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M.W. GRAND MASTER MASON OF SCOTLAND.

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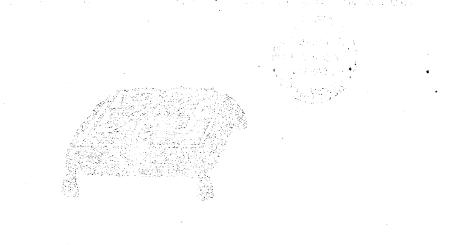
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MASONIC MIRROR.



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THE

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MASONIC MIRROR.

ADDRESS TO OUR READERS.

THE conclusion of the year 1868 brings with it the completion of Volume XIX. of the Quarto Series of the weekly issne of the MAGAZINE, and our semi-annual Address to our readers.

It is with some degree of gratification that we can point to the present volume, enriched as it is with contributions from many of our most valued contributors—eminent Masons. The subject matter itself constitutes the MAGAZINE one of the most important periodicals of the present day. The MAGAZINE is making rapid strides everywhere, and by its presence has checked the blackmail levying Masonic cadgers, that pest of the Fraternity. It has also proved of service to the young student in Freemasonry, and many brethren, who have spent their lives in study, have found a means of dispensing their lores of knowledge in its columns, for the benefit of the Craft at large. It has also been the means of bringing about friendships among Masons, who would not otherwise have known of each other's existence, and such connections bear good fruit in the interchange of thought and information. It is therefore with considerable pride that we see the recognition of its rapidly increasing importance among all classes of the Fraternity. We feel repaid for our labours in the instruction it affords to our younger members; and we are happy in the knowledge that we are the means of introducing eminent brethren to one another.

The columns devoted to Notes and Queries and Correspondence have proved more attractive than heretofore, and afforded opportunities for the discussion of interesting subjects, and the chronicling of valuable facts connected with the Craft. These important branches of the MAGAZINE will still form, we trust, a leading feature in the eyes of all our readers, whom we invite to add their marks on the stones of the building.

As in time past, so in the future, it will be our endeavour to sustain the steadily increasing importance and influence of the MAGAZINE, and to keep it worthy of being considered THE ORGAN OF BRITISH MASONRY. In the coming year sets of papers upon various Masonic subjects will form leading features, and nothing will be wanting on our part to keep up its interest and knowledge diffusing qualities. We would ask our readers to aid us in increasing its power by bringing it before such of the Fraternity, who may not be subscribers, or know of its existence.

The progress of Masonry throughout the globe has, during the past year, been most satisfactory, and the fraternal bonds between the Grand Lodges at home and abroad daily drawn closer and closer. The spirit of investigation which has within the last few years arisen among all classes of the Fraternity, has given an impetus to Masonic knowledge, which in after years will yield ample and life-sustaining food.

In the British Isles there is no reason to complain of want of energy, nor desire upon the part of the Grand Bodies to hold aloof from each other. While the members of the higher grades of Masonry in England and Ireland are gradually riveting the links of the chain in closer harmony, the Templars of England and Scotland, thanks to the assiduity of Sir Patrick Colquhoun, have acknowledged each other, and thrown open their priories to the Knights holding under their separate Constitutions.

ADDRESS.

The re-election of Bro. the Earl of Dalhousie as Grand Master Mason of Scotland is a step in the right direction as keeping the right man in the right place. Many of the leading Masons of Scotland have long since found out the anomalous position of the Grand Lodge, and have earnestly desired to see the whole system of government changed. Several years have elapsed since the work of reconstruction commenced, and some years must still elapse before the new Phœnix can emerge from her ashes, the traditions and modus operandi of more than a century requiring alike care and skill in their transition state, lest the remedy should prove worse than the disease. Under the Hiram of so thorough a man of business and so skilled a Craftsman as the Earl of Dalhousie, these improvements which he has so much at heart, and labours so zealously to carry out, by the aid of the Scots Craft, cannot fail of proceeding rapidly to a conclusion, and we trust the Grand Master will find the Craftsmen zealous in supporting him in the great and glorious work of real improvement and furtherance of the charitable principles and institutions of the Order, so much better understood and practiced in England.

It is much to be desired that the Grand Bodies of England, Scotland, and Ireland, who preside over the various grades, would unite in forming a mutual column of support, so that from the Grand Lodge to the Supreme Council of the Ancient and Accepted Rite, good fellowship and mutual acknowledgement might result. That this is not a mere dream the unions already effected prove.

Freemasonry, in Spain, where as in Rome, it was held as a dangerous enemy to the Church and State is likely now to flourish. Spain was the scene of several terrible Masonic persecutions, but we trust, and feel convinced that the Brethren there as in other lands will show by their actions, how groundless were all the fears of Priest and Sovereign, that the Fraternity was composed of other than loyal and moral men. We are proud to acknowledge the kindness which we received at the hands of the Spanish brethren during several years, whenever we have visited them in their sanctuaries. We can vouch for their numbers being composed of several of the leading men of the nation, distinguished alike by their rank and talent.

We are also happy to say that in other countries, such as Austria and Russia, where Masonry leads a languishing existence, the sun of liberality promises to infuse fresh life into the Order there. Altogether the Order must be proud of the promising *vista* opened up to its improvement in these countries.

Among the Grand Masters' appointments to Provincial Grand Masterships, there is no one of greater importance than the commission to R. W. Bro. Sir Daniel Gooch, M.P., to act in that capacity over Berks and Bucks; and we trust that the Grand Master may deem it proper, and be pleased to constitute the lodges outside the Metropolis into a Provincial Grand Lodge of Middlesex.

The Zetland testimonial, which will prove a great success, leaves the slight drawback upon the mind that had the Committee availed themselves of a wider circle of suggestion and assistance, the success might have been still more pronounced—and worthier of the Grand Master and of the Craft.

The Life Boat Fund, which has hung wearily in the wind for so long a time past, promises now to be soon ready for launching. Shoulders need however still to be applied to the wheel.

The Masonic Charities still continue to flourish to the credit of the Craft, and the benefit of the recipients of the Fraternity's Benevolence. We would particularly refer to the Boys' School, which, by its next anniversary, will, have cleared off £10,000 of its debt, thanks to the munificent example set by the Lancashire Brethren, and the zeal and assiduity of Bro. Binches, the indefatigable secretary. Institutions, and Benevolence such as the above, make one feel prouder and prouder of the name of Mason.

A proposition in the FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE has led a number of brethren interested in the investigation of the antiquities of our order to constitute themselves into a Masonic Archæologica Institute, which has already received many adherances of practical co-operation. The Hon. Sec. is Bro. Hyde Fullen, W.P.G.M., Isle of Wight. The inaugural meeting it is understood will be held in January, and arrangements have been made for several of the succeeding meetings.

As we have previously said the demand for Masonic education is on the increase, and we find its exponent in the anxiety of the Grand Lodge, Templars, Supreme Council, and other bodies to form libraries. This movement is one of the very last importance, and we trust the endeavours of the various bodies will meet with the success which they truly merit.

The improvements which have taken place in the Craft lodges, and Royal Arch chapters, are shown by their returns to be most satisfactory. The same may be said of the higher grades. To sum up the whole matter, and with these words to conclude, "Freemasonry is on the increase all over the Globe."

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THE DERVISHES AND MASKEY

It is a well received incidental article of belief among Masons in India, among many here, and among a great body of Mussulmans, that there is an identity between the signs and ceremonies of Masonry and those of Islam. There are plenty of well authenticated anecdotes of the signs of Masons being recognised and responded to, and of services rendered to them in consequence of this identity. Undoubtedly the belief has been of service in promoting a feeling of respect on both sides; but beyond that, we are sorry to say, for the disappointment of many friends, and notwithstanding their incredulity, the relationship has no foundation in fact.

This we have had occasion to assert, but now the evidence is accessible to the public, which before was little known. The Hon. John Porter Brown, Secretary and Dragoman of the Legation of the United States of America at Constantinople, is a distinguished oriental scholar, and he is also a Freemason, having filled the offices of Past District Grand Warden of Turkey and Master of the Bulwer Lodge of Constantinople. For a long period he has been engaged in investigating the alleged connection of Masonry and Islam, and has had peculiar opportunities of obtaining information. In the prosecution of his views he promoted the initiation of a Dervish in the Bulwer Lodge at Constantinople; he also delivered a lecture on the subject before the Masonic body, and he wrote in the American Masonic journals. He has now reviewed the matter in a work just published by Messrs. Trubner and Co., which has been under hand for many years, and which is entitled "The Dervishes and Oriental Spiritualism."

This is a work important in many respects, because it elucidates two subjects of interest—the history and constitution of the Dervish Orders, and their relation to Spiritualism in the East. All this matter is well worthy of attention from our readers, but we cannot go into it. We must restrict ourselves to some short notice of what the author has said on Masonry.

At p. 59 he says that it has been thought by some persons that Freemasonry existed among the Mussalmans of Constantinople, under another title, and accordingly in other parts of the East. This, he expressly affirms, he does not find to be the case, though, like most secret fraternities, there may be points of resemblance accidentally. He even had an indirect intercourse with a Mussulman, who attested that Freemasonry does exist in Constantinople, and he gave a list of the places in which lodges were held in various parts of the empire, adding that the Grand Lodge existed in the Lake of Tiberias, in Palestine, where it had been taken after the destruction of Jerusalem. It It was consequently stated to exist among the Jews. Of course Bro. Brown, notwithstanding all his researches to verify this declaration, did not find any trace of the fact on which he could rely. As he says, his opportunities of inquiry have been very numerous, and his desire to meet with brethren amongst Mussulmans led him to use all proper zeal in the pursuit of this desirable object. The title by which it is said Mussulman Freemasons are known is Melâmeeyoon, and on the head of these Dervishes be gives full information.

Bro. Brown says there are a few Mussulmans of his acquaintancce—some of them in high official positions, who have become Masons in Europe mostly in France—and he might have added one of the first Turkish Masons was made in England. There are also others, he says, who belong to lodges in Constantinople and other cities of the Ottoman empire, and there are many lodges in India, to which Mussulmans belong. It is strange he does not refer to the Persian brethren and the vicissitudes of Masonry in Persia, so well known to him.

It is strange, as he says that the Dervishes of the Bektâshee Order consider themselves quite the same as the Freemasons, and are disposed to fraternise with them, the more particularly as the name of Freemasonry in the Turkish language, or Fermâsen, is one of reproach. It signifies atheism of the most condemnable character. This is to be said of the Bektåshees, that for some reason or other not quite clear to the author, they are held in small repute among other Mussulmans, even those belonging to the Dervish Orders. No one, therefore, in Constantinople need consider himself at all complimented when he is called a "Fermason," or a "Bektashee." The Bektashees were allied with the seditious Janissaries, and shared in their persecutions and ruin.

It appears to us that Bro. Brown has not dwelt upon certain peculiarities of Baktashee initiation described by him, and which neither he nor we can point out, but which will occur to the careful reader. They show a decided resemblance to Masonry.

To the Melamiyoon Bro. Brown devotes Chapter viii. Among other things, he says that on their tombs are peculiar signs, the origin and meaning of which he has not been able to learn. On a tomb of 1122, or I60 years ago, he found two triangles joined by a poins, and also on a tomb fifteen years later. Others have a single triangle Δ , or beneath the angles. Many have also the Muhr-i-Suleeman, Soloman's Seal, the

two triangles interlaced XX , but without dots.

The Melamiyoon are known in Constantinople now as the Hamzavee. It is, like the Order of Bektashee, almost under prohibition in Constantinople, but from widely different causes. The Hamizavee, it is said, held their meetings in secret in houses not like a Dervish Tekieh, and for this reason it is thought by some persons they are Mussulman Freemasons.

The word Melamiyoon means the condemned or reproached, a designation taken by them in token of humility. They are stated to be a sincerely pious sect, conscientious in all their dealings, and living much for themselves and their doctrine, without any regard for the opinion of the world. Thus in Constantinople any poor or miserable object is now called a Melamiyoon.

Unfortunately Bro. Brown has not been able to obtain the initiation ceremonies of the Melamiyoon, as he has of some other Dervish sects.

Besides his own observations, Mr. Brown introduces into his work all that is to be found in the standard authorities on Dervishes. Apart from its other merits, it must be considered a Masonic book of reference, valuable, particularly in this respect, that it shows how many ancient eastern practices have been handed down from remote sources and by obscure channets, equally to Freemasons and to Dervishes.

ADDRESS.

Delivered at the anniversary meeting of the Wellington Lodge of Instruction (No. 548), on the 18th of June, 1868, by Bro. ROBERT WENTWORTH LITTLE, P.M.

Brethren,—In compliance with your request conveyed to me by my esteemed Bro. Past Master Gale, I have undertaken to perform the ceremony of consecration this evening in the Wellington

Lodge of Instruction; and as, upon occasions of which the present is but a rehearsal, it is usual for the consecrating Master to deliver an appropriate address to the members of the new lodge, I shall endeavour to follow this time-honoured custom by craving your attention to a brief consideration of the career of the illustrious captain from whom the Wellington Lodge derived its name. It may be said, "What has Freemasonry to do with the record of deeds of war?" her progress is not like that of ambition, over the bodies of the slain, nor amidst the carnage and horrors of battle fields; her victories are not achieved by the fall of cities or the ruin of empires; the lamp of love and truth which she bears on her heavenward path, can never be called the ignis fatuus of the unwise, or the torch of the destroyer. And yet we may emphatically assert that the soothing spirit of Freemasonry has softened the rugged strife of warriors; that our brethren have not been deaf to the cry of distress even amidst the roar of cannons, and the rush of legions-that our mystic signs of fraternity have frequently disarmed a foeman's wrath, and kindled in his heart not only forbearance but the light of brotherly love. I do not, however, purpose to enlarge upon the benefits which Freemasonry has conferred upon brethren in the perilous times of war; the instances to which I refer are numerous, and are well authenticated; but rather to invite. you to a contemplation of the guiding principles of Wellington's character and career. It has been truly said by a distinguished American poet of the present day, that

> "Lives of great men all remind us We can make our lives sublime, And, departing, leave behind us Footprints on the sand of time."

and as this desirable object cannot be better achieved than by a steadfast adherence to the strict line of duty, I may remark that however great our opportunities, however noble our gifts, they are but wasted, like water poured upon a burning desert, unless dedicated to the service of God, or the welfare of mankind. A more conspicuous exemplar of this profound truth than the illustrious Wellington never existed. From the commencement of his career to its close in the midst of the people he had served so well, his steps were ever in the path of duty. His efforts were directed by what he conceived to be the principles of right and justice; and whether

as a soldier or a statesman he conscientiously performed his allotted task amongst the shifting scenes of his eventful life. "The Duke," then the Hon. Arthur Wellesley, was initiated into the mysteries of Freemasonry on the 7th December, 1790, in the lodge No. 494, under the Grand Lodge of Ireland, held at the town of Trim, in the county of Meath, and was subsequently passed and raised in the same lodge, it being a noteworthy circumstance that the Master of the lodge at the time was Wellington's elder brother, the Earl of Mornington, afterwards Marquis Wellesley. Unfortunately the troublous period which followed the outbreak of the French Revolution was little calculated to afford much leisure to a Mason who had embraced the career of arms, and who aspired to eminence in his profession. I may observe, however, that in more recent and happier days, the great Duke assisted in the labours of the Craft at various private lodges held in Kensington Palace under the auspices of our late Grand Master, the Duke of Sussex. This interesting relation I had from the lips of the late Bro. Sir John Doratt, who assured me that he had himself officiated as J.W. at several private lodges, where the Duke of Wellington acted as Senior Warden But, although the fact be undeniable that the stirring events of war and politics in which he occupied so prominent a part, precluded Wellington from attaining great distinction as a member of our Order, I contend that his whole life was a genuine tribute to the value of Freemasonry, that his actions were in strict consonance with our precepts, and his genius and influence ever exerted in the cause of patriotism and truth. As Tennyson finely phrases it,

> "Truth teller was our England's Alfred named, Truth lover was our English Duke; Whatever record leap to light He never shall be shamed."

In these few words we have the grandest eulogy that can be pronounced upon departed greatness, as few, indeed, amongst the famous dead, can bear the scrutiny of time, or the rigid analysis of impartial history. It is for these reasons, and not merely on account of his high position in the nation that we are proud to reflect that Wellington was a Freemason; and it was doubtless similar reasons which caused the honourable association of his name with the Wellington Lodge. And it is, I submit, a very commendable practice to perpetuate the names of Masonic worthies by enshrining them in the nomenclature of our lodges.

It not only "keeps their memories green" in our souls, but stimulates us to an imitation of their virtues, and it disarms the hostility of the prejudiced world by proving that the recognised leaders of thought and action in every age were members of our fraternal federation.

I have thus imperfectly delineated the salient points of Wellington's character, and it is for us to apply the lesson to our hearts, and to carry outin our daily life that attachment to social order, and that unswerving performance of duty which our illustrious brother invariably manifested. The rites of Freemasonry forcibly impress upon us doctrines of the purest morality and truths of the most solemn character, and it ought to be our constant endeavour to exemplify its precepts by consistent and unsullied lives. If the ceremonies of the Craft were vain and frivolous fancieshowever much they might please the imagination, they would never influence the intellect or captivate the heart; and as it is by the fruit that the tree is best known, so it is by its practical results: of tolerance, goodwill, and heaven-born charity that Freemasonry must be judged. May the Order ever be found, as it is our privilege to witness it now, in the vanguard of civilisation-combating evil, supporting truth, and proclaiming aloud those divine commands, which are the essence of all religion, "Love God, and love your neighbour."

THE KNIGHTS TEMPLARS. By Anthony Oneal Haye.

(Continued from page 505).

BOOK THIRD-CHAPTER V.

GRAND MASTER, PETER DE MONTAGU.

Character of Templars. Siege of Damietta. Damiettetaken. Coradin. War in Palestine. Letters from Grand Master as to affairs in the the East. Emperor Frederick II. of Germany. Is excommunicated. Lands at Acre and makes peace with the Musselmen. Crowns himself at Jerusalem. Hostility between him and the military Orders. A.D. 1218, 1232.

Peter de Montacute Montagu or Montaigu, was elected Grand Master. He had previously filled the office of Grand Preceptor of Spain.*

^{*} Jac. de Vitr, A.D. 1218.

Jacques de Vitri writes of the Templars at this period, that "they seek to expel the enemies of the Cross of Christ from the dominions of the Christians by fighting manfully, and by moving to battle at the signal and command of him who is at the head of their forces, not impetuously nor disorderly, but prudently and with all caution, the first in advance the last in retreat; nor is it permitted them to turn their backs in flight, nor to retreat without orders. They are become so formidable to the adversaries of the faith of Christ that one chases a thousand, and two ten thousand : not asking when there is a call of arms how many the enemies are, but where they are; lions in war, gentle lambs at home ; rugged warriors on an expedition, like monks and eremites in the Church." From this we may presume that the Order in the Holy Land had still some pretensions to their predecessor's high and venerable character.

Saif-Eddin had appointed his fifteen sons to separate principalities throughout his vast dominions, but after his death disputes arose among them as to the supremacy, and a conspiracy was formed to seige the person of his brother Malek Kamel, then in the camp before Damietta, and to dethrone him. On the eve of the day on which the plot was to be carried into effect, the Sultan warned, left the camp in the middle of the night. On the morning the conspirators discovering that their victim had escaped attempted to seduce the soldiers into rebellion. With some they succeeded, but with others they failed. Confusion ensued; a panic seized upon the loyal portion of the army, who abandoned tents and baggage, and hastily and in the greatest disorder followed the Sultan. Seizing advantage of this, the Templars followed by the other Christians, crossed the Nile. They were fiercely opposed by the Musselmen on landing, one of their vessels was driven against the bank and boarded, upon which the Templars, with their axes, cut holes in her bottom, and both they and their enemies were drowned. Of this, Wendover writes :*

"Like Samson when dying, slew more enemies than during his life, so these martyrs for Christ took more enemies with them into the abyss of waters than they could have destroyed with the sword." The Templars, however, at length succeeded in forcing a landing, and were the first to ascend the bank, striking down the Musselmen

and driving them back upon Damietta. The Musselmen abandoned their camp which was given up to plunder. Damietta was then closely surrounded, a trench was dug round the city, and means were taken to prevent succours reaching the inhabitants. Two bridges of boats were thrown across the Nile as a communication between the old and new camps, and the charge of one of these was given to the Templars. The Musselmen made a desperate attempt to relieve the city, but were defeated with immense slaughter, but on making another attempt they succeeded in routing the Templars, though there their success stopped.

[July 4, 1869.

Meanwhile Coradin, who had taken advantage of the absence of the Christians from Palestine to lay siege to the Chateau Pelerin, hearing of these disasters, hurried with his forces to the Nile.* He endeavoured, after forcing the old camp, to drive the Templars from the bridge of boats under their charge, but failed. On the 31st of July he made a general attack upon the camp, the trenches were forced, the infantry put to flight, and the Christians were falling into a panic, when de Montagu at the head of his Knights, made a brilliant charge, and hurled back the leading columns of the enemy. "The spirit which led Gideon," writes de Vitry, who was present, " animated the Templars; the Master with the marshal and others of the brethren of the Temple stimulated the rest of the army, who advanced valiantly to their support. Thus did the Lord on that day, through the valour of the Templars, save those who put their trust in Him.";

Much to the discontent of the Christians several of the Crusaders returned home. The Duke of Austria thought he had done sufficient in fulfilment of his vow, and left the camp, presenting the Templars with fifty marks of gold, and his brother the Count of Austria gave them five hundred marks of silver.[‡]

On the 29th of August the Crusaders attacked the Musselmen and routed them, but untaught by experience no sooner did the enemy abandon their camp than the Christians fell to plundering. Seeing this Coradin rallied his troops and returned to assail the Crusaders, but the Templars and Hospitallers rushed to meet him, and had it not been for their brilliant gallantry, the standard of the Cross

Wendover, A.D. 1219.

^{*} Jac. de Vitr, p. 1137. † Jac. de Vitr, p. 1138. ‡ Jac. de Vitr, p. 1137. Bernard Thesaur, cap. 195.

July 4, 1868.]

would have fallen. The Christians succeeded in regaining their entrenchments, and Coradin was forced to retire.*

The inhabitants of Damietta meanwhile were reduced to the greatest straits, and various expedients were resorted to to relieve them. Leather sacks filled with provisions, and loaves concealed in the sheets which enveloped dead bodies, were abandoned to the Nile, which carried them to the wall of the city. These stratagems were soon discovered, and a stop put to them. The Musselmen became alarmed for the safety of the city, and hearing that the Emperor of Germany was proceeding to the assistance of the Christians at the head of an immense force, the Sultan of Damascus sent to the Crusaders to ask for peace. He offered to abandon the city and kingdom of Jerusalem, to repair the walls of the Holy City which Coradin had destroyed, and only to reserve the places of Krak and Montreal as necessary for the safe passage of pilgrims and merchants to Mecca, and for these he offered to pay tribute. He furthermore engaged to give up the wood of the true cross, and to set at liberty all the Christian The king of Jerusalem, and the prisoners. principal leaders of Palestine, urged the acceptance of these terms, but Pelagius, desirous of still being at the head of the army, refused compliance, and consequently this most important offer for the Christians was thrown aside, and the siege prosecuted with the utmost vigour. The citizens at length were forced to sue for terms of surrender, and two Templars, and two Hospitallers were deputed to arrange the terms, but they could not agree, and the next morning the city was stormed. One shudders at the description of the city upon the entrance of the stormers. Out of a population of seventy thousand at the commencement of the siege, only three thousand pale withered shadows remained + Immediately after the fall of the city the Templars accompanied the King of Jerusalem to Palestine to concert measures for the protection of the Holy Land.

The military orders during the winter employed every means and strained every energy to meet the inevitable spring campaign. Their position was not only difficult but dangerous in the extreme, for the Europeans, satisfied with their exploits, returned home, leaving the defence of the kingdom

to them. Coradin, in the spring, led a vast army of cavalry and infantry into the Christian possessions, blockaded Acre, and proceeded to invest the Chateau Palerin. De Montagu threw himself into it, with four thousand men, and prepared to make a desperate resistance. The siege was prosecuted with great skill and vigour, but the Templars repulsed the attackers at every assault. It is said that in this siege Coradin lost six emirs, two hundred Mamlooks, and a number of archers ; and on one day alone he had a hundred and twenty valuable horses slain, one of which cost fourteen thousand marks.

The King of Jerusalem and the Masters of the military Orders wrote urgent letters to Europe for assistance, and called upon the Pope to compel the Emperor Frederick of Germany to fulfil his vow, and at once to proceed to the Holy Land. De Montagu wrote the following pitiful letter to the Bishop of Ely, describing the state of Palestine :

"To our reverend brother in Christ, by the grace of God, Bishop of Ely, Peter de Montagu, Master of the Knights of the Temple, greeting. How we have proceeded in the business of our Lord Jesus Christ since the capture of Damietta. and the castle of Taphuis, we, by these present letters set forth to your holiness. Be it known to you, then, that in the first passage after the aforesaid captures, such a number of pilgrims arrived at Damietta, that, with the rest of the army which remained, they were sufficient to garrison Damietta and to defend the camp. Our lord, the legate, and the clergy, desirous to advance the cause of the army of Christ, often and earnestly exhorted the people to make an attack on the infidels, but the nobles of the army, as well as those of the transmarine provinces as those on our side of the water, thinking that the army was not sufficient for the defence of the aforesaid cities and castles, and at the same time to proceed further for the advantage of Christianity, would not consent to this plan; for the Sultan of Babylon, with an innumerable host of infidels, had pitched his camp near Damietta, and on each arm of the river had built bridges to obstruct the progress of the Christians, and was there waiting with such an immense army that the Crusaders, by proceeding further would incur the greatest danger. Nevertheless, we fortified the said city and camp, and the coast round with trenches in all directions, expecting to be consoled by the Lord with the assistance of those who were coming to help us.

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^{*} Jac. de Vitr, p. 1139. Bernard Thesaur, c. 198. † Jac de Vitr, p. 1143. Bernard Thesaur, C. 200.

The Saracens, however, seeing our deficiency, armed all their galleys and sent them to sea in the month of September, and these caused great loss among the Christians, who were coming to the assistance of the Holy Land. In our army there was such a great deficiency of money that we could not maintain our ships for any length of Therefore, knowing that great loss would time. be incurred by the Christian army by means of these said galleys of the Saracens, we immediately armed our galleys, galliots, and other vessels to oppose them. Be it also known to you that Coradin, the Sultan of Damascus, assembled an immense army of Saracens, and finding that the cities of Acre and Tyre were not sufficiently supplied with Knights and soldiers to oppose him, continually did serious injury to those places, both secretly and openly. Besides this, he often came and pitched his camp before our camp which is called the Pilgrims, doing us all kinds of injury. He also besieged and reduced the Castle of Caesarca, in Palestine, although numbers of pilgrims were staying at Acre. I have also to inform you that Seraph, a son of Saif Eddin, and brother of the Sultans of Babylon and Damascus, is with a powerful army fighting against the Saracens in the eastern parts, and has prevailed much against the more powerful of his enemies, although not against all; for by God's favour he will not be able easily to conquer all of them, for if he could bring that war to a conclusion the county of Antioch or Tripoli, Acre or Egypt, whichever of them he might turn his attention to, would be in the greatest danger, and if hc were to lay siege to any one of our castles, we would not in any wise be able to drive him away. This said dissension among the Pagans, however, gives us pleasure and comfort. Moreover, we have long expected the arrival of the Emperor and other nobles, by whom we hope to be relieved; and on their arrival we hope this business which has commenced by the hands of many to a happy termination ; but if we are deceived in the hope of this assistance in the ensuing summer, which I hope will not happen, both countries, namely, Syria and Egypt, and that which we have lately gained possession of, as well as that which we have held for a long time, will be placed in a doubtful position. Besides, we and the other people on our side of the water are oppressed by so many and great expenses in carrying on this Crusade, that we shall be unable to meet our

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nccessary expenses, unless by the Divine mercy we shortly receive assistance from our fellow Christians. Given at Acre, the 20th September."*

The Grand Master likewise wrote in firm language to the Pope desiring him to order the Emperor Frederick to repair to the Holy Land, in fulfilment of his vow. He also asked the Pope to forbid the practice of these sworn to the Crusade, compounding for their nonfulfilment of their engagements with money, which had a prejudical effect upon the affairs of the Holy Land. He likewise complained bitterly of the misapplication of the money raised throughout Europe for the Crusade, declaring that not a twentieth part of it reached the treasury of the kingdom.⁺

The Pope's reply took no notice of the Grand Master's demand as to the compounding for military service in Palestine, by a payment of of money, and with regard to the embezzlement of the funds destined for the defence of the Holy Land, he replied that he had not fingered a farthing of it, and if it had not been all received, it was no fault of his, but the fault of those who had not obeyed his commands.[‡]

The well founded complaint relative to the misapplication of money threw the European priesthood, who had shamefully appropriated the greater part of it, into the wildest fury. Matthew Paris, who hated both the Templars and Hospitallers for their wealth and power, abused them without measure. They were accused of squandering the money in the erection of gorgeous building and in luxury, as well as directing it to purposes, when received in the East, foreign to the intentions of the donors. The outcry grew so scandalous that the Pope at length sent to Pelagius, the Patriarch of Jerusalem, and the leaders of the Crusaders, inquiring into the matter. The reply was a complete vindication of the Orders, and the Pope wrote to the Bishops of England, France, and Sicily, commanding them to proclaim the innocence of the Knight's throughout their dioceses, and to honour, love, and protect them, as generous defenders of the faith.

No attention appears to have been given by any one to the compounding, even by the Templars, for we find in 1236 the Pope sending Thomas, his familiar, along with a Templar into England with his warrant to absolve those Crusadars, whom they

^{*} Wendover, A.D. 1222. † Martene, vet. script. Tom. V., Col. 1480. ‡ Rainald, A.D., 1222.

should choose and in whose cases they might think it expedient, from their vow of pilgrimage, or receiving money in return, which money the Pope considered he could spend advantageously for the promotion of the war in Palestine. They, however, met with a cool reception, as it was generally believed that money handed to the Pope would remain in his treasury and never see the Holy Land.

Succours, however, were sent during the summer of 1221, the troops of Coradin were defeated and driven beyond the Latin frontier, and freed from this dangerous enemy, and De Montagu returned to Damietta to superintend the military operations in Egypt. Pelagius had now openly assumed the position of commander-in-chief of the forces, and his natural arrogance increased as reinforcements arrived. He appears to have duped kimself into the belief that he was the only general fit to be trusted with the command, and in spite of the urgent entreaties of De Montagu to the contrary,* during the autumn, and when the Nile was rising, he ordered an expedition against Cairo. The disaster which followed this, is told in a letter from De Montagu to Alan Marcel, Master of the Temple in London.

"Brother P. de Montagu, humble Master of the Knights of the Temple, to his well beloved brother in Christ, A. Marcel, holding the office of Preceptor in England, greeting. Although we have from time to time informed you of the prosperity which attended us in the affairs of Jesus Christ, we now by this present letter relate to you in the order they have happened the reverses which we owing to our sins have met with in the land of Egypt. The Christian army after the capture of Damietta having remained quietly at that place for a long time, the people of our side of the water, as well as those of the transmarine provinces, cast reproofs and reproaches on us on that account; and the Duke of Bavaria having arrived as lieutenant of the Emperor, explained to the people that he had come for the purpose of attacking the enemies of the Christian faith. A council was therefore held by our lord, the legate, the Duke of Bavaria, the Masters of the Templars, Hospitallers, and Teutons, the Earls, Barons, and all the rest, at which it was unanimously agreed by all to make an advance. The illustrious King of Jerusalem also, having been sent for, came with his barons, and with a fleet of galleys and armed

ships to Damietta, and found the army of the Christians lying in their camp outside the lines. After the Feast of the Apostles Peter and Paul, then his Majesty the King and the legate, with the whole Christian army, proceeded in order both both by land and water, and discovered the Sultan with an innumerable host of the enemies of the cross, who, however fled before them; and so they proceeded without loss till they arrived at the camp of the Sultan. This was surrounded by the river which they were unable to cross. The Christian army therefore pitched its camp on the bank, and constructed bridges to cross over against the Sultan, from whose camp we were separated by the river Tamis, which is a branch of the great river Nile. Whilst we made some stay there great numbers left our army without leave, so that it was decreased by ten thousand men or more. In the meantime, the Sultan by means of a trench constructed previously, when the Nile rose, sent galleys and galliots into the river to obstruct our ships, that no supplies might come from Damietta to us, we being then destitute of provisions; for they could not reach us by land, as the Saracens prevented them. The road by sea and land by which necessary supplies could reach us being thus blocked up, the army held conncil as to returning; but the brothers of the Sultan, Seraph and Coradin, the Sultans of Aleppo and Damascus, and other Sultans, namely, of Camela, Haman, and Coilanbar, with many Pagan Kings, and a countless host of infidels, who had come to assist them, had cut off our retreat. Our army, however, departed by night by land and water, but lost all the provisions in the river, besides a great many men, for when the Nile overflowed the Sultan turned the water in different directions by means of hidden streams, canals, and rivulets, which had been made some time before to obstruct the retreat of the Christians. The army of Christ, therefore, after losing among the marshes all its beasts of burden, stores, baggage, carriages, and almost all their necessaries, and being destitute of provisions, could neither advance nor retreat, nor had it any place of refuge, neither could it give battle to the Sultan on account of his being surrounded by the river, and it was thus caught in the midst of the waters like a fish in a net. Being, therefore, in this strait, they, although unwillingly, agreed to give up to the Sultan the City of Damietta with all the prisoners which could be found in Tyre and Acre in exchange for

^{*} Will. Tyr. Cont. Hist. Col. 692.

the Tine Cross and the Christian prisoners in the Kingdoms of Babylon and Damascus. We therefore, in company with other messengers, deputed by the army in common, went to Damietta, and told the people of the city the terms which were imposed on us, which greatly displeased the Bishop of Acre,* the Chancellor, and Henry, Count of Malta, whom we found there; for they wished to defend the city, which we should also have much approved of, if it could have been done with any advantage, for we had rather been consigned to perpetual imprisonment than that the city should be given up by us to the infidels to the disgrace of Christianity. We therefore made a personal search throughout the city of all persons and effects, but found neither money nor people wherewith it could be defended. We therefore acquiesced in this agreement, and bound ourselves by oath and by giving hostages, and agreed to a confirmed truce for eight years. The Sultan, till the arrangement was made, strictly abided by what he had promised, and supplied our famished army with loaves and flour for about fifteen days. Do you, therefore, compassionating our suffering, assist us as far as you are able. Farewell."+

(To be continued.)

MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES,

IMPERIAL MASONRY.

Bro. the Emperor Napoleon III. has so far departed from his attitude of inattention, and the Empress so far infringed the edicts of bigotry, as to give a prize in silver to the Masonic Benevolent Lottery, got up by the Lodge Themis, at Caen, in France.—O.E.

MASONRY IN CORSICA.

Masonry does not flourish in Ajaccio, the birthplace of Napoleon the Great. It is a deadly-lively with a vengeance, and recommended to invalid English. With a population of 15,000, there is one public carriage for hire, and more than enough for the amusements of the place. When I was there no meat was to be got in the city but pork. Since 1821 the Lodge the Reunion has been disunited three times and gone to sleep. It has now been started again.--VIATOR.

ITALY.

To add to the confusion of the divided jurisdictions, the Grand Orient of France has a lodge at Leghorn called Amici Veri dei Virtuosi.—O. E.

HABITS DESIRABLE FOR MASONS' SONS.

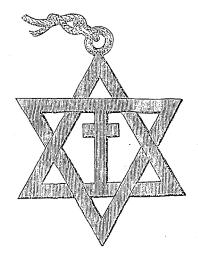
My answer to the inquiry of a "A Mason having seven sons," is that, in my opinion, the habits desirable for Masons' sons are those specified by the Rev. John Todd, D.D., of North America, as desirable for young men generally. They are described in a work entitled "The Student's Guide." The subjoined list is taken from one of my memorandum books. 1. Have a plan laid beforehand for every day. 2. Acquire the habit of untiring industry. 3. Cultivate perseverance. 4. Cultivate the habit of punctuality. 5. Be an early riser. 6. Be in the habit of learning something from every man you meet. 7. Form fixed principles on which you can think and act. 8. Be simple and neat in your personal habits. 9. Acquire the habit of doing everything well. 10. Make constant efforts to be master of your temper. 11. Cultivate soundness of judgment. 12. Make the proper treatment of parents, friends, and companions a habit.—C. P. COOPER.

GRAND OBIENT OF FRANCE.

The following is a note of some of their foreign lodges in activity:—Turkey—Alexandria, The Pyramids; Galatz, Disciples of Pythagoras; Constantinople, Union of the East; Ibrail, The Hospitable Pharos. America—Guadaloupe, Elus d'Occident; Buenos Ayres, The Friend of the Shipwrecked; Montevideo, Friends of the Fatherland; Valparaiso, Star of the Pacific.—O. E.

ABYSSINIAN KNIGHTLY ORDER.

In the Illustrated London News some few week back the insignia of an Abyssinian knightly Order, which was conferred upon Mr. Rassam, is briefly noticed. Can any of your readers give us any account of it, as there is a Masonic character about the jewel which courts inquiry as to the antiquity of the Order ?—— $H \equiv 30^{\circ}$.



LITERARY MASONRY.

Oppert, of the Institute, one of the most distinguished cuneiform scholars, is an active member of the Grand Orient of France. For that matter, the Grand Orient and Supreme Council are much more distinguished for their literary and scientific members than our Grand Lodge. Would it do any harm if some of those men among ourselves received the purple as well as nobodies.—O.E.

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GOOD TEMPLARS.

Having been called upon by Bro. Hughan to address the readers of the *Freemasons' Magazine*, and give my opinion, I think it right to say that a society like the Good Templars, that abstains from intoxicating liquors, and wages war against drunkenness, is anti-Masonic. Such a society is not according to the landmarks, but the watermarks. If we drink water will the worthy and worshipful hosts let us meet in public houses, which is one of the ancient privileges of Freemasons? Would not the miserable remnant be compelled to erect Masonic halls and buildings of their own? "Give me again my public house—my glass of grog, and liberty."—W. HARRIS.

GRAND LODGE OFFICERS.

Will any of your readers be good enough to state their opinion, for the information of myself and others, on the following subject : "The precedence of Grand Lodge officers as laid down in the 'Book of Constitutions,' page 17, small edition-should that govern the precedence of officers of Provincial Grand Lodges. At page 51, par. 3, it states that no brother can be appointed a Provincial Grand Warden unless he be the Master or Past Master of a lodge; nor a Provincial Grand Deacon, unless he be a Warden or Past Warden of a lodge." Now, the Secretary, Treasurer, and Registrar may be appointed from Master Masons, I presume; and as at page 45, par. 2, the Provincial Grand Master is empowered to appoint, for his province, a deputy, two Wardens, and two Deacons, and other officers, why should the Grand Registrar of a province, for instance, and for whom no previous qualification is stated, rank above a Grand Deacon, as the Registrar has not the duties to perform as the Grand Registrar of the Grand Lodge of England, whose qualification must be a Master or Past Master, and who may be appointed by the Grand Master to preside over any province vacant .- A PAST MASTER.

A THEISTIC BROTHER.

The strong opinion expressed by a learned and popular writer upon Natural Theology, by no means convinces me that "a Theistic brother" will do wrong if he acts in regard to Christianity as Socrates acted in regard to Paganism.

MIRACLES.

Bro. "M. J. L." the Christian Masons to whom you allude, put forward no reason for withholding belief in miracles, except lack of satisfactory evidence.— C. P. COOPER.

BRO. HAVE AND BRO. HUGHAN ON ROYAL ARCH MASONRY.

My friend Bro. A. O. Haye has favoured me with his opinion on that part of the "Analysis of Ancient and Modern Freemasonry" which refers to the Royal Arch, and has endeavoured to prove that a Master Mason, under the Grand Lodges of England and Scotland, *can be complete* without taking the Royal Arch, as "that which was lost can only be found beyond the veil of time."

He also states that such is the opinion of every aged Mason with whom he has conversed. The latter statement, to my mind, is a most extraordinary one, because Bro. Haye's Masonic acquaintances are very numerous, and many are very well informed on Masonic history.

If "what was lost can only be found beyond the veil of time, how is it that in the lectures of the third degree, before the Royal Arch was instituted, it is expressly declared that "what was lost is now found," viz., in the concluding part of the degree? Also, how is it that most writers of note on this subject, both aged and young, concur in stating that the word of the third degree was removed to the Royal Arch, and that in consequence the Royal Arch is the complement of the third degree? They also agree that the *l*** w**** is really found in the Royal Arch degree.

But I cannot possibly dwell long on this subject, however interesting it may be, as my numerous engagements will not permit me to do, added to which, I have already written at length on the history of the Royal Arch, and quoted abundant evidence to prove my position. Of course I admit that to such Masons who are in possession of the original secrets of the third degree the Royal Arch is superfluous; but in this county I have not met with one who is so situated without having taken the Royal Arch, although abroad we can meet with many.—W. J. HUGHAN.

P.S.—My articles are before the fraternity, and I am content to abide by their decision.

ORDER OF ST. JOHN OF JERUSALEM.

The following appeared in the Illustrated London News on 20th ult., as well as in the Church News and other papers: can any brother inform me to what Order it alludes, and whether it has any connection with the Order of St. John Knights of Malta, of which Sir George Bowyer is a member, and which is, of course, Roman Catholic, or to the Order, which is conferred by the Grand Conclave of Masonic Knights Templars?— \mathbf{X} 30°.

Perhaps Bro. Haye will enlighten us as to this Order:----

"ORDER OF ST. JOHN OF JERUSALEM.—The Festival of St. John the Baptist will be celebrated as usual by the knights and other members of the English branch of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem, on the 24th inst. Previous to the Chapter General, there will be a short service, by permission of the Vicar, in the Church of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, where, at eleven o'clock, the Litany will be sung, and a sermon preached by the Rev. Thomas Hugo, one of the Chaplains of the Order. After the service the Chapter General will be held at the Chancery, which is but a few steps distant from St. Martin's Church.

[This refers to the Langue of England of the Order of St. John, and has nothing to do with Masonic Knights Templars and their Knights of Malta. After the capture of Malta, and the dispersion of the Order, the Langue of France did not take part in the reconstitution in Russia under the Emperor Paul, which afterwards resolved itself into the Roman organisation. After the Restoration the Langue of France was reconstituted, and on its demand that of England was restored. This is the body in question, and it consists of gentlemen having the statutory qualifications, and is presided over by the Duke of Manchester as Grand Prior and Turkopolier. At a later period the Pope named Sir George Bowyer Grand Prior of England, but he is not recognised by by the Langue of England, nor by the other inde

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pendent branches of the Order. The Pope will most likely find it necessary to come to terms with the English Langue, in order to strengthen his body of the order.—ED. F. M.]

BRO. HUGHAN AND O.B. OF CANDIDATES.

I cannot well be more explicit as to the religion required of candidates as a prerequisite for Masonry. Bro. Charles Purton Cooper has ventilated the department thoroughly, and his voluminous letters on the Theology of the Craft have my hearty concurrence. It is a difficult task to write on such subjects in the MAGAZINE, and hence my remarks anent the O.B. of candidates is thought to be obscure by a correspondent at Oxford. When I state that the candidate "must take some kind of O.B., whatever that may be, and on what," I mean that at initiation (and also for the other Craft degrees) the candidate is permitted, under the Grand Lodge of England, to take whatever O.B. may be considered binding and suitable to him, whether it be on affirmation or on oath, and on whatever he may prefer, e.g., the Bible, the Koran, the New Testament, &c. I have seen a Quaker initiated on the security of his affirmation, and a Jew on the Old Testament, and that surely will be considered sufficient explanation of my statement relative to the O.B. of candidates.—W. J. HUGHAN.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

MASONIC AND BIBLICAL OBJECTS FROM THE HOLY LAND.

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

Dear Sir and Brother,—I send you this circular letter under the solemn and tender emotions that my Masonic relationship to you, my pleasant memories of your friendship, and the venerable country in which I am now sojourning, are calculated to inspire. It is your money that enabled me to enter upon this great and important undertaking to which our Celestial Grand Master has already given the seal of divine approval. And I naturally look to you now, as one of my original patrons, to help me through it honourably to the cause of Freemasonry and creditably to myself.

You will remember that when I was with you I said those who paid me one dollar cash, that if more money was needed I should apply to you, and solicit increased contributions from you. Such now is the case. I have closely calculated my expenses up to next August, and find that while I have enough for travelling purposes, and to fill the orders for specimens heretofore received, yet I lack a great deal of having enough to purchase additional specimens, hire assistants, make excavations, and work out this great plan as it ought to be done, before I return home in August. This, then, is my justification for asking your further help, without a moment's delay.

In return for your money I will give you valuable Masonic and Biblical objects for whatever amount you contribute. Such objects as you will value many times beyond their cost. I am now in a situation to

supply you with such things as no one else in our country is in possession of. Please, then, read carefully the following offer, and lend me your hand.

Those who will mail the money to me within two weeks after they receive this letter shall be supplied upon my Masonic faith—in September next, with Masonic specimens according to the following catalogue, viz. :—

For Three Dollars—Four Specimens.

1st. A piece of native stone from the memorable quarry under Jerusalem, out of which the Temple itself was built.

2nd. A piece of native stone from the ruins of Tyre.

3rd. A pilgrim shell from the Port of Joppa, the same kind that the Crusaders wore.

4th. An ancient coin taken from the ruins of Gebal, or immediate vicinity.

The specimens of stone are large enough to work up into a keystone, &c., &c.

For Five Dollars-Ten Specimens.

1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th, the same as above named.

5th. A sprig of acacia, from the mountains about Jerusalem.

6th. A piece of cedar from Lebanon.

7th. A shell from the Masonic Bay near Beyrout. 8th. A piece of clay from the clay grounds between

Succoth and Zeredatah.

9th. A pomegranate fruit.

10th. A piece of olive wood from Mount Olivet, large enough to make into a Masonic Emblem.

Every specimen will be so numbered and labelled that you will have no difficulty in identifying it.

These are selections of specimens that you cannot help approving. All your life you can point to them with pride, not only on account of their intrinsic value, but because their purchase-money was in the light of assistance to a brother Mason."

Out of the seven grand localities in the Holy Land, in which all Freemasons are interested. I have already visited three, and shall leave to-day for the fourth: that is the city of Tyre. In the journal for which you paid me, you will have full accounts of all my movements. At Gebal I made most valuable collec-In Damascus I addressed a convention of tions. Masons, April 7th, and got up a petition to organise a lodge there. I think I can do the same at Joppa, and perhaps at Jerusalem. The Governor-General of this country, Raschid Pasha, is a zealous Mason, and has given me letters of authority requiring all officers of towns and villages to treat me with respect, and to furnish me with guards and provisions at just prices. Nothing can exceed the astonishment of the Freemascus of this country and Europe, to find a man coming 6,000 miles in search of Masonic light. They give me fraternal attention and the most loving greetings.

I send you three circulars, and would fraternally request you to distribute two of them where they will do the most good. If you do not feel able to subscribe 3 dols., or 5 dols., join in with other brethren, and make up the amount in the form of a club. In that way every one can help. I fully expect you to do the best you can, and will never forget your kindness. Please, remember, however, that my offer only extends for two weeks following the reception of this letter. I allude to this so that no mistakes need be made which would lead to unpleasantness hereafter.

I need not say to you that I am very lonely here, and oftentimes low-spirited. It is a serious matter for a man fifty years old to come so far and undertake so much. But my health is excellent. I have everything to encourage me, and I know I have your good wishes and prayers. We shall meet again next fall, when I shall have a thousand things to tell you of this grand mission, which reflects such honour upon those who got it up.

Don't fail to respond to this call at once. Direct your letters to Dr. Rob. Morris, Box 1653, Chicago, Illinois. My son-in-law, Mr. H. J. Goodrich, who lives at Chicago, will open your letters and acknowledge the receipt of it to you, and communicate it to me immediately. Surely there are but few Masons who will refuse an appeal like this, made in the very homes of King Solomon, King Hiram, and Hiram the Artificer—made by a man who has given his lifetime to Freemasonry, and has come so far to get "more light." You paid your dollar when the chances of my coming here seemed very uncertain. Now help me again ; you see I am doing my part with success.

Yours fraternally,

ROB. MORRIS.

A Proposition to all Lovers of Bible Knowledge.

A great many persons, not Masons, long to have objects from the Holy Land. Such persons may consider the above propositions equally addressed to them. I will also make to them the following additional proposals:—For 1 dol. any one of the following specimens:—

A piece of Spina Christi, or "Christ's Thorn," out of which the "crown of thorns" was made that was pressed upon the Saviour's brow. This is found abundantly near Jerusalem.

One of the pods of the carod ; this is the "husks" which the prodigal son did eat while feeding swine.

A shell from the Sea of Galilee.

A shell from the Jordan, near where our Saviour was baptized.

A pebble from the Brook Kedron.

An object of some kind from Bethany, Nazareth, or Bethlehem, such as a pebble, shell, or flower.

Everything will be numbered, labelled, and described with a printed inscription, so that no mistakes can possibly occur.

How many heads of families, Sunday-school teachers, Sunday-school scholars, and Bible readers would feel proud to possess treasures of this kind! Never before was the opportunity offered; nor will it ever be again, after the present month.

If any minister desires a slip from the cypress tree growing by the grave of Rev. Pliny Fisk, the first missionary in the Holy Land, who died at Beyrout in 1825, he can have it, with a copy of my poem written by his grave. The price is also one dollar.

Hoping to have a remittance from yourself, and

a good long list of them from your friends, I close with from the Holy Land.

ROB. MCRRIS.

Beyrout, Syria, April 13, 1868.

P.S.—A few copies of this have been sent to subscribers who denoted more than one dollar; because having already done their own part so nobly, they are the better qualified to advise their neighbours to "go and do likewise."

Address Rob. Morris, P. O. Box 1653, Chicago, Iliinois.

FREEMASONRY AND CHIVALRY.

TO THE BOITOR OF THE FRESMASONS' MAGAZINE AND MASONIC MIRNOR.

Dear Sir and Brother,—I have to thank Bro. Anthouy Oneal Haye for his courtesy in answering my inquiry as he does at page 469 of the MAGAZINE.

It may be considered that few will now care about upholding the idea of any connection between the Templars or Hospitallers and the Freemasons, or that the Freemasons are descended from the Templars.

The only connection that may have existed between the Templars and the Masonic fraternities of the middle ages would be simply that of employer and employed. After the structure was finished for which the Freemasons may have been required, they would then go elsewhere, the "serving brethren" or workmen to the Templars being sufficient to keep things in repair or build any common affair.

Freemasonry would hardly well live in a Templar encampment or preceptory. It found itself more at home in the burgh towns, in which places it eventually merged into, or became mixed up with, the Mason corporations.

On page 470 Bro. Haye alludes to an ancient lodge which might have been founded by the serving brethren of the Templars at Red Abbey-stead, in the time of David I., in a way which implies doubts in his mind of their being much in the idea.

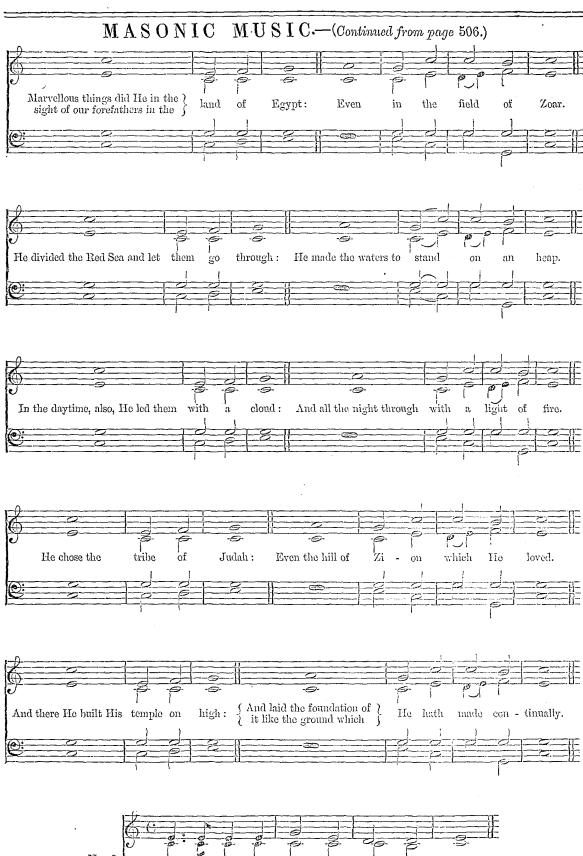
I do not know of a Freemasons' lodge in Scotland that, pointing to any existing specimen of ancient ecclesiastical architecture, ruined or otherwise, can say, with any hope of proving it, "We are the descendants or representatives of the Masonic fraternity which built that structure, in or about the first half of the twelfth century." Neither do I know of any existing proof of any sort which shows that a Freemasons' lodge was established in Scotland anywhere about, or before that date.

It may not be out of place here to remark that I have been anxiously waiting for something further from "A Masonic Student," more especially as I am not yet convinced about the non-existence of the M.M. degree before the eighteenth century, and not as yet having had time to study it properly, I have been all the more anxious to hear what "A Masonic Student" would say in support of his ideas. I hope to have the pleasure of seeing something from him soon.

Yours fraternally,

PICTUS.

IF thou art rich, try to command thy money, lest it should command thee. If thou know how to use it, it is thy servant; if not, thou art its slave.



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THE MASONIC MIRROR.

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

MASONIC MEMS.

JEDBURGH.—On Friday, the 10th inst., the foundation stone of the new Commercial Bank at Jedburgh, will be laid with Masonic honours. Bro. H. Inglis, of Torsonce, the R.W. Prov. G.M. for Peebles and Selkirk, presiding. Lodge will be opened at one o'clock in the rooms of the St. John's Lodge (No. 104). Bro. J. Blackie, R.W.M. After which there will be a Masonic procession, and the brethren will dine in the Black Bull Hotel, at two o'clock.

THE Prov. G. Commander of the Knights Templar province of Kent (Col. H. Clerk, \mathcal{RA}), has, we understand, appointed the 17th inst. for a Prov. G. Conclave to be held at Woolwich, of which, no doubt, further details will be July advertised.

A MEETING of the Supreme Grand Council 33° will, we understand, take place on the 14th July, at their new rooms, 33, Golden-square.

SURREY.—A Provincial Grand Lodge will be held on Tuesday, the 21st inst., at the Bush Hotel, Farnham.

ROYAL ALBERT IDIOT ASYLUM.--We are compelled from want of space again to defer the insertion of the report of laying the foundation stone by the Right Hon. the Earl of Zetland, M.W.G.M., on the 17th ult.

THE foundation stone of a new Masonic Hall at Belfast was laid on Wednesday, the 24th ult., by Bro. Sir Charles Lanyon, P.G.M. Want of space compels us to defer the report at present.

THE PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF BERRSHIRE AND BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.—A Provincial Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free, and Accepted Masons, will be held in the Town Hall, Maidenhead, on Tuesday, the 14th inst, at twelve o'clock precisely, for the transaction of the business of the province. There will be a public procession to All Saints' Church, Boyne Hill; Divine Service will commence at three o'clock; the Rev. and V.W. Bro, G. S. Finden, Prov. G. Chap. of Berkshire and Buckinghamsbire, will preach the sermon. The banquet will take place at the Town Hall, at five o'clock.

OUR readers will be glad to hear that Bro. Robt. Morris, LL.D., has returned to England. He is now located in the neighbourbood of Great Queen-street, London, for a few days.

UNITED GRAND LODGE.

An emergency meeting of the United Grand Lodge of England was held on Wednesday evening, the 1st inst., in the new banqueting hall, Freemasons' Tavern, in consequence of the hall where the meetings are usually held being now undergoing very extensive repairs and decorations. The meeting was called by the M.W.G. Master to dispose of the business that was not entered upon at the last quarterly communication for want of time. The G.M. took his seat on the throne at 8 o'clock precisely, Bro. Havers acting as S.G.W.; Bro. Capt. Le Gendre Starkie, J.S.W.; Bro. Faucett, Prov. G.M. for Durham, acting as D.G.M.; and on the dais we observed Bros. Empson, P.G.D.; Hopwood, P.G.D.; Spiers, P.G.S.B.; Patten, P.G.S.B.; J. Smith, P.G. Purst.; Udall, P.G.D.; Cox, P.G.D.; Clabon, P.G.D.; Savage, P.G.D.; G. Cox, P.G.D.; Young, P.G.S.B.; Symonds, P.G. Assist. Dir. of Cers.; Grissell, S.G.D.; Edward Robert, G.S.B.; T. Ough, A.G. Parst.; Browse, G.D.; and a not very numerous assemblage of brethren of different lodges.

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form and with solemus prayer.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The Grand Secretary laid before the Grand Lodge the annual report of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and the Widows of Freemasons, and the following proposed alteration of the laws, which was agreed to at the annual general meeting of the institution held on Friday, the 15th of May, was submitted for approval of Grand Lodge, viz.:--

"In the event of any annuitant, male or female, residing in the asylum becoming insane, subject to fits, or otherwise incapable of taking care of himself or herself, it shall be lawful for the Committee of Management to make such arrangement as they deem advisable for his or her removal and maintenance, not exceeding the amount of his or her annuity or to withhold or suspend his or her annuity if the Committee think fit to do so."

The G.M. put the question, the report was received, and the proposed alteration unanimously agreed to.

THE BUSINESS OF GRAND LODGE.

Bro. Henry G. Warren, P.M. G. Stewards' Lodge, pursuant to notice, moved to add to Rule 9, page 21, in the Book of Constitutions "all brethren, being members of Grand Lodge, may have such papers of business and notices of special Grand Lodge meetings forwarded to members by post on registering their addresses and paying a fee of 5s. per annum in advance." He said the resolution he had to bring forward he thought would recommend itself to every member of Grand Lodge, for it was of importance that brethren who took an interest in the proceedings ought to know what was the nature of the business to be brought before them. Theoretically it was said they might obtain that information through the masters of lodges, to whom the information was sent, but practically for brethren residing within the ranges of their lodges, and only saw the masters or their officers at very distant periods. Every member of the Grand Lodge had then the privilege acceded to them that he asked to give to the rest of the brethren who choose to pay for it. In cases of appeals they were informed that the papers in reference to them lay in the Grand Secretary's office for the inspection of the members of Grand Lodge, but they were only aware of that when the paper was put into their hands on entering the hall and not before. Therefore, unless brethren sent specially to the masters of lodges, it was impossible for them to know what business was to be proceeded with. The present meagre attendance in that room showed the necessity of his motion, and it was by a mere accident he himself was present there that evening, for he only knew of the meeting on Sunday last, and that purely by seeing it announced in a public journal. Up to Sunday last he was not aware that that meeting would take place. He contended that it was impossible in cases of appeal in a moment to make up their mind as to what should be done, when, perhaps, the proceedings had been running over fourteen or fifteen years, as some of those appeals did, and the brethern could not, off hand, form an opinion upon them. Bro. Warren then read his motion, and said in answer to an objection which had been raised to it, that he did not believe that it would add a great deal to the duties of the office, as too many members of Grand Lodge would not take advantage of it, but, at the same time, those whowere willing to pay for it ought to know the nature of the business that they were about to discuss.

Bro. Spiers, P.G.S.B., said he had not conferred with Bro. Warren, but he had great pleasure in seconding the motion, and he thought other matters should be included in it. He believed it would be of great advantage to the brethren if the papers of Grand Lodge were more easily accessible to members, and who would feel a great interest in their proceedings. The more they knew of them the greater would be the interest amongst the craft, and therefore he considered that members willing to pay their 2s. 6d. or 5s. should not only have the notice papers but all the proceedings of Grand Lodge. For himself he had them all regularly bound, they were most interesting volumes, and were often referred to by members of the craft for information upon particular questions. He was not aware of any other member having a copy of them. He hoped the present notice would commend itself to the good opinion of all, not only for the purpose of knowing what is to be done in the present but what has been done in the past, and he could safely say that there were no volumes in his library more interesting than those which contained the proceedings of Grand Lodge for the last 25 years. He therefore had great pleasure in seconding the motion.

Bro. Havers, P.G.W., said when he first saw the notice of motion he thought it was only fair and reasonable, but he wished to move an amendment to it, so as to include all reports of the quarterly communications. He thought it was only fair to those members who took the trouble of attending Grand Lodge that they ought to have the facility afforded to them of knowing what business had been discussed and how it had been disposed of. He wished all that ought to be made public would be so as widely as possible, and therefore he moved to add the words "together with the reports of the quarterly communications," and he hoped a large number of ths brethren would be willing to pay their 5s. annually for them.

Bro. Bennoch seconded the amendment, but said he had no faith that a very large number of brethren would subscribe for these papers to know what had been done.

Bro. Hopwood, P.G.D., supported the amendment, and said he believed a large number would avail themselves of the privilege if it was granted to them.

Bro. Warren said he was most happy to adopt the order proposed by Bro. Havers.

The G.M. put the motion, which was carried unanimously.

ILLEGAL APPOINTMENT OF PROVINCIAL GRAND OFFICERS.

Bro. Warren rosp, pursuant to notice, to move the repeal of Clause 4, page 30, of the Book of Constitutions, which is as follows :--- "The G.M. may appoint brethren of eminence and ability to be members of Grand Lodge, with such rank and distinction as he may think proper, provided that nothing herein contained shall empower Prov. G.M.'s to make similar appointments in their respective provinces." He said that he found some difficulty in regard to his motion, as his object was to show how this law was carried out in the provinces, and not with a view in any way of interfering with his lordship's prerogative in the appointment of such persons. His Lordship had told them on the occasion of the last quarterly communication that ignorance of a law was no excuse for the violation of it, and, therefore, as regarded the Provincial Grand Lodges, if the members of it were excluded from the privileges of the Craft, the ignorance of the Prov. G.M. was no excuse for it. He wished to call the attention of his Lordship and Grand Lodge to the proceedings of the last Provincial Grand Lodge for Warwickshire, at which the Prov. G.M. (Lord Leigh) gave rank to no less than seven members as Prov. G. Officers in direct violation of the law. He (Bro. Warren) had written to him and

told him that it was his intention to bring forward this motion, but he was informed in reply to it that he had given an explanation to the G. Sec., but, not knowing whether or not that had been done, he (Bro. Warren) had felt it to be his duty to call the attention of Grand Lodge to it. Lord Leigh had not only broken the law upon this occasion, but he had been in the habit of breaking it ever since his appointment. He found, by a Birmingham paper, that he had been in the habit of investing the Master of every lodge in which the Prov. G. Lodge was assembled with the purple ; but it appeared on the last occasion he could not do so because the Master of the lodge was not present. He (Bro. Warren) had looked over the list of Prov. G. Officers, and he found the name of Joseph Bragg, of the lodge No. 739, whom he appointed Prov. G.S.B., although the law distinctly stated that no such officers should be appointed. They were not members of the Grand Lodge, and had no right whatever to wear the clothing of Grand Officers. He also found that another brother had been given the purple-a Bro. Haynes, who had been appointed Prov. Assist. Sword Bearer. Looking back at these proceedings, it appeared that Lord Leigh had been in the habit of giving brethren this purple clothing, and appointing them as officers of the Grand Lodge in violation of the Book of Constitutions. He did not intend to proceeed with his motion, being satisfied with having called his Lordship's attention to what had been going on in Warwickshire, where 20 or 30 brethren were wearing the purple who had no right whatever to it. The same thing had taken place in Bucks and Berks, but when the present Prov. G.M, came to the province that was put down.

Bro. Spiers rose to order. This was a matter for the consideration of the Board of General Purposes and not for the Grand Lodge.

Bro. Warren said he had no power to go to the Board of General Purposes on the subject. He did not intend to proceed with his motion, but thought that the Grand Lodge should have this subject brought before it.

The Grand Master interposed and said—Some time ago irregularities in the province of Warwickshire were brought under my notice, and I directed a letter to be sent to the Provincial Grand Secretary, and I understood that those appointments were cancelled. I was not aware that there have been any great irregularities in that province, and all I can say is, that if sufficient evidence is brought before me I will direct the Grand Secretary to bring the matter before the Board of General Purposes. (This announcement of the M.W.G.M. was received with loud cheering.)

The motion was then withdrawn.

Some other interesting matters in reference to the demonstration to be made on the completion of the 25 years holding of the office of Grand Master by the Earl of Zetland, and the disposal of the surplus fund of the Board of Benevolence took place, but in consequence of the crowded state of our present number we must defer our report of them until next week.

METROPOLITAN.

WELLINGTON LODGE (No. 548).—A regular meeting of this lodge took place on Tuesday, the 23rd ult., at the White Swan, Deptford. The W.M., Bro. J. Jones, presiding, well supported by his officers. Lodge being formed and the usual preliminaries disposed of. The three ceremonies were ably gone through, there being three candidates for initiation—two for passing and two for the M.M. degree, all of which were given. Among the members present we noticed Bros. Gale, P.M.; Bagshaw, Simmons, Welsford, Wakefield, Bumsted, Owdensen. The visitors were Bro. Newsom. P.M.; F. Walters, P.M.; Dalziel, and many others. Lodge closed, the brethren sat down to an excellent banquet, which was followed by the customary toasts and speeches, and a most delightful evening resulted.

THE CRESCENT LODGE (No. 788).—This excellent lodge held the anniversary meeting on Tuesday, the 23rd ult, at the Ait Tavern, Twickenham, Bro. J. C. Hester, W.M., presiding. The minutes of the previous meeting being read and confirmed, the W.M. addressed the brethren, and said he had much pleasure in resigning the chuit to Bro. Smeed to whom he delecated the resigning the chair to Bro. Smeed to whom he delegated the office of giving the second degree to Bro. A. G. Lewis whose fitness to receive an advanced position was prominently evinced by the readiness of his replies to the ordaning questions. Subsequently, however, to the passing Bro James Waddell, who had been initiated in the Gilson Lodge, No. 49, was proposed as a joining member by Bro. J. Green, J.W., and seconded by Bro. G. Cordwell, P.M. The brother was successfully balloted for and received, Bro. Lewis was then passed. Bro. Green, the newly accepted member, also receiving the benefit of F.C. Bro Smeed was highly complimented upon the admirable way in which he rendered the working. The next business was that of installing the W.M. elect, Bro. W. H. Thompson. This sub-lime ceremony was performed by Bro. Stedwell, P.M., in a pleasing and instructive manner, the charges being beautifully delivered, and at the conclusion a well-merited burst of applause greeted the Installing Master. The various salutations having been given, the appointment of the assistant officers then took place which were as follows:-Bros. Green, S.W.; Gurney, J.W.; Bendy, S.D.; Smeed, J.D.; and Bro. Lewis, I.G. The officers being duly invested and instructed upon the discharge of the duties attendant upon their new appointments. The newly-installed W.M., Bro. Thompson, said he had a most pleasant duty to perform, that of presenting the I.P.M. with an elegant jewel. He felt assured that no brother envied their respected P.M., it was but a just compliment to his exertions on behalf of the lodge, and may he long continue to wear it. Bro. Hester replied in a speech replete with good feeling, assuring the brethren that he valued their good opinion more than the jewel, and he hoped still further to merit their approhation. The lodge then closed in peace and harmony. We had nearly forgotten to mention that Bro. F. D. Kennedy, of the Lily Lodge, No. 820, was proposed as a joining member by Bro. Stedwell, P.M., seconded by Bro. Cordwell, P.M. A ballot was taken and the brother was declared unanimously accepted.

INSTRUCTION.

WELLINGTON LODGE OF INSTRUCTION (No. 548).—There was a strong muster of brethren at the White Swan Tavern, Debtford, on Thursday, the 18th ult., to celebrate the anniversary meeting of this popular lodge of instruction, and also to hear the consecration and installation ceremonies worked by Bros. J. Brett and R. W. Little, P.M.'s. The lodge was opened at six o'clock by the latter brother, who then proceeded with the consecration ceremony, in the course of which he delivered an address which will be found on another page. Bro. Brett then ably performed the ceremony of installation, Bro. Jones, W.M., of the present lodge being installed in the chair. Hearty applause greeted both Bros. Little and Brett for their impressive rendering of the ritual, and votes of thanks were ordered to be recorded upon the minutes for their attendance. After lodge business the brethren adjourned to an excellent supper. Bro. Jones, W.M., presiding, supported by Bros. Bunstead, Welsford, G. E. Gale, Little, W. Stuart, Sergert, Bartlett, Simmons, P.M.'s, Kilner, and about forty other brethren, whose names we were unable to ascertain. The Master proved a capital chairman; the viands and wine were unexceptionable, the speeches short, and all the brethren good-humoured, so that it were supererogation to say that the pocceedings went off satisfactorily. In the course of the evening a handsome jewel was presented to Bro. G. E. Gale, P.M., in recognition of his great services at the resuscitation of the lodge of instruction, and his general zeal for Freemasonry. Bro. Little responded for the visiors. We must congratulate the stewards at this important festival for their admirable arrangements which contributed so materially to the comfort of the brethren.

PROVINCIAL.

CUMBERLAND AND WESTMORELAND.

SILLOTH .- Consecration of the Solway Lodge .- On 19th ult. the members of the embryo lodge to be beld at the Albion Hotel, Silloth, met for he purpose of forging a new link in the chain of Masonry in this district. Bro. F. W. Hayward, W. M. Desig-nate, P.M., 310, P.P.G.S.W., assisted by his wardens, opened the lodge under dispensation, owing to the unavoidable absence of Bro. the Right. Hon. Lord Kenlis, who had been for a time detained at Penrith. This done, the brethren formed a proces-sion, and, headed by the Silloth Brass Band, proceeded through the principal streets to the "Provincial" School, which had been kindly lent for the occasion by the Rev. F. Redford. Prayers were read by the Rev. Mr. Haythornwate; and a por-tion of the service was read by the Rev. F. Redford. The Rev. Bro. J. Simpson, vicar of Kirkby Stephen, P.P.G.C., and Prov. G. Sec. preached an excellent sermon. In the course of his G, Sec., preached an excellent sermon. In the course of his sermon, the rev. gentleman made a strong appeal to the brethren in behalf of the Silloth Convalescent Institution, to augment the funds of which charity a collection was made amounting to £3 6s. 7d. On the conclusion of the proceedings in church, the procession reformed and marched to the station to meet and escort to the Albion Hotel Bro. Lord Kenlis, P.G.M. of Cumberland and Westmoreland, who was expected to arrive by the train then due. On the arrival of his lordship, the brethren returned to the Albion Hotel, where the beautiful brethren returned to the Albion Hotel, where the beautiful ceremony of consecrating the Solway Lodge (No. 1220) was performed by Lord Keulis, with "corn, wine, and oil," emblematical of plenty, joy, and peace. Bro. F. W. Hayward was then duly inducted in the chair of K.S.; and appointed his officers, who were invested by Bro. D. Greaves, P.M. 339, P.P.D.G.M., as follows:--Bros. J. Hutton, P.M. 327, S.W. and Treas.; A. Routledge, P.M. 327; T, Woodall, S.D.; R. Lambert, J.D., G. Somerville, J.W. 310. I.G.; A. Woodhouse, Steward, 310, W.M. 412, P.G.S., as Sec., T. Cockburn, Tyler. Eight gentlemen were then proposed to become members of the lodge, after which the business was brought to a close, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet. brought to a close, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet, brought to a close, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet, at the Albion Hotel. The following brethren were present at dinner:—Bros. Lord Kenlis, F. W. Hayward, Dr. Greaves, the Rev. J. Simpson, the Rev. J. Halifax, Sergt-Major Ford, G. Turnbull, J. Iredale, J. Hutton, A. Routledge, T. Woodall, R. Lambert, G. Somerville, A. Woodhouse, T. Cockburn, G. G. Hayward, W. Court, G. Murchie, J. Gibson, W. Murray, J. Atkinson, J. Brough, W. Johnston, J. Barnes, all of 310 Car-lisle; Henry Fleming, Thos. Routledge, A. Dixon, W. Halli-day, T. Gibson, G. Stoddart, all of 327, Wigton; Dr. W. Jones, J. Tyson, T. Baylis, G. Beaty, of 371 Maryport; J. L. Harris, of 162, Cadogan; Sergt. S. Maxwell, of 402, Al·beyleix; W. Dickson, of 10 Washington, U.S. The toasts were interspersed Dickson, of 10 Washington, U.S. The toasts were interspersed with songs, and the National Anthem brought the proceedings to a close.

DEVONSHIRE.

MORICE TOWN, DEVONPORT.—St. Aubyn's Lodge (No. 954). —This prosperous and numerous lodge, which, though established only five years ago, has now nearly a hundred members, and is distinguished equally for its good working and the completeness and correctness of its provisions for carrying out all branches of Masonic ritual and practice, held its chief annual meeting at the rooms so elegantly and appropriately fitted up for its use, on the 24th ult., St. John's-day. Summonses had been issued for an emergency lodge at four o'clock, the installation of W.M. at five, and the banquet at six, but owing to unavoidable circumstances much delay occurred. Bro. Clemens, W.M., opened the lodge in the first degree, assisted by Bros. S. K. Gudridge, S.W.; Hawton, J.W.; Dr. Hopkins, by request, acting as I.P.M. Ample evidence having been given of the finess of the candidate for the privileges of Freemasonry, a ballot was taken for Mr. Gould, which proved unanimous in his favour. At the request of the W.M. Bro. Dr. Hopkins took the first chair, for the purpose of administering the ceremony. After the usual preliminaries, the candidate was introduced and duly admitted to a participation in the mysteries of the Order, the impressiveness of the ritual being enhanced by the aid of a select choir, the members of which performed the music now in course of publication in the columns of the FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE.

In the voyage of life we should imitate the ancient mariners, who, without losing sight of the earth, trusted to the heavenly signs for their guidance.

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The emblematic use of the working tools was explained by the acting W.M., but for want of time he was obliged to postpone the delivery of the charge ordinarily given to an E.A. The W.M., Bro. Clemens, again took his chair, and on his proposition a unanimous vote of thanks to Bro. Dr. Hopkins for his prompt assistance at a moment's notice was passed. The lodge of emergency was then closed. After a short interval it was again opened in the first degree, and such portions of the minutes of the previous meeting, as referred to the election of the Worshipful Master and Treasurer, was read and confirmed. The chair was then taken by Bro. Chapple, Past Master, &c., as Installing Master, who opened the lodge in the second degree. Bro. Clemens, the retiring W.M., pre-sented Bro. S. K. Gudridge, the W.M. elect, to receive the benefit of installation, and after the opening address, Bro. Dr. Hopkins was called upon to read the ancient charges, the requisite assent to which having been given, the obligation of W.M. elect was administered. The lodge was then opened in the third degree, and the brethren who had not passed the chair retired. A Board of fifteen Past Masters was then formed, with whose aid Bro. Gudridge was duly installed, and when it had been closed the Master Masons, on their re-admission, found Bro. Gudridge occupying the chair of K.S., sup-ported by Bro. Clemens as I.P.M. The usual processions, salutations, and proclamations took place, after which the new W.M., appointed and invested the following brether as his officers for the ensuing year:-Bros. P. B. Clemens, I.P.M.; Hawton, S.W.; H. F. Smith, J.W.; Trounce, See.; J. Baxter, Assist. Sec.; V. Bird, Treas.; Paul, S.D.; Ivey, J.D.; Goodall, Assist Sec. J. V. Bild, Heas, J. Lan, D.D., Aver, J.D., Goodan, Org.; Flanagan, I.G.; Fisher, Dir. of Cers.; Masters and Roberts, Stewards; and Rashbrook, Tyler. The final charge to the W.M. was given by the Installing Master, Bro. Chapple, and those to the Wardens and brethren by Bro. Dr. Hopkins. and those to the wardens and breather by Bro. Dr. Hopkins. Upwards of sixty members and visitors were present at the ceremonies, and at the close of the lodge proceedings, as the adjoining room generally used for refreshment was not sufficiently large for so special an occasion, and the entertain-ment of so large a party, the brethren adjourned to a large hall in Ker-street, kindly lent for the purpose. Bro. Gudridge, W M W.M., presided at the banquet, supported on his right by Bros. Dr. Hopkins, P.M., and P. Prov. S.G.W.; Murch, P.M., and others; and on his left by Bros. Clemens, I.P.M.; Chapple, P.M. and P. Prov. Assist. Dir. of Cers.; Bird, P.M.; W.J. Spry, P.M., and P. Prov. G. Dir. of Cers., and others. The vice-chair vas taken by Bro. Hawton, P.M. 1,091, S.W. Bro. Goodall interspersed between the toasts, which were of the usual character on such occasions. The toast of "The Ladies" having been entrusted by the president to Bro. Bird, he took the opportunity to announce that it was the anniversary of the marriage of the newly-installed W.M., and therefore he appro-priately proposed "The Health of Mrs. Gudridge," which was received with acclamation. A most delightful evening was passed, and the brethren separated at about half-past ten.

LEICESTERSHIRE.

LEICESTER .- John of Gaunt Lodge (No. 523) .- The annual festival of this lodge was held at the Freemasons' Hall, on Wednesday, the 24th ult., being St. John's-day, and also the anniversary of the birthday of "Old John of Gaunt," timehonoured Lancaster. The lodge was opened in the first degree honoured Lancaster. The lodge was opened in the first degree by Bro. Kelly, the senior P.M. and D. Prov. G.M., and there were also present, Bros. Goodyer, P.M. and P. Prov. S.G.W.; Dufi, P.M. Lodge of Unions, London, and W.M. elect; Toller, J.W.; Sculthorpe, Sec.; Johnson, P.M. 491 and P. Prov. S.G.W. Jersey, Org.; Buzzard, S.D.; J. C. Clarke, J.D.; Sargeant, I.G.; Hunt, Partridge, Barnes, Spencer, Atkins (Steward), Wardle, Richardson, Bembridge, Tyler. Visitors, Bros. John A. Bindley, P.M. Abbey Lodge (No. 624); W. C. Crofts, I.P.M. Ferrers and Ivanhoe Lodge (No. 778); Rev. W. K. Robinson, W.M.; Rev. W. Langley, S.W.; H. Douglas, J.W.; and T. Markham, I.G. of the Ruthand Lodge (No. 1,130); and E, Morris, P.M. and Prov. G. Sec.; C. Stretton, P. Prov. and E. Morris, P.M. and Prov. G. Sec.; C. Stretton, P. Prov. G. Reg. and Sec., and W. E. S. Stanley, J.W. of St. John's Lodge; and W. Knight, late of 523. The minutes, including the election of the W.M., having been read and confirmed, the D. Prov. G.M., announced that a day or two ago he had received a letter from Holland, and subsequently a telegram from Paris, from Bro. G. H. Hodges, the W.M., expressing his deep regret that he could not reach Leicester in time to attend the lodge,

and that he had also to explain that the Treasurer, Bro. T. Sheppard, .P.M., was prevented being in his place in lodge owing to his official duties in connection with the annual wool fair, then being held in the town, and which also was the cause of other brethren. The D. Prov. G.M. then read an abstract of the Treasurer's accounts, which had been audited by himself and Bro. Clepham, P.M., which showed that the funds of the lodge (notwithstanding the vote of £100 to the Masonic Hall fund made in the preceding year) were sufficient to meet every liability of the lodge, irrespective of the year's subscription due that day. He moved a vote of thanks to Bro. Sheppard for his valuable services as Treasurer, which, he regretted, they were about to lose. Bro. Sheppard's residence in the country, and other duties, compelling him to retire from the office. The motion was seconded by Bro. Goodyer, P.M., and carried motion was seconded by Bro. Goodyer, P.A., and carried unanimously. A ballet being taken, Bro. W. B. Smith, P.M. and P. Prov. J.G. W., was unanimously elected Treasurer. The lodge was then opened in the second degree, and the W.M. elect, Bro. Alexander Marshall Duff, P.M. of the Lodge of Unions, London, and P.G. Dir. of Cers., was in ancient form installed, invested, and saluted by the brethren in the several degrees. He then annointed and invested the officers as follow: degrees. He then appointed and invested the officers as follow : degrees. He then appointed and invested the onicers as rollow: —Bros. G. H. Hodges, I.P.M. (by deputy); G. Toller, S.W.; T. H. Buzzard, J.W.: Rev. John Spittal, Chap.; W. B. Smith, Treas.; W. Sculthorpe, Sec.; A. Sargeant, S.D.; S. S. Partridge, J.D.; C. Johnson, P.M. 491, and P. Prov. S.G.W. Jersey, Org.; G. B. Atkins, Steward; P. Wardle, I.G.; and C. Bembridge, Tyler. Votes of thanks, for their services, were passed to the writing W.M. Bro, G. H. Hodges, and the Staward Bro, G. retiring W.M., Bro. G. H. Hodges, and to the Steward, Bro. G. B. Atkins, and acknowledged by the latter brokher. Bro, Job Herbert, late of the Hope Lodge, Kurrachee, India, was elected as a joining member; and a candidate having been proposed for initiation, the lodge was closed and the brethren adjourned to refreshment under the presidency of the newly-installed W.M.

OXFORDSHIRE.

OXFORD.-The Bowyer Lodge (No. 1,036).

The anniversary meeting was held on Monday, 1st ult., Bro. the Rev. W. H. Marah, W.M., presiding. By a dispensation from the Provincial Grand Master the Town Hall was converted into a lodge room for the occasion, as, besides the installation of the newly-elected Master, the Bowyer Lodge was honoured by having the annual Provincial Grand and banquet placed under its charge. At the time fixed, a large number of brethren under its charge. At the time inxed, a large number of brethrein many of them highly distinguished in the Craft, had assembled, and the lodge being duly opened, Bro. Henry Hartley, Prov. S.G.D., was formally installed as W.M., of the Bowyer Lodge, by the D. Prov. G.M., Bro. Alderman J. Spiers, assisted by an unusually large number of Past Masters of the province. The beautiful and interesting ceremony of installation was performed by Bro. Spiers in a most able and impressive manner.

The following officers were then selected and invested by the newly-installed Master :-

- Bro. the Rev. W. H. Marah, P. Prov. G.C., P.M.
- ,,
- 37
- Robert Parsons, S.W. D. H. W. Horlock, J.W. the Rev. W. C. Nottley, Chap. William Bower, Treas. ,,
- ,,
- ,,
- Francis Fowler, Sec. William E. Hartley, S.D. ,,
- Robert Bunting, J.D. Petor Irving, Sen. M.C. "
- **
- James Compton, I.G. W. Josiah Smith, P.M., Org. ,,
- ,,
- John Galpin, Alfred Wheeler, Stewards. ,,
- Henry Judge, Tyler.

The lodge was then closed in the usual manner.

The lodge was then closed in the usual manner. Bro. Col. Henry Atkins Bowyer, Prov. G.M., then proceeded with the assistance of his officers to open Grand Lodge. Among those present we observed, besides the brethren named above, Bros. Alderman Randall, Treas.; the Earl of Donoughmore, Capt. Lamert, the Rev. O. Thompson, the Rev. F. J. Palmer, the Rev. G. C. Notley, Hurford, P.M.; F. W. A. Bowyer, P.M.; Margetts, P.M., 599; Hartley, W.M., 1,036; Round, G. T. Prior, Phené Spiers, J. Juggins, Captain Ray, D. Faulk-per, Dr. Turner, W. Hone, &c., &c. ner, Dr. Turner, W. Hone, &c., &c.

The D. Prov. G.M. read a very satisfactory report of the Charity Committee of the province, from which it appeared

that the amount subscribed to the the three Masonic Charities in this province was £170 2s., and that the total subscribed by the Craft in the year was—For the Benevolent Institution, £3,000; Boy's School, £5,000; and the Girl's School, £4,000.

The Treasurer read his report of the Finances of the province, from which it appeared that after investing £100 Consols and paying all expenses, there was a balance in his hands amounting to £63 15s. 2d.

The Provincial Grand Master read his report of the working of the lodges in the province, and then nominated and appointed his officers for the year as follows :-

Bro. T. F. Dallin Prov. Sen. Grand Warden.
" J. S. Lowe Prov. Jun. "
, the Rev. R. F. Palmer } Draw Churd Charles
, the Rev. R. F. Palmer { Prov. Grand Chaplains.
"Randall Prov. Grand Treasurer.
" F. H. McCalmont Prov. Grand Registrar.
" the Earl of Donoughmore Prov. Grand Secretary.
" Capt. G. F. Lamert Prov. Sen. Grand Deacon.
,, Robt. Parsons Prov. Jun. Grand Deacon.
" C. L. Pemberton Prov. Grand Supt. of Works.
", W. J. Bethell Roberts { Prov. Grand D.C.
, Eugene wason J
" Walter Thompson Prov. Grand Sword Bearer.
" W. R. Hobbs Prov. Assist. Grand Sec.
"Wilson Prov. Grand Organist.
" Geo. T. Prior Prov. Grand Pursuivant.
" W. H. Welshman Prov. Assist. Grand Ditto.
", F. W. Thoyts
"Richard Porter
, Josiah Wilkinson {
" Edward Conolly

- William Page "
- John Alcock ,,
- William Stevens Prov. Grand Tyler. ,,

On the proposition of the D.P.G.M., seconded by Bro. Hurford, P.J.G.W., £10 was voted to the Masonic Charities.

Capt. Lamert, S.G.D., proposed a vote of £3 3s. to the Radeliffe Infirmary, which was seconded by Bro. Love, J.G.W. Bro. Hartley, W.M. (1,036), proposed, and Bro. Wason econded, a vote of £2 2s. to the Medical Dispensary.

Bro, the Rev. Oswald Thompson proposed £1 1s. to the Blue Coat Boys' School, and the same sum to the Blue Coat Girls'

School; seconded by Bro. Josiah Smith. The G.T. proposed that a sum $\pounds 2$ 2s. be paid to the officers

of the Bowyer Lodge, to be given by them to the Charities in Chipping-Norton; seconded by Bro. McCalmont.

The D.P.G.M. proposed a vote of £5 5s. towards the expense attending the decoration of the Masonic Hall, Oxford.

Grand Lodge being closed, the brethren adjourned to the Reading Room, which had been fitted up for the occasion as a banquet hall. The pleasures of the table were prolonged until the hour fixed for the departure of the brethren for Oxfor, d when the party broke up, amidst mutual congratulations on the success of the first visit of the Grand Lodge to their brethren of the Bowyer Lodge.

IRELAND.

SKIBBEREEN.

The brethren of Lodge 15 celebrated the festival of St. John The bretzien of Lodge 15 Centorated the lestval of St. John by dining together at their rooms, North-street. There were present—Bros. H. Hungerford, R. H. H. Becher, G. Robinson, G. W. Hughes, S. N. Townsend, J. F. Levis, L. A. Becher, — Lahaff, No. 8, Cork; J. Doughlas, R. Royeroft, R. B. Marmion, Hill G. Long, F. P. E. Potter, H. E. Nicholls, S. Townsend, C. Laurance, D. Hadden, J. Waters, W. J. Wolfe, John Wilson, W. Kingston, and John O'Donoghue. The dinner was provided by the host of the Becher Area, Mr. O'Keoffor, and activity the members of the Becher Arms, Mr. O'Keeffe, and certainly the members seldom if ever sat down to better fare, which reflected much credit on the old establishment. After partaking heartily of the numerous good things provided, the chairman gave the usual loyal and masonic toasts, which were received with due hononr. Then followed the health of the chairman and the vice-chairman, which were received and responded to in a manner that showed the worthy brethren were favourites in the craft. The singing of several of the brethren was then enjoyed, among the most prominent of the vocalists was brother S. N. Townsend. Then

was given the health of the absent brethren, brother J. W. Potter's (jun.) name being particularized by the vice-chairman, who remarked that few members devoted more care and attention to the interests of Lodge 15 than Brother Potter did when residing in Skibbereen. The toast was warmly received and responded to by brother F. Potter. On the whole a very pleasant evening was spent, and the brethren separated at an early hour. The chair was occupied by Bro. H. Hungerford, W.M., and vicechair by Bro. J. F. Levis.

MARK MASONRY.

GRAND LODGE OF MARK MASTERS OF ENGLAN AND WALES, AND THE COLONIES AND DEPEN-DENCIES OF THE BRITISH CROWN.

The summer half-yearly communication was held on Tuesday, The summer half-yearly communication was held on Tuesday, the 2nd ult., at the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen-street, Lincoln's-Inn-Fields, London; present-Bros. Rev. G. R. Portal, M.A., R.W.D.G.M., as M.W.G.M.; F. M. Williams, M.P., Prov. G.M., Cornwall, as R.W.D.G.M.; John Udall; P.G.S.W., as G.S.W.; W. E. Gumbleton, P.G.J.W., as J.G.W.; T. F. T. Ravenshaw, P.G. Chap., as G. Chap.; S. C. Dibdin as J.G.O.; J. R. Stebbing, G. Treas.; F: Binckes, G. Sec.; Joshua Nunn, P.S.G.D., G.S.D.; F. J. Lilley, J.G.D.; Robert Watts, G. Std. Bearer; W. A. Barrett, G. Org.; F. Walters, G. Purst. The Grand Stewards for the year; Bros. Sir E. A. H. Lechmere, Bart., M.P., P.S.G.W.; Rev. D. Shaboe, P.G. Chap.; Lechmere, Bart., M.P., P.S.G.W.; Rev. D. Shaboe, P.G. Chap.; C. Swan, P.S.G.B.; J. H. Wynne, P.G. Purst.; Thomas Meggy, W. H. Warr, and A. D. Loewenstark, Past Grand Stewards; and Masters, Wardens, Overseers, and brethren representing many private lodges.

Grand Lodge was opened in ample form. The minutes of the half-yearly communication of 3rd December, 1867, were read and confirmed; and also the minutes of the Moveable Grand Lodge held at Hull, on the 16th April, 1868.

The R.W.D. Grand Master : Brethren, before we proceed to the next regular business of Grand Lodge, I have it though it right to give you the opportunity of expressing in common with most other public bodies in this country, your sympathy with Her most Gracious Majesty in her anxiety caused by the attempt lately made to assessinate her second son, because I think we ought not to behind any of her subjects in expressing our loyalty to the throne, our deep attachment to the mother, and to the son who has so mercifully escaped the fate intended for him. I can but carnestly hope that the expression of feeling which I trust we shall unanimously adopt this evening, is really shared by every subject of Her Majesty. I am very loth to believe, and I cannot bring myself to believe, that that attack was the result of any concerted action. I fervently hope that it commenced and ended in the mind of that unhappy being who has expiated his crime on the scaffold. There is not, I feel, a single soil who did not rejoice that the treacherous shot failed to accomplish its object. I shall therefore propose that the following address be presented to the Queen, and it will be forwarded in the proper course by the M.W. Grand Master to the Secretary of State for the Home Department. I shall now read it to you, and if there are any points in which you would like to have it altered they can be discussed.

"To Her Most Gracious Majesty. We the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales, and the Colonies and Dependencies of the British Crown, beg to approach your Majesty with the deepest devotion to your

Majesty's person and Crown. We take this, the first opportunity of our assembling at the half-yearly meeting of Grand Lodge, to express our horror at the dastardly act committed against His Royal Highness the The dastrictly let committed against Fils Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh, and our thankfulness to Divine Providence for the escape of His Royal Highness from the assassin's hand. That your Majesty's family may be preserved from all perils, and that your Majesty's life may long be spared to reign over a happy and contented people, is the earnest prayer of your Majesty's most loyal subjects, the Mark Master Masons of England and Wales, the Colonies and Dependencies of the Divide Comm British Crown.

That, brethren, is the address which I propose should be adopted by this Grand Lodge. R.W. Bro. John Udall, P.G.W. : M.W. Grand Master, I have

very great pleasure in seconding it.

The address was adopted unanimously. On the motion of Bro. John Udall, P.G.W., seconded by Bro. T. J. Sabine, P.G. Steward, Bro. W. Wither Bramstone Beach, M.P., was unanimously re-elected Grand Master, and was proclaimed, and saluted with grand honours in ancient form.

Bro. the Rev. D. Shaboe proposed Bro. Joseph R. Stebbing, for Grand Treasurer. Bro. J. H. Wynne seconded the motion. Bro. Stebbing: M.W. Grand Master and Brethren,-Before

that motion is put to Grand Lodge, I think I ought to say, in order that I may not mislead the brethren, that whilst I very highly esteem the kindness of Grand Lodge in electing me-no man more so-thoy must not suppose that I consider I have a vested right to the office. I should not object to any other brother being nominated to the office either now or hereafter. One great fault in many lodges is that some offices are becoming so constantly conferred on the same individuals, that the next thing which may be expected is that they will become hereditary. Therefore, I shall be very happy to give way if you should feel disposed to nominate another brother.

The D.G. Master: If no other brother is proposed, I shall call call for a show of hands. (The motion was carried quanimously).

Bro. Stebbing: I can only return my best thanks to the brethren for the honour they have again conferred upon me.

The D.G. Master : Brethren, our next business is the appointment and investiture of Grand Officers. I may state that the M.W. Grand Master has laid his commands on me to accept the

office of Deputy Grand Master for the ensuing year. The following brethren were then appointed and invested :--Bros. Lord Eliot, M.P., S.G.W.; Dr. Hopkins, J.G.W.; Thos. Meggy, G.M.O.; T. Perkinton, S.G.O.; J. M. Cunningham, J.G.O.; Rev. C. W. Spencer Stanhope and Rev. C. J. Martyn, G. Chaps, J. R. Stebbing, G. Treas.; F. Binckes, G. Sec.; E. Baxter, G. Reg.; C. W. Griffiths, S.G.D.; R. Churchill, J.G.D.; Jeus Jensen, G. Supt. of Works; H. C. Levander, G. Dir. of Cers.; J. Purnell, Assist. G. Dir. of Cers.; G. G. Nicholls, G. Sword Bearer; R. Ord, G. Std. Bearer; J. Read, G. Org.; A. D. Loewenstark, G. Purst.

The G. Stewards for the year: ---Bros. T. Wescombe, Kent; C.
Allen, 3; W. L. Bain, 10; G. Gumbleton, 55; Leadham,
65; M. A. Loewenstark, 86; and John Combe, 87.
The General Board: The M.W. Grand Master, the D.G.

The General Board: The M.W. Grand Master, the D.G. Master; Bros. Lord Eliot, S.G.W.; and Dr. Hopkins, J.G.W. Nominated by the Grand Master:—Bros. J. Udall, P.S.G.W.; T. Meggy, G.M.O.; J. R. Stebbing, G. Treas.; E. Baxter, G. Reg.; J. Cole, P.G. Reg.; and H. C. Levander, G. Dir. of Cers. Elected by Grand Lodge:—Bros. Joshua Nunn, P.G.D.; R. Watts, P.G. Std. Bearer; J. H. Wynne, P.G. Purst.; and W. H. Warr. P.G. Steward H. Warr, P.G. Steward.

The R.W.D. Grand Master: I now call upon the Grand Secretary to read the report of the general board.

The number of certificates issued in the six months ending 31st May is 197, which while not equal to that in the preceding six months is above the average, and proves the steady advance of the Order. During the same period two new warrants have been issued, viz :--

Hawton Lodge No. 100 Ivybridge, Devon. Boscawen ,, No. 101 Chacewater, Cornwall.

In accordance with the resolution of Grand Lodge, a separate account has been opened at the bankers under the head of "The Grand Mark Lodge Fund of Benevolence," and the sum of £50 has been paid to the credit of such account from the general fund. One grant of £5 has been made from the fund viz., to Bro. G. F. G., of London. The first moveable Grand Lodge was held at Hull, under the provide of the Mission of the Miss

April last, at which the M.W. Grand Master presided. The proceedings gave unqualified satisfaction to all who participated therein, and the result must be regarded in every way as suc-cessful. The next moveable Grand Lodge will be held at Worcester, under the auspices of the Lechmere Lodge (No. 59) during the month of September, or at such other time as may be deemed most convenient.

It had been hoped that the alteration of the day for holding Grand Lodge from the second Wednesday, to the Tuesday im nediathly preceding the communication of the United Grand Lodge of England in June and December, so as to enable brethren from the provinces to attend both meetings without prolonging inconveniently their stay in London, would have been regarded as a satisfactory arrangement. There appears,

however, to be objections to the day in question, and with a view to arrive at a convenient settlement, the Board invites the opinions of brethren in Grand Lodge assembled, that they may be assisted in determining the times of meeting for such dates as may obviate present objections and meet the wishes of the majority of the brethren.

The Grand Master has been pleased to renew the patent of the R.W. Bro. Rev. J. Huyshe, as Provincial Grand Master of Devonshire, for a further period of three years, and in doing so feels that he has bestowed a well-earned mark of approval on the great Masonic services of Bro. Huyshe, under whose rule the degree of Mark Master has made such considerable pro-gress in the Province of Devon, and has every assurance that no appointment more acceptable to the brethren of that province could have been made.

In the Province of Leicester the degree, after giving good promise of success, has for some time been in abeyance. Recently, however, a revival has taken place and the degree is now being worked most efficiently-large numbers of influential brethren have been admitted-and there is every reason to believe that under the able guidance of Bro. W. Kelly, it will flourish to a greater extent than ever. The Grand Master has renewed the patent of Bro. Kelly as Prov. G.M. of Leicestershire, having expressed the greatest pleasure and confidence in entrusting the rule of that province to the well-tried experience of that distinguished brother.

Before closing this report the Board wish to direct the attention of brethren generally, to the desirability of supporting by voluntary donations the Fund of Benevolence recently established, and with this object have instructed the Grand Support. Signed, W. E. GUMBLETON, P.G.W.,

Chairman.

Bro. Udall moved that the report be received and entered on the minutes

Bro. T. Meggy seconded the proposition. Carried nem. con. The D.G. Master: The General Board seems to invite discussion on the subject of the convenience of our days of meeting. Perhaps now would be the most proper time for that discussion if any brother has anything to say about it.

G. Secretary: M.W. Grand Master,-I would say for the information of Grand Lodge and of the brethren generally, that the appointment of the Tuesday before the first Wednesday in June, and the Tuesday before the first Wednesday in December for our half-yearly communications, was made after anxious consideration and great discussion, and it was thought that it would be a very great convenience for brethren from the pro-vinces to have our two meetings on the very eve of the quarterly communications of the United Grand Lodge of England in June and December. But Bro. Rev. J. Huyshe, Prov. G.M. of Devon, has stated his objections to those days, and has said that bevoil, has stated his objections to those days, and has she that he could have rather wished that they had been regulated by the meetings of Grand Chapter, which take place in May and August, or the meetings of the Templars which take place in May and December. Other brethren have said they find the days inconvenient, but whether any more convenient day can be found than those already selected it must be left to Grand Lodge to settle. Those are the only observations I have to make, and I have made them because I promised Bro. Huyshe, that in his regretted, but unavoidable absence, his views should

that in his regrotted, but unavoidable absence, his views should be laid before Grand Lodge.
Opinions were expressed by the following brethren strongly in favour of a continuance of the present arrangement :--Bros. J. Udall, P.G.W.; J. H. Wynne, P.G. Purst.; Rev. C. Martyn, G. Chap. 10, Cheltenham; Charles Leadham, G. Steward, 65, Liverpool; Kev. T. J. Ravenshaw, Prov. G. Chap. Wilts; Thos. Perkinton, S.G.W. 56, Halifax, J. M. Cunningham, J.G.O. 76, Brighton; and J. R. Stebbing, G. Treas, from which general concurrence, and the absence of the expression of views to the contrary, it was resolved that the days of meeting of Grand. contrary, it was resolved, that the days of meeting of Grand Lodge as at present fixed.

Bro. J. R. Stebbing, G. Treas., submitted and read the statement of accounts for the half-year, which showed-

Balance in hand, December 1st, 1867 Receipts for six months to May 31st, 1868	$\pounds 202 \ 1 \ 10 \ 147 \ 15 \ 0$
Expended during latter period	$\begin{array}{rrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrr$
Balance to credit of G. Lodge, May 30, 1868	184 12 5

538

Benevolent Fund :-Received from Grand Lodge ... £50 0 0 Grant to Bro. G. F. G. 5 0 0

Balance to credit of fund £45 0 0

Bro. Nunn, P.S.G.D., moved that the accounts of the Treasurer be printed in detail, and circulated, with the report of the day's proceedings.

Bro. John Udall, P.G.W., seconded the motion, which was carried nem. con.

Letters were read by the Grand Secretary from the following Letters were read by the Grand Secretary from the following brethren expressing of their regret at being unable to attend, viz.:-Bros. Earl Percy, S.G.W.; W. J. Hughan, P.G.O.; Rev. W. J. Short, P.G. Chap.; Rev. W. J. Skelton, P.G. Chap.; John Copley, G.S.B.; Magnus Ohren, P.G. Steward; and F. W. Hayward, P.G.D.

Bro. Rev. D. Shaboe called the attention of Grand Lodge to the numerous shades of colour of the ribbon which the manufacturers of Mark aprons employed, and endeavoured to obtain a declaration that but one tint should be adopted, for which purpose Bro. Sir E. Lechmere thought that the Grand Secretary should have a roll of the authorised ribbon in his office as a pattern for any jeweller who was in need of guidance.

This suggestion was adopted and the subject dropped. Grand Lodge was closed in ample form, with solemn prayer.

The customary banquet was served at the conclusion of the business of the day, the quality of which gave entire satisfaction, and brought to a close one of the most successful meetings held since the establishment of the Grand Lodge,

RED CROSS OF ROME AND CONSTANTINE AND K.H.S.

METROPOLITAN.

ROMAN EAGLE CONCLAVE (NO 6).

The second regular assembly of this conclave was held at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, on Saturday, the 27th ult. Sir Knt. W. F. N. Quilty, M.P.S., duly opened the conclave, assisted by Sir Knts. H. C. Levander, M.A., V.E.; W. R. Wood-man, M.D., S.G.; C. H. R. Harrison, M.D., J.G.; Rev. W. B. Church, M.A., H.P.; H. Tanner, Treas.; R. W. Little, G.R., as Recorder; I. Read, Prefect; H. Allman, Standard Bearer; G. Powell, G.S.B., as Herald; W. Hurlstone; J. Brett; W. C. Lacey, M.D.; G. Smith; W. H. Hubbard, G. Treas.; A. Perot, B.A.; S. Foxall, etc.; and Visiting Sir Knts. T. Wescombe, G. Herald, M.P.S. 2; I. G. Marsh, G. Architect, P.S. 1; Captain H. Barber, V.E. 5; W. Holman, M.D., P.S. 1; G. Kenning, 1: D. R. Still, 2; R. Gurney, J.G. 3; and A. Thompson, Prefect, 3. After the confirmation of the minutes and the usual ballot, Bro. W. Osmond Allender, of the Lodge of Prudent Brethren, The second regular assembly of this conclave was held at Bro. W. Osmond Allender, of the Lodge of Prudent Brethren, 145, was duly admitted, received, constituted, and installed as a Knight of the Order. The decease of Sir Knt, A. H. Marton was announced by the Acting Recorder, and, on the proposition of Sir Knts. Hurlstone and Brett, an expression of regret was ordered to be placed on the minutes.

The conclave was then closed, and a Grand College of Viceroys was opened by Sir Knt. Little, Vice-President, when Sir Knts. Still, Allender, Kenning, and Foxall were duly consecrated as members of the Friestly Order. A Grand Senate was then held for the reception of Sir Knt. Allender, who was regularly enthroned as a Sovereign, in order to qualify him to preside over a conclave proposed to be formed in Bengal.

After the close of all business connected with the Order of Constantine, the chambers were prepared for the solemn and interesting ceremonial of the K.H.S. (The K.H.S. Order is strictly limited to 99 members.)

The Mount Carmel Sanctuary of that distinguished Order, which is now appendant to the Red Cross fraternity, was im-pressively opened by Sir Knt, R. W. Little, Registrar-General, pressively opened by Sir Knt. R. W. Little, Registrar-General, who presided as Prelate, and the other eastern chairs were occupied by Sir Knt. Capt. Barber, as Seneschal; W. H. Hub-bard as Prior; T. Wescombe, Sub-Prior, and J. Brett, Captain of the Guards. The following Royal Arch Masons, being also Knights of Constantine, were then entrusted, and received the first point of the Order, viz. --H. C. Levander, W. R. Wood-man, C. H. R. Harrison, J. G. Marsh, J. Read, Rev. W. B. Church, H. Vanner, W. F. N. Quilty, A. Thompson, W. Holman, S. Foxall, G. Kenning, and D. R. Still.

The theological and traditional orations were delivered by the Prelate, and the brethren were then admitted to the second and third points.

After the ceremony the officers of the Sanctuary were selected After the ceremony the officers of the Sanctuary were selected as follows, --R. W. Little, Prelate; G. Powell, Seneschal; Rev. W. B. Church, Prior; W. F. N. Quilty, Sub-Prior; J. Brett, C.G.; C. H. R. Harrisson, Chancellor; H. C. Levander, Regis-trar; W. H. Hubbard, Treas.; T. Wescombe, 1st Lieut.; S. Foxall, 2nd Lieut.; W. R. Woodman, G.S.V.; J. Read, S.B.; H. Tanner, T.B.; D. R. Still, Verger; G. Kenning, Harbinger, wird J. G. Marsch Wierder and J. G. Marsh, Warder.

The utmost satisfaction was expressed by the new K.H.S. at being permitted to take part in the re-organisation of this noble order, and all the officers pledged themselves to fulfil their duties with zeal and fidelity, so as to do justice to its magnificent ritual.

There being no banquet, the knights separated after the closing of the Sanctuary.

Obituary.

THE LATE BRO. HENRY BALL, P.M. 1051.

The Masonic fraternity in Lancaster has suffered a very great loss within the last few days, by the sudden death of the brother above-named, who was killed instan-taneously by a fall from his horse on Tuesday morning last. Our deceased brother was one instance of the zeal and efficiency exhibited by some of those who enter the Craft late in life. For though he had attained the age of forty-six when initiated in the year 1862, he speedily achieved the honcur of the Master's chair; and after fulfilling very worthily that honoureble office he con-tinued, as P.M. of his lodge, to manifest an unabated interest in its prosperity, being ever ready to render whatever assistance circumstances required to further whatever assistance circumstances required to further the efficient working of the lodge. He was one of the founders of the Rowley Lodge (No. 1,051), and succeeded to the chair as its second Master. He had previously been J.W. in the Lodge of Fortitude (No. 281), which lodge he joined on removing his residence from Preston to Lancaster, and was subsequently S.W. of the Rowley Lodge. He was initiated in the Peace and Unity Lodge, Preston (No. 393); exalted in the Chapter of Concord, Bolton (No. 131); was first Assistant Sojourner in the Kendal Castle Chapter (No. 129); and, up to the day of his untimely end, abated not his endeavours both by thoughtful study and by active co-operation, to maintain locally and generally the prestige of the Craft. But a few days before his decease, on occasion of the

laying of the foundation stone of the Royal Albert Asylum with Masonic honours, by the M.W. the Grand Master, the part assigned to him in the procession, was to carry the mallet presented by Sir Christopher Wren to Charles II. for the purpose of laying the foundation stone of St. Paul's Cathedral.

A goodly number of Masonic brethren united to pay the last tribute of respect to departed merit on the day of his burial; and by the whole community of his fellowtownsmen he is sincerely regretted.

It is fervently to be hoped that the Rowley Lodge, with which his heart was bound up, though now deprived of the two first of its W.M.'s by their sudden deaths, will still hold its high position among the Craft. And with confidence may we favourably augur as to its stability, and future prosperity, inasmuch as the successstability, and little prosperity, inasmuch as the success-ful issue of the holding of the late special Grand Lodge at Lancaster, depended so very much on the signal tact and indefatigable energy of the W. Bro. Dr. Moore, who now presides over the Rowley Lodge. *Floreat semper*. This obituary notice has been written with a heavy heart by the brother, who had the melancholy satisfaction

of officiating at the burial of the deceased, and for whom he entertains the very highest esteem.

Poetry.

ON THE DEATH OF BRO. KENNEDY, P.M. AND TREAS. OF THE OLD CONCORD LODGE (No. 172). Addressed in respectful sympathy to his Widow.

BY A. C. S.

Mourner ! has thy loved one left thee, Never, never to return? Hast thou now the bitter anguish Of his early death to learn?

Is that form so lov'd and loving Still and cold in Death's embrace? Wilt thou ne'er again in this world See a smile upon that face?

Ne'er that voice so kind and tender Will again delight thine ear ; He hath left this world of sadness, Left it for a brighter sphere.

Thou art left, bereaved and lonely; How wilt thou thy suff'rings bear ? How wilt thou support the sorrow That has fallen to thy share.

Earth's sweet ties for ever riven ; Ah ! joy is but transient here, Fair as seem the life's surroundings, When with those we love so dear.

Ne'er again wilt thou behold him Gaze on thee with looks of love; He hath passed away from this world, Pass'd to realms of peace above.

Ne'er again thine orphan children Will their father's kindness know ; Thought that deepens all thy anguish, Thought that fills thy soul with woe.

Yet 'tis heaven's dispensation; He thou mourn'st is with that One Who consoles each weeping suff'rer, Bids them say, " Thy will be done."

Hope's bright angel hovers near thee, Whisp'ring "God will hear thy prayer, He will take the lonely widow 'Neath His kind protecting care."

O! May resignation soothe thee, O'er thy grief its solace cast; And may'st thou rejoin thy lost one When earth's scenes of trial are past.

And whilst here may'st thou feel comfort From religion's healing balm; May the Saviour's grace and mercy Guide thy thoughts to heaven's calm.

A MASONIC COLLOQUY.

By J. A. H.

That Masonry hath shed a ray Of beauty on my earthly way."

A stranger, who was standing by, Said :-- Will you kindly tell me why You thus do praise the Craft so high ? Methinks that I to join will try.'

"Before I answer, I'll inquire, Does not your spirit ever tire; Have you not known that troubles dire Are wont to quench the vital fire ?"

The querist said : "Yes, well I wot The sorrows of our mortal lot, And that perchance the Craft has got Some smypathies the world has not.

"List now, my friend, the Mason said, If you have oft your Bible read, And humbly seek that you may tread In pleasant ways by Wisdom lead;

Then understand Freemasonry Is universal sympathy : Its precepts teach that men should be All brethren of one family.

And thus our union doth protest That union is the noblest test To show when men are ever best And when they are most truly blest."

UNVEILING THE BUST OF EDMUND PLOWDEN.

The beautiful bust of the celebrated lawyer was unveiled on the 10th inst. in the fine hall of the Hon-Society of the Middle Temple. The bust has been presented by Mr. Robert Ingram, of Slough, one of the oldest members of the society, and is the work of Bro. Morton Edwards, of St. Luke's Lodge, 144, The bust of the Prince of Wales, also in the possession of the Middle Temple, is from the chisel of the same distinguished sculptor.

The ceremony of "unveiling" took place in the pre-sence of upwards of two hundred barristers and students of the society, and a number of ladies, who were admitted to the "Minstrel's Gallery," amongst whom it is worthy of mention were the Misses Plowden, lineal descendants of the great lawyer whose memory the proceed. ings were to perpetuate,

MASONIC LIFEBOAT FUND.

Further Subscription received :--Lodge of Hope, 433, Brightlingsea, £1 1s.

METROPOLITAN LODGE MEETINGS, ETC., FOR THE WEEK ENDING JULY 11TH, 1868.

MONDAY, July 6th — Lodges: Royal Alpha, 16, St. James's Hotel, Piccadilly. Robert Burns, 25, Freemasons'

James's Liotel, Flectality, Kobert Burns, 20, Freemasons Hall. Joppa, 188, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street. Chapter: Old Kings' Arms, 28, Freematons' Hall. TUESDAY, July 7th.—Colonial Board, at 3. Audit Com. Girls' School, at 2.30. St. John's, 167, Holly Bush Tavern, Hampstead. La Tolerance, 538, Freemasons' Hall. Chapter: Temperance, 169, White Swan Tavern, Doctford Deptford.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 8th.—Com. R. M. B. Inst., at 3. Lodges: Doric, 933, Masons' Hall, Basinghall-street-Montefiore, 1,017, Freemasons' Hall.

THURSDAY, July 9th.—Quarterly Gen. Court Female School, at Freemasons' Hall. Lodges: Lily Lodge of Richmond, 820, Greyhound, Richmond, Surrey. Capper 1,076, Marine Hotel, Victoria Dock, West Ham. Chapters: Mount Lebanon, 73, Bridge House Hotel, Southwards Vachemark, 554 Guard Marine, 554 Southwark. Yarborough, 554, Green Dragon, Stepney. SATURDAY, July 11th.—Lodges : Caveac, 178, Radley's Hotel, Bridge-street, Blackfriars.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

*** All communications to be addressed to 19, Salisburystreet, Strand, London, W.C.

The Explanatory Notes of the Music given in three previous numbers, and finished in present issue, will be given in next number. P.M. (Scotland.)—Your letter has been crowded out in present

issue, but will appear next week.

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