

THE
MASONIC MIRROR:

FOR

FEBRUARY, 1855.

THE MASONIC MISSION.

A WINTER'S EVENING MEDITATION.

He prayeth best who loveth best.—

COLERIDGE.

“Floreat in eternum.”

THE sentiment of Charity, in its genuine conception, has a meaning far more expansive than the one conventionally attributed to it by the sometimes deceptive courtesies of artificial society.

Ask a portly, comfortable gentleman, or a well-meaning elderly gentleman of easy circumstances and placid disposition, how this, the chief of virtues, is to be practised?—and the answer will probably be, the appropriation of some fragmentary portion of surplus income to the relief of the lower classes. Ask a sectarian, of the less robust order of intellectual conformation,—and you will be told that it consists solely in the industrious inculcation of his particular set of polemical points of doctrine. Ask the devoted political partisan, aye, or the statesman of high pretensions to broad views of men and society; and you are perhaps treated to a harangue on the virtues of some peculiar political recipe, physical, moral, social, educational, or what not, which, on inquiry, you shall find to be diametrically opposed to the equally cherished recipe of some neighbouring economist or statesman, of not inferior reputation and pretensions.

Now, the grave and profound error of these and other classes of *doctrinaires*, who talk *ex-cathedra* about methods for suppressing social and individual ills, arises from neglect of the meaning of the great principle of charity, as set forth in the Book which cannot deceive. That principle means LOVE. We call it a principle rather than an impulse, because, though it partakes essentially of the emotions flowing from the heart, it cannot exist in completeness unless associated with, and guided by, the faculties of the intellect and the reason. Love it is, through which, as

announced by prophecy and inspiration, in ages long anterior to that when it received its final interpretation from the Great Teacher, men must be reclaimed from hate, and hard cupidity, and the selfishness all-prolific of misery, into the state of mind, temper, and mutual feeling, wherein the unclouded brain admits what the purified heart suggests—that the bond of brotherhood, in affection and sincerity, conduces alike to the good of all and each—of the strong and of the weak—of the wealthy and of him across whose path the *res angustae domi* have cast their sombre shade.

And this principle the venerable founders of the ARCH UNBROKEN had in view, at the remote, mysterious epoch when the first Masons assembled and vowed a fraternity which was to be undying. Cycles of centuries before the earliest period at which authentic History begins to separate the realm of fact from that of fiction, the noble, humanising confederation of love and unity must have existed, according to the irrefragable evidence afforded by its condition of extension and maturity at the date of our first positive acquaintance with its operations. Even then, Tradition, sacred to the Mason, had handed down, through generations, records of deeds and principles in which we recognise the feelings which still beat in the bosoms of our brotherhood.

Now, the purpose which, through good report and evil, through periods of persecution as through those of prosperity and popularity, the Masonic fraternity hath faithfully preserved, is that of benefitting humanity through the medium and by the aid of human hearts and heads. In this holy work the Mason sets the example, takes the initiative, and invites men of all races and creeds, to join him. Universal in its purpose, and diffused, more or less, like that Christianity of which it is a type, over all the regions of the earth, it still endeavours to work through individuals; and in every faithful member added to its ranks, the Order recognises a new and valued co-labourer in the great design of good. It is for this reason, and not in any vain spirit of affectation or exclusiveness, that Masons are found so steadfastly to cherish each others' society, and to live upon terms of mutual confidence, and earnest, sympathising friendliness, to which the uninitiated are strangers, in like manner as they are to the mysteries which constitute the emblems of brotherhood. The Mason, who adequately appreciates the dignity and high import of his position, maintains those peculiar relations of amity with his fellow-Mason, because he feels that in the latter he deals with a man who is bound with him in the same cause; with whom he can freely interchange the same aspirations for the good of all of human kind; and who participates in the sentiments that move his own bosom, respecting the glorious scheme of universal benevolence in which each is an agent. It would be unreasonable to suppose that men placed in such relations, one to the other, should not entertain and evince reciprocal sentiments of a kind somewhat different from any which could be felt by persons who do not know, do not appreciate, and can have no intimate sympathy with, the high purposes which, amid all the varied and widely different pursuits of life, are never wholly absent from the mind of the earnest Mason.

If anything were required to refute the charges of exclusiveness and vain mysticism (as distinguished from honoured and venerable mysteries), which we sometimes hear preferred against Freemasonry, it is, that, like Religion, she invites all good men to enter her portals, to enlist under her beneficent standard. The Mason who has passed beyond the first stage of initiation already knows enough to feel convinced that, if all men were brethren in the Order, there would be an end of the oppressions, the abuses, the harsh dealings, and the other evils which constitute the most terrible curses of the world. He knows that Masonry, universal throughout the earth, would render these wickednesses impossible. He knows that it would prove the powerful ally and advocate of the Christian maxim, which proclaims good will to men as the indispensable test of true charity. And thus it is that he is anxious for the junction of as many as possible of his neighbours, in the conviction that it will prove an efficient step in correcting foibles and defects in the individual, as well as in sending forth missionaries of charity, to enrol new members, and extend the blessings of concord and brotherhood whithersoever their influence can penetrate.

Like every thing good and great ever instituted on earth, Masonry has been the object of fierce persecution and assiduous misrepresentation. In the vanity and selfishness of which it is the unswerving opponent, it has, in its turn, found formidable obstacles to its progress. In men's indolence it has met another obstacle; whilst yet another has existed in the too common tendency to receive, upon calumnious hearsay, the evil report which people will not take the trouble to examine and test. Lazy credulity is one of the most frequent, as it is one of the most mischievous, of the vices of the vulgar. In lazy credulity, stimulated to unhealthy activity by malevolent fanaticism, have originated the most fiery persecutions to which Truth has been subjected in ancient ages and modern.

And not a crime, not a vice, not a turpitude at which good men shudder, but has been at some time or another charged against Masonry, whilst each dark charge has been endorsed by this same lazy credulity. It is unnecessary to refer back to the days when ignorant prejudice set down the Craft as something demoniacal in its constitution and diabolical in its secrets, overlooking the obvious fact, that these secrets were accessible to every one who chose to exercise the patience, industry, steadiness, and faithfulness, which form the passports to a knowledge of the most solemn rites of the Order. It is unnecessary, we say, to go back to those ages of darkness; for in our own times, and in the great nation which accounts itself the most free and intelligent on earth, we have seen thousands on thousands of men—not the base and illiterate, but numbering many persons of education and talent—rising up in ferocious fury, at the instigation of a wretched impostor, and calling for the penal suppression of Masonry, and the extermination of the Brotherhood. That such things could be, may fill us with humiliation, in contemplation of the extremes to which inflamed passions seduce men; that they have been, and that very recently, all know who remember the too-famous "Anti-Masonic move-

ment" in the United States, its objects, its organization, the prodigious though ephemeral extension which it attained, until the "Anti-Masonic ticket" for President, for Governors of States, and for all high offices, created serious uneasiness to two great parties which usually divide the political suffrages of the people of the United States.* Still more astounding, still more ignominious, was the origin of this insane "movement," the growth, progress, culmination and catastrophe of which we may hereafter shortly sketch, forming, as it does, one of the most sad and shameful chapters in the annals of human infatuation. For the present we refer to it, merely as an illustration of the nature of the difficulties, misconceptions, and irrational calumny and prejudice with which Freemasonry, in common with all other institutions of high purpose, has had, and, peradventure, may yet have, to contend.

Now, the experience of all ages has manifestly proved, that nothing tends more effectually to dissipate prejudice, than that healthy collision of intellect which teaches men to think as well as to act, and to let thought take precedence of action. Therefore, one of the objects which on issuing our first number we proposed to ourselves, in the course of a career which the support of our brethren will, we trust, make a long and prosperous one, was to grapple, from time to time, with every one of the impediments which the Order may encounter in pursuing its ennobling mission. The nature of some of these impediments, whether arising from active malice or stolid indolence, we have already indicated. Of course, we address ourselves more especially to the existing Brotherhood of English, Scottish, and Irish Masonry—without aid from them, any isolated labours of ours must prove futile. But we do trust, that through their co-operation we may reach the eyes, and by and bye touch the convictions, of thousands on thousands of honest men amongst the general public, whose initiation would strengthen and promote the common cause.

Our own knowledge of society in various parts of the kingdom, inspires us with the belief that nothing but a little effort, such as men are wont to bestow on the most trivial affairs of every day life, is required at this moment, in order to elevate Masonry to a position of power, credit, and popularity, which would bring into operation, on a majestic scale, those capacities for beneficent working, in the results of which the world would participate. The effort to which we allude is at this time eminently necessary; and ours be the task to stimulate every member of the Fraternity, be his position or influence what they may, to do his part, in his own sphere, towards the success of that effort.

An important branch of our duties, too, is to establish, between Masons, a medium of cordial and facile intercourse, so that no one need in future remain, month after month, in ignorance of the movements which occur in the general body, or in any of the important local Lodges. Every Mason, however isolated he may happen to be,

* William Wirt was the Anti-Masonic candidate for the office of President at the election of 1832, in opposition to the Democratic and Whig candidates, General Jackson and Mr. Clay.

through the exigencies of local situation, from oral communion with his brethren, has now the means of becoming acquainted with all matters of current interest, touching the proceedings, the policy, and the progress of the Order, and of learning how he himself, even if living in a district remote from the associations of the Brotherhood, may acquit himself as a faithful and valuable member.

And there is a kindred people, already mighty in numbers, wealth, intelligence, and limitless expanse of fair and fertile territory,—a people which, ere the lapse of another century, will, beyond all human doubt, stand foremost and unrivalled amongst the powers of the world.—We mean America. In America, scarcely less than in our own insular home, we trust that our labours may produce worthy and abundant fruit. *There* lies, indeed, a field unlimited for useful work; for *there* still lingers a pestilent remnant of that furious Anti-Masonic bigotry to which brief allusion has been made above, and the removal of which, by the weapons of reason, remonstrance, and elucidation, is pre-eminently indispensable to the extension, to the comfort, nay, to the personal safety of the Brotherhood. Thus, the prospects of Masonry in America will require, and shall receive, no small share of our attention, with a view to the service of the Fraternity in that part of the world, as well as for the information of Masons residing elsewhere—of him, who, in the deep recesses of the colonial forest, sighs for the association which the in-flowing tide of population will hereafter bring with it, and of him who, dwells in the crowded bustle of European capitals.

The work is a noble one,—it is that of co-operation in that design of charity universal, which constitutes the essence and deathless spirit of Masonry.

IT SHALL BE DONE.

A TOAST.

A toast, a toast, a well-earned toast!—the goblet fill with pride,
It is the memory of the brave, who for the weak have died,—
A toast, a toast—the memory, sweet, precious evermore,
Of those who bore the battle's brunt, and fell red-stained with gore!
Green be the memory of the brave, the foremost in the van,
The Masons who for freedom died at Alma, Inkermann!

Can we deny so small a claim upon our gratitude,
A toast—the memory of the brave who spilt their precious blood
That trampled peoples might be free to live on freedom's sod,
Ay, free to live 'neath freedom's flag, and scorn the tyrants' rod?
Then drink—the memory of the brave, the foremost in the van,
The Masons who for freedom died at Alma, Inkermann!

While pure still is a Mason's heart, and free still is his soul,
While Masons still with bitter scorn spurn tyranny's control,
While still the hot blood swells our veins or tears bedim our eyes,
As we hear the lonely widow's sigh and helpless orphans' cries,
In silence drink—their memory, the foremost in the van,
The Masons who for freedom died at Alma, Inkermann!

ROBERT FISHER, Lodge, 706.

FREEMASONRY IN ENGLAND.

Continued from page 103.

Edward III., A.D. 1327, became the patron of arts and sciences. He set up a table at Windsor, 600 feet round, for feasting the gallant knights of all nations, and rebuilt the castle of Windsor, as a Royal Grand Master, by his several deputies or masters of work, viz. :—1. John de Spoulee, called Master of the Giblem, who rebuilt St. George's Chapel, where the King constituted the order of the garter, A.D. 1375;—2. William of Wykeham, at the head of 400 Freemasons, who rebuilt the strong and stately castle, when he was made Bishop of Winchester;—3. Robert of Barnham succeeded at the head of 250 Freemasons, and finished St. George's great hall, and other works in the castle;—4. Henry Yevele, called at first in the old records, the King's Freemason. He built for the King the London Charter house, King's Hall, Cambridge, Queenborough Castle, and rebuilt St Stephen's Chapel, afterward the House of Commons in Parliament;—5. Simon Langham, Abbot of Westminster, who repaired the body of the Cathedral as it now stands. The King also founded the Abbey of Westminster, near the Tower, upon the site of which now stands the Victualling Office; and his laudable example was well followed, for the Queen endowed Queen's College, Oxford, while others built many stately mansions and about thirty religious houses.

Notwithstanding the expensive wars in this reign, the constitutions were improved; for an old record imports.—“That in the glorious reign of King Edward III., when Lodges were many and frequent, the Grand Master, with his wardens at the head of the Grand Lodge, with consent of the lords of the realm, then generally Freemasons, ordained,

‘That for the future, at the making or admission of a brother, the constitutions and charges shall be read :

‘That Master Masons or masters of work shall be examined, whether they be able of cunning to serve their respective lords, as well the highest as the lowest, to the honour and worship of the aforesaid art, and to the profit of their lords; for they be their lords who employ and pay them for their travail :

‘That when the Master and wardens preside in a Lodge, the sheriff, if need be, or the mayor, or the alderman, if a brother where the Chapter is held, shall be sociate to the Master, in help of him against rebels, and for upholding the rights of the realm :

‘That entered prentices, at their making shall be charged not to be thieves, nor thieves maintainers. That the fellow craft, shall travail honestly for their pay, and love their fellows as themselves; and that all shall be true to the King, to the Realm, and to the Lodge :

‘That if any of the fraternity should be fractious, mutinous, or disobedient to the Grand Master's orders, and after proper admonitions, should persist in his rebellion, he shall forfeit all his claims to the rights, benefits and privileges of a true and faithful brother, &c., concluding with—Amen, so mote it be.’”

The necessity for the charges contained in these old constitutions, is an evidence of the rude state of manners and civil policy at that time, as well as the salutary tendency of an institution, which by its private regulations enforced what the laws had not the power to effect.

King Edward III. having buried his eldest son, Edward, the hope of England, commonly called the Black Prince, A.D. 1376, was so affected at his loss, that he died A.D. 1377.

Richard II., his grandson, succeeded, and employed William of Wykeham, Bishop of Winchester, Grand Master, to rebuild Westminster Hall as it now stands. This building is of stone, in the Gothic stile, with a narrow front, and a tower on each side of the entrance adorned with abundance of carved work. The hall within is esteemed the largest in Europe unsupported with pillars, being 270 feet in length, and 74 in breadth, and the construction of its roof is much admired. William of Wykeham, at his own cost, built New College in Oxford, and founded Winchester College, while other persons built about fifteen religious houses.

The wars about this period, foreign and intestine, but more particularly the latter (which ever tend to foster despotic measures for the time), could not fail of being opposed to an Order, founded on the basis of freedom and good will to all. Many improvements were made in the art of war, and the science of shedding blood—the nobles and gentry made every exertion to bring as many of their retainers into the field as possible, some from motives of loyalty, others of aggrandisement, and perhaps the greater part to defend their very existence—and so great were its devastations, that many parts of the country became nearly depopulated. To prevent the land from being entirely uncultivated, many harsh laws were enacted to compel the people to follow agricultural pursuits, amongst which was one in the 7th year of the reign of Henry IV. "That none who had not lands or rents to the value of twenty shillings a year (equivalent to ten pounds at present), should be permitted to put any of their sons to any other trade, but should bring them all up to husbandry." These severe laws were enforced by very heavy penalties.

This King was deposed by parliament, under the influence of his cousin, Henry, Duke of Lancaster, and was afterwards murdered.

Henry IV., of Lancaster, succeeded A.D. 1399, and appointed Thomas Fitz-Allen, Earl of Surrey, Grand Master. He founded Battle Abbey, at Shrewsbury, and afterwards that of Fotheringay—six religious houses were also built, and the present Guildhall, in London, was founded.

Henry V. succeeded A.D. 1413, and caused the Palace and Abbey at Sheen, now called Richmond, to be rebuilt under the direction of the Grand Master, Henry Chicheley, Archbishop of Canterbury. Eight other religious houses were built during this reign.

Henry VI. came to the throne A.D. 1422, a minor of nine months old. In his third year the parliament endeavoured to disturb the Lodges by an act entitled—"Masons shall not confederate in chapters and congregations." It recited—

“Whereas, by yearly congregations and confederacies made by Masons in their general assemblies, the good cause and effect of the statutes of labourers be openly violated and broken, in subversion of the law, and to the great damage of all the commons, our sovereign lord the King, willing in this case to provide a remedy, by the advice and consent aforesaid, and at the special request of the commons, hath ordained and established,

“That such chapters and congregations shall not hereafter be holden; and if any such be made, they that cause such chapters and congregations to be assembled and holden, if they thereof be convict, shall be judged for felons: and that other Masons who come to such chapters and congregations, be punished by imprisonment of their bodies, and make fine and ransom at the King’s will.”

This act never prevented Freemasons holding their chapters and congregations, as it was never enforced, and being conscious of their integrity, and the rectitude of their proceedings, they used no endeavours to get it repealed. A great light is thrown on the matter by the publication of a curious manuscript at Frankfort, in Germany, in the year 1748, which refers to this time; it is introduced by a letter from the celebrated John Locke, dated 6th May, 1696, found in the desk of a deceased brother. In this letter, Mr. Locke informs his correspondent that he has procured from the Bodleian Library, a copy of the manuscript he was so desirous to see; and that he has sent it to him, with his notes annexed to it: and he concludes with expressing an intention of entering into the fraternity the next time he went to London. The manuscript from which it was copied, appeared, he says, to be about 160 years old; yet, from the title, is itself a copy of one yet more ancient by about 100 years, and that it appears to be the examination of some one of the brotherhood of Masons, taken probably before King Henry VI., who, after he became of age, entered himself among them, and thereby put a stop to the persecution that had been raised against them.

The following is an exact copy of this examination, with Mr. Locke’s notes:—

“Certayne Questyons, with awnsweres to the same, concernynge the Mystery of Maçonrye;

“Wryttenne by the Haude of Kinge Henrye the sixthe of the name, and faythfullye copyed by me (1) Johan Leylande, Antiquarius, by the Commande of his Highnesse, (2)

“They be as followethe:—

“*Quest.* What mote ytt be? (3)

“*Answe.* Ytt beeth the skylle of nature, the understondynge of the myghte that ys hereynne and its sondrye wrekynges; sonderlyche, the skylle of rectenyngs, of waighetes, and metynges, and the treu manere of façonnyng all thynges for mannes use, headlye, dwellynge, and buyldynges of alle kindes, and alle odher thynges that make gudde to manne.

“*Quest.* Where dyd ytt begynne?

“*Answe.* Ytt did begynne with the (4) fyrste manne yn the este, which

were before the (5) fyrste manne of the weste, and comynge westlye, ytt hath brought herwyth alle confortes to the wyld and comfortlesse.

Quest. Who dyd brynge ytt westlye ?

Ans. The (6) Venetians whoo beyng grate merchaundes comed fyrste ffromme the este ynn Venetia, ffor the commodytie of marchaundysynge beithe easte and weste by the redde and myddlelonde sees.

Quest. Howe commede ytt yn Englonde ?

Ans. Peter Gower (7) a Grecian, journeyedde ffor kunynge yn Egypte, and yn Syria, and yn everyche lond, whereas the Venetians hadde plauntedde maçonrye, and wynnage entraunce yn al lodges of maçonnes, he lerned muche, and retournedde, and woned yn Grecia Magna (8) wachsynge, and becommynge a myghtye (9) wyseacre, and gratelyche renowned, and her he framed a grate lodge at Groton (10) and maked manye maçonnes, some whereoffe dyd journeye yn Fraunce, and maked manye maçonnes, wherfromme, yn processe of tyme, the arte passed yn Englelonde.

Quest. Dothe maçonnes discover here artes unto odhers ?

Ans. Peter Gower, whenne he journeyedde to lerne, was fyrste (11) made, and anone techedde, evnne so shulde all odhers beyn recht. Natheless (12) maçonnes haue the alweys yn everyche tyme, from tyme to tyme communicatedde to manukynde soche of her secrettes as generallyche myghte be usefulle : they haueth keped backe soche allein as shulde be harmfulle, yff they commed yn euylle haundes, oder soche as ne myghte be holpyng wythouten the techynges to be joynedde herwythe in the lodge, oder soche as do bynde the freres more stronglyche together, bey the profytte and commodytie commynge to the confrerie herfromme.

Quest. Whatte artes haueth the maçonnes techedde manukynde.

Ans. The arts (13) agricultura, architectura, astronomia, geometria, numeres, musica, poesie, kymistrye, governmente, and relygponne.

Quest. Howe commethe maçonnes more teachers than odher menne ?

Ans. The hemselve haveth allein in (14) arte of fyndynge neue artes, wyche art the fyrste maçonnes receaued from Godde ; by the whyche they fyndethe whatte artes hem plesethe, and the tren way of techynge the same. Whatt odher menne doethe fynde out, ys onelyche bey chauce, and herfore but lytel I tro.

Quest. Whatte dothe the maçonnes concele and hyde ?

Ans. They concelethe the art of fyndynge neue artes and thatt ys for here own profytte, and preise (15) : they concelethe the art of keynge (16) secrettes, thatt soe the worlde mayeth nothyng concele from them. They concelethe the art of wunderwerekynge and of fore sayinge thynges to comme, that so thay same artes may not be usedde of the wyckedde to an euylle end ; they also concelethe the (17) arte of chaunges, the wey of wyynyngge the facultye (18) of Abrac, the skylle of becommynge gude and parfyghte wythouten the holpynges of fiere and hope ; and the uniuerselle longage of maçonnes.

Quest. Wylle he teche me thay same artes ?

Ans. Ye shalle be techedde yff ye be werthy, and able to learn.

Quest. Dothe alle maçonnes kunne more than odher menne ?

Answ. Not so. Thay onlye he haueth richt, and occasyonne more then odher menne to kunne, but many doth fale yn capacity and manye more doth wante industrye, that ys pernecessarye for the gaynyng all kunnyng.

Quest. Are maçonnes guder menne then odhers ?

Answ. Some maçonnes are not so vertucus as some odher menne : but, yn the moste parte, they be more gude then thay would be yf thay war not maçonnes."

Quest. Doth maçonnes love eidther odher myghtly as beeth sayde ?

Answ. Yea verylyche, and yt may not odherwise be : for gude menne, and true, kennynge eider odher to be socke, doeth always love the more as thay be more gude.

"Here endethe the questyonnes and aunsweres."

Even during the King's minority there was a good Lodge under the Grand Master Chicheley, held at Canterbury, as appears from the Latin register of William Molart, Prior of Canterbury, in manuscript, in which are named Thomas Stapylton, the Master, and John Morris, custos de la lodge lathomorum, or Warden of the Lodge of Masons, with fifteen fellow crafts and three entered apprentices, all named there. And a record in the reign of Edward IV. says :—"The company of Masons, being otherwise termed Freemasons, of auntient standing and good reconing, by means of affable and kind meetings, dyverse tymes, and as a loving brotherhood used to do, did frequent this mutual assembly in the tyme of Henry VI., in the twelfth year of his most gracious reign."

Grand Master Chicheley, held also a Lodge at Oxford, where he built All Souls College, and Bernard, now St. John's College, &c. On his death the King appointed William Wane Gleet to the office.

NOTES.

(1). 'John Leylande' was appointed by King Henry VIII., at the dissolution of the monasteries, to search for and save such books and records, as were valuable among them. He was a man of great labour and industry.

(2). 'His Highnesse,' meaning the said King Henry VIII.; our kings had not then the title of majesty.

(3). 'What mote ytt be'.--That is, what may this mystery of Masoury be; the answer imports that it consisted in natural, mathematical, and mechanical knowledge. Some part of which, as appears by what follows, the masons pretend to have taught the rest of mankind, and some part they still conceal.

(4) (5). 'Fyrste menne yn the este,' &c.—It would seem by this that Masons believe that there were men in the East before Adam, who is called the fyrste manne in the West; and that arts and sciouces began in the East. Some authors of great note for learning have been of the same opinion, and it is certain that Europe and Africa (which in respect of Asia may be considered Western countries), were wild and savage, long after arts and politeness of manners were in great perfection in China and the Indies.

(6). 'The Venetians,' &c.—In the times of monkish ignorance it is no wonder that the Phœnicians should be mistaken for the Venetians. Or perhaps that the people were not taken one for the other, similitude of sound might deceive the clerk who first took down the examination. The Phœnicians were the greatest voyagers among the ancients, and were in Europe thought to be the inventors of letters, which, perhaps, they brought from the East with other arts.

(7.) 'Peter Gower.'—This must be another mistake of the writer. I was puzzled at first to guess who Peter Gower should be, the name being perfectly English, or how a Greek should come by such a name; but, as soon as I thought of Pythagoras, I could scarce forbear smiling to find that philosopher had undergone a metempsychosis he never dreamt of. We need only consider the French pronunciation of his name, Pythagore, that is, Petagore, to conceive how such a mistake might be made by an unlearned clerk. That Pythagoras travelled for knowledge into Egypt, &c., is known to all the learned; and that he was initiated into several different orders of priests, who in those days kept all their learning secret from the vulgar, is as well known. Pythagoras also made every geometrical theorem a secret, and admitted only such to the knowledge of them, as had first undergone a five years silence. He is supposed to be the inventor of the 47th of the First Book of Euclid, for which, in the joy of his heart, it is said, he sacrificed a hecatomb. He also knew the true system of the world, lately revived by Copernicus; and was certainly a most wonderful man. See his life by Dion. Hal.

(8.) 'Grecia Magna.'—A part of Italy formerly so called, in which the Greeks had settled a large colony.

(9.) 'Wyseacre.'—This word at present signifies simpleton, but formerly had quite a contrary meaning. Weisager, in the old Saxon, is philosopher, wiseman, or wisard, and having been frequently used ironically, at length came to have a direct contrary meaning in the ironical sense. Thus, Duns Scotus, a man famed for the subtilty and acuteness of his understanding, has by the same method of irony, given a general name to modern dunces.

(10.) 'Groton.'—Is the name of a place in England. The place here meant is Crotona, a city of Grecia Magna, which in the time of Pythagoras was very populous.

(11.) 'Fyrste made.'—The word made, I suppose, has a particular meaning among the Masons; perhaps it signifies initiated.

(12.) 'Maçonnes haueh communcateede,' &c.—This paragraph hath something remarkable in it. It contains a justification of the secrecy so much boasted of by Masons, and so much blamed by others, asserting that they have in all ages discovered such things as might be useful, and that they conceal such only as might be hurtful either to the world or themselves. What these secrets are we see afterwards.

(13.) 'The arts and Agricultura,' &c.—It seems a bold pretence this of the Masons, that they have taught mankind all these arts. They have their own authority for it, and I know not how we shall disprove them. But what appears most odd is, that they reckon religion among the arts.

(14.) 'Arte of fflyndyng neue artes.'—The art of inventing arts must certainly be a most useful art. My Lord Bacon's novum organum is an attempt towards somewhat of the same kind. But I much doubt that if ever the Masons had it, they have now lost it, since so few arts have been lately invented, and so many are wanted. The idea I have of such an art is, that it must be something proper to be applied to all the sciences generally, as algebra is in numbers, by the help of which new rules in arithmetic are and may be found.

(15.) 'Preise'.—It seems that the Masons have great regard to the reputation as well as the profit of their Order; since they make it one reason for not divulging an art in common, that it may do honour to the possessors of it. I think in this particular they show too much regard for their own society, and too little for the rest of mankind.

(16.) 'Arte of keypyng secrettes'.—What kind of art this is I can by no means imagine: but such an art the masons must have, for though, as some people suppose, they should have no secret at all, even that must be a secret which being discovered would expose them to the highest ridicule; and therefore it requires the utmost caution to conceal it.

(17.) 'Arte of chaunges'.—I know not what this means unless it be the transmutation of metals.

(18.) 'Facultye of Abrac'.—Here I am utterly in the dark.

(19.) 'Universelle longage of maçonnes'.—An universal language has been much desired by the learned of many ages; it is a thing rather to be wished than hoped for. But it seems the Masons pretend to have such a thing among them. If it be true, I

guess it must be something like the language of the pantomimes, among the ancient Romans, who were said to be able, by signs only, to express and deliver any oration, intelligibly to men of all nations and languages. A man who has these arts and advantages, is certainly in a condition to be envied: but we are told that this is not the case with all Masons, for though these arts are among them, and all have a right and an opportunity to know them, yet some want capacity and others industry to acquire them. However, of all their arts and secrets, that which I most desire to know is, 'the skylle of becommynge gude and parfyghte;' and I wish it were communicated to all mankind, since there is nothing more true than the beautiful sentence contained in the last answer, 'That the better men are, the more they love one another.' Virtue having in itself something so amiable as to charm the hearts of all that behold it.

(To be continued.)

TO THE CRAFT.

Say, patriot spirit, say, do Masons
 Slumber in such stirring times as these?
 Do they, with sluggish indolence, forbear
 To render help in time of deadly war?
 When battle echoes o'er the ocean wide,
 And gloomy news floats in with every tide—
 When strife's fell elements their fury wage,
 And Britons with a mighty foe engage!
 Arouse ye, *Noble Craft*, evince your zeal,
 For *England's Queen*, and *England's commonweal*!
 Full well we know, the fate of war depends
 On *His* unerring will, who rules supreme:
 The mighty God of hosts, whose high decree,
 Alone, can give defeat or victory.
 Yet, say, when England fights, and Britons bleed,
 Shall *British Masons* do no generous deed?
 But, how can Masons aid the angry cause,
 Or render help in these impending wars?—
 Shall we, who ever peaceful habits boast,
 Urge dreadful strife upon a neighboring coast;
 Or feed, or fan, the flames of war?—Why, No!
 But, Britons must repel a dangerous foe.
 'Tis lawful, sure, to hold in check,
 The power that fain would break a nations' neck;
 Or with a tyrant hand foredoom its fate,
 As Russia would the puny Turkish state.
 So thinks the world;—we have the worlds' applause,
 And nations sit as umpires in the cause!
 Give help, then, *Noble Craft*, and sympathy—
 Withold not these, while they are yours to give.
 Not on the burly battle-field; 'tis true,
 The battle-field may not be meant for you:
 (Tho' Masons oft' have victor's laurels won,
 And oft' in battle mighty deeds have done)
 But, let each *Lodge* one banquet's cost bestow,
 One single banquet's cost—Thus, let them show,
 What bounty from the *Noble Craft* can flow!
 Thus, comfort yet, the rifted widow's heart,
 And succour to her anguished soul impart:
 Let lisping orphans' tongues your bounty own:
 Be this your rich reward, and this alone:
 Tho' what reward can Masons ever need,
 When Heaven itself approves their deed!

MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

FREEMASONS GIRLS SCHOOL.

On Thursday, Jan. 11, the Quarterly General Court was held at the School House, St. John's Rise, Br. J. Barnes, V.P. presiding. The minutes of the house committee, recommending the names of eight little girls as candidates to fill up the vacancies which will occur at the next quarterly court in April, were approved, with the exception of one candidate, whose case was reserved for further consideration, in consequence of a difference of opinion between two of the medical officers as to the state of her health. There are now sixty-five pupils in the institution. The report of the audit committee was also received, and the treasurer was instructed to pay bills to the amount of £435. The funds of the institution are in a very satisfactory state.

Br. Symonds proposed a resolution for placing the school under Government Inspection, and explained that Miss Souter, the new governess, holding a Government certificate of her capabilities for the situation, might thereby receive a grant of £15 or £17 from government in augmentation of her salary; and every year one child might be apprenticed to her as a pupil teacher, for five years; and the pupil afterwards might be examined for a Queen's scholarship, by means of which, if she deserved it, she might be educated in a training school, and ultimately, with a certificate of merit, obtain a good situation as a school-mistress. Br. Robinson seconded the motion which was opposed by Mrs. Barrett, Patten, &c., who urged that the Freemason's school ought not to be subjected to interference from the government, or any body not connected with the Craft, and that if necessary they could themselves increase the salary of the schoolmistress. Upon a show of hands the resolution was lost, only three brethren voting for it—the meeting being very thinly attended in consequence of the inclemency of the weather.

The appointment of Miss Jarwood as matron, and that of Miss Souter as school-mistress, were then confirmed. A motion, of which Br. Robinson had given notice, to provide that no child of a person who had ceased to subscribe towards Freemasonry for more than seven years (unless from circumstances beyond his own control) should be eligible for admission into the school, was deferred until a revision of the rules and bye-laws; a report from the committee upon which was ordered to be printed, and considered at a special court to be held in March.

LONDON LODGES.

GRAND MASTERS LODGE (No. 1).—This highly respectable Lodge held its monthly meeting at the Freemason's Tavern, on Monday, Jan. 15, when Br. Potter initiated a brother into the Order, and was re-elected into the Chair, the newly elected W.M. not having come forward to accept the office. The Lodge having been closed, the brethren adjourned to an elegant banquet, which was attended by several visitors, amongst whom were Mrs. White, G. Sec.; Udall, P.M.; E. Warwick, W.M., No. 30; Alderman Rose, &c. The brethren, after spending a most delightful evening, separated at a reasonable hour.

LODGE OF ANTIQUITY (No. 2).—This most celebrated Lodge, over which Sir Christopher Wren and many other most highly distinguished Masons presided, held its meeting at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Wednesday, 24th, on which occasion the brethren re-elected their W.M. and Treasurer. The brethren afterwards dined together. The toasts of the evening being varied by the singing of Mrs. Genge and Donald King.

ROYAL SOMERSET HOUSE AND INVERNESS LODGE (No. 4).—This lodge, which acts under immemorial constitution, held a meeting at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Monday, Jan. 22, when Br. A. A. Leveau, W.M. and P.G.S.B., initiated three candidates into the Order, and raised a brother to the third degree. The S.W. Br. Chas. Locock Webb, G. Steward, was unanimously elected W.M. for the coming year. The

brethren, to the number of thirty-five, afterwards dined together, and spent a very pleasant evening, enlivened by the exertions of Mrs. G. Perren, and Jolly. Amongst the visitors we observed Br. John Hervey, S.G.D.; Br. Hodgkinson, P.G.S.D.; Br. Beach, of the Apollo Lodge, Oxford, &c., &c.

ST. GEORGE AND CORNER STONE LODGE (No. 5).—The members of this Lodge, which is certainly more select than numerous, held a meeting on Monday, Jan. 8, when Br. B. Head, W.M., initiated a candidate into the Order.

ROYAL YORK LODGE OF PERSEVERANCE (No. 7).—On Wednesday, the 17th of January, the members of this excellent Lodge met at the Freemasons' Tavern for the dispatch of Masonic business—Br. Dr. Wm. Jones, W.M. A gentleman having been initiated into the secrets of the Mystic Tie, the brethren proceeded to the installation of Br. J. S. S. Hopwood, P.M., as W.M. for the year ensuing, the ceremony being very impressively performed by Br. John M. Hervey, S.G.D., assisted by a numerous board of P.M.'s. The new W.M. then appointed and invested the following brethren as his officers:—Br. John M. Hervey, S.G.D., S.W.; Br. Levinson, J.W.; Br. Fraser, S.D.; Br. Collings, J.D.; and Br. Siccama, J.G. All Masonic business having terminated, the brethren retired to an elegant dinner provided by the worthy hosts of the Tavern. Among the visitors we noticed Br. W. H. White, G.S.; Br. J. B. King, P.J.G.D.; Br. Tomkins, W.M. of the Grand Steward's Lodge; Br. R. J. Bagshaw, P.P.G. Treasurer of Bengal; Br. C. Robinson, P.M., 8; Br. J. Nokes, P.M., 8; Br. C. Carter, S.W., 18; Br. M. Levinson, 19; Br. E. Warwick, W.M., 30; Br. W. H. Absolon, P.M., 40; Br. A. H. Rixon, I.G., 40; Br. N. Bradford, P.M., 54; Br. E. Roberts, P.M., 167; Br. J. Canham, P.M., 194; Br. Thomas Bohn, P.M., 201; Br. J. H. Figg, S.D., 318; Br. W. Lee Wright, P.M., 329; Br. Richard Spencer, P.M., 329; Br. Saml. W. Hopwood, S.D., 329; Br. H. Roby, 329; &c. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts having been disposed of, Br. W. H. White, G.S., returning thanks on behalf of the Grand Officers, Br. J. S. S. Hopwood then rose and said—he had much pleasure in proposing the health of Br. Adlard, P.M. and D.C., though he felt inadequate to the task of expressing sufficiently that which was due to the character of his friend as a man and brother Mason. All who had the pleasure of knowing him were so well acquainted with his inestimable, qualities that he was entitled to every consideration at their hands. The Lodge had long estimated his good qualities, and had by an unanimous vote passed a resolution that a testimonial should be presented to Br. Adlard that evening, proving how highly his conduct and services in the Lodge were appreciated. It became his duty as Master of the Lodge, to present him with the testimonial, and in doing so, Br. Hopwood paid a just tribute to the services of Br. Adlard, who has filled every office in the Lodge, and has been member of it for twenty years. In conclusion, the W.M. said, he believed that no member was more desirous of promoting the interest of the Lodge than his friend whose health he proposed. The W.M. then presented Br. Adlard with the testimonial, which consisted of the resolution referred to, written on vellum, in ornamental penmanship, elegantly bound, and signed by every member of the Lodge. The following is a copy of the resolution:—"We, the Master, Past-Masters, Officers, and Brethren of the Royal York Lodge of Perseverance, No. 7, present to our Brother Frederick Adlard, P.M., and D.C., this Testimonial, as a mark of our appreciation of, and gratitude for, the very able and zealous manner in which he has at all times promoted the interest, and sustained the character of the Lodge for the period of twenty years, during which he has been a member, and in token of our esteem and regard for him as a man and brother Mason, accompanied by our sincere wishes for the prosperity and happiness of himself and family." Br. Adlard, in returning thanks, expressed his regret that he could not convey in words his gratitude to the W.M. and the brethren for their kindness. If anything were wanting to enhance the value of the testimonial he had just received, the deficiency was amply supplied by the fact of its being presented to him in the presence of so many visiting brethren, by the W.M., whose long tried and steady support of the Lodge had made him deservedly respected by every member, and he felt a great additional satisfaction in receiving the testimonial from the hands of so old and esteemed member of the Lodge. He thanked the

brethren for their kind expressions and for their good feeling towards him. The W.M. then proposed the health of the visitors, which Br. Bagshaw, P.P.G., Treasurer of Bengal, responded to in a neat speech. The health of the newly initiated brother having been given, Br. Dr. Jones proposed health and prosperity to the W.M. Br. Hopwood, in eloquent and feeling terms, thanked the brethren for the honour they had conferred on him. It was thirty-five years since he was initiated in the Lodge, and having passed the chair, his present position was unanticipated. He had seen a variety of changes in the Lodge, and many of those who had greeted him at his initiation had passed away. He had, however, the same interest for the Lodge at heart as from the first, and would do all in his power to promote the welfare of the ancient and universally great institution, of which he was proud to be a member, and more particularly to advance the interest of a Lodge over which he presided twenty-nine years ago. The W.M. resumed his seat amidst the applause of the brethren. Several other toasts were then proposed, among others, the Grand Stewards' Lodge, which was briefly responded to by Br. Tomkins, W.M., and the company separated soon after eleven o'clock, much delighted with the pleasures of the evening.

ALBION LODGE (No. 9).—A numerous meeting of this highly respectable Lodge, took place on the 2nd ult., at the Freemasons Tavern, when the W.M. Br. MacCulloch completed the duties of his year of office, by raising, in a most affecting manner, a properly qualified candidate to the sublime degree of a Master Mason. The chair was then taken by the Father of the Lodge, P.M. Br. Cant, when the W.M. Br. MacCulloch presented Br. F. Burton, W.M. elect, for the benefit of installation. This ceremony, the venerable P.M. went through in a manner most satisfactory to the Lodge, and at its conclusion, the newly installed Master, than whom there is not a more respected member in the Craft, received the congratulations of the brethren. He then appointed the following brethren as his officers for the ensuing year:—Br. Wood, S.W.; Br. Moring, J.W.; Br. P. M. Lee, Treasurer, Br. P. M. Rackstraw, Secretary, Br. Perryman, S.D.; Br. Friend, J.D.; Br. Knight, I.G.; Br. Mitchell, Steward. The working of the Lodge having been thus efficiently provided for, the W.M. put it into play by ably passing two brethren to the second degree; after which, the Lodge was closed and the brethren retired to the banqueting room, where a most agreeable evening was spent, to the harmony of which Br. Genge, Br. Cant, Br. Crawley, Br. Houghton, Br. Gring, and Br. Mitchell, largely contributed. In returning thanks for the visitors, of whom there were a large number present, Br. Warren, P.M. of 202, said, that although many years had elapsed since last he sat a guest at the social board of the Albion, still they had not obliterated the kindly feelings with which he regarded the Lodge, it having been the first he had ever visited after joining the Craft; and he was delighted on looking round the table to see in the ranks of the Past Masters, so many well remembered faces; but that delight was enhanced, when he saw in the chair that night, a Br. whom he in common with all who knew him so highly appreciated—a Br. with whom he was Masonically connected in another Lodge, over which he hoped to see him preside as Master, with the same spirit and ability which he had displayed that night. Br. Crawley, P.M. of 25, also replied to the toast, and in feeling terms referred to his past association with some of the Past Masters from whom he had learned his Craft Masonry. Several other toasts followed, and the festivities terminated in the most harmonious manner.

ENOCH LODGE (No. 11).—This numerous Lodge, held its monthly meeting on Wednesday, Jan. 10, when a brother was raised to the third degree, and the Master elect, Br. Spooner, installed into the chair by Br. Young, P.M., in a most able and impressive manner, in the presence of a numerous board of installed Masters. The W.M. then appointed Brs. Bincks, S.W.; Masterman, J.W.; Austin, S.D.; Payne, J.D.; German, I.G. Br. Williams was reinvested as Treasurer; Br. Peter Mathews, as Secretary, and Br. Temple as D.C.—an office which, in a Lodge like the Enoch, is one of the most onerous a brother can hold—and no one could better perform its duties than Br. Temple. At the conclusion of business, a large number of brethren adjourned to dinner, the visitors being Br. White, Grand Secretary; Br. Dr. Robert Rowe, G.D. and P.P., Dep. G.M. of Essex; Brs. Chown, 113; Woodley, 902; Kennedy, 201; England, 57; Marsh, 30; Goldsmith, 25; Mallalieu, 227 Barrett,

188; Morby, 169; Watson, 23; Taylor, 201; Lavender, 183. Br. White, G. Sec., returned thanks for the *toast of the officers of the Grand Lodge*, as did Br. Dr. Rowe, for the Prov. G. officers—both brothers expressing the great gratification they experienced in seeing the Lodge in so prosperous a condition. In proposing the health of the P.M.'s, the W.M. highly eulogised Br. Frederic Ledger, their late Master, upon his retiring from the chair, as his influence, with the combined and able assistance of the Past Masters, had raised the Lodge to that eminence in the Craft it then enjoyed. Various other toasts were drunk with great cordiality—the proceedings of the evening being enlivened by some excellent singing.

THE TUSCAN LODGE (No. 14), held its usual monthly meeting at the Freemasons Tavern, on Tuesday, Jan. the 23rd, when Br. Moxon was installed in the Chair in a very able manner by Br. W. Watson, P.M., No. 23. Br. Moxon then invested his officers. Brs. H. Lee, as S.W.; S. Glover, J.W. There were four candidates for the office of Tyler, vacant by the death of Br. Dalton, and the choice fell on Br. Beckett. The Lodge was then closed in perfect harmony, and the brethren partook of a very elegant banquet, prepared for them by Brs. Watson, Coggin, and Banks. Amongst the visitors we noticed Brs. E. Warwick, W.M., No. 30; W. Watson, P.M., No. 23; Paas, No. 30, &c. The Brs. Ransford and Holmes in the course of the evening amused the brethren with some excellent songs.

GLOBE LODGE (No. 23).—The annual meeting of this now highly flourishing Lodge, which now numbers nearly 60 members, though but a few years since it appeared likely to be numbered only amongst the Lodges that had been, was held at the Freemason's Tavern, on Thursday the 18th January. Br. Hewlett, W.M. presided, supported by P.M.'s. Brs. Fenn, Watson, Bennett, Blackburn, Newton, and a very large number of brethren. The W.M. having initiated a candidate into the Order, in his usual excellent style, Br. P.M. Watson, the regenerator of the Lodge, proceeded to instal Br. Humphrey as W.M. for 1855; who, at the conclusion of the ceremony, invested Br. Brandon, S.W.; Br. Goodman, J.W.; Br. P.M. Bennett, Treas., Br. P.M. Blackburn, Sec., Br. Ponsford, S.D., Br. Collins, J.D., Br. Oliver, I.G., and Br. Wm. Watson, Junr., M.C. The Masonic business having been concluded, the Lodge was closed in due form; after which the brethren adjourned to one of the most elegant dinners of the season. There were a large number of visitors present, amongst whom we observed Br. Somers, P.M., No. 11; Br. Binckes, S.W., 11; Br. J. Coggin, 25; Br. Smith, P.M., 82; Br. How, P.M., 137; Br. Anderson, 137; Br. Normandy, W.M., 166; Br. Morbey, S.W., 169; Br. Hart, I.G., 169; Br. Kennedy, P.M., 201; Br. Warren, P.M., 202; and Br. Woodley, 902. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts having been duly honored, a special bumper was dedicated to the health of the W.M., than whom no brother is more universally or more deservedly esteemed by all who know him, wishing him a successful year of office. The W.M., replied and expressed a hope that he might give equal satisfaction to the brethren, as his most excellent predecessor in the chair, Br. Hewlett, had done, and he assured them that no exertions should be wanting on his part to do so. The health of Br. Hewlett, the P.M.'s, and a variety of other toasts, amongst which was the Press, coupled with the name of Br. Warren. Br. Warren as connected with the MASONIC MIRROR, returned thanks, and assured the brethren that no efforts would be wanting on the part of the Managers to make it worthy of their support; at the same time he begged to disavow on the part of the conductors of the Mirror, any rivalry, with the exception of that of endeavouring to give to the brethren the largest amount of Masonic information for the lowest amount of cost, with any Masonic publication; he being happy to be enabled to say that they enjoyed the honor of the acquaintance of the Editor of the Magazine, as well as of those having the management of Masonic intelligence in the Era and the Field. The evenings amusements were considerably enhanced by the vocal exertions of Brs. Perren, Fielding, Holmes, and Farquharson, the latter talented Br. presiding at the Piano-forte.

ROBERT BURNS (No. 25).—The annual meeting of this Lodge was held at the Freemason's Tavern, on Monday, January 1, when Br. Wm. Watson, P.M., assisted by Brs. P.M. Goring and Fox, as Wardens, most impressively installed Br. Dyte into the chair as W.M.; and in doing so, Br. Watson called his attention to the fact

that their Lodge acted under an old Athol Charter granted to them in 1721, and which had been always well supported by the brethren. The new W.M. appointed Br. Le Gassick, S.W.; Br. Clements, J.W.; Br. Bennett, S.D.; Br. Farmer, J.D.; Br. Leek, I.G.; Brs. Goring and Warren, Stewards; and Br. P.M. Apled, Collecting Steward. Br. P.M. Charker was likewise invested with the Jewel of Treasurer, and Br. P.M. Newton that of Sec. The W.M., next addressing Br. Pattenon, the immediate P.M., said it gave him great pleasure to present him, in the name of the Lodge, with a P.M.'s Jewel, as a token of their satisfaction at the manner in which he had performed his duties during the past year. Br. Pattenon in a neat and feeling speech expressed his gratitude to the brethren for the kindness they had ever evinced towards him, for the handsome jewel then presented to him, and his deep regret that circumstances had not allowed him to pay so constant an attention to the business and interests of the Lodge as he could have wished. The W.M. having passed two brethren to the second degree in a manner to evince how well he deserved the office conferred upon him, Br. P.M. Watson said it was with deep regret that he had to make an announcement to the Lodge which he was sure they would all hear with pain. Their highly respected Br. Tombleson had desired him to inform the Lodge that in consequence of his advanced age and declining health he was afraid that he would not be able to attend the Lodge as he had hitherto done, and therefore he wished to resign his membership, though as long as life was spared him he should always continue to take the utmost interest in its welfare and prosperity. He had great pain in making this announcement, but, knowing the state of Br. Tombleson's health, he was not surprised that he should desire as much quiet as possible. He was sure, however, that the brethren of the Robert Burns Lodge would never consent to the name of their respected and venerable Br. being struck off the list of their members, and he would therefore move that Br. Tombleson be elected an honorary member, paying only his Grand Lodge dues. A similar compliment had been paid to their late respected Brs. Fortune and Scott, when their infirmities prevented them attending the Lodge, and he was sure it would not be refused to one so generally beloved and respected as Br. Tombleson. Br. Fox as, next to Br. Watson, the oldest P.M. in the Lodge, and, he believed, the oldest friend of Br. Tombleson, seconded the motion. Though he had had the honour of the friendship of that worthy brother for twenty-five years, he did not know his exact age, but as he was one of the veterans of Trafalgar, a battle fought upwards of thirty-nine years since, when he was a man of full age, they might be sure he could not be very young. He had always proved himself to be a most kind, charitable, and open-hearted man and Mason, and he was sure the motion before them would be carried unanimously. The W.M. having also borne testimony to the worth of Br. Tombleson, and expressed a hope that he might yet recover his health sufficiently to be frequently amongst them, the resolution was put and carried, *nem. con.* On the motion of Br. P. M. Watson, seconded by Br. P.M. Apled, 10l. 10s. were voted to the Patriotic Fund. The W.M. having expressed his intention of accepting the office of Steward to the Boys' School, the Lodge was closed in due form with solemn prayer. The brethren afterwards adjourned to a very elegant banquet, and passed an extremely pleasant evening.

EGYPTIAN LODGE (No. 29).—On Thursday, the 4th Jan., the members of this Lodge met at the George and Blue Boar Tavern, High Holborn, for the purpose of installing their new W.M., Br. Fernandez, the ceremony being very ably performed by Br. P.M. John Savage, assisted by Br. P.M. Goring, and a full board of P.M.'s. The W.M. then appointed Brs. Dudden, S.W., Shepherd, J.W., Buss, Secretary, Marjorum, S.D., Sage, J.D., and Hughes, I.G., and invested them with the collar and jewel of their respective offices. The Lodge being closed, the brethren retired to refreshment under the presidency of their newly installed W.M., and the evening was passed in perfect harmony.

OLD KING'S ARMS LODGE (No. 30).—The members of this Lodge held their usual monthly meeting at the Freemasons Tavern, on Monday, Jan 22. The business consisted of raising and installation of W.M. The raising was performed by Br. Filer, P.M., in a very impressive manner. The installation of Br. Edward Warwick was next proceeded with by Br. Barnes, P.M. and Treas., in his usual able

manner. The W.M. then invested his officers, giving each of them a Masonic address, informing them of their duty and situation in the Lodge, and likewise describing their jewels of office. The officers appointed were—Br. Paas, S.W.; Br. Croft, J.W.; Br. Marsh, S.D.; Br. Gurney, J.W.; Br. Playford, I.G.; Br. P.M. Jaques, D.C.; Br. P.M. Barnes, Tres.; and Br. Scrivener, Hon. Sec. The Lodge having been closed, the brethren retired to one of the most recherche banquets, prepared under the immediate superintendence of the proprietors. About 40 brethren sat down to dinner, amongst whom were three or four-and-twenty visitors, including Brs. Dr. Rowe, P.G.S.D. and P.P.G.M., for Essex; Bisgood, D.P.G.M., for Kent; Wing, P.M.; Z. Watkins, P.M.; Warren, P.M.; Adlard, P.M.; Pereira, P.M.; Crew, P.M.; Lenney, P.M.; Harris, P.M.; Oram, W.M., No. 40; Maudsley, Sams, Glover, Carter, Thompson, &c. The enjoyment of the evening was very much heightened by some first-rate music and singing by Brs. G. Genge, Farquharson, Donald King, and G. Perren; also by two of the visitors, one of whom, Br. Pereira, sang a Spanish song with great good taste and expression. The W.M. proposed the health of the Queen, the Earl of Zetland, M.W.G.M., Lord Yarborough, and the rest of the Grand Officers, past and present, to which Br. Dr. Rowe returned thanks in a very neat speech, in the course of which he related one or two very pleasing anecdotes regarding Freemasonry. The health of the visitors was responded to by Br. Bisgood, D.P.G.M. for Kent. Br. P.M. Burnidge gave the health of the W.M., which was received with great applause. The W.M. in returning his heartfelt thanks said he was convinced he had the good opinion and wishes of every one of the brethren of the Old King's Arms Lodge. He should always endeavour to deserve it, and would do all in his power to maintain the dignity of that highly respectable Lodge. In concluding, the W.M. presented the Lodge with a case containing 30 very elegant Masonic Glasses, richly engraved with the Old King's Arms on the one side, and the three great lights in Masonry on the other. One of the glasses was rather different to the others, intended as the W.M.'s, and was beautifully executed. After the usual Masonic toasts had been given and responded to, the W.M. left the chair, and the brethren separated, each expressing his delight at the evening's entertainment, and congratulating the W.M. on his high position, and the very respectable and amiable Lodge he has to preside over, there being no Lodge that supports the different Masonic charities better than this. [We noticed the W.M.'s newly invented "Palmerston's or judicious bottle holders" were introduced on the table to all the champagne bottles. It is a very good and simple invention, which prevents dirtying the hands or war'ning the wine.]

MOUNT MORIAH LODGE (No. 40).—The monthly meeting of this most excellent working Lodge, was held at the Freemasons Tavern, on Wednesday the 24th January, Br. Oram, W.M., presiding, supported by a numerous assemblage of the brethren. The W.M. having most efficiently raised a brother to the third degree, a short conversation took place on the subject of the Patriotic Fund, which resulted in £10 10s. being voted towards it. The chair was then taken by Br. P.M., W. H. Absolon, who proceeded, in a very impressive manner, to instal Br. Luis Artus into the chair as W.M. for the ensuing year. At the conclusion of the ceremony, Br. Artus proceeded to invest the officers of the Lodge as follows:—Br. Rixon, S.W.; W. Russell, J.W.; Hadley, Treasurer; W. H. Absolon, Secretary; and the Rev. G. M. Braine, S.D.; Vine, J.D., and Costelloe, I.G. The business of the Lodge having been concluded, the Lodge was closed in perfect harmony; it being extremely gratifying to observe what a perfect command the W.M., who is a foreigner, has over our language, and how well he understands and appreciates the ceremonies of Freemasonry. The brethren then adjourned to dinner, and spent a very agreeable evening. Due honour having been done to the usual toasts and to the W.M. and immediate P.M., as most excellent worthy brothers, the health of the P.M.s, of whom there were a goodly row present, was drunk and responded to by Br. the Rev. Hill P.G.Ch., for Worcestershire. He said, that although he was not often able to be present amongst them, yet he felt proud of his connection with a Lodge which he was happy to see so fully carried out that spirit of charity for which their Order was so highly distinguished. Though comparatively, but a young man, he was now the father of their Lodge, in which he had

attained the highest honours; and he trusted it would long flourish and continue to be distinguished by the excellence of their work, and the extent of their charities. The health of the visitors responded to Br. Warwick, W.M., No. 30, and other toasts having been drunk, the company separated. We ought perhaps to mention that Br. W. Absolon, has undertaken the duties of Steward at the coming festival of the Boys School, when the brethren have determined to present £10 to that excellent Institution from the Lodge Funds.

STRONG MAN LODGE (No. 53).—This Lodge met at the Falcon Tavern, Fetter Lane, on Thursday, January 4, when a brother having been raised to the third degree, Br. P.M. Moss proceeded to instal Br. Turner, the W.M., into the Master's chair; the ceremony being very efficiently performed. The new W.M. invested his officers as follows: Br. Pollitt, J.W.; Br. Carter, J.W.; Br. P.M. Moss, Trea.; Br. P.M. Lewis, Sec.; Br. Codney, S.D.; Br. Harrison (the Strong Man), J.D.; and Br. Lundy, I.G. The brethren afterwards supped together, and did not separate until a late hour.

LODGE OF FELICITY (No. 66).—The brethren of this Lodge held a meeting at the London Tavern, Bishopsgate Street, on Tuesday, the 16th January, when the W.M., with the assistance of Br. Crohn, P.S. for G.C, passed a brother to the second degree.

ROYAL NAVAL LODGE (No. 70).—This Lodge held its second meeting at the Freemasons Tavern, on Wednesday, Jan. 10, when, in consequence of the unavoidable absence of the retiring W.M., P.M. Br. John Hervey, in the most efficient manner, installed the W.M. elect, Br. Burdon, into the chair of the Lodge. The new W.M. having appointed his officers, two gentlemen were initiated into the Order, two brethren passed to the second, and one raised to the third degree. At the conclusion of the Masonic business, the brethren retired to a most excellent banquet, and the only drawback to the pleasures of the evening was the regret felt that Br. Hervey was unable to stay and enjoy it with them, in consequence of previous engagements.

LODGE OF PEACE AND HARMONY (No. 72).—This Lodge held its meeting at the London Tavern, on Thursday, 25th January, when Br. Elwood was installed W.M. He afterwards appointed Brs. Robinson, S.W.; Long, J.W.; and invested Br. Tomkins as Treasurer. A brother was also passed to the second degree.

ST MARY'S LODGE (No. 76).—At the monthly meeting of this Lodge, held at the Freemason's Tavern, on Thursday, January 18, Br. Kelly, S.W. and W.M. elect, was ably installed into the chair by Br. P.M. Emly, the retiring W.M., Br. Skelton, having first initiated a candidate into the Order. The officers having been appointed, and the other masonic business gone through, the brethren, to the number of about twenty, dined together.

GRENADIERS' LODGE (No. 79).—The members of this Lodge met at the Freemason's Tavern, on Thursday, January 24, when Br. Peck was elected W.M. for the ensuing year, and the highly esteemed and valued Treasurer, Br. Neate, re-elected. The W.M., in a most able manner, initiated two gentlemen into the chair.

VITRUVIAN LODGE (No. 103).—The usual monthly meeting of the members of this flourishing Lodge, was on the 10th ult., held at the White Hart Tavern, College Street, Lambeth, the W.M., Br. Crosbie, in the chair. The Lodge having been opened, and the minutes of the last meeting confirmed, the chair was taken by Br. P.M. Skiller, who, in the presence of a full board of Past Masters, ably installed Br. H. Maudesley, as W.M. for the ensuing year, who was thereupon pleased to make the following disposition of the other officers:—Br. Cherry, S.W.; Br. Lock, J.W.; Br. Horam, Trea.; Br. Noake, Sec.; Br. Horner, S.D.; Br. Ashfield, J.D.; Br. Martin, I.G.; and Br. Wicks, Tyler. After the business of the Lodge was concluded, the brethren, sixty-five in number, were called off to refreshment, and partook of an excellent banquet, served in Br. Heppo's best style. Br. Maudsley, W.M., in the course of the evening, expressed his determination of giving £10 10s. to the Aged Masons Asylum, in the name of the Lodge.

LODGE OF REGULARITY (No. 108).—This distinguished Lodge met at the Freemasons Tavern, on Thursday, the 11th Jan. One brother was raised to the third degree, two passed to the second degree, and two gentlemen initiated into the Order

Br. W. Johnson, P.M. presiding in the absence of Br. J. Johnson, W.M., who is at present on the Continent. The brethren then proceeded to the election of W.M. for the ensuing year, when the votes were unanimously in favour of Br. Lewis Solomon. Br. McCullan, was as unanimously re-elected Treas. Amongst the visitors were Brs. Crohn, G. Sec. for German Correspondence; Elkington, G.P.; Rackstraw, P.M., No. 9; Watson, P.M., No. 23, &c.

BURLINGTON LODGE (No. 113).—This Lodge met at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street, on Tuesday, 2nd Jan. One gentleman was initiated into the Order, and two brethren passed to the second degree. It was resolved that a subscription should be entered into in aid of the Patriotic Fund.

LONDON LODGE (No. 125).—The members of this Lodge, which is evidently sadly in want of the infusion of a little new blood into its veins, met on Saturday, Jan. 6, when Br. Mackintoy, S.W., was installed into the chair as W.M., the ceremony being performed by P.M. Br. Philippe.

St. George's Lodge (No. 164).—This Lodge held its anniversary meeting at Br. Hart's, the celebrated Trafalgar Tavern, Greenwich, on the 17th of Jan. The business commenced with raising one qualified brother, and passing another; the ceremonies being performed by Br. Moore the W.M., in a most gratifying manner. Br. J. F. Booth, the W.M. elect, was then installed by Br. J. S. Turner, of Woolwich, with that impressive zeal and ability which marked him to be possessed of superior Masonic knowledge. Br. Booth thereupon appointed the following brethren to be his officers for the ensuing year:—Br. Hogg, S.W.; Br. Townsend, J.W.; Br. Figg Wright, S.D.; Br. Trafford, J.D.; Br. Robinson, I.G.; Br. Ryder, P.M., Secretary. Several visitors were present, among whom we noticed. Brs. Fox, P.M., 87; Laird, P.M., 13; Harris, P.M., 87; Laing, P.M., 65; Miller, P.M., 93. A jewel was unanimously voted to Br. Moore, for the praiseworthy and efficient manner in which he had conducted the office of W.M. during the past year, when the brethren, 26 in number, adjourned to a sumptuous and elegant banquet, and the evening was spent with an hilarity truly consistent with the tenets of Masonry.

LODGE OF FAITH (No. 165).—The members of this Lodge held a meeting at the Gun Tavern, Pimlico, on the 1st of January, it having been adjourned over the regular Lodge night in consequence of its falling on the 26th of December, when two brethren were passed and three raised to their respective degrees by the W.M., *pro tem*, Br. Onslow, in a most eloquent and efficient manner. At the close of the business the brethren retired to the banquet, which was supplied in that excellent style for which Br. Rackstraw, who has been thirty-four years a member of the Lodge, stands pre-eminent. There were several visitors present, and after spending a very harmonious evening the brethren adjourned at an early hour.

St. THOMAS'S LODGE (No. 166).—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held at the Freemasons Tavern, on Saturday the 6th Jan., when the W.M. elect was most ably installed into the chair by Br. P.M. Frampton. Mr. Luce, the respected host of the King's Arms Hotel, Hampton Court, and another gentleman, were then initiated into the Order. About fifteen of the brethren afterwards dined together.

PRUDENT BROTHERS LODGE (No. 169).—The members of this Lodge met at the Freemasons Tavern on Tuesday, the 23rd January, to instal Br. Hewlett, P.M., 23, as W.M. for the ensuing twelve months, Br. Kirby, the immediate P.M., being the installing master, and performing the ceremony in a highly creditable manner. Br. Hewlett appointed his officers as under:—Br. Morbey, S.W.; Blackburn, J.W.; Haywood, S.D.; Lea, J.D.; Hart, I.G.; Boyd, M.C. A committee was appointed to revise the bye-laws. The visitors were Brs. Green, P.S.G.D., Hertfordshire; Potter, P.M., 11; Binckes, S.W., 11; Adams, 25; Allen, P.M., 276; Hammitt, P.M., 752; Collard, S.W., 209; Nicholson, J.W., 201; T. Bohn, P.M., 201; Davis, 902; Watson, Jr., 23; Grimstone, 276, &c., &c. The banquet table was sumptuously furnished by the worthy hosts, and the evening closed in harmony and brotherly kindness. The pleasures of the evening were much enhanced by the excellent singing of Miss Marian Taylor, Brs. Perren, Genge, Farquharson, Hart, &c., accompanied by Br. Taylor, on the piano forte.

BEDFORD LODGE (No. 183).—At the monthly meeting of this Lodge, on Friday, Jan.

12, the S.W. Br. Sake deen Mahomed was most ably installed into the chair as W.M., by Br. P.M. Beadon, P.G.W. The officers having been invested with their jewels of office, and some other business transacted, the brethren, to the number of 23, adjourned to dinner, after which a very pleasant evening was spent.

CADOGAN LODGE (No. 188).—This Lodge held its monthly meeting at the Freemasons Tavern, Tuesday, Jan. 16. Br. Ruff, P.M., in the absence of the W.M., Br. Captain Malkin, in a most efficient manner, raised a brother to the M.M. degree, and initiated a gentleman into the Order.

LODGE OF HONOR OF GENEROSITY (No. 194).—The annual election for W. Master and Treasurer took place at the London Tavern (after the annual audit of accounts), on Monday, Jan. 1st., 1855. Br. Richard Bell, W.M., presided. Br. Charles Joseph Corbett was elected W.M., and Br. Richard Lea Wilson re-elected Treasurer for the 14th time since he resuscitated the Lodge in 1841. In consequence of family parties on New Years' Day, the attendance of the brethren was not so numerous as usual, but, thanks to the able presidency of the W.M., nothing was wanting to make both Lodge and banquet most enjoyable.

OLD CONCORD LODGE (No. 201).—The members of this first-rate Lodge assembled very numerously at the Freemasons Tavern, on the 2nd ult. This being the day of installing the new Master, the brethren met at 4 o'clock, when the retiring Master (Br. Kennedy) initiated two gentlemen into the noble Order; he also passed two brothers to the second degree, and raised two other brethren to the degree of Master Masons. These ceremonies were performed in Br. Kennedy's well-known, able and efficient manner. He then proceeded to instal his successor Br. G. M. Gurton, the worthy and respected S.W., who had been unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year. This plan of the retiring Master doing the installation, is well worthy of imitation in other Lodges, and the beautiful style in which Br. Kennedy performed this ceremony, reflects the highest credit on him, and on this Lodge, of which the worthy brother is so distinguished a member. The W.M. then proceeded to appoint his officers as follows:—Br. Collard, S.W.; Br. Nicholson, J.W.; Br. Jeffries, S.D.; Br. G. Watson, J.D.; Br. Jackson, I.G.; Br. Kennedy, P.M., Treas.; and Br. Emmens, P.M. Sec. (for the fifteenth year). Br. the Rev. J. H. Loughlin was appointed Chaplain to the Lodge, and Brs. J. Gurton and Harrison, Stewards. Br. Maney then stated that he, having been appointed a member of the Audit Committee, could not let the opportunity pass without stating to the Lodge the result of that committee meeting. He found that Br. Kennedy was placed in great difficulties when he entered on the duties of his office, as W.M., by the death of the Treasurer, Br. G. Watkins, but that, through the efficient management of the W.M. and Secretary, those difficulties had been overcome. Br. Maney stated that he had minutely gone through the balance-sheet and accounts, and he had to congratulate the members of this Lodge that the funds were now in a prosperous state, after experiencing a loss of about £40. He, therefore, did think that Br. Kennedy was deserving of some special mark of their favour, and he would propose that a vote of thanks be recorded on the minutes accordingly. Br. Booth, P.M., seconded this proposition, which was unanimously agreed to. It was also proposed and unanimously agreed, that Br. Kennedy be presented with a Past Master's Jewel. After several other propositions, and the Lodge being closed, the brethren retired to the banquetting-room, when about fifty members and visitors partook of a very elegant dinner. The cloth having been removed, the W.M. proposed the health of "Her Most Gracious Majesty," which was responded to with true Masonic feeling. The National Anthem was delightfully given by Miss M. Taylor, Miss A. Taylor, and Brs. Lowick and Fortescue, Br. G. F. Taylor presiding at the Piano. After the usual Masonic toasts, the W.M. proposed the health of the visitors, and Br. W. Watson, in returning thanks, said how very much gratified he had been with the manner in which the business of this Lodge was conducted; and eulogised the conduct of Br. Kennedy in so ably carrying out the true principles of Masonry, in the arduous duties he had gone through this evening. He congratulated the W.M. on being elected to preside over so distinguished a Lodge, which he considered quite equal to any in the Craft, and he hoped long to see "The Old Concord" flourish and continue in such "concord" as he

now saw it. Br. Kennedy, in proposing the health of the W.M., took that opportunity of reminding the brethren of the time approaching for the "Annual Ball," which was fixed for the 8th of Feb. He said that, under the presidency of their W.M., who was so well-known and esteemed, he was quite sure the forth-coming ball would surpass all previous ones, but still he was proud in reverting to the last which took place under his guidance, whereby, in conjunction with his brother stewards, he was enabled to give 29 guineas to Masonic charities. The W.M. returned thanks in a neat speech, and informed the brethren, that he should make it his study to promote the interests of this Lodge in every manner, and he trusted to have the same support at the forth-coming ball, as had been bestowed on Br. Kennedy. Several other toasts were given, between each of which the above named vocalists enchanted their brethren with their delightful harmony. Coffee having been served, all the members and visitors retired, highly pleased with the evening's entertainment under Br. G. M. Gurton, the new W.M. The visitors were—Br. Somers, P.M., No. 11; Br. Watson, P.M., No. 23; Br. Lowick, P.M., No. 15; Br. Baker, P.M., No. 87; Br. Solomon, W.M. elect, No. 108; Br. Collard, No. 168; Br. Mc Manus, No. 165; Br. Barfield, P.M., No. 752; Br. Hammett, P.M., No. 752; Br. Kelly, No. 211; Br. Copas, No. 752; and several other brothers.

LODGE OF SINCERITY (No. 203).—The members of this Lodge held their usual monthly meeting at the Crooked Billet, Tower-hill, on Wednesday, January 17. The Lodge was opened at four o'clock in consequence of the extent of the business. The usual formal business having been transacted, a gentleman was initiated into the Order, three brothers passed, and two raised to their respective degrees. Br. A. Hicks was then duly installed W.M., the whole of the ceremonies being performed in a most eloquent and impressive manner by Br. P. M. Potts. A very large Lodge was present, and amongst the visitors were several brethren of Yarborough, Albion, and other lodges. All business being ended the brethren sat down to an excellent banquet, and the harmony of the evening was kept up until after midnight.

St. JAMES'S UNION LODGE (No. 211).—This Lodge held its monthly meeting at the Westmorland Arms, George Street, Portman Square, on the 9th of January, when it being installation night, there was a goodly muster of visitors, who must have been highly gratified at the very able and impressive manner in which Br. Kennedy, P.M. of 201, and also a member of this Lodge installed the W.M. elect, Br. Kelly, into the chair. We are confident there are few brethren in the Craft who have attained such perfection in Masonic working as our worthy Br. Kennedy, for so young a Mason. It was very gratifying also to hear the very able manner in which the new W.M. performed the ceremony of raising a brother to the third degree; because it shows that this Lodge has at length elected a brother who seems determined to carry Masonry properly out in its working, without calling on the P. Masters to fill the chair. We are sure that under the able guidance of so excellent a W.M., the officers who were appointed, will assist him in bringing this Lodge into a position second to none in the Craft, and it is always a treat to visit Lodges, where the ceremony is sure to be worked in a perfect manner. The officers appointed were Brs. J. Gurton, late of the Old Concord Lodge, S.W.; Paul, S.D.; Le Gassick, J.D.; and Dixon, I.G. Br. Hudson was again invested with the collar of Treasurer, which office he has filled for some years, with perfect satisfaction to the Lodge. The Lodge then adjourned to a sumptuous banquet provided by the worthy host, Br. Frampton, and the evening passed in delightful harmony. The visitors were, Brs. Storr, Rackstraw, Kitchen, Figg, Jeffries, Goodeson, Jackson, Tomalin and Barrett.

UNIVERSAL LODGE (No. 212).—The brethren of this Lodge held their usual January meeting at the Freemasons Tavern, on Friday 26th. Br. Law was installed W.M. by Br. Algernon Attwood, in that able and impressive manner for which he has been so justly distinguished. Br. Green was appointed S.W.; Br. Wharton, J.W.; and Br. Attwood was invested as Treasurer. After the other officers had been appointed the W.M., in a highly creditable manner, passed a brother to the second degree. In the course of the evening, £20 was unanimously voted to the Patriotic Fund. In proposing it, the worthy Treasurer observed, that though it was of the greatest importance to relieve the brethren of the Order, as well as their widows and

orphans whose necessities had a paramount claim upon their charity, yet Masonry should be as universal as its principles were pure, and show to the world that its charity was not confined only to members of their own body.

LODGE OF INDUSTRY (No. 219).—This Lodge held its anniversary meeting at the Swan Tavern, Hungerford-market, on Tuesday, January 23, Br. Carpenter, W.M., presiding, supported by Br. P.M.'s Querly, Suter, Reekes, Jenkins, Dawson, Dunn, &c. The Lodge having been opened in due form, a candidate for the mysteries of the Order was ballotted for, when it proving unanimously in his favour he was initiated. Br. Jas. Querly, J.W. and W.M. elect, was then presented to a Board of Installed Masters, and having assented to the ancient charges of the Order, he was duly installed into the Chair by Br. Goring, P.M. 25, when he was pleased to invest Brs. W. Debnam as S.W.; Suter, J.W.; Reekes, S.D.; Irvine, J.D.; Polden, I.G.; and Br. P.M. Carpenter as Treasurer and Secretary.

JOPPA LODGE (No. 223).—This Lodge held its monthly meeting at the White Hart Tavern, Bishopsgate-street, on Monday, January 1, when Br. Lyons was most efficiently installed as W.M. for the current year, by Br. P.M. Sielig, when he was pleased to appoint Brs. S. G. Risch, S.W.; Alexander, J.W.; Harris, S.D.; Lewin, J.D.; and Gabrael, I.G. At the conclusion of the Masonic business the brethren adjourned to supper, to which upwards of ninety sat down. Both the supper and dessert, the latter of which was supplied by Br. Solomon, sen., gave the highest satisfaction. Br. Benjamin, from Australia, and a number of other visitors were present. The evening passed off with the utmost harmony, which was heightened by the exertions of Brs. G. F. Taylor, Lowich, and Fortescue, most ably assisted by Miss Taylor. We should not omit to observe, that £30 was collected amongst the brethren in aid of the Patriotic Fund.

ST. PAUL'S LODGE (No. 229).—The members of this Lodge met at the London Coffee House, Ludgate Hill, on Tuesday the 9th January, for the dispatch of business and the installation of the W.M. elect, Br. Fowler having resigned the chair to P.M. Br. Foster White; that worthy brother installed, in a most masterly manner, Br. Randall into the chair. It is needless to say, that in every degree where the effective working of Freemasonry is concerned, Br. White stands pre-eminent, and has raised for himself a very high reputation in the Craft. The new W.M. is a first rate working Mason, and immediately after being installed into the chair, he proceeded to initiate a candidate into the Order. The officers appointed, were:—Br. Green, S.W.; Br. R. Sparks, J.W.; Br. Watson, S.D.; Br. Hawkins, J.D., and Br. W. Fowler, I.G. The brethren attended in large numbers, and after the conclusion of the business, the brethren adjourned to a very elegant banquet. The proceedings of the evening were enlivened by some excellent singing by Brs. Farquharson, Genge, and King.

PERCY LODGE (No. 234).—The members of this Lodge met at the Ship and Turtle Tavern, Leadenhall street, on Tuesday January 9, when Br. Sheridan the S.W. was installed W.M. for the ensuing year. Upwards of 20 of the brethren afterwards dined together and spent a very pleasant evening.

JORDAN LODGE (No. 237).—The members of this Lodge met on Friday, the 19th ult., at the Freemasons Tavern, Br. Spooner, W.M., presiding. The minutes of the former meeting having been read, it was proposed and seconded, that the minutes be confirmed, excepting only that part which relates to the election of W.M.; which was put and carried unanimously. At a later period of the evening, a brother requested (on behalf of the brother previously elected), that the installation might be proceeded with. This, the W.M. declined, as the minutes had not been confirmed; when the brother, whose election had been annulled, together with four others, tendered their resignation and left the Lodge. Br. Eram, was then duly raised to the third degree; when the business being completed, the brethren adjourned to a splendid banquet, served up in Messrs. Watson, Coggin, and Banks's, usual recherche style. Among the visitors were, Brs. Burton, W.M., 9; and Beuler, 215. Br. S. Aznavour, the proprietor of the Turkish Exhibition, has been elected a member of this Lodge, on the motion of Br. Patten, P.M. and Sec.

ST. ANDREW'S LODGE (No. 281).—At the monthly meeting of this Lodge on Thursday January 4. Br. Dyke was elected W.M., for the ensuing 12 months, and Br. P.M. Linton, Treasurer. The other business was purely formal.

LODGE OF UNIONS (No. 318).—The first meeting of this Lodge for the year 1855, was held at the Freemason's Tavern, on Wednesday, January 3rd, when the new Master was installed into the chair, by Br. P. M., John Hervey, G.S.D. Two brethren were in the course of the evening, passed to the second degree. A number of the brethren afterwards dined together, and amongst the visitors we observed Br. Wm. Edwards, P.Prov. S.G.W., for Cambridgeshire, and Br. E. S. Snell, P.M., 205.

PRINCE OF WALES' LODGE (No. 322).—This highly distinguished Lodge, which nearly from the period of its constitution to the death of our lamented M.W.G.M., the Duke of Sussex, was under Royal patronage, and presided over by Princes of the Royal blood, and in which the Dukes of York and Clarence sat as Wardens, held its meeting on Tuesday, the 23rd January, at the Thatched House Tavern, St. James-street, when the brethren proceeded to re-elect their W.M., for the ensuing year, and also their much valued Treasurer.

BANK OF ENGLAND LODGE (No. 329).—At the meeting of this Lodge, on Thursday, January 11, Br. Warwick, the retiring W.M., installed the S.W., of the past year, into the chair, as Master for the coming year. The only other business consisted of the passing of a brother to the second degree.

POLISH NATIONAL LODGE (No. 778).—At the meeting of this Lodge, on Thursday, January 11, the business consisted of one initiation, two passings, and two raisings, the whole of which were excellently performed. A joining brother was also elected into the Lodge. The brethren still appeared in mourning, as a mark of respect to the memory of their lamented Br. Lord Dudley Stuart.

LODGE LA TOLERANCE (No. 784).—The members of this (the French) Lodge, met at the Freemason's Tavern, on Tuesday, Jan. 2, when two brethren having been passed to the second degree, the Installation of the W.M. for 1855 was proceeded with, the election having fallen for the fourth time on P.M. Br. J. Caplin. The worthy Br. was one of the founders of the Lodge—was its first Master—and successively occupied the chair in 1848 and 1849. The brethren of the Lodge are too much indebted to Br. Caplin, for his untiring zeal and energy in promoting its interests, not to regard with the utmost satisfaction his re-election to the office of Master—a satisfaction which, we are sure, will be shared by every brother who has the pleasure of his acquaintance. Contrary to the custom of English Lodges in which the officers are appointed by the W.M., the members of La Tolerance select them by ballot, and Br. Caplin had only to invest them with the insignia of office. Br. Gratia, was elected S.W.; Br. Martins, J.W.; Br. Lindy, Secretary, which office he has previously filled with great satisfaction to the members; Br. Paillier, G. Ex past; and Br. P. Boura, Treasurer. There were also elected Brs. Sullivan, as S.D.; Haussen, J.D., &c. La Tolerance Lodge will not meet again until the 6th of March, when two raisings will be proceeded with, and the members will be happy to receive the support of their English brethren—whose attendance continues to increase from month to month.

WELLINGTON LODGE (No. 805).—The members of this excellent and thriving Lodge, held their anniversary meeting at the Railway Tavern, Lewisham, on the 9th, when Br. Ireland, the respected proprietor of the Falcon Tavern, Fetter Lane, was installed into the chair as W.M. for the coming year, by Br. T. A. Adams, W.M. (206), and P.M. (196)—in a manner to evince to the brethren how deeply he has studied, and how well he understands the Masonic ceremonies. The new W.M. immediately proceeded to invest his various officers, as follows:—Br. Cross-ley, P.M. and Treasurer; Hayes, S.W.; Simmons, J.W.; Masters, Sec.; Bayley, S.D.; Oddy, J.D.; Silman, I.G. There being no other business on the Agenda, and there being a number of brethren present who do not often have the opportunity of hearing the lectures worked, the W.M. called upon them to assist him in working the sections of the first lecture, the first four of which were accordingly gone through in a very able manner. The brethren afterwards sat down to a very elegant supper, and the evening passed off in a very pleasant manner, as it would be impossible to find a more efficient chairman at the banquet table than our Br. Ireland, whose year of office will doubtless be one of the most prosperous the Lodge has yet seen.

INSTRUCTION.

ST. JOHN'S LODGE, HAMPSTEAD (No. 196).—Last evening there was a large assemblage of the brethren at the Holly Bush Tavern, Hampstead, when a testimonial consisting of a P.M. jewel of the value of £15, manufactured by Br. Lowenstark, and a silver snuff-box, was presented to P.M. Br. T. A. Adams, by Br. Wm. Watson, on behalf of the brethren of this and other Lodges of Instruction. The box and jewel both bear the following inscription:—"Presented to Br. Thos. Alex. Adams, P.M., St. John's Lodge, No, 196, by subscription of its members and brethren of several Lodges of Instruction, in testimony of the high estimation in which they hold his eminent Masonic qualifications, and of their sincere personal regards. Hampstead, 17th January, 1855." A testimonial was also presented from the Parent Lodge, but the lateness of the presentation obliges us to defer our report of the proceedings until our next number.

ROYAL ARCH.

ROBERT BURNS CHAPTER No. 25).—This Chapter met at the Freemason's Tavern on Monday, January 26, Comp. Goring, Z; Newton, H; and Robinson J. There were three exaltations, one Comp. proposed as a joining member, and a brother for exaltation. The election for the officers for the ensuing year were then proceeded with, and all those of the past year advanced in rotation; the principals will therefore stand Comp. Newton, Z; Robinson, H; and Kirby, J. There was an extremely numerous attendance.

OLD KING'S ARMS CHAPTER (No. 30). This Chapter met on the 1st of January, when the officers for the ensuing year were appointed as follows:—Comp. Linton, Z; Watkins, H; Plews, J; Paas, E; Maudslay, N; and G. England, P.S.

JERUSALEM CHAPTER (No. 218).—This Chapter held its usual monthly meeting at the George and Vulture Tavern, Cornhill, on Tuesday, January 9th. A Brother who had been proposed for exaltation, not being in attendance, the Comps. proceeded to discuss two motions, of which notice had been given the previous month, viz.:—That the sum of Five Guineas be given to the Patriotic Fund—which after some discussion was carried by a majority of four—and secondly, that any officer being absent fifteen minutes after the hour for which the Chapter was summoned, should be fined at the following rate, 10s. for either principal, and 5s. each other officer. This motion was carried. Other business having been transacted, the Chapter closed.

HOPE CHAPTER (No. 248).—A meeting of this excellent Chapter was held at the Globe Tavern, Royal Hill, Greenwich, on Thursday, January 18, when although the numbers present fell somewhat short of that which usually attends (no doubt in consequence of the inclemency of the weather), and where disappointment was expressed at the absence of several invited companions, it was delightful to see amongst those assembled that veteran and true mason Comp. Dr. Leigh, P.Z., who, notwithstanding his advanced years, is ever ready to help and assist the various Comps. when inducted into their several chairs.

POLISH NATIONAL CHAPTER (No. 778).—This Chapter held a convocation at the Freemason's Tavern on Thursday, the 25th of January, when Comp. Lemanski, P.Z., officiated in the unavoidable absence of Comp. Szulczeioski, who, in consequence of the lamented death of Comp. Lord Dudley Stuart continues in the first chair, Comp. Watson acting as H, and Comp. Warren taking his place as J. Comps. H. R. Sharman and W. B. R. Evans (son of our late much regretted Comp. William Evans) were duly exalted as Arch Masons; after which Comp. J. W. Adams was installed as second principal. Comp. T. J. Coggin was also elected a joining member of the Chapter. The Comps. after supped together under the presidency of the M.E.Z. Comp. Szulczeioski, and spent a very pleasant evening.

PROVINCIAL LODGES.

BERKSHIRE.

ERONIAN LODGE, WINDSOR (No. 252).—The members of this Lodge held their annual festival of St. John on Tuesday, the 2nd of January, at the New Inn. After raising a brother to the degree of M.M., and balloting for a candidate for initiation, Br. Charles Lambert, P.M. (198), was duly installed W.M. of this Lodge for the second time, he having held the same distinguished office in 1853, and having been earnestly requested to assume the onerous duties of the chair by the united voice of the brethren; the impressive ceremony of installation was very creditably performed by Br. Jenkins, P.M. and Sec., assisted by P.M. Wigginton, R. P. Blake (of Oxford), and Sir J. M. Doyle, K.C.B., and other qualified brethren. Br. Lambert appointed his officers as follows:—Brs. Palmer, S.W.; Harley, J.W.; Evens, S.D.; Lester, J.D.; and Cantrell, I.G. Br. P.M. Hall was elected Treasurer; Br. Holden, Sec.; and Br. P.M. Stacey, Organist. The brethren then adjourned to refreshment, and sat down to a banquet provided by Br. Dangerfield, which fully maintained the credit of his establishment. In token of gratitude for the prosperity which had attended this Lodge, it was resolved to propose at their next meeting a liberal grant to the Patriotic Fund.

CORNWALL.

MOUNT SINAI LODGE, PENZANCE (No. 142).—The anniversary festival in honor of St. John, was held in the Freemasons' Hall, Penzance, 27th December last. Br. Stephen Harvey James, jun., of St. Just, was installed in the chair, as Worshipful Master of the Lodge for the ensuing year, in the room of Br. Polkinghorne, whose period of office had expired. The new Master appointed Br. Barzillai Beckerleg his Senior Warden, and Br. Peter Roberts his Junior Warden. Br. Ball was appointed Treasurer in the room of Mr. John Curnow, who for many years held that office, but to the extreme regret of the Lodge, was now obliged to retire, on account of long-continued illness. Br. J. G. Beckerleg has retired from the Secretaryship, in consequence of a paralytic seizure, which now confines him to his bed; and Mr. Charlton, superintendent of the West Cornwall Railway, was appointed Secretary. After the business of the Lodge was over, the brethren retired to their banqueting room, where a splendid dinner awaited them. After spending a harmonious and pleasant evening, the Lodge closed about 10 o'clock.

CHESHIRE.

MASONIC BALL.—A grand Masonic Ball took place on Thursday evening, Jan. 5, in the Assembly Room, in the Town Hall, which was decorated for the occasion with profuse ornamentation. Not only were all the Masonic emblems displayed in glittering profusion, [amidst a beautiful arrangement of evergreen and floral ornament, but in accordance with the prevailing military spirit, a splendid array of the flags and ensigns of the allied nations waved above and around the admiring visitors to the gay scene. Horabin's capital Quadrille Band gave forth its enlivening strains with customary zest, and was taxed unsparingly by the charming galaxy, and dancing was continued with much spirit and enjoyment throughout the evening. The object the Managers had in view, was the truly Masonic one—that of aiding the funds of the Dispensary.

CUMBERLAND.

LODGE OF UNANIMITY, PENRITH (No. 424).—The brethren of this Lodge met in their Lodge room, at the New Crown Hotel, on the evening of the 8th January, to celebrate the festival of St. John. Br. R. G. Hindson's year of office as W.M. having expired, Br. J. Walker was chosen W.M. for the present year. The evening was spent in the most agreeable manner.

HOLY TEMPLE LODGE, LONGTOWN (No. 595).—On St. Joan's day, Dec. 27th, the members of this Lodge assembled at their Lodge room at the house of Br. Johnston, Wheat Sheaf Inn, when Br. Thomas Robinson was duly installed W.M. for the ensuing year. The following brethren were appointed office bearers:—Thos. Kerr, P.M.; Robt. Forster, S.W.; John Pasley, J.W.; Francis Lamb, S.D.; Wm. Nixon, J.D.; James Carruthers and Wm. Murray, Stewards; Joseph Johnson, Treasurer; David Murray, Secretary; Peter Hislop, Inner Guard; John Nixon, Outer Guard. The brethren afterwards retired, when they were joined by their wives and female friends, and partook of an excellent supper, provided in Mr. and Mrs. Johnston's best style. Duets, Glees, and Songs, accompanied by the pianoforte, followed each other, and the evening was spent in that happy manner which ever characterizes such meetings of the Craft. The Lodge has subscribed £1 1s. to the Patriotic Fund.

DEVONSHIRE.

BRUNSWICK LODGE, STONEHOUSE (No. 185).—The brethren of this Lodge met on December the 27th, at their Lodge-room, St. George's Hall, for the purpose of installing their W.M. for the year ensuing. The ceremony was most ably and impressively performed by Br. P. E. Rowe, P.M., P.P.G.D.C., and Br. Samuel Pearse was placed in the chair. The W.M. then named and installed the following brethren as his officers:—Br. James Classe, S.W.; Br. J. Mackey, J.W.; Br. W. Joll, S.D.; Br. A. Davies, J.D.; Br. W. Clark, Treasurer; Br. J. H. Cook, P.M., P.P.G.J.D., Secretary; Br. Cardell, I.G.; Br. Rogers, O.G. The brethren afterwards adjourned to Hussey's Albion Hotel, where they were joined by the W.M. of Sincerity, 224, Br. Damant, and his officers and brethren of his Lodge, Br. Hancock, S.W.; Br. Lidstone, J.W.; Brs. Gilbard, Rodd, Evens, L. Tripe, P.M., P.P.G.S.D., Devon; and spent a most delightful evening. The W.M. deputed Br. Boulds, P.M., P.G.R., Devon; and Br. Clase, S.W., P.G.S., to visit the other Lodges to present the fraternal regards of the Lodge Brunswick to them. In addition to the brethren above-named, were present—Br. Brereton, an officer of the Grand Lodge of England; W. Br. Russell, P.P.G.J.D.; Stephens, Brizzi, P.G.J.D., &c., &c. The day will be remembered as a red letter day by the brethren for some time to come.

LODGE OF FRIENDSHIP, DEVONPORT (No. 238).—The brethren of this Lodge met at the "Lord Hood" Hotel, on the 27th December, to celebrate their annual festival of St. John's, for the installation of their several officers. Br. J. G. Richards, W.M.; Br. Elphinstone, S.W., and Br. E. Sleep, J.W., and other officers. The brethren present awarded five guineas to the Patriotic Fund in aid of the Widows and Orphans of the brave men who fell and who may fall in fighting the battles of our country. The Lodge having been closed, sat to a substantial and well provided banquet, and spent a very harmonious evening.

St. JOHN'S LODGE, PLYMOUTH (No. 83).—This old and influential Lodge assembled at the Commercial Hotel, on St. John's day, at half past two, when Br. Gambell, Senior Warden for the past year, having been unanimously elected, was installed as W.M. for the ensuing year, the following brethren being invested with the various collars:—Br. Foulds, S.W.; Br. Julian, J. W.; Br. Deagon, S.D.; Br. Pitchford, J.D.; Br. Gover, I.G. Brs. Ash and Thomas were re-elected Treasurer and Secretary, and Br. Kerkin, Tyler. The ceremony of installation was most impressively and efficiently performed by Br. F. M. Pollard, P.P.G.T., of Devon. At half past five about 30 of the brethren sat down to the banquet, for which Mr. Chubb deserves great commendation, and after the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, Lodge was closed in harmony shortly after eight. The whole of the furniture and paraphernalia of this Lodge was new, and used for the first time on this occasion—and 83 is now second to none in the neighbourhood.

DORSETSHIRE.

ALL SOULS LODGE WYEMOUTH (No. 199). At the annual meeting of this Lodge in the Masonic Hall, on the 22nd December, Br. Joseph B. Harvey was re-elected W.M. for the ensuing year. Captain William King Hall, of the Bulldog steamer,

who has just returned home to his family, paid the All Souls Lodge of Freemasons the compliment of sending them the "Flag of Truce" used at the capture of Bomarsund, on the 16th August last. This memorable trophy we understand will be placed in the Archives of the Lodge, as an interesting remembrance of the services to his country of an esteemed brother of the Order.

LODGE OF AMITY, POOLE (No. 160).—The first meeting of this Lodge for the present year, was held on Wednesday, the 17th ult., at their Lodge room. After the usual business of the Lodge had been transacted, the ceremony of the installation of Br. C. J. Stone, as W.M., was performed in a most efficient and impressive manner by the immediate P.M., Br. J. Osment, assisted by Brs. P.M. the Rev. T. Pearce, P.G.C., of Dorset, P.M's. Sydenham and Colborne. The W.M. was pleased to appoint his officers as follows :—Br. Moore, S.W.; Gutch, J.W.; Brown, S.D.; Pettit, J.D.; P. M. Graves, Treasurer; Boyt, Secretary; Meaden, I.G. Each officer on being invested, was addressed in suitable terms by the installing M., Br. Osment, after which the Lodge was called from labour to refreshment. After spending a happy and cheerful evening, enlivened at intervals by the vocal exertions of several of the brethren, the Lodge separated in perfect harmony. Several visitors were present from the neighbouring Lodges, and expressed themselves highly pleased with the superior working of this Lodge.

DURHAM.

ST. HELEN'S LODGE, HARTLEPOOL (No. 774).—The brethren of this Lodge held their annual festival on Friday the 29th December. The brethren assembled in the Lodge-room, King's Head Hotel, at three o'clock, afternoon, for the purpose of installing the W.M., Br. Henry A. Hammerbon, who then appointed Brs. Thos. Marshall, S.W.; George Moore, J.W.; William J. Hodgson, P.M.; Henry Hansen, Treasurer; Thomas W. Hearon, Secretary; Mark Child, S.D.; Thomas Cockburn, J.D.; Joseph Gaskell, I.G.; George Sanderson, and Robert Wilson, Stewards; and John Lundy, Tyler. The brethren afterwards sat down to an excellent dinner provided by Br. Robert Wilson. In the course of the evening the W.M. presented Br. Wm. J. Hodgson with a P.M.'s jewel, which had been unanimously voted to him for his strict attention to the duties of the Lodge, and the general courtesy shewn to the brethren during the term of his office. The proceedings of the evening were spent with a cordiality of feeling which so peculiarly characterises the meetings of the brotherhood. This body has presented a donation of one guinea to the Shipwrecked Fishermen and Marines' Royal Benevolent Institution.

TEES LODGE, STOCKTON (No. 749).—This Lodge held its annual festival on Thursday, January 4, at the Lodge-room, in the Black Lion Hotel, when Br. Joseph Dodds was installed W.M. for the present year, and the usual officers appointed according to the usages of the ancient Craft. After the labours of the day, the brethren retired to refreshment, and partook of a sumptuous dinner prepared in excellent style by Br. Palphammond. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given, and the brethren passed a happy and cheerful evening till a late hour, love and harmony prevailing to the edification and improvement of the brethren, which was greatly assisted by the professional taste and ability of Br. Jewson, who kindly presided at the piano during the labours of the Lodge, and occasionally during the hours of refreshment.

HERTFORDSHIRE.

BERHAMPTSTEAD LODGE, GREAT BERKHAMPTSTEAD (No. 742).—The 10th anniversary of the opening of this Lodge took place at the King's Arms, Wednesday, January 3rd, when the W.M. elect, the Rev. F. B. Harvey, was installed, and a very elegant P.P.J.G. Warden's Jewel presented to the late W.M., Br. A. L. Bellinger, of Brockett Park, with the following inscription :—

"Presented to Br. A. L. Bellinger, P.M. and J.G.W., Herts, in remembrance of the magnificent and truly Masonic manner in which he presided over the Berkhamptstead Lodge, No. 742, A.L. 5858, A.D. 1854."

The R.W. Prov. G.M., William Stuart, of Aldennam Abbey, was represented by his Deputy P.G.M., Br. T.A. Ward, who was received with all the honors.

KENT.

LODGE OF FREEDOM (No. 91), AND LODGE OF SYMPATHY, GRAVESEND (No. 709).—A very interesting meeting of the Members of these Lodges was held at the George Inn, in the early part of the month, where they sat down to a most sumptuous banquet, which did the greatest credit to the establishment of Br. Moore. The chair was taken by Br. F. Southgate, supported by his worship the Mayor (Br. W. F. Dobson), and Brs. Sharland, Nichol, Johnson, and Riveau. After the usual Masonic, loyal, and patriotic toasts had been given and responded to with great heartiness, the chairman said that the chief business of the evening was to do honour to a worthy brother, whose Masonic worth and great ability entitled him to the praise of the Craft, and whose kindness and affability had won for him the regard of all the brethren. In order to show their appreciation of such sterling Masonic worth, the members of the two Gravesend Lodges had subscribed upwards of thirty guineas, which had been expended in the purchase of a very handsome silver tea service, which, in the name of the assembled brethren, he now presented to Br. Moore, as a testimonial of their esteem and affection, and as a token of their sense of his services to Masonry at the Lodge of Instruction. Br. Moore's health was then drunk with three times three hearty cheers. Br. Moore acknowledged this distinguished compliment in a very appropriate speech, and after several other Masonic toasts the meeting separated. Round the lid and outer rim of the teapot is engraved the following inscription:—"Presented to Br. Henry William Moore, P.M. 20, and P.P.G.J.D. for the Province of Kent, by the Members of the Lodge of Instruction of Lodges 91 and 709, for his distinguished services."

ADAM'S LODGE, SHEERNESS (No. 184).—On Tuesday, 9th January, the installation of the W.M. took place. The business of the evening commenced by the raising of Br. G. M. Smith, Lieut. R.N., to the sublime degree of M.M., which ceremony was performed by Br. Keddell, P.S.G.W., Kent. The installation ceremony was ably conducted by Br. J. Townsend, P.P.G.R., P.P.G.S.W., and the able and active Secretary of the Lodge. The W.M. for the ensuing year, although a young Mason, bids fair to be an active one, having evinced, during the time he has been a member of the Lodge, such readiness in attaining that knowledge so requisite to fill the chair with honour to himself and advantage to the Lodge, that he has fully succeeded in convincing the brethren, that their choice will prove a happy one; indeed, the admirable manner in which he initiated two gentlemen into Masonry fully proved that Br. J. Whittall, Paymaster, R.N., has richly deserved the Gavel. The following brethren were then invested:—Brs. Bigley, S.W.; Capt. Forbes, (R.A.) J.W.; Court, S.D.; Kett, J.D.; L. Shrubsole, P.; J. Townsend, S.; Bate, I.G.; Wilkins, Tyler. The Lodge having been closed, the brethren, to the number of 27, sat down to an excellent banquet, arranged by their judicious Steward, Br. Bigley, and provided by Br. Davis, "mine host," of the Fountain. The usual toasts were ably proposed by the W.M., and cordially responded to by the brethren, and a high fund of comic humour emanated from Brs. Swandale Keddell, sen. and jun. The prospects of Masonry at Sheerness, are at present peculiarly promising, many initiations having taken place during the past year, and these of a character calculated to raise the Lodge to as high position in the province, as well as to extend Masonry, inasmuch as several of the newly initiated are officers of the army and Navy; and we are happy to state, that three candidates for initiation were proposed for next Lodge night. Nor is this pleasing prospect confined to Craft Masonry, the Chapter attached to the Lodge is also prospering, and we have no doubt that both Lodge and Chapter will bear the test of a visit in the summer seasons from our metropolitan and our provincial brethren. We have much pleasure in adding, that the Lodge have unanimously voted £5 to the Patriotic Fund, which was forwarded to London last month.

LANCASHIRE—EAST DIVISION.

LODGE OF FAITH OPENSHAW, MANCHESTER (No. 847).—The members of this Lodge met on the 5th Jan., 1855, at the New Inn, Openshaw, when the W.M. Br. T. Swindells performed for the first time the beautiful and sublime ceremony of

raising Br. G. Thornton to the degree of a Master Mason, when he acquitted himself in such a manner as would have done credit to a Mason of twenty years standing, calling forth the warmest congratulation of several able and experienced P.M.'s, who were present during the ceremony, as well as the whole of the brethren in the Lodge. The W.M. then left the chair, which was afterwards taken by Br. W. Hill, of the Lodge of Loyalty, No. 402. He proceeded to instal Br. John Merrill, W.M. for the ensuing year. Br. Merrill having named his principal officers, Br. Hill proceeded to invest Bros. R. S. North, S.W.; G. Whyatt, J.W.; W. Turnbull, Treas.; R. Andrew, Sec., &c., &c. The installation was gone through in Br. Hill's usual correct manner, rivetting the attention of the brethren to the interesting ceremony. The Lodge was then formally closed, and the meeting adjourned to the 17th inst., when the brethren again assembled to celebrate the festival of St. John. The W.M. authorised the banquet to be held in open Lodge, and it was served by Br. Hammond in his well-known style of elegance. It consisted of almost every delicacy in season, to which the brethren did ample justice. After the cloth was drawn, and the usual loyal and other toasts had been given, and duly responded to, the W.M. called upon the S.W., Br. North, for the next toast. The S.W. rose and said, the W.M. had given him a very pleasing task to perform, but one which he regretted had not fallen into more able hands. He would, however, endeavour to be brief, and to the point. After giving the health of the immediate P.M., Br. T. Swindells, and eulogising his conduct as Master during the past year, he spoke highly of his unwearied diligence, and attention to the interests to the Lodge, which, together with his correct knowledge of working, and his general Masonic and obliging demeanour had endeared him to all the members of the Lodge. He then drew from his pocket a handsome Morocco case containing a splendid gold P.M.'s jewel, beautifully set with brilliants, which contained on the back the following inscription:—"Presented to Br. T. Swindells, by the Brethren of the Lodge of Faith, No. 847, as a small token of respect for his valuable service, Jan. 17, 1855," Br. North then presented the jewel to Br. Swindells hoping he might long be spared to wear it. Br. Swindells, after a brief interval, rose, and appeared deeply affected, having been kept in utter ignorance of the testimonial being in contemplation until the very moment of its presentation. He cordially thanked the brethren, and said their kindness had almost deprived him of utterance. After alluding to several interesting topics which had occurred during his Mastership, he concluded a very impressive and appropriate speech by again thanking them for the very handsome token they had been pleased to present to him, and said, if it pleased the G.A.O.T.U. to spare him, their kindness would stimulate him to further exertions in the good cause. After several appropriate songs and toasts had succeeded each other, the W.M. called upon the brethren to fill bumpers. He then gave the healths of the visiting brethren, with Masonic honours. Br. C. Ellis, the W.M. of the Caledonian Lodge, No. 246, Manchester, responded, and stated he always felt a great degree of pleasure in visiting the Lodge of Faith, from the agreeable and uniform kindness of its members, and concluded a neat speech by hoping that himself and the other visitors would have many more opportunities of visiting the Lodge. Br. Baldwin, Secretary for the Caledonian Lodge, No. 246, Manchester, in making allusion to the *Masonic Mirror* as a newly opened channel for Masonic information, took occasion to observe, that as such journals were instituted for the purpose of Masonic intercourse, it would be desirable that all the Lodges throughout the kingdom should, at least, once a year, publish a list of the names of its members, together with the names and address of the Master and Wardens of each Lodge, for the information of brethren like himself, who had to travel from city to town, and from town to city, during the greatest part of the year. They would then have much greater facilities of meeting with their brethren in almost every town in the kingdom, where they might exchange those Masonic greetings and sentiments of friendship, which might be productive of a great amount of good to the brethren and the Craft. Br. Tomlinson of the same Lodge, followed and made some suitable remarks on the same subject, and stating that the *Masonic Pocket Book* was not explicit in these matters. Several other toasts were given and most ably responded to by the W.M., by the Wardens and

the Secretary. The W.M. gave the J.W. orders to call the brethren from refreshment to labour, and after giving "our next merry meeting," the Lodge was closed in form and with prayer, at about eleven o'clock. The members departed from the Lodge much gratified with the proceedings of the day. The next meeting will take place on the third Wednesday in February.

LODGE OF FRIENDSHIP, OLDHAM (No. 344).—On Wednesday, the 3rd January, the brethren of the Lodge of Friendship celebrated the festival of St. John the Evangelist, in their new room, which has just been completed and decorated in the most characteristic and Masonic manner, rendering it one of the most commodious and best Lodge-rooms in the province. The Lodge was opened at 2 o'clock. After the confirmation of the minutes of the preceding meeting, and the transaction of some preliminary business, the W.M. elect, Br. Daniel Evans, was duly installed, the beautiful installation ceremony being performed in a very impressive manner by the Prov. J.G.D. of E.L., Br. Isaac Gaitskell, P.M. and P.Z. of 344. The W.M. then invested the following officers for the year, viz.:—Brs. Jno. Bamford, P.M.; H. W. Litler, S.W.; J. Booth, J.W.; T. Mattinson, Treasurer; Jno. S. Hague, Chaplain; W. Hudson, Secretary; Robert Holt, D.C.; S. Cooper, S.D.; Jno. Sharples, J.D.; E. Travis, I.G.; U. Shaw, Tyler. Br. Wm. Blackburne, and J. N. Breakey, Stewards; Richard Greaves, Organist. The banquet took place at 5 o'clock. The usual Loyal and Masonic toasts followed, but our limits will not permit us to give even an outline of the speeches, many of which were excellent. In the course of the evening the W.M., in a very feeling and impressive address, presented Br. Jno. Bamford, on passing the chair, with a beautiful P.M.'s jewel, as a small token of the high esteem entertained for Br. Bamford by the members of his Lodge, as a mark of their fraternal regard, and of their due appreciation of the benefits rendered by him to the Lodge whilst acting as W.M. The Lodge of Friendship is now in a very flourishing state, numbering upwards of 70 members. A Royal Arch Chapter was attached about three years ago, and on the 21st December last, a Knight Templars' Encampment was consecrated.

LANCASHIRE—WEST DIVISION.

LIVERPOOL.—The sixth annual Masonic ball took place in the Town-hall, on Tuesday, January 9, when upwards of five hundred ladies and gentlemen danced to the strains of two capital quadrille bands provided by Mr. G. A. W. Philipps, whose selection comprised some of the latest effusions of D'Albert and other popular composers. Much credit is due to the Committee for their admirable arrangements.

LINCOLNSHIRE.

LODGE OF HARMONY, BOSTON (No. 339).—On the 28th Dec. last, Br. Fred. Cooke, P.G.S.D. (The Worshipful Mayor of Boston), was duly installed into the chair by Br. P. M. Greenwood, and the ceremony was performed most admirably. The W.M. then appointed Brs. Pocklington, S.W.; Smith, J.W.; Close, Secretary; Jackson, Treasurer; Koller, S.D.; Ed. Jackson, J.D.; and Howell, I.G. The brethren entered into a voluntary subscription in aid of the Patriotic Fund, when £5. 5s. was received and forwarded to the Treasurer, by P.M. Daulton. Br. Colyer was passed to the 2nd. degree, and a banquet was afterwards served at Br. Buttons, the W.M. presiding, and the S.W. occupying the vice-chair, when upwards of thirty brethren assembled, and the usual Masonic toasts were given, which were drank with great enthusiasm.

HUNDRED OF ELLOE LODGE, SPALDING (No. 690).—Wednesday the 27th Dec. last, being St. John's Day, a festival was held in celebration of the event. Br. Bates, was duly installed W.M. for the ensuing year, after which he appointed Brs. Pocklington, S.W.; Wood, J.W.; and Clark, Secretary; and the brethren present then partook of a most sumptuous banquet provided by Br. Gray, at the White Hart Hotel.

MONMOUTHSHIRE.

LOYAL MONMOUTH LODGE (No. 671).—The brethren of this Lodge assembled at the Freemason's Hall, on the 2nd Jan., and were ably presided over by the W.M. Br.

Thomas Prosser, Surgeon, of Monmouth. After the business of the evening, a sumptuous banquet was served from the Beaufort Arms Hotel, to the Masonic Hall. Br. Gaize, the senior warden of the Lodge, leaving the province, his health was proposed by the W.M., who, in a neat speech, alluded to his leaving the neighbourhood, and regretted the loss the brethren would sustain of his Masonic services. The senior warden acknowledged the toast, assuring the brethren that he deeply felt on leaving them, and that he wished them and the Loyal Monmouth Lodge, as well as the Silurian Lodge, success and prosperity. Several other toasts were proposed and acknowledged, and the evening was spent very harmoniously and pleasureably.

SILURIAN LODGE, NEWPORT (No. 693).—It is stated that the brethren of the Silurian Lodge, which has largely increased in numbers of late—are about erecting a capacious building upon the approved plans of Mr. Thomas, the architect, in Great Dock-street. The site is upon the property of John Arthur Herbert, Esq., and it is understood that gentleman has evinced a liberality in the transaction, which will doubtless cause feelings of enduring gratitude on the part of the Masonic body.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

ST. PETER'S LODGE, PETERBOROUGH (No. 646).—The brethren of this Lodge celebrated their annual meeting (the festival of St. John) at their new Lodge-room, Wentworth-street, Wednesday the 27th of December, when the installation of Br. Robert Richardson, Esq., the Worshipful Master for the present year, and his assistant officers, was performed according to ancient custom. The banquet was served by Br. John Ellis, the host and proprietor of the Assembly-rooms, of which the Lodge-room forms a part. Among the usual loyal and patriotic toasts, we must particularize that of "The Masonic Charities," a theme ever grateful to a Mason's heart, of the state and progress of which, at the present period, a brief but beautiful exposition was given by Br. John Hervey, Esq., P.G.D. of England. The most noble the Marquis of Huntley, P.G.M., honoured the brethren with his presence, and, as usual, contributed highly to the happiness of the evening. Amid other claims for sympathy, those of the Widows and Orphans of our gallant warriors were not forgotten; a vote of ten guineas was passed in aid of the Fund for that purpose.

NORTHUMBERLAND.

LODGE DE LORAIN, NEWCASTLE (No. 793).—On Tuesday, Jan. 2, the members of this Lodge assembled in the Freemasons Hall, for the installation of Br. John Lockhart Donald, W.M. elect for the ensuing year. The ceremony of installation was most ably performed by Br. E. D. Davies, P.M., of the Lodge of Industry, Gatehead; after which the W.M. proceeded to appoint and instal the following brethren as officers for the present year, viz. :—G. P. Birkenshaw, P.M.; Fred. Welford, S.W.; James Prendergast, J.W.; the Rev. W. P. Shield, Chap.; James Gilpin, jun., Treasurer; John Blackwell, jun., Secretary; Christopher Maling, S.D.; Frederick Myers, J.D.; George Hardey, S.S.; J. De Hart, J.S.; Edward James Willis, I.G.; A. Dickson, Tyler. In the evening upwards of thirty of the brethren sat down to an excellent dinner at the George Inn, provided by Br. Carmon in the most profuse style. The chair was occupied by the new W.M., supported on his right and left by past Masters E. D. Davis, James Donald, G. P. Berkinshaw, J. S. Challoner, &c. The vice-chairs were ably filled by the S.W. and J.W., and the evening was spent with that cordiality and harmony which so strikingly characterizes the Craft in general.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE LODGE (No. 24).—On Wednesday, the 27th Dec., the brethren of Newcastle-on-Tyne Lodge, No. 24, assembled in Freemason's Hall, Blackett Street, for the installation of Br. Wm. Johnston, W.M. elect for the ensuing year. Br. James Donald, the retiring Master, ably performed the ceremony of installation. The W.M. then proceeded to appoint and instal the following brethren as officers for the year, viz. :—Jas. Donald, P.M.; John Hopper, S.W.; James King, J.W.; Thomas Pattison, Treasurer; Fred. Shaw, Secretary; D. W. Spence, S.D.; Simeon Joel, J.D.; Henry Dixon, S.S.; Wm. Loades, J.S.; Richardson, J.G.; Alex. Dixon, Tyler. In the evening upwards of forty of the brethren sat down to dinner

at the George Inn, Grey Street, where Br. Carmon had displayed his most *recherche* style. The W.M. occupied the chair, supported on his right by Brs. J. S. Challoner, P.G.J.W.; and G. P. Birkenshaw, P.G.S.; and on his left by James Donald, P.P.G.S.W., and P.M., 24, and J. L. Donald, W.M. elect, 793. The vice-chairs were ably filled by the S.W. and J.W. Amongst the brethren present we also observed Brs. J. C. Gibson, P.G.S.D.; Henry Bell, P.P.G.S.D.; John Barker, P.P.G.S.D.; Geo. Weatherhead, P.P.G.J.W.; W. E. Franklin, P.G.S.B.; John Hodge, P.M. 24; Thos. Pattison, P.M. 611; John Cook, W.M. St. Peter's Lodge, 706; Thos. Fenwick, W.M. St. George's Lodge, North Shields. The evening was spent in a truly Masonic manner, enlivened at intervals by several Masonic songs from Br. Tullock and other brethren; and, throughout, that love and harmony prevailing so peculiarly belonging to the Craft.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

PRESENTATION OF PLATE TO THE P.G.M.—On the the 21st Dec., a beautiful piece of plate was presented by the Freemasons of the Province, to the R.W.P.G.M., Col. Wildman, as a testimony of the regard and esteem in which he is held. Shortly after four o'clock, the Provincial Grand Lodge was opened in the Magistrates' room, at which nearly all the grand officers were present, and the Masters and wardens of the several lodges, to the number of about fifty. The usual business of the province having been transacted, the Lodge was closed, and the room appropriated, as far as space would permit, to the reception of the lay visitors. About half-past five o'clock, the company, to the number of nearly a hundred, sat down to a substantial repast in the large hall, whither, at a signal from a trumpet, the Earl of Scarborough, the Grand Master, and other officers of the Craft walked in procession, attired in their aprons, collars, and insignias of office. The band of the South Nottinghamshire Yeomanry, under their able conductor, Mr. Newham, was stationed in the anti-room, and played a variety of popular music during the dinner, and at intervals throughout the evening. At the rear of the centre table, the Provincial Grand and Lodge Banners were suspended. The dinner was supplied by Mr. Malpas, of the Flying Horse.

At the dais table we observed the following, viz.—The Right Hon. the Earl of Scarborough, Lord-lieutenant of the county, in the chair, supported on [his right by Col. Wildman, P.G.M.; the Mayor, J. L. Thackeray, Esq.; Sir Thos. Parkyns, Bart., W.M. 576, Ruddington; Dr. Williams, P.P.G.S.W.; M. Mills, Esq., J.W., 576; E. Percy, Esq., P.G.S.; and on his left, by Dr. Pigot, D.P.G.M.; Sir E. Walker; T. Close, Esq., P.G.T.; the Revs. L. Jackson and J. L. Prior, and G. Rawson, Esq., P.G.S.D. The vice chairs were occupied by Brs. Page, P.G. Registrar, and J. Comyn, P.G. Supt. of works. Amongst the general company were M. Mason and F. Huggins, Esqrs., officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Derbyshire; Captain Wrightman; Lieutenant Kingston, R.N.; Drs. Ransom and Robertson; Aldermen Heymann and Cullen; Messrs. H. Hadden, Berenhardt, T. A. Cullen, Saville, Jacobson, N. Hurst, W. F. Gibson, Parr, Hoyles, Hatton, Barwis, J. Webster, Abrahams, Sollory, Long, Miller, Tennant, T. Shaw, Warner, Martin, Morrison, Barber, J. A. Shaw, Johnson, Hearn, Maltby, Bradbury, Davis, Forman, Semple, Goodson, Evans, Campbell, Nixon, Siemens. The following gentlemen from Mansfield, the immediate neighbourhood of Col. Wildman, were also present, and returned by special train, viz., Messrs. J. Carter, C. J. Neale, H. J. Greenhalgh, R. Wright, W. E. Goodaere, W. J. Neale, E. Paulson, W. Midworth, T. Godfrey, S. Hurt, C. Lindley, R. White, J. Thompson, C. Revel, D. C. Barringer, G. Walkden, S. Allen, and J. Cooper.

Grace before and after dinner was said by the Rev. L. Jackson, of Hucknall, grand chaplain.

Dinner having been concluded and the usual loyal and Masonic toasts drunk, the band struck up a lively march, during the performance of which the testimonial was introduced, in the midst of a procession, formed in the following order:—

R. Allen, P.G.S.W. The Address. T. Danks, P.P.G.S.W. E. Percy, P.G. Secretary.
Masters Allen and Danks, with blue scarfs and wands.

THE TESTIMONIAL.

Masters Comyn and Bradbury, with blue scarfs and wands.

Having advanced to the dais table, the testimonial, a silver epergne, beautifully and tastefully decorated with flowers, kindly furnished from the green-houses of Sir Thomas Parkyns, Bart., was placed upon the table before the noble chairman. The weight of the plate is about 300 ounces, the base or tripod is formed into compartments, in one of which is a representation, in relief, of a Provincial Grand Master, wearing all the insignias of his office, and surrounded by emblems of the "Ancient Fraternity." In another, is a faithful portraiture of an officer of the 7th Hussars, the regiment at present occupying the barracks, and in which the gallant Colonel served; the military trappings of the officer, the horse, and every matter of detail is most carefully and correctly carried out. The last compartment exhibits the deadly implements of war converted into the more peaceful ones of the plough and harrow, and here we see a country gentleman, in the easy habiliments of one "well to do in the world," superintending the necessary work of agriculture. The stem of the epergne is a West Indian palm, having reference to the fact that the gallant colonel has estates in that distant quarter of the world; and on either side of it are figures representing "Wisdom, Strength, and Beauty." There are three shields at the feet of the figures, in one of which is engraved the arms of Col. Wildman, in another the arms of the "Provincial Grand Lodge," and in the third the following inscription:—

"Presented by the Freemasons of Nottinghamshire to Colonel Thomas Wildman, of Newstead Abbey, as a token of fraternal esteem and regard, for his valuable services as Grand Master of the Province, during a period of thirty-five years." December 21st.

As the procession advanced to the chairman's table, the company raised a right hearty English cheer. The band having ceased playing, the chairman proposed the health of the Right Worshipful Prov. Grand Master, Col. Wildman. The toast having been drunk standing, Dr. Pigot, the Deputy Grand Master, called upon the P. G. Secretary to read the address, whereupon Mr. E. Percy rose and said, he esteemed it a high honour and privilege to have to read the following address:—

"Address from the Ancient, Free, and Accepted Masons of Nottinghamshire, to Colonel Thomas Wildman, of Newstead Abbey, Provincial Grand Master.

"Right Worshipful Sir and Brother.—In the name of the Freemasons of Nottinghamshire, we joyfully avail ourselves of this opportunity to express our deep respect and affectionate attachment to you as our Provincial Grand Master, and to beg your acceptance of the accompanying piece of plate.

"As Grand Master of this Province for nearly thirty-five years, we gratefully acknowledge the valuable services you have rendered to our venerable Order, and the zeal and ability with which you have upheld and extended the principles of Masonry.

"At the present time, when all hearts are stirred and beat high with enthusiasm at the gallant deeds of our noble soldiers in the East, our thoughts naturally recur, with thankfulness, to the period when for so many years you were a distinguished member of that band of heroes who upheld the honour of England under the departed brother of the Craft and great captain of the age, the immortal Wellington, and shared in his crowning triumph on the field of Waterloo.

"Nor can we omit to bear our cordial testimony to the social and domestic virtues you have so long exhibited as a country gentleman, as a landlord, and as a friend and neighbour. Your name will long be held in honour as the ancient friend and schoolfellow of the noble and greatest poet, and as the munificent restorer of his much loved home, the 'Time honoured Abbey of Newstead.'

"In conclusion, and with 'all humility and reference,' we supplicate the Divine Disposer of Events, to bless and keep you, and your inestimable wife: preserve you in peace for many years to come, and guard you in happiness through the evening of life; and when you are called to leave this 'sublunary abode,' may you pass in faith and pious trusting, to those 'immortal mansions,' where 'the world's great Architect lives and reigns for ever.'

"December 21st, 1854."

The reading of the address was several times interrupted by the enthusiastic cheers of the audience. We understand it is the intention of the committee to have the address inscribed on vellum, and beautifully illuminated, after which it will doubtless figure amongst the numerous interesting objects with which Newstead Abbey abounds.

Colonel Wildman then rose, and was received with renewed and vociferous applause. Silence having been restored, he spoke in the following terms:—My Lord and Brethren,—Often as I have had the honour of addressing my Masonic brethren of this province, I most assuredly never rose to do so on any previous occasion with feelings in any respect to be compared with those which at this moment warm my heart towards them—(cheers); and I must beg the indulgence of this company, if, from the strong emotions which those sentiments inspire, I should find myself unable to

give expression to my feelings in as full and earnest a manner as I should desire to do. To do so, indeed, would require a far greater gift of natural eloquence than any I can by any means lay claim to—(applause). Brethren, when an individual has devoted for years his attention and exertions in any one pursuit, and is rewarded at the end by the good will, approbation, and regard of those whose good opinion he most esteems, he must certainly deem himself a most happy and fortunate man—(applause). But, brethren, when I look upon this magnificent, this beautiful work of art which you have now placed before me; when I recur to that eloquent and to me most interesting address with which it is accompanied, I cannot but feel that my debt of gratitude to you is of a threefold character. However much your partiality may have thought fit to exaggerate any merits of mine, at the same time I do feel proud—doubly, trebly proud of such a testimony, so awarded and so proclaimed, of your approbation and esteem—(cheers). You have thought fit in your address to advert most kindly to my humble services in the late war. Alas, they were long, long ago; but the memory of those stirring times is now vividly brought back to my recollection by the glorious achievements of our army in the east—(loud and prolonged cheering). I cannot but look back upon that eventful period, when I think that the noble chief who now leads our gallant army learnt the art of war on many a battle-field by the side of the great Wellington (loud applause), and who has certainly proved himself a most apt and worthy pupil—(hear, hear). Brethren, it has been well said “the warrior is no patriot, save when obedient to his country’s call he draws the sword of justice;” and never, surely, did justice more loudly call, and never was her call more nobly answered than it has been by our gallant countrymen and their ancient rivals, now their glorious allies—(cheers). They are banded together to uphold the rights and liberties of nations, of Europe, of the world—(hear, hear). They are banded together to resist the foul usurpations and inordinate ambition of a base and unprincipled despot—(applause). I think we may fairly say, in allusion to the present struggle,

“Oh war, when truth thine arm employs,
And freedom’s spirit guides the lab’ring storm,
’Tis then thy vengeance takes a hallowed form,
And, like heav’n’s lightning, sacredly destroys.”

But I must not permit myself to be led away by old associations. I must remember that I am now—a quiet country gentleman; and there are duties, and important ones, attached to that position, which I trust, please God, I shall continue to discharge with all the ability which I am possessed of, cheered as I have been, and am now, by the kind support and by the amiable approbation of my valued friends and neighbours—(applause). Now, brethren, I really feel somewhat pained to be obliged to talk so much of myself. At the same time you must remember that it is your own kindness, partiality, and liberality which has placed me under such a necessity. I think it was the Prince de Ligne, who said, “Je n’aime pas parler de moi; et le mot je m’est odieux quand je m’en sers.” With your permission, therefore, I will now come to that character in which especially I appear before you on this occasion—as the Provincial Grand Master for Nottinghamshire—(applause). Selected and appointed to this high and honourable office about thirty-five years ago, by the illustrious prince who then presided over the Craft, the name of the Duke of Sussex being ever a passport to the good will, the confidence and approbation of the Masonic body, I opened my career under most excellent auspices. For, if ever there was a mind and heart of man truly and thoroughly imbued with the pure principles of Masonry and of patriotism, it was that of his Royal Highness—(cheers). I do consider it the most honourable and important circumstance of my life that I enjoyed the confidence and friendship of that illustrious individual. Now brethren it would not be suitable to the present occasion to enter into any lengthened details of the history of masonry during the last thirty years in this province. I will merely look at the result, and I would say to those who are not Masons, and are our visitors on this occasion, “Look around you,” and to our brethren who are visitors here from other provinces, I would say, “Visit our Lodges: you will be received with kindness and hospitality; judge for yourselves as to the manner

in which they are conducted." But I would say more, and I am cautious how I express myself before a mixed company. I would have you remember we do not confine ourselves merely to the strict observance of the rites and ceremonies of our Ancient Order. We aim at something higher; we are anxious, by the high principles inculcated in the Craft, to exalt the character of man. There is a French saying, most concise and expressive—"Noblesse, oblige." Applying this to Masonry, I may say, "*La Maçonnerie, oblige;*" that is, a brother should say, "I cannot descend to such and such follies or improprieties because I am a Mason." But, my brethren, I am not going to read you a moral lecture; it is unnecessary, and would be out of place. But I must say, if the important objects of our Order have been successfully carried out in this province; if we have had a great accession to our numbers, if numerous lodges have sprung up, and the duties of Masonry have been performed so as to meet the approbation of the Grand Lodge, and to secure the respect of neighbouring provinces, it is not due to the exertions of one individual alone, though such exertions may have contributed to so desirable a result. I will not pretend to say, for it would be false modesty—that I have not used my best zeal and exertions in behalf of the cause which I have so warmly at heart. But I will say that those exertions would have been unavailing, had I not been supported by the intelligence, by the experience, and by the talent and attainments of my brethren of the Craft during the whole period of my office. It is their kind support which has enabled me so agreeably to fulfil the duties which have devolved upon me. Brethren, I would merely add in respect to this beautiful testimonial, that if it had only been a sprig of heather from the forest so presented to me, I should have esteemed it above all price—(cheers). As it is, it will be treasured as one of my proudest and most valuable possessions, which I hope to transmit as a precious relic and memorial of this day to my family—(loud cheering).

Colonel Wildman again rose, and said he had to propose the health of a nobleman to whom he was sure they were all deeply grateful, for his kindness in presiding over them on this occasion. He (Colonel Wildman) had had the honour of making him a Mason, and he was sure he could say that every true Masonic feeling dwelt in the heart of the Earl Scarborough. They were proud to have such a Br. in this province as the lord-lieutenant of the county, and he had great pleasure in proposing his health—(cheers).

The noble Chairman said he was really unable to find words in which to express his acknowledgments for the compliment which they had just paid him, and which he feared he hardly deserved.—(cheers). He was exceedingly gratified to be present on such an occasion, and to witness the kind feeling which had been testified to his old and tried friend—(cheers). He felt that institutions like these were the greatest in the country, and regretted that he was not associated with them earlier in life. Though from this cause he was not so accomplished a Mason as he might otherwise have been, he felt no lack of inclination or zeal in the furtherance of those principles which they had at heart. He begged, in conclusion, to thank the Grand Master for his kindness in proposing, and the company for the flattering manner in which they had received the toast.

The army and navy of Great Britain and our gallant allies, acknowledged by Col. Wildman. The mayor and magistrates of Nottingham, and the members of the House of Commons having been drunk, Mr. Close said, I rise to propose a toast which has been entrusted to my care, in doing which I hope I may be allowed to indulge in a few preliminary remarks, which I think will not eventually be found inconsistent with the toast which I shall have the honour to propose. I have many things in my heart, which I feel must be uttered, but my only fear is that my tongue will but inadequately express them—(cheers). As an old Mason in the province, and as the old and intimate friend of Colonel Wildman, I trust I may be permitted to refer once more to the beautiful testimonial which this day has been presented by our kind brother, the noble chairman. You will see engraved upon the testimonial, effigies of the human figure in three distinct attributes—of soldier, country gentleman, and Master Mason. It is on the separate phases of these three attributes, I should wish now to make a few observations, in connection with the occasion which has

brought us together—(cheers). In the first place, I shall allude to the character of a soldier; but here I must be allowed to trespass upon your patience for a few moments while I refer to the time when the Colonel was a boy, at the celebrated school of Harrow, and first became acquainted with Lord Byron. Little could the poet have then imagined that in the companion of his youthful sports he saw the friend of his manhood, the future owner and scrupulous restorer of the beautiful mansion in which, through a long series of years his illustrious forefathers had been cradled. From Harrow to Oxford, and from Oxford to the army, were short steps. In the peninsular wars, the gallant hussar, as you are aware, fought in that band of heroes which combated and triumphed over no ordinary foes—the numerous, highly-disciplined, chivalrous, and bravely led troops of the great Napoleon. How he distinguished himself in those combats was noticed and appreciated by the authorities at home, and his services were rewarded by a staff appointment in the war which, soon broke out afresh after the peace of Paris. As the aide-de-camp to the chivalrous Anglesca, he fought once more against the same formidable but brave and generous foes, then the hereditary enemies, now the firm friends and surest allies of this country. It is delightful for me to consider at this moment the two gallant nations of France and England; not in adverse ranks, but with their serried forces united, combatting together against the modern Attila and the barbarian Huns who are threatening the civilisation and liberties of Europe. May the battle of Inkermann, in which every soldier French and English was in himself a hero, blot out every painful reminiscence of the last stern conflict in which our friend appeared for the last time on the plains of Belgium as a soldier. I shall now refer to the second phase of his character. After the battle of Waterloo, Othello's occupation was gone, but other pursuits soon engaged the attention of Colonel Wildman. By the acquisition of the lordly demesne of Newstead, he became introduced for the first time to this county. I will not now, in his presence, dwell upon his kindness, the excellent qualities of his heart, his princely hospitalities, upon the charitable and conscientious mode in which he has discharged the duties of a magistrate. Still it would be unpardonable, especially at a meeting of Freemasons, not to allude to the good taste and feeling with which he has restored the mansion of the Byrons, the almost religious determination with which he has preserved every architectural feature, every heraldic allusion, every tree which could point out that all around him, now his, formerly belonged to the family of the Byrons—(cheers). Nor could I with propriety omit to make some slight allusion to the marked liberality with which that mansion is opened every day of the week, without regard to trouble or the interruption of domestic privacy—(loud cheers). Pilgrims arrive from every part of the world to contemplate the lovely ruins of the priory, or to pay homage at the classic shrine of Byron. If we may suppose that the spirit of the immortal poet still hovers round the disrupted, consecrated, and beautiful *façade* of the Abbey church, or, thanks to our Provincial Grand Master, the now no longer ruined halls which form the "vast and venerable pile" of Newstead, it must look down with smiles, and contemplate with satisfaction the works of the companion of his youth, and rejoice that henceforward in the annals of his country, and especially in the annals of this county, there will be entwined and interlaced with the name of Byron, that of Wildman—(cheers). I will now speak of that point of his character in which, as Masons, he is nearest to our hearts. It will be unnecessary to dwell upon the important services which he has rendered to the cause in this province. No one who has heard the earnest and impressive tones in which strangers are introduced to the mysteries of our Craft, and the instructive manner in which he is taught to plunge deeper into those mysteries, must have been otherwise than deeply struck with the great Masonic skill and sincerity of the colonel. But there is one point, one peculiar idiosyncrasy of our friend, an absolute necessity of his nature, that no individual, whatsoever his rank and station, can approach him, without being made, as far as may lay in the power of Col. Wildman, comfortable and happy. Surely this is an attribute of a good man; and the retrospect of such a career may well be envied. That career reminds me of the beautiful lines of Sheridan Knowles, which I think very appropriate to the present occasion :

“Whether mine eyes with a new spirit sees,
Or nature is grown lovelier, I know not,
But ne'er, methinks, was sunset half so sweet.
He's down, and yet his glory still appears
Like to the memory of a well spent life
That's golden to the last, and when 'tis o'er
Shines in the witnesses it leaves behind.”

But thank God, the sun of Newstead is not down. It's up, and “shines” amongst us even now, and is conscious of the “witnesses” which in this room by words and writings testify to his worth and goodness. And now, having trespassed so long upon your time, but little space is left to refer to the special toast which I am deputed to propose. It runs thus—“The Masonic charities and Mrs. Wildman.” Of Mrs. Wildman I shall only say I can never forget her kindness, her cheerful disposition, her accomplishments, the graceful manner in which she administers the hospitality of her mansion. I am sure that the greatest pleasure I could ever give her is this attempt to do something like justice to the merits of her husband—(applause). With respect to Masonry, I believe she knows nothing about it—(laughter). But the charities of the Craft she does know, and she ever takes the greatest pains to promote them and to do them justice. I conclude by proposing “The Masonic charities and Mrs. Wildman.”

Colonel Wildman, in responding to the toast, said it really required a great deal of fortitude to bear such an excess of kindness, as that with which he was overwhelmed this evening, and he might now say to his friend on the left, “*Et tu Brute!*” He had driven the dagger home to his heart. He had touched him in the most tender point by proposing the health of the amiable kind-hearted lady who was the blessing of his life, with whom he had lived so long and so happily—(cheers). She had some claim to have her health drunk amongst Freemasons, as she was a Life Governor of both the charities of Freemasons, an honour which was possessed by very few ladies besides her Majesty. He should have great pleasure in reporting to Mrs. Wildman the manner in which the toast had been received. There was, indeed, nothing more gratifying to her feelings than to know that she was respected amongst the Masonic body—(cheers).

A variety of other toasts were drunk, and the company did not separate until a somewhat advanced hour.

SOMERSETSHIRE.

The Grand Lodge of this Province have voted the handsome sum of £100 to be paid by their Grand Treasurer of the Province (Br. Eales White), to the Patriotic Fund.

SOUTH WALES.

INDEFATIGABLE LODGE, SWANSEA (No. 288).—The members of this Lodge held their customary celebration of the anniversary of St. John, on Thursday, Dec. 28. The brethren went to their Lodge in the Assembly Rooms at 3 p.m., when Mr. F. J. Lloyd having been unanimously elected Master for the ensuing year, was installed in his office with the customary ceremonies of this ancient and Loyal body. Mr. Wm. Gronomo was also regularly initiated a member of the Order. At six o'clock the brethren met at the King's Arms Hotel, when they were joined by the Worshipful Master and several brethren of the Neath Lodge, when they sat down to dinner. On the cloth being removed, after the loyal toast, which ever mark the festivals of this ancient and dignified Order, a variety of sentiments from the chair as well as from the brethren present, were responded to, and the harmony of the meeting was further promoted by some capital songs given by Mr. Wm. Bowen and other gentlemen present. Mirth and joyous wit maintained their reign supreme throughout the evening, and the company separated with a common feeling, that they had this year celebrated their anniversary by one of the most pleasant and numerous attended meetings that has taken place for many a year gone by.

ST. PETER'S LODGE, CAMARTHEN (No. 690).—The annual festival of this Lodge was held on Wednesday, Dec. 27, at the Ivy Bush Hotel. About twenty of the brethren sat down to a sumptuous dinner. The chair was taken by the W.M. Br. S. Tardrew, while the S.W. Br. W. S. G. Thomas, officiated as vice chairman.

Prior to the dinner several new members were initiated into Masonic mysteries, including Col. Lloyd Vaughan Watkins, M.P., Lord Lieutenant of the county of Brecon, James Bowen, Esq., barrister-at-law, Lieutenant Bird, 11th Hussars.

STAFFORDSHIRE.

SUTHERLAND LODGE OF UNITY, NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME (No. 674).—The brethren of this Lodge assembled at the Castle Hotel, Newcastle-under-Lyme, on the 5th Jan., for the purpose of installing Br. Thomas Mason, jun., as W.M. for the ensuing year. The R.W. Br. Thomas Ward, Esq., D.P.G.M., performed the ceremony of installation in a most impressive and correct manner. In the evening the brethren sat down to a sumptuous banquet provided by Brs. Venables and Swift. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given, and the brethren separated at an early hour.

NOAH'S ARK LODGE, TIPTON (No. 435).—This highly respectable Lodge, consisting principally of gentlemen engaged in the coal and iron trade of the district, celebrated the festival of St. John, on Friday Dec. 29. After the installation of Br. Gwynne, W.M., and the appointment of Brs. Howells, S.W.; E. S. Creswell, J.W.; Millward, Treasurer, &c., several brethren manifested their zeal and love of Masonry, by presenting the Lodge with a new banner, carpet, tracing boards, jewels, &c. Upwards of twenty members sat down to a most excellent dinner, and a most agreeable and harmonious evening was spent.

MENURIA LODGE, HANLEY (No. 606).—The St. John's Festival and celebration of the Jubilee Masonry in Hanley, took place on Tuesday, Jan. 2, when the Rev. W. H. Wright, Provincial Grand Chaplain, was duly installed W.M. for 1855, the R.W. Col. Vernon, P.G.M., acting as Installing Master, supported by the R. W. Thomas Ward, Esq., D.P.G.M. The banquet was held at the Saracen's Head Hotel. Col. Vernon stated he had undertaken the office of Installing Master as a special compliment to the profession of the new W.M., and the members for their praiseworthy efforts to revive a Lodge which had almost gone to decay. The Lodge closed in harmony at 10, after spending a most agreeable evening. Many visitors from the P.G. Lodge, &c., were present.

WALSALL.—The annual Masonic Ball was held on Friday evening, January 19, in the Guildhall Assembly Room, and went off with its usual spirit and *eclat*. The elegance of the ladies, the dresses of the brethren, and the Masonic decorations of the room, which were the theme of general admiration, combined to make this, as before, "the most brilliant" ball of the season. Dancing commenced at half-past nine o'clock to the lively strains of Harvey and Synyer's celebrated Quadrille Band, and if we may judge from the vigour with which it was continued until five o'clock on the following morning, and the delight and satisfaction which beamed on every face, never was there spent a more pleasant evening. The proceeds of the ball on this occasion will be devoted to the Patriotic Fund instead of the Masonic charities, as usual. There were 180 present, and the committee will be enabled to present to the Fund £35.

WORCESTERSHIRE.

HARMONIC LODGE DUDLEY (No. 313).—This Lodge, at its monthly meeting on 2nd Jan, celebrated the festival of St. John the Evangelist. Br. Bristow, S.W., the W.M. elect, was duly installed W.M. for the ensuing year, the ceremony being ably performed by the R.W. Br. Masefield, P.M. There were two initiations and two passings, and ten guineas were voted from the funds of the Lodge to the Patriotic Fund, in answer to the appeal of the R.W. Br. H. C. Vernon, P.G.M., Worcestershire.

WORCESTER LODGE (No. 349).—The members of this Lodge dined together in honour of the same Festival, at the Bell Hotel, on Thursday, 28th Dec., presided over by the W.M., R. P. Hill, Esq. An elegant entertainment was provided.

SEMPER FIDELIS, WORCESTER (No. 772).—On the 1st of Jan. the members of this Lodge dined together at their Lodge room, at the Crown Hotel, in celebration of the Festival of St. John the Evangelist. The W.M. Thomas Clutterbuck presided on the occasion.

YORKSHIRE—WEST RIDING.

LODGE OF HOPE, BRADFORD (No. 379).—The brethren of this Lodge have voted a donation of ten guineas to the Patriotic Fund; and also a donation of ten guineas for the relief of the suffering poor of the town, to be applied through the medium of the committee of the “Bradford Soup Kitchens.”

BRITANNIA LODGE, SHEFFIELD (No. 162).—At the last meeting of this Lodge, it was unanimously resolved to alter the night from the second Wednesday to the second Thursday in the month; and to establish a Lodge of Instruction, to be held in the Music Hall (where the regular assemblies are held), on the 4th Thursday in the month. At the same meeting, £5 was most cheerfully voted from the Lodge monies in aid of the Patriotic Fund.

LODGE OF THREE GRAND PRINCIPLES, DEWSBURY (No. 251).—This flourishing Lodge held its monthly meeting in the Masonic Hall, on Thursday, Dec. 28th, when Br. Richard Reed Nelson, P.G.S., the S.W. of the Lodge for the past year, was most ably installed into the chair by W. Br. Thos. Hemingway, P.M., and P.P.S.G.W. of West Yorkshire, assisted by W.P.M.'s Brs. J. O. Gill, P.G.P.; W. Audsley and C. Oldroyd, P.P.G.S.B.; after which the following brethren were appointed officers for the ensuing year:—Brs. D. Day, S.W.; John Newsome, J.W.; Dr. G. Fearnley, P.M. and P.P.S.G.W., Treasurer; Chas. Oldroyd, P.M. and P.P.G.S.B., Secretary; M. Grawdidge, S.D.; Joseph Harrison, J.D.; Benjamin Oates, I.G.; Thomas Spedding, and Robert Walkington, Stewards. Luke Hunchcliffe, O.G., the W.M., passed a Br. to the second degree, the Lodge was then closed in peace and harmony. This being the festival of St John, upwards of fifty of the brethren sat down to a sumptuous banquet provided by Br E. Knowles, which reflected great credit upon him. On the cloth being drawn, the W.M. proposed the Queen, which was followed by the following loyal and Masonic toasts:—Prince Albert; Albert, Prince of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family. The Army and Navy, and our Allies; the M.W.G.M. of England, the Earl of Zetland; the R.W.D.G.M. the Earl of Yarborough; the R.W. Prov. G.M. the Earl of Mexborough, the W. Br. Chas. Lee, D.P.G.M., and the rest of the Prov. G. Officers; the W.M. of the Lodge of Three Grand Principles (the W.M. in responding, after thanking the brethren for their kindness to him, alluded to the prosperity of the Lodge which numbers sixty contributing members, thirteen of whom are Past Master's); the immediate P.M. Br. J. O. Gill, P.G.P.; W. Br. Dr. Fearnley, P.M. and P.P.S.G.W., the Treasurer. Br. Paisbeck, P.M., in rising to propose the health of W. Br. Thos. Hemingway, P.P.S.G.W., P.M. and P. Treas., alluded in glowing and enthusiastic terms to the many valuable services rendered by him to the Masonic body in this province, complimenting him upon the high state of efficiency the brethren had attained during his connection with the Lodge, and concluded by wishing every happiness and prosperity to the very worthy and aged Br., a sentiment deeply participated in by all the brethren present. Br. Hemingway on rising to respond to the toast, was received by rounds of acclamation seldom heard even amongst our fraternity. After thanking the brethren of the Lodge for the compliment paid him, he stated that the welfare of the Lodge of Three Grand Principles, had at all times been dear unto him, that whilst he refrained from entering into details as to his reason for resigning the office of Treasurer, which he had held for thirty years that day, still he hoped that success might at all times be attendant upon the Lodge, and brethren individually, but he felt that having grown grey in the service, and having nearly reached the age allotted to man, the time had come when he must seek a participation in those matters which more immediately concerned the Grand Lodge above. Br. Barton, presided at the piano-forte, and the evening was spent most delightfully in the feast of reason and the flow of soul, without a single ripple to disturb that harmony, which is the peculiar characteristic of the brethren of the Mystic Tye. This Lodge holds a Lodge of Instruction every Tuesday evening, at the Masonic Hall.

SCOTLAND.

BANFF.

St. John's Lodge.—At a meeting of the members of this Lodge on the 18th December, 1854, the R.W. Br. Mason in the chair. Brs. Alexander, Watson, and Forbes Watt, having been previously initiated into the mysteries of the Craft, were passed and raised to the Sublime Degree of M.M., in the R.W.M.'s usual excellent style. And on the 5th January inst., at a full meeting, Brs. Charles Innes and Alexander Bairnsfather were passed as Fellow Crafts. The anniversary of this Lodge was held on the 8th of January, when a strong muster of brothers took place. After various routine business, much of which was of a cheering and gratifying kind, the meeting proceeded to the election of office bearers for the current year, and the following members were unanimously elected:—James Mason, R.W.M.; James Simpson, P.M.; Stenhouse Bairnsfather, D.M.; James Murray, S.W.; Alexander Watson, J. W.; James W. McKenzie, Sec.; William Hassath, Treas.; John McEwen, Chap.; Alexander Forsyth, S.D.; Charles Innes, J.D.; Alexander Mortimer, S.S.; George Watts, J.S.; Adam Mason, Clerk; Alexander Aikla, Tyler. After the election, about forty of the brethren sat down to an elegant and sumptuous entertainment, the R.W.M. occupied the chair. After the usual loyal and patriotic toasts, the R.W.M., in a neat and appropriate speech, proposed the health of the U.G.M. of St. Andrew's Lodge, Banff, the Right Hon. the Earl of Fife, stating how kind his Lordship invariably was to the Craft, and particularly to this Lodge. He begged to inform the brethren that on the present occasion his Lordship had exceeded his usual liberality in presenting to the Lodge, through the Treasurer, the handsome donation of £5 towards the funds. The toast was most warmly and enthusiastically received, and the thanks of the office bearers ordered to be tendered to his Lordship for the same. A very pleasant and agreeable evening was spent in true Masonic style.

GLASGOW.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.—A meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge was held in the Masonic Hall, Union-street, Glasgow, on the 25th of January, when there were present the Substitute Provincial Grand Master, the Provincial Grand Secretary, the R.W.M. of St. Mark's Lodge, the R.W.M. of No. 332, and a large number of the members. The Provincial Grand Lodge having been opened, and the minutes read and approved, the Prov. Grand Secretary intimated that he had a balance left in his hands from the profits on the sale of the Calendar got up for this province, and which he would hand over to the Prov. Grand Treasurer. The Substitute Provincial G.M. then, in an able and clear manner, explained the 12th Section of the 21st Chapter of the Laws of the Grand Lodge of Scotland. After some routine business the Provincial Grand Lodge was duly closed.

St. Mark's Lodge (No. 102).—On the evening of Saint John's day, Wednesday, 27th December, the members of this Lodge assembled in their Hall, Buchanan-street, Glasgow, for the purpose of electing and installing office bearers for the ensuing year. Br. James Miller, P.M. in the chair, at the opening of the Lodge, the S.W. Br. C. J. Hughes, the J.W. Br. John McDonald, other office bearers, and a very large number of the members being present.

The Secretary read last minute, which was approved of. Br. Miller gave the O.B. to Brs. W.B. Huggins as R.W.M., and Donald Campbell as D.M., and invested them with the insignia of their respective offices. Whereupon Br. Huggins having taken the chair, the other office bearers before nominated, were, together with Br. the Rev. T. P. Fenner, who was now nominated to the office of Chaplain, elected, and invested with the symbols of their several offices. The Auditors appointed to examine this year's accounts, were Br. Alexander McDonald, C. J. Hughes, and John Elder. The Lodge having been formally closed, the brethren who had been all kindly invited to supper in the Queen's Hotel by R.W.M. Br. Huggins, adjourned thereto, and, along

with several of the Members of the Glasgow and St. John's Lodges, who joined in the festivity, spent a harmonious and happy Saint John's eve. The office bearers for the ensuing year therefore, are:—Brs. W. B. Huggins, R.W.M.; Donald Campbell, D.M.; George J. Lyon, S.M.; C. J. Hughes, S.W.; John Elder, J.W.; Rev. T. P. Fenner, Chap.; J. T. Rothead, Arch.; Wm. Cronin, Treas.; Robert Mitchell, Sec.; James Horne, S.D.; Robert Thomson, jun., J.D.; Ross Ferguson, S.S.; W. F. Buckie, J.S.; J. N. Sutherland, I.G.; Alex. McDonald, Jeweller; John Aird, Clothier; Alfred McLure, Director of Music; James Pollock, Tyler; John Denchar, of Morningside, Proxy Master.

The members of the Lodge again met on Monday, January 8, Br. D. Campbell, D.M., in the chair, supported by the S.W., Br. Hughes, and Br. R. Mitchell in the chair of the J.W., other office-bearers and brethren. The minutes of the former meeting were read and approved of. Br. James Miller, P.M., read a striking and instructive Essay on the "Plurality of Worlds," on which Br. Hughes made some judicious and eloquent remarks; and Br. Campbell moved that a vote of thanks to Br. Miller be inserted in the minute book, which motion was seconded by Br. Hughes, and carried *viva voce*. The treasurer intimated that his cash book had this night been audited, compared with the vouchers, and found correct, that the receipts for the year had been £458 odd. After refreshment, which was of a most agreeable character, the D.M. proposed that the Rev. James Gordon Carnachan be admitted a member of this Lodge, which motion was seconded by P.M. Br. Miller, and carried *nem. con.* Br. Alexander McDonald also proposed that the Rev. John Robertson be also admitted to the mysteries of the Craft, which motion was seconded by Br. Wm. Neilson, and carried unanimously, and shortly afterwards the meeting terminated.

On the 22nd January the Lodge met for the purpose of Initiation, when there were present Br. Donald Campbell, D.M., in the chair, the S.W. and J.W., other officers, and a large attendance of the members and brethren of sister and foreign Lodges. The acting R.W.M. read applications for admission, by the Rev. James Gordon Carnachan and Mr. William Miller, Junior, when the candidates having been found eligible, and prepared, were initiated in the mysteries of the Apprentice Degree. The Instructors appointed to Br. Carnachan were Brs. D. Campbell and C. J. Hughes, and to Br. Wm. Miller, Junior, Brs. R. Mackenzie and John Elder. It was then resolved that the whole office-bearers of the Lodge be appointed a committee to meet and consider the expediency of getting up their annual ball. A pleasant refreshment was partaken of, and the Lodge closed.

THE ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER, GLASGOW (No. 50).—This Chapter met on the 19th January. Present: M.E. Donald Campbell, Z.; M.E. George J. Lyon, H.; M. E. C. J. Hughes, J.; E. Roderick Mackenzie, E.; E. James Horne, N.; and a large attendance of the Companions. The minutes of last meeting having been read and approved of, Br. J. S. Hamilton was admitted to the mark and past degrees, and after some routine business, the Mark and Past Lodges, in connection with the Chapter, were then closed.

IRELAND.

EDEN LODGE OF LIMERICK (No. 73).—The Worshipful Master, Wardens, and Brethren of this Lodge, No. 73 on the registry of Ireland, have contributed ten guineas to the Patriotic Fund, established for the benefit of the relatives of the brave fellows who have fallen or may hereafter fall fighting the battles of their country. It is peculiarly gratifying to find our Irish brethren, of whose proceedings we hear much too little, evincing so truly a masonic feeling as is here displayed in their endeavours to assist in alleviating the miseries which must be inevitably entailed upon a large number of widows and children—as well as many a poor disabled soldier—by the chances of war, however just the objects for which it is undertaken.

THE COLONIES.

AUSTRALIA.

ADELAIDE—The PATRIOTIC FUND.—A meeting of Freemasons was held at Adelaide, at the latter end of August, when, having resolved to raise a fund in aid of the Patriotic Fund, the following address to the Queen was agreed to:—

“We, your Majesty’s loyal subjects, being members of various Lodges of the Craft of Freemasonry, established in South Australia, humbly desire to testify to your Majesty our hearty sympathy with the warlike proceedings in which your Majesty is at present engaged against the Emperor of Russia, for the maintenance of the integrity of the Turkish dominions and their defence from an unjust and unprovoked invasion.

“Belonging, as we do, to a community which, while warmly cherishing national ties, and admitting the obligations they impose, yet recognising a bond of brotherhood co-extensive with the human race, our approval of this war is founded upon the conviction that it is waged for purposes just and righteous, and in vindication of principles binding upon all peoples.

“We implore the Great Architect and Governor of the Universe to vouchsafe such wisdom to your Majesty’s councils, and such aid to your Majesty’s arms, that the war thus fairly and honourably commenced may be speedily and successfully concluded; and that it may result in a cordial and lasting union amongst the various European nations, and in an extension throughout the world of the inestimable blessings of peace.

“For the purpose of acknowledging our grateful sense of the sacrifices made by those of our fellow-countrymen whose lives are hazarded in your Majesty’s military and naval services, we have collected the sum of £ , which we beg to transmit with this humble address to your Majesty’s Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, and humbly request that your Majesty will graciously direct that the amount be distributed amongst the wives and families, widows and orphans of British soldiers and sailors engaged in this war.

“And your memorialists, as in duty bound, will ever pray.”

The amount of the subscription was not known when the accounts left Adelaide. The general public of the place had collected upwards of £3000 for the fund.

HOBSON’S BAY.—We learn by the latest intelligence from Australia, of the opening of a new Lodge (the Hobson’s Bay) at the Albion Tavern, Williamstown, West Australia, when Br. Levick, W.M., of the Australia Felix Lodge, ably installed the first Master of the new Lodge. In the evening the brethren dined together at a banquet served by the proprietor of the establishment, Mr. Gallper.

CANADA.

LONDON, CANADA WEST.—The members of the St. John’s Lodge celebrated the feast of St. John, on the 27th of December, by a grand Masonic banquet, at which Br. S. P. Ayres, W.M. for the present year, presided, ably supported by his wardens, Brs. J. Moffatt, and F. T. McKenize.

QUEBEC—At a meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons, Quebec and Three Rivers Districts, Registry of England, held on the 28th November, the following brethren were elected to office and invested for the year ensuing:—R. W. Br. T. D. Harington, P.G.M.; R. W. Br. G. Thompson, D.P.G.; V. W. Brs. W. Miller, S.G.W.; G. Irvine, J.G.W.; Rev. W. A. Adamson, P.G.C.; R. Neill, P.G.T.; A. Simpson, P.G.R.; G. T. Cary, P.G.S.; Br. H. P. Leggatt, Asst. P.G.S.; W. Brs. J. Burgess, S.G.D.; T. Lamb, J.G.D.; G. R. Brown, P.G. Sup. of Works; J. Green, P.G.D.C.; Brs. J. Scott, Asst. P.G.D.C.; T. Andrews, P.G.S.B.; N. H. Bowen, P.G.O.; D. Gale, P.G.P.; D. Gillies, P.G.T. F. G. Stewards.—Br. Dean, jun., Hoffmann, Forsyth, Jacobs, Denechaud and Lewine

FESTIVAL OF ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST, QUEBEC.—Never, perhaps in Canada was the Festival of St. John the Evangelist (on Wednesday, December 27th) more cordially observed, more joyfully sustained, or the ceremonies of the day conducted with greater harmony and unanimity of feeling, than was the anniversary this year. The brotherhood assembled at their respective Lodge rooms at different

hours, so as to afford the apprentices and those young in the craft an opportunity of witnessing and profiting by the imposing and instructive ceremonies of installation of each Lodge, which were performed by the most skilful and esteemed Masters of the art. We congratulate the brethren of the "mystic tie," upon the felicitous appointment of officers installed, and from the known experience of the masters elect (Brs. Eadon and Qailton, having been each elected for the fourth time), and the skill and devotion of the other masters, Brs. Dawson and White, in carrying out the principles of Free-Masonry; they well merit the distinguished positions which they now hold as rulers in the craft.

The installations were conducted by the Right Worshipful the Provincial Grand Master, Thos. Douglas Harington, aided by his worthy and R. W. Deputy, George Thompson, under the English constitution. Br. Harington, as Provincial Grand Master for Scotland, also installed the Master of St. Andrew's Lodge, in person. The installations were terminated in time to assemble the Grand Lodge for routine business, which adjourned from labour to refreshment to partake of a sumptuous dinner at Russell's Hotel.

The R. W. Provincial Grand Master presided, and although the dinner was strictly that of the Albion and St. John's Lodges, yet many members of the sister Lodges were in attendance, besides several distinguished guests; and the speeches delivered, together with the appropriate and national toasts and songs, would have done honour to an assembly of Masons in "our dear native home."

Quebec is now proud of four good working Lodges:—two under the Grand Lodge of England, one under the Grand Lodge of Scotland, and one hailing from the Grand Lodge of Ireland, in all, numbering several hundred contributing members.

St. Andrew's Lodge, in one important point on this anniversary, took the initiative, by subscribing a handsome sum in aid of the Patriotic Fund, to be applied more particularly, however, to the relief of the widows and orphans of those brethren who may have fallen or suffered in the present war with Russia, and we are happy that the same spirit animates the other Lodges.

The following is a list of the officers installed for the ensuing year, including the officers of the Royal Arch Chapter attached to St. John's Lodge:—

ALBION LODGE (No. 17, R.E.)—W. Br. S. J. Dawson, W.M.; W. Miller, P.M.; J. Burgess, S.W.; H. P. Leggatt, J.W.; P. St. Hill, Tr.; J. A. Statou, Secy.; J. Dawe, S.D.; H. Jackson, J.D.; W. Whittycumb, I.G.; J. Gillies, Tyler,

ST. ANDREW'S LODGE (No. 356, R.S.)—R.W. Br. G. Railton, W.M.; T. King, P.M.; R. Neill, S.W.; A. McKay, J.W.; G. Hall, Tr.; G. T. Cary, Secy.; J. Harris, S.W.; R. Borland, J.D.; W. Wilkinson, I.G.; J. Ennis, Tyler; D. Melrose and J. Thomas, Stewards.

ST. JOHN'S LODGE (No. 214, R. E.)—W. Br. Jos. White, W.M.; Geo. Irvine, P.M.; J. W. Harper, S.W.; James Dean, J.W.; R. Neill, Treasurer; Geo. Veasey, Secretary; E. F. King, Assistant Sec.; W. Adamson, Chaplain; W. H. Rankin, Senior Deacon; R. Coker, Junior Deacon; A. W. Hoffmann, Inner Guard; H. P. Leggatt, Master of Ceremonies; N. H. Bowen, Organist; W. Giles, Tyler.

INDEPENDENT LODGE (No. 236, R. J.)—W. Br. W. Endon, W.M.; Dennis Gale, S.W.; Jas. Beattie, J.W.; John Lindsay, Treasurer; H. B. L. Goff, Secretary; R. A. Carden, Chaplain; Arch. McMaugh, S.D.; Angus McMay, J.D.; J. Patterson, I.G.; Charles Knowles, Tyler.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 27, being the anniversary of St. John the Evangelist, the members of St. John's Lodge met at noon, when Martin Petrie, Esq., having been duly installed as Master of the Lodge for the ensuing year, the other officers were appointed by him,

and severally invested with their respective badges of office, so that the offices of St. John's Lodge are now filled as understated:—Captain Martin Petrie, Royal Newfoundland Companies, W.M.; Br. Patrick Tasker, P.M.; Br. R. R. W. Lilly, S.W.; Br. P. G. Tessier, J.W.; Br. D. J. Henderson, Tr.; Br. J. S. Hayward, S.; Br. J. W. Prowse, S.D.; Br. Richard A. Law, Adjutant, R.N.C., J.D.; Br. W. H. Ellis, I.G.; Br. Corporal Wilkinson, Tyler; Brs. T. R. Smith, F. B. Carter, Stewards. Based as this ancient, honourable, and universal Institution is, on the foundation of a broad and practical charity, it was but reasonable to suppose that it would be active in carrying out any measure conducive to this benevolent end; but it is gratifying to be enabled to state, in the appropriate language of Captain Petrie, "that on a very recent occasion, from the members of the Lodge here, ever mindful of that love and allegiance that they owe to their country, came the first contribution from Newfoundland to that nobly charitable institution the Patriotic Fund, which is devoted to succouring the widows and children of those countrymen of ours, by whose heroism and devotion the flag of our powerful and arrogant foe has been swept from the wide ocean, from the poles to the line, leaving the sails of our countless ships to pursue their watery track in safety: while in Britain, as also in her vast and extended colonies, all over whom her time honoured flag waves, may sit in safety, 'every man under his own vine and under his own fig-tree.'" The amount contributed was the handsome sum of £60.

AMERICA.

ARKANSAS.

LITTLE ROCK.—The Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Arkansas held its annual grand convocation in the city of Little Rock, on the 13th of November. This Grand Chapter has issued under its jurisdiction, ten subordinate Chapters, having in all 283 members, of whom fifty were exalted during the term just concluded. The Chapter voted a sum of 50 dollars for the purchase of additional works for the library, and 25 dollars to pay for the binding of such of them as required it. A sum too of 150 dollars was appropriated for the purchase of regalia and jewels for the Grand Chapter. An eloquent and instructive address was delivered to the assembled companions, by the M.E.G.H.P. Comp. Albert Pike. The following is a list of the Grand Officers for the ensuing year:—Comps. Albert Pike, M.E.G.H.P.; A. S. Huey, M.E.D.G.H.P.; J. R. Beeson, M.E.G.K.; W. D. Lee, M.E.G.S.; J. E. Reardon, G. Sec.; A. W. Webb, G. Tr.; Rev. R. A. Graham, G. Chap.; Jesse A. Jackson, G. Marshal; I. C. Mills, G.C.H.; J. C. Gainer, G.R.A.C.

CALIFORNIA.

ACCORDING to the *Masonic Register*, the following resolution has passed the Grand Lodge of California:—Resolved, That the practice of duelling is repugnant to the principles of Freemasonry, and in all cases where the brethren resort to this mode of settling their disputes, it becomes the duty of the Lodge or Lodges of which they are members, or under whose jurisdiction they may be, forthwith to expel them from all the rights and privileges of Masonry, subject to the confirmation of the Grand Lodge; and no brother who may fall in a duel shall be buried with Masonic honours.

CONNECTICUT.

NEWHAVEN.—The Wooster Lodge (No. 79), of this city, met on St. John's day, on which occasion Br. Charles Webster was regularly installed W.M. for the year now current, and he nominated the following brethren to their respective offices:—H. Bowman, jun., S.W.; F. J. Calhoun, J.W.; Julius Tyler, Treasurer; John C. Parnlee, Secretary; Thaddeus Beecher, S.D.; Chas. Bartram, J.D.

FRANKLIN CHAPTER (No. 2).—The companions of this Chapter met on the same evening, when the officers for the ensuing year were regulated as follows:—Brs.

C. H. Skiff, H.P.; Francis Turner, K; J. H. Leforge, S.; H. H. Dikeman, C.H.; F. J. Calhoun, P.S.; A. F. Wood, R.A.C.; Wm. Tuttle, M.O.; W. Hotchkiss, S.O.; P. A. Pinkerman, J.O; —Warner, Secretary; B. Beecher, jun., Treasurer.

COLUMBIA.

FEDERAL LODGE, WASHINGTON (No. 1).—On St. John's Day, Br. Joseph W. Nairn, was installed W.M. of this Lodge for the ensuing year, and he then appointed Br. Josiah Essex, S.W.; Br. Arthur Lunt, J.W.; Br. G. A. Schwarzman, Secretary; Br. T. B. Griffin, Treasurer, Br. Peter Emrich, Tyler.

NAVAL LODGE (No. 4).—The brethren of this Lodge held their usual meeting on St. John's Day, when Br. Jeremiah Cross was installed W.M. for 1855, and he appointed Brs. John Cook, S.W.; W. E. Hutchinson, J.W.; Jos. Mundell, Secretary; John Holroyd, Treasurer; Wm. Wilkeson, Tyler.

LEBANON LODGE (No. 7).—Br. Wm. J. Rheis was on St. John's Day installed W.M. of this Lodge, when he made the following disposition of the other offices, by appointing Brs. John Reese, S.W.; Jos. Friedenwald, J.W.; W. W. Hollingsworth, Secretary; Jas. O. Bryon, Treasurer; Peter Emrich, Tyler.

HIRAM LODGE (No. 10).—The festival of St. John was duly observed by the brethren of this Lodge, when Br. S. D. Mills, was installed W.M. for the present year. The following members were then appointed to their respective offices:—Brs. B. B. Edmondson, S.W.; Charles Calvert, J.W.; W. S. Richardson, Secretary; T. Smith, Treasurer; John Dewey, Tyler.

ST. JOHN'S LODGE (No. 11).—On the anniversary of the feast of St. John, Br. S. T. Shuyvert, was installed W.M. for the year 1855. He then nominated Brs. Marcus Bull, S.W.; O. W. Marsh, J.W.; H. Lightner, Secretary; C. Cammack, Treasurer; Peter Emrich, Tyler.

NATIONAL LODGE (No. 12).—On St. John's Day, the members of this Lodge held their annual meeting, at which Br. Lynd Eliot was installed W.M. for the ensuing year, and he nominated Brs. T. S. Russwurm, S.W.; F. Housam, J.W.; S. B. Erwin, Secretary; Pollard Webb, Treasurer; Peter Emrich, Tyler.

WASHINGTON CENTENNIAL LODGE (No. 14).—Br. Craven Ashford, was on St. John's day newly installed W.M. of this Lodge, and he then appointed Brs. W. H. Faulkner, S.W.; J. Stok, J.W.; John Stevenson, Secretary; J. Van Ryswick, Treasurer; W. Tucker, Tyler.

B. B. FRENCH LODGE (No. 15).—The brethren of this Lodge having elected Br. John C. Whiting, W.M. for the ensuing year, he was on St. John's day duly installed, after which he appointed Brs. S. T. Rand, S.W.; C. C. Leeds, J.W.; H. H. Heath, Secretary; W. M. Ferguson, Treasurer; Peter Emrich, Tyler.

GEORGIA.

ALBANY.—The members of the Craft resident in this district, met in Lodge to celebrate the festival of St. John. The attendance was not large, but peace and harmony characterized the assembly.

KENTUCKY.

CORINGTON.—The brethren of the Corington Lodge (No. 109), duly celebrated the feast of St. John, when Br. L. D. Croninger was elected W.M. for the year ensuing. The W.M. then appointed the following brethren to their respective offices:—Wm. C. Munger, S.W.; Wm. R. Evans, J.W.; Samuel Davis, Treasurer; C. W. Moar, Secretary; C. C. Langdon, S.D.; Noel, J.D.; H. Keller, S. and T.

COL CLAY LODGE (159).—On the same day there was also a meeting of the Col Clay Lodge, at which Br. L. C. Rankin was installed W.M. for 1855, when he distributed the other offices of the Lodge among the following brethren:—James A. Egelston, S.W.; M. P. Smith, J.W.; J. Sellers, Treasurer; J. M. Tipton, Secretary; J. P. McLaughlin, S.D.; Moullins, J.D.; A. Caldwell, S. and T.

NEW JERSEY.

ELIZABETH TOWN.—On the 20th of December, a regular communication of the Washington Lodge, formerly No. 41, C.D., was held in this town, at which Br. P.M. John H. Janeway installed Br. James S. Green as W.M. for the ensuing year; and he was pleased to appoint Brs. Wallace L. Crowell, S.W.; Wm. H. Thurston, J.W.; Rev. Isaac Trotter, Chap.; Francis Sayre, Treas.; J. Rolla, Sec.; Lewis W. Oakley, S.D.; David Crowell, J.D.; David N. Crane, and Joseph C. Hinchman, Stewards.

RAKWAY.—The Lafayette Lodge, No. 27, belonging to this town, held its usual monthly communication on the 21st of Dec., when Br. John H. Janeway, P.M., installed Br. Crowell Marsh W.M. for the ensuing year, who appointed Brs. Stewart C. Marsh, S.W.; A. J. Halliday, J.W.; A. O. Houghton, Treas.; D. K. Ryno, Sec.; G. L. Trussler, S.D.; John M. Whitehead, J.D.; Josephus Shann and Franklin Hammill, Stewards; and J. Carl, Tyler.

NEWARK.—At the usual meeting of the brethren of the Newark Lodge, No. 7, held on the 22nd of Dec., at 314, Broad-street, Newark. Br. David S. Plume was elected W.M. for the ensuing year, and he nominated the following brethren to their respective offices:—Brs. J. M. Pool, S.W.; Frederick C. Dodd, J.W.; Simon Learning, Treas.; Milton Baldwin, Sec.; C. Dyden, S.D.; and Lorenzo Stone, J.D.

NEW YORK.

NEW YORK.—At a regular communication of the Montgomery Lodge, No. 48, held on the 18th of December, the following brethren were elected to their respective offices:—Brs. Allen A. Burns, W.M.; Lionel Jacobs, S.W.; Edward Gallaher, J.W.; Joseph Hilton, S.D.; John Warren, J.D.; Thomas White, Treas.; Mosley Lyon, Sec.

TROY.—On St. John's Day, the brethren of the recently formed Lodge (the Zion, No. 311), of this town, held a Grand Masonic Festival in honour of the day at which Br. John S. Perry, was installed W.M. for the ensuing year, Br. De Witt Clinton Cram, S.W.; Br. George Babcock, J.W.; Br. Prentice L. Jones, Secretary; Br. Elias Ross, Treasurer; Br. Fred. T. Allen, S.D.; Br. W. H. Van Every, J.D. This Lodge, although scarcely more than a year and a half in existence, already numbers more than 100 members, and its treasury has been enriched by nearly 3,000 dollars, the subscriptions of the members.

PENNSYLVANIA.

ALTOONA.—On the 29th of December, the brethren of Mountain Lodge (No. 281), celebrated the festival of St. John by a banquet at Logan House, which was served in Br. Thompson's best style. Before the brethren were called off for refreshment, Br. R. A. Famkiton, D.D.G.M., installed the W.M. for the ensuing year.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

THE GRAND LODGE.—St. John's day, 1854, will henceforth be a day of the most pleasurable associations to the Masons of South Carolina, as on it was celebrated in Charlestown, with all the accessories of interest and eclat—the centennial anniversary of the Grand Lodge of the State. The various representatives of the distant Lodges, together with a full representation of the city Lodges, met at the Masonic Hall at the appointed hour, and the order of procession was followed according to a published programme. The day was peculiarly lively and inviting—indeed more suggestive of May than of December—and consequently the corners, streets and avenues that were supposed to afford good points of view, were crowded almost to suffocation at an early hour. The procession, under the escort and direction previously appointed, marched to the new hall of the South Carolina Institute, where the public observances and ceremonies of the day were to be celebrated. That edifice was nearly filled before the arrival of the procession, with the fair representatives of humanity, in its best estate,—the upper floor, indeed, was monopolized by the ladies, and the main

floor was occupied in a great part by this same class of welcome visitors. The first Ode presented on the occasion, was well executed by a volunteer choir of young vocalists, under the direction of Br. M. S. Reeves, who had been appointed to that charge by his Masonic brethren. The acting Chaplain of the day, the Rev. Br. John A. Honour, then offered up an appropriate prayer to the Supreme Architect Br. Dr. S. H. Dickson, the orator of the day, after referring to the change which had taken place in the political condition of America since the Grand Lodge of South Carolina was founded, proceeded to give a history of that institution, from which we extract the following remarks:—A century is long in reference to human life, or even in a survey of a nation's progress; but it is a brief space, and mere point of time in relation to the time-honoured order of Masonry. The eternal rules of justice, and benevolence and order know no changes—why then should Masonry change? The secret shelter and sacred enclosure of Masonry has ever afforded the nursery in which the great eternal principles of truth, and justice, and equality, could be preserved until they could be transplanted out into the world at large. If proofs of this ultimate tendency were demanded, the strongest would be found in the fact, that despotism and usurpation have ever marked their first encroachments by attempts for the suppression of the Masonic Order. The first Lodge, of whose institution in this State we have any record, was founded in 1735, under a warrant from Lord Viscount Montague, then Grand Master of the Free and Accepted Masons of the mother-country, and was established under the chartered name of Solomon's Lodge. The warrant of Prince George's Lodge, at George-town, is dated in 1743; and these are the only Lodges of which definite traces can be discovered prior to the organization of the Grand Lodge, whose first centenary is now completed. It is, however, highly probable that other Lodges were founded in the period between 1738 and 1754, whose records have been lost to us. On the 6th April, 1738, we have evidence that a "Provincial Grand Master of Carolina" was present at a meeting of the Grand Lodge of England. It is not reasonable to suppose that such an appointment would have been granted to a Province that contained but one Lodge. Nor is it reasonable or consistent with usage to suppose that the deputation which was granted in March, 1754, with a view to the establishment of a Grand Lodge of South Carolina, would have been accorded to two Lodges merely. Yet we find it asserted that a Provincial Grand Master was appointed as early as 1736, and the inference is, therefore, highly probable, that other Lodges were formed whose traces have been obliterated. On the 24th of December, 1754, the "first Grand Lodge of South Carolina was solemnly constituted, and its first great festival was held on the day consecrated to St. John the Evangelist, at which 120 brethren were present. This Lodge continued through the Revolution, at the close of which the propriety and necessity of an independent and separate jurisdiction began to be considered. Some of the Lodges accordingly met in convention, and, after discussing the question fully, resolved on such a course, and appointed a day for action accordingly. On this day, the 5th of February, 1787, William Drayton was elected Grand Master in and for the State of South Carolina. As early as 1808 the evils and disadvantages of having two Masonic bodies of separate jurisdictions, in the same State, had been so clearly understood, that a strenuous effort was made for a union, the formal act for which purpose was duly ratified by both bodies in September of that year. This effort was more creditable, as the mother country herself then presented the evil example of two Grand Lodges, which were not united and consolidated until 1813, and then proceeded on the principles established by the South Carolina precedent. Discord and confusion, however, prevailed again to some degree, and some members withdrew from the consolidated jurisdiction of 1808, and revived one of the oldest Lodges as previously organized. This deplorable state continued until 1817, in January of which year an agreement was entered into by authorised committees of both sides; and, on the 26th December, a joint Grand Lodge was duly formed, with the style and title—"The Grand Lodge of Ancient Free Masons of South Carolina," as still continued. Since this auspicious event, the history of Masonry in South Carolina has been gratifying, and its progress has vindicated the principles of the Order. The functions of this Lodge have not been confined exclusively to the territorial limits of the State, for

warrants have proceeded from it to Florida, Alabama, and even to the Island of Cuba. It has also been asserted that the Order was established in Mexico, by warrants issued from the Grand-Lodge of South Carolina. Long may it flourish, dispensing the blessings of the Order, and recommending Masonry by its spirit and effects.

SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR JANUARY.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

Parliament resumed its labours on the 23rd, when Mr. Roebuck having given notice of his intention to move for a Committee of Inquiry into the conduct of the war. Lord John Russell resigned his seat in the Cabinet as President of the Council, and from the explanation offered in both houses, it appears that his lordship did not consider the war had been conducted with that energy and foresight which ought to have distinguished it, and he was anxious for a modification in the Cabinet as long since as November last, which had not been acceded to. On Friday, Mr. Roebuck brought forward his motion, which was replied to by Mr. Sidney Herbert, and several gentlemen having expressed their opinion pro and con, the debate was adjourned until Monday, when the motion was carried by a majority of 305 against 148. The Ministry have accordingly resigned.

THE WAR.

The only noticeable feature in the war during the past month has been the consent of Russia to negotiate on the four points, as laid down by the allied powers; but how far the Czar is in earnest remains to be seen. With the exception of occasional sortics, nothing has taken place in the Crimea calling for comment, beyond the melancholy fact that our troops have been decimated by disease, owing to the inclemency of the weather, the want of sufficient clothing, and excessive fatigue, from their limited numbers. By a despatch of Lord Raglan, dated the 13th, however, it is gratifying to know that large quantities of warm clothing had arrived, and that every soldier was then well provided with it. The huts had arrived at Balaklava, but there was a difficulty in getting them up to the camp, owing to the badness of the roads, and their great weight. A depôt of provisions was also being formed near the camp. Nothing of importance, it is understood, had taken place up to the 20th inst. The Duke of Cambridge, Sir de Lacy Evans, Lord Cardigan, and other officers have returned home, but many of them, it is believed, will shortly proceed to rejoin the army.

ACCIDENTS AND OFFENCES.

Emanuel Barthelemy, who murdered Mr. Moore and Mr. Collard in Warren-street, Fitzroy-square, on the 8th of December, was tried for the murder of the latter person on the 4th of January, and found guilty, with a recommendation to mercy. He was, however, executed on the 22nd, denying his belief in the existence of a God, to the last.

Charles King, an ex-policeman, has been remanded on a charge of having assisted a number of young pickpockets in the disposal of their gains, and directed their operations.

Another murder took place in Foley-place, on the 7th, when an Italian named Baranelli deliberately shot a Mr. Latham, alias Lambert, and a woman with whom he cohabited, whilst in their beds. Baranelli had formerly lodged in the house, and appears to have been exasperated at some statements made by the unfortunate man (who died upon the spot), with a view of breaking off the connection of Baranelli with a Mrs. Williamson. Mrs. Lambert, as she was called, appears likely to recover, as does also the assassin, who, immediately after completing his crime, attempted to commit suicide.

Four youths were drowned whilst skating on the ornamental water, in St. James's Park, on the 21st.

Charles Miller, a private in the Blues, died at Windsor on the 25th, from hydrophobia, caused by the bite of a dog, twelve months since, in consequence of his squeezing it to make it howl—as he said it was a good imitation of the bag-pipes.

JOINT STOCK COMPANIES.

On the 12th, the Commercial Dock Company declared a dividend of 2 per cent. for the half-year, free of income-tax.

On the same day, the East and West India Dock Company declared a dividend at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum, also free of income-tax, and it was stated the balance in hand would have allowed a larger distribution.

The dividend of the St. Katharine's Dock Company is at the rate of 4 per cent. per annum.

On the 17th, the London and Westminster Bank held its half-yearly meeting, when a dividend and bonus, equal to 8 per cent on the capital, was declared, making, with that declared in July, 14 per cent for the year. The earnings amounted to within a fraction of 15 per cent.

The London Joint Stock Bank held its meeting on the 18th, when the result was equally satisfactorily, the dividend being at the rate of 10 per cent per annum, with a bonus of £1 2s. 6d. per share for the half year.

The Union Bank of Australia met on the 21st, when a dividend was declared at the rate of 30 per cent per annum, and very favourable accounts given of future prospects.

The London and Brighton Railway Company pay a dividend, which makes that for the whole year $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. The South Western at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum—the North Staffordshire, $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent—and the Manchester and Lincolnshire, $\frac{3}{4}$ per cent on the original stock.

The directors of the Crystal Palace Company propose to pay a dividend of 4 per cent for the past half-year.

PROVIDENT.

On the 1st, a meeting of the Defender Life and Fire Assurance Company was held, when a report was presented, showing that the fire business during the year had covered property of the value of £1,667,282, and with indirect insurances, £1,818,045, being an increase of £150,763 on the previous year. In the life department, new policies had been issued, assuring £34,845 16s. 11d. The foreign business had also been extremely satisfactory, and the losses comparatively small. The report was adopted, and the usual dividend declared.

The Sovereign Life Assurance Company held its annual meeting on the 3rd. The report stated that, notwithstanding the obvious disadvantages under which they had laboured during the past year, the directors had received 424 proposals, for the assurance of £225,600, which would have yielded an income of £7,500 a year. Of these proposals, 295 had been completed, assuring £124,790, and giving an income from new firms of £4,374 5s. 10d. per annum, being an increase of nearly 100 per cent on the new business transacted in the previous year; whilst the total claims from losses in the twelve months only amounted to £1,663 19s. 10d. The chairman congratulated the proprietors on the success of the Company, and stated that the annual income from premiums now amounted to about £16,000. Although, from the commencement of the Company, they had received £67,000 from premiums, the whole of their losses in the nine years did not exceed £11,000 or £12,000; and these losses had been covered by the premiums received from lapsed policies. The report was adopted, and a dividend of 5 per cent. declared.

The Prince of Wales Life Assurance Company held its annual meeting on the 24th, when a report was presented which stated that the Directors had to report 938 proposals for assurance of life, to the amount of £227,852 6s. 8d., received during the past year, and 593 policies issued, assuring £159,220 13s. 4d., producing premiums amounting to £5,635 2s. 1d. The income of the Company amounted to £10,498, and the losses of the year had only amounted to £561 11s. 5d. The report was adopted, and a dividend declared at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum.

BENEVOLENT.

At a meeting of the Female Orphan Asylum, Westminster Road, on the 4th, a letter was read from the Duke of Cambridge, accepting the five presentations placed at his disposal for the orphans of soldiers or sailors slain in the present war. The children are now, to a great extent, employed by the Duchess of Kent and the Princess Mary in knitting stockings for the use of the army in the Crimea. The number of children now in the school is 66; more than 2,600 having been brought up in it since the establishment in 1758. The total ordinary receipts for the past year were only £3,638 8s. 9d., whilst the expenditure amounted to £4,142 13s.

The City of London Hospital for Diseases of the Chest, held its annual meeting on the 9th, when a report was read which said "during the year 1854, 4,570 new cases have been admitted, making a total of 22,815 cases admitted since the charity was first established. During the last year the donations have amounted to £3,563 11s. 1d. and the subscriptions to £759 7s. 6d.; the total receipts from these and other sources being £4,822 12s. 11d. The disbursements during the year have amounted to £10,627 18s. 11d.; of which £1,913 17s. 3d. was expended in defraying the current expenses of the charity, and £8,714 1s. 8d. have been paid on account of the new building. To meet these expenses, the £500 invested in the stocks has been sold out, and a loan of £5,382 17s. has been obtained from the Treasury, leaving a balance of £312 6s. 7d. in the hands of the bankers. It will thus be seen that there is a total deficiency of £5,570 10s. 5d." The report was adopted, and resolutions passed pledging the meeting to use every exertion to relieve the hospital from debt.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The total revenue of the United Kingdom for the year ending on the 5th, was £54,531,154. The receipts of the quarter ending on the same date was £17,134,406. The increase on the quarter amounted to £1,440,567, and on the year at £2,291,356.

One fourth of the County Court Judges have had their salaries increased from £1,200 to £1,500 a year.

Miss Mitford, the talented authoress of "Our Village," &c., died on the 10th, aged 66. She had long been confined to her house by illness.

A monument is to be erected in Edinburgh, to Wilson, the Scottish vocalist.

AMUSEMENTS FOR THE MONTH.

Amongst the exhibitions, none is more attractive than the Turkish, at Hyde Park Corner, which is under the direction of Br. Aznavour. At a recent meeting of the Ethnological Society, Mr. Cull, the Secretary, specially called attention to this Exhibition as peculiarly interesting, and the truest to nature which he, as an Ethnologist, had ever seen. We need not endorse such an opinion with any recommendation of ours.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE ARTICLES OF NOAH.

To the Editor of the "Masonic Mirror."

SIR AND BROTHER.—Perceiving that you have admitted into your pages the letters of correspondents, I write to say that I am not perfectly satisfied with the light which you have endeavoured to throw upon the question which I put subsequently to the publication of your first number. I will now venture again to put the question, in the hope that by your giving it entire, some brother, more skillful than myself, may be led to solve the riddle; for such, I confess, it appears to be.

As I told you before, at page 35 of the Old Book of Constitutions, published in 1767, is this passage—"Carefully to maintain the cement of the Lodge, and the three articles of Noah." You say, in your reply to my former letter, that the three articles of Noah have reference to "Justice, Uprightness, and Righteousness." With all respect to your researches, I think this is a somewhat lame and impotent

conclusion, and I trust that some brother will improve upon it. Words without meaning are valueless; and unless there is a meaning attached to these, the sooner they are expunged from all Masonic works the better, and many others along with them, which seem only inserted to puzzle and irritate the reader, and cause him to give up his studies in disgust.

I remain, Sir and Brother, yours fraternally, Z * * *

West Yorkshire, January, 1855.

[We consulted some of the oldest Masons in both England and Scotland on the subject, as well as several eminent divines, without effect; we only gave an opinion doubtfully founded on the 9th answer, in the 1st section of the 1st lecture.]

THE PATRIOTIC FUND.

To the Editor of the "Masonic Mirror."

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER.—Cordially agreeing with the remarks in your last publication in reference to the Patriotic Fund, and that the amounts subscribed by the various Lodges should be published in your magazine, for that purpose I now furnish you with the amount given in this province.

Provincial Grand Lodge, £15 15s.; Clarence Lodge, No. 81, £10 10s.; Beaufort Lodge, No. 120, £10 10s.; Royal Sussex Lodge, No. 221, £10 10s.; Moira Lodge, No. 408, £10 10s.; Colston Lodge, No. 886, £10 10s.; Lodge of Instruction, £3 3s.; Total, £71 8s.

I am, Dear Sir and brother, yours fraternally, W. H. BOWKEN, 120.

Bristol, January 25, 1855.

OBITUARY.

BR. THE REV DANIEL FLYNN, A.M.—We regret to announce the sudden death of Br. the Rev. Daniel Flynn, which melancholy event took place at Limerick, on the 26th of December, in the house of Dr. Gilston, with whom he was spending the Christmas holidays. Our deceased brother, although comparatively a young man, being only 44 years of age at the time of his decease, had yet raised for himself an enviable reputation as being one of the most successful teachers of youth in Ireland. He was, indeed, a distinguished scholar, and a just and upright Freemason, beloved by his pupils and by the brethren of his Lodge, No. 620, a Lodge ranking among its members some of the most distinguished Masons in Ireland.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

* * * The pressure of Masonic Intelligence this Month has not only compelled us to trench upon our advertising pages, whereby our space has been increased from 48 to 52 pages, but we have been reluctantly obliged to defer the conclusion of the "Heir of Bendersleigh," and the continuation of "Brotherly Love," until our next Number, when we believe our space will be more at our disposal.

C. P., Boston.—Masonic mourning consists in the wearing of black crape rosettes on the apron and collar, in lieu of the blue ribbon. In some cases of more than ordinary importance the apron is also bound with black, and the other ornaments covered with it.

J. G., Oldham.—Is thanked. We shall be at all times happy to hear from him.

Br. B. has a right to describe himself as P.M. 201, notwithstanding he has quitted the Lodge. He has not forfeited his privileges of a P.M.

Z.—We gave the letter as we received it—not holding ourselves answerable for either the opinions or style of our Correspondents.

G. B.—We have no faith in such works; they are either miserable catchpennys, or the productions of men altogether unworthy of credit. No such advertisement as that alluded to will ever find its way into the columns of the Masonic Mirror.

T. W. D., Poole.—No Master can be legally installed excepting in his own Lodge.

Delta.—White gloves form part of the Masonic costume; but we certainly should not think of excluding a brother from a Lodge because, being in mourning, he presented himself in black gloves, though were he in office taking part in the ceremonies, we might call upon him to take them off.

The Old Concord Ball takes place at the Queen's Concert Room, Hanover Square, on the 8th inst. The ball will be, doubtless, fully attended, the proceeds being always devoted to charity.