

LONDON, SATURDAY, JUNE 22, 1867.

ORATION DELIVERED AT THE
CONSECRATION OF THE ELIOT LODGE,

By BRO. REV. DR. BANNISTER.

Right Worshipful Sir and Brother, Worshipful and Worthy Masters and Past Masters, Brethren, One and all,—We are met together to assist in consecrating in this place, once a noted school of religious learning, the seat of a bishopric, and still preserving in its noble parish church portions of the ancient cathedral of Cwall, a Masonic lodge to be known by an honourable name, the Eliot Lodge. Long may the family after which the lodge is to be named be preserved as an honour to Masonry in general, and an ornament in particular to this county, the first, the last, and the best in England, and long may this lodge, now to be consecrated, revolve as a bright planet of the first magnitude, around the central luminary—the Grand Lodge of England. In order that it may do so, as we know that every whole as made up of its several individual parts, small as well as great, it is necessary that each and all the members of the lodge should remember the object for which lodges are established, viz., that Masons may meet together and improve themselves in their own peculiar science. Freemasonry we know is a peculiar system of morality veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols. It is founded on a sublime, rational, and moral principle, with the praiseworthy design of making us better men, better members of society, better subjects, better parents, better husbands, better masters, better servants, better in all the relations of life, yes even better parsons and better preachers of the Gospel of peace. As in our lodges all the furniture, every figure, ornament and emblem, has a moral import and tendency, so this design is represented by the immoveable jewels. These are the tracing board, and the rough and perfect ashlar. The tracing board is for the Master to lay lines and draw designs on, and we are told that the volume of the Sacred Law ever open while the lodge is working, is the *tracing board* of our great Master above, the great Geometrician, the Grand Architect of the Universe, in which are laid down divine laws and moral plans for our guidance through this short life to the life that knows no ending in the great lodge above. But the two emblems to which I especially wished on this occasion to draw your attention, are

the rough and perfect ashlar; the former uncouth, unshapen, just as it comes from the quarry; the latter, cut, carved, polished, and by skilled and patient labour, prepared for the place it is intended for, by the wise superintendant of works. In the volume of the Sacred Law also, various emblems, parables, and wise sayings are made use of, to teach us to use and improve our talents and to do our duty in that state of life where in Gods providence we are placed. Every one, whatever his rank, high or low, rich or poor, has a work to do in life. Our talents, whether five, or only one, are to be improved to the honour and glory of God, and the good of our fellow creatures. We are to serve our generation in the fear of God. St. Paul, the great apostle of the Gentiles, and who is thought by some, like St. Germanus after whom this place is called, coming here to confute heresy and to establish our British forefathers in the faith, to have visited the remoter *Corner* of the world, St. Paul tells us that in a great house, there are vessels, not only of gold and silver, but also of wood and stone and earth (clome as it is called here), and some to honour and some to dishonour, *i.e.*, some to noble uses and for special occasions, and others for baser purposes and every day use, useful, perhaps even more useful, than the more intrinsically valuable and therefore more honoured and prized vessels, but all useful in their places. Now to vary this figure. In the erection of a noble building, a cathedral or a palace, stones of different sizes, and on which different amount of labour has been expended, are used. There are the beautifully cut and polished and the elegantly carved stones for the ornamental parts. There is the plain cut and squared ashlar for the building up of the walls. There is the rude and rough but strong stone in the foundation, and there is the rubble to fill up the interstices between the outer and inner work; each picce insignificant and weak in itself, but put in its proper place and solidified with mortar or cement, helping to make the building strong and firm. So it is in society generally; so it is in Masonry in particular. All cannot reach the top stone. All cannot be ornamental stones; but all accepting their position, doing their duty where they are placed—all may be useful. In Masonry we are taught subordination, to take the place assigned to us, and do our best and improve ourselves there; for we are not in animate matter like the lifeless stone, each one of us has divine princip

within, a rational soul, and we must educate that principle, as we are taught in Masonry to take the rough ashler, and smooth and polish it that thus it may be chosen for that part of the building which it is thereby best fitted to occupy, and where such an one is wanted. All may be, all are useful, while they are diligently discharging their allotted duties, "I had rather be a door keeper in the house of my God," says the Psalmist, "than dwell in the tents of wickedness." So the Tyler in our lodges has an important office to fulfil, humble though it may be thought. Great fidelity is required of him, and he who faithfully discharges his duty in that office purchases to himself a higher degree, and shall not lose his reward. So in common society, all cannot be masters, all cannot be noble, some must be subordinate, some servants. These things are as they are allotted to us by our Grand Master, and the subordinate who does his duty well, it may be in the most menial office, shall be thought worthy of high rank in heaven's great lodge. As Masons, we should not be satisfied with attending lodges, putting on our aprons and jewels, giving certain signs and words, and answering certain set questions. We should seek to improve ourselves in Masonry and in all that Masonry inculcates, by endeavouring to make ourselves good and useful members of society. To be this we should not be, as our talented Bro. Robert Burns says "unfitted with an aim." We ought each and all of us to have an object in life, some definite object. We ought to be lights, light-bearers in the world, and to let our light so shine before men that they may see our good works, and glorify our Father which is in heaven. Our Masonry requires this. We ought also as Masons to be noted for our courtesy, not only to one another, but also to all men. Every Mason ought to be, every true Mason is a gentleman. He may not be of gentle birth, all cannot be; but if he has been found worthy to be admitted into a lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, he ought to cultivate all pure and honourable principles. The distinguishing characteristics of a good Mason are Virtue, Honour, Mercy. As there are things allowable in other men which would be unbecoming persons of good lineage and high rank, among whom the maxim *noblesse oblige* is a rule, so ought it to be with every Freemason. He should feel, my Masonry requires this of me; an uninitiated person may allow himself in certain things to do this

or that, but my Masonry obliges me to act differently. The four Cardinal virtues, depicted by four tassels in the corners of our lodge, and also referred to in the ceremony of our initiation, are Temperance, Fortitude, Prudence, and Justice. May Temperance guide, Fortitude support, Prudence direct, and Justice shine in every act of every member of this lodge, and that he will be an ornament to the Craft in general, and to the Eliot Lodge in particular, and will have done something towards the completion of that temple perfect in its parts, and honourable to the builder, which all true Masons are endeavouring to assist in.

FREEMASONRY CONSIDERED.

BY ANTHONY ONEAL HAYE.

(Continued from page 465.)

III.

What, after all, is life, but a journey to a far off land, where we shall be examined upon the acts we have done, and the sights we have seen on our way. Each year that passes over our head is a milestone on the road to death, the first breath we draw is a step towards eternity. We have only to gather the fruits and flowers that grow on our path, we have only to assist the weak and trembling, we have only to give an arm to the feeble, to bind up the wounds of the ailing. Is it not easier this, than to fritter the time away, loitering on the path to pluck the weeds, pushing aside and assaulting the frail, trampling under foot the unprotected, driving a dagger into the heart of the inoffensive, or tearing open with ruthless hands the wounds of error of our weaker brethren. Certainly, to do good is to be good, and its reward is reaped not alone in heaven, but likewise on earth. How sweet to the dying, struggling in the waters of death, will be the remembrance of a well spent life; but how sickening, how sinking will appear the dark blots of an ill-spent sojourn on earth. Yes, Freemasonry teaches all this, she teaches her children to be kind, gentle, and forgiving, to remember that all men are children of the same family, children of the same Father, who never forgets, nor closes eye or ear upon the meanest of his creatures; and that man has to fear neither poverty nor insignificance, but the stain of dishonour alone. She teaches him to live worthily, she teaches him to die happily, that life is not life, the earth not his abiding place, but he

must train in life for an everlasting life, and that heaven is his home, undying bliss his heritage. This is a serious text, a text upon which the keenest minds have bent, a text which has baffled all philosophy. We see the water of life stretching away for a hundred miles, gradually fading till it is lost in the far off distance. We see the trees thickening on the banks as the waves roll on, thinning as they become faint in the distance; and as we journey on that water our strength fails, and our sight grows dim, so that we cannot see more clearly, as we advance towards the goal, than we did at our first setting out. Yet we have our beacon. It is a general and shining light, the sunbeams cannot eclipse, neither can the night wrap it up in darkness. Storms may dash across it, but they only cause it to shine the brighter, and the lurid lightning only makes it grander by its steadier radiance. It hangs above the distant goal, it points the straight unerring path, for there are many branches to the River of Life, leading away to cataracts and destruction. The light of Truth, the knowledge of God, and revealed word of God never fails; it shines on, it will ever shine on, bright and glorious, for the guidance of man, till earth shall be shattered at the judgment, and the destinies of all be fixed for evermore.

It is a solemn text, it is a serious subject to contemplate; but it has its own joys, and life obtains a fresher lustre when we have carefully considered it. The Monk, in his cold cell, turned to the skull, the emblem of mortality, with no awe: it was with joy and happiness, for it reminded him that when this frail and aching tenement of clay should be returned to whence it had been taken, the brighter and imperishable spirit would mount up with eagle's wings to Him who gave it. Like the Monk, the Freemason feels no pang at the sight of the representative of death, it only warns him that he must die; it brings no terrors, it is a friend, and teaches him that happiness is not lasting on earth, but never wanes in heaven. With no irreverence does he view that emblem; he gazes at it, and muses on the fate of the one whose busy brain once dwelt within its frail tenement, and he trusts that when his body is committed to the grave, his soul may be safe in the land of the blessed.

To die worthy of a better world, then, is the end of all Masonic teaching. She tells her children that as they sow here well, so shall they reap good fruit, and satisfying hereafter. She points out the

weak and helpless state of man when he first enters upon life—blind, naked, and dependent upon his fellows for assistance. He knows nothing, for his mind is an unwritten tablet, a tablet, it may be, of adamant, upon which the good or evil engraved remains for ever; or it may be the frail wax, easily moulded to the virtuous or the vicious. She teaches him the use and qualities of the mind, warns him against the lures of sin, and inculcates the principles of morality. She is no honied monitor, suiting her doctrines to the palate. She tells him that he is a fallen creature, in danger of an everlasting death; that of himself he is nothing, and only great through a dependence upon a higher power. Yet unto herself she arrogates no influence but such as she derives through the higher power. She delivers the precepts confided to her, man must work out his own destiny.

Having thus shown her children the dangers which surround them, inculcating the principles of mutual dependence and belief in God, she traces upon her trestle-board the various studies which are calculated to subdue the passions, and elevate the mind. She tells that labour is the lot of all, and that the labourer is worthy of his hire. She rewards the diligent—she reprimands the negligent. While the world is distracted by warlike commotions, the sack of cities, the slaughter of men, the lodge is peaceful, and the brethren are happy. Upon Freemasonry the passing events of the world can make no change—exercise no influence. Her doctrines were established before a stone of the Pyramids was laid, and they will exist when not a stone of the Pyramids remain one above another. She is founded on eternal truth, and can know no change. She laments the bloodshed and the woe attendant upon the quarrels of nations. These she cannot prevent, but her hand is ever open to relieve the wounded, and to give burial to the dead. How often, in the battle field, has her influence been felt; and men engaged in deadly combat have bowed to the sign which told them they were brethren.

It has often been said by our antagonists, "If Freemasonry exercises such an influence, why not make its doctrines known to all the world?" It is a question easily answered: "because the world is not ripe to receive them." Were the doctrines of Freemasonry thrown open to the whole world, how long would they be cherished by man? Perhaps not one would seek to know them. They are hard to acquire, and difficult to follow; but

when the time approaches that will herald in the era of peace, then will the wide-spread banners of Freemasonry float over the whole world, from the frosty North to the sultry South; from the East, the birth-place of day, to the West, the bed of the mournful night. The advance of Freemasonry over the world within the last century amply proves that the time is not far distant when the whole human race will be united in one great family, bound together by the ties of brotherhood, and united in the furtherance of the same principles. and when this happy time does dawn, a new era will arrive for the human race.

May we be able to say with Goethe, when breath was departing from his lips—"More light," and passed from darkness into light. "Ease and pleasure," were the last words of Cecil, minister of James I., "quake to hear of death; but my life, full of cares and miseries, desireth to be dissolved." Cromwell said—"It is not my design to drink or to sleep, but my design is to make what haste I can to be gone." One more dying man's words are worthy of being engraved on every Masonic altar, as they are in the hearts of every Briton. When the dread fiat is issued, may one and all of us be able to exclaim, with the great Nelson—"I thank God I have done my duty."

HISTORY OF FREEMASONRY IN CORNWALL.

(Continued from p. 443.)

By ✠ Bro. WILLIAM JAMES HUGHAN, 18°, *Corresponding Member of the German Union of Freemasons; Knight Companion of the Royal Order; Member of Several Rites in England and Scotland; &c.; &c.*

The records of this lodge are most carefully and legibly written, and certainly its first minute book is a model one for perspicuity of arrangement and Masonic composition under the care of its able Secretaries, Bros. T. W. Robinson, John Poole, John Rosewarne, Thomas Treweke, jun., Nicholas Permewan, James Polkinghorne, and John Pearce Smith, P.M. of the lodge. The latter, we believe, was appointed to that office 12th January, 1859, and has continued in that capacity up to the present, and right faithfully has he served his lodge. His services for Masonry have been recognised by the Provincial Grand Lodge through his appointment in 1854 as Prov. G. Steward, and in 1855 as Prov. G. Deacon, and we hope the Cornubian Lodge will have its minutes recorded

by the same indefatigable Secretary for very many years to come. The Provincial Grand Lodge met the following year (1850) on April 16th, at Hayle, when the lodges at Falmouth, Penzance, Truro, Helston, Bodmin, Hayle, St. Anstell, and Liskeard were represented. The Secretary states that "the lodge was opened at Bro. Crotche's between eleven and twelve o'clock, and soon afterwards the Prov. G. Purst. and Prov. G. Dir. of Cers. marshalled the procession in the usual manner, when it proceeded to Phillock Church. Prayers were read by Bro. Rev. J. Townshend Boscawen, and the lessons by Bro. Rev. N. Broadley; an admirable and appropriate discourse was then delivered by Bro. Rev. Henry Grylls, of St. Neot, the Prov. G. Chaplain (and one of the most distinguished Masons of Cornwall, whose fame has travelled far and wide as a most intelligent Masonic clergyman). After service the procession was reformed and returned to the lodge room, when the usual business was transacted. Why Hayle was selected for two years consecutively we are not informed. A grand banquet concluded the day's proceedings, when Bro. William Crotch sustained his character for efficiency in catering for the requirements of upwards of 100 brethren. It was proposed and carried that a lodge of instruction be held every Monday evening at seven o'clock, from 1st July, 1850. We think if the same has been continued up to now, the brethren cannot fail to have experienced the benefit of so admirable a plan to improve and instruct the members in the ritual of Freemasonry. At the lodge held 29th July, Bro. Nicholas Harvey was thanked most warmly for the great exertions he had made to perfect all the arrangements at the last Provincial Grand Lodge as Prov. G. Dir. of Cers. In consequence of the expenses incident to such meeting being large, the W.M. and several of the brethren generously subscribed, so as to render it unnecessary to use the funds of the lodge for that purpose. We think it much the best plan for the members voluntarily to subscribe a certain amount, to meet the disbursements consequent upon a Provincial Grand Lodge being held at their lodge, so as not to interfere with the regular funds of the lodge, because we have known some lodges to have been crippled for years through this plan not being followed, and instead of the Provincial Grand Master and his officers honouring them with a visit, causing an increased prosperity for the Craft in their neighbourhood, a contrary result

has been witnessed. We see no reason why there should not be a guarantee fund required from the members of the Fraternity in a town where the Provincial Grand Lodge is to be held, on the same principle adopted by the various agricultural and learned societies of England, and we are persuaded that such a method would be of great advantage to the province generally.

The lodge had the pleasure of being visited by the D.P.G.M., February 5th, 1851, when that distinguished Mason very warmly congratulated the lodge on its prosperity, both as regards numbers and respectability. We believe the lodge of late has not been visited much officially, from what cause we know not, but surely it is necessary to praise a lodge for its work, as well as blame it for its neglect of Masonry, and hence in this case, although we know the W.M. and officers vie with each other as to whom can best discharge the duties of their several offices, a visit now and then from some recognised authority could not fail in citing the members to still greater zeal and activity.

Several fines were inflicted about this date on brethren who did not attend although "within the length of their C.T." One brother had five shillings presented him as a gratuity at the next lodge, and another applicant was wisely refused, because of not having a Grand Lodge certificate. We cannot but think that there are several such travelling applicants for relief now, who would never have been members of the Fraternity had the admirable laws of our Society been observed, and thus it behoves all members of lodges, as they value their privileges, respect their obligations, and seek the welfare of the Craft, to use every precaution as to the admission of candidates, remembering that in voting, they are called upon to exercise a right conferred upon them by the Fraternity, which will in a great measure determine the position of the Craft in their neighbourhood, and according to their decision will either good or unworthy men be entered into the Society. We hope that those who have a sincere regard for the best interests and prosperity of our ancient Institution, will guard well the portals, and be ever watchful that none but worthy men are received and accepted as Freemasons. Bro. John Roscorla, P.M. Mount Sinai Lodge, Penzance, was thanked for his kind attendance at so many meetings of the lodge, especially as his presence was frequently indispensable to enable the lodge to have been opened. A distressed brother from Penzance was

assisted by this lodge, and we are glad to find the members so intent on relieving the necessities of unfortunate members. On the 26th January, 1852, a brother from Hungary was admitted, and having told the tales of his misfortunes, the funds of the lodge were lightened a little to help him, and the members also responded, and testified in a practical manner their sympathy. The by-laws were again revised during this year, and approved of in their amended state. A considerable amount of business was transacted, and the initiates seem to have lost no time in receiving their promotion from step to step, as allowed by the Constitutions.

Bro. H. J. Molesworth St. Aubyn was proposed as a joining member of the lodge Feb. 28th, 1853, and accepted with very much pleasure by the members, who subsequently testified their appreciation of the honour by electing him W.M. of their lodge, 9th January, 1854.

It was proposed that the lodge vote the sum of two guineas towards the testimonial being subscribed for by the Fraternity in Cornwall, as a mark of their esteem for Bro. R. Pearce's long and faithful services as D. Prov. G.M. for the province.

A special meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge was held at Penzance, 7th March, when a silver salver and a set of dishes were presented as the free-will offering of the Craft in Cornwall to that most deserving brother, on which was an inscription, as follows: "Presented on the 7th March, 1854, to Bro. Richard Pearce, Esq., of Penzance, Past D. Prov. G.M., &c., of the Ancient and Honourable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of Cornwall, by the lodges and brethren of the province, a testimony of his constant attention, zeal, and ability in the various offices of the Order, during a period of thirty-six years." The members at the lodge held 2nd Sept., 1856, decided to order thirty copies of the sermon lately published by Bro. the Rev. H. Grylls, Prov. G. Chap., &c. A letter was received from the Secretary, and read to the members 9th Nov., 1859, stating that there were certain spurious lodges in the country, and warning the brethren to be cautious in the admission of visitors. The letter was ordered to be "pasted to the minute book." Owing to variable circumstances, the rights of meeting, as is usual with lodges, were frequently altered, but having afforded instances of this fact in our sketch of the Falmouth Lodge, that illustration will suffice.

A meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge was held in connection with the lodge 27th June, 1865, and the members exerted themselves to their utmost to make the Craft welcome. Bro. Augustus Smith, Prov. G.M., testified his approval of their anxiety to administer to the comfort of the Provincial Grand Lodge by appointing the following active members of the lodge to honourable offices in the province, viz.:—Bros. John Pearce Smith, P.M. 450 and Sec., Prov. S.G.D.; J. H. Burrall, P.M. 450, &c., Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.

We have much pleasure in stating that the lodge is in a prosperous state, and is gradually progressing towards being one of the best and most effective working lodges in the county. Although in some measure slightly isolated from their brethren in being so far west, the zeal of the members of the Cornubian Lodge at Hayle has more than compensated for that deprivation, and their officers are acknowledged to be as anxious and desirous to preserve the ancient landmarks, and follow according to the time immemorial customs of the Craft as the most fastidious Mason could wish.

Of late a Mark lodge has been attached to this representative of the ancient lodge at St. Ives, and already it is numerically and otherwise a complete success. The proximity of the town to Penzance has rendered it unnecessary to have a chapter at Hayle, but if the Holy Mount Chapter (No. 121) rejoices in being the Land's End in Arch Masonry for England, the Cornubian Lodge (No. 87) enjoys that distinction in Mark Masonry.

(To be continued.)

MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES

PYTHAGORICIANS.

A young brother sends me the following passage taken from the article, "Pythagore," in the "Dictionnaire des Sciences Philosophiques," and written by Professor Janet:—"Quand aux Pythagoriciens, ils formaient plutôt un mystère qu'une école. Ils avaient des initiations, des épreuves, un langage symbolique et voilà." My brother contends that this passage shows that the Pythagoricians were Freemasons. When somewhat more advanced in his Masonic studies, he will find that the passage shows no such thing. It shows that the Pythagoricians formed a secret association, but it shows no more.—C. P. COOPER.

AGE OF FREEMASONRY.

With what a learned brother has written respecting the age of Freemasonry, considered as a universal institution, I cannot agree. A little further reflection

will, I am persuaded, bring him to the correct conclusion. Until the religion of Freemasonry existed, Freemasonry was not possible. Therefore the religion of Freemasonry existed before Freemasonry existed.—C. P. COOPER.

PROSELYTISM IN FREEMASONRY.

Brother . . . Our banquets are not Freemasonry. Religion, virtue, charity—these are Freemasonry. Talk of the allurements of our banquets and proselytism in Freemasonry is forbidden. But talk of the worship of the Glorious Architect of Heaven and Earth, of the practice of virtue, of acts of charity, and it is not forbidden. A law which should forbid us to try and make men better sons, better husbands, better fathers, better members of society, would be a void law. It would be rejected by the moral sense and reason of the whole human race.—C. P. COOPER.

THE EVIL SPIRIT.

Brother . . . You inquire respecting the propriety of receiving into our Order a candidate, part of whose creed it is that there is no evil spirit created by ourselves, and dwelling in our own breasts. The candidate, you say, is a philosopher; I wish he were a Christian. However, as he believes in the Great Architect of the Universe and the soul's immortality, he plainly ought to be admitted into our Fraternity. Scepticism in relation to the . . . is no ground for rejecting him.—C. P. COOPER.

THE ENGLISH FREEMASON.—THE GREAT ARCHITECT OF THE UNIVERSE.

In answer to an observation in the letter of a foreign brother, I say that the English Freemason regards the Great Architect of the Universe as the God of natural religion and the God of Christianity. As the God of natural religion, he was the God of Socrates. As the God of Christianity, he was the God of Sir Isaac Newton. The God of the English Freemason, the God of Socrates, and the God of Sir Isaac Newton are one and the same God. [See my communications to the *Freemasons' Magazine*, "The Religion of Socrates" and "The Religion of Freemasonry as a Universal Institution," vol. xv., page 186; and "The Great Architect of the Universe," vol. xiii., page 151].—C. P. COOPER.

SACRED MUSIC IN LODGES.

The appeal of Bro. Bairnsfather is pertinent. The D.M. ought to be an official as important as the Dir. of Cers., and it is to be hoped that in time few lodges will be without this officer. It is not necessary he should be the Organist. In many cases it will add to the strength of the lodge if he is not. He should have the arrangement of sacred music in the lodge, and of secular music at the banquet. In some lodges it would strengthen the staff to have a Music Steward for banquets. A good lodge would have a D.M., Organist, and Music Steward. With such a staff we should have music well chosen and well performed. The Organist should be always free of contributions, like the Secretary. The D.M. might have a useful privilege of inviting a guest to the banquet, who would be some brother possessed of musical attainments. Abroad an old and good regulation is sometimes carried out, that is, of admitting musical and

singing brethren on preferable terms, so that the small salary or allowances soon repay the initiation fees, and in this way a good musical staff is kept up for ordinary and extraordinary occasions, and who feel a pride in the dignity and well-being of the lodge in which they have been initiated, and from which they hail, and they receive special attention and are never unthanked.—C. K.

BESOTTED BRETHERN.

A late untoward event put me in mind how much our Craft has suffered through the misconduct of selfish and weak-minded men, who, unaffected by the principles of morality inculcated on them, and uninfluenced by any regard for their own character, and that of their brethren, indulge their passion for drink, more frequently communicating intoxication after the close of the banquet, and going drunk from the place of meeting to be registered as drunken Masons. How long we have suffered from these disgraceful intruders into our Order, may be judged from Hogarth's picture of "Night," where one of the chief figures, blind drunk, is a man with a collar bearing a square, and having a large apron. The late inauspicious occurrence has not been without defenders, by whom it is represented as not unusual on such occasions. Is drunkenness an essential of Masonry?—E. N.

SIGNATURES TO ARTICLES.

The law propounded by Bro. Haye is a new one, and the remarks of M° 18 $^{\circ}$ are pertinent. Has it occurred to Bro. Haye that a writer, unless it is necessary to authenticate his statements, is not always desirous to see his name in print, lest it be thought that he is over anxious to parade it. There are many Masons who are willing to contribute to the *Freemasons' Magazine* and to other publications, for the simple purpose of doing good to a paper and a cause, who would feel their offering was lessened in estimation by an attempt at advertising; they prefer a disinterested co-operation to the appearance of gaining a reward in notoriety and applause. To many who sign their articles from a sentiment of duty, the necessity is not always acceptable, and many are restrained from contributing under such circumstances. A writer who has some title to be considered an author, will prefer leaving his opinions to be judged without reference to authority. A signature goes for very little where statements are made at second-hand from a work which is itself no authority, or which is only a translation. A writer may be quite contented to refer to a literary authority without parading his name. On the other hand, a writer who had brought forward a new fact may be desirous of signing, as a controversy may arise either as to substance or priority.—18 M° 12.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

THE GRAND SECRETARY AND THE NEW EDITION OF THE "BOOK OF CONSTITUTIONS."

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—A new edition of the "Book of Constitutions" is about to be published.

May I suggest to the V.W. Grand Secretary that a certain number of copies be interleaved with blank leaves for the insertion of notes, &c. An additional charge of 6d. per copy for the books so bound would, I believe, cover the expense, and would, I am sure, be gladly paid by many officers of the lodges and others who may wish to post up the books with all the alterations that may be made from time to time by Grand Lodge. Yours fraternally,
W. S. L.

THE WOULD-BE ORACLE.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I am a diligent reader of the correspondence in your pages, and, with the exception of the effusion of "The Humble P.M. of Jersey," have seldom seen anything more amusing, from its pretention and absurdity, than the letter of Rosa Crucis on "Masonic Literature."(?) Rosa Crucis deplores that our brethren have departed from their ancient working, and tells us that all the symbolism of the Craft degrees is derived from the Templars. As the latter is only an *assertion*, and as most intelligent Masons are well acquainted with the reasons on which it is founded, and all the circumstances of the death of Jacques de Molay, I shall not take the trouble to *assert* that the Craft symbolism is not so derived. Rosa Crucis having then informed us of the pilgrimage of an American brother to York Minster, "whose expenses and trouble *was** thrown away," says that "the brethren of the Rosy Cross did not want to betray the alphabet of the Order to Bro. Haye" (What on earth does he mean? What awful mystery lies concealed?) even if he knew the pass-word, which he did not." On what occasion did our brother display such ignorance? Surely Bro. Haye has not been attempting to gain admission into a R.C. Chapter without being properly qualified? Rosa Crucis then speaks of Bro. Haye as a "shallow Mason," which, by those who have read his works, may be taken for what it is worth, and doubts "if he understands the esoteric teaching of the Craft degrees." Now, Bro. Haye may be a young Mason, and, as such, apt to be rather too severe in his criticisms, and arrive at too sweeping conclusions, but, in consideration for outsiders like myself, let me beg of Rosa Crucis, though he should be a little out of temper, not to attempt again to write in riddles, and, at least, to weigh his articles with a little more of that ballast too often neglected, called "common sense."

Yours fraternally,
SIMPLEX.

A MASONIC SENTENCE.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER.—Bro. the Treasurer of Lodge ——— was fined five pounds for having on a certain evening locked up the Treasurer's book in the lodge, and thereby depriving the lodge of its use. Bro. ———, Secretary of the same lodge, was fined fifty shillings for having, on the evening referred to, carried away the minute book of the lodge, and thereby preventing the lodge from using it. Being

* A *lapsus calami* evidently, for similar instances of which see the ungrammatical rhapsody of Rosa Crucis that follows, on "The Original of Freemasonry."

an outsider, and therefore an uninterested party, and having heard both sides of the story, the facts referring to the above may be thus briefly stated. In consequence of some unpleasantness some years ago, three or more Past Masters fell out. One of them was recently balloted for in a R.A. chapter, was blackballed by the other two, and prevented from taking the degree; this was afterwards reversed, the brother first referred to being subsequently received as a companion. The newly-elected companion, well knowing that his presence would be distasteful to the others, determined to visit the lodge of which they were respectively Treasurer and Secretary. The right to visit was claimed, and refused on the ground that the visitor would disturb the harmony of the lodge. The right to visit was again claimed at the following meeting, and by the W.M. ordered to be admitted, who evidently preferred the right of the visitor to the harmony of the lodge. Under these circumstances, the Treasurer and Secretary, both Past Masters, retired, and committed the offence for which they have been fined.

The above is a plain, unvarnished statement of facts that have lately occurred, and must raise the question of right to visit in the proper quarters, so as to be definitely settled. I have withheld the names of the lodge, locality, and brethren for obvious reasons, and I think even Bro. Haye will give me credit for this time using the *nom de plume*.

Yours fraternally,
PAST MASTER.

[The above appears to have been a very unseemly squabble, and very disgraceful to our Order, but as the matter appears to be *sub judice*, we shall offer no further opinion upon it beyond this—that we think the brethren had a perfect right, and were, indeed, called upon to leave the lodge if an unwelcome visitor was introduced, but as the books were the property of the lodge, and not of the individuals in whose hands they were placed, we doubt any power they had to lock them up and thus deprive the lodge of the use of them.—ED. F.M.]

THE HIGH GRADES.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—It is a subject of much regret to me, and I am sure it must be so to many of the readers of the *Magazine*, that its columns should have been occupied with some of the articles that have lately appeared therein. I refer to the denunciations of the high grades by Bro. Haye, who, with all his splendid talents, has failed to see the beauties they contain. Just because it is possible that he has received his knowledge in some illegitimate manner, otherwise his obligations would have taught him a more excellent way. His articles make it self-evident that he does not know that which is communicated only to perfect Masons.

Being the merest tyro in Masonry, I will not attempt to argue with him. I will make no statements of my own, therefore I shall not be open to the charge of wanting courage to defend them, but will content myself with drawing the attention of your readers to the few quotations from Bro. Haye's articles:—

"It was their esoteric teachings veiled in symbols,

their living retired lives, and the fact of their being expert chemists that caused them to be supposed to possess these secrets or to be in search of them."

Is Bro. Haye quite sure that he knows the secrets they were in possession or search of? Let Bro. Haye answer:—

"And even now we have wandered far away from the pure paths lit up by the spirit of God, and, while we sneer at the worships of former days, we forget that, in many instances, we know not what these really were."

Again. But if nothing else could show the absurdities of these multifarious degrees, the fact of their not being worked because unworkable shows their uselessness. Who would dream of attempting to work the rite of Misraim? It would require a nation and the income of a king. Let Bro. Haye tell us if he can. Had the brother who was authorised in Edinburgh in either the year '65 or '66 to work the rite of Misraim the income of a king? Was he in himself a nation? and where was the justice of his receiving authority to work that which was unworkable? Again. Now, since the thirty-three degrees are unworkable, why not choose out certain of them and cast aside the rest? If all are unworkable, why will Bro. Haye reserve some of them? Further, Bro. Haye says—"I confess they manage these things better in England and in Devon and Cornwall; the grades below the 18th are all worked." Surely the Devon and Cornish brethren must be very clever to work that which is unworkable. Bro. Haye says he does not believe in writing under a *nom de plume*. Does the name added to the article increase the depth of the argument? Is it to be entitled to more consideration because it bears the name of some literary giant? I think it was a countryman of Bro. Haye's that said—"The rank is but the guinea stamp; the man's a man for all that." Again. Attacking persons is the worst of all arguments. It may be used as a weapon of attack, but it is no argument at all to attack the writer; it is, therefore, in my estimation not necessary for anyone but the editor to know who the writer of an article is, especially if his early and best days have been passed in other than literary culture. I shall, therefore, conceal myself under an appellation by which Bro. Haye will recognise me.

Yours fraternally,
ROSE CROIX.

P.S. I shall be glad to communicate with "Rosa Crucis" through the editor.

MASONIC LITERARY UNION.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I should like to know by what authority "A Knight Templar" states that Bro. Haye is the self-constituted President-General of the Masonic Literary Union. If Bro. Haye is self-constituted President-General, all the other office-bearers are in the same predicament. While denying "A Knight Templar's" right to interfere in a matter with which he is unconnected, I may state that it was Bro. Haye's earnest wish to have the Union's head-quarters established in London, and it was only to set the society afloat that he consented to be the first President-General, and to have the head-quarters in Edinburgh. It is a gratuitous

insult, not to Bro. Haye only, but likewise to the whole Union.

Yours fraternally,
SEC. GEN. M.L.A.

[We have omitted some strong and offensive adjectives from this letter, as we concur in an observation used by the writer of it that they are foreign to the question and unbecoming in Masons.]

FREEMASORY CONSIDERED.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Three brethren, with more zeal than discretion, have rushed into the lists to combat my opinions. I always feel it a painful duty to correct such very verdant brethren, but since they have so wisely (and in their cases I confess a *nom de plume* is the correct thing) concealed their names from your readers, my remarks will not cause them to suffer any ridicule at the hands of their acquaintances. I may be permitted to premise that, before rushing into print, these brethren should have first verified their historical and other statements.

"Rosa Crucis," in his first and somewhat incoherent letter, mixes me up with an American brother, who, on visiting York Minster, declared that his money had been thrown away, and asks, "What did he expect to find? Rituals at 2s. 6d. a-piece?" He then adds, "The brethren of the Rosy Cross did not want to betray the alphabet of the Order to Bro. Haye, even if he knew the password, which he did not." To what does "Rosa Crucis" refer? for I must plead ignorance. I may state that I have always considered myself a Scotsman, without a drop of alien blood in my veins, and that I never visited York Minster with the expectations which "Rosa Crucis" insinuates our American brother did. His style would lead anyone to believe that I was the brother in question. To what again does he refer when he says, "The Knights of St. John and the disciples of Ignatius Loyola knew better than to trust their secrets to such shallow Masons as Bro. Haye?" I am aware the Jesuits have been charged with the invention of the Rose Croix Degree, but have always understood the Order to deny this. Does "Rosa Crucis" affirm it? I confess that I am a shallow Mason compared with "Rosa Crucis"—that is, I never go beyond my Masonic depths, while "Rosa Crucis" never appears at any time to have been in his. Decidedly my reading of the esoteric teaching of the Craft degrees is totally different from that of "Rosa Crucis," as given in his second letter, but he will not be surprised to learn that I prefer my own. His second letter is not worth noticing, were it not for the display he makes of his Biblical and Masonic ignorance. One instance he says: "Zerubbabel was the founder of the second Temple, that Temple whose courts were afterwards made holy by the Son of God." Now, Herod pulled down Zerubbabel's temple, and built upon it the third, called after him "Herod's Temple." This was the temple sanctified by the presence of our Saviour. And this is the brother who comes forward to do battle and to conquer. Oh, for shame, "Rosa Crucis!"

I am not exactly certain what to make of № 18°. He calls me a young man, a young Mason, and a young Masonic writer. I am, certes, not thirty; I have not been nine years complete a Mason, and I have only written on *Masonic* subjects for the last

six years. I fear I must plead guilty to his charges. Doubtless the brother who modestly conceals his honoured name will pardon me upon this frank confession; and that the Craft may know what to look for in a writer in Israel, perhaps he will afford us the satisfaction of knowing his name, his Masonic attainments, and his works in connection with the Craft. As to his remarks upon the Templars, with the beginning of a new volume I shall present to his notice the opening chapters of the History of the Order, upon which I have been engaged for the last ten years, when I hope to show that I understand what I am writing about in calling the moderns spurious. This brother does not appear to understand the English language. I did not say that, on their suppression, *all* the Templars joined the Hospitallers. My words are, "Pope Clement's bull utterly annihilated the Order of the Temple, the members of which entered into that of the Hospital." We know Denis of Portugal, to preserve the Order in his kingdom, changed its name to that of Christ, which exists at the present day. The Templars were ordered to enter the Society of the Hospital, and I ask the brother, in any historian, to point out to me an instance of a Templar being in existence as such, in England or elsewhere, after the publication of Pope John's Bull in 1319. The greater part of the knights and others entered the Hospital; a few of the clergy and serving brethren, with a very few of the knights may have entered other religious orders, but we have no proof of this, and still less proof of their existing as a secret society, which, indeed, looking at the constitution of the Order, the knightly character of the brethren, their pride of birth, and the full sway of the feudal system, they could not have done among the Masons of the Middle Ages. Brethren who assert this, only show their utter ignorance of chivalric manners and customs. I agree with this brother with regard to the appending of titles to names, when such are *merely* titles. Without laying myself open to the charge of vanity, I see nothing to condemn in putting the titles of offices I held or do hold, and the names of books of which I am author. Furthermore, I dispute the correctness of his views relative to the virtues of anonymous writings. I place no faith in either letter or article containing a personal attack, which is *unsigned*. It shows simply that the writer is desirous of venting his spleen without being known, and I have yet to learn that any man of sense has given the preference to a letter written anonymously over one signed by the author. It must, therefore, be perfectly clear to the brother, that, holding the views which I do, his dissent makes very little odds to me, more especially as he has shown no grounds for objecting to my *ipse dixit*, as he calls it, except by his own, and I must confess that I believe in my own views, and I am very far from believing in his, especially as the grounds of his objections to my statements lie not in the statements themselves, but in my assumed youth. I think nine years of active occupation in lodge duties, and nine years given to the study of Masonry, fully entitle me to be heard. Perhaps, however, in this brother's idea, one should be of a certain age before a Craftsman can be presumed to have a correct opinion, even although the party has not been half a dozen times a year in a lodge, and out of lodge never given the Craft a

thought. Such may be the opinion of this brother, but it is not the opinion of Masons, it is not the teaching of Masonry. In Masonry a man has no age. His mental qualities and the discharge of his Masonic duties are alone looked at. I do not know who the brother is or what his age may be, but I am sorry to have to give him this lesson, which perhaps may teach him in future to consider well before he puts such absurdities on paper.

The fiery brother, who like another Don Quixote bounds into the lists to hurl me from my saddle at the first career, the "Knight Templar," deserves some small attention, with his buckler of the "Encyclopædia Metropolitana." Let us read his buckler before we fillip him. What authority has the "Encyclopædia Metropolitana" for stating that "the Provincial Grand Master of Auvergne, Pierre d'Aumont, with two Commanders and five Knights, fled disguised as Masons to one of the Scottish Isles, where they found the Grand Commander Hamptoncourt," &c. Now, there never was such an office as the Provincial Grand Mastership of Auvergne. It was a Grand Priory, presided over by a Grand Prior. I shall be obliged to "Knight Templar" if he will point out to me in any work upon the persecution of the Templars, which gives an account of the *Process* and the names of the Knights, these names "Pierre d'Aumont, Provincial Grand Master of Auvergne," and "Grand Commander Hamptoncourt" (De Clifton was at the time Grand Prior of Scotland), or such titles among the Knights Templars as Grand Commander or Commander. The titles were Grand Prior or Preceptor, as every tyro knows. Is it not very extraordinary that all famous Masonic events happened in the islands or obscure towns of Scotland? I would refer a "Knight Templar" to the works of Pissot, Grouvelle, Raynouard, Barillet, and others, authorities with whom the inconsiderate brother is seemingly unacquainted, and who are my authorities. I ask him, furthermore, to point out any work where the circumstance referred to is mentioned, that is, any work not emanating from the spurious body. As for the Templars' connection with Aberdeen, permit me to refer "Knight Templar" to an authority, which even he must bow to—Sir James Burnes, Grand Prior of the Knights Templars in India, who, in his work upon the Order, at page 71, writes—

"The delusions on this subject, however, had taken such a hold in Germany, that they were not altogether dispelled until a deputation had actually visited Aberdeen, and found amongst the worthy and astonished brethren there no trace either of *very ancient Templars or Freemasonry*." I leave my brethren to judge who is right. I repeat my statement that, on the suppression of the Order, the name of Knight Templar as the designation of a member of an Order became extinct. I shall be glad to hear of an authority between 1320 and 1700 who writes to the contrary. On this point, having studied the subject, I hold myself to be a more competent authority than "A Knight Templar," whose ideas of the ancient Order have been gathered among the deserts of our modern mockery, where the writer of the article in the "Enc. Met." appears to have been before him. Even the name of Dr. Oliver cannot make a lie truth. I regret to see that "Knight Templar," after proving himself ignorant of history,

resorts to mendacity to cast discredit upon my statement. I am not *self-constituted* President-General of the Masonic Literary Union. It was greatly against my wishes that I took the office, as my friends well know, and it was the simple consideration that the office was one which I could resign at the end of the year that made me accept it. This "Knight Templar's" ideas of truth and Masonic honour appear to be on a par with his historical knowledge. I may add that, as for the Knight K—h, I could teach "Knight Templar" more of the degree than, judging from his present appearance in print, he is ever likely to know, even in spite of his too fatally confident assertion that I know nothing of it.

In conclusion, I suspect that Bro. Hopkins is right in thinking it *advisable* not to insist upon printing the names of such correspondents; I would go further, and think their productions should never be printed. Their lucubrations really tend to show the Craft up in an unfavourable light, and their historical fallacies can only produce contempt in the mind of the scholar. Such brethren must be perfectly well aware that their wild, wandering, and false statements cannot be constantly answered, and if no better advocate appears for the upper degrees than these three, your sensible readers will agree with me that it is a waste of time and space to trouble myself with them. Authorities I want, not idle and childish assertions, devoid of common sense, as they are devoid of truth.

Yours fraternally,

A. O. HAYE.

HAMPTON COURT.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER.—What authority is there for the statement of "A Knight Templar," at page 469 of the *Freemasons' Magazine*, that what he calls the P.G.M. of Auvergne with two Commanders and five knights fled disguised as Masons to one of the Scottish Isles? What does he mean by Masons—operative or F. and A.? If the latter, how were they disguised? If operative, what connection had operative with F. and A. Masonry? How came the Grand Commander Hamptoncourt and other members of the Order in one of the isles? What is "Hamptoncourt?" Is it French or English? What connection had it with Hampton Court, and was the Grand Commander carried to the latter place in a van? What authority is there for their removal to Aberdeen, how did they maintain themselves, and why did the Roman Catholic authorities allow the excommunicated to harbour in the small town of Aberdeen? How could the Order spread under the veil of Freemasonry, and what kind of Freemasonry? Operative Freemasonry, for which we have some kind of evidence, or Free and Accepted Freemasonry, for which we have no evidence? What became of the Continental Templars, so derived?

Aberdeen was a very unlikely place for grand dignitaries of the Templars to harbour in. The ecclesiastics were in force, and the Knights of St. John who had a great stake in the confiscated lands of the Templars, kept a sharp eye on their victims. A body of Frenchmen in Aberdeen would have become known to the French at the Scotch court into the bargain.

Yours fraternally,

LEGENDARIUS.

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

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

MASONIC MEMS.

THE LATE BRO. SIR ARCHIBALD ALISON.—We shall give next week a full memoir of this late lamented brother.

TO OUR SCOTTISH BRETHREN.—Bro. James Stevenson, for some time on the staff of this MAGAZINE, having become resident in Glasgow, arrangements have been completed with Messrs. R. W. M. Thomson and Co., 20, Buchanan-street, Glasgow, to act as the representatives of the FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE AND MASONIC MIRROR in Scotland. It is hoped this will prove a convenience to the brethren in the North, as all communications intended for the MAGAZINE will be received at the above address, where also numbers and volumes will be supplied, advertisements received, and generally all business connected with the MAGAZINE in Scotland will be transacted, and information afforded.

PROVINCIAL.

CORNWALL.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

The annual meeting of the Grand Lodge of the Province of Cornwall was held on the 18th inst. at Redruth. At an early hour a large number of the present and past Prov. G. Officers and the Masters and Wardens of lodges within the province arrived in the town. The large hall of the new Public Rooms was fitted up as the lodge-room for the occasion, where the lodge was arranged with much taste and effect. The lodge was close tyled at 10.30 a.m., and after the dispatch of a few business preliminaries, adjourned at 10.50 to attend divine service in the parish church. The whole of the brethren present, over 200, proceeded in Masonic costume, accompanied by two bands, to the church, in an imposing procession. The Prov. G. Officers, in full costume of their various ranks, with regalia and standards, and the whole of the brethren in attendance with the insignia of their various ranks and honours in the Order, and the gorgeous appearance of the procession, drew crowds of spectators to witness it along its route. Large groups of the balmshenders of the county were foremost in crowding on the procession and expressing their admiration. The parish church was densely crowded. The prayers were offered by the Rev. J. W. Hawkesley, the rector of the parish; the first lesson was read by the Rev. J. W. Hawkesley, jun.; and the second lesson by the Rev. G. Ross, vicar of Tywardreath. The sermon was preached by Bro. the Rev. Dr. J. Bannister, of St. Day, from the 102nd Psalm, 25th verse. In his remarks the Rev. Bro. very impressively asserted not only the merits of Masonry, but the accordance of its teachings with divine revelation and the wisest teachings from the earliest ages. At the close of divine service an offertory was collected.

The brethren then re-formed their procession and returned to the public rooms, where the lodge was close tyled and its business resumed. The first part of this consisted principally in making various alterations and additions to the rules of the Cornwall Masonic Annuity Fund, in order to perfect the working of that very admirable Institution. Its Treasurer, Secretary, and auditors were re-elected, and the report of the committee on petitions for relief considered and confirmed. The collection at the church that morning was announced to have amounted to £8 7s., and was voted in aid of the Redruth Miners' Hospital, an admirable institution founded and mainly supported by Mr. Roberts, M.P., for the benefit of the local mining population. The annual statement of the P.G. Treasurer was presented, and found to be highly satisfactory. From the funds of the Grand Lodge £50 were voted to the Cornwall Masonic Annuity Fund, and £10 10s. each to the Masonic Schools for Boys and Girls. The R.W. Prov. G.M., Bro. Augustus Smith, appointed the following brethren as his officers for the ensuing year:—Bros.

Reginald Rogers, D. Prov. G.M.; T. Solomon (Mayor of Truro) Prov. S.G.W.; F. W. Dabb, Prov. J.G.W.; the Rev. Dr. J. Bannister, S.W. 1066, Prov. G. Chap.; the Rev. Dr. J. Treffry, W.M. 977, Prov. G.J. Chap.; J. Nimis, P.M. 699, Prov. G. Reg.; E. T. Carlyon, P.M. 331, Prov. G. Sec.; J. O. Mayne, P.M. 337, Prov. G. Assist. Sec.; E. H. Hawke, P.M. 1066, Prov. S.G.D.; S. Holloway, P.M. 181, Prov. J.G.D.; J. Mitchell, P.M. 589, Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; G. Kerswill P.M. 970, Prov. G. Assist. Dir. of Cers.; H. Bale, P.M. 856, Prov. G. Supt. of Works; T. Hancock, P.M. 496, Prov. G. S.B.; Dyke, 496, Prov. G. Org.; S. Harvey, P.M. 131, Prov. G. Purst.; W. Rooks, Prov. G. Inner Guard; and Lord Eliot, M.P. for Devonport, W.M. Eliot Lodge, St. Germans; F. M. Williams, M.P. for Truro, W.M. 331; J. Ralph, W.M. 1066; J. G. Richards, P.M. 1071; J. Mudge, P.M. 450; W. H. Bickford, P.M. 898; G. Stewards. Bro. W. Tweedy was re-elected Prov. G. Treasurer, and Bro. Polkinghorne elected Prov. G. Tyler. The Charity committee and auditors for the Provincial Grand Lodge were re-elected. This, with the more strictly Masonic business of the lodge having been brought to a close, the brethren adjourned to Tabb's Hotel, where over 140 of them sat down in the ticketing-room of that establishment to an excellent banquet, under the presidency of the R.W. Prov. G.M., Augustus Smith, supported by the officers of the province.

At the close of the banquet the various loyal and Masonic toasts usually given, together with several Masonic toasts special for the occasions, were drunk with loyal and fraternal spirit. In the course of the toasts, and speeches in reply, warm eulogies were passed upon the R.W. P. Prov. G.M., Sir Charles Lemon, Bart., as a faithful Mason, and regret was expressed that his declining years prevented his being present at that meeting. Bro. Augustus Smith, R.W. Prov. G.M., was warmly thanked for his efficient services to Masonry, notice being taken of the already eminent spread of Masonic spirit in the province during his, as yet, brief Mastership, no less than eight lodges having been opened in the province within those four years. The progress of Lord Eliot as a young Mason was also heartily eulogised, and the congratulations offered him were received by the worthy brother in a warmly fraternal spirit. During the evening the brethren of the Druids Lodge, 589, Redruth, were heartily thanked for the able manner in which they had carried out the local arrangements in their town for the reception of the Provincial Grand Lodge on that occasion. The next annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge is determined to be in the east of the province, but the town to be selected is left for the inquiry and consideration of the Prov. G. Officers.

ST. GERMAN'S.—*Consecration of the Eliot Lodge* (No. 1,164).—This pleasant little town witnessed, on Wednesday, the 12th inst., the consecration of its twenty-second Craft lodge, under the name and number of the Eliot Lodge, 1,164, at the Eliot Arms, the principal hostelry in that town. The ceremonies were presided over by the R.W. the Prov. G. Master of Cornwall, Bro. Augustus Smith, of Tresco Abbey, assisted by the officers of the Grand Lodge of Cornwall, Bros. Colonel Peard, S.G.W.; Capt. Colvill, Acting J.G.W.; W. Tweedy, G. Treas.; Rev. Dr. Bannister and the Rev. G. Ross, G. Chaplains; E. T. Carlyon, G. Sec.; J. O. Mayne, Assist. G. Sec.; C. Childs, P. Prov. G.S.W.; Bush, P. Prov. G.S.W.; S. Harvey, G. Purst.; E. H. Hawke and G. Kerswill, Stewards; W. Rooks, G.I.G.; and Sergeant Carron, G. Tyler. The lodge-room was tastefully laid out, and the lodge consecrated in due and solemn form, in the presence of a large assembly of the visiting brethren of the Cornwall and Devon provinces. At the close of the consecration the records of the work done in the lodge under the dispensation were produced, and the following brethren installed as the officers of the lodge:—Bros. Lord Eliot, W.M.; J. Cardew, S.W.; W. Coad, J.W.; G. Kerswill, P.M., Prov. G. Sec.; Treas.; J. B. Kerswill, S.D.; J. Johns, J.D.; H. Maynard, Sec.; J. Henwood, I.G.; and J. Hawke, Tyler. Suitable orations were then delivered to the brethren by the Prov. G.M. and the Rev. Dr. Bannister, Prov. G. Chap. This closing the work of the Grand Lodge, some minor work of the new lodge was carried out, and brought to a close the proceedings of the day. Among the brethren present, in addition to the above mentioned, were: Province of Cornwall—Bros. J. Ough, P.M., P. Prov. G.S.W. 510; C. Cook, W.M. 970; W. Dave, P.M.; R. Coath, P.M.; G. Welch, P.M.; J. B. Clyna, P.M.; J. Seccombe, P.M. 510; T. Lang, W.M. 510; T. Geach, P. Prov. G.J.W.; J. Hill, S.D. 970; W. Toll, Prov. J.D. Province of Devon—Bros. the R.W. Prov. G.M., Rev. J. Huyshe, M.A., Prov. G. Chap. of England;

V.W. W. Dennis Moore, D. Prov. G.M.; L. P. Metham, Prov. S.W. and S.G.D. of England; C. Spence Bate, P.M., Prov. G. Reg.; J. Thomas, P. Prov. G. Supt. of Works, 70; J. Nicholls, W.M. 70; J. B. Witheridge, W.M.; J. Head, P.M.; I. C. Radford, P.M.; Jane, S.W.; W. Balkwill, S.D.; R. J. Laity, R. B. Oram, G. H. Laity, I. Latimer, W. D. Thomas, J.D.; Westcott, I.G. In the evening about seventy of the brethren sat down to a well laid out banquet. Lord Eliot presided, supported on the right and left by the Prov. G. Masters of Devon and Cornwall and other provincial officers. After the banquet the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were drunk, and that of "The Visiting Brethren of the adjoining Province of Devon," suitably replied to by the R.W. the Prov. G.M., the Rev. John Huyshe, and Bro. L. P. Metham, Prov. S.W. During the evening several of the brethren visited the grounds and gardens of Port Eliot, the adjoining ancient Priory of St. Germans, the seat of the Earl of St. Germans.

DEVONSHIRE.

HOME PARK, STOKE, NEAR DEVONPORT.—*Consecration of the Masonic Hall.*—On Thursday, the 13th inst., the Masonic Hall of the Huyshe Lodge was consecrated by Bro. the Rev. John Huyshe, Prov. G.M. The building has been used for some months as a lodge room under warrant, but this solemn ceremonial of dedication had through various circumstances been unavoidably postponed. The night being a regular lodge night, the proceedings opened with some of the lodge business, which included the election of Bro. J. Austin, S.W., to be W.M., and the re-election of Bro. S. Chapple, P.M., as Treas., and Bro. Lashbrook as Tyler for the ensuing year. At the close of the lodge business the ceremony of the consecration was proceeded with, in which the Prov. G.M. was assisted by Bros. L. P. Metham, P.M., Prov. S.G.W., P.G.D. England; R. Lose, W.M.; J. Austin, S.W.; and S. Willoughby, J.W. of the lodge. There was a full attendance of the brethren of the lodge, and a large number of visiting brethren were present. At the conclusion of the ceremony the lodge was closed. The officers and brethren then adjourned to their banqueting room, where they had the honour of entertaining at a banquet Bros. the Rev. J. Huyshe, M.A., Prov. G.M.; L. P. Metham, S.G.D. of England; and a large party of visiting brethren. Among the brethren present during the evening, in addition to the above-named, were Bros. S. Chapple, P. Prov. G. Assist. Dir. of Cers.; Captain Shanks, Prov. G.S.B.; J. Spry, Prov. G.S.; J. Thomas, P. Prov. G.D.W.; Maddock, W.M.; Miller, J. May, and W. Browning, P.M.'s; J. Hawton, and J. B. Witheridge, W.M.'s; Murch and Fox, P.M.'s; Petherick, P.M. 39; Woolf, P.M.; Russell and G. Warren, W.M.'s; W. C. Oke, W.M. 131; and W. H. Rouse, J.D. 131, Truro.

PRESENTATION TO BRO. L. P. METHAM, S.G.D. OF ENGLAND.

On Monday, the 10th inst., a presentation was made by the brethren of the Sincerity Lodge, No. 189, to Bro. L. P. Metham, of the Elms, Stoke, on the occasion of his being appointed by the M.W. Master the Earl of Zetland to the distinguished office of Senior Deacon of the Grand Lodge of England, and in recognition of the respect they entertained towards him as one who in every relation of life has carried fully into practical operation those great principles which Freemasonry enjoins.

The testimonial consisted of a full-dress apron, handsomely embroidered and trimmed with rich gold lace and fringed; a full dress collar to match; a pair of full-dress gauntlets; a very rich and handsome jewel, hall-marked and enamelled; a large Morocco case. This was for the clothing for his office of S.D. in the Grand Lodge. Besides these, there was also contributed a collar for his office in the Grand Chapter of England.

The Prov. G. Master was invited to make the presentation, and for that purpose a meeting of the Sincerity Lodge was held at St. George's Hall, Stonehouse, on the 10th inst., the W.M. Bro. W. N. Maddock presiding.

The R.W. the Prov. G. Master, in presenting the articles of "clothing" described above, said: Although at first I was desirous that some one else might have been selected by my brethren to present this testimonial of fraternal love to our excellent Bro. Metham, I feel that no one could have been chosen for such a duty more warmly attached or filled with more ardent esteem for him than myself. A close observation of his Masonic career for many years past had induced me to confer upon him the highest rank in the Provincial Grand Lodge that I had then the power to bestow, but I was also very desirous to see him, if possible, an officer of the Grand Lodge of England. I know

that the first question which would be asked would be, "What has Bro. Metham done for Masonry?" In this province such a question would be unnecessary, and right glad was I to receive from one of the most esteemed and distinguished brethren in England this query, "What are Bro. Metham's charities in Masonry?"—because it gave me the opportunity of saying that, in addition to his other charitable actions, he had, by the influence which he justly possesses with the Board of Directors of the Royal Female Orphan Asylum at Devonport, been the instrument, in the hands of the Great Architect of the Universe, in rescuing from poverty and destitution, and saving probably from far greater evils, no less than fifteen female orphans of deceased brother Masons. Should such a fact come to the knowledge of the Grand Master of England I felt that it would prove irresistible, and the result was that the Earl of Zetland has conferred upon our brother the high office of being one of the Grand Deacons of England. Brethren, I congratulate the province on this result. I feel that it is an honour conferred upon myself, and I congratulate all the brethren in this district, and especially the brethren of the Lodge of Sincerity, on the dignity which has been conferred upon their Senior Past Master. Be pleased, then, to receive from my hands, dear Bro. Metham, this tribute which I now offer for your acceptance from the members of the lodges in this county, as a small recognition of your many arduous and valuable services on behalf of the Craft, and as a proof of the affectionate regard in which you are held by all your brethren. I beg you also to accept our united heartfelt congratulations on the high and distinguished honour which the M.W. the Grand Master of England has so worthily bestowed upon you.

The Rev. W. Prov. G. Master then decorated Bro. Metham with the badges of his distinguished offices.

Bro. Metham returned thanks in a very appropriate speech.

Bro. Lord Eliot, M.P., tendered, on behalf of the brethren, their warmest thanks to the R.W. Prov. G. Master for having graced the ceremony with his presence on that day, to assist in the agreeable work in which they were all too warmly interested.

Bro. R. R. Rodd seconded the proposition, which was of course unanimously adopted.

Bro. R. W. Huyshe having acknowledged the compliment, Bro. Radford, P.M., proposed, and Bro. Dr. Dowse, P.M., seconded, a vote of thanks to the W.M. Bro. Maddock for presiding on that occasion, and for the interest he had manifested in the matter of the testimonial.

The W. Master, in acknowledging the vote, expressed the gratification he had experienced in the proceedings of the day, and added that, if he had wanted five or six times the money, he should have had no difficulty in obtaining the amount.

Bro. John Sadler, S.W., was unanimously elected W.M. for the year ensuing, and Bro. Dr. Dowse was re-elected Treasurer of the lodge for the seventh year in succession.

The W. Master having invited all members and visiting brethren to a banquet, the lodge was closed, as it had been opened, by the Rev. John Huyshe, with solemn prayer.

LEICESTERSHIRE.

MELTON MOWBRAY.—*Rutland Lodge* (No. 1,130).—The first annual festival of this lodge was held at the George Hotel, on the 13th inst., and was numerously attended by members and visitors. The time fixed by the by-laws for this celebration is in February, but the lodge having only been opened in October last, and the W.M. and Wardens having consequently to occupy their offices for sixteen months it was determined to hold it this year before the summer recess. Additional interest was given to the meeting, owing to the members having unanimously resolved to present a testimonial to the D. Prov. G.M., Bro. Kelly, as a token of the gratitude felt to him for his kindness at its foundation, and for his frequent presence at their meetings and his assistance in working the lodge up to its present prosperous condition. Amongst the members present in addition to the D. Prov. G.M., were Bros. George Norman, J.P., W.M. and Prov. S.G.W.; Rev. W. K. Robinson, S.W.; Rev. W. Langley, J.W. and Prov. G. Chap.; Hugh Morris, P.M. 216, Treas. and P.G. Sec.; W. L. Johnson, Sec.; Douglas, S.D.; S. Weaver, J. D.; Oldham, Adcock, Bright, and many others. Visitors:—Bros. F. Goodyer, P.M. 523, and P. Prov. S.G.W.; E. Stretton, P. G. Reg.; Wear, P.M. 279 and P. Prov. G.D.; G. H. Hodges, W.M. elect, 523 and Prov. G.D.; A. L. Clarke, W.M. 279; J. Adlard, S.W. 279 and P. Prov. G. Purst.; W. Barfoot, Sec. 523; E. Gosling, J.D. 523 and Prov.

G. Sec.; A. M. Duff, P.M. 523 and Prov. G. S.; Dr. Ferneley, Prov. J.G.W. for Leicestershire, Sec. of the Doric Lodge, Grantham; Geo. Toller, junr., and S. S. Partridge, 523; Scott, 1,130, Loughborough; &c. The lodge was opened by the W.M. at four o'clock, and the minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, Bro. Claude Ferneley was called to the pedestal and underwent an examination as an E.A., after which he retired for presentation, and the W.M. having opened the lodge in the second degree, Bro. Fast was duly examined therein. The chair was then taken by the D. Prov. G.M., and Bro. Ferneley was passed a Fellow Craftsman, after which the lodge was opened in the third degree and Bro. Fast was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason. The duties of the lodge were most efficiently performed during the ceremonies by all the officers, and in a manner highly creditable to their zeal and ability—all the officers, from the Secretary downwards, having only been initiated since the opening of the lodge in October last. The lodge having been closed down to the first degree, the chair was resumed by the W.M.; who at once proceeded to present to the D. Prov. G.M. the testimonial which had been subscribed for by the members. In a highly complimentary address, Bro. Norman spoke of the lengthened services Bro. Kelly had rendered to Masonry in the province in his distinguished office, of the esteem in which he is held by the Craft, and of his readiness at all times to lend his aid whenever it might be required. He then referred especially to the assistance which the D. Prov. G.M. had given in the establishment of the Rutland Lodge, and his frequent presence and aid at their meetings, adding that, when Bro. Kelly suggested to him, a year ago, the formation of a lodge at Melton, he (Bro. Norman) was almost hopeless of its being effected, and never could have foreseen the highly successful result of their labours in so short a time. He concluded by handing to Bro. Kelly, in the name of the lodge, a very elegant silver cup, expressing a hope that he might be spared for many years to use it. The D. Prov. G.M., after expressing his grateful thanks to the members of the lodge for the elegant token of the high estimation which they had been pleased to put upon his poor services to the lodge, and his acknowledgments to the W.M. for the very kind and highly flattering manner in which he had conveyed their offering, which he should ever prize highly, expressed a fear that the partiality of the brethren had led them to put far too high a value on what he had been able to do for the lodge. What assistance he could render it was his duty to afford, both in his capacity as one of the founders of the lodge (which he considered a privilege), and also in the official position which, during so many years, he had had the honour of holding under the present estimable Prov. G.M. and his worthy predecessor. In conclusion, Bro. Kelly said how extremely gratified he had been at witnessing the zealous attention to the duties of the Order which had been evinced by the officers and members of the lodge, and he felt assured that, if the brethren only went on as they had begun, the Rutland Lodge would soon occupy a position second to none in the province, and that, consequently, it behoved the members of the older lodges to look to their laurels. Bro. G. H. Hodges, Prov. S.G.D., after expressing the great pleasure which he and the other Leicester brethren had in attending on that occasion to assist in doing honour to the D. Prov. G.M., invited the Melton brethren to attend his (Bro. Hodges') installation as W.M. of the John of Gaunt Lodge on the 24th inst. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were done justice to, the proceedings, however, being somewhat hurried by the necessity of the Leicester brethren returning by an early train. In responding to the toast of "The Visiting Brethren," Bro. Dr. Ferneley, Prov. J.G.W. Lincolnshire, spoke in high terms of approbation of the manner in which the work in the lodge had been performed, and echoed the words of the D. Prov. G.M. that he thought the older lodges must look to their laurels. The brethren finally separated, after a highly satisfactory day.

MONMOUTHSHIRE.

NEWPORT.—*Silurian Lodge* (No. 471).—The usual monthly meeting of the members of this lodge took place on Wednesday, the 12th inst., and was well attended. The W.M., Bro. B. Thomas, took the chair, and after the minutes of the last lodge had been read and confirmed, Bro. Northcott was passed to the degree of a F.C. The lodge was then closed down, and Mr. George Fothergill was duly initiated. The S.D., Bro. the Rev. S. Fox, then brought forward his motion, in a masterly speech,

"that the sum of £10 10s. be applied out of the funds of the lodge to purchase three P.M.'s jewels, one to be presented to Bro. R. P. Evans, P.M., another to Bro. John Griffiths, P.M., and the third to Bro. Henry Hellyer, P.M." This was duly seconded by Bro. Pickford, Prov. G. Treas., and carried unanimously. The W.M. then introduced to the members the subject of a Masonic pic-nic, when it was proposed and seconded "that the same do take place on the last Thursday in July, and that Raglan Castle be the place selected." A committee was at once named to carry out the affair, and the Secretary took the names of about fifty there and then who were ready and willing to attend. The Secretary then reported that he had received a petition to the Board of Benevolence from Mrs. Susan Smith, of 6, Exchange-court, London, widow of Bro. William Smith, mess master in the 48th Regiment of Foot, stationed in Newport some years ago, who was initiated in this lodge in November, 1852, but had never subscribed thereto. This latter fact Bro. Williams and the elder Masons present held to be fatal to the application, but in order that the poor widow should have an opportunity of sending the same to the Grand Secretary, the brethren agreed to certify on the back thereof that the deceased was duly initiated in this lodge, and the same was signed accordingly. It has been the custom for some years past for the members of 471 to adjourn their lodge for the usual three summer months, and this being the time for that purpose the lodge was duly closed till the first Wednesday in September, lodges of emergency excepted.

NORTH WALES.

WELCHPOOL.—*Welchpool Lodge* (No. 998).—This lodge met on the 7th inst., when the following officers and brethren were present:—Bros. F. Smith, W.M.; T. B. Brown, Prov. G.S., I.P.M.; J. M. Edwards, Chap. and S.W.; D. P. Owen, J.W.; T. Newill, Treas.; J. Samuel, Sec.; E. Pryce, S.D.; E. Elias, J.D.; T. Rutter, I.G.; G. Owen, W. Withy, W. Callender, J. Ward, T. Lewis, J. Andrews, &c. Visitor:—Bro. L. Jones, No. 476, Caermarthen. The business consisted of passing Bro. Lewis to the second, and raising Bro. Ward to the third degrees, both of which ceremonies were conducted by the W.M. and his officers in the able and efficient manner for which this lodge is distinguished. After the lodge was closed the brethren adjourned to refreshment, the W.M., Bro. F. Smith, presiding. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly given and honoured. Bro. T. B. Brown, I.P.M., in proposing the health of the W.M., complimented Bro. Smith upon the very able manner in which he had performed the duties of the chair that evening, and called upon the brethren to drink "The Health of the W.M." with full honours. Bro. Smith having returned thanks, requested the brethren to charge their glasses for the toast which might be considered as the toast of the evening, viz., "The Health of the Past Masters of the Welchpool Lodge," and said (addressing himself to the I.P.M.): "Worshipful Past Master Brother Brown, in connection with that toast I have a very pleasing duty to perform on behalf of the members of this lodge, as a small token of the high estimation in which they hold you as a Mason, and of their appreciation of the admirable manner in which you have performed our beautiful ceremonies and conducted the duties of this lodge during the past year, and in decorating your breast with this jewel, I feel sure I am expressing the earnest and heartfelt wishes of the members of this lodge, that you may live for very many years to be amongst us, and to wear this token of our fraternal esteem and regard. Worshipful Bro. Brown, I sincerely congratulate you. The W. Master then called upon the brethren to drink "The Health of the Past Masters of the Welchpool Lodge," coupling with the toast the name of Bro. Thomas Blakeman Brown. The toast was most warmly and enthusiastically received, and with the customary honours. Bro. Brown returned thanks on behalf of the P.M.'s of the lodge, and expressed the great pleasure he felt in receiving the testimony of the kind and fraternal feeling of the brethren, and the expression of their approval of his services as W.M. during the past year; and in thanking them individually and collectively for all their good and kind wishes so warmly expressed towards him by the W.M., begged to assure them that he should at all times be most happy to render to the lodge any service in his power. The W. Master proposed the health of the visitors who had honoured the Welchpool Lodge by their presence, and said: "Having myself been a visitor to very many lodges, I have just cause to speak of the general kindly feelings with which visitors are always received and welcomed by the members of their respective lodges. Though

previously a stranger, one felt oneself amongst friends and brethren, and all stiffness and formality was at once dispelled. We have been honoured this evening by the presence of a distinguished member of the Carmarthen Lodge, Bro. Jones Lloyd. We bid him a hearty welcome, and we hope he has been pleased with us. Brethren, I call upon you to drink the health of our brother visitor with due honour. Bro. Jones Lloyd, in an animated and eloquent speech, full of truly Masonic feeling, returned thanks for the last toast, and expressed the great pleasure he had derived in visiting the Welchpool Lodge. Bro. Thomas Rutter said he had the permission of the W.M. to propose a toast, and one which he was sure would be responded to with every warmth of feeling by the brethren. It was "The Health of the Rev. Bro. Chaplain and Senior Warden of the Lodge." It always afforded the brethren the greatest delight to see Bro. Edwards amongst them, and he was not only regarded with sincere respect, but he might say with positive affection by every brother in the lodge. Bro. Rutter concluded by remarking that Bro. Edwards had regularly and constantly attended the lodge from the day upon which he joined it, and he sincerely hoped that he might yet live in health and strength for many years to come, to be with them and grace the lodge with his welcome presence. The Rev. Bro. Edwards, in a warm-hearted and truly Masonic speech, thanked the brethren for the kind way in which they had responded to the toast proposed by Bro. Rutter, and stated that he had not been absent, except upon one occasion, since he became a member of the lodge. The W. Master, in proposing "The Health of the Officers of the Lodge," observed that he was very happy in the selection of his officers, and felt that the lodge could rely upon them to support its credit and dignity. He regretted that some of the officers had been obliged to leave by the train, but there still remained two brethren than whom none were more universally regarded by the lodge with esteem, namely, Bros. Edward Pryce and Thomas Rutter, both of whom had been constant attendants, and who, by their zeal and energy, had evinced the great interest they felt in the cause of Masonry. Bros. Pryce and Rutter having replied to the toast of the officers, the usual final toast terminated the proceedings of an evening of unalloyed fraternal harmony.

WORCESTERSHIRE.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

The annual meeting was held at Kidderminster on Tuesday, the 18th inst., under the presidency of the V.W. Bro. A. H. Royds, Prov. G.M. Early in the forenoon the presence of many strangers from other towns, and the sound of the church bells, announced something unusual. At eleven o'clock a.m., the members of the local lodge, Hope and Charity (No. 377), began to assemble at the Music Hall, which was suitably fitted up for the occasion. It was noon, however, before the lodge was opened by Bro. A. Hancocks, W.M., assisted by Bros. Alfred Hancocks, S.W.; T. D. Baker, J.W.; W. Fawcett, I.P.M.; Cooper, P.M.; Fitzgerald, P.M. and Sec.; and the other officers. There were also present, Bros. the Rev. Sir F. Gore Ouseley, Bart., P. Prov. G. Chap.; S. Baldwin, S.W. 560, Prov. G. Org.; Newton, P.M. 280, Prov. S.G.W.; G. Baldwin, W.M. 560 and S.W.; Dr. Hopkins, P.M. 43 and 947, and P. Prov. S.G.W. for Warwickshire; and others, as visitors. The circular of summons and the minutes of the last meeting having been read by the Secretary, the lodge was opened in the second, and afterwards in the third degree. No business offering, and the Provincial Grand Officers not having arrived, the lodge was called off. At one o'clock the members re-assembled, and the Provincial Grand Lodge entered in procession. The chair having been taken by Bro. Royds, Prov. G.M., supported on his right by Bro. the Rev. Sir F. G. Ouseley, Bart.; Bro. J. Barber, D. Prov. G.M., and others; and on his left by Bros. Brown; Rev. — Gore, Prov. G. Chap.; — Vine, of the Somersetshire Prov. G. Lodge; Dr. Hopkins, Griffiths, and other brethren of rank, a salute to the Prov. G. Master was given, led by Bro. S. Baldwin acting as Dir. of Cers. The Provincial Grand Lodge was opened in due form, prayer being offered by Bro. the Rev. — Gore, Prov. G. Chap. Nearly one hundred brethren were in attendance, a fair number considering that there are but nine lodges in the province. The minutes of the previous meeting were read by Bro. Bristow, Prov. G. Sec., and confirmed. The muster roll of the lodges in the province was called over, the brethren of each rose as they were named, and were vouched for by the respective W.M.'s. The Prov. G. Master entered into

an explanation of the manner in which he had disposed of the votes for the different Charities which had been entrusted to him, by the sale of which upwards of £20 had been realised, with which he had purchased life governorships for the lodges most entitled to them. The two brethren who had been deputed to examine the accounts now entered, reporting that they had found them correct, and that there was a balance in hand amounting to upwards of £12. Bro. Masefield was unanimously re-elected as Treasurer, and a vote of thanks was awarded to him for his past services. The Prov. G.M. announced that, in accordance with the desire of the Prov. G. Lodge, he had purchased a Prov. G. Master's jewel for V.W. Bro. Vernon, his predecessor in office, which he had hoped to have the pleasure of placing on his breast at this meeting, but he regretted to say that illness prevented his attendance. After some discussion, on the proposition of the D. Prov. G.M., the Prov. G.M. was requested to forward it to him as an expression of the high consideration and esteem in which he is held by the brethren in Worcestershire. Bro. Newton, Prov. S.G.W., proposed, and Bro. W. Fawcett, Prov. J.G.D., seconded a vote of £5 to each branch of the fund for aged Freemasons and their widows. Bro. Brown and the Treasurer proposed as an amendment an additional annual subscription of £2 2s. to each, which was carried. Bro. Lavers exhibited two designs for a stained glass window in Worcester Cathedral, the cost of which would be £220, which sum had been subscribed by the lodges and individual Masons in the province, including a grant of £50 by the Provincial Grand Lodge. A committee was formed, consisting of the Prov. G.M., the D. Prov. G.M., the Prov. G. Wardens, Bro. Sir F. G. Ouseley, the W.M.'s of lodges, with power to add to their number, and to it were entrusted the selection of the design and the arrangements for carrying out the project. The following appointments were made:—

Bro. J. Barber	D. Prov. G.M.
„ Griffiths	S.G.W.
„ Brown	J.G.W.
„ Rev. Hampton.....	G. Chap.
„ Masefield	G. Treas.
„ R. Smith	G. Reg.
„ Bristow	G. Sec.
„ E. A. Royds.....	S.G.D.
„ Smith	J.G.D.
„ Rutland	G. Supt. of Works.
„ Stanley Baldwin	G. Dir. of Cers.
„ Augustus Hancocks	G. Asst. Dir. of Cers.
„ Westwood	G. Sword Bearer.
„ Newton	G. Org.
„ Geo. Baldwin	G. Purst.
„ Baker	Steward.
„ Head	„
„ Robins	„
„ Wood	„
„ Rogers	„
„ Knowles	„

These brethren having been invested, Bro. Jones, P.M., Lodge of Stability (No. 564), invited the Provincial Grand Lodge to meet next year at Stourbridge. No other offer being made, the proposition was accepted. The D. Prov. G.M. proposed and Bro. Masefield seconded a vote of ten guineas to the fund, now amounting to upwards of £500, for the widow of the late Bro. Franklin, P.G. Chap. of Worcestershire, which was agreed to. No other business offering, the Provincial Grand Lodge was closed at a quarter to three.

A procession was formed to proceed to the parish church of St. Mary, which had been kindly granted for the occasion, as usual the youngest lodge going first, and the line being closed by the members of the Provincial Grand Lodge. There was no band of music, and no banners displayed, such as mark the gatherings of other Orders. In fact, there was a quietness and an order about the whole which fitly characterised an assemblage of gentlemen. The streets were, of course, lined with spectators. At three p.m. the brethren entered the church, to which the public were admitted. The service was intoned by the Rev. Cheshire. Bro. Fitzgerald presided at the organ, and the choristers attended to conduct the musical part of the service. An excellent sermon was preached by Bro. the Rev. Sir F. G. Ouseley, Bart., from the 1st Epistle of St. John, ch. iv., v. 11, most suitable for the occasion, in which he cleared Freemasonry from the aspersions so often cast upon it by those who do not understand its principles and objects, and enlarged on

the peculiar virtues of which it encourages the exercise. A collection was made at the close of the service, amounting to £10 18s. The brethren again formed in order and returned to the Music Hall, to partake of a banquet most creditably served by Bro. Lloyd, the host of the Black Horse Hotel. Upwards of 80 sat down, and the party separated at an early hour. In the course of the evening the Masonic and other toasts were duly honoured. Bro. Fitzgerald and Trowman gave performances on the organ with great professional skill; and a grant of £10 was made to the schools of St. Mary's Church.

It may be added that the lodge Bible, on a velvet cushion, was borne in the procession by sons of Bros. Alfred Hancocks, Perrin, W. G. Hopkins, and Westley. The youths were admitted to the banqueting table to partake of the good cheer, and afterwards having been presented to the Provincial Grand Master, were suitably and impressively addressed by him. He concluded by presenting to each a handsomely bound Bible containing the following inscription:—

“Presented by the
Provincial Grand Lodge of Worcestershire
to
(the name of the youth)

a Lewis, who at a Provincial Grand Lodge meeting held at Kidderminster, on Tuesday the 18th of June, 1867, assisted in carrying the Volume of the Sacred Law in procession to attend Divine Service at St. Mary's Church.

The Provincial Grand Master in presenting to him this, the Great Light in Masonry, charges him to give it his most serious contemplation, and ever to consider it as the unerring standard of Truth and Justice, and to regulate his Life and Actions by the Divine precepts which it contains.

A. H. Royds,
Provincial Grand Master.”

On the whole it may be said that the meeting passed off most satisfactorily, and that the Provincial Grand Master proved, by the manner in which he conducted the proceedings, and by the evidence he gave of the great interest he had taken in the province during the past year, his first in the office, that his appointment has been a happy one, thereby affording strong ground for an assurance that his promises for the future will be fully realised.

CHANNEL ISLANDS.

GUERNSEY.

DOYLE'S LODGE OF FELLOWSHIP (No. 84).—On the 19th inst. the usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held. The members present were the W.M. Bros. J. H. Guilbert; Martin, S.W.; Gardner, J.W.; P.M. Bros. Churchouse, Sparrow, and Collenette; Bro. Hutchinson, Treas.; Sarchet, Sec.; Glencross, S.D.; Millington, J.D.; Sneath, I.G.; Manser, Tyler; Turton, Nicolle, Bongourad, and Coles, Visitors: Bros. Smytson, W.M. 168; Wakley, Le Page, Jervois, and Davies. The W.M. Bro. Guilbert took the chair at eight o'clock, and opened the lodge in the first and second degrees. The minutes of the preceding lodge were then read and confirmed, and Bro. Parker having responded to the questions asked of him in a very satisfactory manner, was entrusted, and left the lodge for preparation. The lodge was then opened in the third degree, and Bro. Parker having been re-admitted was raised to the sublime degree of a M.M. by the W.M. in a very impressive manner, and he also delivered the lecture on the tracing board with great accuracy and ability. W. H. Muntz, Esq., of St. Martin's, who had been regularly proposed and seconded at the last lodge, was then balloted for and elected. Some time was afterwards spent in considering an application for pecuniary assistance from an aged widow, the relict of a deceased brother, who had been for a few years a subscribing member to Lodge 168, and ultimately relief was granted her. There being no other business, the lodge was finally closed in solemn form and perfect harmony after 9.30. The members then retired to the banqueting-room for refreshment. After the usual Masonic toasts had been gone through, the health of Bro. Hopkins, P.M. 43 and 958, was proposed by Bro. Sneath, S4, in a short eloquent speech. It is almost needless to say that it was received by all present in a truly enthusiastic manner, the great trouble he went through in so kindly and ably presiding over the lodge of instruction which he held during his sojourn amongst us, coupled with his well-known

earnest anxiety to do everything in his power for the good of Masonry, having endeared him to all good Masons with whom he came in contact in the island, and especially to those of Doyle's Lodge.

ISLE OF MAN.

RAMSEY.

ST. MANGHOLD LODGE (No. 1,075).—The usual monthly meeting of the members of this lodge took place on Thursday, the 13th inst., at the Grammar School, under the presidency of Bro. H. Rothwell, W.M., assisted by his Wardens, Bros. Dumbell and Webb, the following officers and brethren also being present, viz.:—Bros. George Orme, P.M., F. Prov. G. Dir. of Cers., E.L.; Rev. W. Kermode, Chap.; Hunter, Treas.; Higgins, Sec.; Walker, S.D.; Henderson, J.D.; Skeoch, I.G.; Allen, Org.; Vondy, Tyler, &c. The minutes of the previous lodge meeting having been read and confirmed, the ballot was taken for Mr. W. L. Wild, and declared unanimous in his favour, and being in attendance was initiated; after which Mr. Ollerhead, who was balloted for at the last meeting, was also initiated. Bro. R. Kernish having passed a satisfactory examination for the second degree, was duly passed. Bro. W. Cannell sought advancement, and having proved his claim, was entrusted, and retired. The lodge was opened in the third degree, and Bro. Cannell was duly admitted and raised to the sublime degree of a M.M. All the ceremonies were performed by the W.M. in his usual impressive and able style. The other business of the lodge having been disposed of the lodge was closed. Bro. Orme complimented the W.M. and officers on the very creditable manner in which the lodge was conducted.

Obituary.

MELANCHOLY DEATH OF BRO. FRANK COLSEY.

It is our painful duty to have to record the melancholy death, by drowning, of Bro. Frank Colsey, the proprietor of the Exchange Commercial Hotel, Norwich, a gentleman widely known and greatly respected, and one of the most useful and prominent Freemasons in the province. On Wednesday evening, the 12th inst., the deceased attended a Royal Arch Chapter at Great Yarmouth, and on the following morning, at about eleven o'clock, he went into the sea for the purpose of bathing. Being a good swimmer he went out some distance from the shore, and seemed to enjoy himself for some time, but in returning a strong tide was against him, and it is supposed that after struggling in the water, cramp seized him, when he suddenly sank, and was never more seen alive. His body being recovered about two hours afterwards, was brought to Norwich on the same evening. The melancholy tidings soon spread throughout the city, and occasioned a feeling of profound grief. For years Bro. Colsey had been a most useful and active member of the Masonic body in Norwich. During his Mastership of Lodge Perseverance his extensive practical knowledge was found to be of the highest service in the working of the degrees, and as originator of the school of instruction held at his own house. He took a lively interest in its welfare, being seldom absent from its meetings. At all great Masonic ceremonies in the province he took a prominent part, being ever ready and willing to assist without any desire to become ostentatious or obtrusive. In social life he was “a man of infinite wit,” at all times mirthful and amusing, and his lively spirit at the social board kept the company in the best of humours. The mortal remains of the deceased were interred in the Rosary burial ground, on Wednesday morning last, the obsequies being attended by a large number of brethren from all parts of the province, who met at the house of Bro. Dawharn, and joined the funeral cortège as it passed along Prince of Wales's-road.

Poetry.

We have this week had wafted to us across the great waters that separate us from our American brethren “A Token of Grate-

ful Remembrance from Bro. Morris," in the form of a neatly arranged sixteen page foolscap Svo. pamphlet, entitled as above, and containing some eighteen or twenty Masonic odes or poems. In Dr. Morris, the Lodge Universal has a Laureate through whose poetic genius the symbolism of Freemasonry has been enshrined in deathless song. We cannot, in the use of the choicest words of eulogy enhance the reputation of Bro. Morris as a Masonic author: in prose and verse alike does he wield the pen of a ready and powerful writer, and his literary labours, which embrace upwards of seventy published volumes, have acquired for him imperishable fame in the mystic circle. From the paucity of Masonic verse, "pure and simple," appearing from time to time in these pages, we cannot afford to hide under a bushel any of the gems that drop from the Masonic pen of our distinguished brother; neither can we resist the pleasure of according to them a word of cordial welcome. Echo from the brethren answers, Welcome!—D. MURRAY LYON.

THE SYMBOLISMS OF THE APRON.

By Bro. ROB. MORRIS, LL.D.

This fair and stainless thing I take
To be my badge for virtue's sake;
Its ample strings that gird me round,
My constant cable-tow are found;
And as securely they are tied,
So may true faith with me abide;
And as I face the sunny South
I pledge to God my Mason's troth,
That while on earth I do remain
My apron shall not have a stain.

This fair and stainless thing I raise
In memory of Apprentico days,
When on the chequered pavement wide,
With gauge and gavel well supplied,
I kept my garments free from soil
Though labouring in a menial toil;
And as I face the golden West,
I call my Master to attest
That while on earth I do remain
My Apron shall not have a stain.

This fair and stainless thing I lower,
Its Prentice aid I need no more,
For laws and principles are given
Tho' Fellow-Craft direct from Heaven;
To help the noody—keep a trust—
Observe the precepts of the just.
And as I face the darkened North,
I send this solemn promise forth,
That while on earth I do remain
My Apron shall not have a stain.

This fair and stainless thing I fold—
A Master Mason now behold!
A welcome guest in every land,
With princes and with kings to stand.
Close tyed within my heart of hearts
I keep all secret arts and parts,
And try to walk the heavenly road
In daily intercourse with God;
And as I face the mystic East
I vow by him I love the best,
That while on earth I do remain
My Apron shall not have a stain.

This fair and stainless thing I doff—
But though I take my Apron off,
And lay the stainless thing aside,
Its teaching over shall abide:
That God has given Light Divine
That we may walk opposed to sin;
That sympathy and brotherly love
Are emanations from above;
That life itself is only given
To square and shape our souls for heaven,
The glorious temple in the sky.
The Grand Celestial Lodge on High.

ODE ON MASONIC CHARITY.

The mighty conquerors who aspire to fame,
And who by wide-spread ruin raise a name,

Who glory in the battles which they gain,
And ride exulting o'er the ensanguin'd plain;
Such men as these my heart can ne'er approve,
Terror they cause, but cannot win my love.
These, by eternal justice, were design'd
For righteous ends, the scourges of mankind.
My heart delights in these—the truly wise—
Who, men to make most happy, civilise.
The band illustrious—the benignant few
Who teach the boistrous passions to subdue,
Instruct mankind in every generous art,
And, by example, humanise the heart,
Who, like the sun, their blessings widely spread,
Who comfort give to grief—to hunger, bread;
Whose minds, contracted by no narrow plan,
Own as a brother every virtuous man,
Whose science and morality improve,
And to all climes diffuse fraternal love.
These only heroes in my eyes appear,
And such I more than honour—I revere.
To form such heroes Masoury was given—
Most gracious gift of ever-bounteous heaven.
And Oh! what pleasure now expands my mind,
To see around the friends of human kind
My brethren—sons of mercy, who bestow
With liberal hand the balm for mortals' woe,
Who unconfined benevolence impart,
Dilate the narrow soul, and mend the heart.
Go on, ye wise philanthropists pursue
The certain path which leads to honour true.
Still live as ye are taught, that men may see
What human nature can, and ought to be;
Then Masoury—the source of truth and peace—
Will spread its influence far, and far increase,
Unfading glory deck the Mason's name,
While built on virtue, stands its spotless fame.—T.

"SIT LUX."

"Let there be light!" Such were the glorious words, with which

The Earth's Great Architect, in th' infancy of Time,
Brought forth the World from Chaos.

"Let there be light!" and, at
The Master's word, the veil dropped down, and I was from
Gross darkness to material light restored.
And, What is light? I asked the brethren of the mystic
Tie; and they, for the most part badly taught, inferred
That he, who, for a given sum, had bought a store
Of signs, and words, and grips, which from the uninstructed
World were hid, and who, by virtue of a parchment scroll,
Had right, at our most secret meetings to attend,
Was thereby in the light. So, for a time I thought,
And was content, in th' shadowy vale of twilight gloom
To walk; until my yearning soul, with anxious care,
Taught me that patent gloom could not be light; and then
I recollected what the Master taught, of searching in
The Sacred Volume, where the record of his wondrous works
Was kept; and where the treasure of his Holy Will
Was hid; and there, on careful search, I found, that he
Who truly loves his brother's in the light, whilst he
Who loves him not, is in the darkness until now.
And there I also read, that He, who made the world,
And man, and who on Calvary's hill gave up his life
For those he made, was the true light, which lighteth all
The new-born sons of men. And when I found that He
Was also the Great Architect, whom Masons love,
Then, and not 'till then, I knew and understood
That Masonry is light.

✠ H. B. WHITE, 18^o.

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

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Paul have returned to London
after a tour of nine months in the United States.

Mr. James Gordon Bennett, jun., of the *New York Herald*, intends, it is said, to bring out a daily paper in
London ere long.

It appears from a letter in the *Athenæum* that there is in Gloucester a club of worshippers of Mr. M. F. Tupper, who call themselves "The Tupperians."

At the sale of Mr. D'Almaine's copyrights, "Kathleen Mavourneen" and the pianoforte pieces attached to it were knocked down for the enormous sum of £800.

Miss Amy Sedgwick is to appear in London at the Haymarket Theatre on Monday, July 8th, in a new play. Mr. Sothorn leaves at that time for Paris, where he is engaged to perform "Lord Dundreary."

Mr. George Tolhurst, who appears to have had some success as a composer in Australia, has come to England with a view to the performance of his sacred oratorio, "Ruth," of which the Melbourne papers speak in high terms.

M. Miani, the traveller, has set out from Cairo for the journey of discovery in Equatorial Africa. He proposes to prove that Messrs. Speke and Grant have advanced erroneous statements in the account of their explorations about the Lake of Nyanza.

Mr. Charles Kean is much better, and has gone to Buxton. The *Lancet* says that Mr. Kean has for some time suffered from derangement of the kidneys, and it is probable that the present attack is owing to the condition of the latter, and not to any disease of the heart as has been stated.

There seems to be some change going on in the system of management at the Adelphi Theatre. The old style of drama appears to be abandoned, Mr. Toole and Miss Woolgar have left, and the *Era* says that even Mr. Paul Bedford is under notice, and that he has been offered an engagement elsewhere.

The venerable Auber lately traversed the whole of the Paris Exhibition on foot. As soon as the presence of the distinguished composer became known in the vicinity of musical instruments, the pianos gave forth either an air from the "Muette," or the overture to the "Domino," or the prayer in "Fra Diavolo," or a chorus from "Lestocq," &c., so that M. Auber might almost have supposed that no other music but his own was played at the Exhibition.

At the recent annual meeting of the members of the London Library, Earl Stanhope, in referring to the state of literature in Italy and the freedom of the Press in Rome, remarked that prohibitory regulations often defeat one another. Thus Lord Macaulay's "History of England" was in the index, while Tauchnitz's "Editions of English Authors" were all (including Macaulay) admitted. The large cumbersome volumes remained without the barrier, while the handy and desirable pocket volumes were placed within the reach of all the faithful. The Earl of Clarendon added that he believed not only was that dangerous book, Lord Macaulay's history, forbidden in Rome, but that still more dangerous work, "The History of England," by Lord Mahon (now Earl Stanhope)!

A "Warning Voice" in the *Times* points out how that the law is being constantly infringed by concerts being given in private houses, for which tickets are sold for money; and warns Mr. Gladstone, Earl Dudley, Miss Burdett-Coutts, and others, that under the 24th George II., cap. 36, which forbids public music and dancing in unlicensed houses, they are liable to legal proceedings for thus helping certain charitable institutions. The "Warning Voice" adds that the large music-hall proprietors in London have just been fined nearly £400 for overstepping the narrow line which divides ballet from pantomime, and that they are determined to show that the Act of Parliament in question may have its inconveniences for others than themselves. Mr. Mitchell, the librarian, of Bond-street, contends that the Act in question only applies to "houses kept open for public amusements."

A PRESENT FOR THE EMPRESS EUGENIE.—Though M. Bouree, in conveying the Emperor of the French's invitation to the Sultan, intimated that, as his Highness

is to be the personal guest of the Emperor, no presents of any kind will be accepted at the Tuileries, his Majesty is reported to have answered thus—"Ali Osman devlet saltanatı kadim" (the munificent grandeur of the Ottoman Government is perpetual); and accordingly a solid gold medal of the Imperial kiosk at the Sweet Waters of Europe, with the surrounding trees in green enamel, and the river flowing past in brilliants, is being prepared as a *cadeau* for the Empress. The value of the river and of the *toura*, which is to surmount the entrance to the little building in rubies, will, it is stated, be £60,000.

MEETINGS OF THE SCIENTIFIC AND LEARNED SOCIETIES FOR THE WEEK ENDING JUNE 29TH, 1867.

Monday, June 24th.—GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY, at 8.30.
Wednesday, June 26th.—SOCIETY OF ARTS,—Annual General Meeting, at 4.

THE WEEK.

THE COURT.—The Queen drove out on the morning of the 11th inst., accompanied by Princess Christian, and in the afternoon her Majesty went out, accompanied by Prince Leopold. The Queen went out on the morning of the 12th inst., accompanied by Princess Louise and Princess Beatrice. In the afternoon her Majesty, accompanied by Prince and Princess Christian and Princess Louise, drove to Lough Callater. The Queen and Royal Family went out as usual on the 13th inst. The Queen drove out on the morning of the 14th inst., accompanied by Princess Christian. In the afternoon her Majesty went to the Shiel in Glen Gelder, accompanied by Princess Louise and Prince Christian. The Queen drove out on the morning of the 15th inst., accompanied by Princess Beatrice, and attended by the Hon. Mrs. Gordon. In the afternoon her Majesty, accompanied by Princess Christian and Princess Louise, went to Loch Muich. The Queen, Prince and Princess Christian, Princess Louise, and Prince Leopold attended Divine service in the parish church of Crathie on the 16th inst. The Queen, accompanied by Princess Christian, drove out on the morning of the 17th inst., and in the afternoon her Majesty went out with Princess Beatrice, attended by the Dowager Duchess of Athole and Miss Macgregor. The Queen, accompanied by their Royal Highnesses Prince and Princess Christian and Prince Christian Victor, Princess Louise, Princess Beatrice, and Prince Leopold, arrived at Windsor on the morning of the 19th inst., at a quarter before nine, from Balmoral.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.—The business transacted in the HOUSE OF LORDS on the 17th inst. was of no special interest. Two notices were given, however, which deserve mention. One was by Earl Russell, to the effect that he intends to call attention to the Luxemburg Treaty. The other shadowed forth a measure by Lord Shaftesbury for reforming the House of Lords. The bitterest reactionary will not find fault with the proposal. It is simply that the House shall meet at four or half-past four, instead of at five as at present. Lord Shaftesbury thinks this will afford young peers a chance of making speeches.—The business on the 18th inst. had no special interest.—The HOUSE OF COMMONS met on the 13th inst. after the Whitsuntide recess. The Chancellor of the Exchequer, on the order to go into committee on the Reform Bill, explained to the House the new proposals of the Government as to redistribution. They propose to distribute the forty-five seats at their disposal in this wise: 19 to boroughs, one to the London and Durham Universities, and 25 to counties. Mr. Disraeli promised that the schedules defining accurately the proposals should be in the

hands of members, and he implored the House not to waste time while discussing them in suggesting motives which had never existed. He promised further to lay on the table amendments in the latter part of the bill which had been made necessary by the extension of the franchise. There was a short discussion after Mr. Disraeli had sat down, in which Mr. Laing indicated his disappointment that his proposal for grouping had not been adopted. Mr. Cardwell pressed for some definite information as to where the additional members for Scotland were to come from. In winding-up the discussion, Mr. Disraeli answered this question by stating that the Government proposed to increase the total number of members of the House. Progress was then reported.—On the motion for going into committee of supply, Mr. H. Baillie called attention to the ordnance branch of the War Department. He moved for a select committee to inquire into its constitution and working. At some length he contended that the amalgamation of the department with the War Office had been productive of much evil. He especially found fault with the manner in which the Ordnance Committee had done its work, and contended that there had been much of favouritism shown to Sir W. Armstrong and others. Sir J. Hay endeavoured to controvert some of Mr. Baillie's statements, which were defended by Lord Elcho. Sir J. Pakington mildly defended the department, and urged that the motion for a committee should be withdrawn. Mr. Baillie consented to withdraw his motion.—The House then went into committee of supply, and on the first vote in naval estimates, Admiral Erskine called attention at some length to the condition of the Royal Naval Reserve, which, he contended, was far from satisfactory. An interesting discussion followed.—The Speaker with his usual punctuality, was in attendance on the 14th inst. at two o'clock, but hon. members were not so particular, and consequently ten minutes elapsed before a House was made. The leader of the House was not in his place when the chair was taken, but the Home Secretary was on the Treasury bench, and the front Opposition bench was in the sole occupation of Mr. A. Bruce. A question was put to Mr. G. Harpy by Mr. O. Stanley for the purpose of ascertaining whether it was the duty of Colonel Wilson to assist the police in restraining the outrages of the mob during the recent march of the City of London militia through some of the streets of the metropolis. Mr. G. Hardy explained that no information had been given to the police authorities that the march was to take place through the streets, and in that way they accounted for a sufficient force of police not being in attendance. He was unacquainted with the military law, but looking to what had occurred with respect to the volunteer force, he did not think the soldier so put off the duties of citizenship that he should not assist civilians when he saw felonies committed in his presence. The Report of Supply was brought up and received. The remainder of the morning sitting was occupied by the consideration in committee of the Vaccination Bill.—At the evening sitting, on the motion for going into committee of supply, Major Anson brought forward a motion for striking out of the records of the House a petition which Mr. Bright presented some time ago from Mr. Frederick Harrison and others as to the Fenians. Major Anson and his supporters, Mr. Baillie Cochrane, Mr. Darby Griffith, Colonel North, *et it genus omne*, seeing that Mr. Bright was not in his place, made furious attacks upon him. Mr. Forster, Mr. Mill, Mr. Neate, and other gentlemen did not think Mr. Bright needed any defender, and as to the motion, ridiculed it. The discussion was warm.—Among the questions in the House of Commons on the 17th inst. was one by Mr. W. E. Forster, in reference to the recent order affecting volunteers and popular disturbances. He wished

to know whether, if under these instructions the volunteers were required to act, they would be under the orders of their commanding officers. Sir John Pakington, with some reservation, said that they would not. Another question was, whether when acting to quell disturbances the volunteers would use the arms served out by Government, and, if so, under what regulations. Sir John thought they would use the arms, but there were no regulations on the subject. A third question was, whether the new instructions abrogated the orders issued by Lord Herbert some time ago. Sir John Pakington said they did not.—The other topic of interest in the business of the night was the Reform Bill. First, the Chancellor of the Exchequer made known that the Government intend to break their promise about a Reform Bill for Ireland. That bill was promised for after Whitsuntide. Now it is postponed indefinitely—the only thing certain about it being that it will not be brought in this session. The plea for this delay is the disturbed condition of Ireland. That is to say, a measure which it may fairly be hoped would, if carried, help materially to lessen discontent in Ireland, is postponed because discontent exists in Ireland.—The Speaker took the chair at ten minutes past two o'clock on the 18th inst. The Chancellor of the Exchequer and other leading members were in their places, so were Mr. Bright and Mr. Lowe, or rather, Mr. Lowe sat on the front Opposition bench, on which were also seated Sir George Grey, Mr. W. E. Forster, Mr. Headlam, and Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen. Mr. Gladstone subsequently took his place as Opposition leader. There were certain indications about the House that the proceedings would be rather lively, and that some of the fire of the evening debates would be imported into the morning discussion. The Serjeant-at-Arms was besieged by a crowd of members seeking for admission orders to the Ladies' Gallery, and the earnestness with which they pressed their claims gave rise to the suspicion that the impulse under which they acted was of a very irresistible character.—Mr. Bright presented a petition from Birmingham praying for increased representation for that town, and Mr. Lowe presented a petition from the Vice-Chancellor, &c., of the University of London against the association of that University for electoral purposes with the University of Durham.—In reply to Mr. Monsell, Mr. Hardy stated that he had received a letter from the Mayor of Birmingham with respect to the rioting in that town, and the Mayor stated he had received additional military aid, and had called out thirty pensioners, and that at the time he wrote everything was perfectly quiet.—At the evening sitting Mr. Fawcett brought forward his motion declaring it to be expedient that Trinity College, Dublin, should not be confined to members of the Established Church.—On the 19th inst., in reply to questions put by Colonel Biddulph respecting the famous march of the London Militia through the metropolitan streets, and the outrages of the attendant roughs, Sir John Pakington explained it was the duty of the War Office to lay down rules for her Majesty's regular forces while they were on march, but it was no part of their duty to lay down rules for the militia, who were under the authority of the Lord Lieutenant of the county to which they belonged. No communication had taken place between the Lord Lieutenant and the War Office on this subject. Except on some points immediately connected with duties of the Secretary of War, it was no part of the duty of the War Office to preserve the peace of London. In reply to another question addressed to him as to whether the law laid down by Archbold on the subject was correct, he suggested that the inquiry should rather be addressed to the law officers. He had no reason to doubt the correctness of the law as it had been laid down.

Not being present during the militia march, he could not judge of what Colonel Wilson might have seen and felt. He would not be justified in describing the circumstances in which it was incumbent on a commanding officer to merge his military functions in his general duties as a citizen. So far as he was informed, there was no deficiency in the present state of the law, and therefore it was not his intention to frame any new regulations.—In reply to a question put by Mr. Monsell respecting the Birmingham riots, Mr. Hardy stated that he had received a letter from the Mayor of Birmingham, dated at eleven o'clock on the preceding night, which announced that all was quiet, and that the troops were being withdrawn; so it might be presumed that the disturbances had come to an end. It was the conviction of the magistrates that the real culprits in these transactions did not exceed a few hundreds. He considered it most deplorable that the strong language which had caused the excitement should have been used. Language only applicable to a body of thieves and murderers had been applied to a large body of persons to whom it should not be used, in a manner they could not too strongly condemn.—The second reading of the Sunday Lectures Bill was then moved by Lord Amberley, who explained that it was proposed by it to give permission for the delivery of lectures, the carrying on of debates, and the making of speeches at places where money was received or tickets sold for admission on Sundays. Mr. Kinnaird proposed as an amendment that the bill should be read that day six months, and a debate occupying some time followed, during which Mr. J. S. Mill gave his support to the measure, and Mr. Henley opposed it. Mr. Bright urged that they should consider the condition of the class for whose benefit the bill was introduced, and therefore supported the second reading, with a suggestion that it should go to a select committee, because in its present shape, owing to the restrictive clauses connected with the imposition of penalties, he would not vote for its third reading. He remarked upon the necessity for duly observing the Sabbath, the stability and character of the country, and the advancement of our race depending upon it. The second reading of the bill was opposed by Sir William Heathcote and supported by Mr. Chichester Fortescue. Mr. Hardy opposed the bill. Eventually it was negatived without a division.—It was then proposed that the House should go into committee on the Industrial Schools (Ireland) Bill. This was opposed. On a division, the motion for going into committee was carried by 198 votes to 54. The discussion in committee lasted until a quarter to eight o'clock, when it was suspended in accordance with the standing orders.—The Church Rates Bills was postponed.

GENERAL HOME NEWS.—The Court of Exchequer gave judgment, on the 13th inst., in the case of Slade v. Slade. The question at issue was whether the marriage of the late Sir Frederick Slade with Lady Slade was valid, or whether a previous marriage between Lady Slade and an Austrian officer did not vitiate it. Thus it became essential to inquire whether the marriage with the Austrian officer was valid, and for Sir F. Slade's son it was contended that it was not. Yesterday the judges were divided in opinion. Baron Pigott and Baron Bramwell thought the marriage with the Austrian was valid, and, consequently, that the marriage with Sir F. Slade was invalid. Baron Martin and Chief Baron Kelly were of a contrary opinion. Under these circumstances it was arranged that, if required for purposes of appeal, Baron Pigott should withdraw his decision, and let the judgment go for the defendant. The plaintiff had until the end of term given to him to decide what he would do.—The young

man Watkins, who is charged with attempting to murder a young girl at Buckhurst Hill, was put up for trial at the Central Criminal Court. It was stated, however, that the prosecutrix had been got out of the way, and under these circumstances the trial was postponed to the next session of the court. The examiners appointed to investigate the trade outrages at Sheffield have elicited some evidence of a most extraordinary character. A witness named Shaw, who had committed perjury at a previous sitting, was urged to make the most complete disclosure in his power as the only means of escaping punishment. Shaw, one account states, seemed considerably relieved at this intimation, and at once proceeded to implicate more than one of the leading unionists in Sheffield in an attempt "to blow up" one Hellowell, who had been outlawed by the local union. He confessed that he was the active agent in the outrage, but affirmed that the plot was hatched in the house of Mr. Broadhead, the secretary of the Sawgrinders' Union, and the gunpowder obtained from that person's bedroom. Another witness, who now denied the truth of all the allegations he had previously made against the trades' union leaders, was committed to prison for six weeks for contempt of court.—The charge against two tailors of intimidating a tailoress was the subject of a protracted investigation at the Central Criminal Court. At the suggestion of the Recorder the charge against Hall was abandoned, and the prosecution of Jelley alone was proceeded with on behalf of the plaintiff. He was found guilty. Subsequently a man named Conolly pleaded guilty to a similar charge, while another man named Geary was acquitted. The Recorder sentenced Jelley and Conolly each to six months' imprisonment with hard labour.—On the 14th inst., at the Mansion House, Mr. Thomas Edgely, late of Sermon-lano, St. Paul's-churchyard, surrendered before the Lord Mayor for further examination on the charge of forging and uttering a bill of exchange for £1,120, and other bills, with intent to defraud. After the production of some additional evidence the prisoner was again remanded. He was allowed to go out on bail.—Frederick Burton Lewis, the clerk charged with stealing various sums of money, amounting in all to over £3,000, from his employers, was committed for trial.—The Home for Little Boys, the foundation-stone of which was laid last July by the Princess of Wales, and in which the late Mr. Culling Hanbury, M.P., took so much interest, was publicly opened on the 15th inst., under circumstances and with pecuniary results of a very gratifying character. Mr. Robert Hanbury, the father of the late member for Middlesex, presided at the early portion of the proceedings, and the Earl of Shaftesbury discharged similar functions at a luncheon with which the ceremonial wound up. Lady Constance Ashley presided at a presentation of purses, which formed an important feature in the day's proceedings, and received them on behalf of the committee of the institution. There was a large number of the friends of the institution present, and a long list of contributions to its funds was the result.—It is stated that an arrangement has been come to between the litigants in the Slade case. The present holder of the baronetcy and estates is to continue to hold these, and is to make an allowance to his uncle, General Marcus Slade. The case was mentioned in the Court of Exchequer the other day. The judges wished to know what course the plaintiff, General Slade, meant to take in reference to the law proceedings. The Solicitor-General, however, was not able to give any information.—The body of a woman has been found in a small wood by the roadside between Sevenoaks and Maidstone, in such a condition as to leave little doubt that she has been murdered. An offensive smell from the corpse led two labourers to enter it, and they found the deceased in a state of decomposition. Her clothes were tied tightly round her head, and there

were marks of a struggle with a man having taken place. The body has not been identified. A coroner's jury have returned an open verdict.—At a Court of Aldermen, on the 18th inst., Mr. Alderman Wilson, the colonel of the City of London Militia, referred to the late march-out of that corps, and the outrageous conduct of the mob on that occasion, and pointed out that he did his utmost to render the passage of the corps through the streets as regular and as non-obstructive to traffic as possible. He maintained that if he had ordered any of the corps under his command at the time to drive off the "roughs," and some mischance had arisen, he might have been charged with manslaughter, if not with murder.—A specially-convened conference of the local authorities of the metropolis was held on the 18th inst. for the purpose of taking into consideration the proposed rating of occupiers of small tenements and owners. After a good deal of discussion, resolutions were adopted suggestive of the insertion of additional clauses in the Reform Bill, so as to establish what was considered to be a more just arrangement between the landlord and tenant.—The 18th inst. was speech day at the Wellington College. There was a brilliant gathering, including Prince Arthur, the Earl of Derby, and other noblemen. The Queen's Medal has been carried off by Mr. E. A. Buchanan, son of Sir A. Buchanan, British Ambassador at St. Petersburg. The prize given by the Earl of Derby is taken by Mr. S. T. Irwin, the son of an officer who served with great distinction in the Peninsular war.—Several persons residing in the districts of St. Andrew's, Holborn, and St. Peter's, Saffron-hill, have been summoned before the magistrate at Clerkenwell Police-court for non-payment of tithes to the incumbents of those districts. On the hearing of the various cases, Mr. Bennett, solicitor, appeared for the defendants, and contended that they were not liable. Mr. Cooke, the magistrate, gave judgment. He came to the conclusion that his was not the court in which the claim should be made, and he dismissed the cases.—William Matthews, *alias* William Martin, and William Bowling, two of the five ruffians who, a few days ago, garrotted and robbed an old lady in the open daylight, in the most frequented thoroughfare in Islington, were, on the 19th inst., sentenced by the Assistant-Judge, at the Middlesex Sessions, respectively to seven years' penal servitude, and two years' imprisonment with hard labour.—Eight individuals were brought before the Assistant-Judge, at the Middlesex Sessions, charged with stealing from the person on the memorable occasion of the late march out of the City of London Militia. Six of the accused were found guilty, and were severally sentenced to various periods of imprisonment.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.—At last a Constantinople telegram tells us of a victory gained by Omar Pasha over the insurgent Cretans. On the 3rd inst. the Turkish general attacked the insurgents in a very strong position in the district of Lazethe. The strength of this position is greatly insisted upon in the telegram, of course, with the view of magnifying Omar Pasha's victory. The Turkish army, we are told, assaulted the entrenchments, carried them, and put the insurgents to flight. Unfortunately for our faith in this story, the telegram adds that while the Cretans lost 500 in killed and wounded, the total loss of the Turks was only ten killed and sixty wounded. Now, seeing that the insurgents fought behind strong entrenchments and that the Turks were the assailants, these figures are wholly incredible. Indeed, they make us doubt the story altogether. Perhaps, however, Omar Pasha has met with some resistance in one of his attacks on a village where there were no men, and, having captured it, killed and wounded the number of Cretan women and children mentioned in the telegram.—The Viceroy of Egypt arrived at Toulon on the 15th inst. The ships and

forts fired salutes. The Emperor and Empress of Austria are to leave Vienna for Paris on the 10th July. Meanwhile the King of Prussia is home again, and the Czar also has arrived at Berlin.—From India we regret to learn that the Asiatic cholera has broken out at Umballa, that many soldiers have died, and that the natives are perishing in large numbers.—A new name has now appeared in the list of places in which episcopal confirmations in connection with the Church of England will in future take place. The Bishop of Calcutta has paid a visit to Burmah to celebrate the rite of confirmation—the first time an English prelate has officiated in that empire.—Just as the Emperor Napoleon paraded his troops before the Czar at Paris, the King of Prussia has paraded his troops before the Czar at Berlin. There was a review upon the Tempelhof field, which the telegram says was of a most brilliant character. King William seems to have been very attentive to his imperial visitor.—The Viceroy of Egypt arrived in Paris on the 16th inst. On his arrival at the Tuileries he was received by the Empress. The Emperor, in consequence of indisposition, had been unable to receive several others of his royal visitors in the earlier part of the day.—Under the influence of Baron von Bunsen Austria seems to be going into a regular course of constitutionalism. The Reichsrath have been assured that various measures will be proposed in this direction. Ministers are to be made responsible. There is to be trial by jury in criminal cases, and the scheme for the reorganisation of the army is to be submitted to Parliament. All these things give evidence of the salutary influence of Baron von Bunsen. He is going about the work of building up Austria once more in a fitting manner.—There are still reports in France that a cause of quarrel will be found with Prussia, and that there will be war before long. That such an impression widely prevails it seems impossible to doubt. But there is evidence of another kind forthcoming. Thus, a Berlin telegram informs us that the Emperor Napoleon has promised to visit the King of Prussia at Berlin later in the year. This does not look much like war. The King of Prussia, after he has visited Ems, is to come to this country. The same telegram that tells us this, also informs us that, while the Czar was in Berlin, Prince Gortschakoff had a long interview with Count Bismarck.—The Pope made a speech on the 17th inst., on the anniversary of his accession. He compared himself to the voice in the desert which directed the Jews, and made a vehement appeal to the cardinals who were present, and who had offered him their congratulations.—The semi-official *France* contradicts the statement made in Berlin that the Emperor Napoleon has promised to visit that city. This denial adds strength to the reports current in Paris and elsewhere that there is no good feeling between France and Prussia, and that war at a no very distant date is far from improbable. The presence of Prussian garrisons in some of the South German fortresses is stated as the thing most likely to be put forth as a cause of war. This may or may not be correct. It is certain that once war was resolved upon, a ground of quarrel would be found. It is not easy, however, to believe that the Emperor of the French has made up his mind that there shall be war. The demand for it is raised in several of the Paris journals, and notably in that new one *La Situation*, which fairly screams for the humiliation of Germany. But war is a game at which two have to play, and victory is not always given to those who boast the most.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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

ROSA CRUCIS.—Will our correspondent send his address, as a letter is waiting for him at our office.

Several communications received must be deferred until next week.