were raised to the sublime degree of M.M.'s, the W.M. explained in a very able manner the working tools in the degree. Several proposals were received for joinings and initiations. It was proposed by Bro. Kidd seconded by Bro. Todd, and carried unanimously, that the sum of two guineas be given to a widow who has been left with six children. There being no further business to be transacted the lodge was closed in due form and with solemn prayer.

LIVERPOOL.—*Harmonia Lodge* (No. 216).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday January 10th, at the Adelphi Hotel. The installation of the W.M., Bro. James McKime, was performed with usual solemnity by Bro. William Laidlaw, P.M. After the installation, the W.M. appointed the following officers:—Bros. A. Graham, I.P.M.; Wood, S.W.; Ferry, J.W.; Laidlaw, Treas.; Kernish, Sec.; Atherton, S.D.; Crook, J.D.; Procter, I.G.; Thomas J. Hughes, Dir. of Cers. The visitors were Bros. Thomas Wylie, P.G.R.; James Hamer, P.G.T.; R. Wylie, W.M. 292, P.G.S.; Marsh, P.M. 1094, P.G.S.; Grimmer, P.M. 155, &c. The lodge was then called off and the brethren discussed a good banquet. After the cloth had been cleared the W.M. Bro. James McKime gave the usual loyal and Masonic toasts. He next proposed "The Visiting Brethren." Bro. Marsh, P.G.S., in reply said that he felt deeply grateful to the W.M. for his kind eulogium, and to the brethren for this manifestation of their good will and esteem to him. He could

not deny that he was passionately devoted to Masonry. The W.M. remarked with regard to the West Lancashire Relief Committee, that was a great pleasure to him, and trusted they would go on doing the great work of Charity. The W. Master's health was proposed by Bro. Greenlaw, I.P.M., who said they could all judge from the way the new W.M. had done his work, as well from his previous connection with the lodge, how he would carry out the duties of his high office. The W.M.'s health was then given and warmly received. The new W.M. had to thank them all for their kindness. He believed he would try and attend punctually, and trusted his brother officers would do the same. He would strive to do his duty. Bro. Armstrong, P.M., P.G.P., proposed that the thanks of the lodge be accorded to Bro. Laidlaw, P.M., who had borne the heat and burden of the evening as Installing W.M. to him, he must be given the palm conducting to a successful issue the proceedings of the day; they all knew whatever he did, he did it well. Bro. Laidlaw in responding said he was willing at all times to make a sacrifice for Freemasonry, not only for Lodge 216, but to any other lodge or office in which he might be placed. After which the lodge was closed.

MONMOUTHSHIRE.

TREDEGAR.—*St. George's Lodge* (No. 1,098).—INSTALLATION CEREMONY.—The installation of Bro. Robert Bond, I.P.M., Isca Lodge 683, as W.M. of the above lodge, took place at the Temperance Hall, on Thursday, the 10th inst. After the installation the undermentioned members were invested with their insignia of office:—Bro. J. Middleton, P.M. 683, P.M.; B. S. Fisher, S.W.; E. Blackburn, J.W.; E. Sloper, Treas.; J. Lewis, Sec.; J. Phillips, S.D.; C. Howpay, J.D.; E. Hirbick, I.G.; E. Sardenbank and W. Benson, Stewards; J. Don Levy, Tyler. A banquet was held in the evening at the Castle Hotel, and was served in a manner, as to quality and quantity, which deservedly elicited an expression of approbation from the guests. The toasts included the following:—"The Queen and Craft," "The M.W.G.M. the Earl of Zetland and the Grand Lodge of England," "The Army, Navy, and Volunteers," "The Bishop and Clergy, and Ministers of other Religious Denominations," "The R.W. the Prov. G.M. of Monmouthshire, Bro. J. E. W. Rolls, and wishing him a speedy restoration to health," "The D. Prov. G.M. Bro. Chas. Lyne, and the P.G. officers," "Bro. Bing," "The Immediate P.M. and other P.M.'s," "The Installing Master," "Officers of the Lodge," "The Lodges in the Province," "The Visiting Brethren," "The host, Bro. Spencer," "The Masonic Charities," of which Bro. Pickford, P.M. 683, gave an interesting account; "All Poor and Distressed Members of the Order."

SOUTH WALES (WESTERN DIVISION).

ABERYSTWITTH.—*Aberystwith Lodge* (No. 1072).—The first meeting of this lodge since the installation of the W.M. for the ensuing year took place on Thursday evening, 10th inst., at the Belle Vue, Royal Hotel. The W.M. Bro. G. T. Smith opened the lodge with solemn prayer at seven p.m., when the following officers were present: Bros. Edmund M. Vaughan, J.W.; E. L. Cole, S.D.; Rev. Edwards, Chap.; John Davies, Treas.; J. W. Szlumper, Hon. Sec.; Theodore Paul, Steward; C. Rice Wil, I.G. In the absence of Bro. F. R. Roberts, S.W., he having been called away to visit a sick brother, Bro. Jesse Baker, with his usual kindness, undertook the duties of S.W. Bro. Jonathan Pell acting, pro tem. as J.D., in an able manner. The minutes of the previous lodge having been read and duly confirmed, the W.M. called Bro. Barrett P. Jordan to the pedestal, and examined him as to the progress he had made in the science since his initiation. Bro. Jordan's answers proving satisfactory, he was entrusted and retired. The lodge was then opened in the second degree, and Bro. Jordan was admitted and passed to F.C. The lodge was then closed in the second degree. The W.M. then ordered a ballot to be taken for Mr. Richard Hughes, which proving unanimous in his favour, that gentleman was initiated into the science and mysteries of our order by the W.M., in a most impressive manner. We drew attention to the working of the lodge by its new W.M. a few weeks ago, and in addition to Bro. G. T. Smith, then referred to, we have now the pleasure of congratulating Bro. Edmund M. Vaughan, J.W. on the great ability displayed by him on this occasion, that brother must have made our ceremonies his study for some time past, and with him it has evidently been a labour of love, or he would not have so good a knowledge of our rites and cere-

monies. We must also compliment the other officers, more particularly the Secretary, to whom the duties are new, on the able manner in which they performed their parts. The lodge being closed in ancient form, and perfect harmony, the brethren adjourned to a supper, prepared by Host Bro. Pell, in his usual liberal manner. After doing ample justice thereto, the cloth was removed, and the usual routine toasts were given by the W.M. The pleasures of the evening were enlivened by some excellent singing by the W.M. and by Bros. Rowe, Wm. Jones, Llynnygroes, and others.

ROYAL ARCH.

BRITANNIC CHAPTER (No. 33).—The first meeting of this year was held at the Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, Long Acre, on Friday the 11th inst. The M.E.Z. Comp. Lewis Crombie was supported by Comps. W. Battye, as H.; W. Watson, as J.; Woodman, N.; J. Glashier, 1st Assistant, and other officers in their respective places, also Comps. G. England, and W. Smith, C.E., P.Z.'s of this chapter, and the following members were present, viz., Comps. J. Strapp, Shields, Pawley, Fairlie, Marshall, and Wood. Comp. Major A. Crombie, Chaplain 187, being a visitor. The chapter having been opened by the Principals and P.Z.'s, the companions were admitted, the minutes of the last chapter read and confirmed; in the unavoidable absence of Comp. J. Glegg, the Scribe E, the Treasurer made a statement as to the flourishing condition of the chapter. The Gold Jewel with suitable inscription, which had been unanimously voted to P.Z. Comp. W. Smith, C.E., the originator and the founder of the chapter, was to have been ready for presentation at this meeting, but that ceremony was postponed until the next meeting, when another P.Z., Comp. G. England, of this chapter will also have a jewel presented to him so that both presentations will take place on the same occasion. Of the five candidates whose names appeared for exaltation in the summons only two attended, viz., Bros. Thomas David Hodge, and John Dixon, both of the Britannic Lodge No. 33. These candidates were then duly exalted in an impressive manner by the M.E.Z. Comp. Lewis Crombie, assisted by his two principals and the officers of the chapter. The various motions of chapter business were then disposed of, and the chapter was closed with solemn prayer. The members of the chapter then adjourned and dined together, leaving about ten o'clock. The usual meetings of this chapter are on the second Fridays of January, April, July, and October. There are occasionally chapters of emergency. Amongst its members are many men eminent in science and art, such as Sir Daniel Gooch, Bart., M.P., the first Z.; Sir C. T. Bright, C.E., M.P.; James Glaisher, F.R.S.; Cromwell E. Varley, F.R.S.; Lord Richard Grosvenor, M.P., P.S.G.W.; J. E. McConnell, C.E., D.P.G.M. Berks and Bucks; Lewis Crombie, P.G.S.D.; G. England, W. Smith, C.E., R. Galloway, C.Z., J. Clegg, F. W. Shields, C.E., and others nearly exclusively members belonging to the Great Scientific Engineering and Railway Lodge No. 33.

MOUNT LEBANON CHAPTER (No. 73).—The regular quarterly convocation of this flourishing chapter was held on Thursday, the 10th inst., at the Green Man Tavern, Tooley-street, Southwark (Comp. C. A. Cathie's). The chapter was opened by Comps. F. Walters, M.E.Z.; J. W. Halsey as H.; A. Avery, J.; and R. W. Little, M.E.Z., of the Rose of Denmark Chapter. The companions were then admitted. Comp. E. N. Levy took his position as H., and there were present Comps. Dr. Dixon, P.Z.; J. C. Goody, S.E.; A. D. Loewenstark, S.N. and Treas.; J. W. Avery, W.S.; M. A. Loewenstark, R. Thomson, C. A. Cathie, and many others. Visitors were Comps. R. W. Little, M.E.Z. 975, S.N. 177; J. W. Halsey, H. 507; J. Jones, 657; R. W. Wheeler 73 (S.C.). The minutes of the previous convocation were read and unanimously confirmed. Ballots were taken for Bros. C. Groom, 73; E. Prince, 73; W. Youldon, 548; J. Norrish, 1,044; and Comp. R. Ord, 720, J.W. 1,044, as a joining member; all of which were declared to be in favour of their admission. Bros. W. Youldon, 548, and C. Wall, 1,044, being present, were regularly and duly exalted into Royal Arch Freemasonry. The ceremony was well rendered by every officer, and more especially by the principals, who were most efficient in all their parts. The election for officers for the ensuing year resulted in the unanimous election by ballot of Comps. E. N. Levy, H., as M.E.Z.; A. Avery, J., as H.; J. E. Goody, S.E., as J.; F. Walters, M.E.Z., as S.E.; A. D. Loewenstark, S.N.

and Treas., re-elected to both offices; A. P. Leonard, P.S., re-elected to that office. W. J. Laing, Janitor, was unanimously re-elected by a show of hands. The audit committee was elected, and appointed to meet on Wednesday, March 27th, at seven o'clock p.m. Notices of motion were given to alter the nights of meeting from the second to the fourth Thursday, and to increase the subscription to two guineas a year. Comp. R. W. Wheeler, 73 (S.C.), was proposed as a joining member. Some candidates were proposed for exaltation at the next meeting of the chapter. Business being ended the Chapter was duly closed until the second Thursday in April.

CESHIRE.

CHESTER.—*Grosvenor Chapter (No. 721).*—A convocation of this chapter was held at the Bars Hotel, on Monday, the 7th instant. The chapter was duly opened at 6 p.m. by Comp. J. P. Platt, P. Prov. S.G.D. and P.Z. as Z. Comp. T. Platt, P. Prov. J.G.D. and Z. of Zion Chapter, Birkenhead, as H.; Comp. J. B. Hignett, P. Prov. J.G.D. as J.; Comp. W. R. Bainbridge, S.E., W.M. 721; Comp. W. Bainbridge, jun. as P.S.; Comp. Wm. Brown, Assist. Soj.; Comp. Brisland, Janitor; also Comps. V. Williams, W.M. elect, 721; Captain D. Gwynne, A. J. Brereton, E. Tasker, W. G. Sandy, Captain J. Davies, R. G. Parry, Dr. J. D. Weaver, H. Allsop. Visitor—Comp. Dr. S. Sprath, J. 537. The minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. The ballot was taken for Bro. T. J. Williams, 721, and Bro. Thomas Wood, J.W., 425, which proved unanimous in their favour, and they being in attendance were duly prepared, admitted, and exalted to the degree of Royal Arch Masons. Bro. Alexander Seath was also a candidate for this degree, and was accepted, but upon his certificate being perused, it was found a fortnight short of the twelve months required as M.M. As he was under orders to proceed to Gibraltar on the 10th inst., the companions expressed great regret at their inability to confer this degree upon him. After other business had been disposed of, the chapter was closed in due form, and the companions retired to refreshment.

LANCASHIRE (WEST).

LIVERPOOL.—*Mariner Chapter (No. 249).*—A convocation of this chapter was held on the 11th inst., at the Masonic Temple, Hope-street. The following officers being present: Comps. Dr. J. S. Taylor, M.E.Z.; Marsh, H.; Crane, J.; Dr. Johnson, P.S.; Goepel, S.E.; Dr. J. Mercer Johnson, S.N.; Doyle, T.; and Comps. Hamer, Pepper, Laidlaw, &c., P.Z.'s. The candidates for this degree were Bros. B. E. Cras, 1,094; Clake and Burnes. After going through the ceremony, the lectures were given by the respective chiefs, in a remarkably lucid style and great impressiveness, after which the chapter was formally closed with prayer. The companions then adjourned to refreshment. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts having been proposed by Dr. Taylor, M.E.Z. The M.E.Z. proposed "The P.Z.'s of Chapter, No. 249," and remarked on the assistance afforded by them. The chapter, he said, was indebted to Comp. Hamer, P.Z., for his kindness at all times to take part in the good working. Comp. Hamer, P.Z., rose and replied, thanking the companions for the ready response to the call of the M.E.Z., Comp. Hamer then proposed "The Healths of the Chiefs of the Chapter," and said he was much pleased with the way they discharged their duties. Comp. Taylor, M.E.Z., briefly replied, lamenting that unavoidable circumstances had prevented him from accomplishing all that he had desired, but said he would still exert himself to promote the interests of the chapter. "The Newly-exalted Companions," was proposed, and responded to by Comp. E. Campana, who addressed the chapter as follows:—Most excellent Chiefs and Companions,—Allow me to rise in the name of my Companion Cras to thank you for the kind manner in which his name has been coupled in this toast. He tells me to assure you that he feels it a high honour for him to have entered into your Order, in which he will try to do his utmost to become a worthy member. Any one entering it ought to make his standard the principles inculcated so impressively by our most excellent Chiefs; and if these principles were carried on in the world, we should, as Masons, be the example of men at large. But, unhappily, our Freemasonry is very often the case of misrepresentation, particularly by those who do not, or will not become acquainted with our principles. Freemasonry has been the subject of many criticisms, not only by men unconscious of the good we are propagating, but also by our enemies. But we that know its good and its ends, let us think that we have before us the welfare

of the Craft, and notwithstanding all that is said against, we ought to constitute ourselves as the point in the circle. The point that never can attend the circumference will be our enemies, and the circle our sacred bounds, keeping in the limit of which no man can err. And let our enemies be confused by our conduct, not only in the lodge and chapter, but also outside, towards our brother Masons and mankind in general. Our Freemasonry will then be the admiration of everybody. As a foreigner, unable to express myself better, allow me to assure you that, in England as elsewhere, where I can be called for, I shall inculcate the principles of friendship and harmony, of which I have had so good and hearty an example to-night.

ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED RITE.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

NOTTINGHAM.—*Chapter of Sovereign Princes of Rose Croix.*
—The members of this chapter held their January meeting at the Assembly Room, on Thursday, the 3rd inst., under the presidency of Bro. T. W. Robinson, M.W.S.; assisted by Bros. S. R. P. Shilton, P.M.W.S. 3^d; the Rev. E. H. H. Vernon, Prelate, 30^d; John Comyn, P.M.W.S.; E. M. Kidd, 1st Gen.; M. Vowler, 2nd Gen.; H. A. Attenborough, Grand Marshal; C. Allcock, C.G.; J. C. Banwell, E.W.; A. Page, G. C. Hall, T. Hornen, C. Fermeley, W. Newton, and R. Fitzhugh; Hyde Pullen, 32^d and Secretary General to the Supreme Grand Council having honored the chapter with his presence, the M.W.S. requested him to open the chapter, which he kindly consented to do, and the same was opened in ancient and solemn form. A petition of perfection having been presented by Bro. J. C. Lorry Marsh, and J. W. Brown, which was graciously received by the chapter, when they were installed by Bro. Hyde Pullen, in that solemn and elegant manner, that appears to be inherent to our admired brother. The engraved columns of the preceding convocation were read, and silence prevailing, were approved, adopted, and signed. Bro. S. R. P. Shilton proposed, and Bro. J. Comyn seconded, that Bro. E. Moses Kidd be the M.W.S. for the next year. No dissentient. Bro. E. H. H. Vernon proposed, and Bro. S. R. P. Shilton seconded, that a committee be appointed to draw up by-laws for the chapter by the next meeting, when Bros. Robinson, Vernon, Shilton, and Comyn were appointed the committee. Bro. Comyn proposed, and Bro. Robinson seconded, that Bros. Vernon and Kidd audit the last year's accounts. No dissentient. Bro. S. R. P. Shilton proposed, and the M.W.S. seconded, a vote of thanks to Bro. Hyde Pullen for his great kindness in visiting this distant province in this inclement season. No dissentient. There being no further business before the chapter, the same was closed in due form according to ancient custom.

CHANNEL ISLANDS.

JERSEY.

LODGE LA CESAREE (No. 590).

The monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, the 27th ult., at the Masonic Temple, Stopford-road. The lodge was opened by Bro. Henry Luce Mannel, W.M., assisted by his Wardens, Bros. J. Oatley and Abr. Viel, Bros. C. Le Sueur, J. T. du Jardin, A. Schmitt, Sec.: Ph. Binet, P.M.; N. Le Goupillot, Treas.; Ph. Starck, I.G., and many others. Amongst the visitors we observed Bros. J. F. Draper, P.M. 213; J. Fauvel, W.M. elect 245, Thos. Wade, P. Blampied, P.G. Stewards, &c. A few seconds after an intimation was given of the approach of Bro. J. Le Cronier, M.D., the D. Prov. G.M., a deputation went out to meet him, and his reception was most cordial, and given with heart and hand.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

Bro. P. Brindejont being a candidate for advancement, underwent the usual examination, and acquitting himself satisfactorily, was entrusted, and retired for preparation. In his absence the lodge was opened in the second degree.

Bro. Brindejont was received in due form, and passed to the degree of F.C. The charge restricted to this degree was impressively given by Bro. C. Le Sueur.

The W.M. also addressed the newly-passed brother as follows: My very dear Bro. Brindejont,—To the words which you have

heard I have but little to add, and it would be superfluous to say that we depend upon your perfect fidelity in adhering to all that you have solemnly sworn to do. The degree of F.C. prepares you for that more grand, solemn, and sublime one which succeeds it. From this period of your entrance upon it you ought to be led seriously to reflect upon the hidden mysteries of nature and science. Your attention should be directed to the study of the works of creation, in order that you may better comprehend the grandeur, the magnificence, the glory, and the power of the Creator. We trust that you will prove a faithful, active, and laborious workman in this universal temple, in which we desire, in which we resolve, to toil, to love, to solace—in which we have the same inducements to study, to adore, to hope—and we entertain a lively assurance that at our next meeting you will be found worthy of the privilege to take your rank among the descendants of those who also worked long before the time of Solomon.

The lodge was then resumed in the first degree. Ballots were taken, and proved unanimous, for Bros. E. Jaboneau and P. Le Jeune for joining.

Bro. A. Schmitt read the following letter, addressed by the Lodge of Sully to the Grand Lodge of England, testifying the high estimation of the French brethren towards the people of England and the Grand Lodge:—

Lodge the Friends of Sully, Brest.

This lodge, which works under warrant derived from the Supreme Council, has lately addressed the following letter to the Grand Lodge of England:—

Brest, Oct. 18, 1866.

Very dear Brethren,—In conformity with a resolution adopted at our meeting on August 22nd, 1866, we have the agreeable task of forwarding to you the present address. On behalf of our lodge, first, as Freemasons, and, secondly, as men, we desire to lay at your feet the expression of our cordial sentiments of esteem, of approbation, and of congratulation on the great work the accomplishment of which has now been fulfilled. While we have been looking forward to and earnestly desiring a universal spread of the Masonic tie, the old continent has become attached to the new, to the intense delight of those who seek the mutual and material interests of both, by the accomplishment of a gigantic enterprise.

The talented Lieut. Maury, formerly an officer in the service of the United States, had previously determined the direction which it would be most desirable to adopt for the deposition of a Transatlantic cable in the depths of the great ocean; but means for the execution of his project, and the accomplishment of so difficult a work, were deficient, and the provision of them was a problem yet to be solved. This the genius of England seems to have foreseen, in the construction of the Great Eastern steamship. To obtain complete success in effecting the object, another thing was required, no less than the perseverance by which your nation is distinguished, carried to such a height, that no real discouragement from inevitable and unforeseen accidents and errors could be regarded in the light of obstacles. We heartily congratulate you on the indomitable energy you have brought to bear on labours which have achieved a work of progress, the effect of which, in developing the best interests of the human race is as yet incalculable.

It is in this aspect, and under these considerations, that the members of the lodge the Friends of Sully, of Brest, working under the Scottish rite, venture to offer their warm congratulations to their brethren in England. Yes, on principle, Masonry deplors and views as a disgrace the tendency on the part of some men, endowed with practical, but misdirected genius, to extend or bring to perfection means of destroying their fellows of the human species; on the contrary, the Craft owes the expression of its warmest sympathy, of its loudest and most heartfelt applause in favour of every great work which, like yours, very dear brethren, tends to draw nearer to each other both nations and individuals in a community of interests and ideas.

Thus have we endeavoured to express our sentiments, which, dear brethren, we now transmit to you. Accept them as fraternal and sincere on the part of the Freemasons of Brest towards all their English brethren.

A. Ortolan, W.M.
Quettier, S.W.
A. Gibert, J.W.
Cuzent, Privy Seal.
J. de Laplace, Orator.
A. Bonain, Secretary.

Resolved—That this letter be entered in a distinct book, called the "Correspondence Book."

The Secretary informed the brethren that the work so anxiously expected, from Bro. Pierre Leroux, well known in Jersey, and who held the office of Orator in Lodge La Césarée, in 1853 and 1854 has just been published, under the title of "Job;" a drama, in five acts, with a prologue and epilogue by the Prophet Isaiah, recovered and retrieved in its integrity, and literally translated from a Hebrew text, by Bro. P. Leroux, with this epigraph—"vitam imponere vero"—being that adopted by J. J. Rousseau, and which our great Philosopher has pre-eminently the right to appropriate to himself. The work is dedicated to Lodge La Nouvelle Amitié, a l'Or de Grasse, and to all Freemasons dispersed over the face of the earth. It reflects on Judaism, Christianity, and on all the religious traditions in general, an unexpected light. It will be highly interesting to read a drama in five acts, written about 3,000 years ago by one of the mightiest and most original personages whom the Hebrew people ever produced.

Resolved—That a copy of the work be subscribed for by the lodge.

The lodge extended its brotherly hand to a Mason's son in the sum of £2, for the purpose of enabling him to be transferred from Jersey to a school in England.

The next portion of the business of the evening was of a very pleasing character, for, at the request of the W.M., Bros. J. Th. du Jardin and A. Schmitt conducted Bro. Le Sueur to the pedestal, when, all brethren upstanding, Bro. H. L. Manuel addressed him as follows:—

Very dear Bro. and P. Master,—By virtue of my position as Master of this lodge, I have this evening to perform a most agreeable duty. In the name of the lodge I have to offer you this jewel, an imperfect yet sincere evidence of the fraternal esteem with which you are regarded by us. The Césarée Lodge has for a long period been singularly fortunate in its choice of successive Masters. Thanks to the personal intelligence and knowledge, to the cultivated minds, and truly fraternal spirit of those who have preceded me—thanks to these qualities and to these virtues—the Césarée Lodge has attained an honourable, an independent, a useful position, and consequently it may now fairly assert its claim to be considered as one of the substantial, firm, and durable pillars of Freemasonry in the Channel Isles. Whenever we call to mind the most devoted, the most exemplary of its Masters, naturally, my dear brother, we shall have a remembrance of you. Your counsels have invariably been dictated by the spirit and wisdom of sagacity—your conduct towards all of us, has, without exception, been directed by fraternal feeling. Never under your rule have our internal order, our peace, our harmony, been seriously interrupted, and you have been eminently successful in developing all those features which are the most beautiful and worthy of admiration in our honourable brotherhood, in our mystic art. In short, your Mastership has been a complete success in all respects, and every true Mason must be happy in having the pleasure of joining me in offering our congratulations thereon.

I beg you then, my dear brother, to accept this jewel—a small offering, it is true—but, like the widow's mite, it is the offering of sincerity and of a spirit of warm-heartedness. I ask you to receive it as being worthily and fraternally presented, and may you for many long years be permitted to wear it with a pride thoroughly legitimate. It will often remind you of the services you have rendered, and of the gratitude which has been their necessary result; and, at the same time, it is the hope of all of us that it will act as a stimulus to others among us who are, as yet, young members of the Craft, to follow the example which you have set them.

Bro. Schmitt said: I will now, Bro. Le Sueur, read to you the inscription: "The Lodge La Césarée, No. 590, testifying its deep esteem and its gratitude to W. Bro. C. Le Sueur, P.M.—Jersey, Dec. 27th, 1866."

Bro. J. Th. du Jardin then placed the jewel on Bro. C. Le Sueur's breast.

We are unable to give a verbatim report of the very appropriate reply made by Bro. Le Sueur. In a few words, extempore, he set forth the unexpected pleasure afforded him in the presentation of the elegant testimonial he had just received. He felt assured that his efforts, humble as they had been, were at least directed to one great point—the advancement of Freemasonry, and the promotion of fraternal affection. Bro. Le Sueur also alluded to the gratification he felt at receiving the testimonial from the hands of so respected a Mason and friend

as Bro. H. L. Manuel. He concluded by stating how valuable and dear the testimonial presented to him would ever be, by promising to work with unabated zeal and energy, by wishing all prosperity and happiness to the brethren who had thus kindly marked their approbation of his conduct, and by hoping that they should see him amongst them as frequently as when he was in the Master's chair, and doing, as he had ever done, his best to promote the welfare of Lodge La Césarée.

The lodge was then closed at nine, in love and perfect harmony.

We are indebted to our worthy Bro. Dr. H. Hopkins, P.M., for the translation of Bro. Manuel's addresses, as well as for that of the letter from the lodge Les Amis de Sully.

IRELAND.

SKIBBEREEN.—*Skibberreen Lodge* (No. 15).—On Thursday, the 27th ult., a number of the brethren of this ancient and thriving lodge assembled in their rooms, North-street, to celebrate the festival of St. John, appoint officers for the ensuing six months, and initiate three gentlemen into the mysteries of ancient Freemasonry. The officers selected, were Bros. J. F. Levis, W.M. (this being the third time Bro. Levis has been called on to fill the chair); W. Eddy, jun., S.W.; T. Trinder, J.W.; Dr. Hadden, Treas.; J. Wilson, Sec. There were present Bros. T. Somerville, D.L., P.M.; Sir Jocelyn Coghill, Bart.; R. H. H. Becher, J.P., G. Robinson, J.P., Dr. Somerville, C. Clerke, P.M.'s; Cornet Cox, 12th Lancers; Dr. Hadden and John F. Lewis, P.M.'s; W. Swanton, Captain Eddy, Captain R. Pope, Captain J. Tonkins, J. Acton, P. O'Riely, R. Brennan, James Douglas, T. Trinder, W. A. Levis, C.E., R. B. Marmion, Wm. Clerke, W.M. 65, Cork; J. W. Potter, R. Beamish, Henry E. Nicholls, C.E., R. Lee, C.E., P.M.; Frederick P. E. Potter, P.M. During the initiation of Mr. Lawrence, Lieutenant Pole, of the 12th Lancers, and Captain Gillett, of the 13th Light Infantry, the chair was occupied by Bro. T. Somerville, and by Dr. Somerville during the festival, which was supplied by Mr. C. O'Keefe, host of the Becher Arms, in a style that did him much credit, and kept up the reputation of the old establishment of which he is proprietor. Every delicacy of the season was provided, the wines of the choicest description, and the dessert all that could be desired to please the taste of the epicure. On the removal of the cloth the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given, and received with due honour; then followed the toast of the evening—"The Health of the newly-elected Worshipful Master," which was responded to in a truly Masonic style. "The Health of the Past Master, Bro. Richard Lee," was received with applause, he, as was stated, having done much to further the interests of Freemasonry, and Lodge 15 in particular. Numerous other toasts, together with several songs, ably rendered by Bro. Cornet Cox, Captain Gillett, Wilson, Nicholls, and others of the brethren, brought the meeting to an harmonious close at an early hour.

NEAGH.—*Ormond Lodge* (No. 201).—At a monthly meeting of the above lodge, held at the Grand Jury Room of the Court-house, on Thursday, the 10th inst. The following officers were installed for the next six months:—Brcs. Wolfe, W.M.; Walker, S.W.; Hodgins, J.W.; Stoney, S.D.; Captain Saunders, J.D.; Fortune, I.G.; F. Young, Sec. Bro. W. B. Fry resigned the office of Treasurer, which he held, with great advantage to the lodge, for over twenty years. Bro. Captain Saunders was elected in his stead. It was arranged to celebrate the festival of St. John on Thursday, the 17th inst., of which the brethren have had due notice.

AUSTRALIA.

THE MASONIC BALL.

It is now over two years since the Masonic brethren of Victoria gave their last ball, and on that occasion, as well as on the present, the old Exhibition building was the scene of the entertainment. It has been said that the Masons are the most successful promoters of balls, and such would seem to be the fact, if last night's affair may be taken as a criterion, the arrangements being as nearly perfect as possible.

The present ball was mooted about three months since, but in consequence of the mayor's hospitality to the citizens it was

postponed, and although following so closely on those two brilliant entertainments, it was a complete success. The old building, which, undecorated, has almost an air of antiquity, and which must give way, like the aboriginals, to the purposes of civilisation, never looked better. The hall was elegantly ornamented with all the emblems peculiar to the mysteries of Masonry. A handsome dais was placed beneath the organ, and was decorated with emblems of *Rose Croix*, *Knight Templar*, *Royal Arch*, and *Craft Masons*. Three large wax tapers on Corinthian pedestals were kept burning in the front of the dais. Tracing boards of emblematic Masonic paintings were attached to the pillars supporting the building; Masonic banners were fixed to form the springing of the various arches, and Chinese lanterns were pendant by evergreens from the roof. In front of the organ, over the dais, was suspended the Royal Standard, which formed a background for a large square and compass, in the centre of which was the letter "G," magnificently executed in flowers and shrubs.

About a quarter past nine o'clock his Excellency the Governor and family arrived, and the band played the National Anthem. The *Rose Croix* (*Prince Masons*). The *Knights Templar* formed the "Arch of Steel," and paid the highest compliment to the vice-regal party that Masons can accord. His excellency was escorted to the east end of the building, and passed beneath the arch to the west. Lady Manners Sutton was escorted by Captain Standish, D.G.M., (E.C.); Miss Manners Sutton by P.G.M. (I.C.) J. T. Smith, M.L.A.; Miss Mabel Manners Sutton, by D.P.G.M. Dr. St. John Clark. Mr. Manners Sutton and Lieut. Rothwell, aide-de-camps, were also present.

Lady Manners Sutton wore a blue silk dress, over which there was a skirt of tulle and Maltese lace trimming. The Misses Manners Sutton were attired in white silk skirts of tulle, looped up with rhododendrons. In the first quadrille Miss Manners Sutton danced with P.G.M. Standish, Dr. Crooke and Miss M. Manners being vis-a-vis. The "sides" were Miss A. K. Smith, who danced with P.G.M. J. T. Smith, and P.G.M. of the S.C., T. Read.

The company had not all arrived till midnight, and there were nearly 400 ladies and gentlemen present. The ladies were attired in the latest Parisian fashions, and they added considerable lustre to the ball. The gorgeous regalia of the *Rose Croix*, or *Prince Masons*, and the *Knights Templars* had also a very beautiful appearance. About midnight supper was announced. Lady Manners Sutton accompanied P.G.M. Standish, Miss Manners Sutton with P.G.M. J. T. Smith, Miss Mabel Manners Sutton with P.G.M. Gell; and his Worship the Mayor of Melbourne took Mrs. J. T. Smith.

After the supper, which was provided by Mr. A. King, had been done justice to, P.G.M. Standish proposed "The Queen," P.G.M. J. I. Smith "The Governor—a toast which was drunk with cheers—and P.G.M. Read "The Ladies."

The vice-regal party retired from the ball-room about half-past twelve o'clock. Dancing then re-commenced, and was kept up without intermission till an early hour. Mr. Hill decorated the interior of the building.

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

The commencement of the new year brings before us amongst the almanac literature a new issue of the interesting annual of the Royal Insurance Company, in the usual form of a very useful and elegantly appointed almanac. The information so carefully compiled on the subject of insurance generally will prove of much value to all interested in this important topic; but what is most remarkable in the contents of the little book in question, is the record it contains of the unexampled prosperity of the concern it represents. When a company can pay in a single year, as the Royal has done, fire claims to the amount of about £310,000, and yet show a balance in its favour, it becomes a self-evident fact that the transactions of the association are on such a scale of magnitude as to indicate the entire confidence of

the public in the manner in which its affairs are conducted. The new life business for 1865 reached the enormous sum of £886,000, and the net fire premiums for the year were £414,700.

MASONIC FESTIVITIES.

DURHAM.

GRAND MASONIC BALL.

We are indebted to the *Durham County Advertiser*, of Friday, January 11th, for the following report:—

The grand Masonic ball which has excited for some time past the greatest interest throughout the whole county, took place in the Town Hall, in this city, on Tuesday evening, the 8th inst. It proved, in every way, a great and decided success. Before, however, we proceed to describe the ball itself, we may refer to the object the promoters had in view. The Marquis of Granby Lodge was constituted upwards of a hundred years ago. Before the erection of the building in Meeting House-lane, Old Elvet, the members of the Craft used to meet together at some inn, and it was not until they became possessed of a building of their own that the Freemasons in the city of Durham began to attract attention by their numbers and respectability. The late George IV., when Prince of Wales, joined the Masonic brotherhood, and at that time great interest became manifested in Freemasonry, and there was a great accession of new members. The Duke of Sussex, following the example of his royal brother, also became a member of the mystic body; and when his Grace visited the north and took the chair at a Freemasons' dinner, a number of influential gentlemen were induced to become Freemasons. Many members of the Granby Lodge had the honour of dining with the royal Duke, and at that time several gentlemen of high standing and social position in this city became members of the lodge. From this time, down to the year 1862, the lodge underwent various changes and vicissitudes—on the whole maintaining its position—but it was until the year we have mentioned that the present building became inadequate to accommodate the brethren of the lodge. A determination was then come to to provide a larger and more commodious building and the subscribing members each agreed to put down a certain sum to form the nucleus of a building fund. Although a secret and to some extent an exclusive body, the Freemasons contribute very generously to various charitable institutions, and the members of the Granby Lodge felt that on this ground they might with propriety appeal to the public at large for assistance and support in carrying out the object they had in view. An amateur dramatic entertainment on behalf of the lodge constituted the first appeal which the Freemasons of this city made to the public. The entertainment, in a dramatic point of view, was quite a success, but financially it proved a failure, and very little pecuniary benefit was derived. The ball to which we are about to refer originated, we believe, with Mr. T. Jones, and has proved, we are glad to say, a splendid success. The Marquis of Granby Lodge has always maintained a high reputation amongst the Craft, and many distinguished men have belonged to it. Members of Parliament, lauded proprietors, eminent divines, and professional gentlemen, have from time to time been members of the lodge. Some of the older Masons can still remember when Stephen Kemble and Count Borouwlaski sat side by side in the Granby Lodge. Both were famous for mental endowments, but while intellectually there were strong points of resemblance between them, they were, in their physical structure, the very antithesis of each other. The Count was remarkably diminutive in stature, whilst Kemble possessed such Falstaffian proportions, that he used to play that character on the stage without the "padding" to which other players have to resort. Dr. Townsend, one of the luminaries of the church, was also a member of the Granby Lodge, and the late Lord Durham, who was Prov. G.M. at the time of his death, took a warm interest in its welfare. A member of the Granby Lodge, John Fawcett, Esq., at present holds the distinguished office of Prov. G.M., which was conferred upon him after the resignation of the late Sir Hedworth Williamson, Bart., who succeeded the late Earl of Durham. In times past the heads of many county families have been members of the Granby Lodge. Amongst those who have recently joined, we may mention the Right Hon. J. R. Mowbray, J. Henderson, Esq., M.P.; H. J. B. Baker, Esq.,

T. C. Thompson, Esq.; S. A. D. Shafto, Esq.; J. Wharton, Esq., and Dr. Holden. R. D. Shafto, Esq., *M.P.*, has for some time past belonged to the Granby Lodge. George Elliot, Esq., whose name has become famous throughout the world as a constructor of telegraph cables, has recently been proposed a member. It will be seen from these remarks that Freemasonry is becoming very popular in the city of Durham, and it is in consequence of the great accession of new members that it has become necessary to provide a larger building than that which the Granby Lodge at present possesses. The ball on Tuesday evening was one of the most successful gatherings which has taken place in the city of Durham for many years past. 337 persons were present, and the company included the representatives of the highest families in the county and neighbourhood. The Masonic brethren were arrayed in the costume of their Order, and the great variety in the dresses produced a most brilliant effect. The provincial officers, with their splendid gold lace and embroidery, the members of the Royal Arch with their sashes and jewels, and the Knights of Malta and the Knight Templars, with their gorgeous decorations, gave a charm to the whole scene which will long be remembered by those who witnessed it. Military and naval officers, volunteers, and deputy lieutenants wore their uniform, and the splendour of the ladies' dresses was most pleasing to behold. One of the novelties of the evening was what is called a "Knight Templars Quadrille," in which Viscount Newry, Mr. Brignall, jun., Mr. Emma Holmes, and Mr. Levy took part. The Knights appeared in their insignia, and were arrayed in long white cloaks, bearing the cross of the order on their left shoulder. This quadrille formed quite a distinguishing feature in the evening's festivities, and was certainly the first of the kind which has ever been attempted in the city of Durham. The Town-hall requires little adornment at any time, and on this occasion the decorations were not of an extensive character. Masonic symbols were placed in different parts of the room, and a number of banners were hung along the panelling. These included the banner of Mr. Fawcett, the Prov. G.M., the banner of the late Lord Durham, and other banners belonging to the Granby Lodge. Flags belonging to the order of the Royal Arch were distributed in various parts of the hall. Two very handsome bags, belonging to the secretary and treasurer of the province, having in front of each, wrought in gold needlework, the words "Audi, vide, et tace," were hung on the north side of the room. A number of flags, lent by W. L. Wharton, Esq., depended from the hammer beams. The erection of an orchestra near the door, and the removal of the platform from the upper end of the hall, greatly added to the appearance of the room itself, and gave additional space for the dancers. On the orchestra were the words, "Temperance, Fortitude, Prudence, and Justice." The body of the hall was tastefully adorned with evergreens skilfully arranged.

The ball was opened about ten o'clock by Mr. Fawcett and the Duchess of Marlborough, to the well known air of the "Keel Row." During the early part of the evening, the ball room was much crowded; but the supper and refreshment rooms afterwards drew off from time to time a portion of the company, and there was but little overcrowding during the remainder of the evening. The prevailing fashion in ladies ball-room dresses is ill adapted to a crowded assembly, and many trains underwent a process of summary curtailment. All appeared heartily to enjoy themselves, and the arrangements which had been made by the committee were of the most perfect character. The supper, provided by Mr. Carr of the Half Moon Inn, was most excellent in quality, and the wants of the guests were promptly attended to by a large and efficient staff of waiters. Champagne and other wines were provided in abundance. Mr. Fawcett, Mr. R. D. Shafto, Mr. Mowbray, Mr. Henderson, and Mr. J. R. Davison, had each generously contributed a three dozen case of the best champagne. Other gentlemen, we believe, also subscribed to the wine fund. Mr. George Greenwell officiated as steward in the supper room, and he was most courteous and attentive in ministering to the comforts of the guests. The stewards of the evening who arranged and carried out the details were Messrs. John Thwaites, W. Brignall, W. Stoker, T. Jones, W. Henderson, Rev. F. Thompson, T. White, C. Rowlandson, W. R. Fitzgerald, W. C. Blackett, J. Wortley, J. Young, and the Rev. G. R. Bulman. When all worked together so cordially to promote the success of the ball, it would be invidious to single out any person for special commendation. The committee to a man laboured indefatigably, and to the very close of the ball their exertions were

unceasing. Mr. Bulman and Mr. Rowlandson acted as secretaries to the committee, and Mr. W. Henderson, Mr. J. Wharton, and Mr. J. Shafto officiated in the ball-room as masters of the ceremonies. We must not omit to mention the valuable services rendered by a committee of ladies, consisting of Mrs. Wm. Henderson, Mrs. Wm. Stoker, Mrs. W. R. Fitzgerald, and Mrs. T. Jones. To Mrs. Henderson, especially, the Masonic brethren are under the deepest obligations, for to her unremitting labours as correspondent with the various county families the success of the ball is in a great measure attributable.

The music was provided by Mr. O. Stimpson, and we have rarely heard a better quadrille band. The playing of a clever harpist was a great acquisition.

The ball, which terminated about four o'clock, proved one of the most delightful entertainments that has ever taken place in the city of Durham. We are glad to find that the Freemasons of the Granby Lodge, to whom those who participated in the pleasures of the evening are indebted for having been instrumental in effecting this joyous gathering, will receive as the proceeds of the affair something like £100.

MEETINGS OF THE SCIENTIFIC AND LEARNED SOCIETIES FOR THE WEEK ENDING JAN. 26TH, 1867.

Monday, Jan. 21st.—ROYAL UNITED SERVICE INSTITUTION, at 8.

Tuesday, Jan. 22nd.—INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS, at 8.

Wednesday, Jan. 23rd.—SOCIETY OF ARTS, at 8.

Wednesday, Jan. 23rd.—GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, at 8.

THE WEEK.

THE COURT.—The Queen walked out on the afternoon of the 9th inst., accompanied by Miss M'Gregor, and attended by the Dowager Duchess of Athole, and her Majesty drove on the morning of the 13th inst., with Princess Christian. The Queen and Princess Beatrice rode on ponies in the afternoon, attended by the Dowager Duchess of Athole, and her Majesty walked in the grounds on the morning, accompanied by Princess Louise. The Queen drove to Newport in the afternoon, accompanied by Prince and Princess Christian and Princess Beatrice, and visited St. Thomas's Church. Her Majesty was received by the Rev. G. Connor. Her Majesty walked in the grounds on the morning of the 12th inst., accompanied by the Dowager Duchess of Athole and Miss M'Gregor. The Queen drove out in the afternoon, accompanied by Princess Christian. Her Majesty, Prince and Princess Christian, Princess Louise, Prince Leopold, and Princess Beatrice, attended Divine Service at Whippingham Church on the morning of the 13th inst. The Rev. G. Protheroi officiated. The Queen and Princess Louise walked in the grounds and rode on ponies on the morning of the 12th inst. The Queen, accompanied by Princess Christian, drove out in the afternoon, attended by the Dowager Duchess of Athole, and her Majesty walked in the grounds on the morning of the 15th inst., with Princess Christian and Princess Louise, attended by the Hon. Emily Cathcart. The Queen, accompanied by the Dowager Duchess of Athole and Miss M'Gregor, drove out in the afternoon, and her Majesty walked and drove in the morning of the 16th inst., with Princess Christian.

GENERAL HOME NEWS.—The return of the Registrar-General of the health of London for the week ending January 12 shows that the deaths exceed the average number (corrected for the increase of population) by 171. In the previous week the deaths were 178 below the average, which makes the excess of mortality somewhat startling. The Registrar says it is "due to the cold

weather," the total number in the two preceding weeks being 1,436 and 1,437 respectively, while last week it was 1,891; and that, therefore, "the change of temperature has killed about 455 people in London." In such weather to give fire, food, and clothing is to give life. The deaths attributable to phthisis and bronchitis in the previous week were 356, and last week 584.—At a meeting of the Bethnal-green Board of Guardians held on the 11th inst., the conduct of Dr. Massingham, the parish surgeon, who was alleged to have neglected a patient under circumstances of a very inhuman character, came under discussion. In a letter sent to the board by the foreman of the coroner's jury the conduct of Dr. Massingham was strongly denounced, and his instant dismissal urged. Dr. Massingham was present, prepared with a written defence, which was read to the board. After duly weighing both sides of the story, the board unanimously decided that Dr. Massingham should be suspended from his office, and that the evidence and the written statement in defence should be forwarded to the Poor-law Board.—The law courts reopened on the 11th inst., and several cases of interest were heard. The Lord Chancellor had before him an appeal from the court below in the case *Walters v. the Earl of Shaftesbury*. Mr. Walters had been steward for the Earl, and had carried out several works, for which he had charged as contractor for them. Lord Shaftesbury contended that he was simply agent, and had no right to charge as if he were contractor. The Lord Chancellor held that Lord Shaftesbury was right, and that the decision of the court below, which had been the other way, was wrong.—Charlotte King, the married woman who was tried at the Central Criminal Court on a charge of murdering her infant, and acquitted, was brought up at the Clerkenwell Police-court charged with uttering a counterfeit five-shilling piece to a licensed victualler in the Farringdon-road. After her dismissal on the 10th inst., she was apprehended on the second charge, and soon after being relocked up she was caught in the act of attempting to destroy herself. This, it appears, is the third time the unfortunate woman has attempted self-murder. The passing the coin was proved, and she was committed for trial.—The gang of fellows captured cock-fighting in a den in Southwark, on the 11th instant, have made their appearance at the bar of the police-court. Like one of their conquered pets, they were crestfallen. They had not much to say in defence of their cowardly and brutal sport; and the magistrate, dismissing some of the smaller fry, fined the rest in various sums. A much more fitting punishment would undoubtedly be the treadmill. Forty shillings or five pounds as a fine leaves no painful recollections behind; the treadmill and spare diet are not likely soon to be forgotten by those who experience them.—On the 15th inst. a meeting of the Law Amendment Committee of the National Association for the Promotion of Social Science was held, when an important discussion took place upon the present state of the law as regards contracts between masters and servants. An able paper on the subject was read by Mr. Edgar, who criticised the resolutions which were passed by the Select Committee of the House of Commons. In the discussion which ensued, a pretty general opinion was expressed that it was unjust and harsh for the master to be able to bring the criminal law into force for the fulfilment of a civil contract when the workman had no such remedy, however wrongly the master might act towards him.—A frightful accident happened on the 15th inst., on the ornamental water in front of Sussex-place, Regent's Park. There were, about four o'clock, a large number of skaters on the ice, when suddenly it broke in the middle, and in a few moments

what had been a smooth sheet of ice was broken into minute fragments. The skaters were all immersed, and fearful struggles for life were witnessed by those who stood on the shore. Many persons succeeded in getting to the land: but many also sank. The number of the drowned is estimated at between twenty and fifty, but it is to be hoped that this estimate is in excess of the truth. The scene is described as most distressing. It is said the ice was notoriously very rotten. Surely, if that were the case, there was culpable negligence on the part of some of the authorities in allowing so many skaters to go upon it.—The question of the condition of the streets during the late snowstorm has formed a fruitful source of discussion at a meeting of the City Commission of Sewers. Mr. Raymond, the City engineer, presented a report, which he had specially prepared for the occasion. It is stated that the whole of the main thoroughfares were cleared on the morning of the 7th of January, the first day of the great snow lodgment, and that every street and alley in the City was entirely cleared the same evening. The report was considered satisfactory. During the discussion which it elicited, it was stated in the years 1854-5 the cost of cleansing the City was £9,127, and at present it is £22,650; so that no expense is spared to have the thing performed effectually and quickly. The hearing of the summonses against the cleansing contractors, which were to have been heard, had to be postponed in consequence of the length of the discussion respecting the recent disgraceful state of the metropolis at large.—Dr. Markham, a poor law inspector, lately held an inquiry into the charges against Dr. Massingham, one of the medical officers of the Bethnal-green Union. Dr. Massingham is said to have neglected a woman named Ann Ferry, who died in consequence of the absence of proper medical attendance. Witnesses were examined both in support of the charge and in defence of Dr. Massingham. The doctor will, of course, report the result of the inquiry to the Poor Law Board.—The case of the rival "Belgravias" has been before the Lords' Justices, and two decisions given respecting them. As to Mr. Maxwell's "Belgravia," it was held that no amount of advertising a book or a magazine gave anyone a prior right to the title, unless the book or magazine was actually in existence when the announcements were made. As to Mr. Hogg's "Belgravia," the decision was, that it had been improperly registered when it had no existence, and that Messrs. Hogg only published it when they found Mr. Maxwell announcing a "Belgravia." The injunction asked for by each party was therefore refused with costs.—A young man named Henry Baker has been brought before Sir R. W. Carden, at the Guildhall Police-court, charged with forging the name of Messrs. Routledge and Co. to a cheque for £8 12s., stealing a cheque-book from the counting-house of Messrs. Northcote and Co., St. Paul's-churchyard, and abstracting therefrom two blank cheques and one signed cheque, and filling up the latter for the sum of £17 13s. The accused went into Messrs. Northcote and Co.'s establishment, and succeeded in getting exchanged for the cheque, purporting to be drawn by C. Routledge, an open cheque on Martin's Bank. Soon after a book containing about a dozen signed cheques on the Bank of England was missed. The payment of them was, of course, at once stopped. The next day the book was returned by the Parcels' Delivery Company, minus one signed and two blank cheques. The signed cheque was subsequently filled up for £17 13s., and presented by an hotel-keeper, to whom it was given by Baker, but payment was refused. The hotel-keeper's solicitor insisted on the firm of Northcote and Co. paying the amount of the cheque to which their genuine signature was attached, and they had to do so. The payment, however, resulted in the arrest of Baker, and the exposure of the whole affair. Baker was fully committed for trial on the two charges of forgery and for stealing the cheque-book, and was held liable to be brought up again on other charges of a similar character, which the counsel for the prosecution said he could bring against him.