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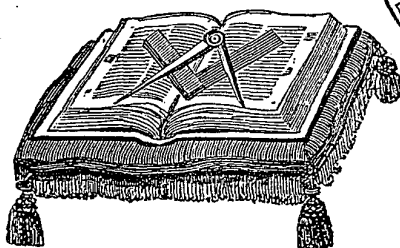
THE

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AND

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THE
F R E E M A S O N S ' M A G A Z I N E
AND
M A S O N I C M I R R O R.

ADDRESS TO OUR READERS.

WE avail ourselves of the opportunity afforded by the completion of this, the seventeenth volume of the new series of the FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE AND MASONIC MIRROR, of again addressing our readers "according to ancient custom," at the conclusion of each half-yearly issue; and, as at this particular period and season of the year, we feel, perhaps, more than at any other time wishful to be on terms of peace, harmony, and good-fellowship with the rest of mankind, and particularly with our brethren in Freemasonry, we at once enter upon the task as an agreeable duty not to be omitted, although, indeed, we have upon this occasion but little to say upon subjects that more immediately concern our ancient and honourable Order, except that, generally, peace and goodwill reigns supreme, and that the noble Craft is still rapidly extending and thriving prosperously throughout the world.

The sacred cause of charity has, during the year now about to pass away, not only been supported "as of yore," but, having been so warmly and so ably advocated and successfully advanced, has flourished and prospered to an extent amongst us hitherto unequalled, and never before reached. Not only have our strictly Masonic Charities been thus supported, but general charitable efforts, and the many charitable institutions of the entire world have received a larger amount of contributions in aid from individual members of our Order, as well as from our various Masonic lodges at home and abroad; and we may here note the growing disposition so laudably shown by the more enlightened, better educated, and liberal minded members of our Order to extend still more generally our charitable aid to objects of national and local interest; and we are glad to be able to state that not only has this practice been followed by the Harmony Lodge at Bradford for several years, but that other lodges have more recently adopted this course, so much to be admired, and so worthy of imitation by others. Never in our recollection was there so great a necessity for a more widely extended application of charity than now exists throughout this country; never were the deserving and industrious populations of our great cities, and centres of industry, manufactures, and commerce so much in want of extensive relief and judiciously applied aid from the charitable *as now*. Tens of thousands of those who were until recently earning a livelihood by their skill and labour—not only at the east end of this great metropolis, but throughout it and throughout many of our great manufacturing towns, seaports, and centres of commerce—are without work and in a state of pauperism. Let those who have, give to those who have not; and let it not be said that in this rich and Christian country the unemployed and would-be industrious, because they cannot obtain employment, are permitted to starve amidst plenty.

Amongst the numerous excellent suggestions received by us during the last half year, we have had one made by an old correspondent, which, we trust, will commend itself most favourably to the Craft in general—namely, the collection of funds from Freemasons for the purpose of purchasing a Lifeboat, to be placed on some coast station where such a means of saving human life is much needed; and it must not be forgotten that around our iron-bound coast there are many such. It

is to be hoped, for the credit of Freemasons and Freemasonry, that the call which has been made will be promptly responded to, and that contributions in aid will be forwarded to the publisher of the FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE AND MASONIC MIRROR. The promises are numerous; we hope to find them realised promptly.

The re-election of our greatly-esteemed and much-respected Bro. the Right Honourable the Earl of Zetland as the Most Worshipful the Grand Master of Masons in England for another year took place at the last quarterly communication of Grand Lodge, on which occasion the R.W. Bro. Earl de Grey and Ripon, the talented Deputy Grand Master, presided with his usual dignity, tempered by amiability, and guided by great tact and judgment in the management of Grand Lodge business. But for the admirable manner in which Grand Lodge was conducted under the presidency of the Deputy Grand Master, the last quarterly communication would have been of a still less satisfactory character; and we hope, for the credit of the Craft and the sake of those who attend Grand Lodge, that we may in future be spared such an unseemly exhibition. However, the Most Worshipful the Grand Master was elected for the ensuing year, and the Right Honourable the Earl of Zetland will (D.V.) for the twenty-fifth time be installed Grand Master at the next regular period appointed for that purpose; and it is the sincere wish of every member of our Order that he may not only be spared to us in good health, and the full enjoyment of all his faculties, to perform the duties of that high station during the ensuing year with the same urbanity which has ever characterised his mild and beneficent rule, and so complete his quarter of a century of great and glorious work, but also that he may be long spared amongst us, and be enabled for many years to come to look back with true pleasure and pride to the long career of usefulness which, during a quarter of a century, in most eventful times in the history of the world's progress, he so nobly devoted to the welfare and real solid progress of our ancient and honourable Order, and to the great successes which have crowned his various efforts in so noble and excellent a cause as the advancement of Freemasonry.

The completion of the truly magnificent buildings, the Freemasons' Hall with its secretarial and other offices, and the lodge rooms and other conveniences connected therewith, and the New Tavern and meeting rooms, kitchens, and other conveniences attached, may now be said to be entirely completed, and the labours of the Building Committee may be considered as approaching their end. That the combined efforts of the architect,—the committee appointed by Grand Lodge, acting under the able direction of Bro. Jno. Havers, and the contractors have been crowned with an amount of success far exceeding the most sanguine expectations; and we most heartily congratulate Bro. Havers and the members of the Building Committee on the success which, by their devotion to the interests of Grand Lodge, has been attained; and we trust that Grand Lodge will not fail to express in a substantial manner at the next meeting the high sense of appreciation entertained for the services of Bro. Havers and the members of the Building Committee respectively.

We believe that the dates have been fixed for the holding of the several Masonic Charity Festivals, and, no doubt, the Fraternity will be informed of the exact days by advertisements published a few days before each event, and to which, for further information, we must refer our readers; meanwhile, we wish the utmost attainable success may be realised on behalf of the several institutions at their festival meetings.

We have now to tender our best thanks to our numerous friends and supporters, to our various contributors and correspondents, scattered as they are over the four quarters of the globe, for their continued aid and assistance so kindly and consistently afforded. We hope to have the pleasure of maintaining the same warm, friendly, and fraternal relations with them all for many years to come, one great aim of our existence being to live in peace with all mankind, particularly our brethren in Freemasonry. No effort on our part has been, or ever will be, spared to endeavour to realise and maintain that happy state of things. To all we wish a happy and prosperous new year. Adieu.

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LONDON, SATURDAY, JULY 1, 1866.

SERMON PREACHED BEFORE THE PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF CORNWALL

By BRO. DR. J. BANNISTER.

A very able sermon was preached in the parish church of Redruth, at the meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge there on the 18th of June, by Bro. Dr. Bannister, Incumbent of St. Day, and Assist. Prov. G. Chap. of Cornwall. We have been favoured with an abstract of it. He selected as his text the 25th verse of the 102nd Psalm—"Of old hast Thou laid the foundation of the earth: and the heavens are the works of Thy hands." The rev. brother began by observing that in this pious utterance of the heart of the sweet Psalmist of Israel, penned under the influence of inspiration, nearly three thousand years ago, we have the foundation of theology—the science of God, and her sister science, Masonry. The foundation of both alike consists in this: that of old, in the beginning of time, the self-existent and eternal, one only God made heaven and earth." In the text it is said "He laid the foundation of the earth." This, as well as the other clause, is figurative; but this is drawn from the science of Masonry. Practical Masonry is an art founded on the principles of geometry, and directed to the service of mankind. It is that art which has been practised in all countries more or less civilised, for the erection of temples for the honour and glory of God, and of buildings for the habitation, refuge, comfort, and defence of mankind. The world was made for man's habitation, and therefore, as a house must have a foundation, the Psalmist says, "Thou hast laid the foundation of the earth." This is speaking Masonically, and it is speaking piously, acknowledging the origin and dependence of all things, *of* and *on* the only true God. God to the heathen was a notion, an opinion, an idea, an inference; to the Israelite he was a reality, a revealed truth. To him and to us God *is*. He is ever-present, omniscient, all-seeing, and the rewarder of them that diligently seek Him. Hence have come various forms of worship, the erection of altars, the institution of sacrifices, and the building of temples. We, as Masons, look back to the building of the temple at Jerusalem, 1,000 years before Christ, in wisdom, strength, and beauty, by Solomon, king of Israel, as a distinguished era in the annals of Masonry. But

Masonry dates back beyond that time. David in the text uses Masonic language, and refers to the origin of Masonry. Freemasonry has been much misunderstood—is so. Some regard it as a benefit society, like the many useful clubs we all know, because, in common with us, they have insignia and regalia, and in common with them, but very rarely—for we don't wish to parade ourselves—we have a procession and display; and, it is true, we have also the Masonic Annuity Fund for the relief of distressed Masons, and institutions for widows and orphans; and it is a leading principle with us—while we seek *to do good to all men*, we do it *especially* to those of the Craft. Others speak of it as an institution for the promotion of good fellowship and conviviality, and I grant that it has a tendency to make a Christian one of the practical, cheerful, and perhaps I may say muscular stamp, rather than of the ascetic, contemplative, or controversial order. Again, some have made it a substitute for religion. This it is not. It is true we do not interfere with any man's form of belief. To his own master he standeth or falleth, but coming to us as a man fearing God and working righteousness, as St. Paul says, we welcome him as a brother. Some have represented Masonry as a parody on religion, while others have represented the system as downright infidelity and atheism; but, thank God, both these assertions are wilful calumnies and without the slightest foundation. And, lastly, among the many misrepresentations I would mention that which has classed it with Fenianism and other Secret Societies which have for their object the subverting of established authorities, and bringing about revolutions, and as such it has been put under the Papal ban in an encyclical letter. One reason for these misconceptions is the secrecy and mystery which are connected with it, and no doubt some have come here in the hope that something will drop from my mouth which will help the uninitiated to solve the mystery. Now I will tell you plainly what Freemasonry is:—It is a peculiar system of morality, veiled in allegory, and illustrated by symbols. It is founded on certain sublime, simple, and rational principles, which are intended to promote the universal brotherhood of mankind, and make all those who are admitted into its ranks, better men in all the relations of life. Further I say, that the allegories on which Freemasonry is founded are drawn from scripture, and the symbols by which it is illustrated are drawn from practica-

masonry. Further than this I cannot go. It is right that standing up before a mixed audience, in this holy place I should so far explain the object and aim of Masonry as to free it from suspicion. But here I stop. We have our mysteries, and we have among us certain words, signs, and tokens, known only among ourselves, which have been preserved with inviolable secrecy from the remotest ages, the intention of which is—to prevent impostors intruding into our assemblies or unjustly obtaining the fruits of our benevolence—to insure as far as possible the admission into the Craft of none but just and upright men, of free birth, sound judgment, strict morals, and mature years—and to enable us to recognise a brother in a stranger, and show him proofs of brotherly love. The signs and tokens I have referred to form an universal silent language, understood by Masons everywhere; and every reasonable person will see the propriety of these being kept secret. We receive them when we are initiated, and are solemnly bound never to reveal them to the uninitiated. The rev. gentleman then proceeded to quote many texts in which Masonic language is used by inspired writers of the bible, in which the persons addressed are compared to builders, buildings, or separate stones, of a building, each fitted and prepared to occupy the place for which it is intended in the erection of a grand temple to the honour and glory of God. The preacher in further proof of the scriptural character of Masonry then added: I would also say that the Bible is ever found open in our lodges while they are working, our candidates are obligated upon it, and are enjoined to study it as the standard of faith and the rule of life, to regard it as the tracing board of the Great Architect of the Universe, in which he has laid down divine plans and moral rules to enable every Mason to do well his allotted work. In conclusion, he said: I have no doubt I shall be asked—Does Masonry always produce the good effect it aims at? It would be most surprising if it did. Every blossom is naturally designed to produce fruit, or seed; but how many, from one cause or other, altogether fail! How many of God's good gifts are abused! How many good institutions perverted! You know that of the twelve apostles our Saviour chose when upon earth, one was the traitor Judas. You will excuse my plainness of speech, brethren, as I am but a plain workman; I wish to profit rather than

to please, to assist in building a firm and substantial, rather than a showy structure. It is for us, brother Masons, to show in our lives the excellency of Masonry. Our lives should preach a better sermon, a more eloquent defence of our principles, than any of us can deliver. Remember Him who has said "By their fruit shall ye know them." Remember your obligations. Pliny, the younger, writing to Trajan, asking how he was to act towards those who were accused of being Christians, informed the Emperor that they were accustomed to meet together before day, sing hymns to Christ as to a God, and *bind themselves with an oath to allow themselves in no crime or immoral conduct whatever*. Does not this latter part of this description apply to us? Are we not similarly bound? But remember what our Grand Master, king Solomon, said—"Better it is that thou should'st not vow, than that thou should'st vow and not pay." What is morally wrong in others is doubly wrong in Masons. It makes me shudder, knowing the obligations we are under, to hear of Masons taking God's holy name in vain, uttering deliberate falsehood, or acting immorally, dishonourably, or dishonestly. Let us strive not to give occasion to the uninitiated to speak reproachfully of our Order; let us seek to be what our system is designed to make us—*Lights* in the world; seek to be adorned with the distinguishing characteristics of Masons—*virtue, honour, mercy*; and with the four cardinal virtues emblematically depicted in our lodges—*temperance, fortitude, prudence, justice*; ever remember the three principles on which Masonry is founded—*brotherly love, relief, and truth*; cultivate the grand Christian as well as Masonic graces—*faith, hope, and charity*. And from this sacred place, remembering that I am not only your chaplain but also the minister of Jesus Christ, I would especially enforce upon you the exhortation you so often hear as Fellow Crafts, *that while you continue to act in accordance with the principles of the Craft, you always discharge your duty to your Creator, the Grand Geometrician of the Universe, with fervency and zeal*. Then, when you shall have finished your allotted work on earth, you will pass to the Grand Lodge above, there to enjoy light, life, and love, through the merits of Him who lived and died for us, our elder brother the Lord Jesus Christ, to whom, with the Father and the Holy Ghost, be ascribed all honour, power, might, majesty, and dominion henceforth and for ever.

VISIT TO CINCINNATI, OHIO.

THE ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE OF FREEMASONRY IN THAT CITY, ITS ROOMS, &c.

In company with nine other members of the Grand Consistory, 32°, of Kentucky, on the evening of the 29th April, we took the mail boat to attend the fourteenth annual re-union of the rite in that city. It has been my custom for thirteen years to meet annually with the brethren of the rite at their festival, save during the interval of the war, when the claims of duty called me to other portions of the country. The brethren met for over twelve years in rooms such as their means permitted, meeting with opposition from the members of the higher bodies of the York rite, who presumed they knew all that Masonry would be able to teach them. So bitter was the feeling, and so strong the prejudice against them, that when the Masonic temple in that city was being built the committee who had charge of the affair declined to even receive propositions from them to rent or permit them to occupy any portion of the building. Now mark the change from the grain of mustard seed, planted by a few, with a poor soil, the plant has grown and flourished till it stands first among its equals. The best and most intelligent Masons are now found enrolled under its banners; and only about nine months since they were solicited to accept the upper story of the building at their own price. I purpose in this to give a description of the rooms and will not anticipate.

Arriving in Cincinnati the following morning, and after breakfasting at a hotel whose owners are Masons in feeling as well as name, we proceeded to the temple, where we found a large delegation from other States of eminent members of the Fraternity. The day was spent pleasantly in comparing notes about the progress of the rite, canvassing the troubles then existing among the rival Supreme Councils, 33°, in the Northern Jurisdiction, &c.

Promptly at seven o'clock, on Tuesday evening, Gibulum Lodge of Perfection, No. 30, was called to order, and the work of conferring the grades of the rite began, and the degrees from fourth (Secret Master) to fourteenth (or Perfection) were worked till away far into the coming day. The officers in this, as in all the bodies, were so well posted that the candidates will not soon forget the lessons taught them.

Wednesday, at 2 p.m. Dalcho Council Princes

of Jerusalem, working the fifteenth and sixteenth grades, began its labours. Bro. Matthews, D.G.M. of Ohio, presides over this body. The dramatic talent required to work these degrees is of no mean order, and would do credit to the best theatre in this or any other land.

In the evening, at seven o'clock, Bro. Robert Gwynn, 32°, opened the Chapter of Rose Croix de Heredom, and worked the grades of Knights of the East and West, and Sovereign Prince of Rose Croix. For these most solemn and sublime degrees Bro. Gwynn is especially fitted, both physically and mentally—of a grave and venerable appearance, long white flowing beard, a portly form and all the solemn tones that Nature can bestow upon a voice, and he is most admirably fitted to develop all that is sublime and good in these most glorious and (as conferred in that Jurisdiction) Christian degrees.

At ten o'clock a.m., on Thursday, the Consistory of S.P.:R.:S.:., 32° was opened by Ills. Enoch T. Carson, 33°, the Commander-in-Chief, and the grades from Grand Pontiff, No. 19, to Knight Kadosh, or the White and Black Eagle, No. 30, inclusive, were conferred before dinner. At two p.m., the work was continued in the thirty-first, and completed in the thirty-second degree about five p.m.

The victims of all this labour were brethren from a distance, some of them having come nearly three hundred miles to receive the degrees, which on this and similar occasions are alone permitted to make such rapid progress, residents of the city not being allowed, as a general thing, to receive the degrees at these festivals.

At seven o'clock a lodge of Secret Masters, fourth degree, was opened in the Main Hall of the rite, so that those present might be proven qualified to attend the banquet, and enjoy its rights and privileges.

At eight o'clock the procession was formed, with the visiting brethren at the head of the column.

To the music of the grand organ two or three circuits of the hall were first made, and then by file left and file right we found ourselves at the foot of a winding stairs, consisting of many steps, leading upwards to the banqueting hall. The head of the stairs is at length reached, and we see three long tables groaning beneath a load of good things.

About two hundred sat down to the repast provided under the generous catering of Ill. Bro. Charley Brown, 33°, the favourite of all. This

brother is an active member of the rite, and was one of its founders in Cincinnati, is an intelligent gentleman, treasurer of the city, and holds a like position in all the bodies of the rite, and possesses over 100,000 dollars in his own right, and is a capital worker in all the rites, ancient and modern; he is, to use an American phrase, chief cook, &c., at every banquet, doing the most menial service from mere goodness of heart; and when he does anything it is done "Brown." May his tribe increase two in a year, and all of them, though ever so little brown, as they grow browner emulate their father's virtues, though they can never excel them.

After sufficient time was allowed to satisfy the inner man the Chairman, Bro. Carson, offered the regular toasts: First, "The Supreme Council, 33°, for the Northern Jurisdiction;" responded to by Judge Storer, 32°, of the Supreme Court of the United States. Second, "The Supreme Council, 33°, of the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States;" responded to by Bro. Fred. Webber, 33°, the only member of that body present. Third "The Rite in Indiana;" responded to by Bro. Dans, 33°. Fourth, "Kentucky Grand Consistory, 32°;" responded to by Bro. Howe, 32°, Commander-in-Chief, and so ended the regular toasts. Speeches were made by several brethren until the time having arrived for the presentation of an official jewel to Bro. Mack, 16°, Presiding Officer of the Lodge of Perfection, and he being absent, the Chairman called upon Bro. Betman for an apology for Bro. Mack's absence. This was done neatly by Bro. Betman, and then he glided off gracefully into a speech, abounding with gems of oriental similes, grand metaphors, poetic thought, and sterling sense. He is a wonderful orator, and when he sat down regret was manifest at the conclusion of his remarks, which was hastened by the missing brother being brought in prisoner by a committee who went after him, and found him enjoying the festivities of his own home, his daughter having been just married. Bro. Carson approached Bro. Mack, and presented him with a jewel, the like of which our eyes never before beheld, as a slight token of the regard and esteem in which he is held by his brethren of the rite in Cincinnati.

Bro. Mack's reply was eloquence itself; he read grand lessons from that jewel—the quadrant, crowned, enclosing the sacred initial letter of the God of his fathers! Not one word was lost, they breathed the spirit of brotherly love among Jew

and Gentile. A brother sang the touching ballad "Just twenty years ago." This called up memories of many present; the writer felt it fully; he had only a year since returned from a visit to the Green Isle, the home of his birth and boyhood, after an absence of twenty years. It revived memories of days gone by, his early haunts, his roamings among the graves of the old cathedral church yard, where sleep the mother that gave him birth, his brothers and sisters, and those that reared him when that dear mother was laid to rest, and still later of the Masonic welcome he received from brethren who—pardon the expression—were venerable when he was a boy. He called to mind, for the benefit of the brethren, the fact that in Ireland and England at such a time as the present, when hearts beat warm and all feel that all the world is his friend, it was customary to test the amount he felt for a good and charitable cause, and a collection was the result, often resulting in large contributions. He also reminded the brethren that in his Jurisdiction no body of the Scottish Rite is ever closed without the box of fraternal assistance being passed round, and the collection handed to the Almoner for his disposal.

He proposed that Bro. Carson, 33°, be appointed Almoner on this occasion. While he was speaking hands were in pockets and pocket books in hand, and the result of the remarks was a collection highly creditable to the occasion, which I am proud to say was received with cheers, which were renewed when Bro. Carson announced that the amount would be handed to the committee for the relief of the destitute of the States lately in rebellion.

After singing a parting song, in which all joined, the brethren departed for their respective abodes at low twelve, and so ended the first festival in the new rooms, of which I will now proceed to give you a description.

DESCRIPTION OF THE ROOMS.

The Masonic temple in Cincinnati is without doubt the finest building of the kind on this continent, and perhaps it has no superior in Europe, it is the property of one lodge, the ground being the gift of a member of the lodge, many years since. The ground is now very valuable and, including the building, is valued at 400,000 dollars. The portion used by the A. and A. Rite is on the fourth story. The dimensions I give

are only approximate, not having taken any measurement of them. Opening on the western landing at the head of the stairs are heavy double folding doors, which lead into a hall 12ft. wide, and 25ft. long. 10ft. of the ceiling at the west of this hall comes down to within 15ft. of the floor, to make room above for the organ loft, and on this end wall the artists have displayed a magnificent piece of work embodying the double-headed Prussian eagle, the symbol of the rite, surrounded by the banners of the Order. Upon the lower ceiling is the motto, "Procul, O, procul este profane." To the right of the hall described above are a fair sized reception room, an armoury, and a room for candidates. As means of entrance to the main hall there are, on both ends of its eastern wall one large door and one of ordinary size, the latter nearest the side walls, and used for the purpose of reaching the stage, and of entering or leaving the main hall without disturbing the body at work. We now enter the main hall, the pride and glory of all Ancient and Accepted Masons.

Before us, at the western end of the room, is a stage fully 24ft. to the proscenium, a width or opening of about 20ft., and a depth of some 15ft. Three steps, having a rise of 2½ft., bring us to the floor of the stage. The proscenium of this stage is a model of excellence. For 6ft. in depth it is enriched with actual and deep panels, beautifully gilded and painted, and bears at its outer edge a twisted fluted column, ending with a light capital, from which springs an arch of the same twisted fluting. From the apex of the proscenium to the ceiling of the hall is 8ft. or more. Over the centre of the stage is a crowned double-headed eagle, the symbol of the 33rd grade, 4ft. high, well proportioned, and carved out of solid wood, the wings and body of dark bronze, the talons and beak of gold, and in its talons it holds a two-edged golden sword. The crown is of gold and scarlet. Above the eagle is a circular opening in which is displayed the jewel of the grade being worked, lit up by means of a gas jet directly behind it. At the eastern end is the organ loft, and running from it on each side is a gallery 12ft. wide; the entire gallery is surrounded by a heavy but neat bulustre.

The organ is not inferior to any used in the city in any church, and is presided over by a firstclass organist, whose services were kept in requisition all the time, music being required in every degree of this rite. From the gallery depend black

hangings, which extend all round three sides of the room and form avenues round the room to the stage and ante-rooms. All the woodwork is painted a brilliant white. Now look at the ceiling and upper portion of the walls, at the outer edge of the ceiling are grained arches, springing from the side walls and forming coves, in which are beautifully frescoed, in colours, the grade jewels from four degrees to thirty-two degrees.

The size of the main hall from the wall at the back of the organ to the rear of the stage, is about 75ft., 40ft. in width, and from 35ft. to 40ft. high. The scenery employed numbers six or eight, and are elegant and laboured gems of art. Each scene is attached to single frames, which fit the opening of the stage, and the change is made by a brother standing on a bridge above the borders, each scene being balanced by counter weights.

One scene represents a perspective continuation of the hall, with its gallery, &c. Another, an Oriental palace, with columns and elegant details. A third, romantic and delightful natural scenery. A fourth, the solemn crucifixion. A fifth, Christ's glorious ascension from the tomb, &c. We now go below, and into the secret vault; by a rather difficult passage and through many doors we wend our way, and at last find ourselves in a vaulted room, 40ft. long and 25ft. wide, the walls and ceiling frescoed in imitation of solid granite blocks. At the extreme end of the room is a small stage, having a neat proscenium, inside of which are drawing curtains of scarlet cloth. This room is lighted by shaded gas jets over silver-plated triangles, the jets being formed of three, five, seven, and nine, forming triangles. In the rear of the stage is a representation of the burning bush which Moses saw on the mount. A small organ is used in this room. Ascending again, and going through the main hall, on ascending a flight of steps we enter through a door and find ourselves in a room, gloomy and funeral, used for a C. of R., and as the J. R.

Further upward and turning to the left we find ourselves in a beautiful little grotto, where closely imitated are several arches of irregular and moss-covered rock, and through the angle of which trickles a small stream of Ohio river water. From the roof of the cave hang stalactites glistening like those Dame Nature herself created for the beauty of her own underground homes. This apartment is truly enchanting. The next apartment is called the Bridge Room. The east wall

is painted, a valley scene, through which runs a beautiful stream, which passes under a real bridge and disappears in natural perspective on the western wall. Let us go over the bridge. A rocky path leads up to the bridge, which we cross, and our path continues behind a wall of rock to the height of 14ft. Pursuing our journey we descend rapidly into a square room, about 20ft. square, bordered with natural scenery, trees, &c., and conveying a good idea of "some vast wilderness, some boundless contiguity of shade." Apartments Nos. 3 and 4 are of equal dimensions, and applicable for conferring the higher grades.

The Banquet Room is about 30 x 50ft., and will comfortably seat 200 guests. Larder, store room, pantry, and kitchen make this suit complete. The arrangements for this branch of the work are complete, the dishes, glasses, china, &c., cost over £400, and would be sufficient for a very fair hotel.

The money expended on the furnishing already described has not been squandered, but has been well and judiciously expended, and reflects great credit on the zeal of the brethren of the rite. About £1,600 has also been subscribed by the members, which, when expended, will produce even a better effect than already is to be found. I have, perhaps, been too precise and tedious in thus giving the detail, but I have done so that our brethren may see that we in the "wooden country" have some ambition and zeal, and have determined that the rooms I have described shall have no equal in the Masonic world.

Should this suit your MAGAZINE, and interest any of your numerous readers, you may again hear from

AN IRISH YANKEE.

MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

FRANKLIN AND VOLTAIRE.

The following passage in the notice of Franklin, in the "Biographie Universelle," is sent to the *Freemasons' Magazine*, in compliance with the request of an American brother:—"Franklin eut le plaisir de voir Voltaire à l'Académie des Sciences. Le patriarche de la liberté présenta à celui des lettres son petit fils, le priant de lui donner sa bénédiction. Voltaire posa ses mains sur la tête de l'enfant, et s'écria: 'God and Liberty! Dieu et la liberté!' 'Voilà,' ajouta-t-il 'la devise qui convient au petit fils de Franklin.' Les deux grand hommes, en se quittant, s'embrassèrent les larmes aux yeux.—C. P. COOPER.

MADAME HELVETIUS.

See my communication, "Helvétius," *Freemasons' Magazine*, No. 396, page 89. In compliance with the

request of a London brother, the subjoined lines respecting Madame Helvétius, taken from the "Biographie Universelle," are sent to the *Freemasons' Magazine*. It was about 1776 that she was Grand Mistress of a Paris Lodge in Adoptive Freemasonry. "Après avoir perdu son mari qu'elle aimait passionnément, et dont elle partageait les inclinations bien-faisantes, elle choisit le séjour d'Auteuil, où elle a toujours vécu. La maison était un point de réunion pour les hommes les plus célèbres. Peu après son retour d'Égypte, Buonaparte vint, pour ainsi dire, y déposer les faisceaux consulaires. Se promenant dans son jardin avec l'ambitieux conquérant, Madame Helvétius lui dit: 'vous ne savez pas combien on peut trouver de bonheur dans trois arpents de terre.'—C. P. COOPER.

FRANKLIN AND MADAME HELVETIUS.

The ensuing are the extracts from the "Biographie Universelle," first edition, which a brother at New York desires. Nos. 1 and 2 are taken from the notice of Franklin. No. 3 is taken from the notice of Madame Helvétius. No. 1—"Pour comble de bonheur, Miss Read était redevenue libre; Franklin l'épousa en 1730." No. 2—"Franklin—heureux en tout par le sort autant que par son caractère, il conserva cinquante ans la femme qu'il aimait." No. 3—"Madame Helvétius.—Franklin voulut l'espouser." C. P. COOPER.

A correspondent has submitted to us the following queries:—

1. The *Freemasons' Magazine* has decided that the law of Grand Lodge does not forbid the admission into a lodge of a brother, under a foreign jurisdiction, in the clothing recognised by his own Grand Lodge. Is it then correct to allow a brother under the Scotch Constitution, visiting an English lodge, to wear a Mark jewel, but not to wear a Royal Arch, and to allow a brother under the Irish Constitutions to wear both jewels, the Mark degree only being recognised in Scotland, and both degrees being recognised in Ireland?

2. In the ceremony of installation, as the Board of Installed Masters cannot be formed until after the lodge is opened in the third degree, is it necessary for all brethren under the rank of an Installed Master to withdraw before the lodge is opened in the third degree; and should the W.M. elect be presented for the benefit of installation, and take the O.B. of a W.M. elect, when the lodge is in the second or third degree? I have seen both practices.

3. Some time ago you laid down the law that a S.W., when ruling a lodge in the absence of the W.M. and P.M.'s, should wear his own badge, the level, and not the badge of the office he assumes. In that case, what badge should the brother acting as S.W. for the time wear; and should brethren acting in junior offices wear the distinctions of those offices if not regularly appointed to them?

May I respectfully draw Bro. Hopkins' or Bro. Hughan's attention to a query in the *Magazine* of May 25th, page 407, under the heading "Visitors and Certificates," with a view to its solution?—W. S. L.

[With respect to the first of the above queries submitted to us, we say that a brother can wear the clothing of his own Grand Lodge in any lodge he

may visit, but if a Scotch brother visits an English lodge he is not allowed to wear the Mark jewel, or any other Order not recognised by the Grand Lodge of England. As the Royal Arch degree is recognised in the Grand Lodge of England, he can wear the jewel of that degree in any English lodge that he may visit. Although both the Mark and Royal Arch degrees are recognised by the Grand Lodge of Ireland, that gives an Irish brother no authority whatever to wear the Mark jewel in an English lodge, and any attempt to do so ought to be resisted as contrary to the regulations of the Grand Lodge of England.

As to the second query, we should hardly have supposed that any Master Mason present at the ceremony of installation would have had any doubt as to the order of proceeding, inasmuch as the lodge is always opened in the second degree, when the "skilled Craftsman," or W.M. elect, is presented to receive from his predecessor the benefits of installation, and, of course, the O.B. is taken in that degree. As regards another part of the query, we are utterly at a loss to understand on what pretext M.M.'s should be called upon to retire when the lodge is opened in the third degree. Until they are Installed Masters, of course, when the W.M. is installed in the Board of Installed Masters, they are excluded. Our correspondent seems to throw some doubt upon this order of proceeding, and says that he has seen different practices. Of course there is no accounting for many irregular and improper things that may take place in lodges; but our only surprise is that those who have been guilty of them have not ere this made their appearance before the Board of General Purposes.

In answer to the third query, all we can say is, that if a lodge is in that unfortunate position that it has neither a Master or Past Master to preside, to see that the business of Freemasonry is carried on with order and decorum, it is a very lamentable state of things, and is not calculated to advance the dignity of our Order. It is, as we said some weeks ago, most objectionable that any one but the W.M. or P.M. of the lodge should be called upon to do any of the duties appertaining to the position of him who has been elected to preside over them, or one who has been properly advanced and regularly installed into that office. In new lodges, if the W.M. is taken ill or unavoidably prevented from attending this cannot always be avoided, but, under any other circumstances, it cannot be too strongly discouraged, however anxious some brethren may be to perform duties to which they have never been regularly appointed, or however plausible may be the reasons they may put forth for doing so. The W.M. is solely responsible for the conduct of his lodge, and when he parts with his power, unless under some very special circumstances, he ignores some of those solemn declarations he made at the time of his appointment. Even if the unhappy event should arise of a S.W. being called upon to rule the lodge, he has no right whatever to take the W.M.'s chair, and much less to assume the jewel of an office with which he has never even been invested; and, as regards a sort of "ringing of changes" of the jewels of the rest of the officers, that would be simply absurd, and they have no power to occupy positions higher than those originally assigned to them. It is

sincerely to be hoped, however, that when a W.M. is appointed he will do his duty in person, and not by deputy, unless in very extreme and extraordinary circumstances.—Ed. F.M.]

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR AND ✠ 18°.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER.—I have observed in the *Freemasons' Magazine* of the 22nd May, a letter from a brother, A. O. Haye, who, in strong language, reflects upon "Knight Templar," and "✠ 18°," for presuming to defend, as they have endeavoured to do, the higher degrees, and Bro. Haye has sought in no measured terms to bring discredit upon their efforts. I think it only right to say, that they are both friends of mine, and are in every way qualified to address the Masonic world. I know for many years one has ably contributed to Masonic publications. I trust, in common fairness to these brethren, you will kindly insert this, and I would suggest to Bro. Haye that it is not by such exhibitions of bad temper and bad taste, that Masonic discussion should be carried on.

Yours fraternally,

MARK MASTER,

A W.M., a member of the Grand Conclave of Knights Templar of England, and a member of the K.H. 30°.

July 1st, 1867.

MASONIC PSEUDO-ANTIQUITIES.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER.—You will render good service if you can put a stop to spurious Masonic learning, which does great discredit to the Craft in its claims as an intellectual institution, indisposes many of our best members, and prevents many a scholar from entering our portals.

Generally speaking, in proportion to the absurdity of the legend, so is the tenacity of the illiterate or self-educated brother in upholding and promulgating it. Nonsense becomes self-creative of nonsense, and the process is simple. A brother who never studied history gets hold of some legend in an author of small discretion, he then sets to work, and by the help of encyclopædias and historical works, which have no authority, enlarges upon his original foundation, and thinks he is adding to the structure of Masonry.

Now Masonry has so much truth in it that it is self-supporting, and does not want the cement of lies. It may be observed that there are many statements in Masonry which, in the progress of events, have lost their original application, and some things which are based on ancient legends. These are very properly kept in our ceremonies as testimonies of antiquity, but not as assertions of gospel truth. A legend of five hundred years old is good evidence of five hundred years' antiquity, but it is no evidence of the truth of what the legend avers took place fifteen hundred or five thousand years ago.

It may be observed that of late years by the exercise

of mere discriminating criticism, the authentic history of Masonry has been carried further back, while the mythical history has been much curtailed.

Yours fraternally,
AN ANTIQUARY.

GRAND LODGE AGENDA.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER.—Can you tell me how I can get the notices for Grand Lodge? My only chance is their publication in the *Freemasons' Magazine* of the week before the meeting, which gives little time.

They are sent to the lodge of which I am a subscribing member, but our meeting night is occasionally after Grand Lodge is over, and they become waste paper.

Yours fraternally,
A MEMBER OF THE GRAND LODGE OF ENGLAND.

MUSIC IN LODGES.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER.—I was much pleased at seeing in your last number a communication from Bro. J. H. M. Bairnsfather on "Sacred Music in Lodges," and I beg to observe that I entirely approve of what he says, and not only so, but it is months since we commenced to take action in the matter, and I am therefore all the more satisfied that the want of it has been felt by others. I may therefore add that we are getting up a selection of tunes and words adapted for the purpose (simple, solemn, and sacred), for the use of our own lodge, which I expect the printer will have all finished in a week or two. I have some extra sheets of each tune which I send for your perusal, and if they please, nothing would give me greater pleasure than to see other lodges adopting something similar.

I have often felt a listlessness during the working of the degrees, which I could see no way of curing but by the introduction of music into its proper place. As a spectator I have often felt tired for the want of being able to take an active part, however small, in the proceedings, and even when I have been working the degrees myself, I have felt the want of appropriate music, and I consider that without it they are not half wrought. When we have a good player at the organ, and one to lead the singing, with a Deacon who knows his duty, and the other office-bearers taking their parts, then the degrees can be wrought something like what they ought to be, but of course anything to be done well must be practised, and if the degrees are worth doing at all, they are worth doing well. Most of us who go to church join in the singing, and why Masons neglect the duty of praising God at their meetings I do not know, unless it be from mere thoughtlessness. Masonry is either something or it is nothing, when we meet for the purposes of initiation, &c., is it merely to push the candidate through as quickly as possible and get the fees, or have we a higher object in view? If the latter, let us show that we have true Masonic feeling in us, by giving expression to it. Let us join together as brethren in praising that God whose all-seeing eye is ever over us, with guardian care, from all our

partings to our meetings. Then may we hopefully expect his blessing on all our proceedings.

Yours fraternally,
Glasgow, June 17th. W. P. BUCHAN.

SIR KNIGHTS.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER.—Bro. Bairnsfather was good enough to inform us in last week's *Magazine* that, when the Order of the Templars existed, such a thing (*sic*) as baronets and knights being created by the royal prerogative was unknown. I have no doubt that our worthy Grand Vice-Chancellor knew when Bro. Bairnsfather was yet in petticoats that baronets were first created in 1611; but, as to the other statement that knights were not then created by royal prerogative, I am afraid my youthful brother is slightly at sea. Everyone knows that, in those days, knighthood was conferred by all great generals, but I was not aware that the king himself was impotent to create and dub a knight. Perhaps Bro. Bairnsfather meant to say that, in the 13th and 14th centuries, knighthood was not given by virtue of the royal prerogative alone; but, then, why did he not say it? The fact is, however, that we are called Sir Knights now because it would be illegal to take any other title, since, in this country, the sovereign is recognised as the fountain of honour, and it would be trenching upon the royal prerogative to adopt the style and title of knight without her permission. Thus, all foreign Orders are disallowed, and, although I have known men who were Knights of the Tower and Sword, Knights of the Netherlands, or Knights of the Legion of Honour, I am not aware that they were called themselves Sir John Smith, or Brown, as the case might be, in consequence of their holding those titles. The Knights of the Order of the Temple and that of St. John of Jerusalem, being foreign Orders, are likewise debarred from using the prefix "Sir," although they have an undoubted right to do so; they, therefore, adopt the equally distinctive though not equally correct style of "Sir Knight."

In encampments the knights' shields are decorated with the helmet full-faced, but in public the esquire's helmet is all that is claimed and borne by Templars. I might, however, inform Bro. Bairnsfather that I have seen an old K.T. certificate in which the Frater was styled "Sir" so and so, and not "Sir Knight."

Yours fraternally,
A KNIGHT TEMPLAR.

FREEMASONRY CONSIDERED.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I am thankful to inform your readers that, as one of the very verdant brethren whom Bro. Haye has kindly corrected, I still survive. I am glad that Bro. Haye admits he is a young man, but I join issue with him when he says "in Masonry a man has no age."

Bro. Haye knows as well as I do that a man is not eligible until he has reached the years of discretion, a period of life which he seems not yet to have attained. If he really knew anything of the higher degrees, he would be aware that in Masonry men have distinct ages—"Rose Croix" will understand what I mean.

Bro. Haye asks me to afford your readers the satisfaction of knowing my name, my Masonic attainments, and my work in connection with the Craft. As I have no particular desire to advertise myself as the poet laureate of a lodge, or the author of "Vara Queer," let it suffice that I am pretty well known in the Craft, that I have written for the *Freemasons' Magazine* and other Masonic publications for some years, and that I have taken some of the higher degrees. I think I may add that I trust I am as much respected in my own neighbourhood as the P.M. of St. Stephen's. Further than this, I have not been blackballed for the Royal Order of Scotland, nor refused admission to the Rose Croix degree, nor did I get up a spurious 18° and 30°, and initiate brethren at £1 a head.

With reference to Bro. Haye's repeated statement that all the Knights Templar entered the Society of the Hospital on the abolition of their Order, I merely quote the following paragraph from "Secret Societies of the Middle Ages," a decidedly non-Masonic work: "On the suppression of the Order a great number were received into the Order of St. John, on the same footing as they had stood on in their own Order, a strong proof that the guilt of the Order of the Templars was not by any means regarded as proved. Gradually, as the members died off or merged into other Orders, the name of the Templars fell into oblivion, or was only recollected with pity for their unmerited fate." Probably, however, Bro. Haye considers himself a better authority on the subject than the author of "Secret Societies."

Bro. Haye requires me to give an instance of a Templar being in existence as such in England or elsewhere after the publication of Pope John's Bull in 1319. My answer is, that some were found at Storlitz, in Prussia, after that date.

Bro. Haye ridicules the higher degrees, and yet is careful to dub himself K.M. K. Cal. (whatever that may be), Knight Templar, Scotland, &c.; and if this be not vanity, at least it is inconsistent. Purton Cooper, Hyde Clarke, Donald Campbell, Murray Lyon, or Hyde Pullen are names which would give importance to any communication addressed to the readers of the *Freemasons' Magazine*, but I am afraid the name of Oneal Haye does not carry with it that weight which its owner desires—I cannot say deserves.

Yours fraternally,

P.S. I enclose my card. ✠ 18°.

FREEMASONRY CONSIDERED.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER.—I owe Bro. Haye an apology, I cannot prove that he is the self-constituted President General of the Masonic Literary Union.

The very generally received opinion amongst those who know him best is, I admit, no proof, as Bro. Haye's knowledge of the law will tell him, and I am glad to learn that it was greatly against his wishes that he took the office. Will Bro. Bairnsfather, the Secretary General of the M.L.U., kindly inform us how many months he has been a Mason.

Bro. Haye is hypercritical, and objects to the "Encyclopædia Metropolitana," for speaking of the *Provincial Grand Master* of Auvergne, and demurs to the titles of Grand Commander or Commander. My answer is, that much confusion existed at the

time of the suppression of the Order with regard to titles; that I am perfectly well aware that Grand Prior or Preceptor were those most in use, but I gather from my small reading on the subject, that Great Priors, Great Preceptors, or Provincial Masters, were synonymous terms. Under the Provincial Masters were Priors, Bailiffs, or Masters, and under these Preceptors.

De Molay, in urging his objections to the union of the Templars and Hospitallers, admitted that one good result would probably follow, inasmuch as many *Commanders* might be suppressed, and some saving affected thereby. Bro. Haye proves nothing except that the writer of the article in the "Ency. Metro." may have erroneously spoken of the Grand Prior of Auvergne, as Grand Master. Granted, for the sake of argument, that the story quoted cannot be substantiated, does Bro. Haye think that the modern Knight Templars claim no other descent from the Order which Clement illegally, and in secret council, abolished, than that through the Knights of St. John? Is he aware that the Encampment of Baldwin, which was established at Bristol by the Templars who returned with Richard I. from Palestine, still continues to hold its regular meetings, and is believed to have preserved the ancient costume and ceremonies of the Order? This encampment, with another at Bath, and a third at York, constituted the three original encampments of England. From these have emanated the existing encampments in the British Islands, and in the United States, so that the Order as it now exists in Britain and America, is a lineal descendant of the ancient Order.

So much for the absolute connection between the Knights Templars and Knights Hospitallers, and the absurdity of calling them two degrees. In France, likewise, the Order has descended to the present day, independent of the Knights of St. John. If Bro. Haye will condescend to read "Mills's History of Chivalry," he will there learn that Jaques de Molay, in the year 1314, in anticipation of his speedy martyrdom, appointed Johannes Marcus Lormemus to be his successor in his dignity. This appointment was made by a regular well authenticated charter bearing the signatures of the chiefs of the Order, and it is still preserved at Paris, together with the statutes, archives, banners, &c., of the soldiery of the Temple. There has been an unbroken succession of Grand Masters down to the present time, amongst whom are to be found some of the most illustrious names in France. Bertrand de Gueschin was Grand Master in 1357; Henry de Montmorency in 1574; Philip, Duke of Orleans, in 1705; Louis Henry Bourbon in 1737; Sir Sidney Smith in 1838.

Signor Rosetti, an authority of whom Bro. Haye appears to be ignorant, also strongly asserts that the Knights Templar were a branch of the Freemasons, without any reference to the Knights of Malta. Why Bro. Haye attacks the Templars I am at a loss to know, unless it is that he has failed to get admission to the 30°. He says he could teach me more of the Knight K.H. than I am ever likely to know. I am afraid his teaching will hardly be appreciated either by myself or any other candidate for the ineffable degrees.

My learned brother characteristically concludes his letter by saying that my productions, together with

those of "Rosa Crucis" and "✠ 18°," should never be printed, and I grant that it would be to his interest if they did not see the light.

Unfortunately for him, the courteous editor of the *Freemasons' Magazine* is quite willing to receive our communications, and, as he knows who we are, I presume his warrant of approval of our claims to be heard will satisfy our brethren, in spite of the severity of the strictures of the President-General of the Masonic Literary Union. Bro Haye may say,

"I am Sir Oracle,
When I speak let no dog bark ;"

but I may be permitted to remind him that egotistical bombast and self-assertion—the eternal *ego* visible in his writings, and the dogmatic teaching which he insists in forcing upon the readers of the *Magazine* only serve to bring into contempt both his writings and himself.

Yours fraternally,
KNIGHT TEMPLAR.

BRO. RUSSELL AND THE BOYS' SCHOOL.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—On the 14th of July, 1866, you inserted a letter of mine relative to the Boys' School, in which some severe strictures were made on Mr. Russell, the late head master. I have always held the opinion that no man should hesitate to acknowledge he is wiser to-day than he was yesterday; in this case I freely and unreservedly retract all expressions in that letter in any way disparaging to Mr. Russell, and trust he has suffered no loss or inconvenience therefrom.

Yours fraternally,
E. FARTHING.

OUR BELGIAN VISITORS.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Before your next impression appears our Belgian visitors will have landed on our shores, and no doubt will have received the welcome they so truly merit, as a return for the hospitality they accorded to Englishmen in Brussels. I sincerely hope that the Belgian Freemasons will not have it to say that their brethren of the Craft have been lukewarm in the midst of the enthusiasm of their fellow-countrymen, or that they have been at all wanting in their exertions to do them honour.

Yours fraternally,
L'UNION FAIT LA FORCE.

London, July 5th, 1867.

MASONIC RELICS.—At the recent Masonic celebration in Winchester, America, the apron worn by the orator, William H. Travers, Esq., formerly belonged to General George Washington, and was presented to him by General Lafayette, and has beautifully wrought on it in silver and gold the flags of France and the United States combined, and forms by their combinations the principal Masonic emblems. This apron was presented to Mount Nebo Lodge, of Shepherdstown, by one of the Washington family, in 1811, and has ever since been carefully preserved by the lodge. Mr. Darnell has a beautiful photograph of the apron. The trowel used in the exercises was presented and used by Governor Levi Winder in laying the corner-stone of the old Masonic Hall in Baltimore, in 1814, and afterwards was used in laying the corner-stone of the Washington Monument of Baltimore, and also of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. It is of solid gold, very heavy, with an ivory handle, and of great value.

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

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

MASONIC MEMS.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE FOR THE EASTERN DIVISION OF SOUTH WALES.—Bro. Theodore Mansell Talbot, the Prov. G.M., proposes to hold a Provincial Grand Lodge on Thursday, July 18th, at Brecon, in compliment to the Brecknock Lodge, No. 651, and there is no doubt, from the well-known popularity of that worthy brother, there will be a very numerous assemblage of the brethren of the province. The Provincial Grand Lodge will be held at the Assembly Rooms, in the Town Hall, at one o'clock precisely, and by permission Master Masons may be present, but cannot take part in the proceedings unless they are members of the Provincial Grand Lodge. Respecting the dinner at the Castle Hotel, information may be obtained of the W.M. and Secretary of the Brecknock Lodge, or of the manager of the hotel, and all the brethren intending to dine are requested to provide themselves with tickets before the 13th of July, to enable the stewards to make the requisite arrangements. We hear that first and second-class return tickets, available for either Thursday or Friday, will be issued by the Brecon and Merthyr, Hereford, Hay and Brecon, and Neath and Brecon Railways.

THE PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE FOR BERKS AND BUCKS.—In our brief notice of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Berks and Bucks, inserted in our last number, the appointment of the Grand Officers was omitted. They were as follow:—Bros. the Rev. R. N. Russell, P.M. 840, S.G.W.; T. Spagnoletti, J.G.W.; the Rev. G. S. Finden, 591 and 948, S.G. Chap.; the Rev. T. G. Mortimer, J.G. Chap.; B. T. Fountaine, G. Treas.; A. Whyley, G. Reg.; T. B. Dixon, P.M. 840 and 948, S.G.D.

METROPOLITAN.

NEPTUNE LODGE (No. 22).—An emergency meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday evening, June 27th, at Radley's Hotel, Bridge-street, Blackfriars. Bro. Joseph Ashwell, P.M. (in the unavoidable absence of Bro. W. Allingham), presided as W.M. The following officers were present:—Bros. Charles L. Marshall, S.W.; G. Salter, J.W.; J. M. Thredder, J.D.; Thos. White, I.G.; E. Hughes, Sec.; C. Harcourt, P.M. The only visitors were Bros. Dr. Goldsboro', P.M. 201, and P.S.G.W. for Shropshire and South Wales; and Bartlett, I.G. 1,158. The lodge having been opened in the first and second degrees, Bros. Roberts, Snell, and Eames were questioned as to their proficiency in the science, and their answers being satisfactory, they withdrew. The lodge was then opened in the third degree, and they were impressively raised by Bro. Ashwell to the sublime degree of M.M. The lodge was then resumed to the second degree, and Bros. Smart and Nowrojee Dossabhoj, were passed to the degree of F.C., both ceremonies being well worked by the acting W.M. After this the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned for refreshment. The usual formal toasts having been given, Bro. Harcourt, P.M., proposed "The Health of Bro. Ashwell, the acting W.M.," and said, in the first place in regard to the absence of their W.M., Bro. Allingham, they knew that it was caused by his professional engagements, as well as that of their immediate P.M., Bro. Norman. He was glad, therefore, to find that they had amongst them one who, although he had lain dormant for more than four years, could certainly come forward and go through the business in the highly efficient manner in which they had seen him go through it that evening. The toast was cordially received. Bro. Ashwell, in reply, said he thanked the brethren for the very cordial manner in which they had drunk his health, and he remarked that the P.M.'s of the Neptune Lodge might be com-

pared to an old set of books, for after they had passed the chair they were generally put upon the shelf, but they could always be taken down and referred to whenever the occasion required. He thanked them for the honour they had shown him in consulting him upon this period. The W.M. proposed "The Visitors," for which Bro. Dr. Goldsboro' replied. He had visited the lodge on so many occasions that he almost thought that he was a member of it, and although he knew that was a lodge of emergency held in the summer, that many of the brethren were visiting the French Exhibition, and many others out of town, yet he came actuated but by one motive and that was to make himself useful. He was very glad to find that he had no opportunity of doing so, and he also passed the highest compliments upon the lodge for the efficiency of its working. "The Health of the Officers" was proposed by Bro. Ashwell, who said he was delighted to find that he was that day supported by the whole of them. It augured well for the future prosperity of the lodge when they found all the officers so earnest in the performance of their duties, even on the occasion of a lodge of emergency. Bro. Marshall, S.W., thanked the brethren for the kind way in which they had drunk the health of the officers, and trusted that they should always be able to do their duty. The only reward they coveted was the approbation of the lodge, and that they had so generously awarded to them, though they hardly deserved the high terms of praise which had been lavished upon them by the W.M. He felt quite sure that so long as they received such approbation, the lodge would continue to prosper. The supper was enlivened by songs by Bros. Hughes, the Secretary, Bartlett, and Marshall, and the whole of the proceedings were conducted with the utmost cordiality.

SOUTHERN STAR LODGE (No. 1158).—An emergency meeting of this new lodge was held on Tuesday, June 25th, at the Montpellier Tavern, Walworth. Bro. Henry Thompson, W.M., presided; Bros. H. J. Pulsford, S.W.; Margerison, J.W.; Clarke, S.D.; Bayfield, J.D.; Bartlett, I.G.; Smith, Treas.; and Charles E. Thompson, sec. There were several visitors, amongst whom were Bros. D. Ross Farmer, P.G. Purst; Marshall, S.W. (No. 22); and R. R. Gardner, P.M. Pamure Lodge. The lodge having been opened with solemn prayer, the minutes of the last lodge were read and confirmed. A ballot for several new members then took place, and also for Bro. Henry Potter, of No. 11, 177, and several other lodges, as a joining member. Bro. Allatt was a candidate for being passed in the second degree, and, having satisfactorily answered the usual questions, withdrew. The lodge was then opened in the second degree, and Bro. Allatt was then passed to the second degree. The lodge was lowered to the first degree, when Mr. Edward Wells Russell, who was a candidate for Freemasonry, was introduced and impressively initiated into the secrets of the Order by the W.M. Two gentlemen were then proposed for initiation at the next lodge. Some other business was disposed of, and the lodge was closed in due form and with solemn prayer. The brethren then retired for a slight refreshment, when several toasts were given, amongst them "The Health of Bro. Russell, their newly-initiated brother." The W.M. congratulated him upon his admission into the ranks of Freemasons, believing that he had taken a wise step, and one that he would always look back to with pleasure for the rest of his life, as it was an Order that it was a privilege and a source of pride to belong to. He had paid particular attention to the ceremony he had passed through, and from what he had seen he believed that Bro. Russell would become a worthy member of the lodge. Bro. Russell returned thanks for the honour conferred upon him by being admitted as a member of the lodge, and said he would, to the utmost of his ability, endeavour to carry out the principles of Freemasonry. Bro. Henry Potter proposed "The Health of the W.M., Bro. Thompson," and said under his guidance the lodge would be sure to prosper. The W.M. returned thanks for the flattering terms in which his esteemed Bro. Potter had spoken of him, far beyond what he deserved; but he could assure the brethren that to be selected as the first Master to preside over that new lodge was an honour he was very proud of, and at the same time he was desirous of acknowledging the very able support he had received from Bros. Pulsford, Margerison, and other brethren in overcoming any difficulties which presented themselves in the establishment of that new lodge. They had stood by him at all times, and he should, indeed, be ungrateful if he did not then express his obligations to them. He trusted that they had laid a sound foundation, and that they would be able to erect a superstructure perfect in its parts and

honourable to the builders. He thanked all the brethren for the kindness with which they had drunk his health, and he could assure them that at all times he would do his best to promote the prosperity of the Southern Star Lodge. "The Health of Bros. Pulsford, Margerison, Clarke, Bayfield, Bartlett, and Charles E. Thompson" were also drunk and responded to. "The Health of Bro. Smith," their worthy treasurer, was proposed, the W.M. stating that at all times, whether by purse or person, he was always ready to do everything to promote the welfare of the lodge. Bro. Smith briefly returned thanks. Some other toasts were given, and a very happy meeting was brought to a close. The ceremonies of the lodge were accompanied by Bro. Weaver, of the Whittington Lodge.

PROVINCIAL.

CUMBERLAND AND WESTMORLAND.

CARLISLE.—*Union Lodge (No. 310).*—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday, the 25th ult., at the Freemasons' Hall, when there were present Bros. G. G. Hayward, W.M., P. Prov. G. Steward; A. Woodhouse, S.W. 412, acting S.W.; Thos. Blacklock, J.W.; T. Cockbain, S.D.; G. Somerville, J.D.; G. Murchison, Sec.; W. Court, Treas.; Joseph Iredale, P.M., P. Prov. D.G.M.; F. W. Hayward, P.M., P. Prov. S.G.W.; M. Josephs, P.M.; Geo. Turnbull, W. Irwin, W. Johnston, J. Parkyn, G. Armstrong, Robt. Metcalf, J. Atkinson, J. Gibson, I.G.; and John Barnes, Tyler. Visitors: Bros. Jesse Baining, 343; W. J. Baining, 667; and John Mouro, 292 S.C. The lodge was opened in the usual manner, and the minutes read and confirmed, after which the ballot was taken for Mr. G. Vaughan, of Sheffield. It being in his favour, and he being present, was prepared, admitted, and duly installed (at the request of the W.M.) by Bro. F. W. Hayward, P.M., P. Prov. S.G.W., in a very impressive manner. The usual routine of business was then gone through, after which the lodge was closed according to ancient custom. Several brethren adjourned to the refreshment room, at which the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to. Bro. Vaughan returned thanks to the toast that was drunk to his health. Bro. John Pritchard, No. 24, Newcastle, who had visited the lodge, returned thanks for the honour conferred upon him in drinking his health, and also for the liberal patronage he had received from the brethren during the time he had the management of the Bijou Theatre in this town, and, at the conclusion of his speech, he recited the "Seven Ages of Man," which was received with loud applause. The test questions were put round a few times for the benefit of the candidate. The Tyler's toast brought this happy meeting to a close, all the brethren well pleased with their entertainment.

KENDAL.—*Union Lodge (No. 129).*—The regular monthly meeting of this ancient lodge was held on Thursday, the 27th ult., at the Masonic Hall, Kent-street. The W.M., Bro. W. Wilson, was assisted by Bros. W. Cartmel, S.W.; Lieut. Gawith, J.W.; Doubleday, Sec.; Dr. Leeming, S.D.; John Holme, J.D.; J. Ottley Atkinson, I.G.; Edward Busher, P.M., &c., Grand Sword Bearer of England; John Bowes, P.M., Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; R. James, Jas. W. Scott, Thos. Busher, Titus Wilson, John Talbot, J. K. Thompson, M. M. Harrison, H. Hawthell, and Cleary, Tyler. Visitors: Bros. W. T. Greaves, R.W.D. Prov. G.M., and Samuel Whitwell, No. 509. The lodge was opened in solemn form, when Bro. E. Busher, Dir. of Cers., announced the arrival of the D. Prov. G.M., who was received with full honours. The minutes were then read and confirmed. The ballot was then taken for Mr. Talbot, a candidate, which proving favourable, and he being present, was introduced, and solemnly initiated by the W.M. The charge and working tools being delivered and explained respectively by the S.W. and J.W., the lodge was opened in the second degree, when Bro. Harrison applied for preferment, and, having proved his claim, he was entrusted, and retired. The lodge was opened in the third degree, when the candidate was announced, re-admitted, and raised to the sublime degree of a M.M. by Bro. John Bowes, P.M., &c., the working tools being delivered and explained by Bro. Holme, J.D. The degree was given in its fulness, and thoroughly appreciated by all present. The feelings of the brethren were evinced by a desire to record a vote of thanks to Bro. Bowes on the minutes; this, however, he declined to accept, as he was a subscribing

member of the lodge, and had but simply done his duty. He, however, fully appreciated their kindness, and, in return, tendered them his warmest thanks. The lodge was then closed down to the first degree, when the D. Prov. G.M. reminded the brethren that their provincial candidate, Bro. Storey, of Carlisle, was successful at the last election of annuitants for the Royal Benevolent Institution. There being no further business, the lodge was closed with the usual solemnities, and the brethren separated in perfect harmony. We are glad to learn that the Prov. G.M. designate of this province, Bro. Lord Kenlis, intends to discharge the duties of his high office in person. He will be installed at the next meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge, which he hopes to summon next month.

DEVONSHIRE.

STONEHOUSE.—*Lodge Sincerity* (No. 189).—A regular meeting of this lodge was held on Monday, the 24th ult., for the transaction of ordinary business, and the installation of the Worshipful Master for the ensuing year. Bro. W. H. Maddock, P.G.S., the present W.M., presided, who, after the ordinary business of the lodge had been transacted, called on Bro. R. R. Rodd, P.M., 189, P. Prov. S.G.D., to perform the impressive ceremony of installation of the W.M. elect, Bro. John Sadler, who then invested his officers as follows:—Bros. W. H. Maddock, P.M.; J. S. Bayly, S.W.; F. P. Balkwill, J.W.; Dr. Dowse, P.M., Treas.; R. H. Rae, P.M., Sec.; Rev. Measham, Chaplain; Capt. Shanks, S.D.; Forster, J.D.; J. Saw, I.G.; J. Willoughby and S. B. Rawlings, Stewards. A large number of the brethren of the lodge, as well as visitors from other lodges, were present. The meeting broke up in peace and harmony at 9.15 p.m.

TORRES.—*Pleiades Lodge* (No 710).—On Wednesday evening, June 26, in accordance with a resolution passed at a meeting of the brethren of this lodge, "That the W.M., Bro. T. E. Owen, mayor of the borough, be invited to a complimentary banquet," the dinner was held at the Plymouth Inn, which is kept by Bro. Richard H. Watson. There was a good attendance of the brethren, and there were also present Freemasons from Dartmouth, Torquay, Brixham, Plymouth, and other more distant places.

Bros. Rev. J. Powning, S.P.M. of Pleiades Lodge, P. Prov. G. Chap., Chairman; T. C. Kellock, Pleiades Lodge, Vice-chairman.

The dinner was a most excellent one in every respect, and comprised an abundance of everything choice in season. The wines were also of the best. The Rev. the W.M. was supported on his right by the guest of the evening, and on his left by the Mayor of Dartmouth, the sister boroughs thus showing their friendly accord in this fraternal gathering.

Grace was said before and after dinner by the Rev. Bro. Bowden, and after the withdrawal of the cloth the Chairman proposed "The Queen and the Craft," which was drunk with the loyalty and enthusiasm which is customary in all meetings of the Free and Accepted. The next toast was "Our Brother, the Prince of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family," which was greeted with Masonic cheers. The next toast was "The Earl of Zetland, the Grand Master of England, the Grand Officers of England, and the Provincial Grand Officers of Devon." To this toast Bro. John Heath, who had filled an office in the Grand Lodge to which he was appointed by the late Earl Fortescue, expressed the high honour that he felt in being called to acknowledge so distinguished a toast. He expressed great interest in the Fortescue Memorial Annuity Fund, and hoped that it would ever be well sustained, for the benefit of worthy and decayed Masons, and be held in honoured remembrance on account of its most worthy founder. Then followed the toast of "The Army, Navy, and Volunteers."

Bro. Major Irving responded, in a brief and appropriate speech, on behalf of the Army.

Bro. Owen, of the Royal Marines, brother to the Mayor, on behalf of the Navy, responded in an excellent speech. He adverted to the great changes which he had seen in the progress of naval construction during the twelve years that he had been in the service. They were coming to a great era. There was to be a great review at Spithead, such as had not been seen since the years 1855 and 1853. He saw the reviews which took place in those years, and the changes in the character of their ships in those two years were very great; great as they were, they would be as nothing to what had taken place since. There were at that time no Warriors, no cupolas, no ironclads; nothing but the good old wooden walls. He remarked upon the success with which the wooden ships had been used in the late

Italian war, and concluded by an amusing personal reference to the prowess of our seamen.

Bro. Capt. Lidstone, of Dartmouth, replied on behalf of the Volunteers.

The Chairman said the next toast they had to drink was in honour of their friend and neighbour, Bro. Owen, who had the two distinguished honours of being worshipful mayor of the borough and Worshipful Master of Pleiades Lodge. He had been with them residing in the town for eight years, and during all that time he had known him, and his excellence had been acknowledged both by the town and the lodge. In the lodge he was proposed W.M. when he had not been a member a long time, and he had proved a benefactor to the lodge. He had presented them with a painting of the highest possible excellence, and of much value. No painting of equivalent value had ever been presented to any lodge in the province of Devon. As the chief magistrate of the borough he was sure that he would carry out the duties of his office with the strictest impartiality, and he would mete out, to the fullest extent, justice, mercy, and truth. They had been fortunate in having in the chair as chief magistrates men of the strictest integrity and soundest judgment. Amongst them he classed his excellent friend the ex-mayor of Totnes, who then occupied the vice-chair (Bro. T. Kellock). A more excellent mayor had never sat on the bench, and Bro. Owen was following in his footsteps. He now proposed "The Mayor and ex-Mayor of Totnes."

Bro. Owen immediately rose, and after the subsidence of the applause with which he was greeted, said that he regarded that assembly as a compliment to him of the highest degree. He thanked them for meeting and doing him honour on the occasion. It had often been to him a matter of regret that two offices of so much importance as those that he held should be held together in the same year. But he was a man of activity, and would endeavour to do justice to the duties of both offices. He thanked the chairman for the manner in which he had proposed the toast. He had known him for a course of years, and he valued his friendship in the highest degree. When he (Bro. Owen) entered the town, eight years ago, it never occurred to him that he would be W.M. of Pleiades Lodge and mayor of the borough at the same time. Having remarked upon the principles of the Craft, which were based upon the volume of the Sacred Law, he expressed a hope that in his life he should be guided by every proper, right, and social virtue.

Bro. Kellock also responded. He remarked that he had been stolen a march upon, both by the toast and by being placed in the chair. It was, however, a great honour to a man to have occupied the chief magistracy, now so ably filled by Bro. Owen. There were a great many circumstances in connection with the borough that rendered the duties of the office so onerous, but the duties of the office being over he should now be contented to be left in peace. He congratulated the present mayor in having attained to so many honours in the course of eight years.

Bro. Owen then rose to propose the health of two gentlemen who occupied a high position in the neighbouring borough of Dartmouth, and whom he was proud to see at that social board. He referred to Bro. Mortimore, the present mayor, and to Bro. Newman, the ex-mayor of that borough. Bro. Mortimore was held in the highest respect by the people of Dartmouth, for he united in himself every good and social virtue. Bro. Newman was a gentleman of very high capacity. He was a brother "chip" of his own, and possessed a warm and honest heart.

Bro. Mortimore, in returning thanks for the honour conferred on him, said he had been initiated, raised, and passed in Pleiades Lodge. He regretted that it was impossible for the brethren of Dartmouth Lodge to visit them at Totness as often as he desired, on account of not being able to return after the business of the evening was over.

Bro. Newman also responded, and spoke in warm terms of the fraternal spirit that existed between the two towns. Like their present honoured guest, he himself, when Mayor of Dartmouth, had the honour also of being the W.M. of this lodge, and whilst he was mayor he had been invited to come to the Seymour Hotel, to occupy a similar position to that now held by Bro. Kellock. He was glad to see the good feeling that existed between the two towns. The reception he had met with that night was most cordial and kind. In the course of the year a mid-day meeting would take place at their lodge at Dartmouth, and he should be happy to see as many as possible who were there that night attend it.

During the evening a very beautiful flower stand, based upon

a palm tree, in frosted silver, was introduced, and placed upon the table. It was the gift of the Corporation of Totnes to Bro. Owen, consequent upon his having a son born to him during his year of office. At the base of the tree was a silver cradle, symbolical of that happy event. It was remarked that the happy spouse of Bro. Newman had conferred upon him a similar favour during his year of mayoralty, but the Corporation of Dartmouth, through some financial difficulty, had not been able to bestow upon him a similar honour.

Bro. Kellock proposed, as the next toast, "The Visiting Brethren," which was responded to by Bros. Bowden, Latimer, MacKay, MacCullough, and others. Bro. MacKay, in the course of his speech, spoke of knowing Mr. Dent, who was some time since a candidate for the representation of the borough of Totnes, and he should probably again see him in China. Bro. Dent had been an excellent friend of his, and he expressed his regret that he had fallen into difficulties, which he believed had arisen from the malversations of a clerk. He hoped that these difficulties would be surmounted, and that Bro. Dent would be able to resume his old position.

Bro. Owen next proposed "The Health of the Chairman," on whom he passed a warm eulogy. He said that he was one of his oldest personal friends in the borough, he had respected him in all the private relations of life, that his younger brother had been educated under him, and was now passing with great credit into the rank of a physician in the University of London. His brother owed all his instruction to the great care of the Chairman, whose educational attainments were of a very high order. The toast was drunk with much enthusiasm.

Bro. Powning, in returning thanks, spoke of the pleasure which it gave him to preside on an occasion of so much interest to them all. He attributed that pleasure to his connection with Freemasonry, and adverted to the fact that the late Earl Fortescue had invited him to become Chaplain, after which he had been called upon to preach at Dartmouth Church a sermon in behalf of the Fortescue Memorial Annuity Fund. He had had the additional honour of being asked to allow that sermon to be printed and circulated, not at his own expense, but at the expense of the Grand Lodge of the Province. The result of such circumstances was very gratifying to himself, as it had been most useful in promoting the interest of a worthy and benevolent institution.

Several other toasts were proposed and carried with the usual Masonic warmth, and the brethren separated, after having spent a most agreeable evening.

DEVONPORT, MORICE TOWN.—*St. Aubyn Lodge* (No. 934).—A meeting of the brethren of this lodge was held on the 24th ult. to instal the W.M. elect, Bro. P. B. Clemens. The W.M. invested the following brethren as his officers:—Bros. Bird, I.P.M.; Gudridge, S.W.; Hawton, J.W.; G. Chapple, P. Prov. G. Assist. Dir. of Cers., Treas.; H. F. Smith and G. Green, Secs.; T. Heath, S.D.; M. Paul, J.D.; Flanagan, Dir. of Cers.; Ivey and Foxwell, Orgs.; E. Butchers, I.G.; M. Rickard, Colwill, Williams, and Huxtable, Stewards; J. Rathbrook, Tyler. The brethren afterwards adjourned to the Odd Fellows' Hall, Kerstreet, to partake of the annual banquet, which was amply provided for by Bro. Hawton, of the Crown Hotel. The W.M. presided, and was ably supported by his officers. After dinner several interesting Masonic speeches were delivered. Among the visitors were Bros. Past Masters Metham, G.J.D. for England, Radford, W. Joll, E. Murch, Price, and Cole.

ESSEX.

COLCHESTER.—*Angel Lodge* (No. 51).—The annual festival of St. John the Baptist was celebrated by the brethren of this lodge on Thursday, the 27th ult., at the Three Cups Hotel. This being the occasion on which the officers for the ensuing year are elected, the lodge met at 3 p.m., and was opened in due form by Bro. Horace Darken, W.M. The ceremony for installing the W.M. elect, Bro. C. O. G. Becker, M.D., was very ably performed by Bro. James Franks, P.M. Perfect Friendship Lodge (No. 376), Ipswich. Bro. Becker, W.M., then appointed the following brethren as his officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. Alfred Cobb, S.W.; Thomas R. Quilter, J.W.; Henry Samuel, S.D.; W. P. Lewis, J.D.; P. C. Hast, I.G.; and John Witten, Tyler. The lodge also re-elected Bros. Wm. Slaney, P.M., and G. K. R. Bowler to the respective offices of Treasurer and Secretary. The banquet, served in excellent style by Bro. J. W. Salter, followed. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured; and the balcony of the lodge room was graced by the presence of several of the fair

sex, relatives of the brethren present, who appeared to be highly interested in the proceedings. Among the visitors present were Bros. J. H. Sutherland, P.M., and Captain D'Acosta, United Lodge (No. 696); Stephen B. King, P.M. Perfect Friendship Lodge (No. 376); George Riches, W.M., and John E. Wiseman, S.W. Lodge of Hope (No. 433); John Bowler, P.M. Virtue and Silence Lodge; and T. W. Gibson, Cawnpore Lodge (No. 644).

GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

DURSLEY.—*St. John's Lodge* (No. 761).—The installation of the W.M. of this lodge for the ensuing year took place, according to custom, on St. John's Day, the 29th ult., at the Old Bell Hotel, Bro. Osborne Dauncey, P.M. 855, having been selected by the brethren to fill the chair. The ceremony was performed in an imposing manner by no less a personage than the Grand Chaplain of England, Bro. the Rev. C. R. Davy. The following brethren were appointed to the various offices of the lodge for the ensuing year:—Bros. J. Wadley, S.W.; G. Holbrow, J.W.; W. P. Pant, Treas. and Sec.; T. Teward Vizard, S.D.; F. Chorley, J.D.; and G. Wenden, I.G. It is needless to say the banquet was served in Bro. Ayliffe's usual style, and a numerous company assembled to do honour to the W.M. The Eastnor Lodge, Ledbury, was represented by Bro. J. H. Frowde; the Lebanon Lodge, Gloucester, by Bros. Jeffs, Brown, and Hogg; the Bath Lodge, by the Installing Master and Bro. Lord; the neighbouring lodges of Wotton-under-Edge and Berkeley, by Bros. the Rev. C. Clutterbuck, White, Stanton, Millman, Dutton, Gregory, and Gonnell. A most convivial and comfortable evening was spent.

LANCASHIRE (WEST).

LYTHAM.—*Lodge of Triumph* (No. 1,061).—An emergency meeting of this lodge was held on Saturday, the 29th ult., for the purpose of installing the W.M. for the ensuing year. The lodge was opened punctually at three o'clock by Bro. S. Bamber, W.M., assisted by Bros. R. Stevenson, S.W.; T. Cookson, J.W.; G. Burdekin, Treas.; Dr. Houghton, S.D.; W. Lewtas, J.D.; R. Maries, Org.; Rev. R. B. Robinson, Chap.; S. Wartenberg, Dr. Parker, R. S. Moore, T. Slagg, J. B. Unsworth, J. Topham, L. Fisher, Thos. Fair; R. Cookson, Tyler. Visitors:—C. J. Banister, Past Grand Sword Bearer of England; H. B. White, P.M. 148, Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; Captain S. White, P.M. 203, 680, and 786, Prov. G. Steward; R. Lobinson, P.M. 343; and J. Boves, P.M. 148, Prov. G. Dir. of Cers. Cumberland and Westmoreland. The lodge being duly opened in the first degree, the W.M. read the dispensation granted by the M.W. G. Master, authorising the installation of Bro. R. Stevenson, he being also W.M. of the Lodge of Lights (No. 148). The lodge was opened in the second degree, when the chair was assumed by Bro. Captain S. White, P.M., &c., who had been requested to act as Installing Master. Bro. S. Bamber, assisted by Bro. H. B. White, presented the W.M. elect, Bro. R. Stevenson, for the benefit of installation, to whom the summary of the ancient charge, &c., was read by Bro. Bamber. The lodge was opened in the third degree, and all brethren who were not installed Masters having retired, a Board of Installed Masters was duly opened, and the W.M. solemnly placed in the chair of K.S., according to ancient custom. The W.M. having been proclaimed and saluted, the Board was duly closed. The M.M.'s, F.C.'s, and E.A.'s were then admitted, and the W.M. successively proclaimed and saluted. The W.M. then appointed and invested the following brethren as officers for the ensuing year, viz.:—Bros. S. Bamber, I.P.M.; G. Burdekin, S.W.; E. Houghton, J.W.; Rev. R. B. Robinson, Chap.; S. Wartenberg, Treas.; W. Mycock, Hon. Sec.; Dr. L. Fisher, S.D.; J. Topham, J.D.; J. B. Unsworth and T. Slagg, Stewards; R. S. Moore, I.G.; and R. Cookson, Tyler. Bro. Captain S. White delivered the whole of the charges to the several officers in a correct and impressive manner. The lodge was now duly closed by the newly-installed W.M., and the brethren separated for an hour to meet again at the banquet. This was served in the lodge room in a most satisfactory manner, and thereby reflected the greatest credit on the caterer. The chair was occupied by Bro. R. Stevenson, W.M., who was supported by his officers and the brethren already named. The cloth having been withdrawn, and orders given and executed, the following toasts were drunk:—The W.M., Bro. Stevenson, said that he should set the example of brevity, as some of their number had to leave that evening. He begged to propose that toast which was the first at every feast, "The Queen, the Daughter and Niece of Masons." The toast was

drunk with right loyal enthusiasm. The National Anthem (Masonic version) followed. The W. Master said the next toast needed no words of commendation from him. He begged to propose "The Health of the Prince and Princess of Wales and the rest of the Royal Family." The W. Master said the next toast would be accorded a warm reception. Their Masonic head was a nobleman who merited the gratitude of every Mason. For a quarter of a century he had been the supreme ruler of the Craft, and he seemed "never weary in well doing." His deputy and the other officers of the Grand Lodge were one and all the right men in the right place. He begged to propose "The Most Worshipful the Grand Master, the Right Worshipful the Deputy Grand Master, and the Grand Lodge of England," and coupled with the toast the name of Bro. C. J. Banister, Past Grand Sword Bearer of England." The toast was drunk with full Masonic honours. Bro. Banister responded in appropriate terms, assuring the brethren that they had simply done the Grand Master and his officers justice, for they merited every kind expression that could be given them. The W. Master next proposed, "The Rulers supreme and subordinate of the Province of West Lancashire," which was drunk with full Masonic honours. Bro. H. B. White, Prov. G. Dir. of Cers., responded, and expressed his deep sense of the kindness of all present. Bro. S. Bamber, I.P.M., asked permission to propose the next toast, one which would be received with the utmost enthusiasm. He begged to propose "The Health of the W.M., Bro. Robert Stevenson." He believed the lodge would prosper under his government, and he could only say that nothing would give him greater pleasure than to see No. 1,061 rank amongst the best worked in the province. The W.M. was well known as an enthusiastic and energetic Mason, and he therefore had peculiar pleasure in proposing his very good health. Drunk with full honours, and great enthusiasm. The W. Master said he felt proud of the position they had placed him in, and it would be his constant aim to prove to all that their confidence was not misplaced. He should strive to render his best offices, and thereby emulate other brethren. He begged most gratefully to thank them for the compliment they had paid him. Before he sat down he would propose the next toast on the list. They were greatly indebted to the I.P.M., Bro. Bamber—he had launched the vessel, and seen it fairly afloat. For two years he had ruled in the East, and the brethren had greatly profited by his governance. He begged to propose "The Past Master and Officers of No. 1,061." Bro. Bamber responded, and took the opportunity of reviewing the history of the lodge. The W.M. said they were favoured that day with the presence of some visitors. He knew they had come to do honour to the lodge through him. He begged to propose "The Health of the Visitors," coupling with the toast the name of Bro. Captain White, who had so ably performed the ceremonies of the day. Drunk with full Masonic honours. Bro. Capt. White thanked the brethren for the flattering reception they had given his name. Personally he was much pleased with his visit to Lytham, and he was sure he might say as much for the other visiting brethren. Bro. Bowes, P.M., &c., at the request of the W.M., proposed the last toast on the list. He said they all professed to admire that most excellent gift, Charity. Let them not forget that while they sat round the festive board there were some not so favoured. He begged to commend to their thoughtful notice the toast, "All poor and distressed Masons, and speedy relief to them." It being now train time, the brethren took a hasty farewell of the visitors, and thus ended one of the most pleasant meetings it has been our lot to attend.

SOMERSETSHIRE.

WELLS.—The Presentation of a *Rerodos* to St. Cuthbert's Church by the Freemasons was celebrated with considerable élat in this city on the 1st instant. The muster of brethren from the provinces of Somerset and Bristol was very extensive, and, from the preparations made under the direction of the able Secretary, Bro. T. Serel, there was no doubt that those who attended were rewarded by the enjoyment of a very agreeable day. The following was the programme issued for the occasion:—The members of the Benevolent Lodge (446), Wells, met in lodge, at the Town-hall, at 11 a.m., and were joined by visiting brethren. The R.W. the Prov. G.M., Alex. W. Adair, Esq., was received according to ancient form at 12 o'clock. A grand Masonic procession was then formed in the following order:—Two Tylers, band of music, two Prov. G. Stewards, the Members of Lodges in the Province and other Visiting Brethren (two and two), the Prov. G. Officers (in proper order), the D. Prov. G.M.

(Captain Henry Bridges), Mace Bearer—Prov. G.S.B.—Mace Bearer, the Prov. G.M., the R.W. the Mayor of Wells, Magistrates and Council of Wells, inhabitants of Wells and others who wished to join the procession. The procession left the Town-hall at 12.30, and proceeded to the church. On reaching the church gate, the whole halted and faced inwards, the Prov. G. Tyler, followed by the banner, passed down the centre, preceding the R.W. the Prov. G.M. and the Mayor of Wells, followed by the Magistrates, Town Council, the Prov. G. Officers, and Brethren in regular succession, so as to invert the whole order of procession, and thus they entered the church, and were received by the vicar and clergy. A full choral service, conducted by Bro. Lavington, the Cathedral organist, and P. Prov. G. Org., was celebrated, in which members of the Cathedral choir kindly assisted. A sermon was preached by Bro. the Rev. W. W. Martin, the Prov. G. Chap. After the service, the procession re-formed, as nearly as possible in the same order, and returned to the Town-hall, where there was a cold collation, to which the public (ladies included) were invited. The Cathedral was, by order of the Dean and Chapter, opened in the afternoon, and (after the collation) Bro. Lavington gave a selection from some of the best musical compositions on the Cathedral organ. The beautiful gardens and grounds of the Bishop's palace were also accessible by ticket, which were obtained before leaving the table at the collation. The Very Rev. the Dean and Mrs. Johnson kindly invited the company to visit the Deanery and gardens, and then to partake of tea and coffee. A very pleasant day was spent.

SCOTLAND.

DUMFRIESSHIRE.

INSTALLATION OF BRO. LAUDERDALE MAITLAND, OF ECCLES, AS PROV. G.M. FOR DUMFRIESSHIRE.

Bro. Lauderdale Maitland, of Eccles, who had been elected Prov. G.M. for Dumfriesshire, as successor to the late lamented Prov. G.M. Bro. Stewart, of Nateby Hall, was installed at Dumfries on the 20th ult., the proceedings being marked with considerable élat from the large attendance of Grand Lodge Officers, the numerous deputations from provincial lodges, and the general imposing character of the ceremonial, and the festival which followed it.

A Grand Lodge was held at the Town-hall at three o'clock, presided over by Bro. H. Inglis, of Torsonce, Prov. G.M. of Selkirk and Peebleshire, acting G.M.M. of Scotland, in lieu of Bro. Whyte Melville. The other office-bearers of the Grand Lodge who were present and took part in the ceremony were—Bros. Mackersey, S.W.; Skirving, J.W.; Bryce, G.A.; A. Hay, G.J.; Ballantyne, Grand Bard; W. M. Bryce, Grand Tyler. The different lodges in the province were well represented, there being deputations present from Nos. 362, 360, 291, 258, 252, 234, 140, 63, 62, and 44 (St. Luke's, Edinburgh).

The Grand Lodge having been opened in ample form, after prayer by the Rev. Chaplain Bro. Macleod, Dumfries, the ceremony of installing the Prov. G.M. and the other office-bearers, was proceeded with. A commission from the Grand Lodge of Scotland appointing Bro. L. Maitland to be Prov. G.M. having been read, the R.W. Bro. then gave commissions as follows:—Bros. J. L. Scott, D. Prov. G.M.; Pike, Substitute Prov. G.M.; H. Gordon, Prov. S.G.W.; Sloan, Prov. J.G.W.; R. Martin, Prov. G. Sec.; and the Rev. D. Macleod, to be Prov. G. Chap. These brethren having been duly installed into their respective offices, took the oaths, and were invested by the Acting G.M.M. with the jewels of their office, and the brethren who had been elected to offices in the Provincial Grand Lodge having been invested, the installation ceremony being concluded, the Grand Lodge was closed. The brethren then formed in order of procession, headed by the Dumfries Volunteer Band, and in the inverse order of the several lodges, the Grand Lodge of Scotland and Provincial Grand Lodge of Dumfriesshire, followed by the band of the Maxwelltown R.V., bringing up the rear. In this order they marched from the Town Hall to the King's Arms Hotel. The procession had a very brilliant effect, the day being fine, and was witnessed by large crowds of the inhabitants. Although there were no banners, the insignia and jewels carried and worn by the office-bearers of the different lodges, and the beautiful clothing of the brethren, gave a very imposing appearance to the pageant. Arrived at the entrance to the King's Arms, the procession halted and formed double line, the Grand

Lodge and its office-bearers marching through, and the different lodges entering in proper order.

The dinner was held in the Assembly Hall of the hotel, which was quite filled by the guests. The chair was occupied by Bro. Maitland, the newly-installed Prov. G.M., supported on the right by Bro. Inglis, acting G.M.M.; A. Hay, and Skirving; and on the left by Bro. J. L. Scott, Pike, Inglis, D.G.M.M. of Scotland; the Rev. D. M'Leod, Prov. G. Chap., &c. Bros. H. Gordon and Sloan officiated as croupiers.

After partaking of an excellent dinner, to which ample justice was done, a short interval occurred. On the re-assembling of the company, the Provincial Grand Lodge of Dumfriesshire was opened, and the brethren were duly called from labour to refreshment.

The usual Masonic and loyal toasts were then given from the chair, including "The Holy Lodge of St. John," "The Queen and the Craft," "Prince Steward of Scotland and the other members of the Royal Family," all of which were received with Masonic honours.

"The Army, Navy, and Volunteers" was next given, and replied to by Bro. Rennie on behalf of the Volunteers.

The Chairman gave "The Three Grand Lodges of England, Ireland, and Scotland, and their respective Grand Masters," which was warmly received.

Bro. Inglis then rose, and said: Worshipful Wardens and Brethren, it is little more than a year since I had the great pleasure of attending here on a very interesting occasion, the laying of the foundation stone of your beautiful new church, the church of Greyfriars, and, I must say, coming again on an occasion not much less interesting at least in itself, I feel a special pleasure in being permitted to address you as representing the Grand Lodge of Scotland a second time. Now, brethren, the toast I have to propose is not one which gives me unmixed pleasure in proposing it, because this subject, like all other subjects—all other topics which belong to our frail humanity—is beset with that mixture of cloud which afflicts even our greatest pleasures; and I cannot give you the health of our Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master, without calling to memory the loss of one who has been so lately and so unexpectedly taken from among us—a gentleman—a brother whose friendship I may say I had the honour and pleasure to possess, and whose hand I shook a few months ago. He accompanied me in a visitation to one of my own lodges in Roxburghshire, and I parted from him on the platform of the railway station, anticipating many happy meetings. He has passed away, not unremarked in this city, because I am well aware you held a funeral lodge in his honour. And good and great Mason as he was, the regret you feel and I feel at his loss is not on account of his Masonry alone. And now, brethren, having buried our dead as it were with Masonic honours, let us turn to a more cheerful subject—not less a subject than the toast of the evening, the health of your Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master, my excellent old friend brother, Mr. Maitland, of Eccles. I have but two remarks to make on this toast, and I think the one bears on the other, as no doubt you will see. It gives me peculiar pleasure to be on this occasion permitted to stand here and propose the health of the oldest and dearest friend I have on earth, a man whose friendship I value above gold—above riches, above anything the earth can give; and when I say of him that he has done his duty in private life as a friend, as a husband, and as a father; that he is possessed of all which adorns humanity, I say what is only true. I told you that the one observation I had to make told very strongly indeed on the other, and when you agree with me—which you do—in that observation, you can easily see that under no circumstances could you, the brotherhood of Freemasons in this province, have secured a more fit man to discharge the duties of Provincial Grand Master; for I should like to know what it is we are always endeavouring to inculcate on our novices if it is not to do their duty by their neighbour—to do their duty as far as it is possible in every department of their private existence. Bro. Maitland has fulfilled that golden rule, and I think it follows as an inevitable and logical result that under no manner of circumstances could you have chosen a better man. Now, brethren, this is not the place for saying more on this subject, for this good reason, as I know, that when I am intending to confer pleasure—and I believe am conferring pleasure upon you—I am inflicting a very great pain on my friend at my left hand, because there exists not a man who wishes less to be spoken of, either in public or in private, in words of commendation than himself. I will, therefore, cut the

matter short, and ask you to rise to your feet in quick time, and with all the honours of Masonry mark your approval of the subject of this toast.

The toast was drunk amidst great enthusiasm.

Bro. Maitland rose and said: Right Worshipful Sir, Wardens, and Brethren, I should fail to find words to thank you for the great honour you have conferred upon me. Pleased and gratified as I am, I cannot express to you all I feel. I am no speaker; I wish I were; but I assure you from the very bottom of my heart that this is one of the proudest days of my life.

Bro. W. Martin proposed "The Provincial Grand Deputy Master, and other Commissioned Office-bearers of the Provincial Grand Lodge." He said he was sure they would all agree with him that a better selection of office-bearers for the Provincial Grand Lodge could not have been made. He eulogised the character and public usefulness of the Depute Grand Master J. L. Scott.

The toast was received with honour, and replied to by Bro. Pike, in the absence of the Depute Prov. G.M.

The "Memory of Brother Stewart, of Nateby Hall, late Prov. G.M.," was given, and affectionately honoured.

Bro. Pike, in a few well-chosen sentences, gave "The Elected Office-bearers of the Provincial Grand Lodge"—a toast which was well received, and replied to by Bro. Crombie.

Bro. the Rev. Dr. Macleod said: I rise with the greatest pleasure to propose the toast which has been assigned to me. I am sure I need only name that toast in a company of Masons loyal and loyal that it may receive from them a most hearty and cordial response—"The Provincial Grand Lodges of Scotland." I feel it would be presumptuous in so young a Mason as myself to say a single word in recommending such a toast to you, when I see around me so many experienced and distinguished Masons, amongst them some names of which as Masons—one name at least of which, as Scotchmen (Bro. Ballantyne's), we may be proud. I know, and I rejoice, that the time is fast passing, if not past already, when the uninitiated need to be told that Masonry is neither a sinful, nor an absurd, nor a useless thing. Most men are now aware that from an upholder of the right and the good even in those darker ages when as yet Christianity had not shed her perfect light over our world, Freemasonry has now become the very handmaid of our religion, its principles and its practice alike to do justice, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with God. I fear, however, that the Craft is not what it might be and what it should be; and while I should be the last to make the least reflections upon the past, yet I fear that even amongst ourselves, with Masonry there have been times of decline and languish. I trust and I believe that time is past. Yes; as I think of the last auspicious occasion on which the Grand Lodge of Scotland honoured us with their presence—as I see from day to day facts which prove beyond a doubt that Masonry as a craft and as a science has recently been making strides large and rapid—as I see the best and grandest tokens of this amongst ourselves, in the not a few men of culture and education who have lately joined our own ranks in Dumfries; and, further, in the decided effort that as a community we are making not merely to improve our commerce but our architecture; as I look upon our new court-house and the many handsome mansion-houses that are rising so rapidly on every side of us—as I look upon that noble building, our town's richest ornament, which, as it rises every day before us, seems to become more grand and more beautiful, and which surely proves that at least we are resolved to be done with our barn-like churches, and rival even, if may be, the grand and glorious structures which the people of a former and more worthy age in this respect than ours delighted to consecrate to God—when I see even in many a country parish where but lately, from the wretched character of the architecture, the passing stranger could hardly recognise the place of worship, may now be seen the tower and the spire in their significant silence pointing men to the sky, and seeming to bid them to a heavenward flight; lastly, when I think of to-day's proceedings—that we are now privileged to have a gentleman as our Grand Master who has ever borne in his native county the most high and most irreproachable character, one honoured not only by the rich but by the poor as well, one beloved by all who know him. I feel confident that I am right when I say that in Dumfries an era more bright and more useful awaits Masonry in the future than any era of the past. I need have said nothing to have recommended the toast to you; but if it did need anything to recommend it here, I am sure it is a recommendation than which few could

be more strong in being coupled with the name of Bro. Inglis of Torsonce, whose last visit amongst us no Mason here has yet forgotten or will soon forget—one to whom every true Dumfriess man must surely feel grateful for having then told so tellingly—I had almost said sung so sweetly—his country's justly entitled praise—one whose name will for many a long year be associated with us in having so ably presided on the occasion of one of the grandest displays seen here or perhaps in Scotland—the laying of Greyfriars' Church foundation stone.

The toast was drunk with all the honours, and briefly replied to by Bro. Inglis.

The other toasts proposed were—"The Lodges who have sent deputations to the Festival according to seniority on Grand Lodge Roll," by the Chair, to which the W.M. replied; "The Visiting Brethren from a distance," by Bro. H. Gordon; "Freemasonry all over the World," by Bro. J. Wood; "The Clergy of all Denominations," by Bro. J. Luke Scott, to which Bro. the Rev. D. Macleod replied; "The Magistrates and Town Council of Dumfries," by Bro. Sir Wm. Brown, *Bart.*, to which Bro. Newbigging replied; and "The Lasses," by Bro. Alder.

"Happy to meet, sorry to part, happy to meet again," by the Chair.

The evening was spent in the happiest manner, the programme having been pleasantly varied by the following brethren singing excellent songs at proper intervals—Bros. Riddick, Rennie, Milligan, Smith, J. Luke Scott, Craik, Skirving, Mackersey, and Inglis, jun., of Torsonce.

IRELAND.

TYRONE.

OMAGH.—*Lodge Concord* (No. 332).—On Monday evening, the 24th ult., the brethren of 332 met in the Masonic Room, White Hart Hotel, Omagh, to celebrate the Feast of St. John the Baptist. The lodge was opened at six o'clock, and, after the ordinary business had been transacted, Bro. W. F. Black in graceful terms presented to the outgoing W.M., Bro. Dr. Thompson, a jewel provided for him by the members of his lodge, as a mark of their appreciation of the zeal and great ability which characterised his presidency for the past twelve months. A similar tribute was paid to Bro. Major Dawson, in recognition of the valuable services which he had rendered as Secretary and Treasurer, and Bro. Alfred Gahan was presented with an apron, as a memento of his happy connection with the brethren of 332—a connection now severed by his lamented removal to the County of Cavan. Bro. W. O. Orr, W.M. elect, was then installed, and the Wardens and assistant officers were installed also. At seven o'clock, the brethren dined together at the hotel, and the cloth having been removed, and the customary loyal and Masonic toasts duly honoured, Bro. Black proposed "The Health of Bro. W. O. Orr, W.M.," complimenting him upon the distinguished position which he then so worthily occupied, and expressing the unqualified confidence reposed in him by his brethren of 332. The W.M. returned thanks for the manner in which his health had been proposed and drunk. He alluded to the loss which he believed the lodge to have sustained by the expiration of Bro. Dr. Thompson's term of office, and, while conscious of his own inability to fill the chair with any degree of efficiency, he assured the brethren that he should at least continue to be actuated by an unaffected anxiety for the interests of Masonry in general, and more especially for the prosperity of 332. "The Health of the Officers of the Lodge" was responded to by Bros. C. W. Anderson, S.W.; Dr. P. G. West, J.W.; R. C. Donnell, Chap.; Major R. Dawson, Sec.; Samuel Adair, S.D.; Wm. Mullin, J.D.; and Henry James, I.G. The W.M. next gave "The Health of the Past Masters," for which Bros. Dr. Thompson, Charles Scott, Daniel Wilson, A. C. Buchanan, and Major Dawson, returned thanks. "The Visiting Brethren," and "Prosperity to the Lodges of Tyrone" were then given, and drunk with the usual fraternal feeling, after which Bro. Gahan, by permission from the chair, proposed the health of Bro. W. F. Black. He regretted his inability to bring Bro. Black's name before the brethren in becoming terms. He (Bro. Gahan) was not an orator, but were he gifted with eloquence, and the necessary talent to express himself in flowing sentences, with well-turned periods, he should gladly bring both into requisition in speaking of a brother so dear to every one present. After dwelling upon Bro. Black's

superior merits as a Mason, he alluded to the praiseworthy manner in which, as a magistrate and a grand juror of the county, he had invariably discharged the duty which he owed to his conscience, to his Queen, and to the public. Bro. Black's health having been drunk with great enthusiasm, he eloquently responded. Adverting to the reference made to his connection with the county of Tyrone, he expressed the pleasure which such a connection yielded him—a pleasure considerably enhanced by the fact that, while in other parts of Ireland disaffection distracted the minds and damped the interests of the people, the inhabitants of Tyrone, truly loyal to their Queen and Constitution, industriously persevered in their commercial and agricultural pursuits, thus promoting their individual interests, and with them the prosperity of their county. One thing Bro. Black regretted, namely, that the county so dear to him had not given him birth, but if anything could reconcile him to this it was the fact of his having been born within the walls of Londonderry. Subsequently Bro. Black, in a humorous speech, proposed "The Health of Masons' Wives and Sweethearts," to which several brethren responded. Bros. D. West and Herdman sang some excellent songs during the evening, and, after a collection for distressed brethren had been taken up, the company separated.

CHANNEL ISLANDS.

JERSEY.

ST. HELIER'S.—*Lodge La Césarée* (No. 590).—On Thursday, the 27th ult., the members of this lodge assembled at the Masonic Temple, at half-past seven o'clock p.m., for the purpose of transacting their regular monthly business. The lodge was opened in due form by Bro. J. Durell, W.M., supported by Bros. A. Viel, S.W.; G. J. Benouf, J.W.; H. L. Manuel, I.P.M.; A. Schmitt, P.M., Sec.; J. Oatley, I.G.; J. Leigh, S.D., &c. The minutes of the last regular lodge night, as well as those of a special lodge, were read and unanimously confirmed. The ballot was taken for Bro. T. Hamon, 244, as a candidate for joining, which proved unanimous in favour of his admission. The lodge was opened in the second degree, when Bro. Captain Ph. Messervy offered himself for preferment, and having proved his claim, was entrusted and passed out for preparation. The lodge was opened in the third degree. The candidate was re-admitted, and raised to the sublime degree of a M.M. by the W.M. in a solemn and impressive style. The lodge was lowered to the first degree, when Bro. J. Gregg was called to the pedestal, passed a satisfactory examination, and retired. The lodge was opened in the second degree, and the candidate for preferment was duly passed as Fellow Craft. The charge restricted to this degree was delivered by the W.M., and Bro. J. Oatley explained the working tools. The lodge was closed in love and perfect harmony, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet room, where they spent an hour in interesting, though painful, converse on Masonic topics relating to the present situation of the province. The brethren were informed that several Masters and P.M.'s, as soon as they had learned of the resignation of Bro. Dr. J. Le Cronier, and of the circumstances inducing him to do so, met spontaneously and decided "to send a deputation to that worthy and esteemed brother, for the purpose of expressing their sincere regret at his having been obliged to resign the office of D. Prov. G. Master, and at the same time of approving of his honourable and independent determination not to accept any office in the Provincial Grand Lodge under the leadership of the Prov. G. Master; to entertain the P.D. Prov. G. Master at a complimentary banquet, in order to demonstrate how highly and truly he has been and is still esteemed by the Craft in Jersey, to testify their high appreciation of his unhappily very short rule of the province during his year of office, which he was solicited by the Prov. G. Master to accept, and to execute all the functions of the office of Prov. G. Master in his name. The sympathetic banquet will take place on Wednesday, July 10th, at the Masonic Temple.

ROYAL ARCH.

METROPOLITAN.

TEMPERANCE CHAPTER (No. 169).—On Tuesday, 2nd inst., at the White Swan Tavern, High-street, Deptford, the regular


meeting of this chapter was held. Comps. G. Brown, H.; J. Searle, J.; and P. F. Walters, P.Z., P.S., opened the chapter. The companions were then admitted. Ballots were unanimous in favour of the admission of the candidates, and one being present, he was duly exalted into the Royal Arch, the ceremony, as usual here, being admirably done. There were present—Comps. N. Wingfield, S.E.; G. Bolton, P.Z., Treas.; F. Walters, P.Z., P.S.; J. Lightfoot, 1st A.S.; J. Woodland, 2nd A.S.; W. Simmons, P.Z.; A. Pulley, G. Shaw, J. Porter, Tinslow, Payne, and several others. All the officers, as usual, who presided did their work well. The chapter was duly closed. Banquet followed, which, as usual here, reflected the greatest credit on the landlord. The wines were of the finest quality.

CUMBERLAND AND WESTMORELAND.

CARLISLE.—*Chapter of Union* (310).—The annual convocation of the above chapter was held in the Freemasons' Hall on Monday, the 24th ult., when the M.E. Comp. C. J. Banister, P.Z., P.G. Dir. of Cers., officiated as Z.; F. W. Hayward, Z., as H.; W. Murray, J. The chapter was opened, and the following companions were admitted—viz., T. Blacklock, H.; Joseph Iredale, P.Z.; A. Woodhouse, S.E.; H. Fleming, S.N.; G. G. Hayward, acting Prin. Soj.; W. Pratchitt, W. Johnston, G. Turnbull, W. Irwin, John Barnes, Janitor. The minutes of the last convocation were read and confirmed, after which the companions below that of Principals retired. A Board of Installed Principals was then held for the purpose of installing Comps. Blacklock as Z., W. Murray as H., and G. G. Hayward as J., also Comp. Fleming, as J. of the Mount Sinai Chapter, of Longtown. Comp. Woodhouse was then invested as Prin. Soj., who appointed W. Johnston and W. Pratchitt as Assist. Sojs., Henry Fleming, S.E.; G. Turnbull, S.N.; and John Barnes Janitors for the ensuing year. No other business offering itself, the chapter adjourned till the last Monday in September. Owing to the lateness of the night the companions partook of a parting glass, and retired in love and unity, trusting to the Most High that they all should meet again.

MARK MASONRY.

METROPOLITAN.

SOUTHWARK LODGE OF MARK MASTERS (No. 22).—An emergency meeting of this prosperous lodge was held on Monday, the 1st inst., at the Bridge House Hotel, Wellington-street, Southwark. Punctually at seven o'clock Bro. F. J. Lilley, W.M., opened the lodge, and was supported by Bros. C. A. Cotteburne, as S.W.; W. Noak, as J.W.; J. Trickett, as M.O.; M. A. Loewenstark, S.O.; G. Schuck, as J.O.; A. D. Loewenstark, F.M., Treas.; R. Ord, Reg.; F. Walters, P.M., Sec.; J. Hawker, as S.D.; E. Palmer, as J.D.; A. Thompson, as I.G.; and others. The minutes of the previous lodge meeting were read, and unanimously confirmed. Ballots were unanimous in favour of the admission of all the candidates. Four being present, they were unanimously advanced to the ancient and honourable degree of Mark Master Masons. A five guinea P.M.'s jewel was unanimously voted to Bro. F. J. Lilley for his efficient services as W.M. during his year of office. A similar jewel was unanimously voted to Bro. F. Walters, P.M., &c., for his services as Sec. since 1861, who declined accepting either a jewel or a life governorship of either of the Masonic Charities, because, as he stated, they had already given him a life subscribership of the Female Annuity Fund, which he considered was quite sufficient acknowledgment of his services as Secretary, which duties were to him a labour of love. However, the feeling in the lodge was so strong to give Bro. F. Walters, P.M. and Sec., some testimonial of their esteem and respect, it was agreed that, when these minutes were confirmed at the next meeting in October to have a testimonial on vellum presented to him, stating his refusal of jewel or subscribership, and to express the esteem of the members of the lodge for his exertions in carrying out his duties as Secretary, and the many other services rendered by him to the lodge. It was unanimously agreed to hold the future meetings of this lodge at the Bridge House Hotel. Business ended, the lodge was closed. Refreshment followed after labour. It was announced that no less than three of the members of this lodge had the honour of having Grand Lodge office conferred on them, viz., Bro. F. J. Lilley, P.J.D.; F. Walters, G.I.G.; and I. J. Sabine, G.S. of the Grand Lodge of Mark Mark Masters of England and Wales. Amongst several visitors were Bros. Barret, G.O.; C. A. Cotteburne, P.G.S.B.; and W. Turner, S.W. 54. 

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

DEVONSHIRE.

PLYMOUTH.—*Loyal Brunswick Encampment*.—The regular quarterly convocation of the Sir Knights of this encampment met at the usual place of meeting, the Masonic Chapter Room, St. George's Hall, East Stonehouse, on Thursday, the 27th ult., an unusually large number of Sir Knights being present. A gentleman from Tavistock, a member of the Bedford Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, was balloted for and accepted, and being introduced, was installed a Knight of the Illustrious Order of Masonic Knights Templar, the ceremony being very efficiently and impressively performed by P.E.C. Rodda, P.G.A. and Prov. G. Chancellor. The newly-installed Sir Knt. having taken his place, the Eminent Sir Knt. Rodda said: We naturally rejoice at the welfare of our friend, because we thence derive a real pleasure. We also congratulate our protectors or equals that we may not fall under the suspicion of ingratitude or jealousy, but when any fresh honour or new dignity falls to the lot of one who, by his intimate and close connection with you, his uniform kindness and gracious beneficence, has led you to love and revere him in more than an ordinary degree, it is extremely gratifying to the feelings, and one is led to hail such an event with joy and delight. Such, eminent sir, is our position on this occasion. Since we last met it has pleased the Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master to appoint the distinguished chief of this Province of Devon and Cornwall, the Rev. John Huyshe, M.A., to the very highest office in his power to bestow, namely, to that of the Very High and Eminent Deputy Grand Master of the Order. I am sure you will learn this with great joy and satisfaction, not only because the Very High and Eminent Sir Knt.—a contributing member of this encampment—so richly deserved the preference, but also because the Grand Master has exercised so equitable a judgment. May the Great Captain of our Salvation shower down His choicest blessings on the appointment, and preserve the health of our illustrious brother for many years to discharge the duties of his exalted rank with the same fidelity, veracity, and single-mindedness that has so conspicuously marked his brilliant and untarnished Masonic career. The Eminent Sir Knt. Rodda concluded a very nice address by proposing the following resolution, which was seconded by P.E.C. Rodd, and carried *nem. con.*, with great applause:—Resolved. That the Sir Knts. of this encampment have learned with the greatest satisfaction the honour which the Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master has been graciously pleased to confer upon the Very Eminent Grand Commander of this Province, the Rev. John Huyshe, M.A., namely, that of the distinguished appointment to the office of the Very High and Eminent Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Conclave of England and Wales and the Colonial Dependencies of the British Crown; and that the Registrar be requested forthwith to transmit to the Very High and Eminent Sir Knt. their congratulations on the auspicious event, expressing their opinion that, great as is the honour to have pre-eminently won and deserved the new dignity to which he has been promoted, it does not reflect less honour on the Illustrious Knight the Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master in having so justly made a distinction of his superior merits.

MASONIC FESTIVITIES.

CONSTITUTIONAL LODGE (No. 55).—The annual summer banquet of this old-established lodge took place on Thursday, the 20th ult., at the Crystal Palace, under the able presidency of the W.M., Bro. Thomas Barford, assisted by his excellent officers, when upwards of seventy sat down to dinner. The assembly was graced by the presence of the wives and daughters of the brethren, who thoroughly enjoyed the festive scene. The banquet was served in magnificent style by Messrs. Bertram and Roberts, and upon no occasion has it ever been surpassed. The greatest harmony and goodwill prevailed, and the lady visitors at various times enlivened the evening with a display of vocal and instrumental music, which brought the festival to a pleasant termination. On the removal of the cloth, the W.M., proposed "The Health of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen." The toast was drunk with every mark of loyalty, and the National Anthem was sung. The W.M. next proposed "The Health of the Prince of Wales and the other members of the Royal Family," which was unanimously received. Song—"God bless tho

Prince of Wales." The W.M. then gave "The Army, Navy, and Volunteers," coupling with it the name of Bro. Major Wigginton, of the Tower Hamlets Artillery, who briefly responded to the toast. Bro. Waley, P.M., in highly eulogistic terms proposed "The Health of the Chairman, Bro. Thomas Barford," and congratulated the members of the Constitutional Lodge upon the choice they had made in selecting a brother so fully competent to fill the W.M.'s chair; he had performed the duties of the lodge in a most exemplary manner, and was therefore entitled to the highest praise that could be afforded. This toast was drunk with loud cheers. Bro. Barford, in returning thanks, expressed the deep gratification he felt in acknowledging the compliment, and begged to assure the brethren that it would always be his aim to assist and forward the ends of Freemasonry. He took this opportunity of thanking the P.M.'s and officers of the lodge for the invaluable assistance they had rendered him during the time he had presided over them; and also the stewards for the admirable manner in which the festivities of the day were carried out. He regretted the absence of their old and esteemed friend, Bro. Farnfield, who had been their Secretary for nearly forty years, and hoped that he would be with them at their next summer banquet. In conclusion, Bro. Barford said it was doubly gratifying to him to preside on such an occasion as the present, inasmuch as they were honoured by the company of the ladies, whose healths he now begged to propose. The toast was received with great applause. Bro. Dosell in a neat speech replied for the ladies. Several other toasts were given, and the company separated at ten o'clock.

Poetry.

MASONIC ANTHEM.

God save our gracious Queen,
Long live our noble Queen.
God save the Queen.
Send her victorious,
Happy and glorious,
Long to reign over us,
God save the Queen.
Hail! mystic light divine,
May'st thou ne'er cease to shine,
Over this land.
Wisdom in thee we find,
Beauty and strength combined,
Masons are ever join'd
In heart and hand.
Come, then, ye sons of light,
In joyous strains unite,
God save the Queen.
Long may Victoria reign.
Queen of the azure main—
Masons resound the strain—
God save the Queen.

REGRET.

By T. J. SWAIN.

What is it often o'er us steals,
That we would fain forget?
What is it each one sometimes feels?
The sadness of regret.
The best of us have often err'd,
The wisest gone astray;
None, truly it may be averr'd,
Our Father's will obey.
We may intend to act aright,
And be with talent blest,
But life's afflictions are not light,
And oft our courage test.
We think "could we the future know,
How different things would be,
How much less care—how much less woe,
Might be our destiny."

Vain wish—'tis order'd otherwise,
And for our good—but yet
We crave for what His grace denies,
And suffer with regret.
"Oh had we but avoided this,
Oh had we not done that,
We might have reach'd a throne of bliss,
On which no mortal sat.
Delusive thought, we shall not find
Perfection here below,
Although the wise are oft so blind
As not that truth to know.
Vexations must by all be shar'd,
From trials no state is free;
And we should be content, if spared
A fate of misery.
Then let us strive to act life's part
With zeal, and do our best,
And leave to One who knows each heart
The ord'ring of the rest.
Not grieve o'er trifles past recall,
But rather meekly pray,
In future trials that may befall,
For guidance on our way.
Rememb'ring, too, the many joys
That render life still dear;
For, truly, discontent alloys
The loftiest career.
With Faith and Hope—by Heaven's aid,
Each sorrow may be met,
And 'tis ingratitude to shade
Life's sweets by vain regret.

THE WEEK.

THE COURT.—The Queen, accompanied by her Royal Highness Princess Beatrice, drove in the grounds on the afternoon of the 26th ult. Her Majesty the Queen, the Queen of Prussia, Prince Leopold, and Princess Beatrice, went out in the grounds on the morning of the 27th ult. Her Majesty the Queen, the Queen of Prussia, and Princess Beatrice drove in the grounds in the afternoon. Her Majesty the Queen, the Queen of Prussia, Princess Louise, Princess Beatrice, and Prince Leopold walked and drove in the Home Park on the morning of the 28th ult. The Queen, accompanied by her Royal Highness Princess Louise, walked and drove in the grounds in the afternoon. Her Majesty the Queen, the Queen of Prussia, their Royal Highnesses Prince and Princess Louis of Hesse, Princess Louise, Princess Beatrice, and Prince Leopold went out in the grounds on the morning of the 29th ult. Her Majesty the Queen, the Queen of Prussia, their Royal Highnesses Prince and Princess Louis of Hesse, Princess Louise, Prince Leopold, and Princess Beatrice went out in the grounds on the morning of the 1st inst. Her Majesty the Queen, accompanied by the Queen of Prussia and her Royal Highness Princess Louise, drove out in the afternoon in a carriage and four. Her Majesty the Queen, accompanied by Princess Louise, went to London on the morning of the 2nd inst., and visited the Princess of Wales at Marlborough House. Her Majesty afterwards returned to Windsor Castle. The Queen, accompanied by her Royal Highness Princess Beatrice, drove in the grounds in the afternoon. Her Majesty the Queen, the Queen of Prussia, Prince and Princess Louis of Hesse, Prince Leopold, and Princess Beatrice went out in the grounds on the morning of the 3rd inst.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.—In the HOUSE OF LORDS, on the 27th ult., a statement was made by the Archbishop of Canterbury which is rather hard upon the *Record*. His Grace alluded to reports which had been published of the proceedings at the

meetings of the commission on ritualism, which reports were totally unauthorised, and for the most part wholly devoid of truth. His Grace added that the commissioners were pledged not to mention out of doors the proceedings at their meetings. The *Record* is the one paper that has contained reports of the doings of the commission.—Earl de Grey called attention to the report of the committee on the transport and supply departments of the army. There was a discussion, in which the Duke of Cambridge and other peers took part. All was over, however, by five minutes to seven o'clock.—On the 28th ult. the House received her Majesty's answer approving of the appointment of a commission to inquire into the condition of the Irish Church.—The Earl of Carnarvon moved for a select committee to inquire into the best means of improving the interior arrangements and acoustic properties of their Lordships' House. The Earl of Malmesbury, while not offering opposition to the motion, argued that there was nothing calling for alteration in the House. No other peer supported this view, and the motion for a committee was agreed to.—On the 1st inst., Lord Stratford de Redcliffe called attention to the grievous persecution of the Jews of Moldavia by the Government of that State. Lord Malmesbury deprecated a premature discussion of the subject, on the ground that he intended to produce all the correspondence with reference to it.—A sharp discussion was raised by Lord de Grey on the recent memorandum authorising volunteers to interfere for the suppression of riots. Several peers expressed their disapproval of the circular, and ultimately Lord Malmesbury promised that, if not withdrawn, it should at all events be revised.—On the 2nd inst., the most important business was the second reading of a bill brought in by the Duke of Richmond, to improve the condition of merchant seamen. His Grace briefly explained the provisions of the bill, the object of which is to provide better safeguards for the health and well-being of merchant seamen. After a very short discussion, the bill was read a second time, and their lordships adjourned from business.—

In the HOUSE OF COMMONS, on the 27th ult., there was a sharp bout between the Chancellor of the Exchequer and Mr. Newdegate as to the proposed Ecclesiastical Titles Bill committee Mr. Newdegate began it. He wanted to know whether the attempt to proceed with the nomination of the committee at late hours of the night had the sanction of the Government, and "whether they would use their influence to prevent the members of that House being subjected to the annoyance." The Chancellor of the Exchequer promptly replied that he should think no member in the performance of his duty would think the proceeding an annoyance. The Government had agreed to the committee, and he believed Mr. Newdegate did not disapprove of the appointment of a committee, but only of the composition of that proposed. Mr. Disraeli added an expression of his regret that Mr. McEnvoy had met so many obstacles in bringing his motion forward, and said he should exert the influence of the Government to give an opportunity for the committee being appointed. Mr. Newdegate wanted to know when he had expressed approval of the appointment of a committee. The Chancellor of the Exchequer replied that he had not said Mr. Newdegate approved of the committee, but simply that his objections applied more to the composition of the committee than to its appointment. A discussion followed, in the course of which Mr. Bouverie strongly complained of the terms of Mr. Newdegate's question.—This difficulty having been disposed of, the House went into committee on the Reform Bill, and proceeded to discuss now clauses proposed by the Government. Those related to polling places, the re-election of ministers, &c. The discussion was of a very desultory character.—On the 28th ult. the

Speaker took the chair at ten minutes past two o'clock. A question was put to the Chancellor of the Exchequer by Mr. B. Cochrane, with the view of ascertaining whether the meetings of the House at two o'clock on Tuesdays and Fridays would be continued after the present week, as the order for those sittings would expire at the commencement of next month. The hon. member remarked that the sittings in the morning had been most satisfactory, but in the evening the attendance in the House had been very thin. In reply, the Chancellor of the Exchequer said he wished to leave the matter entirely to the general feeling of the House. The sittings had been found eminently successful in assisting the progress of the Reform Bill. His impression was, that it would not be wise entirely to withdraw from the arrangement, and he would be inclined to propose that for another month the meetings at two o'clock and nine o'clock should be continued in a modified form, so that, without being a matter of necessity, the Government would be in a position to avail themselves of the privilege until the Reform Bill was fairly out of the House. Then they might recur to the normal system of morning sittings if they required to have morning sittings at all. If any members should wish to have meetings at two o'clock to discuss questions interesting to them, he should in duty consider their wishes.—

In reply to Lord Eastace Cecil, Lord Stanley explained that it was originally the intention of the Viceroy of Egypt to lodge at Mr. Larkins's private house, but, on hearing of that intention, his lordship made a communication on the part of the Government to his Highness, the result being that his Highness was to be the guest of the State, and be lodged at Claridge's Hotel.—

In reply to Mr. Gladstone, the Attorney-General intimated that the occupier of furnished lodgings will be admissible to the franchise under the Reform Bill, provided such lodgings are of the clear annual value, if furnished, of £10 or upwards.—On the 1st inst., Lord Stanley was able, in reply to Mr. Baxter, to give a somewhat encouraging account of the state of the *Alabama* negotiations. British claims are held in abeyance until the main question is settled.—In answer to a question put by Mr. Otway, Sir Stafford Northcote made some curious disclosure with reference to the practice of the Indian Government in making what are called "subsistence allowances" to Indian officers who are removed for incompetency, misconduct, or even for fraud. A gallant officer who was removed for abuse of authority was rewarded with a pension of £292 a-year. Another officer who had committed fraud got fifty pounds a-year; another who had embezzled public money received a similar stipend; and the right honorable gentleman mentioned several additional cases which were equally suggestive.—

Captain Vivian elicited from Lord Manners some information concerning the review in Hyde Park. Members of both Houses of Parliament will be allotted two tickets. The applications for admission from the general public are far in excess of the number that can possibly be accommodated. Officers connected with the militia, yeomanry, and volunteers, as well as with the regular army, will be admitted within the enclosure provided they appear in uniform.—A lively discussion took place on a series of resolutions moved by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and having for their object the temporary continuance of morning sittings, subject to certain restrictions. This led to a complaint from Mr. Crawford that an all but successful attempt at a count-out had been made, and that the Secretary for the Treasury was a party to this endeavour to curtail the privileges of private members, although on this occasion he was hoist on his own petard. He moved an addition to the resolutions, the effect of which would be to prevent a count-out from taking effect until ten minutes had elapsed from the time the question was raised, thus giving members time to make a House,

Mr. Newdegate pointed out how exhausting it was to sit till a very late hour after a hard day's work, and how the exigencies of the morning journals compelled the curtailment of speeches delivered after midnight. Mr. Bright supported Mr. Crawford's proposition, and commented upon the practical injustice which had been done to the Irish members by leaving them to make a House on the occasion referred to. The Chancellor of the Exchequer protested against any interference with the privilege of counting out; and after Mr. Gladstone had incidentally raised the larger question of the permanent utility of morning sittings, Mr. Crawford's motion was negatived without a division.—The House then proceeded to discuss the clause proposed by Colonel Dyott for disfranchising freeholders as county electors, and including them in the borough representation. It is almost unnecessary to say that the gallant gentleman was unsuccessful. The passage of Mr. Candlish's proposition with regard to the employment of paid canvassers will materially add to the purification of elections. Subsequently, on the motion of Mr. Horsfall, the expediency of increasing the representation of the great towns was again discussed.—On the 2nd instant, at the morning sitting, Sir John Pakington intimated, in reply to Colonel Sykes, that he had given directions, on inquiry, and after consulting the Judge Advocate, to have the proceedings of the court-martial on Colour-Sergeant Connell, late 78th Highlanders, quashed.—A communication, in reply to Lord E. Cecil, was made to the House by Lord Stanley, respecting the visit of the Viceroy of Egypt to this country. His lordship's explanation was to the effect that the visit of the Viceroy has been only postponed for two or three days, the Viceroy having been requested by the Sultan to stay for a few days in Paris to meet him. That was an invitation, considering the relations of the parties, that could not be well declined. Arrangements had been made by the Government to take the Viceroy from the French coast and bring him to Dover, where he would be received with military honours, and forwarded to London. On his arrival an escort would meet him; he would be attended by a guard of honour in London; and sentries would be placed before his residence as a mark of respect. Either an equerry or groom-in-waiting would be deputed to him; and his lordship further announced that the Queen had authorised him to invite the Viceroy, on her part, to Windsor. The Viceroy would reside at Claridge's Hotel, the rooms at Buckingham Palace generally allotted to distinguished visitors being under repair.—Mr. Denman asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer whether he intended to bring up a new clause defining the way in which rates are to be demanded, whereupon the right hon. gentleman reminded Mr. Denman that he and Mr. Locke had promised to bring up a clause, and all he (the Chancellor of the Exchequer) felt bound to promise was, that he would give to Mr. Locke, who had fulfilled the promise, the opportunity to discuss the clause he had prepared.—On the 3rd inst., the Speaker was in attendance at twelve o'clock, but not in his place, because he had to sit at the clerk's table for a quarter of an hour counting each member who dropped in until the House was completed. A question was put to the Home Secretary by Mr. Whalley respecting a statement alleged to have been made by the former to the Mayor of Birmingham and other gentlemen from that town respecting Mr. Murphy's recent discourses there. Mr. Hardy explained that the parties referred to had spoken respecting a highly objectionable publication which was finding its way into schools, and becoming a serious nuisance. It was not thought advisable to prosecute the author, because of the difficulty that must be encountered in proving that the act was done through malice. In reply to Mr. Whalley's request, the Secretary of State declined to give that hon. gentlemen information respecting the

nature of the communication made to him by the mayor and his colleagues, wisely remarking that a display of such want of reticence on his part would deter official persons from communicating frankly with the Home Office in future.—The second reading of the Banns of Matrimony Bill was moved by Mr. Monk. The bill explains the meaning of certain words in the Marriage Act, and declares the legal time for the publication of banns. It proposes to render valid all marriages which may have been declared by Ecclesiastical Courts to be null and void, owing to the publication of banns having taken place at an illegal time, and it also proposes to relieve all clergymen from the pains and penalties to which they are made liable under the Marriage Act for having celebrated marriages for which the banns were published at an illegal time. In a very characteristic speech, quite in accordance with the very dreary subject under discussion—as dreary, indeed, as if it had reference to funerals instead of marriages—Mr. Beresford Hope opposed the bill, and moved that the second reading should take place three months hence. The hon. gentleman's performances were commented upon by the astute Mr. Henley, who declared there was plenty of ambiguity in the matter, which, if they could not discover it for themselves, had been demonstrated by the hon. member for Stoke. Mr. Henley warned them not to be too fastidious about the matter in question, because, under the law, "people can walk into the registrar's office and get tied;" and members of the Church desirous to enter the holy state of matrimony, might be compelled in large numbers to avail themselves of the simple services of the registrar to accomplish the desirable object. The bill was read a second time.

GENERAL HOME NEWS.—The deaths in London last week were 1,118, which is less by 176 than the estimated number. Three deaths from cholera or choleraic diarrhoea were recorded. In the district of St. George, Hanover-square (Belgravia), at 89, Claverton-street, on June 25th, a nursmaid, aged nineteen "cholera (twenty-four hours)." St. Martin-in-the-Fields (Long-acre), at 1, Wilson-street, on June 22, a messenger at a brewery, aged thirty-two years, "hepatitis, choleraic vomiting, and cramps." East London (St. Botolph), at 4, Bell-square, on June 26, the son of a master tailor, aged three months and two weeks, "choleraic diarrhoea (twenty four hours).—An action brought by Mr. Chatterton, lessee of Drury-lane Theatre, against Mr. Sims Reeves, for a breach of agreement to play and sing at that theatre, was tried in the Court of Common Pleas on the 27th ult. Mr. Sims Reeves agreed to sing for twelve nights at Drury-lane, at forty guineas a night, and consented to play *Francis Osbaldiston* in "Rob Roy." However, when all arrangements had been made, and about a week before the time fixed for the production of the piece, Mr. Reeves wrote to say that he was ill, and should not be able to appear. A long correspondence ensued, and finally Mr. Reeves refused point blank to play in "Rob Roy." The present action was then brought. After the case had proceeded for some time, it was arranged that a verdict should be taken for the plaintiff, subject to a reference.—Lord Cardigan's groom, who brought an action against his lordship for false imprisonment, had a verdict given in his favour, with £400 damages.

ERRATA.—In a letter on "Masonic Reporting," in our MAGAZINE of the 29th ult., the writer is made to say "With regard to the high degrees no more reserve is shown," whereas it should have been "no less reserve," thus entirely altering the meaning. Also, where speaking of the report published in a provincial paper of a chapter of emergency in connection with the Royal Order of Bruce at Glasgow, for "a few years ago" read "a few weeks ago."