

LONDON, SATURDAY, MARCH 2, 1887.

HISTORY OF FREEMASONRY IN
CORNWALL.

By ✨ Bro. WILLIAM JAMES HUGHAN, 18°, &c,
(Continued from page 102.)

Although the attendance was small at this time of the lodge, so far as the minutes are an indication of its position, there does not seem to have been any lack of business, for the records are voluminous and evince much care on the part of the Secretary, to give a faithful photograph of its history. On Nov. 17th, 1797, it was decided to have the lodge room redecorated, and the brethren ever mindful of the wants of the distressed, not only attended to their own requirements, but also generously relieved a poor brother with half a guinea. At the next meeting it was found to be impossible to procure an ante-room for preparing the candidates, for the evening, and in consequence the two apprentices had their promotion delayed for another month. Bro. John Tressider was elected R.W.M. Jan. 2nd, 1798. It was proposed that a sheet of copper be provided for the use of the lodge, and unanimously agreed to.

The night of meeting was altered once more, to the first Tuesday on June 19th. The Provincial Grand Lodge Festival was held at Penryn, and the members of the Love and Honour Lodge who had decided to attend on the 5th July, were requested to meet at the lodge room by nine a.m. There were but three lodges represented at the Provincial Grand Lodge, viz., No. 87 Falmouth, No. 103 Druids, Redruth, and No. 361 Peace, Joy, and Brotherly Love, Penryn. These three lodges attended the annual assemblies of the Craft in Cornwall for 1794-5-6-7-8-9, but in 1800 the number was changed to four by the addition of No. 577, three Grand Principles, Penryn according to the list of lodges published by the Provincial Grand Lodge of Cornwall. We are of opinion however that no accession of strength occurred until A.D. 1801, when a warrant was granted once more for a lodge to be held at Helston. On referring to the Freemasons' Calendar for 1784, No. 361 Penryn is recorded in the list of lodges, but on examining a copy of the work for 1799, that number is omitted, and No. 557 substituted. Hence we think it certain that the record of four lodges attending the Provincial Grand Lodge Festival in A.D. 1800, should be but three, as the

lodge at Penryn must have lost its right to a higher number than 577, owing to some reason unmentioned. Bro. William Downing, R.W.M., and some dozen members assembled at the lodge room on 1st May A.D. 1799, at eleven o'clock in the morning for the benefit of instruction, and actually continued for seven hours, according to the minutes, intent on so absorbing and interesting an occupation, "during which time, the R.W.M. gave several learned lectures on the different degrees of Masonry, and received the thanks of the lodge for his care and zeal." We should be glad to have the pleasure of recording many such instances of laudable anxiety for the welfare of the members, by the Masters and officers of the various lodges in Cornwall of the present day. Speaking generally, it is a wonder that so many are acquainted even with the positive essentials of the Craft, considering the little opportunity that is given to new members to become aware of the nature and extent of the mysteries of Freemasonry. We are afraid that instruction is frequently made subordinate to the banquet and its attendant festivities. In consequence of the Tyler, Bro. Ellard, having broken some of his ribs, and not being able to work, the Senior Warden proposed he should have two shillings per week from the Treasurer until the next lodge night, and on the motion of the W. Past Master, it was agreed that half a guinea be given him for his present relief, exclusive of the amount previously referred to.

The Provincial Grand Lodge was held at Falmouth, June 24th, A.D. 1800, and the following were the officers appointed by Bro. Benjamin Hearnie, P.D. Prov. G.M., the Acting Prov. G.M.:

- Bro. Thomas Warren..... S. Prov. G.W.
- „ Charles Scott..... J. Prov. G.W.
- „ Rev. Robert Dillon Prov. G. Chap.
- „ John Bellhouse Prov. G. Treas.
- „ John Pearce Prov. G. Sec.
- „ George Williams Prov. G. Sword Bearer.
- „ Abel Dagge Prov. G. Steward.
- „ James Edgecumbe Prov. G. Steward.

There were no deacons appointed until some sixteen years later at the Provincial Grand Lodge, at Penzance. The Secretary states that a Provincial Grand Lodge was opened at Commins' Hotel, from whence the members proceeded to Falmouth church in grand Masonic processions.

A goodly attendance of the members on the 5th September, testified to the progress of Masonry in Falmouth, and we feel more than common satis-

faction in stating that the lodge ably sustained its well-merited position as a friend to deserving but unfortunate brethren or dependants by granting the sum of four guineas to assist the widow of the late Bro. Mark Fudge. Bro. Robert Snell was elected R.W.M., December 2nd, 1800. The minutes of March 3rd, 1801, informs that the "R.W.M. produced a letter from the Prov. G.S., to acquaint the brethren that a Provincial Grand Lodge was appointed to be held at this hotel, on Friday next, for the benefit of Bro. Fisher, in consequence of which the Secretary was requested to issue notices, requiring the attendance of the brethren on the occasion; it was also unanimously resolved, "that the Bible belonging to this lodge be not lent, or carried to the theatre." The members subscribed for two copies of Finche's "Key to Masonry," so that it appears that worthless individuals found dupes even in Cornwall. The lodge, however, did not close without performing a wiser and more Masonic act, by granting the sum of one guinea, "for the acceptance of Bro. Hugh Wylde, who had unfortunately met with an accident. A petition was received from "John Strong, then in the county goal of Durham, for a supposed forgery. The said petition was taken into consideration, and the Secretary requested to write to the lodge at Durham, in behalf of the unfortunate brother."

We think our friends cannot fail in being amused and pleased with the following, October 6th, A.D. 1801. "The minutes of the last lodge night being read and confirmed, the R.W.M., publicly censured the Secretary for irregularity in omitting to bring with him the minutes of the lodge inserted in the book, he having produced them on a sheet of paper only; in consequence of which he justly apologised for his conduct, and adverted to the inconvenience of bringing his book through the concourse of people assembled in the streets, loyal and happy spectators of the illumination this night exhibited on the very happy event of the return of peace. The R.W.M., passing over the neglect condescendingly delivered an excellent lecture on the first degree of Masonry, with his accustomed ability, for which he very graciously accepted the thanks of the brethren, and after the usual question being asked and thrice put, the lodge was closed in due form." "The W.S.W. having pointed out the extreme distress by severe illness of an unfortunate brother, it was unanimously agreed to contribute towards his relief by

allowing him five shillings per week, until the next regular lodge night." At a subsequent lodge the sum of five shillings was also voted for a brother who had been extremely ill."

The election of officers took place December 7th, 1802, when Brs. John Tresidder, John Duckam, and Benjamin Osler were unanimously elected as the W.M., Treasurer, and Secretary respectively. The W.M., kindly undertook the revision of the by-laws, and in addition, proposed his son for initiation into the mysteries of Freemasonry. The proposition was of course well received. Those who are interested in the subject of the initiation of Lewises, will find an extraordinary event narrated by the writer in the "FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE AND MASONIC MIRROR," No. 381, page 314, October 20th, 1865, which occurred at the Druid's Lodge, Redruth.

Judging from the minutes, for the first time an installation ceremony was used at the election and appointment of the officers. "Proper charges were given and suitable replies thereto."

It was ordered at the meeting, held August 2nd, 1803, "That the sum of three guineas be drawn out of the hands of the Prov. G. Sec., for the use of Bro. Robert Behennia, agreeably to the resolutions of the last Provincial Grand Lodge, holden at Penryn, and that the money so drawn be at the disposal of the R.W.M. of this lodge." After the lodge had been employed in lecturing, and all other business finished, it was closed in due form."

At a subsequent meeting a letter was read by the R.W.M. "from Bro. Philip Pullen, a prisoner in the King's Bench, enclosing imaginary notes to the amount of 20s." It was ordered to remain over until the next regular night, which occurred 5th June, 1804, when the R.W.M. very kindly responded to such a novel application for raising money, by sending a £1 note, in exchange for the curiosities, and offered to sell them to the members at 1s. each.

As an evidence of the position of the lodge at this date, the following abstract of the fees due to Grand Lodge up to the end of the last year will be interesting:—

| | | |
|---------------------|----------------------------|---------|
| To Dec. 31st, 1803. | 8 makings, 5s. each, | £2 0 0 |
| | 28 Members, 2s. each | 2 16 0 |
| | | £4 16 0 |

The subject of a new lodge room was introduced, but met with little support. The "late Quakers' meeting house" was mentioned as a suitable

building for the purposes of the Craft, but on a ballot it was negatived by six balls against, and five for the change. Some would think any connection with the Friends, however distant, would be most unlikely, as respects Freemasonry, but such a fancy is wholly unwarrantable, as some of the most active and useful members of the Fraternity are to be found in connection with that self-denying and most benevolent sect.

(*To be continued.*)

REASONS FOR HAVING BECOME A FREEMASON, CONTAINED IN A LETTER TO A LADY.

By BARON BIELEFIELD, *Secretary of Legation, to one of the late Kings of Prussia, Preceptor to Prince Ferdinand, Chancellor of the Universities of Prussia, &c.*

"So you are quite alarmed, Madam, very seriously angry! My reason tells me you are wrong, but my passion tells me you can never do wrong; for it makes me perceive that I love you more, if it be possible, since I have been a Freemason, and since you have been angry with me for so being, than I ever did before. Permit me, therefore, by this opportunity to employ my rhetoric to dissipate your discontent; that you may approve the motives which have induced me to take this step, that you may restore me to your favour, and that I may be enabled to reconcile my reason with my passion.

"You know I am naturally curious, and that I have made great efforts to discover the secrets of Freemasonry, but without the least effect. I have found men that have been the most indiscreet in other respects, the most impenetrable in this matter. There was, therefore, no other way for me to take but to get admission into their society; and I do solemnly assure you, Madam, that I do not in the least repent it.

"That a man may be very honest and very happy without being a Freemason. I readily allow; but this argument is equally applicable to every object that excites our curiosity, and even to many of the most pleasing parts of learning. If we banish curiosity (the desire of increasing our knowledge) from the world, there is at once an end of all improvement in science; the most ingenious, the most pleasing inventions and discoveries, would be lost in darkness. And who can say how far the knowledge of those objects, of whose essence, whose principles, we are

absolutely ignorant, may lead us? That which at first appears frivolous, frequently becomes, in the hands of a skilful man, highly useful. I do not pride myself in being of the number of these, but I am fully satisfied that I shall have a better claim to it by being a Freemason.

"You will not require, I am persuaded, that I should explain to you our mysteries; you are much too prudent. You would entertain a passion for a man of honour, and not for a traitor, a monster. It is my interest to convince you of my discretion, and to make you sensible that a man who can keep a secret from the woman he adores ought to be esteemed by her as worthy to have other secrets to keep. You must, therefore, commend my discretion, and nourish my virtue. I shall not, at the same time, keep from you any information concerning our society that it is in my power to give; but for its mysteries they are sacred!

"One reflection that dissipated my scruples, and hastened my reception, was that I knew this Order to be composed of a great number of very worthy men; men who I was sure would never have twice entered a lodge if anything had passed there that was in the least incompatible with a character of the strictest virtue. It is true that in this sanctuary of virtue there sometimes steal unworthy brethren, men whose morals and conduct are not such as could be wished; but such is the condition of things in this world, that the good and the bad are inevitably mixed with each other; for even the small number of twelve Apostles was not exempt from one unworthy member. I did not expect, by becoming a Freemason, to be introduced to a society of angels, but of worthy men; and I have not been disappointed.

"I readily confess that what is called Freemasonry may be made a disgrace as well as an ornament to society. If a company of young fellows, destitute of sense and merit, assemble in the form of a lodge, and, after performing certain ridiculous mummeries, proceed to scenes of disorder, certainly nothing can be more detestable than such an assembly. But if you consider our society as the most solemn and perfect fraternity that ever existed upon the earth, in which there is no distinction of men by the language they speak, by the dress they wear, by the rank to which they were born, or the dignities they possess, who regard the whole world but as one commonwealth, of which each nation forms a family, and each individual a member! Who

endeavour by these means to revive the primitive maxims of mankind in the greatest perfection ; to unite, under their banner, men of knowledge, virtue, and urbanity ; whose members mutually defend each other by their authority, and enlighten each other by their knowledge ; who sacrifice all personal resentment ; who banish from their lodges all that can disturb the tranquillity of mind on the purity of manners ; and who, in the intervals of their delightful labours, enjoy the innocent pleasures of life ; if, I say, you regard Masonry in this light, you must agree that the interest of this society must be that of the whole race of mankind, and that it must operate on the human heart in a manner that religion itself cannot effect without great difficulty.

"It is not, therefore, wonderful that this order has been sometimes persecuted by the ruling powers in a State ; they who commend, and they who blame, may have their reasons ; but nothing can be more unjust or ridiculous than to imagine that the secret assemblies of the Freemasons can tend to disturb the security or tranquillity of a State ; for though our doors are shut against the profane vulgar, they are at all times open to sovereigns and magistrates ; and how many illustrious princes and statesmen do we count among our brethren ? If aught passed in our lodges that was dangerous or criminal, must they not have been long since abolished ? But the experience of many ages, during which this order has never been known to perform any actions but those of morality and munificence, is a stronger argument in its favour than any I can produce. I shall, therefore, say no more on this matter ; and I should not have said so much if I did not know that you are capable of feeling the force of these arguments ; for you have too much discernment to suffer yourself to be directed by that prejudice and caprice which has so much dominion over the common rank of women. If, with a pleasing figure and a graceful manner, you possessed only a common way of thinking, I should love you only as women are commonly loved ; that is to say, for the gratification of desire and for self interest. But my affection is founded on a sense of your real merit, on the dignity of your mind, and the simplicity of your heart. If this affection is of any value with you preserve it, Madam, by returning to your reason, and by dissipating those transient clouds which have eclipsed, for a moment, that favourable opinion you have hitherto entertained

of me ; and permit me to assure you, by the faith of a Mason, that my love shall endure as long as my life."

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 Querer;" "Gatherings in Wanderings;" "Songs and Ballads;" "Poemata;" "Legends of Edinburgh." &c., &c., &c.; Poet Laureate of the Canongate, Kilwinning; P.M. St. Stephens; P.P.Z. of St. Andrews, R.A. Chap.; &c.; &c.

(Continued from page 146.)

CHAPTER XXIII.

THE VULTURE OF PROMETHEUS.

"Trembling heart, ah, dost thou falter,
In thy deep desponding mood—
Leave the wine cup, seek the altar,
Spurn the lewd and clasp the good.
Hush! dost hear that passing bell;
Choose—this moment—heaven or hell."

Murtius led the way into a gallery, lofty and long, filled with exquisite statuary, the productions of some of the greatest chisels of Greece. Adrian, who was a keen admirer of the beautiful, was loud in his praises of the collection, and forgot for a time the doubts he entertained alike regarding the characters of his entertainer and his family. It was seldom that Murtius had a visitor so much to his mind. Balbus loved better to look at the wine than the finest work of Apelles. Murtius had soon taken the gauge of the Jew, naturally greedy and grasping, fond of fame, a hanger on of literature and art, glib enough in their phraseologies, but empty as a drank goblet in their realities. Caius was too much in love, but Adrian was always roused by the beautiful, and the collection before him was one of the finest he had ever seen.

"Great men were indeed my countrymen," said Murtius, "philosophers, poets, and sculptors. Their works will go down to the end of time, when poor Greece is remembered no more."

"These sculptures are indeed most exquisite," said Adrian ; "fire seems to flash from out those stoney eyes, and a might and a majesty, well befitting the king and the god of heaven, sits upon the thunderer's lofty brow."

"There stands the Venus," said Murtius, pointing to a statue placed in a niche. "What think you of it?"

"Most beautiful," replied Adrian, after a pause.

"But tell me, Murtius, to your eye is there not too much of the heavenly beauty which we ascribe to innocence and truth in that fair face, which are not the general attributes of the goddess?"

"The sculptor," answered Murtius gloomily, "conceived the face, and carved it to show what true love was before man blurred and cast the goddess in a viler mould—love free from passion."

"True. Love is like the dew drop twinkling on the petals of the meadow flower, which the clownish foot tramples into the clay. But what have we here? Ah, the Prometheus."

"Yes, Praxiteles' greatest work. Look how the shackled Titan, conquered in bondage, his body in chains, yet free in spirit, unsubdued in soul, raises his proud head in unrelenting defiance of heaven. See how the vulture tearing at his flesh cannot break that haughty soul, nor can that horrible agony which knits the muscle into knots, and breaks the cold sweat upon the brow, dim the eye, or ring a sob from him."

"Aye, so a mind, a giant intellect can spurn all reverses of fortune, all the gibes and scoffs of man, secure in his own might and purity of soul."

"You are so far right, but a deeper meaning lies hid under that marble agony. It shows a mind attacked by every species of passion, and yet spurning them beneath him. The vulture of desire may prey upon his vitals, he welcomes death, but never dishonour."

This burst astonished Adrian, who looking at Murtius saw the tears in his eyes. Murtius, evidently led away by some emotion, lowered his voice so that Myra, who was at the other end of the gallery, might not hear him, continued—

"My good young lord, every man has a besetting sin, a passion that like the vulture preys upon the earth shackled soul. Wildly it tears, for there is no escape for the victim, but the grave. Beware of yielding to temptation, even the smallest, for your life will bitter before you, even as carrion breeds maggots. I am an old man, one who has held an honoured place among honourable men, and now, by one false step, one almost heedless act, I am an exile, and broken hearted. Hush! I say no more. Perhaps I have said too much."

"Nay," replied Adrian, taking the Greek's hand, "man is frail, and liable to fall. Far be it from me to judge harshly of the faults and shortcomings of a fellow mortal. He is not the mainspring of the evil," thought Adrian, "Lais is the

harpy who has defiled this man's banquet. Murtius, what have we here?" he said aloud, pointing to a heap of statuary, covered from view with a heavy drapery. Murtius paused for a minute as if reluctant to expose it, and then drew aside the drapery. Under it was a colossal group of the *Lascoon*.

"A noble work," cried Adrian with enthusiasm, "seldom have I seen this equalled. Whose conception is it?"

"Mine."

"Thine?" said Adrian, examining the work carefully. "I see. The features of the father's are thine own, while the sons have countenances like thy sister's and thy daughter Phryne's. 'Tis a rare and a strange work; but wherefore employ thy family as models?"

"An artist's freak."

"Hast thou no bust of Myra here? Methinks her classic head would well represent a muse's."

"It is behind thee," answered Murtius. "Behold the flower of truth."

Adrian turned and gazed upon the marble, and he looked towards the living model, who stood gazing forth of a window upon the garden, with a sad expression upon her young countenance. After a pause he said, in a low voice, more as if musing to himself than as if addressing Murtius—

"Yes, this is true. There is no taint of earth upon that pensive brow, which appears to muse how man may best win his way to heaven, to mourn over the vices and follies of the world. No taint of earth soils those parted lips, breathing a prayer to Jove for fallen man. Yes, Murtius, in this bust you have indeed shown us truth."

"Myra will lead you to the gardens, where there are some other toys which may interest you. Meanwhile, excuse my absence. I have some few things to attend to within. Go, Myra, with our honoured guest."

Myra led Adrian in silence from the gallery, while Murtius stood gazing after them.

"Truth didst thou say, O Adrian? Aye she is indeed truth, the only true thing in this fearful wicked house of mine."

Then swinging his hands in agony, he held them up to heaven, crying—

"O could this weary heart recall the past, with bitterest tears would I wet each wicked step, and blot from the earth all traces of my guilt. In vain, in vain. The demon linked to me knows no remorse, no turning back from sin. Her god is

luxury; her sole aim in life, self-gratification. I seek the cup to drown my care; but she! unbounded lust and never-ending sin are her companions. Oh, I would sooner die than live, for every hour but adds evil to my account, ill to ill, and pain to pain. Here she comes, and a vile triumph in her eyes."

Lais entered the gallery, her eyes sparkling with gratification, and her lips wreathed with triumphant smiles.

"The gods are on our side!" she exclaimed, in great glee.

"Hell, rather," answered Murtius, gloomily.

"Well, be it so, since the victory is ours. Who knows but King Pluto is every whit as good as King Jove. But listen. Phryne has brought the puppet Caius to her feet. That match is made, he doats on her; it is as secure as if Jupiter himself has sworn it by his binding oath on Styx. Myra, too, seems to tickle the fancy of that cold idiot whom Romans call their Plato. What fools you men are in the hands of women. Who rule the world—men? No, but women. Why, you are, the cleverest of you, but toys in our hands, puppets; we hold the strings."

"You speak the truth for once," answered Murtius, with a sigh. "Jove gives his best gifts to a man, who sacrifices them all for the transitory and worthless smile of a woman."

"Tush, who is Jove? We know him not. The priests prate of an after life, but I have no faith in it. The present is ours, so let us improve it. Clear thy moody brow. Thy daughter and my niece is safe for life; we have only thy daughter and my own to settle. Let her win Adrian, and two such ties will silence these curs of Rome, and we can then proudly face the front of day."

"And conscience, Lais? Hast thou never such a monitor to speak to thee in tones of thunder?"

"Conscience!" replied Lais with a scornful laugh. Had I ever possessed such a timid spirit in my breast, I would not be what I am now. Conscience! Mine appetite is my conscience. Feed that, I have no other care. Tush. Drive that cloud from off thy brow, be blaud and gay, for no simple task is before us. This Adrian is no easy fish to net, so talk, smile, drink, for now that our tide is at its fill, let us catch the forelock of the fickle fortune, and we may then defy all our foes."

(To be continued.)

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MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

SPEED'S DESCRIPTION OF BRITAIN.

Having an old edition (1611) of "Speed's Description of Britaine," and turning over the leaves I was much struck with his preface, the language is so Masonic that I have copied some portion of it, and send it to you to do what you like with it. If Speed was a Mason, is there any records of lodges of that date, or is it only the figurative language used at that period he clothes his ideas in. I think you will agree with me if he were not a Mason his language is very like one, but this I leave to yourself to put it, if worth while, as you like. I must thank you for your kind reply to my last question. I am of your opinion, and to make sure, I thought it best to refer the question.—W. ROWLEY, P.M., 723.

"So great was the attempt to assay the erection of this large and laborious theatre, whose onely platform might well have expected the readiest hand of the best artist, that even in the entrance of the first draught as one altogether discourage, I found myself farre unfit and unfurnished both of matter and means either to build, or to beautife so stately a project. But how the Lord then composed my mind for the work, or rather how his owne great power would be seene in my weakenes, is now in some measure made manifest by raising the frame thereof to this height; which here from the presse sheweth his aspect unto the world. But with what content to the eye (gentle reader), I stand in suspence, so many master-builders having in this subject gone before me. And I, the least, not worthy to hew (much lesse to lay) the least stone in so beautifull a building; neither can I for my heedlesse presumption," &c.

And again:—

"And have laid my building upon other men's foundations (as indeed who can do otherwise, especially in a subject of this nature, seeing that the wisest of kings witnessed, that there is nothing new under the sun. Yet let this in part suffice for my defence, that in the worke of the tabernacle there was more mettals used then the orent gold, and more workemen employed then Aholcab. T. Bezaleel neither did all the Israelites offer to that most glorious work, gold, silver, onix-stones, purple, scarlet, and fine linnen; but some of the brasse, wood, goates-haire, rams-fels," &c.

And in conclusion:—

"And applying myself wholly to the frame of this most goodly building have as a poore labourer carried the carved stones and polished pillars from the hands of the more skilfull architects to be set in their fit places, which here I offer upon the alter of love to my country, and wherein I have held it no sacrilege to rob others of their richest jewels to adorn this my most beautiful nurse, whose wombe was my conception, whose breasts were my nourishment, whose bosome my cradle and lap (I doubt not) shall by my bed of sweete rest, till Christ by his trumpet raise me thence."—Speed, 1611.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

APPOINTMENT OF PROV. G.M.

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

Dear Sir and Brother,—Allow me, through the

medium of your columns, to inquire, with whom does the appointment of the Prov. G.M. rest, and when is a brother to be selected for that post for the western division of South Wales?

Yours faithfully and fraternally,
"VEVEY."

WHAT IS THE RELIGION OF FREEMASONRY?

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—A question has been propounded in your estimable periodical which is deeply interesting, the answers to which, however, have not been quite satisfactory to me, and I have, therefore, been induced to try to find one that is to the point. The question is, What is the religion of Freemasonry? As our noble institution is entirely unsectarian, its religion must be so also; and after carefully studying our ritual, especially that initiatory prayer, the ancient charge, and the lecture on the tracing board in the first degree, I am persuaded that the answer must be—Godliness.

Yours fraternally,
JESSE BANNING, 343.

THE R.A. SECTIONS.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—In the fourth of Dunckerly's R.A. sections, which of course you have, there is a question—What are the four grand signs? Answer—C.O.M. and D. I can find several fancy interpretations, but am anxious to know the correct ones. Will you oblige me with a line? I have invented the following, but cannot satisfy myself:—Ceremonial, obligatory, monitorial, devotional.—Construction, obligation, mystery, discovery.—Certificate, Overseer, Mark Mason, dedication.

Yours fraternally,
THOS. LEWIN, P.M., and P.Z. 477.
"T.L.J.W."

THE NEW COURTS OF JUSTICE.—The exhibition of the Designs for the New Courts of Justice will, after this present month and until further notice, be open to the Public on Thursdays only, and to Members of both Houses of Parliament, and other special visitors on Saturdays only; the remaining days being required for the work of the Commission.

ACCIDENT TO LORD KENLIS.—A sad accident occurred at Melling-by-Hornby, on Wednesday evening, the 20th ult., in which Lord Kenlis, the recently-appointed P.G.M. of Cumberland and Westmoreland, and W.M. of the Underley Lodge, No. 1,074, met with a serious injury. It appears that his lordship was driving home, four-in-hand, at a pretty good speed, about dusk on the above-mentioned evening, when he came in contact with some cows. One of the cows ran right in before the leaders and tripped them up, over which the other two horses were hurled. His lordship was precipitated from the box right among the plunging animals. A fine valuable Russian horse was turned on to his back, and, kicking furiously, hit his lordship on the arm and broke it. The next kick passed within an inch of Lord Kenlis's head, and smashed the wheel of the carriage to atoms. By some means his lordship was extricated, having narrowly escaped with his life. Mrs. Wilson, who was on the box, held to, and was told to jump down, when the coachman caught her, and she sustained no harm. The fine stud of horses are all sadly cut. His lordship was taken into Mr. Bell's, of Melling, and afterwards taken to Underley, in Mr. Bell's carriage. We are happy to state that his lordship is progressing favourably.

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

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

MASONIC MEM.

THE DORSET MASONIC CALENDAR.—Bro. H. Ling, Dorchester.—This sheet almanack for the province over which the R.W. Bro. Joseph Gundry presides, is the best and most complete of the kind we have ever seen. It contains all information concerning the province and its lodges, chapters, and encampments necessary for the brethren in that quarter, together with the movements of Grand Lodge and the charitable festivals. We doubt not that every brother in the province has already availed himself of the opportunity of obtaining one.

METROPOLITAN.

EASTERN STAR LODGE (No. 95).—The installation meeting of this old-established lodge (founded 1765) was held at the Ship and Turtle Tavern, Leadenhall-street, on Tuesday, the 19th ult. The lodge was opened by Bro. R. P. Wilkinson, W.M., and after confirming the minutes of the previous lodge, a ballot was taken for the admission of Mr. P. Pound and Mr. A. Chambers, the result being unanimous in their favour; and both being in attendance, they were duly initiated into Masonry. Bro. J. How, P.M., then assumed the chair, and Bro. T. Hammond, the W.M. elect, was presented by Bro. E. W. Davis, P.M., and installed into the chair in conformity with the established rites and ceremonies. The W.M. then appointed and invested the officers as follows:—Bros. Samuel Clay, S.W.; P. Bicker Caar-teen, J.W.; R. Bateman, S.D.; R. T. Hill, J.D.; T. Lucas, I.G.; and J. How, P.M., Dir. of Cers. Bro. E. W. Davis, P.M., who had been elected Treas., and Bro. Speight, the Tyler, were also invested. The visitors were—Bros. Fimmens, G. Purst, P.M. and Sec., No. 172; C. H. Law, Carter, Watson, Earle, Brereton, and Mayerscough. The brethren afterwards adjourned to one of those excellent banquets which Bro. Painter so well provides.

LODGE OF TEMPERANCE (No. 169).—On Thursday, the 21st ult., at the White Swan Tavern, High-street, Deptford, this old prosperous lodge held its usual meeting. The lodge was opened by Bro. Payne, W.M. All the ceremonies were well and ably rendered, which reflected the greatest amount of credit on the newly-installed W.M., who, for the first time since his installation, was able to prove his proficiency, as no work was done at the last meeting of the lodge after he was installed. Three gentlemen were regularly and duly initiated into ancient Freemasonry, and other members had their superior degrees conferred on them. The great event of the evening was the presentation to that highly distinguished and most worthy Mason, Bro. G. Bolton, P.M. 169, P.Z. 147, P.Z. 169, of a framed illuminated vellum testimonial, beautifully got up and handsomely placed in a splendid gold frame, as a mark of respect and gratitude, for the very many efficient services rendered to the lodge, as also for being for many years past their Installing Master. The present was duly acknowledged in a suitable speech. Business being ended the lodge was closed. There were many members present, viz.:—Bros. G. Bolton, P.M.; N. Wingfield, P.M.; J. Searle, P.M.; J. Tibbals, P.M.; J. W. Barrett, P.M.; J. T. Moss, and very many others. Visitors were as usual numerous, and amongst them were Bros. F. Walters, P.M. 73; J. Terry, P.M. 228; Dalziel, 147, and others.

PROVINCIAL.

ESSEX.

BRIGHTLINGSEA.—Lodge of Hope (No. 433).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Monday, the 18th ult., at the Swan Inn. The following brethren were present:—Bros. Francis, W.M., York, S.W.; Wiseman, J.W. and Sec.; Lake, I.P.M.; Clarey, Treas.; Minter, S.D.; Bragg, I.G.; Harmer, Tyler; Bishop, Blyth, and Ames, P.M.'s; A. Watts, Parker, Jolly, Wellum, G. Riches, Starmer, B. Drake, Richer-

son, Griggs, A. Aldons, R. Aldons, Wenlock, Pudney, Rodger, and visitor G. Wright, Yarborough Lodge, No. 812. The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last regular lodge meeting read and confirmed. Bro. E. Angier, E.A., being a candidate for advancement, underwent the usual examination, and acquitting himself satisfactorily, he withdrew. The lodge was then opened in the second degree, when he was re-admitted and passed to a F.C. by Bro. Blyth, P.M., and Bro. Bishop, P.M., having explained the working tools, the lodge was closed in the second degree, when the routine business was transacted, amongst which it was proposed by Bro. G. Riches, and seconded by Bro. Griggs, that a lodge of instruction should be held at the Swan Inn. Bro. Bishop, P.M., very kindly offered to give a lecture on the tracing board of the second degree. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned for refreshment. Various toasts were given and heartily responded to, and a very happy evening was spent. The harmony of the meeting was enhanced by the admirable vocal powers displayed by Bros. Blyth, Bragg, Jolly, Watts, Grigg, Lake, Harmer, and the W.M.

HAMPSHIRE.

WINCHESTER.—*Lodge of Economy* (No. 76).—One hundred and sixth Anniversary.—Vote of Condolence with Bro. Charles Sherry, P.M.—On Tuesday, the 29th January, the members of the Lodge of Economy and many brethren from the province of Hants, assembled at the Masonic Hall, Parchment-street, Winchester, to celebrate the hundred and sixth anniversary of the lodge, and to instal the W.M. elect, Bro. R. S. Hulbert, P. Prov. G.W. (Hants), the S.W. of the lodge. Amongst the brethren present were:—Bros. W. W. Beach, M.P., P. Prov. G.W. (Hants); Rev. G. Bradshaw, D.D., LL.D., Prov. G. Chap. (Hants); Bulkeley Owen, P. Prov. G.W. (Shropshire); J. Ruff, W.M. (76); R. S. Hulbert, S.W.; J. Stopher, J.W.; Whale, S.D.; Stanley, J.D.; Budden, I.G.; H. Huggins, Sec.; Naish, P.M.; Alfred Smith, P.M.; Sheppard, P.M.; Wyndham, P.M.; Newman, Harris, Carter, Aylett, J. Huggins, Aylett, Hubbersly, Best, Blackmoore, G. Simonds, Bailey, of Winchester J. R. Weston, P.M.; Booth, P.M.; Payne, P.M.; Keene, W.M. (130), of Southampton; Dew, W.M. (694); Figgins, P.M.; Ford, P.M.; Lamb, P.M.; Oakshot, Allen, Lewis, M.D., of Basingstoke; Emery, P.M. (342), of Portsea; Biggs, P.M. (1,101), Wightman, Dowson, of Reading; Jenkins, P.M. (252), and many other brethren. At high noon the W.M. Bro. Thomas Ruff opened the lodge. The minutes of the last lodge having been read and confirmed, Bro. Walter Bailey, E.A., was duly examined, and, being found worthy of advancement, was passed to the degree of F.C., the ceremony being performed by Bro. E. Sheppard, P.M. Bro. W. W. Beach, M.P. for North Hants, then took the chair, and initiated into Freemasonry W. Barrow Simonds, Esq., M.P. for Winchester, and Mr. J. A. Brown, of the same city. The ceremony of installation was then proceeded with, the chair being still occupied by Bro. Beach. The W.M. elect, Bro. Hulbert, was presented by the retiring Master, Bro. Thomas Ruff. This interesting and impressive ritual was worked with great accuracy and effect amidst a very large assemblage of P.M.'s. The new W.M. then proceeded to invest his officers for the ensuing twelve months as follows:—Bros J. Ruff, I.P.M.; Stopher, S.W.; Harris, J.W.; H. Huggins, Sec.; F. Stanley, S.D.; Alfred Smith, J.D.; W. Bailey, I.G. In consequence of the unavoidable absence of Bros. Sherry, P.M., and Everitt, P.M., their collars as Treas. and Dir. of Cers. were taken temporarily by other brethren. Bro. Alfred Smith, P.M., addressing the W.M., said that he rose with mingled feelings to propose a resolution which he felt sure would command the cordial approval of every brother present. It was known to all of them that their esteemed Bro. Sherry—the father of the lodge—was confined by a most painful and dangerous illness; how ill he had been he (Bro. Smith) could not trust himself to say. At one time they had almost given up the hope of ever seeing him again amongst them, and when last a Masonic meeting had been held in that hall he (Bro. Smith) with many others had remained till a late hour, sitting almost in solemn silence, expecting every moment the announcement of their respected brother's departure. The impression of that sad evening would never be effaced from their minds. However, it had pleased the Great Architect of the Universe to deal mercifully with him, and in some degree to restore him to wonted health; and hopes were now entertained that, by God's blessing, he would be spared to associate with them once more in the meetings of that Order which he had served so faithfully and loved so well. Every brother present must have remarked, with the deepest regret,

the absence of one who on these occasions had always taken such an active and prominent part; and as they knew that during that day their afflicted brother would be often thinking of them, it would be well for them to pass a resolution which would show that they had not forgotten him. Without further preface, therefore, he (Bro. Smith) begged to move that a vote of condolence, expressing the sympathy of the brethren with Bro. Sherry in his affliction, be engrossed on vellum, and signed by every member of the lodge and the visiting brethren. Bro. Ruff, I.P.M., said that it gave him great gratification to second the proposition of Bro. Smith. Perhaps no one had enjoyed so much of Bro. Sherry's intimacy, or spent so many hours in his company as he (Bro. Ruff) had done, and therefore he felt attached to him by the closest ties of friendship. As Bro. Smith had remarked, he thought at one time it was impossible that their friend could recover, but he was now happy to say that an amendment had taken place, and he was inclined to hope for the best. He thought it the duty of the lodge to pass such a resolution as had been proposed, and he knew that it would give the greatest pleasure to Bro. Sherry, who, though compelled to be absent from their meeting, was with them in thought and inclination. Bro. W. W. Beach, M.P., said that he could not allow the proposition to be put to the lodge without making a few remarks. It was unnecessary for him to describe Bro. Sherry to any Masons belonging to Hampshire, London, or the South of England; but he saw there one or two brethren who came from remote parts of the country, and for their information he might say—and the rest of the brethren would bear him out in saying it—that Bro. Sherry was one of the most useful, zealous, and self-denying Masons ever known. He had been acquainted with him for many years, and during that time his ardour for Masonry had never abated, and his love for it had not grown cool. He had been a generous supporter of the charities of the Order, and had worked indefatigably in their behalf. Whenever it had been in his power to promote the interests of Masonry, he had never hesitated to sacrifice ungrudgingly his time, his money, and his personal convenience. The brethren present knew how untiring were his exertions to benefit the lodge, and wherever Winchester Masonry was known the name of Bro. Sherry was respected and honoured. He (Bro. Beach) had heard with the deepest regret of their brother's illness, but trusted that he would yet be spared to them for many years. The following resolution was then carried unanimously, and signed in open lodge by every brother present:—"To Bro. C. Sherry, P.M., P. Prov. G.W. (Hants).—Dear Sir and Bro.—We the Worshipful Master, Wardens, and Brethren of the Lodge of Economy, No. 76, Winchester, and Visiting Brethren, in open lodge assembled, beg to record our heartfelt sympathy with you in your painful and dangerous affliction. When thus met together to celebrate the 106th anniversary of our ancient lodge, we cannot fail to notice with the deepest regret the absence of a brother who has laboured so zealously and disinterestedly to promote the prosperity of the lodge and advance the best interests of Masonry. We entertain a grateful sense of the many and valuable services which you have rendered to the Order, and we recall with pride and pleasure your unwearied exertions in behalf of the aged, the destitute, and the fatherless. We rejoice to hear that the force of your disease has abated, and that you are gradually recovering your former strength; and we fervently pray to the Great Architect of the Universe that it may please Him to speedily restore you to your wonted health, and to prolong for many years a life so valuable to your family, your brethren, and your friends. We request that you will accept this feeble expression of our respect and esteem, and subscribe ourselves—Your affectionate brethren." (Here follow about sixty signatures.) Bro. Henry Gower Sherry, in a few brief sentences, manifesting great feeling, thanked the brethren for this evidence of their regard for his father, to whom he was sure the address would be a source of great gratification. The lodge was then closed in due form, and with solemn prayer, and the brethren adjourned to refreshment.

LANCASHIRE (WEST.)

WARRINGTON.—*Lodge of Lights* (No. 148).—The regular monthly meeting of this ancient and flourishing lodge was held on Monday evening last at the Masonic Rooms, Sankey-street. The chair of K.S. was occupied by the W.M., Bro. Robert Stevenson, who was supported by Bro. H. B. White, P.M., Prov. G. Dir. of Cers., as S.W.: David Finney, J.W.; Wm. Bowes, P.M., Prov. G. Dir. of Cers., Cumberland and West-

moreland, Sec.; W. Maxfield, P.M.; W. Mossop, S.D.; W. Richardson, J.D.; Jos. Robinson, I.G.; H. Syred, Philip Smith, Thos. Jones, Dr. Pennington, A. H. Beckett, Jabez G. Hughes, Rev. J. N. Porter, Jno. Holloway, H. Cunningham, Charles Wood, P. Pearse, Capt. Reynolds, Jabez Pluiston, Robt. Gibbons, Geo. Blackhurst, B. P. Coxon, C.E., W. Woods, Jno. Pierpoint, Jos. Robinson, Robt. Richardson, and Jno. Laithwaite. Visitors: Bros. Dr. Cooper, 758; W. Walker, 758; R. Warburton, 98; Peter Robinson, 89; and T. Rawlinson, 62. The lodge was opened in solemn form, and the minutes of the previous meeting read and declared to be correctly recorded. The ballot was then taken for Mr. John Laithwaite, a candidate for the mysteries and privileges, which was unanimously in his favour, and, he being present, was duly and solemnly initiated by the W.M. Bros. Philip Smith, Jos. Robinson, and Robt. Richardson, having sought preferment and proved their claim, were entrusted and retired. The lodge was opened in the second degree. The three brethren were readmitted and passed to the degree of F.C. by the W.M. The lodge was closed in the second degree. Bro. William Walker, of 758, was proposed as a joining member, and a gentleman as a candidate for initiation. Other routine business having been disposed of, Bro. Bowes announced the receipt of a Grand Lodge communication, and with it a copy of an appeal made by the brethren of the Turks' Islands, Forth Lodge No. 647. Bro. Bowes read the appeal, and drew the attention of the brethren to the fact that at the recent annual festival he made special mention of our distressed brethren in the west. He felt very deeply for them, and more especially as one of the petitioners was his oldest and most intimate friend. He referred to Bro. Thomas Oekenden, the I.P.M. of No. 647. Bro. Oekenden is her Majesty's Inspector of Schools for that group of islands, a captain of volunteers, and a ruler in this Craft, and he felt sure that he was a good man and true, for everything prospered in his hands. He regretted very much that their funds were so low at the present time, yet every little helped. He was glad to see that at the next meeting of Grand Lodge a vote of £500 would be proposed. If each provincial lodge would vote £50, and every private lodge £5 or £10, a handsome sum would be realised. As he said before their funds were low, and he should, therefore, move that a donation of five guineas be voted in aid of the fund. Bro. H. B. White, P.M., Prov. G. Dir. of Cers., rose with much pleasure to second the proposition. He regretted that, as Treas., he could not boast of a flourishing exchequer; had he been able to do so he would have been glad to propose a larger donation. The W.M. made a few suitable observations, and then put the motion to the meeting, which was carried unanimously. There being no further business the lodge was closed with the usual solemnities, and the brethren separated in harmony.

NORTH WALES AND SHROPSHIRE.

MEETING OF THE PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

Welchpool Lodge (No. 998.)

The Prov. G. M., Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, Bart., having, with his usual kindness and consideration, appointed the regular day of meeting of this lodge (*viz.*, Friday 1st ult.) as that upon which he would hold his Provincial Grand Lodge in Welchpool, the Worshipful Bro. Thomas Blakeman Brown, W.M., convened a lodge of emergency on the 31st January for the purpose of advancing several brethren. The emergency was well attended, but one only of the candidates was present. The lodge was opened in the first and second degrees, and Bro. Wm. Collender having proved himself qualified was intrusted and he retired. The lodge was opened in the third degree, and Bro. Collender was raised by the W.M. to that degree in a most impressive and faultless manner.

The lodge was then closed down and adjourned to the following day, when the brethren met at an early hour. The lodge was opened in the first degree, and the minutes being read and confirmed, the W.M. announced that the time had arrived for electing the officers for the ensuing year. The ballot was taken for the Master, and was declared to be unanimously in favour of Bro. Francis Smith. Bro. Thomas Newill was unanimously reelected Treas. A show of hands was taken, and Bro. Barnard was reappointed Tyler.

Bro. Goldsbro' having informed the brethren that he should represent the province of North Wales and Shropshire as a Steward (on this occasion for the Boys' School), it was proposed by Bro. D. P. Owen, seconded by Bro. Samuel, and carried

unanimously, that the sum of five guineas be placed upon Bro Goldsbro's list from the funds of the lodge.

The lodge was opened in the second and third degrees, shortly after which Sir Watkin Williams Wynn and the officers and members of the Provincial Grand Lodge entered in procession, amidst the warm and hearty greetings of the brethren assembled.

The Prov. G. Master opened the Prov. G. Lodge, and the minutes being read and confirmed, it was proposed by Bro. John Coles Fourdrinier, P. Prov. G.W., seconded by Bro. J. P. White, Prov. G. Treas., and carried unanimously, that a special donation of ten guineas should be placed upon the list of Bro. Goldsbro', Prov. G.S.W., who would represent the province at the festival in aid of the funds of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.

The following officers and members of the Provincial Grand Lodge, and of other lodges, were present:—

Bros. Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, Prov. G.M.; Rev. E. H. Dymock, D. Prov. G.M.; Dr. T. W. Goldsbro', Prov. G.S.W.; J. Coles Fourdrinier, P. Prov. G.W.; R. Benson, Prov. G. Chap.; J. P. White, Prov. G. Treas.; Charles Wigan, Prov. G. Sec.; Love Jones Parry, Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; Dr. Charles Oakley, Prov. G.S.B.; R. Forrest, Prov. G. Org.; H. Atkin, P. Prov. G. Purst.; Thomas Blakeman Brown, Prov. G.S.; George Browne, Prov. G.S.; Edward Pryce, Prov. G.S.; Edward Mayhard, Prov. G.T.; W. H. Hill, P. Prov. G.S.B. Staffordshire; Frederick Binckes, P.M. No. 10, G.S. and Sec. Boys' School; Terence Cliffe; Richard Meller, W.M. 611; Henry Jones, J.D. 611; Thomas Everall, 611; James Mellor, 755; William Blakeway, 262; J. B. Boucher, 117; R. Britton, W.M. 611; Rev. E. A. Jenkins; J. H. Slaney, 611; Thomas Phillips, P.M. 117; William Glydon, 74; R. Sloman, 262; T. P. Jones; J. Asker Roberts, No. 998; P. B. Williams, 998; Francis Smith, W.M. elect, 998; D. P. Owen, S.D. 998; Thomas Newill, Treas. 998; Rev. J. M. Edwards, Chap. 998; J. Mickleburgh, 998; William Withy, 998; Thomas Rutter, 998; John Samuel, Sec. 998; F. Magrath, 998; Thomas Morris, 998; William Mickleburgh, 998; William Collender, 998; Frank Roper, 998; James Ed-dowes, 998; David Andrew, 998; Thomas Walley, 998; James Lay, 998; J. C. Edwards, 998; Thomas Walford, 998; Thomas Jones, 998; John Barnard, 998, &c.

The Grand Lodge having been closed, Sir Watkin and the brethren sat down to an excellent banquet provided at the Royal Oak Hotel, by Mr. and Mrs. Rowlands. The table presented an elegant appearance, being ornamented with a number of choice exotic plants, bouquets, and other floral decorations, kindly arranged for the occasion and contributed by Bro. and Mrs. George Browne, of Powis Castle, of whose exquisite taste and skill in floral art we have on this, as we have had on former occasions, the pleasure of recording our high appreciation. During the banquet the band of the Royal Montgomeryshire Yeomanry Cavalry (of which Sir Watkin has for many years been the colonel), played a selection of pieces, under the direction of its talented bandmaster, Mr. White. The musical arrangements for the remainder of the evening were most ably and efficiently, as they were also kindly and gratuitously, conducted by Bros. Forrest and Boucher, assisted by Bro. Glydon. Bro. Boucher presided at the piano.

Grace being said,

Sir WATKIN proposed the toast of "The Queen," and observed that it was one which was always given at all assemblages in this country; that there was no country where the love of order was so respected as it was in that over which she reigned. "Long may she reign over us."

"National Anthem"—Bros. Forrest, Boucher, and Glydon.

Sir Watkin next proposed, "The Health of the Prince of Wales, the Princess of Wales, and of the rest of the Royal Family," and expressed his regret that, as the Prince of Wales was then so near as he was, he had not visited the principality.

Song—Bro. Glydon.

Sir Watkin then proposed, "The Health of the Earl of Zetland," who has presided over the Craft for nearly a quarter of a century, and who, during that period, has taken so much trouble and displayed so much ability on behalf of the Craft.

The R.W. Bro. E. H. Dymock, D. Prov. G.M., said: Brethren, I have the permission and the privilege to propose the next toast, and I do not know any more pleasant to propose than that of the gentleman who is loved and esteemed by everybody. The very gratifying sight of so many brethren here to-day shows how popular our excellent and R.W. Provincial Grand Master is. We ought to thank him for taking so much care of the interests of the Craft. I do not know what we should do without him. For

all know his private character, and the estimation in which he is held, and in few places more so than he is at Welshpool, where he presides also in another capacity. He is known well, and known everywhere. Health and long life to him—long may he preside over the Craft in this province—and long may he hunt the hounds so well as he does. May every luck and prosperity attend him and Wynnstay.

The toast was drunk with honours, which were most enthusiastically given by the brethren.

Song, "The Craft," Bro. Forrest.

Sir Watkin, in reply, said: Brethren, I beg to return thanks to you for the kind way in which you have received my health. I am exceedingly pleased to see so many good Masons collected here. I have known this room, I am afraid to say how long. I have been at so many pleasant gatherings, so many jolly parties in this room. When I come to look back upon having spent a pleasant week in each year for a great many years in succession, from 1844 until now, it shows me that I must know a good deal of the town of Pool, and of the people of Pool; and, of course, I am very glad to see that in a town where I have received so much kindness, and in which I have spent a good deal of time, amongst its other good qualities it possesses so many good Masons, whom I am always proud and happy to meet. I may congratulate the province—when I look over this book, which has just been shown to me—upon the increase of the number of lodges. Except East Lancashire, there is no province in which more new lodges have been opened than in this. When I am applied to for new lodges, if there is a strong Masonic feeling, I say, "Open them," and what I can do to assist them I will; but should this not be the case I say, "Pause till that feeling come." But when you see lodges which have sprung up, and when you see a lodge like this, with so many subscribing members, and so much zeal shown in the cause, what I remarked just now is like throwing words away. It is something to be able to say that this province is in a very prosperous state. I think you will agree with me, and you may depend upon it, that anybody who presides as a Provincial Grand Master cannot do much; it is the active Masons—those who work out the lodges—who are to be thanked, and who ought to have the credit; and to those I have to return my thanks, and I now beg to thank them all for the trouble they have taken, and the work they have done.

Sir Watkin proposed "The Health of the Earl de Grey and Ripon D.G.M. and the rest of the Grand officers of England," and remarked that as there was no better known colour or better known name in Masonry than White, he should couple the toast with the name of the Prov. G. Treas., Bro. J. P. White, with honours.

Bro. J. P. White returned thanks for the last toast, and alluded to the remarkable fact of his grandfather and uncle having collectively held office in the Grand Lodge of England for nearly 100 years, and that his brother was at present a Grand Deacon of England.

Sir Watkin, in answer to several calls for Bro. Binckes, said—"I did not include the name of Bro. Binckes in the last toast, because there is a theme upon which he will speak much better, not because he has the good of Masonry less at heart, but because I believe he has worked harder in the cause of the charities than any other, and as I see upon my list of toasts that of "The Masonic Charities" I shall couple with it the name of Bro. Binckes. We have this year doubled our contributions. We know that the intention of Masonry is to encourage good will to our brethren and to help them in their distress, and though some of us here are endowed with the goods of this world, there are others who are in a great measure dependent upon the kindness and charity of the brethren. I beg to propose the toast of the Masonic charities, and to couple it with the name of Bro. Binckes."

Duet—"Could a Life be secure" Bros. Forrest and Glydon.

Bro. Binckes replied, at considerable length, to the last toast, and, after expressing the admiration he entertained of the institution of Masonry, and stating what he considered to be some of the duties of its members, gave an account of the charities connected with it, especially those for the Aged and their Widows and "the Boys' and Girls' Schools"—the first named institution maintaining 130 aged people, and enabling them—

"To lengthen out lifes' taper to its close,

And keep the flame from wasting by repose."

The girls' school which now maintains, clothes, and educates, 103 girls, and fits them for the discharge of the duties of any

sphere of life, and the boys' school, which, in like manner, maintains, clothes, and educates, upwards of 100 boys, and fits them for any position. "Are these," asked Bro. Binckes, "fit objects to support? You have every guarantee that every shilling you bestow is faithfully applied. I could tell you of cases of those who were one year enjoying the highest pitch of prosperity, in the next were received amongst us, and thanked God that their fathers were Masons. I ask my brethren to support these charities, and to manifest their interest in them by placing their names upon the list of Bro. Goldsbro' who has done good service in the Craft, and who will represent this province as a Steward at the festival in March next, in aid of the funds of the boys' school."

Bro. White gave the toast of the Grand Masters of Scotland and Ireland, coupling with it the name of the V. W. Bro. J. C. Fourdrinier.

Duet—"The Brothers," Bros. Glydon and Forrest.

Bro. Fourdrinier returned thanks on behalf of the Grand Master of Ireland.

Bro. Dr. Oakeley proposed, "The health of the R.W. Bro. Dymock," and said: The more we know him the more occasion we have to respect him. His courtesy is acknowledged and appreciated by all—may he long be spared to us. I give you the toast of the health of Bro. Dymock, our Deputy Grand Master, and I claim the honours.

Song, "Simon the Cellarer," Bro. Glydon.

Bro. Dymock said: I am very much obliged to Bro. Oakeley for the kind manner in which he has proposed my health, and for the very kind way in which it has been received by you all. I have had the honour, and for many years have never omitted attending these meetings. There are no better wishers to the Craft than there are in the old Shropshire Lodge—brethren whom I have met for many years, and whom I sincerely hope to meet with the same friendly feelings for many years to come.

The Rev. Bro. J. M. Edwards said: I have a health to propose, and I hoped it would have fallen into the hands of some person better qualified—it is that of "The Provincial Grand Chaplains." The Provincial Grand Chaplain was not here, and it was my office to perform his duties in, I fear, an inefficient manner. I propose "The Health of the Grand Chaplains of the Province."

Sir Watkin: Thanks, Bro. Edwards, for acting so efficiently to-day.

Rev. Bro. Benson returned thanks for the Grand Chaplains, and said: I came in too late for the meeting of the Grand Lodge, and I am only thankful that the duty was undertaken by one so able as Bro. Edwards, and I thank him for the very kind and efficient way in which he performed those duties. I am glad to find we have so many clerical brethren amongst us. Every young clergyman at Oxford and Cambridge now endeavours and is glad to be proposed as a candidate for Masonry. For myself and my brother chaplain we hope to do our duty, and leave behind no stain.

Bro. Binckes said: It has fallen to my lot to discharge the duty of proposing the health of the Provincial Grand Wardens, who must have earned a high place in the estimation of the Prov. Grand Master to have gained their distinguished position. I believe I am not wrong when I say that upon the efficient discharge of the duties of those officers depends the furtherance of the best interests of our Order. If those who are invested with high office are indifferent, they take a very low estimate of Masonry. If, on the other hand, we see that they do their duties thoroughly, the realities of Masonry are well and duly felt. I believe Freemasonry to be a great reality, and though not of Divine origin, the greatest institution the world has ever seen. It can only be carried out by the way in which those invested with high office perform the duties of their office. Those acting under you, Right Worshipful Prov. Grand Master, can be well taken as an example, by discharging their duties in such a manner as must be highly gratifying to you. At all events having, without any choice of my own, to propose this toast, I give you "The Health of the Provincial Grand Wardens, and may they long live in health, strength, and happiness."

Given with honours.

Bro. Goldsbro': On behalf of my brother Grand Warden and myself I beg to return thanks for the very flattering manner in which our health has been proposed and received. I trust that my being present upon every occasion of the assembling of the Provincial Grand Lodge during my term of office,

coupled with the earnest desire I feel to faithfully discharge my duties, will be some proof of the high appreciation I entertain of the distinguished honour which you, Right Worshipful Prov. Grand Master, have been pleased to confer upon me. To the present time I have not been absent upon any one occasion, and I hope that, at the expiration of my period of office, I may not be undeserving your approval.

Bro. Sir Watkin: Brethren, we should be remiss if we did not thank the Stewards for their excellent arrangements. I know the capabilities of this house, and I beg to thank the Stewards for the attention they have given to the arrangements. I give you "The Health of the Grand Stewards, Bros. Thomas Blakeman Brown, George Brown, and Edward Pryce."

Bro. Edward Pryce, Prov. G. Steward: As the Junior Steward, the duty devolves upon me to return thanks. I should only say, on behalf of my brother Stewards and myself, we feel deeply indebted to the Right Worshipful Prov. Grand Master for holding his Grand Lodge in Welshpool. I assure you, Right Worshipful Grand Master, that it is a matter of heartfelt and great congratulation to us that yourself and our brethren have been pleased with our arrangements. You have conferred upon us a distinguished honour, and we hope and trust we shall have you here again very shortly. On behalf of my brother Stewards I beg to offer you our most sincere thanks.

Bro. Pryce Bulkeley Williams proposed the health of Lady Williams Wynn and the ladies, which was received with the usual enthusiasm.

Song, "The Bloom is on the Rye," Bro. Forrest.

Sir Watkin returned thanks on behalf of Lady Williams Wynn.

Bro. Fourdrinier, in proposing the health of the visitors, said—"As a very old Mason indeed, I am permitted to say to those brethren that I have a very great pleasure in doing so, because in this extended province, and under all difficulties, so many have assembled here to day. One of the visiting brethren, I may remark, came expressly from Liverpool. I am quite sure that this will be a day which he will remember as a happy day. I propose the health of the visiting brethren, and I venture, with the permission of the Right Worshipful Grand Master, to couple with the toast the name of Bro. Richard C. Mellor.

Bro. R. C. Mellor returned thanks for the visitors, and expressed the pleasure it gave himself and his brother visitors in being present upon the occasion.

Bro. H. Atkin proposed the health of the Worshipful Masters of the Province, coupling with it the toast the name of the V. W. Bro. Fourdrinier.

Bro. Fourdrinier—"Brethren, it is 30 years ago since I passed the chair. I entered Masonry in the year 1833, and had the pleasure and pride of being elected Master in 1835 and 1836. My Masonic services, I am an old man, and an old man likes to speak of himself, extend over a period of upwards of 40 years. It was proposed to me to undertake the management of a new lodge when I came down into Wales. So I did, and you find me in the position, and a proud one it is, of being the Master of one of the junior lodges in the province. I am sure that the Masters of lodges in the province feel it a great compliment to be entertained at a banquet like this. I was quite sure of the energy and position of this particular lodge, with which I had the honour of being associated at the period of its dedication. I was here then, and I have watched its progress with considerable pleasure and with the earnest desire that it should succeed, and it has done so according to my own heart and wishes, and I am glad to find that it is a prosperous lodge to-day. On behalf of the Llandudno, Bangor, and Llangefni Lodges, I bid you all a hearty welcome. We shall be pleased and proud to find that you look us up, and as an old practitioner in the Craft, if we do not work as well, we will give the prize and credit to those who work better. We do our best and we keep our ceremonies as perfect as we can, and if we are assisted by our junior officers in the way we should like them to do, and if they will qualify themselves to assist the Master, they will enable him to display the beauties of the Craft. We, as Masters of lodges of the province, thank you for the compliment you have paid them."

The final toast was given, and the members of the Grand Lodge retired, and the brethren gradually dispersed, after having passed a day which will long be remembered by all who were present.

SOUTH WALES (WESTERN DIVISION).

ABERYSTWYTH.—*Aberystwith Lodge* (No. 1,072).—The ordi-

nary monthly meeting of the members of this lodge was held at the Belle Vue Royal Hotel, on Thursday evening, the 14th ult., the W.M., Bro. George T. Smith, assisted by Bros. John Jones, acting S.W., and Edmund M. Vaughan, J.W., opened the lodge in due form and with solemn prayer, when the following brethren were present:—Bros. E. L. Cole, S.D.; Gowan Clark, J.D.; John Davies, Treas.; Rev. E. Edwards, Chap.; J. W. Szlumper, Sec.; John Vaughan and Theodore Paul, Stewards; C. R. Williams, I.G., &c. Bro. Pell kindly taking upon himself for the evening the duties of Tyler. Among the visitors present we noticed Bros. Naish, Mason, Jessie Baker, and Rogers. The minutes of the previous lodge having been read and confirmed, some private business was transacted, after which the lodge being opened in the second degree, Bro. George B. Cumberland, a candidate for promotion, was examined, and answering the usual questions satisfactorily, retired to be prepared. On the lodge being opened in the third degree, Bro. Cumberland was duly admitted and raised to the sublime degree of a M.M. by the W.M. We have before referred to the admirable working of our Bro. G. T. Smith in the first and second degrees, but we were not prepared for so great an exhibition of talent as he exhibited on this occasion; to sum up the proceedings in four words—his working was faultless; and we can give no higher praise. The lodge was then closed in the third degree, and was subsequently resumed in the first, when Bro. Richard Hughes, a candidate to be passed, gave very satisfactory proofs of having made our noble science his study, was entrusted, and retired. The lodge resuming in the second degree, Bro. Hughes was admitted and passed to the F.C. degree by the W.M., who also delivered the lecture. The lodge was then closed in the second degree. The W.M. then appointed Bros. John Vaughan, Theodore Paul, and Stanley J. Balcombe to be the audit committee, in accordance with the by-laws, requesting them to report fully upon the accounts and property to the next lodge. No other business having to be transacted, the lodge was closed in ancient form and perfect harmony until the first Thursday in March, and the brethren adjourned to refreshment. On the removal of the cloth, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured, after which followed in rotation "The W.M.," which was duly responded to, Bro. Smith, in addition, singing one or two of his best songs. The health of "The Visitors" was acknowledged by each of those brethren. Bros. Naish, Baker, and Rogers also enlivened the evening with some choice songs. The brethren of No. 1,072 will be happy to welcome any wandering brother at the next lodge, to be held on the 7th prox.

YORKSHIRE (NORTH AND EAST).

SCARBOROUGH.—*Old Globe Lodge* (No. 200).—This lodge met on Wednesday evening, the 20th of February. Bro. Henry A. Williamson, W.M., in the chair of K.S. There were also present: Bros. Major J. W. Woodall, P.M., Treas.; H. C. Martin, P.M., Hon. Sec.; Wm. F. Rooke, P.M.; James Fred. Spurr, P.M.; Harcourt Johnstone, S.W.; William Peacock, J.W.; Richard H. Peacock, S.D.; John Raper, J.D.; D. Fletcher, I.G.; Sandars and Ash Tylers, and several other members. The lodge having been opened and the minutes read and confirmed, Brother William Pattison, of the Constitutional Lodge (294), Beverley, was regularly balloted for and elected an affiliating member of this lodge. Bro. W. Jackson, an E.A., was examined in the science of Masonry, and, having received a test of merit, retired. The lodge was opened in the second degree, and Bro. Jackson was passed to the degree of F.C. Bro. Thompson, an F.C., underwent an examination which he passed creditably, and retired with his fellow workmen. Whilst the lodge was opened in the third degree, when he was readmitted and raised to the sublime degree of a M.M. The lodge was then closed in due form in the third and second degrees. The nomination of several candidates then took place, and after the usual proclamations the lodge was closed in peace and harmony at half-past nine o'clock.

IRELAND.

CORK.

SKIBBEREEN.—*Skibbereen Lodge* (No. 15).—The brethren of this ancient and flourishing lodge met on emergency at their rooms, North-street, on Thursday, the 22nd ult. The following members attended:—John F. Lewis, P.M., W.M.; Capt. Henry Gillett (13th Light Infantry), S.W.; Capt. Bainbrigg (13th

Light Infantry), J.W.; John Wilson, Sec.; David Haddon, P.M., Treas.; R. Lee, I.P.M.; Charles Clarke, P.M.; Richard Beamish, P.M.; Ensign Parr (13th Light Infantry); H. Dennier; Capt. Hodge (12th Lancers); W. A. Lewis, Henry Nichols, I. G. Beamish, John O'Donoghue, George Robinson, P.M. The lodge was opened in the first degree, and then raised to the second, when Bros. Hodge and I. G. Beamish having been duly prepared, were raised to the degree of F.C. The lodge was then closed in due and ancient form, but was again opened in the third degree, when Bro. Hodge, who is about to leave the country, was raised to the sublime degree of M.M. Some communications from the Prov. Grand Lodge having been discussed, and there being no other business to transact, the lodge closed in harmony. The several degrees were given by Bro. Richard Lee, I.P.M., in his usual impressive style.

CHANNEL ISLANDS.

JERSEY.

ROYAL ALFRED LODGE (No. 877).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday, the 12th ult., at the Masonic Temple. The lodge was opened in due form by Bro. J. Le Cronier, W.M., M.D., D. Prov. G.M., assisted by Bros. Ph. W. Le Quesne, Prov. G. Purst., S.W.; Ed. De Le Couteur, Prov. S.G.W., as J.W.; W. Adams, P. Prov. S.G.W., Sec.; J. W. Eckford, S.D.; M. Gallichan, F. Prov. S.G.W.; H. L. Manuel, W.M. 590, Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; W. H. Long, W.M. 957, as I.G.; and several others. Amongst the visitors we observed Bros. A. Schmitt, P.M. 590, Prov. G. Sec.; C. Le Sueur, P.M. 590, Prov. J.G.W.; Ph. Binet, P.M. 491, Prov. G. Reg., &c. The confirmation of the minutes was deferred to the next meeting. The lodge was opened in the second degree, when the W.M. announced that Bro. F. Smith (an Assistant Purser on board of H.M. ship *The Dasher*), seeks further preferment in the Craft. He was, therefore, subjected to a long series of questions, which were satisfactorily answered. He was then entrusted and passed out for preparation. During his absence the lodge was opened in the third degree. The candidate having been announced and duly received, was raised to the degree of M.M. The working tools and the tracing board were lucidly explained by the W.M., who also delivered the charge restricted to this degree, with great effect. We are now in duty bound to state, that the ceremony throughout was worked by all concerned with great accuracy and precision, but the W.M. rendered it more imposing by his solemn, effective, and impressive style, so much so that a brother being unable to restrain any longer his deep gratification, rendered himself a faithful echo of all the members present, in congratulating the W.M., Bro. Bro. Le Cronier, in open lodge, on his masterly and unaffected efficiency; a brother (let us say, *en passant*), who is not only worthy of all regard and affection, but who takes an active and leading part in every detail appertaining to Masonic concerns, distinguished alike by his zeal as by his spotless life, discharging his onerous and delicate duties as D. Prov. G.M. with tact, courtesy, and firmness; for he is actually our chief and leader, and is ruling now the province to the satisfaction of the Craft. We, therefore, most sincerely pray that the Great Architect of the Universe may be pleased to spare, for years to come, such worthy, respected, and devoted a brother. The lodge was closed at nine o'clock in love and perfect harmony.

AUSTRALIA.

NEW MASONIC HALL.

The foundation stone of a new Masonic Hall was laid by the R.W. Prov. G. Master, the Hon. J. T. Bagot, on Wednesday, December 26, in Waymouth-street, adjoining the Union Inn, Adelaide.

The procession, which was numerously attended by brethren of the various Crafts, started from the Freemasons' Tavern, Pirie-street, at about four o'clock, and was attended by a miscellaneous concourse of spectators. The order preserved was as follows:—1, Entered Apprentices; 2, Fellow Crafts; 3, Master Masons; 4, Tylers; 5, Stewards; 6, Brothers with corn, wine, and oil; 7, two brothers with columns; 8, Architect with square, level, and plumb-rule on cushion; 9, Secretary with scroll, and Treasurer with coins; 10, Bible on cushion, with two brethren

on left and right; 11, P. G. Chaplain; 12, two lights carried by Master Masons; 13, P.G. Wardens; 14, one light; 15, R.W.D. Prov. G.M. Bro. Fiveash; 16, Book of Constitutions on cushion; 17, Two Grand Deacons with rods; 18, Swordbearer; 19, R.W. Prov. G.M., Bro. Baggot; 20, two Stewards with white wands.

On arriving at the site of the new hall the imposing procession separated in due order, and entered the enclosure, which had been walled off so as to prevent the general public—who were pretty numerously represented on the occasion—an opportunity of gaining admission or of witnessing the ceremony. Within an extensive platform had been arranged for the convenience of onlookers, and this was surmounted with evergreens and flags, some of the latter bearing devices peculiar to the Craft, and others bearing no device in particular, but only intended to add to the *colat* of the occasion. A considerable party of ladies were in attendance, whose presence added materially to the effect produced by the brilliant dresses of the brethren, who, however, were rather too much cramped to be able to show off their regalia to great advantage.

When the various officers had taken their appointed places round the stone, the Prov. G.M., Hon. J. T. Bagot, called for silence, and an appropriate prayer was offered by the Prov. G. Chap., the Rev. Canon Farr. The architect of the building next handed the plans to the Prov. G. Master, who, having inspected, stated that they appeared to him most suitable for the purpose, and in returning them requested the architect to undertake the supervision of the erection of the hall.

D. Prov. G. Master Bro. Fiveash then presented to the Prov. G.M. a handsome silver trowel, bearing the following inscription:—

“Presented to the R.W. Bro. Hon. J. T. Bagot, M.L.C., Prov. G.M., on the occasion of his laying the foundation stone of the Masonic Hall, Adelaide, S.A., Dec. 26, 1866.”

He remarked that this was intended partly as a token of regard, and partly to enable the Prov. G.M. to perform the ceremony of laying the stone, and likewise expressed a hope that such a building might be raised upon the stone about to be laid as would be an ornament to the city and a credit to the Craft.

The Prov. G. Sec., Hon. J. P. Boucaut, next read the scroll placed in the bottle, of which the following is a copy:—

“This scroll was deposited under the foundation-stone of the Masonic Hall, Irish Constitution, Waymouth-street, Adelaide, which was laid A.L. 5866, A.D. 1866, December 26, by the Hon. John Tuthill Bagot, M.L.C., Right Worshipful Provincial Master, assisted by the following officers of his Provincial Grand Lodge:—R.W.D.P.G.M. William Fiveash, W.P.G.S.W. William Nathaniel Crowder, W.P.G.J.W. Richard Ingleby Winter, W.P.G. Treasurer M. H. S. Blood, W.P.G. Secretary (Acting) James Penn Boucaut, Assistant Secretary William Richard Cobbin, P.G.S.D. Llandaff B. Mathews, P.G.J.D. James Z. Sellar, Superintendent of Works William Lines, Director of Ceremonies, William Gilbert Harris, Prov. Grand Steward Daniel Pattams, P.G. Swordbearer Adolphus Pagenstecher, P.G. Pursuivant W. Lister, P.G. Organist Henry L. Durien, P.G. Tyler W. E. Black, P.G. Inspector of Lodges Robert Lovell Magraith, W.M. 363 (Adelaide) D. Battams, W.M. 406 (Salisbury) William Neilson Wauchope, W.M. 408 (Norwood) William Gilbert Harris, W.M. 410 (Kapunda) W. H. Darwin.”

Together with this scroll is placed a bottle containing the following coins: Gold—one South Australian token, £1, furnished by Bro. Fiveash; one Sydney half-sovereign. Silver—1 crown-piece, 1 half do., 1 florin, 1 shilling, 1 sixpence, 1 fourpence, 1 threepence. Copper—1 penny, 1 halfpenny, 1 farthing. Bronze—1 penny, 1 half-penny, 1 farthing. The above representing one specimen of South Australian and Sydney coinage, and all silver, copper, and bronze coins of the realm of Victoria's reign; and copies of the newspapers of the day, viz., the *South Australian Register*, the *South Australian Advertiser*, the *Telegraph*.

This building was originally decided upon at a meeting of the brethren of the Irish Constitution, held at the lodge room of the Duke of Leinster Lodge (No. 363), Freemason's Tavern, Pirie-street, Adelaide, on the 29th of February, 1864, when a committee was formed, consisting of the following brethren:—W. Fiveash (chairman) D. Prov. G.M.; J. P. Boucaut, P. Prov. G. Sec.; and Bros. Magraith, Hurst, O'Hara, Weir, Wauchope, Winter, Crowder, Lines, Morris, and Cobbin, Sec.

The funds for erecting this building have been provided by voluntary subscriptions from the brethren.

The Prov. G. Master then proceeded to lay the stone, and having done so, and duly regulated it by means of square

plumb, and level, handed to him by the architect, he said: "I pronounce this stone to be well-formed, true, and trusty," striking it thrice with the mallet.

The Prov. G. Treasurer having placed the coins in the bottle, it was deposited in the cavity formed for it. The corn, the wine, and the oil were presented to the Prov. G. Master by the D. Prov. G. Master, S.G.W., and J.G.W. respectively, and having been sprinkled on the stone,

The Prov. G. Master offered the following supplication:—"May the All-Bounteous Author of Nature bless the inhabitants of this place with all the necessary conveniences and comforts of life, assist in the erection and completion of the building, protect the workmen against every accident, long preserve this structure from decay, and grant unto us all needed supplies of the corn of nourishment, the wine of refreshment, and the oil of joy. Amen, so may it be." He then addressed the assemblage as follows:—"Brethren, Gentlemen, and Ladies,—I have the honour to-day of being in the proud position of Provincial Grand Master of the Masons of this colony under the Irish Constitution. During the last three or four years we have exerted our energies as much as we possibly could to obtain funds for the purpose of building a hall in which to hold our meetings under the old and established forms of Masonry. My worthy deputy, Bro. Fiveash, has exerted himself manfully for the purpose, and to his great exertions, especially amongst others, do we owe it that we are here on this joyous occasion to lay our foundation-stone. In a mixed company of this kind, where there are ladies present, it would not do for me to go into the mysteries of Masonry, for I don't know that it is suitable for ladies to know all about it. Any of them that are married, however, may ask their husbands when they go home, and they will no doubt tell them the whole of the secret. Be that as it may this is a grand and joyous occasion in Masonry under our Constitution, and the ceremony of the day has now been performed with a little exception. I hope that the glories of Masonry may shine supreme, that as this hall is raised above the foundations the mysteries of the Craft may be more extended, and that we shall see the time when Masonry shall not be the exception but the rule amongst all the inhabitants of our favoured land. I do not say this for the purpose of inducing any one to look into our mysteries. We do not wish that. On every hand brotherly feeling, good fellowship, and care for one another are the things which characterise our Constitution, and I trust that from time to time as we meet all the brethren will see those principles carried out and preserved. To-day, also, our ceremony has been graced by the presence of ladies, and we have had our position exalted by the attendance of members of other Crafts—forming a procession which, I must say, is unexampled in the annals of Freemasonry in the colony. I trust this foundation-stone will support the building about to be raised upon it; that that building may be an ornament to this town, as well as a suitable place of meeting for the Masons; and that as such we will give a true Masonic brotherly cheer for it. I now declare this stone perfectly laid. Let us salute it with Masonic honours.

The grand honours of Masonry having been given,

The Rev. J. Pollitt, having returned thanks to the Great Architect of the Universe, addressed a few words to the audience. He remarked that the objects of Masonry were to promote a feeling of brotherly kindness and compassion, and that it was usual on occasions of that sort to ask the assistance of those who were willing to give with a view of relieving the infirmities and distresses of others, including the widow and the fatherless, and those children who might become fatherless. He had known many instances, during a twenty-one years' experience in the colony in which the widow and the fatherless had been succoured through the compassionate aid of those belonging to the various Crafts. It was not simply those who were Masons that derived the benefit, for they were commanded in charity to have regard to the sufferers who were outside. He trusted that they would show the sincerity of their feelings by contributing towards the relief of the needy according to their ability.

The offerings of those disposed to contribute having been given, the assemblage dispersed.

The building is to be built of rubble with stucco front. There are to be three underground rooms, the excavations for which have been made. Over this there are to be three other rooms, and eventually the second storey, and the one above the ground floor, will be partitioned off in the same way. The front elevation will cover a space of 37ft. in width, and ultimately the buildings will run back to a depth of some 100ft.

The main hall is to be 45ft. by 30ft. in the clear. In the rear of this is to be erected a banqueting room of 20ft. by 30ft., and some outbuildings will fill up the space still further to the rear. It is intended to put up the front portion of the structure first, and the upper storey (a space of 34ft. by 18ft.) will form the Masonic meeting room until there are funds sufficiently to complete the building. It is anticipated that the front elevation will be erected in time for the rooms to be made use of at the meetings in March next. The architect is Bro. W. Abbott, and the builder Bro. Lines.

THE BANQUET.

After the ceremony the brethren adjourned to the lodge room of the Duke of Leinster Lodge, Freemasons' Tavern, which had been profusely and elegantly decorated for the occasion, and where they sat down to a banquet furnished in his usual excellent style by host Darling. About 120 brethren were present. The chair was occupied by Bro. J. T. Bagot, P.G.M., M.L.C., who was supported on his right by Bros. Fiveash, D. Prov. G.M.; Gosse and Poole, P.D. Prov. G.M.'s; W. W. Tuxford, F.M., M.L.C.; and on his left by Bros. the Revs. Farr and Pollitt, and R. L. Magrath, the inspector of lodges.

The Rev. Bro. Pollitt said grace before, and the Rev. Bro. Canon Farr after the banquet, in the usual Masonic manner.

The following toasts were drunk with proper Masonic honours:—"The Queen and the Craft," "The Three Grand Masters of Ireland, England, and Scotland," "His Excellency Bro. Sir Dominick Daly," and the District Grand Lodge and Bro. Hardy."

In proposing the latter toast, the Prov. G.M. said that it was with very great pleasure he had seen such a gathering of visiting brethren at the ceremony that day. It showed the good feeling and sympathies of the other Constitutions. If ever the occasion required it, the Irish Masons would reciprocate warmly. Masonry was a great fact, as was proved every day, and the Irish brethren aimed to do their best to be worthy of it.

Bro. Poole, D. Prov. G.M., responded. He said that Bro. Hardy would have been present if the day originally fixed had been adhered to. The English brethren were gratified with the good spirit shown them. He hoped the day's proceedings would lead to the establishment of a satisfactory benevolent fund which might be joined in by all alike.

The Prov. G. Master then proposed "The Scotch Provincial Grand Lodge," and then "Bro. Hart, Prov. G.M." He had no doubt the Scotch lodges would soon make a better show, and none would be more welcome amongst Irish Masons than their Scotch brethren.

Bro. Wells, Prov. S.G.W., returned thanks on behalf of the Scotch Provincial Grand Lodge. He had hoped there would have been more Scotch Masons present, but there was only one lodge as yet.

The Rev. Bro. Canon Farr added that he had great pleasure in fraternal intercourse with other constitutions. In one point he differed from the Prov. G.M., for to his mind one of the great evils of Masonry was having too many lodges. He hoped the Scotch lodge would remain as it was while it continued well off, and enabled to bestow a great deal of charity—a fact of which he was proud. By dividing they could not do so much good. He had great pleasure in seeing the friendly spirit amongst the various constitutions.

Bro. Dr. Goose, P.D. Prov. G.M., then proposed "Success to the Irish Constitution and Bro. Bagot." Bro. Bagot was well known to all, and he congratulated the Irish Constitution on the event they had that day celebrated under him of laying a foundation stone of a building dedicated to Masonry. Other constitutions had made attempts of the same sort, but not so successfully as that which had been inaugurated that day. After all there was nothing like having a house of one's own, and he congratulated them on the prospect of having it.

Bro. Bagot responded. He said the Irish Masons were very much gratified by the kindness shown by the other constitutions, as well by their presence at the ceremony as by the way they had received the toast. It showed that Masonry was of more consequence than constitutions, and was wider than countries.

Bro. Fiveash was then called upon, and detailed the difficulties the Irish Constitution had to struggle with at first. He stated that that day showed they had surmounted them. They had determined to establish an Irish lodge, and that lodge determined to have a hall and a Benevolent Fund. The hall they had started, and the Fund should soon follow. He would do anything in his power to help and aid the other constitutions.

Bro. Boucaut (the Hon. the Attorney-General) then proposed "The Health of the Officiating Chaplains, Bros. Canon Farr and Pollitt." He had particular pleasure in proposing the toast. Englishmen always paid every proper respect to those holding their sacred office, and the fact of their being amongst Masons did not lessen that respect, while it proved to the outer world that Masonic principles were such as every man might be proud of, when two brethren of the sacred calling and position of Bros. Farr and Pollitt joined in the ceremonies. The brethren joined with him in wishing well to their rev. Chaplains.

Bro. Canon Farr responded. Twenty years ago, he said, he joined the brotherhood, and when he became a minister of God's Word he saw no reason why he should cease to be actively connected with Masonry. The principles of the Craft were founded on God's Word, and he himself maintained no other principles. He taught the lessons inculcated by that Word. He did not approve of a line of demarcation being drawn between the clergy and the laity, and he therefore thanked them for giving him an opportunity of joining them that day, and he hoped that the Great Architect of the Universe would bless the building, and especially the funds they proposed to raise for a Benevolent Institution.

Bro. Pollitt did not know that he could add anything to what Bro. Farr had said. If they could shut out the world, what would be their object? They were all children of mortality, infirm and depending one upon another—children upon parents, parents upon others. It was the same in the world—the tender depended upon the strong, the branches of the tree upon the trunk. So in Masonry. Sympathy pervaded them, and union gave strength to them to help and support the weak. He had found the advantages of Masonry in other parts of the world. In places where his language was unknown he found he was a brother. He had great pleasure in being with them.

Bro. Crowder, Prov. S.G.W., proposed "The Health of the Visiting Brethren out of the Grand Lodges."

Bro. B. J. Price responded.

Bro. J. W. Winter proposed, "The Brethren of South Australia."

Bro. King responded.

Bro. Pool proposed "The Duke of Leinster Lodge, the Parent Lodge of the Irish Constitution."

Bro. Crowder responded.

Bro. Bagot proposed the toasts of "The Secretaries of the various Grand and other Lodges," and "Bro. Wicksteed."

Bros. Wicksteed and Boucaut responded.

Bro. Magrath gave, "The Health of the Architects of the Hall, Bros. Abbott, Harris, Morris, and Lines." All the work, he stated, had been done gratuitously.

Bro. Abbott returned thanks.

The P.G.M. then proposed, "All poor and distressed Masons throughout the universe, and a speedy relief to them."

The lodge then closed and the brethren departed, a very pleasant evening having been spent. The toasts were interspersed at intervals with songs, and the greatest cordiality and good feeling pervaded the large company.

WEST INDIES.

TRUK'S ISLAND.—*Forth Lodge* (No. 647).—On Thursday the 27th ult., being the festival of St. John the Evangelist, the installation meeting of this lodge took place. Bro. N. T. Godet (who filled the chair during the year 1838-39) having been again unanimously elected W.M. at the last stated meeting, was duly installed in the chair of K.S. by the retiring W.M., Bro. Moxey, assisted by Bros. Hinson and Oekenden, P.M.'s. The brethren having saluted the newly-installed W.M. in the three degrees, he appointed and invested with the insignia of their office the following brethren as his officers for the ensuing year: Bros. Emiler, S.W.; C. R. Hinson, P.M., J.W.; W. C. Moxey, P.M. (elected by the lodge) Treas.; Thos. Oekenden, P.M., Sec.; J. A. Durham, S.D.; A. P. Darrell, J.D.; Zac. Frith, I.G.; and A. Francis (re-elected by the lodge) Tyler. The lodge having been closed in due form, the brethren shortly after sat down and did ample justice to a dinner which reflected the greatest credit on Bro. Murray, under whose directions it had been prepared. After dinner the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were drunk and duly honoured, and the brethren, of whom there was a very good attendance, separated at an early hour.

ROYAL ARCH.

YORKSHIRE (NORTH AND EAST.)

HULL.—*Minerva Chapter* (No. 250).—A meeting of this chapter was held on Thursday evening, the 21st ult., in the hall of the Minerva Lodge, Princes-street, at which were present Comps. Bethell Jacobs, M.E.Z.; M. C. Peck, M.E.H.; Walter Reynolds, M.E.J.; J. N. Scherling, Scribe E.; G. Hardy, Scribe N.; J. Brooke, Prin. Soj.; J. Marshall, Sword Bearer; J. F. Holden, P.Z.; W. Scott, W. K. Brown, C. Pool, &c. Visitors:—Comps. J. B. Bell, P.Z., G. Supt. N. and E Yorks; W. D. Keyworth, M.E.J.; J. Walker, Scribe E.; R. T. Vivian, Prin. Soj.; Middlemint, of the Humber Chapter, No. 57, Hull; W. E. Dixon, of the Constitutional Chapter, Beverley. The chapter having been opened in solemn form by the Principals, the companions were admitted and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The ballot box was then prepared for Bro. C. J. Todd, Kingston Lodge (No. 1010), who was unanimously accepted, and, being in attendance, was admitted and exalted to this supreme degree, the ceremony being most admirably performed by M.E.Z.; the M.E.H. giving the signs and concluding address, and the M.E.J. the explanation of the symbols. Bros. S. R. Henson and James Burn, of the Minerva Lodge, was then proposed for ballot at the next meeting. The Scribe E. then announced that in accordance with the resolution passed at the last meeting, he had forwarded the invitation to the Grand Superintendent of the province to hold the next meeting of Provincial Grand Chapter in this hall, and had received a reply accepting the invitation, and fixing the meeting the meeting for March 14th, at four o'clock p.m., at the same time asking the Principals of the chapter to hold a chapter on the same day at an earlier hour, and work the ceremony in full before the Provincial Grand Officers. The M.E.Z. then announced that in accordance with this request he had agreed to hold a chapter at three o'clock p.m. on the day named. The chapter was then closed in ancient form and with solemn prayer, and the companions adjourned to refreshment.

MASONIC FESTIVITIES.

MASONIC AMATEUR CONCERT AT BRIDLINGTON QUAY.

A very interesting Masonic amateur concert, promoted by the W.M., Wardens and brethren of the Londesborough Lodge, No. 734, took place at Bridlington, on the 13th ult., for the benefit of the Masonic Institutions, and was attended with complete success. It was crowded by elegantly-dressed ladies, and the hall in which the concert was held was decorated with Masonic devices.

At eight o'clock precisely the W.M., D. R. W. Porritt, Esq., accompanied by J. P. Bell, Esq., M.D., D. Prov. G.M., in the absence of the Earl of Zetland, Grand Master of England, and Prov. Grand Master for North and East Yorkshire, preceded by the Tylers carrying the banners, the officers of the lodge wearing their collars and jewels, entered the concert-hall, and this was the signal to commence the evening's programme.

The programme was varied, and embraced some very choice selections. During the interval between the parts, J. P. Bell, Esq., M.D., the D. Prov. G.M., addressed the audience in the following appropriate terms:—Had I been aware that I should have been called upon this evening I would have been prepared with many facts to prove to you the excellence of the institutions connected with the Masonic body. I shall, however, be very glad on a future occasion, should an opportunity offer, to give a detailed account of what is done in those institutions, and should I not be present to do so, the W.M., or some other officer of the Londesborough Lodge would no doubt feel it to be his duty to enter more fully upon this subject. I may, however, say that the Girls' School is one of the principal objects to which we direct our attention, and the children who are placed there are instructed in the various branches of refined and domestic education, as is considered the most likely to benefit them in after life, and due regard is paid, as far as possible, to the position which they would have occupied had circumstances not rendered it necessary that they should become recipients of our charity. In every instance a comfortable situation is provided for them so soon as they are fitted to engage in the active duties of life. The other institutions to

which I have adverted are equally deserving of lengthened notice, and I regret that time will not permit me to do so. Suffice it to say that they are all in need of help, and your contribution this evening will do a great amount of good, and produce effects which, I trust, will reflect honour on the institutions erected by this ancient and honourable society. A great amount of prejudice, I know, exists amongst those who do not understand the principles of our Order, and I feel convinced that were those principles more generally understood, many who do not support us would feel bound to do so. I can only repeat that I sincerely thank you in behalf of our various charities, which will participate in what we have received to-night—for the handsome manner in which you have responded to our appeal."

The Masonic dresses worn by the brethren on this occasion are worthy of comment, especially those of the Knight's Templars, Royal Arch, and Rose Croix.

On the whole the concert was a very great success, and we congratulate the brethren of the Londesborough Lodge on the glorious termination of their indefatigable exertions in getting up the whole affair.

Obituary.

BRO. ANDREW BONAR.

It is with extreme regret that we have to announce the death of Bro. the Rev. Andrew R. Bonar, after a short illness, which took place on the 25th ult., at the early age of forty-nine. Bro. Bonar was for twenty years a minister of the Established Church of Scotland, and was a most popular preacher. His death saddens a wide and influential circle of friends, for no one knew him but loved him. Bro. Bonar was initiated in the Lodge Edinburgh St. Stephens (No. 145), was Chaplain of the Lodge Canongate Kilwinning (No. 2), and held the office of Grand Chaplain of the Grand Lodge of Scotland for many years, discharging the duties in a manner which gave entire satisfaction. Bro. Bonar is well known as an author, and his last work upon "The Poets and Poetry of Scotland," a review of which appeared in a recent number, will enhance his fame. He was one of the literary Masonic band that surrounded Bro. Anthony Oneal Haye when editor of the defunct Scottish Freemasons' Magazine, the columns of which periodical he enriched with many an eloquent article. Among the last of his literary labours was the preparation for this magazine of a series of articles upon the Masonic poets, a task which he has not lived to complete. A few of these are in our hands, and will be published shortly. The death of this eminent brother will be felt by the whole Scots fraternity. He was a brother not in name only, but in deed. His ear was never deaf to the appeal of the poor, and his hand was ever open to the cry of the needy. The shortness of his illness, the suddenness of his death, and the loss of his kind and genial countenance will leave a gap in many a circle, which it will take a long time to fill up. In conclusion we may add that at the time of his death, he held the honourable post of Moderator in the Edinburgh Presbytery.

FUNERAL OF BRO. MICHAEL FURNELL, D.L.

EX-PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER OF NORTH MUNSTER, 33rd DEGREE OF FREEMASONRY, GRAND INSPECTOR GENERAL, &c.

On Monday, the 18th ult., the mortal remains of the above estimable gentleman arrived from Dublin, and laid in St. Michael's Church, Limerick, during the night. When it became known arrangements were entered into by the members of the Craft to march in regalia at the funeral. The following circular was issued to the brethren of Lodge No. 73:—

Funeral of Past Provincial Grand Master North Munster,
Bro. Michael Furnell, 33°.
Lodge Rooms, Cecil-street, Limerick,
16th Feb., 1867.

Sir and Brother,—Our late respected Brother Michael Furnell, 33°, expressed a wish that the members of the Limerick Lodges should attend his funeral. May I, therefore, request your attendance at the funeral on Tuesday morning next, at Limerick.

Yours fraternally,

GEO. W. BASSETT, P.M., Secretary.

A similar circular was issued by Bro. Barrington, P.M., to the members of Lodge No. 13.

At ten o'clock on Tuesday morning the coffin was borne from the church and placed in the hearse, and then the procession commenced. The tenantry of the deceased, wearing white scarves and hat bands, walked in procession first; then came the hearse, drawn by four horses; after which followed the brethren of the Masonic order, wearing black scarves and hat bands, and the insignia and badges denoting their several ranks, their scarves tied with blue ribbon, except the Royal Arch Masons, who were distinguished by their scarves tied by red ribbon, with rosettes of the same colour, and which were supplied from the establishment of Kears and Co. under the personal management of Bro. Thomas Adams, S.W., P.M., the arrangement reflects the highest credit on the establishment. The brethren of Lodge No. 13 were headed by Bro. R. Eaton, W.M., and Bro. W. Barrington, Secretary, and the brethren of No. 73 lodge were headed by Bro. W. H. M'Quaide. The other members who joined in the procession were:—Bros. R. Hunt, J. W. Mahony, J. M'Mahon, E. L. Hunt, Captain Lloyd, E. Lloyd, R. R. Gelston, M.D., P.M.'s; R. P. Gelston, J. S. Brown, P.M. and S.G., P.R.C. Rev. W. F. Seymour, Chap.; Land, Harding, W. Hunt, T. O'Brien, P.M., Slade, Lysaght, W. J. Young, E. Powell, Michael Cantillon, John Gleeson (S.G.P.R.C.), all of 13; Adams, P.M., S.W. 73; Trousdell, P.M. 73; Mullock, 73; W. Peacock, P.M. 73; G. Fitzgerald, 73; G. Moore, P.M. 73; Morgan, P.M. 73; G. W. Bassett, P.M. and Sec. 73 and 201; T. Glover, P.M. 73; Bernal, P.M. 73 and 202; Fife, P.M. 73; Ferguson, P.S.W.; M'Nay, P.M. 73; Dr. Carey, 73; Vaneesbeck, P.M. 73; W. Phayer, P.M. 73; Langley, P.M. 73; Laird, 73; Pim (Dublin); J. C. Holland, 473; Pierce and C. H. Huston, 73; Goggin, Whitehorne.

Amongst the other gentlemen who attended were—Colonel the Right Hon. W. Monsell, M.P.; Sir Hugh Dillon Massy, Bart.; Henry Vereker, Richard Russell, J.P.; Thompson Russell, J.P.; J. B. Blennerhassett, Michael Hartigan, Alderman M'Donnell, J. Ryan, solicitor; W. G. Gubbins, William Armstrong, St. John's; Capt. Furnell, Richard Furnell, Fredk. Furnell, Michael Furnell, E. Lloyd, P. M'Mahon, T. Costelloe, Henry Maunsell, J.P.; Capt. Croker, H. Russell, Dublin; M. Townsend, Cork; M. Ferguson, Dublin; &c.

Next came two mourning carriages, and the carriages of Dr. Furnell, brother of the deceased, and that of T. O'Brien, Esq., J.P., brother-in-law. They were followed by the carriages of the following gentleman—Colonel the Right Hon. Wm. Monsell, M.P., D.L.; Hon. Robert O'Brien, Old Church; Henry Maunsell, J.P.; R. Hunt, J.P.; R. Russell, J.P.; W. Johnston, J.P.; Thaddeus M'Donnell, J.P.; Rev. Joseph Gabbett, Alderman Mahony, his Worship the Mayor, Rev. Mr. Bennet, J. B. Blennerhassett, Archibald Murry, Fortland; Thompson Russell, F. Kennedy, Michael Robert Ryan, J.P.; James G. Barry, J.P.; Dr. Gelstin, W. G. Gubbins, J.P.; Samuel Caswell, J.P.; and also those of Mrs. Barry and Mrs. Purdon. There came next a long line of private vehicles that stretched over a considerable distance. The route was from the parish church, through Barrington-street, the Crescent, George-street, up William-street, and through Mulgrave-street, on to Caherelly churchyard, the burial-place of the Furnell family.

Having reached the churchyard, the coffin was borne on the shoulders of a number of the tenantry to the entrance of the vault, in front of which it was laid on supports, when the burial service was read in a most impressive manner by the Rev. Mr. Bennett, and, when he had concluded, the Rev. Benjamin Jordan delivered a short but touching funeral oration.

At the conclusion, the coffin was taken into the vault, where the brethren of the Masonic Order assembled, and the gates of the vault having been closed, the usual Masonic rites were performed and the word given, they bade a final adieu to all that was mortal of their venerable brother, who was an ornament to the illustrious Order of Freemasonry.

The Masonic ball of Lodge 13, which was announced to take place on the 1st inst., was postponed to the latter end of April, in respect of the memory of Bro. Michael Furnell, D.L., Provincial Grand Master of the district.

SPURIOUS MASONRY.

We have received the following from a Scottish source:—We are informed that some one suspected to be a recreant Mason has for some time past, for the sake, it is alleged, of personal gain, and without, or rather in defiance of, the autho-

rity of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, been engaged making "Freemasons" (?) for a few shillings—a mere tithe of the regular fees of the recognised lodges—and that a goodly number, especially of working men of this city, have been imposed upon in this way. The matter has but recently come to the knowledge of the Masonic lodges of Glasgow and Renfrewshire West, as well as the fact that several of the so-called Masons have been visiting these lodges under the belief that they had been properly qualified. The Provincial Grand Lodges of the two districts named, as well as the lodges under their superintendance, have taken this spurious Masonry into their consideration, with the view to put a stop to it, and several of the Masters have had occasion to request their members to beware of these *soi-disant* brethren, and see that they do not find their way into any of the lodges. It may be well, in order to put all intending Masons on their guard, to state that the lodges in the Glasgow province, holding of the Grand Lodge of Scotland are, P.G. Lodge, 213, Buchanan-street; 3½, St. John, 213, Buchanan-street; 4, Kilwinning, 170, Buchanan-street; 27, St. Mungo, 213, Buchanan-street; 73, Thistle and Rose, 170, Buchanan-street; 87, Thistle, 19, Croy-place; 102, St. Mark, 213, Buchanan-street; 103, Union and Crown, 19, Croy-place; 117, St. Mary, M.H., Partick; 128, St. John, Kirkhouse, Shettlestone; 178, Scotia, 170, Buchanan-street; 219, Star, 19, Croy-place; 275, Shamrock and Thistle, 15, Main-street, Bridgeton; 332, Union, 170, Buchanan-street; 333, St. George, 213, Buchanan-street; 354, Caledonian Railway, 213, Buchanan-street; 360, Commercial, 19, Croy-place; 362, St. Clair, 19, Croy-place; 408, Clyde, 170, Buchanan-street; 413, Athole, 213, Buchanan-street; 419, Neptune, 46, Clyde-place; 437, Govandale, 207, Govan-road; 440, Robert Burns, Thom's Inn, Baillieston; 441, Glasgow, 11, Stockwell-street; and 465, St. Andrew, J. Rae's, Castle-street. These lodges only in this province are recognised by the Grand Lodges of England, Ireland, the Grand Orient de France, the lodges in Germany, and throughout the world. Several of them are centuries old; and their funds are principally devoted to purposes of charity. It is, therefore, not only a serious matter, but one of the gravest offences against Masonry, for any individual, upon his own account, to set up and carry on lodges in the manner complained of by the brethren in Glasgow and the adjoining province of Renfrewshire West.

THE UNIVERSAL EXHIBITION.—We have already alluded to the "Paris Guide" of the Librairie Internationale. This work is announced for the month of March, and whilst realising a grand conception it will meet a want which will inevitably be felt by all those who visit Paris this year. Paris described and illustrated—a gallery of sights, and, at the same time, a practical guide—every subject treated by a distinguished writer, savant, or artist—all these characteristics combine to form a publication of unrivalled interest. Among the 120 contributors to this Encyclopaedia we notice the following well-known names:—Victor Hugo, who writes the preface; Pellitan, who traces the successive transformations of the city; La Blanc, who describes Paris of old; Renan, who writes about the "Institut." We have further M. Sainte Beuve, on the "Académie Française"; M. Littré, on the "Académie de Médecine"; M. Michelet, on the "Collège de France"; Théophile Gautier and Paul de Saint Victor lead us through the Louvre and the Luxembourg; E. Quinet accompanies us through the Panthéon; Viollet-Leduc shows us through the churches; Alex. Dumas and Taine gives us a sketch of the "École des beaux arts"; and E. Augier takes the "Théâtre Français" as his theme. Under the head of the "Bar and the Courts" we find the names of Berryer and Jules Favre. Jules Simon initiates us into the mysteries of the prisons; E. de Girardin and Laboulaye explain all concerning the press; Jules Fanin tells us about the collectors of valuable books; Didot describes the printing trade; George Sand dilates on the beauties of nature, as seen in the parks and gardens of Paris; A. Karr writes about the flower-market; Nélaton takes for his theme the organisation of the hospitals; financial matters are treated of by Forcade and Adam, &c. For securing from each contributor an article or an illustration on the special subject with which each is most conversant, the editor's aim at producing a work of high literary merit. We shall find in it a philosophical and statistical treatment of the heights and the depths of the great city.

SUDDEN DEATH.—The following instance of the liberality

of Colonel Tynte, who was, until last year, R.W. Prov. G.M. for the Eastern Division of South Wales, is worthy of being recorded, and we recommend all our Masonic brethren to go and do likewise. An old man of eighty years of age, a parishioner of St. Mellons, by name William Jones, died suddenly on Tuesday morning in this place. It appears that the deceased retired to rest in his usual health on the night previous, intending to rise early in the morning for the purpose of sowing beans in his garden, but death intervened, and frustrated his purpose, for he was found early in the morning stretched across his bed, the vital spark having fled. An inquest was held on the body by W. Brewer, Esq., of Newport, when the above facts were elicited, and a verdict of "Died by the visitation of God" was returned. The deceased for some years was in the service of Colonel Tynte, of Cefn Mably, but his strength failing, the Colonel generously allowed him 5s. per week for the remainder of his days, and we are happy to say this is not a solitary instance of that gentleman's sympathy for infirmity and old age, for there are many recipients of his bounty in this and the adjoining parishes.

THE GREAT HURRICANE AT TURK'S ISLANDS, BAHAMAS.—Since the terrific hurricane which devastated Cockburn Town, Turk's Islands, Bahamas, on the 30th of September last, the extent of the calamity has become more fully known, and something like an estimate has been formed of its ravages. In many instances the dwelling-houses and outhouses were totally destroyed, many of the occupants being in humble circumstances and thus rendered entirely destitute. In about one hundred cases the value of the property destroyed ranges from £1,500, £250, £100, and smaller amounts, and in the wreck that ensued many lives were unfortunately lost, whilst others who escaped were seriously injured. It is stated that an appeal will be made by the Turk's Islands, Turk Lodge, to the Grand Lodge of England for sympathy and assistance at its next meeting; and it is to be hoped that it will be responded to with that liberality which the lamentable circumstances of the case require.

NEWSPAPER STATISTICS.—From the *Newspaper Press Directory* for 1867 we extract the following on the present position of the Newspaper Press:—"There are now published in the United Kingdom 1,294 Newspapers, distributed as follows:—England—London, 241; Provincial, 724—965; Wales, 49; Scotland, 138; Ireland, 128; British Isles, 14. Of these there are—55 daily papers published in England; 1 in Wales; 14 in Scotland; 13 in Ireland; 1 in British Isles. On reference to the edition of this useful Directory for 1857 we find the following interesting facts—viz., that in that year there were published in the United Kingdom 819 journals; of these 37 papers were issued daily—viz., 26 in England, 6 in Scotland, and 5 in Ireland; but in 1867 there are now established and circulated 1,294 papers, of which no less than 84 are issued daily, showing that the press of the country has very greatly extended during the last 10 years, and more especially so in daily papers; this daily issues standing 84 against 37 in 1857. The magazines now in course of publication, including the quarterly reviews, number 588, of which 198 are of a decidedly religious character, representing the Church of England, Wesleyans, Methodists, Baptists, Independents, and other Christian Communities."

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

Mr. Dion Boucicault is at present in Paris, making arrangements for the production of two new plays, which he has been commissioned to write by French managers.

Her Majesty has signified her intention to confer the honour of knighthood on Mr. George Harvey, President of the Royal Scottish Academy, and on Mr. J. Noel Paton, R.S.A.

The Meteorological Office has now been placed under the direction of a committee of the Royal Society. The new director is Mr. Robert H. Scott, for several years hon. secretary of the Royal Geological Society of Ireland.

Mr. Robertson's new play of "Shadow Tree Shaft" has been produced with great success at the Princess's Theatre. It was intended that his sister, Miss Madge Robertson, should have made her first regular appearance in London as the heroine, but circumstances prevented her from doing so.

Mr. Ruskin has retired from the candidature for the Professorship of Poetry at Oxford, vacant by the resignation of Mr. Matthew Arnold. Ill-health is assigned as the reason for this step. There are now three candidates in the field—Sir Francis Doyle, Mr. Kynaston, and Mr. Tyrwhitt.

The *Saturday Review* complains that the country is asked to pay to Baron Marochetti for the casting of the Trafalgar Square lions about twice as much as Sir E. Landseer receives for eight years' labour in designing and modelling them. The baron asks not less than £11,000 for the casting, although our best English firm offered to do it for £6,000. Besides, the casting is very badly done.

The "British Pharmacopœia" for 1867—the new and revised edition of which, pursuant to Act of Parliament, is to be henceforth the official and universal text-book for physicians and dispensers throughout the kingdom—is now issued in proof to all the members of the General Medical Council. The "Pharmacopœia" hitherto in use in England, Scotland, and Ireland will be superseded by it.

One of the most popular actresses at the Vienna Theatre has retired from the stage on the occasion of her approaching marriage with a Prince of Thurn and Taxis, one of whose brothers is married to a sister of the Empress of Austria. Another brother, who was adjutant to the King of Bavaria, eloped the other day with a celebrated actress from Munich, and married her in Switzerland.

Here is a fine prize for some historian of the twentieth century. A Russian general of artillery has just died after having deposited in the Bank of St. Petersburg a sum of £8,000, to remain at interest until the year 1925, the anniversary of the death of the Emperor Alexander I., and then to be given to the author of the best history of that Sovereign. The sum will then amount to £384,000.

Mr. Morrell has stated in Congress that it is a very moderate estimate that 75,000 persons will leave the United States and cross the Atlantic this summer to visit the Paris Exhibition. He calculates that the expenditure will not average less than 1,500 dollars each, or a total of 112,500,000, which in currency would be over 150,000,000 dollars, and paid in specie it would swallow up the entire production of all the United States' gold and silver mines of the year. He quotes the popular joke of a pretended cable despatch, announcing that the Emperor of the French has set apart four acres as a graveyard for American visitors who may not survive.

The designs for the new courts of law in Lincoln's Inn-fields, London, are now being exhibited. The designs, with one exception, viz., Mr. Garlings', but who also sends in an alternative Gothic design, are all of a Gothic character, and the the proposed buildings will cover seven acres of ground. The commissioners had calculated on £750,000 as the probable cost of the building. The architects go far beyond this sum. Mr. Deane calculates the cost at £1,074,278; Mr. Garling, £1,090,061; Mr. Abraham, £1,234,266; Mr. Lockwood, £1,235,383; Mr. Barry, £1,237,571; Mr. Scott, £1,253,626; Mr. Street, £1,314,360; Mr. Brandon, £1,414,913; Mr. Waterhouse, £1,419,842; Mr. Burgess, £1,584,589; Mr. Seddon, £2,046,644.

Poetry.

No class of men more justly appreciate and devotedly admire the real virtues of woman than Free and Accepted Masons. Putting this and that together, we presume to place in the Masonic columns the following poems which we clip from an exchange—not that it is peculiarly Masonic, in its character—but because it is good—and breathes that spirit which, being developed into sturly life practice, will benefit man by benefiting the governors of man:—

BE A WOMAN.

Oft I've heard a gentle mother,
As the twilight hours began,
Pleading with a son on duty,
Urging him to be a man.
But unto her blue-eyed daughter,
Though with love's words quite as ready,
Points she out the other duty—
"Strive, my dear, to be a lady."

What's a lady? Is it something
Made of hoops, and silks, and airs,
Used to decorate the parlor,
Like the fancy rings and chairs?
Is it one that wastes on novels
Every feeling that is human?
If 'tis this to be a lady,
'Tis not this to be a woman.

Mother, then, unto your daughter
Speak of something higher far,
Than to be mere fashion's lady—
"Woman" is the brightest star.
If ye, in your strong affection,
Urge your son to be a true man,
Urge your daughter no less strongly
To arise and be a woman.

Yes, a woman—brightest model
Of that high and perfect beauty,
Where the mind, and soul, and body,
Blend to work out life's great duty.
Be a woman—naught is higher
On the gilded list of fame;
On the catalogue of virtue
There's no brighter, holier name.

Be a woman—on to duty,
Raise the world from all that's low,
Place high in the social heaven
Virtue's fair and radiant bow!
Lend thy influence to each effort
That shall raise our nature human;
Be not fashion's gilded lady,
Be a brave, whole-souled, true woman.

MEETINGS OF THE SCIENTIFIC AND LEARNED SOCIETIES FOR THE WEEK ENDING MARCH 9TH, 1867.

Tuesday, March 5th.—INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS, at 8.

Thursday, March 7th.—CHEMICAL SOCIETY, at 8.

THE WEEK.

THE COURT.—The Queen, accompanied by Prince and Princess Christian, drove on the 20th ult. to Bonchurch and Shanklin, returning to Osborne by Sandown and Brading. Her Majesty went out on the morning of the 21st ult., attended by the Duchess of Roxburghe. The Queen, with their Royal Highnesses Prince and Princess Christian, Princess Louise, Prince Leopold, Princess Beatrice, and Prince Henry of Prussia, left Osborne, on the 22nd ult., at a quarter before three o'clock and arrived at Windsor Castle at ten minutes past six p.m. The Queen, accompanied by her Royal Highness the Princess Christian, walked and drove in the grounds on the morning of the 23rd ult. The Queen, accompanied by her Royal Highness Princess Louise, drove out in the afternoon, attended by the Duchess of Roxburghe. The Queen, their Royal Highnesses Prince and Princess Christian, Princess Louise, Prince Leopold, and Princess Beatrice, and the Ladies and Gentlemen in Waiting attended divine service on the morning of the 24th ult., in the private chapel. The Rev. J. Rowsell, honorary chaplain to her Majesty, preached the sermon. The Queen and her Royal Highness Princess Louise walked and rode on ponies in the grounds on the morning of the 25th ult. The Queen, accompanied by her Royal Highness Princess Christian, drove out in the afternoon. Her Majesty drove on the morning of the 26th ult. with her Royal Highness. Her Majesty held a Council at a quarter before three o'clock, at which were present the Duke of Buckingham, the Earl of Bradford, and the Earl of Devon. The Queen, accompanied by her Royal Highness Princess Louise, drove out in the afternoon. Her Majesty the Queen, with their Royal Highnesses Princess Louise, Prince Leopold, Princess Beatrice, and Prince Christian, left Windsor Castle on the morning of the 27th inst., for London. Her Majesty travelled by special train on the Great Western Railway to Paddington. The Queen, accompanied by their Royal Highnesses Princess Louise, Prince Leopold, Princess Beatrice, and Prince Christian, left Buckingham Palace at twenty minutes before six o'clock for Windsor.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.—In the House of Lords on the 21st ult., after the Masters and Operatives Bill, the Lis pendens Bill, and the Sale of Land by Auction Bill, had each been read a second time, Lord Campbell proceeded to favour the House with his views on the question of Reform. He moved a resolution which declared that it was neither necessary nor desirable that the franchise in all boroughs should be based upon the same qualification. He honestly avowed that the object of the motion was, in case the present arrangement was disturbed, to prevent the working classes from having more power than they possess at present. The machinery he would employ would be plurality of qualification, in other words, a plurality of votes differing in different boroughs. Earl Grey thought there was no use in discussing an abstract resolution of this kind. He approved of the plan of the Government in dealing with the Reform question by resolution; but he urged that the precedent of 1833 should be followed, and the resolutions sent up to their lordships before a bill was founded upon them. His lordship argued that the Peers were much more likely to deal impartially

with the question than the Commons, because the Peers had no fear as to their re-election before them. Lord Derby deprecated the passing of Lord Campbell's resolution, and, as to Earl Grey's suggestion, said he had not had an opportunity of conferring with his colleagues respecting it. His chief anxiety was to get the Reform Bill rapidly through the Commons. Everybody will readily believe that; but everybody will scarcely receive without question the noble earl's declaration that he had seen nothing to lead him to believe that the Reform propositions of the Government would be defeated. If he has not he must be very obtuse. Earl Russell followed the Premier, advising that the Government should take its own course. He spoke sarcastically of the Government resolutions, the meaning of which he said he could not make out, but he supposed they would know all about them. After some more discussion, Lord Campbell's motion was withdrawn.—On the 22nd ult., the Marquis of Clanricarde got up a discussion in the House of Lords in reference to land tenure in Ireland. He brought in a bill on the subject, which, as it has been brought in before and never been thought worthy of much notice, he thinks may have a chance of becoming law now. The bill is nothing, and the speech was only remarkable for the attack which it contained on "certain Reform agitators," who probably will not pay much attention to his lordship's opinion of them. There was a short discussion on the bill, which was read a second time. The British North American Bill passed through committee.—On the 25th ult., after the asking of a question by the Earl of Shaftesbury, having for its object the speedy production of the report of the commission which was appointed over twelve months ago respecting the application of the Factories' Act to children employed in agricultural pursuits, and the alteration of a standing order rendering a certain formal notice necessary previous to sweeping away a cemetery and the bodies contained therein, the Earl of Derby proceeded to move the second reading of the Habeas Corpus Suspension (Ireland) Act Continuance Bill. The noble earl regretted that circumstances had occurred since the delivery of the Queen's Speech which rendered that step on the part of the Government necessary. He believed that in the main the people of Ireland were loyal, and it was to protect them against the consequences of the plottings of the foreign agents who had been employing themselves in trying to create disturbances that the Act was to be for a short time longer suspended. Earl Russell and Lord Kimberley, whilst regretting the cause, admitted the necessity of still further suspending the Act. The bill was then put through the various necessary stages and passed. Lord St. Leonards called attention to the question of the employment of volunteers in cases of riots or "attacks by Fenians," and quoted authorities in support of the supposition that in such instances the volunteers could be called out. The Lord Chancellor was, however, of opinion that it was unlawful to employ the volunteers as a military force, except in the one case of apprehended invasion, and cited Lord Ellenborough and Lord Chief Justice Tyndall in support of his opinion. The discussion resulted in nothing definite.—On the 26th ult., a bill for altering the judicial arrangements of the Admiralty, Probate, and Divorce Courts was read a second time. It proposes to create two new puisne judges, who will sit in one or other of the courts, and with the chief judge form a full Court of Divorce. A civil court, it is hoped, will thus be created, which may effectually deal with questions of international law. The bill is not to be proceeded with until the action of the House of Commons in reference to the same matter is known.—Lord Campbell endeavoured to have the third reading of the British North American Confederation Bill postponed for a month, but he failed. The bill was read a third time and passed.—In the House of Commons, on the 21st ult., Lord Naas moved the second read-

ing of the bill for suspending the Habeas Corpus Act until June 1. His lordship gave a most interesting account of the proceedings in Ireland during last year and within the last month. He expressed his very earnest hope that there would be no further occasion to suspend the Act. The debate which followed was chiefly remarkable for an attack made by Major Knox upon Mr. Bright, and that gentleman's reply. Major Knox misrepresented what Mr. Bright had said in Ireland, and advised him not to go roaming over that country. Then the Major gave to the house his opinion as to the bill. In pretty strong terms he urged the Government to suspend the Habeas Corpus Act, not for three months, but for a year, and to deal rigorously with the suspected. Mr. Bright quietly told his assailant that he should take no notice whatever of what he had said about him, but he denounced the Major's sentiments in reference to the people as atrocious, and expressed a hope that no other member in the House would be found capable of uttering them. The House answered to this with a cheer. The bill was read a second time, and Lord Naas stated that he should ask for the standing orders to be suspended, in order that the bill might get through.—The House next entered upon a long discussion of Mr. Gathorne Hardy's Metropolitan Sick Poor Bill. Most of the metropolitan members took objection to some of the details of the bill, chiefly on the ground that it interfered with the constitution of the boards of guardians—bodies which had confessedly done their work very well. Mr. Villiers and Mr. Gilpin expressed their general approval of the bill, which was read a second time. Several other measures were advanced a stage.—On the 22nd inst. Mr. Bentinck got up a discussion in reference to the new Courts of Justice. He pointed out that the estimates of the architects were greatly in excess of those which had been laid before Parliament. He found fault with the manner in which the whole business had been conducted, and moved a resolution urging the Government to carry out the work on its own responsibility. After some discussion the motion was withdrawn. After a brief but interesting debate on the Maharajah of Mysore, which Sir Henry Rawlinson began, Sir Roundell Palmer called attention to the inconvenience of the present judicial arrangements. His speech was of a most interesting character.—On the 25th inst. the House of Commons was densely crowded before the time for prayers—not only the floor, but the galleries were occupied. In the lobbies rumours spread of a break-up of the Ministry, but no one could trace this to any authentic source. After prayers several of the peers took places in the galleries. Among them were Earl Russell, the Duke of Argyll, the Marquis of Clanricarde, Lord Belmore, the Earl of Granville, and several others. Mr. Lowe passed the time, before public business began, in an animated conversation with the Bishop of Oxford. Mr. Mill fitted in and about the House. Mr. Brand looked joyous. Before half-past four the Treasury Bench was well occupied. Mr. Bright had taken his accustomed place; Mr. Gladstone sat on the front Opposition bench; and over the whole House there was an air of expectation. No notice was taken of the Chancellor of the Exchequer as he got to his seat. The House was too anxious to hear the story he had to tell to cheer him as he came in. The questions were disposed of, and shortly before five o'clock the Chancellor of the Exchequer rose. He spoke clearly, and with a keen ear for interruptions. The impression he conveyed was certainly that he had not much heart in what he was doing, and that he would be glad if any one would say anything upon which he could speak with zest. With few preliminary observations he proceeded to describe what the Government meant to propose by way of giving effect to the resolutions, if they were carried. In the first place four new franchises were proposed to be introduced into boroughs. The first was an educa-

tional franchise, which would take in some other classes besides those who were included in the bill of 1859. The second was a savings' bank franchise—£30 in a savings' bank for one year being the qualification. The third franchise was that any one with £50 in the funded debt of the country should be entitled to vote. The fourth was that every one who paid 20s. a year direct taxation should have a vote. As to plural voting the Government had meant that any one who could vote as an occupier might also vote for any of the new franchises in addition. The Government, however, would not insist upon that, and having been obliged to give it up, they had resolved to fix upon a £6 rating franchise in boroughs. This would bring about 130,000 new voters to the poll. The four new suffrages were to be extended to the counties, and the occupation franchise there was to be reduced to a £20 rating. The total addition to the constituencies would be about 400,000. The right hon. gentleman proceeded to describe what would be the proposals as to bribery, and next went to the distribution of seats. The Government proposed to disfranchise Great Yarmouth, Lancaster, Totnes, and Reigate, as being wholly corrupt, and to give the members to new and growing places. The places to which members are to be given are Hartlepool, Darlington, Burnley, Staleybridge, St Helen's, Barnsley, Dowsbury, and Middlesborough, one for the Black Country, Croydon, Gravesend, and Torquay. It would be recommended to divide the Tower Hamlets and give two new members. For the counties it was proposed to divide North Lancashire, North Lincolnshire, West Kent, East Surrey, Middlesex South Staffordshire, and South Devon. That would be fourteen members to counties. It was further proposed to divide South Lancashire; and a member would be given to the London University. One member would be taken from each of twenty-three boroughs now returning two members, but having less than 7,000 population, but Mr. Disraeli refused to mention their names. The other propositions deserve no special notice. The Chancellor of the Exchequer concluded by declaring that the Government brought the measure forward in all sincerity. The debate which followed was exceedingly interesting. Mr. Lowe followed the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and criticised the course of the Government in a vein of mingled satire and indignation. Mr. Bright, who was very hoarse, declared the proposition to proceed by resolution to be unworthy, and urged that a bill should be brought in immediately. Mr. Walpole having spoken, Mr. Laing complained that Scotland was neglected. Subsequently Mr. Gladstone criticised the propositions, and the debate was adjourned.—On the 26th ult., the Government gave way on the matter of Reform. Indeed, they did that which we announced a week ago they intended to do—they withdrew the resolutions, and gave notice that on the 7th inst. a bill would be introduced. Mr. Disraeli made the announcement, professing all the time the belief that to proceed by resolution would be the best thing. He took the wind out of the sails of Mr. Gladstone, who was prepared to give notice of the resolution which had been agreed to at the meeting of the Liberal party. Mr. Gladstone expressed his satisfaction at the course adopted, and promised to give the bill his best consideration. Mr. Bright suggested that the Government would act wisely to proceed with the franchise question alone at first; but Lord John Manners pertinently said the Government would take no such advice. The matter then dropped. There was subsequently a lengthy debate in reference to the employment of the British army in India and the colonies. Major Anson moved for a select committee to inquire into the whole subject, and, the Government assenting to the proposition, it was agreed to.—On the 27th ult., there was an interesting debate on the second reading of a bill the object of which was to enable a Roman Catholic to be Lord Lieutenant or Lord Chan-

collar of Ireland. The bill was introduced by Sir Colman O'Loughlin. Lord Naas had no objection to the Lord Chancellorship being thrown open to Catholics, but he objected to the Lord Lieutenantship being similarly opened. Mr. Nowdegato moved the rejection of the bill. The debate was long and interesting. Eventually the bill was read a second time by 195 votes to 93.

GENERAL HOME NEWS.—The return of the Registrar General for 1866 was issued on the 26th ult. Passing over some attempts at fine writing which, as usual, disfigure what is otherwise an interesting document, we find that during last year the births in London were 107,992, while the deaths were only 80,129, the annual rate of mortality being 2·647 per cent., showing an average length of life of about thirty-eight years. The usual weekly return shows 2,342 births, and 1,337 deaths. Whooping-cough appears to be prevalent.—Once again the case of Madame Valentin is mentioned in our law courts. On the 22nd ult., Mr. Hall, solicitor, who was engaged against Madame Valentin, brought an action in the Court of Exchequer against Mr. Leveson, her solicitor, for libel, malicious arrest, false imprisonment, and other things. While Madame Valentin's case was going on Mr. Leveson had Mr. Hall arrested and charged with forgery, perjury, and theft. After examination at the Guildhall Mr. Hall was discharged, and he now brought this action for damages. Leveson had put in pleas justifying what he had done, but he did not appear, and Mr. Hall said he had seen an advertisement in the newspapers offering a reward of £100 for his apprehension. The jury gave Mr. Hall £521 damages.—The examination of Colonel Nelson and Lieutenant Brand was resumed at Bow-street on the 23rd ult. Mr. Philippo was re-examined with reference to the laws of Jamaica, and other evidence taken. The case for the prosecution being closed, Mr. Hannen and Mr. Bristowe addressed the magistrate, urging that no case had been made out for committing Colonel Nelson and Lieutenant Brand for trial. Mr. Fitzjames Stephen replied, and Sir Thomas Henry decided that there were questions both of law and fact in the case which must be left for a higher court to deal with. He therefore committed the prisoners for trial at the April sessions.—A case of alleged ill-treatment to a boy eleven or twelve years of age formed the subject of a coroner's inquiry at Bow on the 22nd ult. It is stated that his death was either caused or accelerated by neglect and want of food, and this impression is confirmed by the emaciated condition of the poor little fellow's body. The evidence given by the father, "a powerful-looking man, of a somewhat morose expression of countenance," was of a very singular character. He made the most conflicting statements concerning his child's age; and while in one breath he declared that the deceased was playing in the street shortly before his death, in the next he affirmed that he had never made such a statement. "His step-mother," he said, "did not ill-use him; she would only show him the cane, as was proper, and gave him a cut outside his clothes when he deserved it." The wife of a neighbour gave a painful account of the miserable existence which the boy lived. The inquiry, which promises to be a searching one, was adjourned for additional evidence. The father was received with groans when he made his appearance in the street.—At the Central Criminal Court, on the 25th ult., Henry Brown, William Newman, and Thomas Charles Cuthbert surrendered to take their trial for being concerned in rather an extensive robbery of silk from the premises of Messrs. Taylor and Stokes, of Friday-street, Cheapside. The circumstances in connection with the case ought to be well known, as they have been frequently published. All the accused were found guilty, and Brown and Newman were sentenced to five years, and Cuthbert to ten years' penal servitude.—A shocking case of murder and attempted

suicide was reported on the 28th ult. A woman named Jane McCarthy, whose husband is undergoing imprisonment for a felony committed by him, has been receiving relief from the Shoreditch Union. She lived at 10, Shaft-street, Kingsland-road. She had two children, a boy four years old and a girl two. On the 27th ult. the relieving officer went to visit her, and found her lying on the bed with her throat cut, while the little girl was lying by her side dead, her throat being cut from ear to ear. The woman was removed to the workhouse, and is not expected to live.—At the Central Criminal Court, a person named John Hodges Harris surrendered to take his trial for having, contrary to the provisions of the Act of Parliament relating to lunatics, received a lady named Albina Mortina Dendy, an alleged lunatic, into his charge for profit without having an order to do so from a relative or other person competent to give such order, and without the certificate of two independent medical practitioners, as is required by the law in such cases. In the course of the evidence some rather strange disclosures were made respecting the connection of the accused with the Miss Denby's family, and the causes which led to the prosecution. The jury, after about ten minutes' deliberation, returned a verdict of not guilty.—Mr. Richards, deputy coroner, resumed the inquiry relative to the death from alleged parental neglect and ill-treatment of the poor child William Conde. The coroner, after hearing all the evidence that could be adduced, remarked that although there was no moral doubt of the cruel treatment which the deceased had received, there was no legal proof of the fact. Several of the jurors considered that the case was one of slow murder, and at their request the inquiry was adjourned for the purpose of seeing whether any additional evidence could be procured.—A mysterious robbery of silver bullion has been committed on the Thames. On the 26th several boxes of bullion belonging to Messrs. Rothschild were shipped on board the *Waterloo* steamer, lying in the river off the Tower. One of Messrs. Rothschild's clerks saw the boxes safely stowed, and took a receipt for them from the chief mate of the vessel. The hatches were put on, barred, and locked, and all was left safe. Besides the ordinary watchmen on board the ship, there were two custom-house officers, whose business it was to patrol the deck of the vessel, turn and turn throughout the night. This they declare they did. Yet when the mate went on board the vessel, and the hatches were opened, it was found that the cargo had been disturbed, and that two of the boxes of bullion had been stolen. The boxes weighed 300lbs. each, therefore more than one person must have been engaged in the robbery. The value of each box is about £2,000. Inquiries are being made.—A frightful accident took place on the Lancaster and Carlisle Railway, about twenty miles from Carlisle, on the 26th ult. Owing to the breaking of the axle-tree of a goods waggon several trucks were thrown upon the up-line. One of these had on it about five tons of gunpowder. Almost immediately afterwards a goods train ran into the overturned waggons. The gunpowder became ignited, and a fearful explosion took place. The driver and stoker of the train were killed, and great injury was done to the line.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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

ENQUIRER.—For your lodgo library we should recommend the following works, which can be obtained for the amount voted for the purpose, viz.—The following by Bro. Dr. Oliver—“The Historical Landmarks and Outer Evidences of Freemasonry Explained,” “The Antiquities of Freemasonry,” “An Apology for the Freemasons,” “The Spirit of Masonry,” and “The Masonic Manual.” And your library would be incomplete without a copy of Bro. Dr. Bell's “Stream of Masonry.” Upon our hearing from you we will send by post further and more exact particulars as to price, &c.