

LONDON, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 1868.

CHIPS OF FOREIGN ASHLAR.

No. 5.—ON THE SQUARE IN DENMARK.

In the Masonic Jurisdiction of Denmark there are four St. John's Lodges, of which only one is to be found in the metropolis. And yet with this small organisation—smaller than that of an English Provincial Grand Lodge—the Danes have erected in Copenhagen a spacious Masonic temple at a cost of upwards of twenty thousand pounds sterling. Surely this may put the Freemasons of other countries to shame!

The Masonic benevolence of Denmark is confined to the several lodges, there being happily no necessity for almshouses or orphanages. The Danes are a small nation, but their wealth is remarkable. In no other country is there so little pauperism, and whenever the Swedish or other Governments apply to Denmark for public loans the money is rapidly subscribed if the security is good.

The immediate predecessor of the Prince of Wales's father-in-law on the throne of Denmark was an enthusiastic Freemason, and it is doubtless to his active exertions that much of the prosperity of the Craft may be traced. The present chief of the Order is His Excellency Bro. C. J. C. Brästrup, Governor of Copenhagen, and formerly Minister of Justice and Public Worship. Bro. Brästrup stands high in the councils of his Sovereign, and was one of the members of the Privy Council, specially chosen to accompany King George of Greece when that young monarch departed for his kingdom. We had the pleasure to call on Bro. Brästrup at his official *bureau*, and found him an exceedingly pleasant gentleman. He regretted much that when he had visited England he had never been able to attend a Masonic gathering. Bro. Brästrup cordially invited us to the inauguration ceremonies at the opening of the new Temple at which the King of Sweden and Prince Oscar were to assist, but unfortunately we had to leave Denmark before the time appointed. In the discharge of his public duties, Bro. Brästrup is often called upon to decide upon applications from married couples to be divorced. We saw one pair whom he had severed and who appeared to have had "a happy deliverance," judging by the smiling faces.

The Masonic temple is a noble building, and the number and extent of its rooms are almost bewildering. At our visit we received every courtesy and attention in looking through the various *suites* of apartments from Bro. L. Kett. During our stay in Copenhagen we experienced great kindness from Bro. Howitz, the Government Director of Gas Works, and a writer of some celebrity on matters appertaining to his profession, and also from Bro. S. J. Konnerop, an enthusiastic Mason, Bro. Fritz Nissen, and others.

The designations of the officers of Danish lodges are precisely the same as those of the lodges of Norway, and are as follows:—

Worshipful Master—Ordförende Mester.
 Deputy Master—Deputerede Mester.
 Senior Warden—Forste Bröder Forsteander.
 Junior Warden—Anden Bröder Forsteander.
 Deacon—Ceremonie Mester.
 Orator—Taleren.
 Treasurer—Skatmester.
 Secretary—Secretaire.
 Inner Guard—Vagthevende Broder.
 Tyler—Gruelige Broder.

In Copenhagen the Swedish degrees up to the 9th, and exclusive of that of the Red Cross are conferred, but the higher degrees are not given in the provinces.

Among the letters of introduction which we carried was one to a Danish merchant of high standing, who told us that he was "disgusted with Masonry," because when visiting Scotland last year some person had offered to get him through the three degrees for thirty shillings at twenty-four hours notice! Several brethren also remarked to us, "we like the Scottish system" (meaning the *Swedish*), "but we don't like Scotch Masons." The reason is obvious. The Swedes and the Danes devoutly believe that pure Masonry is only to be found in Sweden and Denmark, and no arguments to the contrary will alter their opinions. For ourselves we did not contest the point, seeing it to be a tender one. However, English, French, German, and Scandinavian Masons all uphold their several systems; while Americans, as usual, claim to be "a long chalk a-head" of all the rest. We have, nevertheless, a solid conviction, no less logical than patriotic, that England deserves the foremost Masonic rank for excellence of working, as much as extent of lodges and members.

The Danish Masons claim great antiquity for their branch of the Order, but according to Bro. J. G. Findel, a high authority, the modern system only dates from 1743. The Craft in Denmark has owed much of its prosperity to Royal support. The late King Frederick VII. was Grand Master, and he laboured unceasingly and enthusiastically to advance the Order. The present King Christian IX. is not a Mason, but it is probable that before long he will become one. We cannot but condemn the un-Masonic spirit which would seek, by begging, to secure the aid of Royalty; but, nevertheless, it is to be hoped the time will never come when (unless through the era of universal republics) it will cease to be true that—

“Great kings, dukes, and lords,
Have laid by their swords,
Our mystery to put a good grace on;
And ne'er been ashamed
To hear themselves named
With a Free and an Accepted Mason.”

Our constant companion in visiting the various places of interest in and around Copenhagen was Herr Johan Frimodt, a young Dane of literary tastes, whose intellectual conversation and *bon-homie* made his company very acceptable.

J. A. H.

THE KNIGHTS TEMPLARS.

By ANTHONY ONEAL HAYE.

(Continued from page 388).

BOOK IV.—CHAPTER VIII.—(contd.)

It is somewhat difficult to understand the real wishes of the Pope regarding the Grand Officers. Either he did not desire to see them, or had implicit faith in the reports of the cardinals. Chinon was only a short distance from Poitiers, and on an occasion so important, in an affair of such interest to Christianity, it was his bounden duty to have gone personally and examined them. Why did he not summon to Poitiers such of them as were not ill? For it appears from a Bull issued after the return of the cardinals, that he was aware that, “certain of them were in good health.” Why did he not insist upon seeing the Grand Master, who had so repeatedly demanded to be brought before him to justify the Order? But why, if the Grand Officers were well enough to be transported in litters back to Paris after their

interview with the cardinals, were they not well enough to be conveyed to Poitiers, a far shorter distance? The Pope appears to have been courageous enough when out of the presence of the King; but when under Philip's eye he was an arrant coward.

The report of the cardinals, and the silence of the seventy-two knights, were held to be conclusive evidence of the crimes of the Order, and the Pope now resolved to sanction its abolition. However, that the shew of justice might be complete, and to display his power, Clement feigned to doubt the legality of the judicial proceedings of the previous year, by the Inquisitor of the Faith and the bishops, and resolved to make new investigations under his own authority.

To hasten matters, by a Bull dated the 3rd July, 1308, he summoned a General Council to be held at Vienue, in Dauphiné, for the month of October, 1310, and enjoined all the archbishops, bishops, abbots, priors, and deans to repair thither, and begged the presence and assistance of Philip on the occasion. By a second Bull, he summoned the whole Order of the Temple to repair to this council, there to defend themselves from the charges made against them, and commanded the Cardinal Bishop of Preeste, who had been charged with the custody of those arrested in France, to bring the Grand Officers to this council. He also issued two fresh; Bulls one of these, we think right to quote here entire, as it contains all the charges made against the Order, of whatever character. It is the one dispatched to England, and is similar to those sent to other countries.

“Clement, Bishop, servant to the servants of God, to the venerable brothers, the Archbishop of Canterbury and his Suffragans, health and apostolical blessing. The Son of God, the Lord Jesus Christ, using mercy with His servant, would have us taken up into the eminent mirror of the Apostleship, to this end, that being, though unworthy, His substitute upon earth, we may, as far as human frailty will permit, in all our actions and proceedings, follow His footsteps. In truth, long since, about the time of our first promotion to the dignity of the Pontificate, before we came to Lyons, where we received the honours of our Coronation; and also after that, as well there as elsewhere, a secret information had intimated to us, that the Master, Preceptors, and other brethren of the Order of Knighthood of the

Temple of Jerusalem, as also the Order itself, who had been deputed in the parts beyond the seas for the defence of the patrimony of our same Lord Jesus Christ, were fallen against that Lord himself into the not to be mentioned crime of Apostasy, the detestable vice of idolatry, the execrable practice of secret iniquity, and sundry heresies. But because it was not likely, nor did seem credible, that such religious men, who particularly often shed their blood for the name of Christ, and were thought frequently to expose their persons to danger of death, and who often shewed many and great signs of devotion as well in the Divine offices, as in fasting and other observances, should be so unmindful of their salvation, as to perpetrate such things, we would not give ear to such insinuations and impeachment of them being taught so to do by the example of the same Lord of ours, and the writings of canonical doctrine.

“But afterwards our most dear son in Christ, Philip, the illustrious king of the French, to whom the same crimes had been made known, not upon a view of avarice, since he does not design to apply or appropriate to himself anything of the estates of the Templars; nay, has wholly washed his hands of them, leaving the same to be disposed of in his kingdom by persons generally deputed by us and by the prelates of the kingdom of France, but inflamed with zeal for the orthodox faith, following the renowned footsteps of his Ancestors, getting what information he properly could of what is aforesaid, he sent us many and great informations for instructing and acquainting of us, by his messengers and letters. The infamy of the Templars daily increasing, in relation to the aforesaid crimes, as also in regard that a certain Knight of that Order,* who was of great birth, and in no small esteem in that Order, sworn before us in private, did depose:—That at the reception of the brothers of the said Order, this custom, or rather corruption, is observed, that he who is received, at the suggestion of the receiver, or of the person by him deputed, renounces Christ, and spits upon a cross shewn him, in contempt of the person crucified; and both the receiver and the person received perform some other things which are not lawful nor becoming human modesty, as he then confessed before us; we cannot avoid, the duty of our office requiring the

same of us, giving ear to so many and such great clamours. But when at length, public fame accusing, and the repeated insinuation of the said king, as also of dukes, counts, and barons, and other noblemen, likewise of the clergy and people of the said kingdom of France, resorting to our presence upon this account, both personally and by their representatives and syndics, which we mention with grief, it was come to our hearing, that the Master, Preceptors, and other brothers of the said Order, and the Order itself, were involved in the aforesaid and many other crimes, and the premises seemed in a manner to be proved by many confessions, attestations, and depositions of the aforesaid Master, and several Preceptors and brothers of the aforementioned Order, made, had, and received before many Prelates and the Inquisitor into heretical depravations in the kingdom of France, all of them reduced into public writings, and shewn to us and to our brethren; and nevertheless the aforesaid report and clamours were growing so strong, and were also heightened, as well against the Order itself as against particular persons of the same, that they could not, without great scandal, be passed by, or be tolerated without much danger. We, though following in the steps of Him whom we, though unworthy, represent, thought fit, for the aforesaid reason, to proceed to inquire into what has been said, and did interrogate and examine many of the preceptors, priests, and brothers of the said Order, of no small reputation, brought into our presence, having first given them their oath that they would tell us the plain and full truth in relation to the premises, they being to the number of seventy-two; and many of our brethren assisting us, and caused their confessions diligently put into authentic writing, by public hands, to be immediately read in ours and the presence of our said brethren; and afterwards, some days being passed, in the consistory, before themselves, and the same to be expounded to each of them in their own vulgar tongue, who persisting in them, expressly and of their own accord, approved of the same as they had been recited.

“Afterwards designing in our own person to inquire of the Master and chief Preceptors of the aforesaid Order concerning the premises, we ordered the Master, chief Preceptors, and brothers of the country beyond the sea, of Normandy, Aquitain, and Poitou, to be brought before us, being then at Poitiers; but because some of

* Why did the Pope not mention his name?

them were so sick at that time, that they could not ride, nor be any way brought into our presence; we desiring with them to know the truth of all the premises, and whether those things were true that were contained in their confessions and depositions, which they were said to have made before the Inquisitor into heretical pravity in the kingdom of France, in the presence of several public notaries and many other good men, and which were exhibited to us and our brethren by the same Inquisitor, under public hands, and shewn to our beloved sons, Berengareus, Cardinal of St. Nerius, and Aquileus, and Stephen, Cardinal of St. Ciracus in Termis, priests, and Pandulphus, Cardinal Deacon of St. Angelo, of whose prudence, experience, and fidelity we have undoubted confidence, we commissioned and commanded them that they should diligently inquire into the truth of the premises of the aforesaid Master and Preceptors, as well against those and other persons of the said Order in general, as against the said Order itself, and report to us whatsoever they found in this particular, and to swear to bring back and present to our Apostleship their confessions and depositions, put into writing by public hands; they being authorised to grant the same Master and brethren, according to the form of the Church, the benefit of absolution from the sentence of excommunication, which they had incurred for the premises, if they were true, provided they humbly and devoutly desired absolution, as they ought. The which Cardinals going in person to the Master and Preceptors, signified the cause of their coming.

“And in regard that their persons, and those of the other Templars in the kingdom of France, had been delivered up to us, they, by Apostolical authority, enjoined them to declare to the said Cardinals the truth concerning the premises, freely without fear of any person, fully and plainly. The which Master and Preceptors of France, of the land beyond the sea, of Normandy, Aquitain, and Poitou, before the said Cardinals, in the presence of our four public notaries and many other good men, having taken their oath on the Holy Gospel of God, by them corporally touched, that they would before them deliver the whole and plain truth concerning the premises, did before them singularly, freely, and of their own accord, without any compulsion or dread, depose, and confess among other things, the renouncing of Christ, and spitting upon the Cross, when they were received

into the Order of the Templars; and some of them to have received many brothers under the same form, viz., of renouncing Christ and spitting on the Cross; some of them also confessed some other horrible and indecent things, which we conceal to spare their shame for the present.

“They said besides and confessed, that those things were true which are contained in their confessions and depositions before made, before the Inquisitor into Heretical pravity; the which confessions and depositions of the said Master and Preceptors were put into public writing by four public notaries in the presence of the said Master and Preceptors, and some other good men; and some days after were read before the same persons by order of, and in the presence of the said Cardinals, and expounded to each of them in his own vulgar tongue; who persisting in the same, did expressly, of their own accord, approve the same as they had been read. And after these confessions and depositions they, on their knees, with their hands joined, humbly and devoutly, and shedding many tears, begged of the said Cardinals absolution from the excommunication, which they had incurred on account of the premises. And those Cardinals, in regard that the Church does not exclude from its bosom such as return, the Master and Preceptors have abjured their heresy, expressly granted them the benefit of absolution by our authority, according to the form of the church; and then returning to our presence, presented to us the confessions and depositions of the aforesaid Master and Preceptors, reduced into public writings, by public hands, as aforesaid, and reported what they had done with the said Master and Preceptors.

“By which confessions and depositions and relation, we find that the aforesaid master and brothers have been heinously guilty of the premises, though some in more and others in fewer points. But in regard that we cannot in person inquire into these things in all parts of the world, through which that Order is dispersed, and where the brothers of it live, we, by the advice of our brethren, ordain your brotherships, by apostolical writing, that you and some of you, viz., in their City and Diocese, together with the venerable the Patriarch of Jerusalem, the Archbishop of York, the Bishops of Lincoln, Chichester, and Orleans, and our beloved Sons the Abbots of the Monasteries of Lagni of the Diocese of Paris, and St. Germain des Prez near Paris, and Master

Sicard de Vaur, Canon of Narbonne, our chaplain and hearer of causes in our Palace, and Guide Wych, Rector of the Church of Hesse, in the Diocese of London, or eight, seven, six, five, four, three, two, or one of them, whom we have thought fit to be joined to you in this particular, because of the greatness of the affair, having summoned by public proclamation, by you and those adjuncts, or some one or more of them, in the places to which they are to be summoned, such persons as are to be summoned, against the singular persons and brothers of the said Order, residing in your cities and dioceses, though they be come from other places, or have accidentally been brought thither, that you make diligent inquisition concerning the truth of the articles we send you enclosed in our Bull, and concerning such others as in your wisdom you shall think fit.

"It is also our will, that such inquisition or inquisitions being made, judgment of absolution or condemnation be pronounced, as justice shall require, by the provincial council against those singular persons and brothers in the same province, or for them, in relation to those things about which inquisition has been made against them; yet so that the inquisitor or inquisitors of heretical pravity deputed in the said province, by the Sea Apostolick, be admitted at the pronouncing of the said sentence, if they shall require to be there with you. Provided, that you no way presume to concern yourselves with inquiring or giving judgment against the said Order and the Grand Prior of the said Order, in the Kingdom of England, against whom we have directed inquisition to be made by certain persons. Given at Poitiers, the 2nd day after the Ides of August, in the third year of our Pontificate."*

The second Bull concerned France alone. It was a repetition of the former as to the guilt of the Order; commissioners, for the most part archbishops and bishops of France, were named to seize the Knights, and were empowered to hold provincial councils to judge the guilty, but the Pope always excepted the Grand Officers, whose cases he reserved to himself for judgment.

These Bulls were circulated with great diligence, and proceedings were vigorously recommenced against the Order over the whole of France. The provincial councils had power to judge, and likewise the right to call in the aid of secular arms, to execute their sentences. The Pope also wrote a letter on the 22nd November, to Robert, Duke

of Calabria, son and heir presumptive to Charles II., King of Sicily, who was a bitter enemy of the Templars, pressing him to imitate the example of the King of France, and to arrest those Templars whom he should find in the territories of the King his father, who had associated him in the government. This letter had regard to the kingdom of Naples, where there were, however, but few Templars, a circumstance owing to the hatred of the Court of Sicily to the Order.*

About this time a project was started, which, while it would have put an end to the process against the Templars, would have raised a dangerous power in Europe. Philip, having seen the proceedings begun against the Order, returned highly gratified to Paris. On his arrival, his ministers made the following startling proposition, which, had it been carried out, would have been of immense advantage to him, and would have procured a great establishment for Monsieur Philip, his second son. This was to unite all the military orders of Europe into one body, to be called "The Royal Order," with Hugo IV., the King of Cyprus, as its first Grand Master. Hugo was unmarried, being yet a minor.† By his appointment, not only would Cyprus have belonged to the Order, but also the kingdom of Jerusalem, of which he was the rightful heir. With the immense wealth and military power of the various Orders, the conquest of Jerusalem was deemed not improbable. There is little doubt that such a proposal would have been eminently agreeable to King Hugo, who by this means would have become a very powerful monarch. But while offering him the Grand Mastership, it was to have been stipulated that he should name as his successor Monsieur Philip. This proposal was exceedingly pleasing to the King, who, could it have been carried into effect, would in a manner have become father of two sovereigns, and these two, united by the ties of family and interest, would have carried to the ends of the earth the glory of his name and the fame of France. But, ambitious as Philip was, certain obstacles lay in the way of such a scheme, and made him hesitate about adopting it. Not only would the military orders have objected to the amalgamation and consequent loss of individual power and hope of advancement to the chief places, but the sovereigns

* A letter from the Pope to Edward II. in similar terms, will be found in Rymer's *Fœdera*.—Tom. III., p. 30.

† Vertot—Dupui.

in whose dominions they possessed estates, would also have objected to the existence of a power attached to the King of France. Nor would the Pope have been pleased with such a scheme, as it would have deprived him of his vassals, and added a tremendous and irresistible force to the already powerful Philip. The Grand Master of the Templars had formerly satisfied the Pope of the impracticability of such a scheme, and Philip had no wish to raise any question which might lead to a quarrel with the Church. The King determined, however, to consider well this proposal, and to take an opportunity of sounding the Pope before finally rejecting it.

(To be continued.)

MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

RED CROSS OF ROME AND CONSTANTINE.

The "Red Cross of Rome and Constantine" has not been shown to be of an earlier origin than the Knights Templars, as respects connexion with Masonry, and therefore it has no right to be termed the "Older of the Two Chivalric Degrees." What the original degree itself was apart from Masonry is quite another question, and, like the ancient Templars, we cannot obtain information thereon from Masonic archives.

In answer to Bro. Charters' fraternal communication, the communications of my esteemed friend, Bro. Little, are to be found in the *Freemasons' Magazine* for the last two years, respecting the antiquity and character of the "Red Cross of Rome and Constantine," and, if Bro. Charters cannot find the authority I mentioned in either of the Grand Recorder's valuable articles, I shall be happy to search for my notes and refer him to the page.—WILLIAM JAMES HUGHAN.

THE DERIVATION OF "FREE-MASON."

From the opening remarks at page 90 (Aug. 1st) down to this date there has been a good deal said on this matter; but it has not even yet been properly or rather exhaustively treated.

The remarks at page 330 of "A Masonic Student" are very good so far as they go, only they do not go far enough. He is running on very well, but suddenly pulls up before the goal is duly reached. From the careful manner in which he seems to have collected his information, I regret this, and hope that he will yet follow up the matter more fully, and further to a properly definite result.

The "solution" which "Richard Dawson" gives in his letter at page 352 will hardly do. Although "one part is derived from the French," it does not necessarily follow "so also should the other." Further, I find more difficulties in Bro. Dawson's solution than the "softening the letter 'c.'"—W. P. BUCHAN.

"SCOTCH."

I beg to differ with Bro. Lyon in his remarks at page 329. He says, "*Scots* and *Scotchmen* are synonymous; both are, we think, proper to be used." I do not think so; and I may here state that the remarks about "Scotch" arose from the spelling of the word in the foot-note to page 210, where it is "Scotchmen" when it ought to have been "Scotsmen" or "Scotsman."

A Scotchman is a native of Scotland, but where is Scotland? * A Scot or a Scotsman is a native of Scotland, the land of the Scots.

The word "Scotch" I consider to be a vulgarism; but, of course, it may be used correctly enough in such phrases as "guid braid Scotch," and when one is writing "braid Scotch" he can use the word as much as he pleases; but I did not refer to a "braid Scotch" sentence at page 251, where I say, "as has been done." As I see it often used in the newspapers and elsewhere, I think it shows carelessness on the part of the writer.

I do not think that Professor Wilson, or many other good writers about Scotland and Scotsmen, will be found to use the word "Scotch" (unless as a quotation, or something similar); and in that masterly essay in the *Quarterly Review* on "Scottish Abbeys and Cathedrals," by the late Joseph Robertson, he always uses the word Scottish, designedly ignoring the word "Scotch." In that beautiful song, "O, sing to me the auld Scotch Songs," I would by no means object to the word Scotch in that connexion; but, when, in hearing it sung, the singer came to the words in the second verse, "The Scotch blood leaps," I always felt a sort of jar, as if something had gone wrong. I think it ought in that connexion to be "The Scots' blood leaps." While I consider the use of the word Scotch to be bad, I consider the word Scotchman far worse, unless when it is intended to mean a native of Scotland.—W.P.B.

JEWS IN MASONRY.

The Lodge of Nine Muses above referred to was established chiefly by Spanish and Portuguese Jews. It has enrolled among its members many distinguished men of all classes of society, and still includes Jews. It has also maintained its reputation as a crack lodge.—HYDE CLARKE.

THE MOST ANCIENT ORDER.

The most ancient order of Christian Masonry, about which there has been a dispute, is that of the Adamites. The first, or initiate, or postulate, or aspirant degree is of very great simplicity and purity, as the members are clothed in buff. In the second degree the members wear the apron, the first example of Masonic aprons, conferred in this ancient degree, "and they made themselves aprons of fig leaves." In the third degree the Sir Knights receive the dignity of Grand Master Tailor, and are invested with their skins of coats and their coats of skins, by which time they had begun to feel cold. The banquet of the degree is of raw apples. Some say the Pre-adamites were older.—NEMO NISI MEMO.

* It runs in my mind of having once heard of a Scotland somewhere to the north or east of our island; but I do not remember the cause of the idea.

THE BARREN FIG-TREE, OR SCOTTISH FREEMASONRY.

Scottish Freemasonry may be said to exist (so does a torpid bat), but, as to signs of active life, where are they? What good does it do? The barren fig-tree existed, but for what end, when it produced no fruit? If we are to believe the writers in the *Freemasons' Magazine* lately, Scottish Freemasonry, however, does produce something—apples of Sodom—lazy professional Masonic beggars.*

Where are our Scottish Masonic benevolent institutions for worthy aged Masons and their widows?

Where are our Scottish Masonic schools?

Where are our Scottish Masonic Charities, worthy of the name?

Where is there a Scottish Masonic Hall, worthy of the name? †

Where are there signs of true Masonic life and work in Scotland?

To all these echo answers, "Where—where—where?"

So far as the production of good fruit shows us signs of life, Scottish Freemasonry may be said to be in a state of suspended animation. Should it be cut down therefore? No; spare it for a time yet. Give it a chance; there are some faint signs of life about it yet. Some seem to be determined to dig about it; and with sunshine and rain it may perhaps throw off its lethargy and produce fruit; but what keeps it or has hitherto kept it from doing so? Is it the do-nothingness at high quarters that is trampling down the soil hard around the roots, or what is it that keeps it back? Whatever it is that obstructs the nutriment from feeding the roots and thus nourishing the tree ought to be thrown aside. Those who ought to be the leaders and supporters of true Scottish Masonic life should be really so. Whenever they are not so they become mere dead weight, an encumbrance, and a hindrance. Wherever there is neglect of duty with those who ought to be examples, it tends to crush out all active life. Were there fewer leaves there might, perhaps, be more fruit—certainly we can dispense with leaves if we get the fruit. For the honour of our country we trust there is hope yet for Scottish Masonry.

Wha'll for Scotland's honour dear,
True Masonic structures rear,
That will mak' its worth appear,
Forward let him stand!

EXCELSIOR.

RED CROSS.

I notice that the Irish Supreme Council have joined the Red Cross and put themselves under its banner; but I do not remember to have seen the announcement of the accession of the English Supreme Council, which I suppose took place before. Although it has been inquired about, no one has answered what rank the members of the 33rd degree hold in the popular body of the Red Cross.—3.

* Which is certainly a great compliment to Scotland.

† Certainly there is the large room called the Grand Lodge Hall with its, almost bare, four walls, of which, when I entered for the first time about two years ago, I was literally ashamed. When I call it a large room, I do not mean to compare it to a barn—certainly not, because all must admit that it is better than that.

THE THREE ORDERS (page 391).

Will Bro. Hyde Clarke kindly say what is the number and date of the *Building News* in which his paper was contained? so that any who desire may get it.—PICTUS.

MASONIC CHARTERS.

As I do not exactly gather from Bro. Buchan's remarks where the "1190 Charter from William the Lion" is to be seen, perhaps that esteemed brother would kindly inform us if the Charter is accessible to students.—A MASONIC STUDENT.

PRINCE MASONS.

As I have taken several orders and degrees, and do not mind taking more, I am inquisitive about the new orders of Prince Masons, and shall feel obliged if anyone will tell me which is the most select and expensive and which is the cheapest, so that I may suit myself according to circumstances.—W.S.

ATHEISTS AMONG MASONS.

It is a notorious fact that among Masons in England are some atheists, and notably one leading member of the atheistic propaganda. How such a person came to be initiated is unfortunately easily solved. The laxity of principle of some brethren in seeking candidates among good fellows has indulged us with initiates who want the primary religious qualifications of Masons. There is one comfort that they are not much disposed to continue in an atmosphere of bigotry and superstition, but it is very desirable such persons should not be invited as visiting brethren.—R.Y.

CHEVALIER RUSPINI.

The Chevalier Ruspini, so well known as the founder of our charity systems, is enrolled in the warrant of the Lodge of Nine Muses (No. 235) established 1777. This lodge has, among other notable things, the jewels of its officers, which are medallions skilfully painted in miniature with figures of Apollo and the Muses, bearing each the emblem of some office. It is said H.R.H. the Duke of Sussex borrowed one and never returned it.—HYDE CLARKE.

BOYS' SCHOOL.

Although some of the boys belong to a grade in society inferior to the others, it is worthy of inquiry what should be the standard of culture adopted. Shall the boys generally be brought down to the lower standard, or shall the lower boys be raised to the higher standard? This is material in after life. Perhaps, though it may cost a little more for feeding and clothing the boys, it may not be a bad thing that when a boy or young man states that he was educated in the Freemasons' Boys' School, it should be accepted as a testimonial of character and social responsibility, and not smack of the workhouse.—CHARITAS.

THE BOOK OF JOB, OR THE RENANIC PUFF AT PAGE 351.

Who wrote the Book of Job? I answer, in the words of A. B. Davidson,—“Regarding the authorship and era of the book of Job nothing positively can be known; regarding place of composition about as little.”

“An American Freemason” says,—“All critics

agree that it was a Jew who wrote it during the captivity in Babylon (B.C. 606—536), as the ideas contained in it concerning the devil, &c., were peculiar to the Persians." All critics agree? Nonsense; the assertion is a manifest untruth, and the devil in it is not Persian.

Mr. Davidson says,—“Nor is there any reason to suppose the Satanology of the Jews a thing of foreign import and not native growth. There is no resemblance here to the Persian Ahriman.”

“An A. F.,” when poring over the “numerous blunders” (?) of Rosa Crucis, tumbles into far greater errors himself.

To a certain extent with Rosa Crucis, I have a feeling that it is possible Moses may have written the Book of Job. In the *Magazine* for Nov. 9, 1867, page 371, will be found some remarks of mine about Job.*

Many critics now consider that while Job himself lived in patriarchal times, the book, as now composed, was written long after; the author, collecting all that was known of the history of Job, worked it up into its present sublime form.

The exact time when Job lived is uncertain. Davidson says,—“We cannot cross near 4,000 years cite Job’s consciousness into our presence.”

The land of Uz probably lay eastwards from Palestine and north of Edom.

Many critics now agree in placing the era of the composition of Job in the “Davidic-Solomonic era.” The Books of Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Isaiah,† &c., are all indebted to Job, and copy from it.

Mr. Davidson says,—“Anterior therefore to all the Solomonic productions must our book be considered. We care little how *early* scholars elevate the book, provided they do not bring it down later.”‡

Some critics affirm that this book was written during the captivity; but the grounds of said assertion are often shallow and false. The puff which “An American Freemason” gives Renan, will not help that view much. Dr. Delitzsch, at page 42 of his Introduction to his Commentary on Job, gives his opinion of Renan, viz.,—“And Renan, who solely determines his arrangement of the *stichs* by the Masoretic division of verses, and, moreover, haughtily displays his scornful opposition to Christianity in the preface *etude*.”

Much can be said in favour of Moses being the author; Jewish tradition says so. The style of the book is sufficiently archaic, and there are resemblances between its language and that of the Pentateuch. One thing a person may safely affirm, viz.,—that, as now known, the authorship lies either in the Mosaic era or in the Davidic-Solomonic era—certainly not after Solomon.§

I am astonished that “An American Freemason”

* In the foot-note of which for “our pillars gave way,” read “one pillar gave way.”

† Isaiah’s time from B.C. 760 to B.C. 698.

‡ See also page 23 of Introduction to Dr. Delitzsch’s Commentary on Job. Dr. Delitzsch and Mr. Davidson place the composition of Job about the Davidic-Solomonic era.

§ The relation in the 6th and following verses of 1st chapter remind me somehow of the description of an Egyptian funeral and of the judgment before the body was suffered to embark, when the demand was made for the accuser, if any, to stand forth, which funeral judgment only typified the greater and more important judgment of Amenti.

does not seem to know what Albert Barnes has said upon this subject, which is as follows:—“It seems to me, therefore, that by this train of remarks we are conducted to a conclusion, attended with as much certainty as can be hoped for in the nature of the case, that the work was composed by Job himself in the period of rest and prosperity which succeeded his trials, and came to the knowledge of Moses during his residence in Arabia.”

As generally taken the Flood happened B.C. 2348. Noah died B.C. 1998. Abram born B.C. 1997, and, living 175 years, died B.C. 1822. Israelites went into Egypt B.C. 1706, and 135 years afterwards, Moses was born in B.C. 1571; * and Shem, the son of Noah, did not die until B.C. 1846, so that with the long lives of the patriarchs, the faith of Noah could reach to Moses without passing through many hands.

The foregoing remarks show how little truth there is in the remark of “An American Freemason,” that “all critics agree.”

As a work the Book of Job is one of the grandest in the Old Testament. “Neither the Hindoos, nor the Greeks and Romans have such a lofty and purely perfected poem to produce.” Davidson calls it “a life-history, a life-drama.”

“The ruling number 3 is most visible in all its parts. (1). The whole book falls into three sections: Prologue,† poem, epilogue. (2). The poem strictly, also into three parts: Job and the Friends; Elihu; God. (3). The discussion between Job and the friends again into three cycles: First Cycle, ch. 4 to 14; second cycle, ch. 15 to 21; third cycle, ch. 22 to 31. (4). Each cycle falls into three pairs: Eliphaz and Job; Bildad and Job; Zophar and Job; only in the last cycle Zophar fails to appear, and Job speaks twice. (5). Job sustains three temptations. (6). Elihu makes three speeches; (7). and, finally, very many of the speeches fall into three strophes.”

The 25th, 26th, and 27th verses of the 19th chapter I decidedly consider contain faith and the hope of a glorious immortality or belief in a resurrection; further, independent of Job’s Book, I consider Moses possessed the hope of a glorious immortality.

Were a motto required for the first round of the Masonic ladder, I consider no better could be got than the glorious words of Job,—“I know that my Redeemer liveth.” Faith there shines proudly forth from the surrounding darkness. It is not—I consider, I think, or I would fain hope that He liveth; but “I know.” Job here takes hold of God his Redeemer, and feels that He takes hold of him; and thus holding and being held he breaks out into the exulting cry, “I know that my Redeemer liveth.” Job is remarkable for his patience, but he is also no less remarkable for his faith.

“An American Freemason” also says,—“The Book of Genesis, it is believed by critics, first came into the hands of the Jews about the same time, and this belief is supported by the same reason. Both Genesis and Job are evidently produced under similar conditions of education, and these conditions did not obtain in either Egypt or Canaan at any time prior to the return from captivity.” (B.C. 536.) Which re-

* Date of Exodus B.C. 1491.

† “Narration in all Biblical books and, indeed, Semitic books is in prose.”

marks are untrue, and only show the entire ignorance of the writer with the subject. Mr. P. Smith says,—“With the maturity of thought acquired by such a mode of life (in Midian), Moses received also the revelations which he recorded in the Book of Genesis.” Which makes the writing of Genesis to date about B.C. 1500.

Some would try to discredit the Hebrew history of their coming to Egypt during Joseph's elevation (B.C. 1706); but, as Mr. P. Smith truly observes,—“The attempt is refuted by internal evidence. Oriental history is familiar with the elevation of foreign slaves to the post of prime minister, and even to the throne itself; and all the attendant circumstances are thoroughly Egyptian; the names, offices, land tenure, clothing, &c., are all Egyptian.”

Altogether, from these scattered remarks it may easily be seen (and, if followed up, more so), that “An American Freemason's” statements at page 351 are full of “numerous blunders,” and if something “reliable” is wanted, a better pilot than “An American Freemason” will be required.*—A SCOTTISH FREEMASON.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

PROVINCIAL GRAND OFFICERS FOR WARWICKSHIRE.

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

Dear Sir and Brother,—In the number of the *Freemasons' Magazine* for July 4th of the present year you give a report of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of England, when the illegal appointments of Prov. Grand Officers were discussed, especial reference being made to the Province of Warwickshire. At the last meeting of the Grand Lodge of that Province held at Birmingham on 20th October, it appears that appointments have been made of the following assistant officers:—Prov. G. Assist. Supt. of Works, Prov. G. Assist. Sec., Prov. G. Assist. Organist.

With every respect to the experience and high position in the Craft held by Lord Leigh, I cannot but think that such appointments are not in accordance with the Book of Constitutions. I have carefully examined that book, and cannot find any authority for such Assistant Officers being appointed, and should be glad to know the opinion of Masons of experience on the subject.

Yours fraternally,
J.D.M.

* Some of the works I have quoted above are the latest on this subject. I consider there is not sufficient scholarly ability in Renan to compensate for his unchristianity to cause him to be recommended, more especially as his work has been superseded and weighed in the balance by other and later critics. A reading of A. B. Davidson's Commentary and Translation, which is a new work of a very high class, will well repay perusal. He is a first-class Hebrew scholar, and at page 55 of his introduction he gives a list of other authors' works upon Job, so I do not require to name them all here.

BRO. J.L.W., 30°, &c.

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

Dear Sir and Brother,—In answer to Bro. J.L.W., I beg to thank him for his kind letter, and most cordially reciprocate his fraternal offer, and assure him of my desire to exchange letters with one so evidently imbued with Masonic feeling.

Yours fraternally,

W. J. HUGHAN.

Edward-street, Truro, Cornwall, 14th Nov. 1868.

A HINT ABOUT RITUALS.

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

Dear Sir and Brother,—There is a little ferment about uniformity of rituals, and some day something will be done. When that day comes, it is to be hoped the alterations which will then be made will be judicious. Our rituals have been made to conform to the ghost of Enfield's Speaker, defunct Johnsonianism; but there is now abroad another literary mission. In this day the study of English as a language is spreading, with a better appreciation of the old and proper language. In Masonry this may give us more mediævalism, and do us no harm. Who will be the luminaries chosen for this task? Will they be Past Grand Deacons?

Yours fraternally,

R.Y.

MASONIC PICTURE GALLERY.

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

Dear Sir and Brother,—A long while ago a hint was thrown out in the *Freemasons' Magazine* for a Masonic picture gallery in our hall. This is now the twenty-fifth anniversary of our M.W.G.M.'s election, and the celebration need not be confined to one mode, that already suggested. One memorial for the Craft and to be enjoyed by the whole Craft would be a Zetland Gallery. As a preliminary step to this, an exhibition might be held in the Hall, of pictures on loan of our G.M.'s, P.G.M.'s, and eminent Masons. When we consider the princely and noble individuals who have taken part in the government of our Order, such an exhibition becomes, not only practicable, but assured of the contributions of many collections. This would lay the foundation and set the example of donations for a permanent gallery.

Now, it is not an uncommon event for a lodge to celebrate some benefactor or worthy member by having his portrait painted by subscription, but when done there is no suitable place for it, and it may be left to be kicked about in the London Tavern or some other tavern. To place a suitable work of art in the Zetland Gallery would be a permanent memorial.

Yours fraternally,

P.D.G.M.

HIEROGLYPH.

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

Dear Sir and Brother,—The following hieroglyph is contained in an address to the Grand Master, Masters, Wardens, and brethren of the Ancient and Most Honourable Fraternity of the Freemasons of

Great Britain and Ireland, by Bro. Eugenius Philaethes, jun., *F.R.S.*, the 1st March, 1721.

Yours fraternally,
JAMES FREDERICK SPURR.

"And now, my brethren, you of the higher class, permit me a few words, since you are but few; and these few words I shall speak to you in riddles, because to you it is given to know those mysteries which are hidden from the unworthy.

"Have you not seen, then, my dearest brethren, that stupendous bath, filled with most limpid water, than which no pure can be purer, of such admirable mechanism that makes even the greatest philosopher gaze with wonder and astonishment, and is the subject of the eternal contemplation of the wisest men. Its form is a quadrate sublimely placed on six others, blazing all with celestial jewels, each angularly supported with four lions. Here repose our mighty King and Queen (I speak foolishly, I am not worthy to be of you), the King shining in his glorious apparel of transparent incorruptible gold, beset with living sapphires; he is fair and ruddy, and feeds amongst the lilies; his eyes, two carbuncles, the most brilliant, darting, prolific, never-dying tires; and his large flowing hair, blacker than the deepest black, or plumage of the long-lived crow; his Royal Consort vested in tissue of immortal silver, watered with emeralds, pearl and coral. O, mystic union! O, admirable commerce!

"Cast now your eyes to the basis of this celestial structure, and you will discover just before it a large bason of Porphyrian marble, receiving from the mouth of a large lion's head, to which two bodies displayed on each side of it are conjoined, a greenish fountain of liquid jasper.

"Ponder this well and consider. Haunt no more the woods and forests (I speak as a fool); hunt no more the fleet hart; let the flying eagle fly unobserved; busy yourselves no longer with the dancing idiot, swollen toads, and in his own tail-devouring dragon; leave these as elements to your Tyros.

"The object of your wishes and desires (some of you perhaps have obtained it, I speak as a fool) is that admirable thing which hath a substance neither too fiery, nor altogether earthy, nor simply watery; neither a quality the most acute or most obtuse, but of a middle nature, and light to the touch, and in some manner soft, at least not hard; not having asperity, but even in some sort sweet to the taste, odorous to the smell, grateful to the sight, agreeable and delectable to the hearing, and pleasant to the thought; in short, that one only thing besides which there is no other, and yet everywhere possible to be found, the blessed and most sacred subject of the square of wise men, that is—I had almost blabbed it out and been sacrilegiously perjured. I shall therefore speak of it with a circumlocution yet more dark and obscure, that none but the sons of science and those who are illuminated with the sublimest mysteries and profoundest secrets of Masonry may understand. It is then, what brings you, my dearest brethren to that pellucid diaphanous palace of the true disinterested lovers of wisdom, that transparent pyramid of purple salt, more sparkling and radiant than the finest orient ruby, in the centre of which reposes inaccessible light epitomiz'd, that incorruptible celestial fire, blazing like burning crystal, and brighter

than the sun in his full meridian glories, which is that immortal, eternal, never-dying *pyropus*, the King of Gems, whence proceeds everything that is great and wise and happy.

"These things are deeply hidden from common view, and covered with pavilions of thickest darkness, that what is sacred may not be given to dogs, or your pearls cast before swine, lest they trample them under feet and turn again and rend you.

"However, this will by no means hinder you from doing good where there are worthy objects, and you know the day is now far gone and the night approaches when no man can work."

ROYAL ARCH MASONRY.

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

Dear Sir and Brother,—May I respectfully ask "P.D.G.M." what he actually means by the "York Rite," and what is his authority for terming a system, as he tells us, of "seven degrees"—"the York Rite."

Yours fraternally,
A MASONIC STUDENT.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

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

Dear Sir and Brother,—I fear that an announcement in the columns of a contemporary that "the Festival of this Institution in March next is expected to realize £10,000," may, without explanation, be productive of a prejudicial effect, inasmuch as brethren who may have been disposed to lend their aid as Stewards, or otherwise, may be deterred from doing so under the idea that with such an amount in expectancy, their assistance will not be required.

The result of the ensuing Festival—whatever may be its success—will be the offspring of the earnest determination of several friends of the Institution to abolish the debt by which it is encumbered, and any extension of its benefits presented, though the demands upon it are rapidly increasing.

There is every likelihood that the great bulk of the contributions on the occasion in question will come from the Provinces of West Yorkshire and East Lancashire. These Provinces make it an absolute condition—*sine quâ non*—that every shilling contributed by them shall be devoted to the reduction of the debt of £10,000, and shall not be subject to commission or deduction of any kind. There will yet remain to be provided a sum of £5,000, or thereabouts, for annual maintenance, and for this we must look to the metropolis and provinces other than those mentioned.

Under these circumstances, I think it will be conceded that, so far from the announcement to which I have drawn attention justifying relaxation from effort, it ought rather to stimulate exertion. With the explanation thus given I shall have every confidence that our friends will rally round us and furnish us with the means, not only of continuing, but extending, our good work, to enable us to do which liberality was never more needed than now.

Yours fraternally,
FREDERICK BINCKES (Sec.)

Office, 6, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

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

MASONIC MEMS.

THE UNIVERSAL MASONIC CALENDAR, DIARY, AND POCKET BOOK FOR 1869.—We are requested to remind the secretaries of Craft and Mark lodges, and Scribes of R.A. chapters, under the English, Irish, and Scotch jurisdictions, and the secretaries and other officers of other Masonic bodies at home, in the colonies, and abroad, that they should forward the fullest and latest information intended for publication in the next issue, with all convenient speed, to the editor of the Calendar; and all communications may be addressed to him at the office of the FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE, 19, Salisbury-street, Strand, London, or in Glasgow.

BRETHREN are reminded that the Lodge Music published a few weeks ago, in several issues of the MAGAZINE, has been republished in a convenient form for Lodge use, price 2s. 6d.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION FOR AGED FREEMASONS.—The next anniversary festival in aid of the fund of this deserving institution will be held at the Freemasons' Tavern on the 27th of January, 1869. The Right Hon. Bro. the Earl of Carnarvon, Prov. G.M. of Somersetshire, will preside.

THE Right Hon. the Lord Leigh, Provincial Grand Master for Warwickshire, has kindly consented to preside at the next anniversary festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, on Wednesday, 12th May, 1869.

WE understand that it is proposed to hold the next meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire at Sheffield on Wednesday, the 20th of January next.

FORMATION OF A NEW LODGE IN SUFFOLK.—We understand that a petition has been forwarded to Colonel Adair, Prov. G. Master for Suffolk, for a new lodge to be called the De Grey Lodge, to meet at the King's Head, Belton. Our esteemed Bro. W. Oldham Chambers, of Lowestoft, has, we understand, been nominated for the first W.M. in case the charter should be granted.

THE GOOCH LODGE.—We are informed that the first meeting of this lodge for the transaction of ordinary business will take place at Southall, on Monday the 23rd November inst., at five o'clock.

MASONIC LIFEBOAT.—The Britannic Lodge (No. 33), at its last meeting voted five guineas as a donation in aid of the fund. We hope other lodges will promptly this example.

ROYAL OAK LODGE (No. 871), will meet at 6 p.m. at the Royal Oak Tavern, High-street, Deptford, on Wednesday, the 25th inst.

BRO. ALDERMAN GOUBLEY has been returned as M.P. for Sunderland.

BRO. MAJOR WORSLEY, 18^o, the Conservative candidate for Whitby, has been defeated by Mr. W. H. Gladstone, who has been returned by a large majority.

A WARRANT for a new lodge has been granted by the R.W. Grand Master to be opened at Sheffield early in the ensuing month. It is to be called "The Wentworth, No. 1239," and the first Master will be Bro. H. J. Garnett, P.M. of the Britannia Lodge, No. 139.

THE Supreme Grand Council has elected Bro. Emra Holmes, 30^o, to fill a vacancy in the 31^o Ancient and Accepted Rite.

WILTSHIRE.—PROV. G. LODGE.—Bro. Sir Daniel Gooch, *Bart.* M.P., having lately been appointed Prov. G.M. of Berkshire, has resigned his office of D. Prov. G.M. for Wilts, which has been conferred by Bro. Lord Methuen, the Prov. G.M., on Bro. S. Wittey, of Devizes, P. Prov. S.G.W. for Wilts, and for several years Prov. G. Treas. Bro. Wittey is well known among the brethren of Wilts as a very active member of the Craft, among whom the appointment is very popular, and it will no doubt conduce to the interests of the province.

METROPOLITAN.

BRITANNIC LODGE (No. 33).—A very numerous meeting of the members of this old lodge was held on Friday, the 13th inst., at Freemasons' Hall. Bro. Ricks was balloted for as a joining member, and Messrs. Wright, Douglas, Gammon, and Pendered were approved of as candidates for initiation. Mr. Francis Pendered was the only one of these who was presented, and he was therefore introduced and initiated in due form. The lodge then proceeded with its other business and voted ten guineas to the Zetland Commemoration Fund, and five guineas to the Masonic Lifeboat. This comprised the whole of the business, and the lodge having been duly closed the brethren adjourned to banquet, which was placed on the table by Bro. Charles Gosden, the manager of the Freemason's Tavern Company, in his best style, and under his personal superintendence. The toasts so well known in Masonic lodges were given and responded to with great cordiality, and the brethren then spent a very happy evening, and separated at an early hour. Amongst those present were Bros. J. Glegg, W.M.; J. Shields, S.W.; Church, J.W.; L. Crombie, P.M., Treas.; Chubb, P.M., Sec.; Glaisher, S.D.; Magnus Ohren, J.D.; G. England, sen., P.M., Dir. of Cers.; W. Smith, C.E., P.M.; J. S. Pierce, P.M.; H. Grissell, P.M. Among the visitors were Bros. H. R. Glegg, Port Natal Lodge (No. 738), and Rifle Lodge, Edinburgh; Ulysses Latreille, 1,056; J. Horne Payne, South Saxon Lodge; R. Barclay Brown, late Lodge of Sincerity; John Braithwaite, P.M. 4, P. Prov. S.G.W. Surrey; W. Verrall, P. Prov. G. Treas. Sussex; F. Walters, P.M. 73, 147, &c.; Hyde Clarke, 10, P.D. Dist. G.M. Turkey; F. Bigg, P.M. 66; J. Yalden, 181; H. Massey, W.M. 619; Hallowes, 709. About seventy brethren sat down to dinner. Bros. Lawler, Carter, Montem Smith, and Barnby added much to the general enjoyment by the charming exercise of their vocal talents.

LODGE VITRUVIAN, (No. 87).—The regular meeting of this lodge took place at the White Hart, College-street, Lambeth, on the 11th inst. The lodge was opened by the W.M., Bro. T. H. Meredith, assisted by Bros. H. Cary, S.W.; Jolly, J.W.; Crabtree, S.D.; Whiting, P.M., Sec., and a good muster of brethren. Bros. Rees, Sheppard, Hosier, and Seale, were raised, and Bros. Scarth, Smith, Speedy, and Goss, passed to the second degree. The whole of the business having been well and ably done and no other business forthcoming the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to an excellent banquet supplied in Bro. Frampton's best style. Upwards of sixty sat down, including Bro. Terry and other visitors. After the usual loyal Masonic toasts had been given, the W.M. gave "The Visitors," which was followed by the W.M. proposing "Prosperity to the Masonic Charities, coupled with the name of Bro. Terry, who responded in a most able manner. After which "The Healths of the W.M., P.M., and the Officers of the lodge," were given and responded to. Bros. Curry, Dodson, Noke, P.M., Whitney, P.M., gave some very excellent songs during the evening, and the brethren separated at an early hour.

LION AND LAMB LODGE (No. 192).—The first meeting of this old lodge at the City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street—it having removed from Aldermanbury—was held on the 5th inst., and a numerous assemblage of brethren were present to do honour to the occasion. The genial and painstaking W.M., Bro. J. G. Marsh, occupied his post in the East, and performed the duties of the evening, which consisted of one passing, and one raising. After the labours of the lodge, a banquet was provided

in one of the magnificent rooms of the hotel, and the viands, wines, and attendance left nothing to be desired. Due honour was paid to the usual toasts, especially to that of the W.M., who responded in a most effective manner. The visitors were numerous, and included amongst other well-known brethren, Bros. W. Paas, P.M. 28 and 534; R. W. Little, P.M. 975; F. Walters, P.M. 73; G. Carter, P.M. 145; Forster, 157, and their health was drunk with enthusiasm. The P.M.'s were also warmly greeted, particularly Bros. Hosgood, the indefatigable Secretary, to whose perseverance and influence the lodge is much indebted for its present proud position. A most agreeable evening was brought to a close by the Tyler's toast, and the brethren separated, mutually congratulating each other upon the advantages derived from their change of quarters.

BELGRAVE LODGE (No. 749).—The installation meeting of this celebrated lodge took place on the 11th inst., at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street. Bro. Potter, P.M., in the absence of the W.M., took the chair at half-past three. All the officers being present, Bros. J. G. Froud, Grogan, Runting, H. Garrod, Evendon, Ough (Assist. G. Purst.), Woodstock, W. Watson, T. Nash, all P.M.'s of the Belgrave; Strip, Wickham, Scott, Catmur, Carter, Lefebvre, Harper, Macrill, Elliot (2), and about sixty brethren, and the following visitors, Bros. W. Farnfield, P. Assist. G. Sec. R.M.B.I.; T. Lewis, G. Purst., P.M. Royal Albert; C. W. Porter and H. Johnson, P.M.'s 134; W. Johnson, 134; J. G. Bond, P.M. 87; R. Brown, P.M. 145; D. H. Pulsford, W.M. 1,158; S. May, W.M. 101; W. Godfrey, 511; J. Leary and W. E. West, 907; A. Flint, 180; S. Carey, 901; G. Horton, 205; G. Newman and E. Moore, 192. Immediately after the confirmation of the minutes Bro. Garrod, P.M., presented Bro. W. Bourne, W.M. elect, to the Installing Master, Bro. W. Ough, P.M., Assist. G. Purst., to receive from his hands the benefit of installation. This most impressive ceremony was executed in a style that elicited the warmest plaudits of the brethren. After saluting the W.M. in the three degrees, he appointed and invested his officers as follows:—Bros. H. Watkinson, S.W.; G. Pymm, J.W.; J. G. Froud, Treas.; H. Garrod, Sec.; W. Hester, S.D.; P. Parsons, J.D.; S. Homewood, I.G.; and Daly, Tyler. The W.M. had a few aptly chosen words for each officer on their appointment and promotion. Immediately after the installation the W.M. entered upon his duties by initiating Mr. Ludlow, after which Bro. Forscutt was passed to the second degree, and one brother, W. T. Marchant, was raised to the sublime degree in such a masterly manner that the brethren were loud in their expressions of approbation. Five pounds was voted to the "Zetland Testimonial." The lodge having been closed in due form, the members repaired to the banquet table, and we must compliment Bro. Smith, the indefatigable manager, upon the marked change from the prior meeting. A most sumptuous banquet was laid before the eighty members who sat down. The cloth having been drawn, the W.M. gave the usual loyal and Masonic toasts with all the novelty which a man of original ideas could give to them. The toast of "The M.W. the Right Hon. the Earl of Zetland," followed, in which a graceful tribute of respect and gratitude was paid to the noble earl in acknowledgment of his twenty-five years of zeal and labour in the cause of humanity and Masonry. An appropriate tribute of respect was also paid to the Deputy Grand Master, the Earl de Grey and Ripon, coupling with his name those of the Grand Officers present, which was the only recognition that could be made in return for the zeal and assiduity which they had always displayed in the discharge of their onerous duties. The W.M. most cordially wished them well. Bro. Farnfield returned thanks on behalf of the Grand Officers present. In giving the health of Bro. Ludlow, the newly-made initiate, the W.M. reminded him, that although he was but an initiate at present, yet that was an honour of which kings might well be proud, and that no one need be ashamed to wear the badge with which he had been invested. In returning thanks Bro. Ludlow said, though I have been invested to night, I have for many years been accustomed to meet Masons, very many of whom I have had great reason to respect. I could do no more than follow their example. Bro. Froud, P.M., then, in a few terse and happy terms, proposed "The Health of the Worshipful Master." No words which he could use could express the pleasure which it gave him to see Bro. Bourne in that position. He (Bro. Froud) had had the pleasure of initiating him, and he felt pride in having done so. The W.M. had exceeded the most sanguine expectations of his friends, and he felt confident that he would be a credit and

honour to any lodge to which he might belong. He had hitherto discharged all the duties of the various offices he had held most creditably to himself, and in a manner which reflected great credit to Masonry in general, and to the Belgrave Lodge in particular. He could point out Bro. Bourne, W.M., to all brothers as an example of what a Mason should be. The W.M., in his reply, said: You have conferred on me the honour of an unanimous election to this chair. I should be ill fitted to discharge the duties I have taken, did I not place myself at the service of any brother who might need my help in any way whatsoever—anything I could do to help the lodge generally or the individual members of it, they may rely upon me to do it. In having taken this post I have pledged myself to be ready to assist every member of the fraternity who may require my aid, and I trust that you will not have cause to say otherwise at the expiration of my year of office. (The brethren of the Belgrave Lodge well know that this was not a mere empty promise on the part of the W.M.) "The Health of the Visitors" followed, for whom Bro. S. May returned thanks, and said: This night four years I returned thanks for myself and friends. At that time this was a very small lodge. It was now so great that it could challenge the whole of the Masonic world to find its equal both in its numbers and efficiency. He could pledge his Masonic word, that he never saw the duties so well done as he did at the Belgrave Lodge. The members might well feel proud of their Master and of the manner in which he had performed his part on this the first night of his taking office as its W.M. Of the officers, also, he knew, for a positive fact, that every one of them could work the three ceremonies perfectly. Another great cause which the members had justly to congratulate themselves upon, was on the large sums which they gave to the Masonic Charities. For himself and brother visitors he could only thank the lodge deeply. The W.M. then gave "The Health of the Past Masters." In doing this he had a difficult task to perform. (It may be here remarked that the late W.M. had only attended the lodge but once since his installation). This of course did not apply to those brothers who had left the post in previous years. Bro. Watson, P.M., in acknowledging this toast, said it was a source of great pride to himself and Bro. P.M.'s to look back upon the progress which this lodge had made, how it had grown from small beginnings to rank a first place amongst lodges. The amounts which had been given in Charity (£200), and the hospitality which they accorded were done with such liberality as to be a credit and honour to any member who might belong to it any time. "The Lay Member's Health" was duly acknowledged, the brother who returned thanks saying that though they were but lay members they hoped in time to become clerical, especially as they served under such efficient officers, who not only worked themselves, but were the cause of work in others. The proceedings were interspersed with some excellent singing by the brethren. The banquet was most excellent, and the attendance perfect. In fact there was not a single hitch to mar the enjoyment of what was one of the most pleasant evenings ever known to the members of this lodge.

MERCHANT'S NAVY, (No. 781).—This lodge held the second meeting of the season on Wednesday the 11th inst., at the Silver Tavern, Burdett-road, Limehouse. Bro. Bracebridge, W.M. presiding. The lodge having been opened in due form and with solemn prayer, the minutes of the last lodge were read and confirmed. A ballot was then taken and declared unanimous in favour of J. Harris, Jun. and A. Hayward. Bros. Glinister and Brown being candidates for the second degree were asked the usual questions, entrusted, and withdrew. Lodge being opened in the second degree Bros. Glinister and Brown were passed to the degree of fellow Crafts. Bro. C. R. Newman of Lodge British Oak, 831, was a candidate for raising, and answered the usual questions. Lodge opened in the third degree and Bro. Newman was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason. Lodge resumed to the first degree and Messrs Harris and Hayward were duly initiated into the mysteries of ancient Freemasonry, nothing further being offered, lodge was closed in due form and with solemn prayer.

WHITTINGTON LODGE, (No. 862).—The installation meeting of this flourishing lodge was held on Monday, the 16th inst., at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, when a very large number of brethren mustered to do honour to the incoming W.M., Bro. D. J. Davis. The business of the evening comprised the raising of Bro. Williams, the passing of Bros. Dix and Oliver, and the initiation of Mr. John Hargrave Stevens. Bro. Brett then took

the chair, and in a faultless and most impressive manner performed the ceremony of installing Bro. Davis into the chair of W.M. The officers for the ensuing year are as follows:—Bro. T. J. Nix, I.P.M.; J. Weaver, S.W.; S. S. Davis, J.W.; J. G. Thompson, P.M. (for the eighth time), Treas.; R. W. Little, P.M. (for the third time), Sec.; J. Salsbury, S.D.; J. D. left open J. Brett, P.M., W.S.; Rev. J. W. Laughlin, Chap. and Treas. of Benevolent Fund; W. J. H. Jones, I.G. A highly successful meeting was followed by a *recherche* banquet, and the utmost goodwill and harmony prevailed amongst the brethren until the evening's proceedings terminated by the Tyler's toast. Bro. J. Weaver with his usual urbanity agreeably diversified the enjoyment of the brethren by his masterly performance on the pianoforte.

VILLIERS LODGE, (No. 1,194).—At the emergency meeting of this young and prosperous lodge which was held on Saturday, November 14th inst., at the Northumberland Arms Hotel, Isleworth, Middlesex, Bro. Sidney Edward Clarke W.M. presided. Ballots for the four candidates were unanimous in favour of their admission. Messrs. E. H. Dalby, J. A. Welch and R. J. Davies being in attendance, were in an able and proficient manner, separately initiated into ancient Freemasonry. Bro. Keane being a candidate for passing was interrogated, trusted and withdrew. The lodge was opened in the second degree. Bro. E. Clark I.P.M., then took the chair. Bro. Keane was introduced and passed to the fellow Crafts' degree, that ceremony being admirably rendered. Bro. S. E. Clarke, W.M., resumed his chair. The lodge was closed in the second degree. An animated discussion took place about the future arrangements for the banquets, &c., and it was agreed to leave the matter in the hands of a committee to be composed of the officers of the lodge. The lodge was duly closed. A good supper followed. The usual loyal toasts were given and received. Brethren retired at an early hour.

MIDDLESEX.

UXBRIDGE.—*Royal Union Lodge*, (No. 536).—A meeting of this lodge took place at the Masonic Hall, Uxbridge, on Monday the 16th inst., the W.M. Bro. Glaisher presided, supported by his officers and a large muster of brethren and visitors. Lodge being opened and the minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed, Messrs. R. Smith, H. James, J. Woodward, J. F. Glenie, being balloted for were duly elected, and were impressively initiated into the mysteries of ancient Freemasonry. The ceremony was perfectly performed by the W.M. Bros. Davis, French, Surville and Lucas were raised to the sublime degree of M.M. The lodge being lowered to the first degree, it was finally closed and the brethren adjourned to refreshment, and after spending an hour or two in social intercourse, separated at an early hour.

PROVINCIAL.

CORNWALL.

TRURO.—*Provincial Grand Lodge*.—A preliminary meeting of the province of Cornwall was held on Tuesday, the 14th inst., at two p.m., when a goodly number of the brethren assembled to transact the business of the province. The R.W. Bro. Augustus Smith, Prov. G.M., presided, and we noticed Bros. Lord Eliot, D. Prov. G.M.; Thomas Solomon, P. Prov. S.G.M.; Frederick M. Williams, M.P., Prov. G. Sec., P.M., 331, &c., and other well known faces among those who were present. It has been the custom of the Prov. G.M. to call these preliminary Prov. G. Lodges for some time past, so as to lighten the labours of the regular annual gatherings in June, and the members of the province have duly appreciated the thoughtful consideration of their esteemed leader. There were various matters arranged and decided on affecting the general good of the lodges in the province, and the sum of £5 each to two deserving objects of charity were readily voted, likewise a grant of twenty pounds towards the Zetland Commemoration Fund. It was also suggested by the Prov. G.M., and approved of by the Prov. G. Lodge, that while it is desirable to conform to the wishes of the noble earl, the G.M., respecting the fund now being raised, as to its being devoted to the furtherance of the great Masonic charities, the members of this province still consider that some portion should be reserved for the purchase

of a suitable token of the appreciation by the Craft in England of the successful rule of the Earl of Zetland. The Prov. G.M. explained that he thought it might be a portrait or bust, which would then be a heir-loom in the family, and be preserved as a lasting memorial of the regard of the Craft universal for one who had done so much for Masonry. Although this was the first time such a subject was mooted in a Prov. G. Lodge, the brethren responded to the suggestion very eagerly. We understand that the next Prov. G. Lodge will be held at Penzance.

TRURO.—*Fortitude Lodge* (No. 131).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday, the 10th inst., at 7:30 p.m.; Bro. William James Hughan, W.M., in the chair. The W.M. and members were honoured with several visitors and W.M.'s of other lodges, as the Fortitude Lodge is well known throughout Cornwall for its working capabilities, and few Masons are better liked than its W.M. The Prov. G.M. Bro. Augustus Smith, who is a member, attended, and was most enthusiastically received by the brethren. The distinguished brother stayed while the W.M. passed an E.A. to the degree of Fellow Craft, and then on retiring thanked the lodge for their kind wishes, and complimented the W.M. and officers on the excellence of their work, after which the lodge was closed down, and three gentlemen were duly initiated in a most imposing manner, with full musical accompaniments, according to Bro. Dr. Hopkin's arrangements, which have been adopted by the organist. Three gentlemen were proposed as candidates for membership and initiation at next lodge, and a sum of two guineas was voted towards the Zetland Commemoration Fund. The W.M. and Treas. were respectively proposed for the ensuing year. We should not forget to mention that Bro. Hughan, the W.M., presented each candidate with a copy of the "Book of Constitutions," and intimated that while he was the Master, he had determined to present every newly-initiate with so useful a *souvenir* of his rule.

ESSEX.

COLCHESTER.—*United Lodge* (No. 697).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge took place at the George Hotel, on Wednesday, the 11th inst. Present—Bros. Newman, W.M., in the chair; Rix, S.W.; Bigley, J.W.; Eustace, S.D.; Donnelly, J.D.; Calthorpe, I.G.; G. H. Ray, Sec.; Jenkinson, Crick, Molyneux, Creagh, Rees, Buckwell, Richardson. Visitors—Bros. Smith, 51; Everett, 433; Becker, P.M., 51; Fletcher, 948; Bosworth, W.M., 347; Goshawk, 297; J. Carr, Prov. G. Sec., Essex; Black, 56; Smith, P.M. 325; Clement, 199. The lodge was opened in due form in the 1st degree, the summons convening the meeting was read, and the minutes of the last regular meeting were read and confirmed. A report from the the board of general purposes was read, stating that Bros. A. A. Watts, 433, Lodge of Hope, and I. S. Smith, P.M., 325, R.G.I., were eligible to become joining members of the United Lodge, 697; a communication was read from the brethren of the lodge Cuthberga, No. 622, requesting a small contribution in aid of the purchase of freehold property to enable them to build a lodge of their own, the lodge now used by them being at an hotel. The brethren of the United Lodge felt sorry that they could not accede to the request of the brethren of St. Cuthberga, as there had already been so many calls upon their funds, and also being similarly situated. A ballot was taken for Bros. Watts and Smith, which proved unanimous in each case. Bros. Buckwell and Richards were examined by the W.M. in the questions appertaining to the 1st degree, which were satisfactorily answered; they then retired, preparatory to their passing to the Fellow Craft degree. The lodge was then opened in the 2nd degree, and Bros. Buckwell and Richardson were passed to the degree of Fellow Craft. The questions appertaining to the 2nd degree were put round for the information of Bros. Buckwell and Richardson. Bro. Carr, Prov. G. Sec., Essex, being present at the express invitation of the W.M., briefly pointed out the necessity of having lodges of instruction, and expressed himself highly satisfied with the working of the lodge, and complimented the W.M. for his proficiency, considering the short time he had been a member of the lodge. Bro. Newman, W.M., briefly responded and thanked Bro. Carr, Prov. G. Sec., for the few hints so kindly given. Proposed by Bro. Ray, seconded by Bro. Rix, that Bro. H. Everett, 433, Lodge of Hope, be permitted to become a joining member. Proposed by Bro. Calthorpe, seconded by Bro. Donnelly, that Bro. Black, Old Store Lodge, Antrim,

be permitted to become a joining members. Proposed by Bro. Molyneux, seconded by Bro. Bigley, that Troop-Sergeant Major Coast might be initiated into the mysteries and privileges of our Ancient Freemasonry. The lodge was closed down to 1st degree, and nothing further having been offered for the good of Freemasonry in general it was closed in harmony, peace, and brotherly love. The brethren afterwards sat down to a substantial supper provided by Bro. Guiver, George Hotel, and there being a good attendance the brethren spent a convivial evening and retired at an early hour.

LANCASHIRE (EAST).

LIVERPOOL.—*Temple Lodge* (No. 1,094).—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Temple on the 11th inst., at six o'clock. There were present, Bros. J. K. Smith, W.M.; J. Mercer Johnson, I.P.M.; R. H. D. Johnson, P.M., Dir. of Cers.; W. Crane, P.M.; Hamer, Prov. G.T.; Wood, Treas.; Sheldon, S.W.; Crane, acting as J.W.; T. Marsh, Sec., P.G.P.; Winstanley, J.D.; R. Williams, S.D.; Denison, I.G.; R. R. Martin, S.; Gilbert, S.; H. Newman, S. Visitors, Bros. Roper, P.M.; Hill, 241; Johnson, P.M. 410; Schall, 78; G. Turner, P.M. 86, 823, &c. The lodge was opened in due form in the first degree, when the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. A ballot was taken for Mr. Frank E. Jones which proved unanimous in his favour. Mr. Jones being in attendance was duly initiated into Freemasonry in a very impressive manner by the W.M., the working tools being given by Bro. Crane, P.M., in his usual style. The lodge was then opened in the second degree, and then the third degree. Bros. Roper and Rayner were duly raised to the degree of M.M. by Bro. Smith, W.M., which did him great credit in the way he gave the same. The working tools, &c., were given by Bro. R. H. D. Johnson, P.M. The lodge was then closed down. After refreshments the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given. Bro. Johnson, P.M., proposed "The Health of the Worshipful Master," which was duly responded to by the W.M. The W.M., in very feeling terms, then proposed "The Health of the Officers," and said one of the officers, the S.W. had not been able to be with them for some time on account of his domestic affliction. He was glad to see him again with them, and he was sure every member of the lodge was. He had great pleasure in proposing "The Health of the Officers," coupling the name of Bro. Sheldon, S.W. Bro. Sheldon rose to respond, and in feeling terms, said: Every heart knoweth its own bitterness, and with its grief, as well as with its joy, a stranger intermeddeth not. There is in the breast of every man some secret grief—some concealed sorrow which, though comparatively unknown and unnoticed by the world around, is bitter to him who feels it. Such, brethren, has been my painful experience during the past few months from circumstances too well known to you for me now to particularise. And I had rashly concluded in the spirit of misanthropy (feeling my utter loneliness) that I could no more mix in the social throng, or enjoy the sweet communion of fraternal intercourse in meetings akin to these. But the very kind and pressing solicitations of our present worthy W.M. constrained me to yield, and accounts for my presence amongst you this evening. And if, brethren, one circumstance more than another could help to impart a silver lining to the dark cloud that has lately overshadowed my domestic circle, it is such sincere expressions of regard and such show of fraternal sympathy evinced towards me on the the present occasion. And, indeed, I may say with truth that some of my happiest moments have been spent in this room, both in the promotion of Masonic principles and the participating in the various festive gatherings connected with our craft. And the sight of this harmonious assemblage urges me again to pursue as heretofore my Masonic career amongst you. Brethren, I thank you. The toast of "The Visitors," was then proposed, and duly responded to by Bro. Geo. Turner, P.M., who said he undertook to respond to this toast, and was much pleased with the working and kindness he had received from the members of Temple Lodge and to have the pleasure of again meeting them.

YORKSHIRE (WEST).

SHEFFIELD.—*Britannia Lodge* (No. 139).—This admirably worked lodge which completed its centenary in 1865, met on business on Thursday, the 12th inst., a large number of the brethren present, including Bros. Pratt, W.M.; Frederick Simpson, S.W.; Matthews, J.W.; Collinson, S.D.; Lucas, J.D.;

Shaw, I.G.; Ward, Steward; Barras, Sec. There were also present P.M.'s Bros. Longden, Treas.; Webster, Short, Alex. Hay, and H. J. Garrett, I.P.M. Visitors—Bros. G. F. Taylor, No. 25, and Hamilton, 153. Lodge being opened and the minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed, a ballot was taken for the admission into the order of Mr. James Wyld, who had been well and worthily recommended; the result was unanimous in favour of the candidate. He was accordingly presented to the lodge in due form and initiated into the early mysteries of Freemasonry, the ceremony being beautifully rendered by the W.M. The election for the W.M. then took place, and the choice fell upon the S.W., Bro. F. Simpson, who was complimented upon his attention to the duties of his present office—hence his reward. Bro. Simpson in acknowledging the honour conferred on him, assured the brethren of his intention to merit the confidence reposed in him by devoting as much time to the welfare of the lodge as consistent with his other avocations. Bro. Longden who had so long and satisfactorily held the office of Treasurer, was unanimously re-elected. Bro. Garnett, I.P.M., was solicited to retain the office of Almoner, which he complied with. The next and last business of the lodge was the election of Tyler. Bro. Wilkinson, the regular Tyler of the lodge, was, it was mentioned, in a state of health which precluded the usual attendance, his son, Bro. James Wilkinson, acting as his *locum tenens*; however, Bro. Wilkinson was re-elected, the son being appointed Assistant Tyler. All business ended, the brethren adjourned from labour to refreshment, which was highly satisfactory, much praise being due to Bro. Ward, the Steward. The W.M. proposed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, making some pertinent allusions to the excellence of the Deputy Grand Master of England, Bro. Lord de Grey and Ripon, Prov. G.M. of the West Riding of Yorkshire. Several excellent speeches followed the various toasts which want of space prevents our giving at length. Bro. Longden, the Treasurer, in a speech replete with Masonic feeling, made some allusions to the foundation of Freemasonry, saying that the Bible was their guide; but instead of being rendered in common-place language, they used symbols which were more impressive. They were types of signs of moral and religious duties, or of events in the patriarchal history, which were thus recorded and perpetuated by oral communication. Bro. Taylor, in responding to the toast of the visitors, but who, from ill health, said but a few words, thanked the lodge for their kindly reception. We cannot conclude this notice without adverting to the toast of the W.M. It was urged that Bro. Pratt had—at personal sacrifice—been a most constant supporter of the interest of the lodge, and by his urbanity, talent, and kindness, endeared himself to every member of the Britannia, which was prominently shown at last year's election, upon which occasion the present Master was re-elected to preside for a second time over No. 139. The Master eloquently replied, promising to support his successor all that lay in his power. Some good singing and music assisted to render the evening a most delightful one. The next meeting will be on the second Thursday in December, when the installation of the newly-elected Master will take place.

SCOTLAND.

GLASGOW.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

The usual quarterly meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of the middle ward of Lanarkshire, was held on the 13th ult., when after the business before the lodge was attended to the following office bearers, were nominated for the ensuing year, Bros. James Merry, M.P., Prov. G.M.; Major Barbour, D.P.M.; John Dick, S.W.; W. Mc Murdo, J.W.; A. King, Treas.; W. Smith, S.D.; John Mimce, J.D.; W. Forrest, B.B.; Capt. Colt, Dir. of Cers.; John Christian, Marshal; Colin Spalding, Steward; John Bain, S.B.; James Muir, Tyler. Bro. Mc Murdo was nominated as secretary, which office has been vacant for some time through the death of Bro. Bruce of Hamilton.

To smile at the jest which plants a thorn in another's breast, is to become a principle in the mischief.—*Sheridan*

IRELAND.

ANTRIM.

BELFAST.—*Hiram Lodge* (No. 97).—On Friday evening, the 13th inst., a very large and influential meeting of the above lodge was held in the Masonic Rooms, Donegall-place. Amongst other influential members of the fraternity present was Bro. W. Johnston of Ballykilbeg. After the transaction of the usual lodge business, the election of officers took place. Two brethren were proposed for the chair, when Bro. Jeremiah McKenna was elected, who appointed his officers as follows:—Bros. Simpson, S.W.; W. M. Kerr, J.W.; H. Shaw, Sec.; Henderson, Treas.; Hempton, S.D.; Maxwell, J.D.; W. Murphy, jun., I.G. A very pleasant evening was spent, the proceedings being brought to a close by the singing of the National Anthem. Bros. Coulter and Hayes sang several songs during the evening.

COOKSTOWN.—*Green Lodge* (No. 470).—The Grand Lodge, upon the recommendation of the Prov. G.M. of Tyrone and Fermanagh, has been pleased to sanction the resolution of this lodge, that its meetings—which for some time past have been held in Stewartstown—should in future, be held in Cookstown, where it had long met in the latter end of the last, and throughout the greater part of the present, century. This is a lodge of great antiquity. It originally was opened in 1769 at Coagh, where it was held for many years; and, though there are upwards of 1,000 members of other Lodges on the Irish rolls, its ranks in seniority of such of them as now exist, the 33d in all Ireland, the 16th in Ulster, and the 3d in the province of Tyrone and Fermanagh, to which it belongs. It will complete the 100th year of its uninterrupted labours on the 23d June next, and it is intended then to celebrate its centenary in a manner worthy of the event, by a meeting of the brethren from surrounding parts. Another excellent lodge of very remote foundation, is in operation in Stewartstown, which for upwards of 100 years has been a centre of a great circle of this ancient Craft. The late formation of a highly-respectable lodge in Magherafelt, and a Royal Arch Chapter in Moneymore, and the return of the old "Green" Lodge to Cookstown, do not however appear sufficient to supply the wants caused by the increase of brethren in these parts of Tyrone and Londonderry, for the erection of a lodge in Tullyhouse is spoken of; and it is said that another lodge and Arch Chapter will soon be opened in Cookstown; which, as a commercial and manufacturing town, has rapidly risen by the enterprise and prudent judgment of its proprietors and inhabitants, who, ever ready to encourage improvements, would be sure to aid in any project which might be set on foot for erecting in the town a suitable Masonic Hall; and it is hoped that such a project will soon be inaugurated.

NORTH AMERICA.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

NEW WESTMINSTER.—*Union Lodge*, (899).—This lodge assembled on the regular day of meeting Thursday the 3rd September inst., present, Bro. H. W. Smith, W.M.; Henry Holbrook, P.M. and Dep. D.G.M.; Robert Dickenson S.W.; A. W. S. Black, J.D.; John S. Chute, acting S.D.; R. Richardson, acting J.D.; Julius Franklin, I.G.; D. B. Hickey acting Tyler, and several members of the lodge; visitor, P.G. Sec., P.G. Lodge Scotland.

The lodge having been opened in the usual form the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed, a communication was also read from the acting secretary of the lodge under the Scotch rite proposed to be established here, declaring the terms asked for the use of the lodge room, and furniture as being more than they were able to pay.

Bro. Holbrook the Dep. D.G.M., reported the formation of the District Grand Lodge who had held their first meeting in Victoria, V.I and the D.G.M. proposed to hold the next at New Westminster in December, three appointments had been made from Union Lodge 899, namely himself as Dep. D.G.M., Bro. Smith, D.G.J.W., Bro. A. W. S. Black, D.G. Steward. It was proposed to tax every subscribing member of the various lodges 2dols. per year for the D.G. lodge, and a further 1dol. to establish a local fund of benevolence, this had been opposed, and it was finally agreed to levy a tax, besides the fees of office of

D.G. officers and their subscriptions, of 1dol. per head on every subscribing member to a lodge, and for the subscriptions to a Fund of Benevolence to stand until next year. These proposals will have to be conferred next December, when they will become law, after being approved of by the Grand Lodge of England. Further business was adjourned until the week was concluded.

Bro. George Black was examined as to his proficiency in Masonry which being satisfactory he was entrusted with the test of merit and retired from the lodge. The lodge was opened to the second degree and the Dep. D.G.M. requested to take the chair, Bro. G. Black was then admitted, and received the second degree in Freemasonry, with the charges and lectures, Bro. H. W. Smith having resumed the chair, it was closed to the first degree and the general business resumed.

Bro. Holbrook said he rose to discharge a very painful duty, the members would perceive the lodge was dressed in mourning, this was for one who had been one of the brightest ornaments in Masonry, and one of the most active members of Grand Lodge, he alluded to the death of Bro. W. Gray Clarke who he had been informed by his friend Bro. Spencer, had expired on the 15th July, after only two days illness. It might indeed be said in the midst of life we are in death, and it also showed how we ought to endeavour to be prepared whenever the Great Architect of the Universe seemed fit to take us from this sublunary abode. At present we mourned for the death of one who had been suddenly taken from us, it was only those who had worked with that brother, and had had the honour of his acquaintance, knew his worth, he thought he could not pay a higher compliment than to say he had worthily filled the chair that had been occupied so many years by Bro. H. W. White, and during his term of office had rendered great services, and he now begged to propose the following resolution, which was seconded by Bro. Dr. Black, D.G. Steward, and J.W. of the lodge.

Resolved—"That the condolence of the members of this lodge be respectfully presented to Grand Lodge for the loss they have sustained in the death of the Grand Secretary Bro. W. Gray Clarke, that the lodge be placed in mourning for one month, and that the members wear crape for the same period as a token of regard to the memory of Bro. W. Gray Clarke, and respect to the Grand Lodge of England. This on being put to the lodge was unanimously passed and ordered to be transmitted to the Grand Lodge of England."

The W.M. informed the lodge that he was anxious to have some lodges of instruction during the month and he hoped members would endeavour to attend. A discussion arose as to members in arrears for dues, when it was proposed that two months notice should be given for arrears to be paid, and if not received before that time, as the lodge had to pay their dues to the D.G. Lodge, they would be liable to have their names struck off from the subscribing members, and be reported to the D.G. Lodge.

Bro. Chute the Treasurer to the fund being raised for the erection of a monumental tomb stone of granite, which it is proposed to erect in the Cemetery at New Westminster in memory of the brethren belonging to this lodge, who have died and been buried there and elsewhere, reported the amount he had received to the present time, and requested further subscriptions not only for the monument but also for a suitable railing round the same, and that after the close of the lodge he would take the names of those inclined to contribute.

No further work appearing for the good of Masonry in this lodge it was closed in due form.

ROYAL ARCH.

METROPOLITAN.

CHAPTER OF HOPE, (No. 206).—This old chapter was held on Thursday, November 12th inst., at the Globe Tavern, Royal Hill, Greenwich. Comp. J. W. Halsey, P.Z. as M.E.Z., S. Noble, P.Z. as H., and F. Walters, P.Z. as J., opened the chapter. The companions were admitted. The minutes were read and unanimously confirmed. The ballots were unanimous in favour of the admission of Bros. R. Boney, J. Nash, W. Smith, and J. Griffen as candidates for exaltation. Bros. Nash, W. Smith and J. Griffen being in attendance were duly exalted into Royal Arch Masonry. The ceremony was impressively done by every officer. Ballots for officers for 1869 were

unanimous in favour of Comps. H. A. Collington, M.E.Z.; J. Hasler, H.; W. Noak, J.; S. Noble, P.Z., Treas.; J. H. H. Doughney, S.E.; A. H. Tattershall, S.N.; T. Perridge, P.S.; Johnson, Janitor. The audit was agreed to be held on Thursday, January 7th. A P.Z.'s jewel was presented from the chapter funds to Comp. E. S. Hogg, P.Z., S.E., for valuable services rendered to the chapter. A P.Z.'s jewel was unanimously voted to Comp. G. W. Edington, P.Z., and agreed to be presented at the next meeting. The copies of the new bye laws were presented to each member. The chapter was closed. Present during the evening Comps. J. E. Peckham, M.E.Z.; H. A. Collington, H.; S. Noble, P.Z., Treas.; W. Noak, S.N.; E. S. Hogg, P.Z., S.E.; J. H. H. Doughney, P.S.; A. H. Tattershall, 1st Assist. Soj.; G. W. Edington, P.Z.; J. Moore, P.Z.; visitors, F. Walters, P.Z., S.E., 73, &c., J. W. Halsey, P.Z. and Treas., 507, &c., a good banquet followed. The usual happy evening spent.

LEICESTERSHIRE.

LEICESTER.—*Chapter of Fortitude*, (No. 279).—A quarterly convocation of this flourishing chapter was held at the Freemasons' Hall, Leicester, on Thursday the 12th inst., when among those present were Comps. R. Brewin, I.P.Z., as M.E.Z.; W. Kelly, P.G.H. and Treas. as H.; E. Clepham, P.Z. as J.; W. Pettifor, P.Z.; W. S. Partridge, as E.; E. Gosling, N.; the Rev. W. Langley, P.S.; Geo. Toller, A.S.; Bright, Leadbeater, Mann, Stretton, Barfoot, Moor, Gamble, Buzzard, Hunt, Atwood, Baines, and C. Bambridge, Janitor; visitor, Comp. S. S. Stallard, formerly of No. 776, now 779 Ashby-de-la-Zouche. The minutes of two previous chapters having been read and confirmed Comp. Kelly stated that he had been requested to explain and apologise for the unavoidable absence of the three principals (Comps. Weare, the Rev. J. Spittal and S. A. Clarke) all of whom were absent from the town. There were three candidates down for exaltation but only one of them was in attendance. This was Bro. Joseph John Fairfax Scott, of Mountsorra, a member of the Howe and Charnwood Lodge No. 1,007, Loughborough, who was exalted in due form, the duties of P.S. being most efficiently performed by the Rev. W. Langley. At the close of the ceremony Comp. Brewin delivered the historical and mystical lectures, and Comp. Kelly the symbolical lecture. Communications were laid before the meeting from the Zetland Commemoration Committee and from the Palestine Exploration Fund Committee. In reference to the latter, Comp. Kelly gave an account of some very interesting discoveries recently made among the foundations of the Temple of Jerusalem. The sum of two guineas was voted to the former object, and one guinea to the latter, with an expression of regret that the present state of the chapter fund would not allow of a larger grant, £100 having during the past two years been voted to the Masonic Hall fund. Bro. J. F. Richardson, of the John of Gaunt Lodge (No. 523) was proposed as a candidate for exaltation, and Comp. Samuel Slack Stallard as a joining member. There being no further business the chapter was closed in ancient form and with prayer and the companions adjourned to refreshment.

MARK MASONRY.

LEICESTERSHIRE.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

A meeting of this Provincial Grand Lodge was held at the Freemasons' Hall, Leicester, on Thursday, the 12th inst., the Provincial Grand Master, Bro. William Kelly, in the chair, and was unanimously attended by non-resident members of the degree, as well as by brethren of the local Mark Master's lodge.

The Prov. G. Lodge having been opened in due form, the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The Prov. G.M. in some preliminary remarks said that the brethren would perceive from the list of Prov. Grand Officers on the back of the summons calling the meeting, that no appointments had been made since the year 1861, which had arisen from two causes, the first was that in the Mark degree the appointments of Provincial Grand Master, instead of being virtually for life, as was the case under the United Grand Lodge of England were for three years only. His (Bro. Kelly's) patent of appointment under Lord Leigh, the first Grand Master

of the Mark degree, was dated in June 1858, and consequently expired shortly after the last appointment of Prov. Grand Officers was made; whilst about the same period the two Mark lodges in Leicester had been allowed to fall into abeyance, in which state they had continued until a few months ago. Now, however, as those present were aware, one of the lodges had been transferred to Melton Mowbray, which, as well as the Fowke Lodge, No. 19, in Leicester, was being worked with considerable vigour and success. Under these altered circumstances it had pleased the Grand Master to reappoint him (Bro. Kelly) as Provincial Grand Master for a further term of three years.

The brethren would perceive in the list of the late Provincial Grand Officers the names of the Right Hon. Earl Howe and the late Right Hon. Earl Ferrers, as the Prov. Grand Wardens, and having had the pleasure of advancing the two noble earls to the Mark degree, he felt that they had conferred great honour upon him (Bro. Kelly) in accepting office under him.

A ballot then took place for the Prov. G. Treas., when Bro. George Henry Hodges, of lodge No. 19, was unanimously elected. The Prov. G.M. then proceeded to appoint and invest the following brethren as the Grand Officers of the province for the ensuing year:—

Bros. the Rev. W. K. Robinson, M.A., W.M., D. Prov. Grand Master 21; Robert Brewin, S.W., 19, Prov. S.G.W.; Henry Douglas, J.W. 21, J.W.; Rev. W. Langley, M.A., S.W. 21, Chap.; W. Beaumont Smith, J.W. 19, M.O.; William Weare, S.D. 19, S.O.; William Adcock, M.O. 21, J.O.; G. H. Hodges, Sec. 19, Treas.; Clement Stretton, Treas. 19, Reg.; Alexander Marshall Duff, M.O. 19, Sec.; John E. Bright, S.O. 21, S.D.; Thomas Hardy Buzzard, 19, J.D.; Levi L. Atwood, 19, Dir. of Cers.; Thomas Markham, J.D., 21, Assist. Dir. of Cers.; Robert Winter Johnson, S.D. 21, Inspector of Works; John E. Hodges, 19, Sword Bearer; Charles Johnson, Org. 19, Org.; William Mann, I.G. 21, Purst.; William Moor (19), J. B. Leadbeater (Treas. 21), John Hunt (19), Stewards; Charles Bembridge, 19, Tyler.

On the motion of the Prov. Grand Master the sum of two guineas was voted to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, the Rev. Bro. Langley having undertaken to represent the province as Steward at the next festival. The Provincial Grand Lodge was then closed in due form and with prayer.

RED CROSS OF ROME AND CONSTANTINE.

METROPOLITAN.

PLANTAGENET CONCLAVE (No. 2).—A regular assembly of this body was held on the 11th inst., at the George Hotel, Aldermanbury, and amongst the members present were Sir Knts. T. Wescombe, M.P.S.; J. Brett, S.G.; R. W. Little, H.P.; T. Cubitt, Treas.; J. G. Marsh, Recorder; B. Cook, Prefect; D. R. Still, S.B.; J. Mayo, Herald; H. Parker, Org.; B. P. Todd; and T. J. Murray. Visitors: Sir Knts. J. A. Horner, I.G. for Norfolk—Doyle Conclave, No. 7, Guernsey; J. Kenning, Premier Conclave; F. Walters, P.S., Rose and Lily Conclave, No. 3, Richmond, &c. The business of the evening was to install Bro. John Boyd, 33° P.M. and P.Z., 534, P.M. 145, P.E.C. &c., and W. Y. Laing, P.M. 45, as Knights of the Order, and which ceremony was ably performed by the presiding officer. Sir Kut. H. G. Buss, P.S., was elected an honorary member. A petition to the Grand Council for a Charter of Confirmation was signed by the members present—the conclave having been working under dispensation since the 31st May 1865. The conclave was then closed, and the usual banquet followed. A most agreeable evening being spent under the presidency of Sir Kut. Wescombe, who is so well and so favourably known or his zeal in Freemasonry.

For many years past M. Thiers has been occupied in writing an important book, in five or six volumes, on religion, philosophy, general history, arts, and sciences. The first portion is now completed, and will shortly be published.

MASONIC FESTIVITIES.

IRELAND.

LURGAN.

The members of lodge No. 134, gave a grand ball on Tuesday, the 10th inst. The invitations which embraced the elite of the North-eastern counties of Ulster, were numerous responded to. Long before the hour for commencing the ball, the town presented a gay and animated appearance. In the vicinity of the hall, crowds were gathered to witness the entrance of those who availed themselves of the night's entertainment. The visitors were received by the stewards, who introduced them to the W.M. Bro. Fred W. Magahan, and thence they passed into the ball-room. The scene presented in this apartment was of a very brilliant description. The room, which is eighty-two feet long, and thirty-two feet wide, is admirably adapted for the occasion, and that it should be so no pains had been spared. At the upper end was a dais, where a number of distinguished visitors occupied seats. The walls were draped in white, studded with camellias and roses of bright colours, and on each window a handsome Egyptian figure was placed.

The ball was opened at ten o'clock, and dancing was continued until one o'clock, when supper was announced. After supper the W.M. Bro. F. W. Magahan called for bumpers, and gave the accustomed loyal toasts, after which, in a very well-expressed and well-delivered speech, he proposed the health of "The Three Grand Masters," which was drunk with full Masonic honours, all standing. Lord Lurgan then rose and begged leave to propose the health of the hosts—the Masters and Brethren of Lodge 134. His lordship gracefully and appropriately referred to the Fraternity, and gave full credit to the members of the lodge for their very handsome and hospitable entertainment. His lordship was frequently applauded, and gave the toast with enthusiasm. In responding, the Master made a capital speech on the merits and aims of the Masonic institution, and created a most favourable impression by his accurate delivery, and well-ordered sentiments. He then gave the health of the guests who had honoured the members of Lodge 134 by their presence, and called on Bro. Lord Newry, who responded in a short but humorous speech.

Dancing was then resumed and kept up with unflagging spirit until four o'clock.

The ball was an admitted success; everything which could possibly contribute to the enjoyment, the comfort and pleasure of the company, was arranged and carried out in proper order, and the members of the lodge have reason to feel justly satisfied with the results of their active exertions and liberality, which resulted in an entertainment that did high credit to them and to the town and neighbourhood in which it took place.

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

Gounod is writing a new fourth act to *Faust*, believing he can produce a second success of that opera.

Mrs. Howard Paul is, report affirms, about to appear in the character of *Macbeth*, and will also take the part of *Hecate* in the same play.

With the new year will appear a new periodical termed the *Anglo-Colonial Magazine*; and its chief object will be to keep our countrymen abroad *en rapport* with the mother country.

A new journal to be established in Paris has been issued. It is called *Le Barbare*, and is sold for two sous. The object of the founders "is to give a new organ to Atheism."

At the last meeting of the Geographical Society, Sir Roderick Murchison read a letter which had been received at the Foreign Office from Dr. Livingstone. It is dated Casembe, December 14, and the doctor gives a satisfactory account of his progress. He mentions that he was more in want of shoes than anything else.

Mr. J. L. Chester writes to a contemporary saying that he has discovered among the marriage allegations in the Bishop of London's Registry, that the mother of John Milton was Margaret, the daughter of Paul Jeffray, of the parish of St. Swithin's, London.

A wild story is circulating in the French papers about the Viceroy of Egypt being seized with a sudden desire to have a theatre at Cairo, and setting seven thousand workmen upon it, in order that he may see again without loss of time "La Grande Duchesse," which amused him so much when in Paris. 100,000fr. have been offered, so runs the story, to Mdlle. Schneider for three performances.

Extravagant salaries are received by theatrical people, and especially by singers, in France. It is stated that Mdlle. Nilsson, of the Grand Opera, gets not less than £7,200 a year; that Faure and Villaret, tenors of the same theatre, get £3,600 and £3,200 respectively; and that a lady named Sass, also of the Opera, who receives £2,800, insists on having £6,400 in future. As to tragedians, there are now none of any note, but comedians of first rank earn as much as a Prime Minister in England; and even those of the second rank are exorbitantly paid, as appears from the fact that one of the name of Fréville, of secondary renown, is to receive £2,000 from a secondary theatre for playing twice a week for nine months.

A Jewish theatre has been erected near Warsaw. The pieces to be played will be selected from the principal episodes of the Old Testament. The actors will be all Jews, and the parts of the females will be personated by boys. The dialogue will be in German.

The *Figaro* announces the death of M. Lacoste, who was such a warm admirer of the Emperor Napoleon, that he purchased the ground on which the tomb of St. Helena stood at an exorbitant price. A mare having foaled in the apartment formerly occupied by Napoleon, he christened the colt Longwood, and conveyed him to France in order to present him to the President of the Republic.

The Musée des Souverains at the Louvre, which already rejoices in a large display of Napoleon the First's old clothes, satin shoes, spangled jackets and cloaks (quite fit for Astley's), and other similar rubbish, has just been "enriched"—so the *Moniteur* announces—by the wooden bench upon which he was used to "sit and look at the sea and meditate."

A new volume of Essays from the Low Church point of view has just been published, under the editorship of the Rev. G. A. Sumner. Mr. Benjamin Shaw's article on "Ritualism and Uniformity" is the first and longest, and Canon Bernard contributes a paper on "Scripture and Ritual," but other subjects of practical importance are treated.

As was feared from the first, the illness of Rossini has proved mortal. The distinguished composer died on Saturday, the 14th inst., at his residence at Passy, in the outskirts of Paris. He was born in 1792, and was accordingly seventy-six years of age at the time of his death.

Baron James de Rothschild, whose malady, it was thought, had taken a favourable turn, died on Sunday morning last. He was the head of the Paris house of Rothschild, and had been settled in France ever since 1812. He was born at Frankfort in 1792, and was thus 76 years of age at the time of his death. Baron James de Rothschild was the last surviving son of Meyer Anselmo Rothschild, the founder of the family.

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

BROTHER ADAMS' FAREWELL MASONIC BALL.

We understand that Bro. T. A. Adams, P.G. Purst, the well-known and much-esteemed teacher of Masonry (and who by his teachings has perfected some thousands of the Craft at various lodges of instruction), will give his farewell "Private Subscription Masonic Ball," at the magnificent new hall of the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen-street, in January next. Bro. Adams, being P.M. of the Globe, Domestic, Hampstead, Westbourne, and Royal Union (of Uxbridge) Lodges, as also Preceptor of the Royal Union, Fidelity, Camden, and Athelstan Lodges of Instruction, all the brethren of those lodges will give their best support, and we trust it will likewise be extended to him as widely as possible by the Craft in general, and especially by all who have profited by his teaching.

In order to render the ball as attractive as possible, 100 Stewards are being appointed whose sole responsibility will be the payment of one guinea each (which will admit the Steward and one lady) and will include refreshments during the evening. Tickets will be obtained through the Stewards only. Every Steward will be responsible for the brethren and ladies who obtain tickets through him; and their names and addresses will all appear on their tickets, as presented, together with the name of the Steward. In order to render this farewell ball still more brilliant, all the brethren will attend in full Masonic costume.

As it is desired to close the list of Stewards as soon as possible, in order to complete the preliminary arrangements, the Stewards who have agreed to act would feel greatly obliged to any brethren (desirous of increasing the *éclat* of the ball) who may send their names and addresses to Bro. Adams as willing to accept the office of Steward on the above conditions and as early as possible. Bro. Adams' double quadrille band will "discourse eloquent music" throughout the evening. The ball, under such auspices, promises to be one of great brilliancy and attraction, and we heartily wish it every success.

BRO. GLAISHER ON METEORS.

Bro. Glaisher, F.R.S.A., recently delivered at the Exhibition Hall, Falmouth, a most interesting lecture on "Meteors," to a large and attentive audience, Mr. J. St. Aubyn, M.P., occupied the chair.

Bro. Glaisher prefaced his lecture by observing that, although this was his first visit to that institution, he could not say that he felt himself as a stranger amongst them, because for many years he had looked at this institution with the greatest respect, and he knew it was favourably known in the scientific world. And when they considered that Davies, Gilbert, and Sir Charles Lemon were parents of this institution, and when at the present time it included his friends Robert Hunt and Robert Were Fox, it was impossible that they should not look with respect to an institution of this kind. And there was yet one other name—a name of well-known fame, a name of which they, as residents of Cornwall, should be proud, as he had added greatly to astronomical knowledge, and fixed the exact position of Neptune before any other eye had seen it—he referred to his friend Professor Adams, who was still applying himself to the solution of problems as difficult as the mind of man could be directed to, and he should have to refer to the Professor as being engaged as helping them out of the difficulties of the subject of his lecture. It was a pleasure to him to hear the president that day make some reference to his wish that the society should be a county society. It ought to be a county society, and the county might well be proud of it. They had sown the

seeds for good, but societies of this kind did not always reap the fruit, but certain it was that it was this society that had produced several clever men who had left them to work elsewhere, and generally by the awards they had given that day they had encouraged native talent and industry. After paying a high tribute to the earnestness and ability of the judges, Bro. Glaisher proceeded with his lecture, pointing out that meteors, or falling, or shooting stars, had attracted the greatest attention of all ages, and in all countries, and had created a great deal of curiosity as to their origin and intrinsic value. Until nearly the close of the last century there had been no recorded remarkable shower of meteors, but on the 12th of November, 1799, Humboldt and Bonpland, at Cumana, in South America, witnessed a very remarkable display of meteors. Humboldt thus spoke of it:—"From half after two in the morning the most luminous meteors were seen towards the east. Thousands of falling stars succeeded each other during four hours." Humboldt believed this to be a local phenomena, but the publication of this report brought others, which showed that it was not local; that it was seen at the equator, 700 miles below Cumana, and in Greenland and Labrador. It was also observed in England, but it was evident that more shooting stars were to be seen in America than in Europe. Humboldt added to this description that he was told that a similar phenomena preceded the great earthquake of 1766, but no suspicion of periodicity of the meteors. Until the 13th of November, 1832, no other star shower was observed, and on that day observers were taken with as much surprise as was Humboldt in 1799. Full records of it were collected. In some places the meteors were so many that it was impossible to count them; in others they were compared to a rain of fire. The shower was less remarkable than that of 1799, and it was most confined to Europe. The fact of its occurring on the 13th of November, whilst that seen by Humboldt occurred on the 12th, indicated for the first time the probable periodicity of the phenomenon, and anxiously was the 13th of November in the following year looked for. On the 13th of November a very remarkable shower fell, extending from Cuba to Greenland, and from W. long. 61 degs. to W. lat. 36 degs. In America it lasted for five hours. The number of meteors seen in seven hours was estimated at 200,000. It was certain that from 10,000 to 30,000 were seen in a single hour, and sometimes as many as 1,000 in a minute. The display surpassed in brilliancy any ever since observed. After, there was no doubt of the periodical character of the showers, and this was the first grand step in the knowledge of meteoric astronomy. One great difficulty existed in the display of 1799 occurring on the 12th November, and that of 1832 and 1833 on the 13th. It appeared that in America it was observed that the meteor tracks in 1833 took their direction from a point which retained its place unchanged among the stars during the continuance of the shower. This fact was the second great step. Attention was then called to the fact that between 1766, 1799, and 1833, there was a lapse of 33 years between grand displays of meteors. Research among ancient records of the mentions of the November meteors was made, and evidence was produced from the Chinese, Arabic, &c., dating back from the year 902 down to 1698, showing that there was a lapse of 33 and a quarter years between each display, the phenomena on each occasion causing much dismay in different parts. In 902 the display occurred on the 13th October, and each successive display was a day or two later. From this almost unbroken chain of evidence the periodical character of the November meteors was established, and its astronomical character indicated. They also knew that the display occurred two years in succession, each time 24 years later. The procession of the equinox would account for one half of the day, and Professor Adams set himself to discover whether the amount of disturbance which the planets would ever exercise in

reflecting the orbit of the meteors would account for the other half. He found that during a period of $33\frac{1}{2}$ years the longitude of the node is increased 20 deg. by the action of Jupiter, and nearly 7deg. or 8deg. by the action of other planets, so that the entire calculated increase of the node in $33\frac{1}{2}$ years is about 28deg., or about half a day's journey, and this remarkable accordance between the results of theory and observation leaves no doubt as to the correctness of the period being $33\frac{1}{2}$ years nearly. The result of Professor Adams's investigation is probably one of the most important contributions to Physical Astronomy made in the year 1867. The stability of meteoric showers being thus established led to the inquiry whether the isolated meteors seen almost nightly all over the globe were in any way similarly connected with radiant points or fixed periods. The result showed that there were a series of undoubted radiant points. Thus meteor showers were undoubtedly much more numerous and definite than could possibly have been imagined a few years since, and as a rule the showers are very regularly recurrent every year. The well-known shower in November, however, is only recurrent in its magnificence every 33 years. After referring to the showers of 1866 and 1867, attention was directed to another fact connected with these meteor showers which had come upon them as unexpectedly as the wonderful appearance in the sky in 1833 struck the beholders. It had been discovered that the comets No. 2 of 1862, and No. 1 of 1866, were nothing but large meteors, and connected with showers that then fell. This evident connexion of the meteors with comets was a discovery of the most momentous kind, and might lead to other acquisitions of knowledge. They were now beginning to learn that comets and meteors were intimately connected, the former being only an assemblage of the latter. Bro. Glaisher finished his lecture by referring to the unexpected great knowledge they had acquired on the subject during the past few years.

Mr. St. Aubyn, M.P., moved a vote of thanks, in eulogistic terms, to the lecturer, and humourously remarked that Bro. Glaisher had not told them all about meteors, for he (the chairman) should like to know what they were made of, where they came from, where they go to, and for what design they were sent. Still he was glad Bro. Glaisher had not told them all, for this would give them a claim on him another year to come and finish the subject.

Bro. Glaisher, in acknowledging the compliment, hoped that persons in the neighbourhood of Falmouth would make observations on the subject so as to lead to increased knowledge,

ACCORDING to the Egyptian mythology, Osiris was the good principle, or the Sun; Typhon, his brother, was the evil principle, or darkness. Typhon conspired against his brother, and with his accomplices made a feast, at which Osiris was an unexpected guest. Towards the close of the feast Typhon showed his company a chest of the most beautiful workmanship, which he offered to bestow on anyone of them who by lying down in it proved that he exactly filled it. When it came to the turn of Osiris he placed himself in the chest without suspicion; but, scarcely had he lain down, when the lid was closed and he was suffocated. The chest with the body was then thrown into the Nile. The legend further relates that when Iris, the wife of Osiris, was informed of the horrible event, she set out to search for the remains of her husband, which she found at Byblos, in Phoenicia; that she deposited them in a retired place, far from the haunts of men; that Typhon in hunting found them during the night by chance, and in his fury cut up the body into 14 pieces, which he dispersed in various countries; that Isis, having been apprised of this new crime, hastened to collect the scattered pieces, all of which she found except the organs of generation, which had been thrown into the Nile and devoured by a fish called Phagra; that Isis substituted an image of this organ, or the Phallus, which she consecrated, and which has from that time figured prominently in the Mysteries.

Poetry.

HELP THE LIFEBOAT.

'Tis said, my brother Masons,
We "say" more than we "do,"
And, very much, I'm thinking,
The accusation's true;
Of "Charity," much boasting,
We brothers, sometimes hear;
But far beyond our circle
It does not go, I fear.

Of "schools" for orphan children,
Of "homes" for aged men,
Of scratching up Jerusalem,
Of banquets now and then;
Boast ye of those for ever,
Much doubting 'twill dispel,
And many mocking cowans
Such talking will repel.

But how about the Lifeboat
Which should be fit for sea,
To save the shipwrecked sailors
Who else, will drown'd be!
It has not "walked the waters!"
It is not even built!
And for this great omission
We all must share the guilt.

In haste, then, brother Masons,
Your purses open wide,
That sooner may our life-ark
Upon the waters ride;
And many thankful sailors,
Recovered from the wave,
Will bless the Mason's lifeboat,
Which snatched them from the grave.

RICHARD SIMMONS,

DEDIE A LA MEMOIRE DU BIEN-AIME ET TRES ILLUSTRE FRERE THOMAS MOSTYN,

Par LOUIS DUFLOS, M.

T out Maçon qui connaît cet aimable et bon frère,
H élas! doit le pleurer du plus profond du cœur;
O h, nous tous, regrettons cet ami si sincère,
M odèle de vertu, de noblesse, d'honneur.
A ux batteries de deuil, aux funèbres cantiques,
S ur sa tombe ajoutons, de nos burins mystiques,
Toute notre douleur!

M ais s'il n'est plus pour nous, le Ciel est sa demeure;
O h frères, ce penser nous est consolateur;
S oyons tous comme Lui, jusqu'à la dernière heure;
T ravailons comme Lui, pour l'Éternel bonheur.
Y a-t-il ici bas, quelque chose de stable?
N on, alors marchons vers ce qui est durable,
D'une constante ardeur.

24 Septembre, 1868.

[Translation of the Acrostic dedicated to the memory of the Beloved and Very Illustrious Brother, Thomas Mostyn,

By LOUIS DUFLOS, M.

French Master to the Masonic Female Orphan School, Dublin.

Every Mason who knew this amiable and good brother,
Alas! must mourn heartily for him;
Oh, let us all regret so sincerely a friend,
Who was a model of virtue, nobleness, and honour;
Let us join in the funeral song with heartfelt sorrow;
And lay our mystic burins on his tomb,
Amidst the sounds of lamentation!

But, if he is no more for us, Heaven is his dwelling;
Oh, brothers, this thought is consoling to us;
Let us all be like him till the last hour;
Let us work like him for eternal happiness.
Is there anything certain on this earth?
No! then let us turn our thoughts to what is everlasting,
With constant ardour,

THE LILY.

(Written on an Article bearing the above title which appeared in No. 439 of the FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE.)

By T. J. SWAIN.

Stainless flower! so snowy white,
Peeping through thy deep green leaves
O'er the hedge, with which thy stem
In its twining interweaves,
Beauteous flow'r! so chaste and fair,
Emblem of that purity,
Which, though mentioned in God's word,
Earth's frail children seldom see.

Lily! fragile in thy bloom,
Passing rapidly away,
Beauteous as thou art at noon,
Fading ere the close of day.
Ah! too fair art thou to last,
May thy perishing so soon
Guide our thoughts to human life,
And to One who grants that boon.

Flower that Christ alluded to,
Symbol art thou of three names—
Piety—Justice—Charity,
Virtues each good Mason claims.
Oh! may we possess them all;
May we ever love them well,
Cling to them, as to the hedge
Chings the beauteous lily-bell.

SILENCE.

(See Bro. C. P. COOPER'S *Ninth Decade of Masonic Precepts*, lxxxiv., "Bear and Forbear," Ανεχου και απεχου.)

By T. J. SWAIN.

Silence! thou art hard to keep
In temptation's trying hour,
When, with indignation deep,
We restrain our anger's power.
When insulting words give cause
For the language of retort,
Hard it seems to stand and pause
In forbearance, and say—naught.

Yet is Silence ever best,
Though we suffer under wrong—
Though we feel ourselves oppress,
Still our trial is not for long.
Masons, seek that gift in prayer,
Silence leaves ye no remorse;
Strive in meekness to forbear—
Think of Jesus on the Cross.

Silence! mighty is thy power,
Blest are they who can refrain,
Who, in provocation's hour,
Can their impulses restrain.
Masons, seek for grace in prayer;
Silence brings ye no regret,
If in patience we forbear
God will grant us victory yet.

MEETINGS OF THE LEARNED SOCIETIES.

Nov. 23rd.—Society of Arts, at 8; Opening Address by Lord Henry G. Lennox, *M.P.*, Chairman of the Council. Geographical, at 8:30; Travels in Manchuria.
Nov. 24th.—Institution of Civil Engineers, at 8.
Nov. 25th.—Geological, at 8.

METROPOLITAN LODGE MEETINGS, ETC., FOR THE WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 28th, 1868.

MONDAY, November 23rd.—Royal Somerset House and Inverness, 4, Freemasons' Hall. Castle Lodge of

Harmony, 26, Willis's Rooms, St. James's. Old King's Arms, 28, Freemasons' Hall. Unity, 183, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street. Tower Hamlets Engineers, 902, George Hotel, Aldermanbury. Gooch, 1,238, Royal Alfred Tavern, Southall.

TUESDAY, November 24th.—Lodges: Tuscan, 15, Freemasons' Hall. Moira, 92, London Tavern. Bishopsgate-street. Faith, 141, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street. Prudent Brethren, 145, Freemasons' Hall. Industry, 186, Freemasons' Hall. Israel, 205, Radley's Hotel, Bridge-street, Blackfriars. Prince of Wales's, 259, Willis's Rooms, St. James's. Southern Star, 1,158, Montpelier Tavern, Walworth. Urban, 1,196, Old Jerusalem Tavern, St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell. Chapter: St. James's Union, 180, Freemasons' Hall.

WEDNESDAY, November 25th.—Grand Stewards Lodge of Public Night. Lodges: Antiquity, 2, Freemasons' Hall. Mount Moriah, 34, Freemasons' Hall. United Pilgrims, 507, Horns Tavern, Kennington. High Cross, 754, Railway Hotel, Northumberland Park, Tottenham. Royal Oak, 871, Royal Oak Tavern, High-street, Deptford. Temperance in the East, 898, Private Assembly Rooms, 6, Newby-place, Poplar.

THURSDAY, November 26th.—Gen. Com. of Female School at Freemasons' Hall, at 4. Neptune, 22, Radley's Hotel, Bridge-street, Blackfriars. Prosperity, 65, Masons' Arms Tavern, Masons' Avenue, Basinghall-street. Grenadiers, 66, Freemasons' Hall. Buckingham and Chandos, 1,150, Freemasons' Hall. Chapters: Domestic, 177, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street. Canonbury, 657, George Hotel, Aldermanbury. Lily of Richmond, 820, Greyhound Tavern, Richmond.

FRIDAY, November 27th.—House Com. Boys' School, at 3. Lodges: Universal, 181, Freemasons' Hall. Jerusalem, 197, Freemasons' Hall. Fitz Roy, 569, Head Quarters of the Hon. Artillery Company. Finsbury, 861, Jolly Anglers, Bath-street, St. Luke's. Chapter: Belgrave, 749, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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

G. SEC. OF G. L. OF IOWA.—The two parcels of books have been received since our last issue. Thanks for them. We have forwarded one of the parcels to Grand Lodge. The back numbers required by you will be forwarded by the agent of the Smithsonian Institute.

SENIOR WARDEN (Lincoln).—It is our invariable rule never to publish a letter in the MAGAZINE, unless the real name and address of the writer is sent, not necessarily for publication, but as intimating good faith on the part of the writer. Besides, your letter is un-Masonic, and in its present form we could not have inserted it.

P.M. 861 (Sloane-street, S.W.).—When men, who can read and write, forget themselves, and are rude, they must not be surprised if their communications are thrown into the waste paper basket. What P.M. (no doubt very properly) desired to call to our notice merits attention, but we cannot allow an anonymous and silly written letter to appear. Try next time to write in a gentlemanly manner, and then you need not be ashamed to add your proper name and address.

TRINOSOPHES.—Bro. Purton Cooper wishes to know how he should direct a letter intended for the inquirer in "Notes and Queries," respecting the meaning of this word, as the name of two French lodges.

T. O. (Turks Island).—The price for 100 copies of by-laws would be £3 7s. 6d.; for 200, £4 5s., delivered to the address you gave us in London. Your statement as to subscription due by the lodge is quite correct. We forwarded our account and the letter enclosed by you as directed.