

THE  
MASONIC MIRROR:

NOVEMBER, 1855.

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OUR CHARITIES.

It is with pleasure we observe that a reform in the dress of the children of the Girls' School, which we have been advocating—in the pages of this publication, and before its establishment through the columns of the *Bra* newspaper—for the last three years, is at length to be carried into effect. The children are no longer to be decorated with a pauper's badge upon the arm, and their dress is to be so modernised, that no one will be enabled to look upon the children of our brethren and consider them as the mere inmates of a charity school, which, we maintain, the Freemasons' Girls' School has no right to be designated—it being merely and truly the result of the provident habits of the brethren, who in their days of prosperity thus provide for the children of themselves or their less fortunate brethren, should circumstances in after-life require it. We regret, however, that the reform is not carried to the extent we should wish, inasmuch as the children are still to have a distinctive badge in the form of a medal to be worn by a ribbon round their neck: and our regret here is not so much founded on our objection to a medal, which can at any time be thrown aside when the children are away from the school, as to the fact that we believe it will have the effect of lowering in the eyes of the children the value of that medal which is now annually presented to one of them for good conduct and proficiency in her studies. Any such lowering of its value must be detrimental to the efficiency of the school, and we trust the committee will reconsider that portion of the arrangement, with the view of rather increasing than depreciating the value of a decoration which should be regarded as one of honour, and not one to be worn as a matter of course to distinguish the children of our school from those of others.

We are glad to hear that various economical arrangements are being made in the conduct of the household department of the school, where it would appear, notwithstanding all that has been said of its matrons, the superintendence of a Soyer is required; great waste having been allowed to prevail, both through the nature of the joints purchased, and the want

of a proper system of cooking. These and various other reforms are in progress, and we shall watch their effect with considerable interest, but what can be thought of the management of a school where it is boasted that the children are taught household duties to fit them for service in our families, or the wives of men who, in all probability, will have to earn their living by the sweat of their brow, when it is compelled to be admitted that great waste has been allowed to prevail in that department in which it is the most essential that such children should be properly educated in the advantages of thrift and economy?

A committee has been appointed to endeavour to find out a suitable site or premises for the Boys' School, which we trust we are now shortly to have established, as the education of our boys cannot fail of being thereby considerably improved. We hope the committee will be guided in their selection by a due regard to economy, and that we shall never again hear of such a wasteful expenditure as that incurred for the Girls' School, that upon which something like 12,000*l.* was expended, thereby denuding the establishment of a proper reserve fund, and rendering the school dependent for the larger part of its annual income on the produce of the festival. And for what was that expenditure incurred? Nothing that we can see except to enable brother Hardwick to erect a beautiful monument of his genius as an architect, in a conspicuous position, where it might be seen by every traveller on the South Western Railway. We can admire its splendid tower, and the beauty of its proportions, but we would ask, has not internal convenience been sacrificed to carry out these objects? We will venture to answer in the affirmative: for though the children have not yet been there three years, we have reason to believe that alterations are about to be made in order to provide greater accommodation in the laundry, and that too, notwithstanding the school does not contain more than two-thirds of the number of children it was erected to accommodate. Who will have to bear this expense? The school or the architect? We pause for a reply, but we have our opinion regarding who should do so.

We are gratified to hear that a number of the brethren are about to interest themselves to endeavour to adopt some means for increasing the funds of the Aged Masons' and Widows' Benevolent Institution, and at the same time obtaining a remodelling of the laws, so as to make them more consistent with the dignity and position of the Craft. We have no hesitation in stating that the laws, as they now exist, are only fitted for a society consisting of the humblest class of mechanics, and we should wonder how anything so limited could have been devised for a body of men, like the Freemasons, were we not aware how difficult it is, in the first instance, to carry out any benevolent institution. We are grateful to the founders for what they have done, be ours the duty to extend, improve, and amend their design!

## FREEMASONRY IN ENGLAND.

*(Continued from p. 590.)*

On the death of George I., his son, George II., ascended to the throne, June 11th, 1727, and on the 24th of the same month a Grand Lodge was held at the Devil's Tavern, Temple Bar, at which were present, the Earl of Inchequin, G.M., his officers, and the Masters and Wardens of forty Lodges. At this Lodge, it was resolved to extend the privilege of voting in Grand Lodge to Past Grand Wardens, that privilege having been previously restricted to Past Grand Masters, by a resolution, 21st November, 1724, and to Past Deputies, 28th February, 1726. This was a peculiar favour; for the Grand Lodge, according to the old constitutions, could consist only of the Masters and Wardens of Regular Lodges, with the Grand Master and his Wardens at their head; and it was the custom, even for these officers, at their annual election, and on other particular occasions to withdraw, that they might not appear to use any undue influence.

A Grand Lodge was convened by Br. Cowper, D.G.M., on the 19th December, 1727, when Lord Coleraine was nominated Grand Master for the ensuing year, and unanimously approved. On the 27th of the same month, he was regularly installed in his high office; after which he appointed Br. Choke, D.G.M., Blackerby and Highmore, Grand Wardens, Br. Reed, Secretary. During his administration, several new Lodges were constituted, and a dispensation was granted to hold a Lodge in St. Bernard Street, Madrid. At the last Grand Lodge convened by his Lordship, Dr. Desaguliers moved—that the ancient office of Stewards should be revived, for the purpose of assisting the Grand Wardens in providing the Feast. This was agreed to, their number restricted to twelve, and their appointment made annual.

Lord Kingston succeeded as G. M., and was invested and installed on the 27th December, 1728, at a grand feast held at Mercers' Hall, when he appointed Brs. Blackerby, D.G.M., Thornhill and O'Conner, Grand Wardens. His Lordship distinguished himself by his zeal in attending the Quarterly Communications, as well as by several costly presents to the Grand Lodge, consisting of a curious pedestal, a rich cushion, a velvet bag, and a new jewel set in gold, for the use of the Grand Secretary. During his administration the Society flourished exceedingly. Many Lodges were constituted, and a deputation was granted to George Pomfret, Esq., authorizing him to open a new Lodge in Bengal. This may be deemed the first introduction of Masonry into our Indian Settlements. It has been attended with the most prosperous results, and, by its rapid progress, the annual remittances to the Grand Lodge from this and other parts of India, have amounted to a considerable sum.

At a Grand Lodge, held at the Devil's Tavern, 27th December, 1729, Br. Blackerby, D.G.M., by authority of Lord Kingston, proposed the Duke of Norfolk as Grand Master for the ensuing year, which nomination

meeting with general consent, his Grace being present, was saluted as Grand Master elect, and on the 29th January following, he was duly invested and installed. He appointed Br. Blackerby, D.G.M., Carpenter (afterwards Lord Carpenter) and Batson, Grand Wardens. The Grand Master's absence in Italy prevented his regular attendance to the Grand Lodge, but he evinced his attachment to the Society by his transmission from Venice of a number of most curious and valuable articles, presented for the use of the Grand Lodge, and twenty pounds to the Charity, for which he was voted the public thanks of the Society. During his administration, a Provincial Grand Master was appointed over the Lodges in the circle of Lower Saxony, and a Provincial Grand Lodge at New Jersey, in America. A Provincial Patent was also granted for Bengal.

Lord Lovel succeeded the Duke of Norfolk, and was installed at Mercers' Hall, on the 29th March, 1731. In consequence of great suffering from ague, his Lordship was obliged to withdraw, leaving Lord Coleraine to act as his proxy. The last-named nobleman, appointed Br. Batson, D.G.M., Douglas and Chambers, Grand Wardens, Br. Reid was re-appointed Grand Secretary, and Br. Moody, Grand Sword Bearer. On the 14th May following, at a Grand Lodge held at the Rose Tavern, Marylebone, it was resolved, that for the future, all Past Grand Masters and their Deputies should be admitted Members of the Quarterly Committees of Charity, and that every Committee should have power to vote five pounds for the relief of any distressed brother, but no larger sum, without the consent of the Grand Lodge. The Grand Lodge at this period was honoured by the presence of many noble brothers, and although the subscriptions to the Benevolent Fund were inconsiderable, the Society was enabled to relieve several worthy Masons with small sums. During the administration of Lord Lovel, His Royal Highness Francis Duke of Loraine, afterwards Grand Duke of Tuscany and Emperor of Germany, was initiated at the Hague, by virtue of a deputation from his Lordship, and deputations were also granted from England for establishing Lodges in Russia and Spain.

Lord Viscount Montacute was installed Grand Master at a Grand Lodge and Feast at Merchant Tailors' Hall, on the 19th April, 1732, in the presence of a number of noble and distinguished brethren, and about four hundred of the Craft. At this meeting it was agreed that the brethren should dine together at Hampstead, on the 24th of June; Br. Batson was appointed D.G.M., Brs. Rook and Smyth, Grand Wardens. The Grand Master granted a deputation for constituting a Lodge at Valenciennes, in French Flanders, and also for constituting a new Lodge at the Hotel de Bussy, in Paris. Several other Lodges were also constituted, and from this period may almost be deemed the origin of American Lodges. The Deputy Grand Master, Br. Batson, rendered great service by his zealous and able attention to the government of the Society during the latter part of the year, when his Lordship was unable to attend.

Lord Montacute was succeeded as Grand Master by the Earl of Strathmore, and being in Scotland, was installed by proxy at an assembly at Mercers' Hall, on the 17th June, 1733. At a Grand Lodge subse-

quently held at the Devil's Tavern, at which the Grand Master and his Deputy, Br. Batson, and Grand Wardens, Brs. Smyth and Ward, presided, several regulations were confirmed with reference to the Committee of Charity; and it was resolved, that for the future, all complaints to be brought before the Grand Lodge, should be previously examined before the Committee, and thence referred to the next Quarterly Communication. This Grand Master displayed a most praiseworthy attention to the duties of his office, and under his authority several Lodges were constituted in Germany and Holland.

The Earl of Crawford succeeded as Grand Master, and was installed at Mercers' Hall, on the 30th March, 1734. Sir Cecil Wray, Bart. was appointed D.G.M.; Brs. Ward and Sir Edward Mansel, Grand Wardens, Br. Rives, G.S. In consequence of being engaged in public business, his Lordship was unable to attend to the communications of Grand Lodge for eleven months, after which period his Lordship called two communications in little more than six weeks, and apologised for his unavoidable absence. The most important proceedings of the society at this time related to the revision of the Book of Constitutions which Br. Anderson was ordered to prepare for the press. Among the new regulations were;—that if any Lodge within the bills of mortality should cease to meet during twelve calendar months, it should be erased from the list, and if re-instated should lose its former rank. Several additional privileges were granted to the Grand Stewards, and it was agreed that in future all Grand Officers, the Grand Master excepted, should be elected out of that body. The Grand Master made some further encroachments on the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of York, by constituting two Lodges within their district, and by granting without their consent three deputations, one for Lancashire, a second for Durham, and a third for Northumberland. This the Grand Lodge of York highly resented, and from hence all friendly intercourse ceased, the brethren of York from that moment considering their interests *distinct from the Masons under the Grand Lodge of London.*

Lord Weymouth succeeded the Earl of Crawford, and was installed as Grand Master at Mercers' Hall, on the 17th April, 1735, when he appointed Br. Ward, D.G.M., Sir Edward Mansel, Bart., and Martin Clare, A.M. and F.R.S., Grand Wardens. The Grand Stewards and several other Lodges were constituted under this administration, and the Grand Master granted a deputation to hold a Lodge at the seat of the Duke of Richmond, at Aubigny, in France. He also issued warrants to open a new Lodge at Lisborn, another at Savannah, in addition to several for South America, and Gambay, in West Africa. The Society was much indebted during this Presidency to the zeal and attention of the D.G.M., Br. Ward, afterwards Lord Viscount Dudley and Ward, who applied himself with the utmost diligence to promote its interests. At a Grand Lodge held at the Devil's Tavern, on the 11th December, 1735, the twelve Stewards with Sir Robert Lawley, the Master of the Stewards' Lodge, at their head, appeared for the first time in their new badges. On this occasion they were not permitted to vote as individuals, but a proposition was made that the Stewards' Lodge should be for the future represented by twelve of its

members. On the motion being put, a vast majority of the brethren considered it an encroachment on their privileges, and the Grand Lodge was closed before the sentiments of the whole of the brethren could be collected. And it was not till the year 1770, that this privilege was strictly warranted. A privilege has also since been granted to the Stewards' Lodge of taking precedence of all other Lodges, the two oldest not excepted.

The Earl of Loudon was installed Grand Master, at Fishmongers' Hall, on the 13th April, 1736, and appointed Br. Ward D.G.M., Sir Robert Lawley, Bart. and William Græme, M.D. and F.R.S., Grand Wardens. His Lordship constituted several Lodges, and granted three provincial deputations, one for New England, a second for South Carolina, and a third for Cape Coast Castle, in South Africa.

The Earl of Darnley was elected and duly installed as Grand Master, at Fishmongers' Hall, on the 28th April, 1757. His lordship appointed Br. Ward, D.G.M., and Brs. Lawley, and Græme, Grand Wardens. During his lordship's administration, Frederick Prince of Wales, father of George III., was initiated into Masonry at an occasional Lodge convened for the purpose at Kew, over which Dr. Desaguliers presided as Master. The Grand Master was most attentive in the discharge of the duties of his office, and granted deputations for Lodges at Montserrat, Geneva, the circle of Upper Saxony, the coast of Africa, New York, and the islands of America.

The Earl of Darnley was succeeded by the Marquis of Carnarvon, afterwards Duke of Chandos, who was installed at an assembly and feast, held at Fishmongers' Hall, 27th April, 1738. He appointed Br. Ward, D.G.M., and Brs. Graham and Robinson, Grand Wardens. In the year 1738, a formidable bull was thundered from the Roman conclave, not only against Freemasons themselves, but against all those who promoted or favoured their cause—who gave them the smallest countenance or advice—or who were in any respect connected with a set of men, who, in the opinion of his Holiness, were enemies to the tranquility of the State, and hostile to the spiritual interest of souls. Notwithstanding the severity of this bull, which threatened excommunication to every offender, no particular charge, either of a moral or political nature, was brought against a single individual of the Order. It was merely stated that the Fraternity had spread far and wide, and were daily increasing; that they admitted men of every religion into their society, and that they bound their members by an oath, to observe with inviolable secrecy, the mysteries of their Order. These circumstances indeed, were sufficient grounds for exciting the Church of Rome to oppose a system so contrary to their contracted views in religion and government. This bull was followed by an edict, dated 14th January, 1739, containing sentiments equally bigotted, and enactments equally severe. The servitude of the galleys, the tortures of the rack, and a fine of 1000 crowns in gold, were threatened to persons of every description, who were daring enough to breathe the infectious air of a Masonic assembly. The Grand Master during his year of office, paid every attention to its duties, and, in testimony of his esteem, presented to the Grand Lodge a gold jewel, for the use of the Secretary. Two deputations

for the office of Provincial Grand Master, were granted by his lordship, one for the Carribee Islands, and the other for the West Riding of Yorkshire. This latter appointment was considered a further encroachment on the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge at York, and widened still more the breach between the Grand Lodges in the North and South of England.

A proposition was made during this administration, to appropriate a part of the Charitable Fund to apprentice the sons of Masons, which, after a lengthened debate in Grand Lodge, was rejected. Some unpleasant altercations arose about this period, owing to a bad understanding between the Grand Lodges of London and York; several dissatisfied brethren met in an irregular manner, and in consequence of some means being taken to distinguish them from those belonging to regular Lodges, they raised an outcry, that innovations were being introduced into Masonry, and placed themselves under the constitution of the Grand Lodge at York, styling themselves *Ancient Masons*. By the exertions of the Deputy Grand Master these differences were for a time reconciled, but soon after broke out with greater violence, and caused great commotions in the Order.

Lord Raymond was invested and installed Grand Master, at Fishmongers' Hall, on the 3rd of May, 1739. He appointed Br. Græme, D.G.M., Brs. Thursby and Foy, Grand Wardens, and Br. Revis, Grand Secretary. The Society at this period, though in some respects most flourishing, was greatly disturbed by the secession of a number of brethren who held Lodges without proper authority; and complaints were constantly made of persons being initiated into the Order for unworthy considerations. For the purpose of excluding these deluded brethren, the Grand Lodge in too hasty a manner, adopted the practice of altering the ceremonies of a number of Lodges, whereby they were detected. This gave the refractory Lodges a new pretext for maintaining, that innovations were being introduced into the body of Masonry. They then announced themselves independent, and assumed the name of *Ancient Masons*, under which title they established a Grand Lodge, and held annual feasts. For these irregular proceedings, they pretended to have the sanction of the ancient York constitution, and set forth that they only practised Masonry in its purity; whilst the other Lodges, in consequence of their innovations, they styled *Modern Masons*. Under these false representations, they gained the countenance of the Scotch and Irish Masons, and several noblemen and gentlemen unacquainted with the origin of the separation, gave them their patronage and support, and some Lodges were added to their list. During this presidency, few additions were made in the number of Lodges. One deputation was granted for a Provincial Grand Master for Savoy and Piedmont.

Lord Raymond was succeeded by the Earl of Kintore, who was invested and installed at Haberdashers' Hall, on the 22nd April, 1740, and appointed Br. Græme, D.G.M., and Brs. Ruck and Vaughan, Grand Wardens. Several deputations for Provincial Grand Lodges were granted by his Lordship,—one for Russia, one for Hamburgh, and the circle of Lower Saxony, one for the West Riding of York, in the room of Br. Horton, deceased, and one for the Island of Barbadoes.

The Earl of Morton succeeded Lord Raymond, and was invested and installed at the above-named Hall, on the 19th of March, 1741. He appointed Br. Martin Clare, A.M. F.R.S., Deputy Grand Master, Brs. Vaughan and Gascoyne, Grand Wardens. Several excellent laws and regulations were introduced during this presidency. The Grand Master presented a staff of office to the Grand Treasurer, and it was resolved by the Grand Lodge that this officer should henceforth be annually elected, and with the Secretary and Sword Bearer rank as members of the Grand Lodge. A large cornelian seal, with the arms of the Society engraven thereon, was also presented to the Grand Lodge by Br. Vaughan, S.G.W., who was appointed by the Grand Master as Provincial G.M. for North Wales.

Lord Ward succeeded the Earl of Morton, and was invested and installed on the 27th April, 1742, and appointed Br. Robert Lawley, Bart., D.G.M., and Brs. Hody and Berrington, Grand Wardens. His Lordship having worked in all the offices of the Order, from Secretary of a private Lodge to that of Grand Master, was perfectly acquainted with every detail, and took the most effectual means of healing the differences and checking the irregularities which had lately occurred, and by a wise administration of justice and mercy, and setting a good example in his own conduct, had the satisfaction of seeing a greater degree of unanimity produced amongst the brethren than had subsisted for some time past. Many Lodges in a declining state were induced by his advice to join others in more prosperous circumstances, and many who had been contumacious were reclaimed, whilst others still proving obstinate were erased. By these wise measures, the harmony of the Lodges appeared perfectly restored. At this period the Freemasons at Antigua built a large hall for their meetings, and applied to the Grand Lodge for permission to call it the Great Lodge of St. John's in Antigua, which favour was granted in April, 1744. Lord Ward remained Grand Master two years, during which he constituted many Lodges and appointed several Provincial Grand Masters,—one for Lancaster, one for North America, and three for the Island of Jamaica.

The Earl of Strathmore was invested and installed Grand Master on the 2nd May, 1744, at Haberdashers' Hall, and appointed Br. Vaughan D.G.M., Brs. Græme and Baker, Grand Wardens. Br. Jesse was re-elected by the Grand Lodge, as Grand Treasurer, September 24th. During his Lordship's year of office, the government devolved on the Grand Officers in consequence of his non-attendance. His Lordship, however, appointed a Provincial Grand Master for the Island of Bermuda.

Lord Cranstoun was invested and installed Grand Master at Drapers' Hall, on the 18th April, 1745, and appointed Br. Hody, D.G.M., Brs. Baker and Smith, Grand Wardens, Br. Revis, Grand Secretary, and Br. Slaughter, Grand Sword Bearer. His Lordship presided over the Fraternity with great reputation for two years, during which several Lodges were constituted, and a Provincial Grand Master appointed for Cape Briton and Lewisbourg. By a resolution in Grand Lodge, it was ordered that public processions on feast days should be discontinued.



Lord Cranstoun was succeeded by Lord Byron, who was invested and installed at Drapers' Hall, on the 30th April, 1747, and appointed Br. Baker, D.G.M., Brs. Shirley and Jeffreys, Grand Wardens, Br. Revis, G.S., and Br. Carne, Grand Sword Bearer. By his Lordship's direction, the laws of the Committee of Charity were revised and reprinted, and distributed among the different Lodges. A considerable present to the General Charity was received from the Lodge at Gibraltar. The five years during which his Lordship presided as Grand Master, were distinguished by the greatest attention and redress of all grievances and ready relief to every case of distress. This Grand Master granted Provincial Patents for Denmark and Norway, Pensiylvania, Minorca, and New York.

Lord Carysfoot was invested and installed Grand Master on the 20th March, 1752, and appointed Br. Manningham, M.D., Deputy Grand Master, Brs. Carmichael and Sir Richard Wrottesley, Bart., Grand Wardens. This administration was greatly distinguished by the excellent government, and also the great zeal and ability displayed by the Grand Master and his officers. These were so obvious to the brethren that his Lordship was re-elected on the 3rd of April, 1753, with every testimony of respect and gratitude. Provincial Patents were issued for Gibraltar, the Bahama Islands, New York, Guernsey, Jersey, Alderney, Sark and Mann; also for Cornwall and the Counties of Worcester, Gloucester, Salop, Monmouth, and Hereford.

The Marquis of Carnarvon, afterwards Duke of Chandos, was invested and installed Grand Master in March, 1754. The first proceeding of importance during his lordship's administration, was the revising and reprinting the Book of Constitutions, under the supervision of a committee of Grand Officers, and other brethren selected for their zeal and ability. The Grand Master presented a jewel to the Grand Lodge, a pair of silver pins, gilt, for the use of the Grand Treasurer, and also gave many other proofs of his attachment to the Craft. During his lordship's administration, the Grand Lodge received numerous complaints regarding the irregular meetings of several Lodges, and resolutions were passed condemnatory of such proceedings, and various brethren erased. During his lordship's administration, which continued three years, he granted the following deputations for Provincial Grand Masters, namely, for South Carolina; South Wales; Antigua; North America, where no former provincial lodge was appointed; Barbadoes; and all his Majesty's islands to the windward of Guadaloupe; St. Eustatius, Cuba, and St. Martin's Dutch Carribee islands in America; Scilly and the adjacent islands; all his Majesty's dominions in Germany, and for the county Palatine of Chester, and the city and county of Chester.

The Marquis of Carnarvon was succeeded by Lord Aberdour, who was invested and installed on the 18th May, 1753. During the administration of this nobleman, the Grand Lodge voted the sum of fifty pounds to be remitted to General Kingsley, for the purpose of distributing it among such of the soldiers of Prince Ferdinand's army in Germany as were Masons, whether English, Hanoverians, or Hessians. Lord Aberdour continued

Grand Master for five years, during which period the following deputations for appointment of Provincial Grand Masters were granted!—Antigua and the leeward Carribee islands; the town of Norwich, and the county of Norfolk; for the Bahama islands, in room of the governor deceased; Hamburg, and Lower Saxony; Guadaloupe; Lancaster; the province of Georgia; Canada; Andalucia, and places adjacent; Bermuda; Carolina; Musquito shore: and East India.

The Earl of Ferrers succeeded Lord Aberdour, 3rd May, 1762; during his term of office nothing material occurred in Masonry, but by the diligence of the Deputy Grand Master, General Salter, the business of the Society was regularly conducted, and the Fund of Charity considerably increased. The Grand Master granted the following provincial patents, namely, for Jamaica, East India, Cornwall, Armenia, Westphalia, for Bombay, the Dukedom of Brunswick, the Grenadas, St. Vincent, Dominica, Tobago, &c., and for Canada.

On the 8th of May, 1764, Lord Blaney was elected Grand Master, and Lord Ferrers invested Br. John Revis, late Deputy Grand Master, as proxy for his lordship, who continued in office for two years, during which period, being principally in Ireland, his duties were faithfully performed by the Deputy Grand Master, General Salter. A scheme for the opening of a subscription for the purpose of purchasing furniture for the Grand Lodge was proposed at this time, but failed for the want of encouragement.

During Lord Blaney's administration, the dukes of Gloucester and Cumberland were initiated into the Order; the former at an occasional Lodge, held at the Horns Tavern, Westminster, on the 16th of February, 1766, at which the Grand Master presided in person; and the latter at an occasional Lodge held at the Thatched House Tavern, in St. James's Street, presided over by General Salter. His lordship granted several deputations for the office of Provincial Grand Master; namely, for Barbadoes; Upper Saxony; Stockholm; Virginia; Bengal; Italy; Upper and Lower Rhine, and the circle of Franconia; Antigua; the Electorate of Saxony; Madras, and its independencies; Hampshire; and Montserrat. Among the various resolutions passed by the Grand Lodge during this Grand Master's term of office, was one to the following effect:—That as the Grand Lodge entertained the highest sense of the honour conferred on them by the initiation of the Dukes of Gloucester and Cumberland, it was resolved that each of their royal highnesses should be presented with an apron lined with blue silk; and that in all future processions they should rank as Past Grand Masters, next to the Grand Officers for the time being. The same compliment was also paid to their royal brother, the Duke of York, who was initiated into Masonry abroad, whilst on his travels.

This brings this history of Freemasonry in England down to the beginning of the reign of George 3rd, who succeeded to the throne on the 6th October, 1760. During the former reign it was the opinion of some persons that Masonry enjoyed a golden era, and it can hardly be doubted that a foundation was then firmly laid for the construction of the present stately edifice. The Committee of Charity had been established and several improvements made in its working, and various excellent institutions and

maxims shadowed forth which have been since adopted and carried out. It must be obvious that the slight check to its prosperity during its transitory state from operative to speculative in the last days of Sir Christopher Wren, was thus amply compensated by the spirited manner in which it was supported by numbers of persons of all classes of society, who were attracted to it by the beauty of those principles whose beneficial tendency to mankind have stood the test of ages, and proved its happy and beneficial effects in affording a safe and sacred retreat where the differences of country, sect, and opinion, are not allowed to interfere with the friendship and brotherly love of its members; thus proving that here at least every brother may escape from those differences of opinion both political and domestic which are constantly occurring in this world of strife.

(*To be continued.*)

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## MASONIC REMINISCENCES.

BY Φωτοφιλος, P.M., L. 50, Dublin.

(*Continued from p. 597.*)

### CHAPTER X.—PHIL IS MARRIED—MR. JOHNSTONE PROVES TOO CLEVER —HIGHWAY ROBBERY—INFLUENCE OF FREEMASONRY ON THE HIGHWAYMAN, &c., &c., &c.

WHILE the Colonel was describing Elysium, and his sufferings there, as detailed in the last chapter, Mr. Johnson was regaling Phil with roast chicken and the delicious wine *Xeres de la Frontera*, (vulgarly called sherry, of course specially imported by himself), and during luncheon informed him, that at the particular and pressing request of Lavinia, he was about to make him a present in a day or two, that would, he had no doubt, make him very happy.

Phil's curiosity was excited, but he was told "Livy had enjoined secrecy, as she wished to surprize her lover, indeed her thoughts were now so entirely engrossed by a certain young gentleman (giving Phil a tickle in the ribs) that he, Mr. Johnson, felt quite jealous." Phil blushed with new and pleasurable emotions, and said he would be most happy to receive her present. "Well then, my young gentleman, as our sex sometimes change their minds, as well as the other and gentler one, I must, before I go to any further trouble, have that promise under your hand, so just write, accepted, on this slip of paper, place your name underneath, and I shall see all about it to-morrow." Phil did as he was told, and Mr. Johnson carefully folded up an acceptance, on a stamp sufficient to cover a considerable sum more than the price of the intended present.

Phil had been then of full age for many months, but knew as little of monetary transactions as in his days of infancy. The care of such matters devolved upon his father, and his agent; he never examined an account, or a book; and it is most probable if poor Phil had been asked to *balance* his account books, the only mode by which he would be likely to accomplish

the operation, would have been as Ramo Samee balanced the donkey, on his nose.

Early next morning, Mr. Johnson was on his way to the owner of Madame Vestris, paid the stipulated price with the produce of Phil's bill, and in the course of the next day, had her conveyed to Simpson Hall, with a polite note, requesting Phil's acceptance of her as a small token of his affectionate regard, &c., &c.

The old people were delighted, and amazed at the valuable gift, and took it as an unerring proof of the great wealth of the Johnsons. Phil himself was almost insane with joy; he rushed to Elysium, folded father and daughter alternately in his brawny arms, and even ventured to imprint a kiss on the lips of the more than half-willing Lavinia, believing that to her he was indebted for the much desired treasure.

The Colonel's cautions were now looked upon as prejudices. Phil, in his frantic joy, was ready to marry, or do any other dreadful act; the kind, and good Livy's disinterested generosity had overpowered him, and had overcome any little doubt or objection that lingered in Mr. Simpson's mind from the hints of his brother.

"The auld folk soon gied their consent."

The necessary settlements were prepared by Mr. Johnson's solicitor, the marriage ceremony was quietly performed in the little parish church, and before the Colonel's fit of gout had fully ripened to its climax, Mr. and Mrs. Phil Simpson, and suite, were enjoying the beautiful scenery at a *château*, close by the lovely lake of Geneva.

Mr. Johnson contrived to make himself trustee to the settlement on his daughter, and obtained a general power of attorney to act as agent, ousting a gentleman of long, and well-tried integrity, who had acted in that capacity for years, to the satisfaction of all parties. Old Simpson was a rigid economist, or what is commonly called a miser, and gladly consented to transfer the agency to his new kinsman, who most generously consented to discharge all the duties, without fee or reward.

Some persons are too clever; Mr. Johnson turned out to be one of those who occasionally overshoot the mark; a long term of successful rascality often tends to make men forget the caution, and prudence, by which they have so long succeeded, and tempts them to acts of such recklessness that they become entangled in their own snares.

He attempted too much, and suddenly became so bold and unscrupulous in his new stewardship, as to alarm Mr. Simpson, and disgust the tenantry. The fee simple of Elysium was to be purchased, as a graceful addition to the Simpson estates; new wings to both mansions were projected, and operations on a grand scale commenced to carry them out; the old servants were displaced by new ones, to the great annoyance of Mr. and Mrs. Simpson, who began to feel their situation most uncomfortable.

On the return of Phil, and his wife, from their honeymoon tour, balls, routs, and fêtes, followed in quick succession; the old friends of the Simpsons met with such cold receptions from the bride, that they dropped off one by one, until none were to be seen at the banquets but bearded red-

coats, or gallants of very questionable appearance, from Dublin, or London, of which latter place, Mr. Johnson was a native, being a younger son of the head of a most eminent and respectable trading house, who settled upon him an annuity, on the condition that he should live out of the kingdom.

Mr. Johnson and his daughter entertained a fierce antipathy against Freemasons, and fox-hunters, and to belong to the district hunt, or the district Masonic Lodge, was sufficient grounds for the exclusion from the hospitalities of Elysium.

Phil still continued to enjoy the sports of the field to the great amusement of his fellow sportsmen, who generally saluted him when they met, with the question, "Phil, my boy, how is the *grey mare*?"—to which, the usual reply—"Oh, I don't intend to hunt her any more, she is so hard in the mouth, I can't manage her in a scuffle, so I purpose making her a brood mare"—was sure to produce shouts of laughter, quite unintelligible to Phil, who had no notion that there were any *grey mares* who moved upon fewer legs than four.

Some days after the Colonel's departure, the following letter was received at the Hall—

"K——Id——I Street Club.

DEAR PHILIP, —I'm just alive, very glad though, to tell you the symptoms of the anticipated fit of gout have passed off more suddenly than I could have hoped for, and I should not wonder if I shall never have another fit, for between cur dogs, and crocodiles, lame horses, and highwaymen, I feel that my whole system has undergone quite a revulsion within the last few days.

"The evening I left you we reached the little road-side Inn of ——, long before dark. I thought they were much longer than usual, changing the horses, and knowing all the servants about the stable yard, I limped out to stir them up a little. Lounging about and chatting with the hostlers, was a very suspicious, brigand-looking fellow, whose appearance I did not at all relish. All they affected to know about him was, that he was a traveller, whose horse was having a feed; I kept a sharp look out, and before starting, saw myself that the linch pins were all right.

"We had got on about a mile and a half, and had just entered upon that wild and barren hill, where so many daring robberies have so recently been committed, when to my horror, I found one of the horses had fallen dead lame. I got out to see him examined, and discovered that a sharp nail had been driven into the quirk. I immediately remembered the villain at the Inn, and guessed that we were marked as victims. After consultation, we decided on being guided by the better part of valour, discretion, and on at once retracing our steps to the Inn, which we had some faint hopes of reaching before the highwayman (for such I now felt convinced he was) should have started.

"We had not proceeded many yards on our return, before we heard a loud, shrill whistle, which reverberated along the hills, and sent anything but a thrill of pleasure through our frames, and in a moment three ruffians, with blackened faces, rushed from a thicket by the way-side, and with pistols presented at our heads, demanded our money, or our lives. My man Peter, as is his usual habit, having considerably refreshed himself be-

fore starting, was disposed to show fight, but as I had not much money about me, and no fire arms, I thought it best to yield, and handed them my purse. They demanded my watch, which I hesitated to give, as I prized it beyond its mere intrinsic value, being the gift of a brother Mason, a French officer whom I had an opportunity of serving during the Peninsular war.

“While we were *parleying*, and just as they were about to use more persuasive arguments than words, we were joined by the hero we had noticed at the Inn, who told me civilly to give up the watch, and I should receive no rude treatment, and if I wished to redeem it, by sending fifty pounds to the Inn at which we met, I should have it back perfectly safe, as he himself would take charge of it; and any little parcel sealed and directed “to be called for,” would be sure to reach him. He put the watch which I handed him, in his pocket, examined the purse, and threw it to his fellows, than bidding us good night, and safe home, he and his band made off across the hills, and were lost to view in an instant.

“The sharp ears of the robbers had evidently, from their hurried retreat, caught the sounds of approaching travellers, which in our confusion were unheeded, and only struck upon our senses as two carriages advancing at a rapid pace, came within view; they pulled up as they neared us, and to my infinite joy I recognised several brother Masons, returning as they told me, after assisting at the opening of a new Lodge in the county town. After hearing a detail of our disaster, and expressing regret at not being up in time, they did not offer much consolation at the loss we suffered, saying we richly deserved it, for travelling without arms, it served as an encouragement to robbery. They gave us, however, all necessary assistance to reach the nearest posting house, where we procured fresh horses, and all set off together for the metropolis.

“On our way, a brother informed me that your friend Johnson was blackballed in his Lodge in consequence of having been one of a party who had *pigeoned* a young gentleman—the son of a brother, who had more money than brains. This fully accounts for his abuse of Freemasonry. He hates your neighbouring fox-hunters because young B—— declined to invite him to hunt with his hounds, for the very proper reason, that he settled down amongst ye, a mere stranger without a single introduction, though he talked largely of his acquaintance and connexions with persons of distinction. I firmly believe, his knowledge of such personages extends no farther than having seen them on the grand stand, or in the betting ring at Epsom, or may hap, some of them in a hell near St. James’s.

“On reaching home I lost no time in sending off the money to redeem my watch, with I confess, but faint hopes of ever seeing either watch or money again, but judge of my agreeable surprize, at receiving both this morning, with the accompanying note, which I enclose, and should be glad you would show to the Rector, as he may be able to give some clue to the writer, who manifestly is not all evil, and I would be disposed to make an effort to save him, by inducing him to quit this country and try an honest mode of life in some other. He sits his horse well, and would make a capital soldier.

“I hope you’ll cut this Johnson altogether, I can clearly see he wants to

inveigle Phil into a marriage with his daughter, which must by all means be prevented; as soon as I get a little stronger and arrange a few matters here, I shall pay you, I hope, a longer and more agreeable visit than the last. I am most anxious to make further enquiries about this unfortunate young highwayman, and endeavour, if possible, to turn him from his present life of crime, for his letter leads me to hope he is not quite irreclaimable. With kind remembrances to my sister and Phil,

To Philip Simpson, Esq.,  
Simpson Hall,

Believe me very sincerely yours,  
H. B.

P.S. The following is the highwayman's letter above alluded to.

“ ‘ COLONEL,

Mountain Retreat.

I never rob Freemasons, when I know it; my father was one, and how often in the pure, and happy days of my boyhood, have heard him say, that he made the Masonic principle his rule of life, and express a hope of seeing his sons one day members of that ancient Order. His life was blameless, useful, and honourable, and though circumstances have made me a proscribed outcast, and I fear have “warped to wrong” all that was good in my nature, yet do I revere his memory, and respect the Order which he loved. I return your money, and your watch, which, I see by the inscription, is a token of gratitude, for services rendered by one brother to another, under peculiar and trying circumstances. And am yours,

To Col. B. &c., &c.

STARLIGHT.’ ”

CHAPTER XI.—MR. JOHNSON IS SUPERSEDED, AND RETIRES TO BOULOGNE—REFLECTIONS ON DEFECTIVE EDUCATION—A FEW PASSING HINTS TO THE TARTUFFES OF THE DAY.

AN inflated announcement relating to the heir of Simpson Hall and the amiable, accomplished, and lovely Lavinia, &c., &c., in the list of marriages of the Saunders' News-Letter of the day, startled the Colonel into the knowledge of Phil having committed, in his uncle's estimation at least, the high misdemeanour of matrimony. In his first burst of anger he half resolved to cut the whole connection, and in particular to burn his Will, and cut off Phil with an angry shilling, but in calmer moments his love for his sister, whose weaknesses were all of a venial, and amiable kind, prevailed, and he made up his mind to make the best of a bad business, and if he could do nothing more, at least endeavour to frustrate Mr. Johnson's designs on the Simpson estates.

With this intent he proceeded to his brother Simpson's solicitor, and made enquiries as to any settlements. That gentleman informed him, that a draft of a marriage deed had been submitted to him, of which he refused to approve, without certain clauses and amendments which he suggested; and he heard nothing further on the subject. They then proceeded to examine the public registry\* where, to the colonel's great comfort, they found no memorial of any such document.

He then instructed the solicitor to prepare a deed of trust, with all possible speed, and be ready, on its completion, to accompany him to his

\* In Ireland all deeds and judgments must be registered within a certain limited time, and take precedence according to their priority of registration.

client's residence, as he was determined, if possible, "to curb the cunning devils of their will." The deed was soon prepared, and the man of war, and the man of peace, the man of civil, and the man of uncivil process, two dangerous opponents for any private gentleman to encounter, posted off to Simpson Hall, where they found Mr. and Mrs. Simpson in the most fitting temper possible, for their purpose, and in a mood to believe anything evil of Mr. Johnson.

They admitted their precipitancy, their want of judgment, their ingratitude, in short everything that could be urged against them by their indignant brother, and by degrees, they even volunteered a detail of all the grievances, and discomforts they endured, since the establishment of the Johnson *régime*.

The colonel thought the opportune moment had now arrived to inform them of the occasion of their solicitor's presence, and that he had brought with him, ready for signature, a deed conveying all the disposable property of Mr. Simpson, to certain trustees, in trust, to the use of Phil, and his issue, giving that young gentleman a life estate, without power of alienation, and as soon as that was properly signed, and sealed, he promised that the angels should no longer have cause to weep, at the "fantastic tricks" of Mr. Johnson, as he intended forthwith, to strip him of his "little brief authority," and reinstate his brother, once again, in the uncontroled lordship of Simpson Hall.

Joyously were these tidings received, and anxiously, and urgently was he entreated, that the happy project should be at once carried out: a request to which he was not slow to accede. The Rector of the parish, and the discarded agent—the trustees named in the deed—were summoned to the Hall on business of importance, and solicited to act, which, after an explanation, they consented to, and in a few hours, the faithful solicitor of Mr. Simpson, was on his way to the registry office, with a deed fully perfected, where it was duly registered, and the machinations of the wily Johnson were defeated.

Notices were served on the tenants, and bankers, Mr. Johnson received a communication that his services, as agent, were no longer required, that his authority was superseded, his power of attorney withdrawn, and calling on him to produce certain documents illegally and fraudulently obtained, in order that they may be immediately cancelled.

The old servants were recalled, things went on after the old fashion, familiar faces of old neighbours, were again smiling round the hospitable board, and joy reigned once more in the halls, and hearts of the Simpsons.

Mr. Johnson, though somewhat alarmed at the threatening aspect of the hitherto unclouded sky, still laboured under the impression that the deeds in his possession were valid; as he had himself some little notion of law, having, in his youth, spent a short time in a lawyer's office. Pope says, "a little learning is a dangerous thing," but in no branch of human knowledge is it so dangerous as in legal matters, particularly if it lead the unfortunate possessor to become his own lawyer. Mr. Johnson knew nothing of that most salutary law, the Irish Registration Act; and he did not even think it necessary fully to explain the nature of the deed to the parties interested, previous to its perfection, deeming their signatures all



sufficient, and binding. He was, however, on consultation with competent persons, soon undeceived, and returned to Elysium, a broken-down, disheartened, and disappointed man.

He now found himself involved in personal liabilities, from which he could not possibly extricate himself, the money deposited to secure the purchase of Elysium must be forfeited, and what was most alarming of all, Phil's bill, of which, as yet nothing was known, was fast approaching maturity, and must lead to an *exposé* fatal to his honour, and character. On consideration he found he had no alternative but to quit without the ceremony of leave-taking, as a *levanter*, or to throw himself on the mercy of the Colonel, who, he knew, was the chief mover in the counter-plot, and whom he knew to be capable of acts of generosity and goodness. His daughter urged him to pursue the latter course, which he finally adopted, and wrote a very plausible letter, announcing his intention to sell Elysium, museum, menagerie and all, and travel for some time, in order to recruit his finances, attributing his inability to meet his present engagements to heavy losses on the turf; and stating that he could now view the destruction of his household gods with less poignancy, as the sole object of his life was sure of a happy home, and tender protection.

The Colonel wrote to say, he was happy to hear Mr. Johnson was about to seek a more genial clime, and a wider field for the display of his talents; that he hoped his daughter would at once take up her residence at the hall, a wing of which would be placed at her disposal, where she could have her own separate establishment; and her happiness would therefore considerably depend upon herself.

Mr. Johnson understood, and felt the Colonel's sarcasm, but yielding to that stern and inexorable master, which no human law can control, necessity, he passed it over in silence, and bid farewell to his Elysian fields, and beloved daughter with a sigh, like our great and unfortunate ancestor on quitting *his* Eden, "a few natural tears he shed, but dried them soon, for the world was all before him, where to choose, and providence his guide;" and the wandering steps of Mr. Johnson were led by providence to that *refugium peccatorum*, Boulogne, where for many years after he might have been seen, ready to initiate any young gentleman, disposed to expend a little money in the acquisition of such knowledge, into the interesting mysteries of *Écarté*.

Mrs. Phil Simpson felt the separation from her father as acutely as one so artificially educated could, but short and fleeting are the sorrows of those, from whose young hearts are pressed out, as vulgar and ill-bred, all indications of those soft, loving, and delicate sensations, which suffuse the cheek of innocence with the tint of the rose, or make the eye sparkle with the tear of sensibility, that dew of gentle hearts.

The joys of such are as superficial, and as hollow, as their affection of sorrow is evanescent, discontented and unblest with any feeling of substantial happiness. They pass through life, light, frivolous, unreal things, tickled into laughter by the smallest straw, or feigning the deepest anguish at the crumpling of a rose leaf. Incapable of appreciating the stern virtues of worthy men, they are either induced by heartless parents, to marry a

fool for convenience, for whom they entertain neither esteem nor affection, or are caught by the showy exterior of some fashionable *roué*, who soon tires of their tinsel attractions. Neglect will naturally engender disgust, and render them an easy prey to the seducer; to end, perhaps, a life of hypocrisy, in crime, or madness.

This is no doubt a dark picture, yet we believe it a true one, we will not say true to nature, but rather to life, to nature turned astray, by imperfect or improper education; for we confess ourselves of the class who think there is a much larger proportion of the elements of good, than of evil, in the constitution of human nature, and would earnestly impress upon those, on whom rests the awful responsibility of instruction, rather to endeavour to give a right direction to the passions and propensities, than to make vain attempts, by artistic training, or too rigid coercion, to eradicate them—to be the gentle guides of nature, not her feeble, and unavailing adversaries. Nature's laws are impressions of the hand of that mighty Architect, whose works are ineffaceable, and by whom nothing was made in vain. The imprints of the great first cause are too deeply graven to be obliterated by the pigmy efforts of man, and his attempts, in the unequal struggle, must ever end in defeat and discomfiture.

We wish the modern *Tartuffes* of the day, would look at this subject with an eye of calm philosophy, and turn the power, which their talent or their station confers, into efforts of practical good. We wish we could impress these hints upon those pharisaical precisians, who would prepare their fellow men for heaven, by making earth a hell, who think the true way to improve the moral condition of toiling man, is to spread his pathway through life with thorns, and to curtail the few material enjoyments within his reach, thus marring the great end of God's providence—the happiness of his creatures—who, in a spirit of profane fanaticism, would shut up from the people, for whose improvement and instruction they were presumed to be chiefly intended, all sources of moral and mental culture, at those times, when consistently with the requirements and necessities of life, they could alone take advantage of, and enjoy them; and thus force the toil-worn and weary mechanic into the beer shop, or gin palace, for want of those wholesome fountains of recreation, whence he would be glad to imbibe, at once, health, pleasure, and knowledge.

This digression may, to some, seem out of place here, as touching upon topics not strictly within our province, or not very aptly incidental to our tale. But we write as Masons, for instruction, and amendment, as well as amusement, and would use the privilege of all writers—an occasional digression to add our petty streamlet, to the tributaries of our cotemporaries, who wield their more powerful pens for the refinement and elevation of their fellow men, and by whose united exertions, we hope to see formed, ere long, one wide river of truth and knowledge, which, in its glorious, and God-like course, shall overwhelm all the retarding influences of ignorance, bigotry, and corruption, until the whole earth shall be refreshed, in the true spirit of Freemasonry, with the pure waters of wisdom, charity, and love! With these few words to our readers, we return to our tale.

(To be continued.)

## MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

### ROYAL FREEMASONS' GIRLS' SCHOOL.

The usual Quarterly Court of the Governors of this School was held on the 4th ult., at the Freemasons' Tavern, under the presidency of Br. Patten, P.L.G.B. There were also present Br. Crewe; Br. Adlard; Br. Young; Br. Robinson; Br. H. G. Warren; Br. Bohm; Br. Symmonds; the Rev. Br. Portal; the Rev. Br. Lyall; Br. Barrett; Br. Biggs, &c., &c.

The minutes of the last Quarterly Court, and of the proceedings of the General and House Committees, having been read and confirmed,

Br. Symmonds brought up the report of the special committee appointed to inquire into the expenditure of the Institution, with a view to the more economical management thereof. This document stated that, within the last few years, the outlay for the maintenance of the establishment had been greatly increased, by reason of the high prices to which provisions had risen during the same period. There had been also lately, a larger consumption of coals than usual, in order, thoroughly to air the new building. It was the hope of the committee that, the first-mentioned cause of increased outlay would not long continue to operate, and they recommended a system of contracts for large quantities, and an alteration in the mode of cooking—suggestions on which the House Committee were already acting with very favourable results. As regarded the cost of fuel they were of opinion, that for the future, it would not be so heavy as it had hitherto been. In pursuing their enquiries into the accounts of the establishment, they found that a sum of money had been each year allowed to the gardener for extra labour, and they recommended that, for the future, such a charge should be disallowed, and that the House Committee should annually nominate one of its members to act as chairman for the year. It was a subject of regret that since 1847, the income of the institution derived from dividends, had, in consequence of the sale of stock to meet the additional outlay incurred by the building of the new school house, been reduced from £547 15s. 6d. to £246. They hoped, however, that with larger donations from the brethren, the General Committee might be enabled to recover ground in that respect, and extend the accommodation of the Institution to a larger number of children than 65, which was the present limit.

On the motion of Br. Portal, seconded by Br. Lyall, the report was adopted, and it was recommended to the House Committee to carry out the suggestions contained in it.

The candidates in waiting were then called in, and informed that they were elected to the benefits of the Institution, without the necessity of a poll.

On the motion that the Treasurer be authorized to sign checks for the sum of £363 12s. 8d. to pay the ordinary expenses of the establishment for the last three months,

Br. Barrett moved, as an amendment, that the gardener's charge for extra labour should not be allowed, which was, after some discussion, negatived, it being the opinion of the majority of the Court, that their servant had not wilfully misconceived his instructions. The original motion was then agreed to.

On the motion of Br. Symmonds, it was ordered, that the stock of the Institution exceeding £2000, should be sold, and that the amount realized should be placed to the credit of the Sustentation Fund.

A young lady, a former pupil of the School, was next elected as Assistant School-mistress; after which,

Br. Symmonds brought forward his motion that the badge worn on the children's arm should be discontinued, and that their dress should be modernized. He grounded his objection to the badge, upon the ground that it was a degradation to the children, as it branded them with the stigma of being recipients of charity; children of Freemasons, he maintained, ought to be exempted from any such slur, especially as even in the lowest class of charity schools there was growing up an inclination to free the children from every mark that had a tendency to lower them in their own esteem. He had first contemplated the discontinuance of a badge altogether, but to meet the

views of those who were of opinion that one ought to be retained, he was willing to substitute for that at present worn by the children on their arms, another in the shape of a Masonic jewel, which had been designed by Br. Robinson, to be worn on a collar, of blue ribband. At present, however, he would move that the badge hitherto worn by the children, be altogether discontinued.

Br. Young seconded the motion.

Br. Barrett strenuously opposed the motion.

Br. Portal took the same view of the case. Masons themselves did not consider the wearing of the jewels of office a degradation, and therefore he could not see how a Masonic badge could be a degradation to their children.

Br. Lyall stated that his experience as a clergyman superintending parochial schools, led him to the opinion that the poor disliked everything like a badge.

Br. Biggs knew that the brethren in general looked on the badge as a degradation.

The motion was then put to a show of hands, and declared to be carried.

It was next resolved that a badge designed by Mr. Robinson should be worn by the children in the manner specified by Br. Symmonds, and a direction was given to the House Committee to select the materials and fix upon the colour of the children's summer and winter clothing.

Br. Lyall having placed his pulpit, St. Denis Backchurch, at the service of the Institution for a charity sermon, received the thanks of the Court for his kindness.

Some other routine business having been disposed of, the proceedings terminated with a vote of thanks to the chairman.

#### THE BOYS' SCHOOL.

The Quarterly Court of Governors of this School was held at the offices, in Great Queen Street, on the 1st October, Br. John Hervey presiding. The minutes of the last Court, and the various committee meetings having been read, it was resolved that in future, the Quarterly Courts should be held on the third Monday in the month, instead of the first.

A building committee was appointed to endeavour to find a suitable site or building for the new school-house. During the past quarter an additional £150 has been funded for the purposes of the school, making the total amount so funded £2150.

Amongst the candidates for the benefits of the institution, is the son of a deceased brother in India—to which place his mother is about to return.

#### THE FREEMASONS' TAVERN.

It is with great pleasure that we are enabled to direct the attention of the brethren to the great improvements which have lately been made in the appearance of the head quarters of Freemasonry, under the able direction of the new proprietors. Both inside and out it has been entirely renovated and re-decorated, so as to make it now one of the handsomest and most complete establishments of the kind in the metropolis. Whether we regard the "Clarence," now gorgeously decorated in the Alhambra style, showing in every view a profusion of crimson and gold—the "Star," with its rich warmth of an old English parlour—the "Sussex," with its noble proportions displayed by an effulgence of light playing upon the green and gold with which it is embellished—the dining room with its large patterned gorgeous velvet piled paper, which gained the medal at the Paris Exhibition—the "Glee Room," with the beautiful paintings decorating its walls, renovated, so as to look "better than new"—or the "Crown," with its light blue pannels thrown up by borders of scarlet and gold, each appears perfect and in good taste—whilst a profusion of beautiful mirrors and looking-glasses, and elegant light chandeliers and lustres in the various rooms, add much to the general effect. Nor have the ante-rooms and passages been neglected; every thing has been renovated with equal taste, and the Grand Lodge cannot say that the proprietors have not fairly expended not only the £600 to be allowed them out of the rent, but something considerably more, in making the Freemasons' Tavern what it ought to be, an establishment equal in comfort to a club, and one in which the brethren may justly take pride. Now that the house has been put into order, we

hope it will meet with that patronage which its position and accommodation so well deserves, and which we are assured Messrs. Elkington and Co. intend to endeavour to merit, by the most careful attention to the comfort of their guests, and providing every article of provision and every wine of the best quality.

Wishing the new proprietors a prosperous season, we cannot conclude without expressing a hope that the Grand Lodge, now that their tenants have done so much for the house, will pay a little attention to the condition of the Grand Hall. They charge enough for its use and ought to keep it so as to be a credit to the body to which it belongs. The effect of the noble statue of the Duke of Sussex is entirely destroyed by the miserable, dingy, worn out drapery by which it is surrounded, the shabbiness of which has been made more painfully apparent by the recent improvements in the lighting. We hope, ere long, to be able to report that the hall presents as brilliant an appearance as the rest of the establishment.

#### LONDON LODGES.

**FIDELITY LODGE (No. 3).**—The first meeting for the season, of this Lodge, took place at the Freemasons' Tavern, on the 10th ult., when Br. Lowe, the W.M., most ably assisted by his officers, initiated Mr. C. W. Alderton, into the Order, and raised Br. Wendon to the third degree. The brethren afterwards dined together, and spent a very pleasant evening.

**ROYAL YORK LODGE OF PERSEVERANCE (No. 7).**—On Wednesday, the 17th Oct., the members of this Lodge met for the dispatch of Masonic business. In the course of the evening, Br. John Hervey, P.M., initiated a gentleman into the mysteries of the Order, and Br. Dr. Wm. Jones, P.M., passed Br. C. Warr, to the second degree, both ceremonies being performed with great credit to the officiating Masters. At the conclusion of the Lodge business, the brethren with their visitors, retired to partake of an elegant banquet, provided by the worthy hosts of the Freemasons' Tavern, and presided over by Br. Dr. W. Jones, P.M. The evening was marked for that unanimity of feeling and fraternal kindness for which this Lodge has for many years been distinguished. Among the numerous visitors, we noticed, Brs. G. Whidbourne, No. 166; Thos. Ritchie, No. 5; J. R. Fenwick, No. 5; John Symonds, No. 275; J. B. Hyde, Acacia Lodge, New York; Br. Paul, No. 211, &c., &c. The W.M. Br. Hopwood, was prevented attending, in consequence of his absence from England.

**ALBION LODGE (No. 9).**—This Lodge held its first meeting for the season, at the Freemasons' Tavern, on the evening of the 2nd ult., when the M.W., Br. J. Buxton, initiated a gentleman into the mysteries of Freemasonry, passed one brother, and raised three. All Masonic business having been concluded, the brethren retired to refreshment. The visitors on the occasion, were Br. Beuler, who delighted the company by his comic singing, and Br. Williams, of the Phoenix Lodge, No. 202.

**EGYPTIAN LODGE (No. 29).**—The members of this Lodge met for the first time this season, at the George and Blue Boar, High Holborn, on Thursday evening, the 4th October, Br. Fernandez, W.M., assisted by Br. Duddlen, S.W., and Br. Malloy, P.M. as J.W. The business was of a formal character, and on the Lodge being closed, the members retired to refreshment, which was served in Br. Haynes usual good style, Br. B. P. Todd, P.M. presiding, the W.M. being called away on important business. Br. Thos. Bohn, P.M., 201, returned thanks for the health of the visitors, which was proposed by Br. Todd, and responded to by the members of the Lodge with fraternal kindness. The harmony of the evening was much enhanced by the excellent singing of Brs. Todd, Haynes and Eves, and a very pleasant hour or two was spent, under the able presidency of the worthy and kind hearted Br. Todd, who is Treasurer of the Lodge, as well as being one of its oldest Past Masters.

**OLD KINGS ARMS' LODGE (No. 30).**—The first meeting for the season, of this Lodge, took place at the Freemasons' Tavern, on the 22nd, Br. Edward Warwick, W.M. presiding. At the conclusion of the business, the brethren adjourned to dinner, and spent a very pleasant evening, enlivened by the very excellent singing of Br. Geo. Genge, who is a member of the Lodge.

GIHON LODGE (No. 57).—This Lodge met for the first time this season, at the Bridge House Hotel, London Bridge, under the able presidency of Br. Geo. England, W.M. In the course of the evening, Captain Coote, of the Amazon, was duly initiated into the Order, Br. Huffeld passed as a Fellow-craft, and Captain Longden, of the Turkish Contingent, raised to the third degree. The labours of the evening were succeeded by a very elegant banquet—harmony reigning supreme throughout the whole of the proceedings.

ROYAL NAVAL LODGE (No. 70).—The members of this Lodge met for the first time since the recess, on the 10th inst. The W.M., Br. Burden, presided, but the business was merely formal, and the attendance of the brethren very limited.

LODGE OF UNITY (No. 82).—If a good beginning is an earnest of success, then the first meeting of this Lodge at the London Tavern, on the 1st October, promises a brilliant season for this ancient and respectable Lodge. We observed among the many brethren present, Brs. J. E. Cox, Grand Chaplain, J. Mott Thearle, Sleigh, Stearns, Pitman, Dunsford, Vickers, Anderson, Webb, J. Robins, from Rotterdam, F. Robins and Porter. In the absence of the W.M. Br. A. L. Bellinger, two raisings were most ably performed by Br. Stearns, P.M., and the Lodge duties were conducted with the correctness for which this Lodge is celebrated. Our wonderment to a certain extent ceases, when we find so excellent a Mason as the Grand Chaplain acting as Secretary, and "all things by turns," taking the offices of Master Warden, or Inner Guard should occasion require it. At 6 p. m. the brethren adjourned from labour to refreshment, and proceeded to a banquet furnished in the most *recherche* style by Br. Bathe. The appearance the table presented when the brethren were seated, was most effective—a massive candelabra with clusters of wax lights—vases filled with choice flowers dotting the whole length of the table, and last not least, the appearance of the brethren, who from being many of them Provincial Grand Officers, presented an effect in purple and gold most pleasing to the eye. To paraphrase some part of Byron's Sennacherib, we may say or sing of the W.M. and his Officers, that they were

" Gleaming in purple and gold,  
And their Jewels shone bright as the Stars o'er the Sea  
When the Blue waves roll nightly o'er deep Galilee."

The wines were excellent, and the viands varied and choice—illustrating by their plenty, Sidney Smith's shrewd reading of

" Man wants but little here below,  
As Beef, Pork, Venison, Lamb and Mutton shew."

The banquet was presided over by Br. John Mott Thearle, P.M. On the removal of the cloth, the W.M. proposed "The Queen and the Craft,"—and eloquently enumerated the varied virtues, public and domestic, which endeared Her Majesty to the people. He coupled with it, "The Craft,"—a Craft in which there was as little guile as would be found in any human institution. The usual toasts of the evening; to that of the Earl of Yarborough, Br. J. E. Cox replied, and expressed his deep regret at the illness of the D.G.M., prayed that it might please the G. A. of the Universe to return our valued D.G.M. to the health so necessary to his own enjoyment of life, and to the large circle of loving friends and brethren, who, sympathising in the cause, so regret his absence from Masonry. The enjoyment of the evening was much enhanced by the excellent signing of many of the brethren—viz., Brs. Porter, Winsdale, Watts and Thearle. The glee of "All's well," by the two latter, deserves "honourable mention." As the small hours came along, the brethren departed, carrying with them another pleasing recollection of the pleasures of Old Unity.

VITRUVIAN LODGE (No. 103).—At the meeting of this Lodge, held at the White Hart Tavern, College Street, Lambeth, on the 10th October, Messrs. Thos. Oakley, Thos. W. Morris, and Wm. Friend, were duly initiated into the secrets and mysteries of Freemasonry. The W.M. Br. N. Maudsley, presided, and it is therefore needless to say, the whole of the ceremonies were most ably performed.

TEMPLE LODGE (No. 118).—This Lodge met for the first time this season, at

the Ship and Turtle Tavern, Leadenhall Street, on the 2nd ult., under the able presidency of Br. Wm. Weeden, who initiated two candidates into the mysteries of the Order, passed one brother, and raised another to their respective degrees. At the close of the business, upwards of thirty brethren dined together.

**ST. LUKE'S LODGE (No. 168).**—The annual meeting of this Lodge, for the installation of the W.M., was held at the Builders' Arms, Chelsea, on Monday, the 1st October, Br. Henderson, W.M. presiding. Two brethren having been raised to the third degree, and three candidates, Messrs. Hubbard, Wm. Birch and Abel Birch, initiated into the Order, the W.M. resigned the chair to P.M. Br. Killick, who most ably installed our esteemed Br. Tyrrell into the chair. At the conclusion of this ceremony, the W.M. proceeded to appoint and invest his officers, as follows:—Brs. Taylor, S.W.; Collard, J.W.; Gray, Treasurer; Savoy, Sec.; Kirk, S.D.; Levy, J.D.; Patt, I.G.; and John Todd, Steward. A sum of money having been voted for the relief of a worthy brother now suffering under sickness, Br. Collard gave notice of a motion for the next meeting, for the revision of the bye laws. All business being ended, the Lodge was closed with due form, and the brethren adjourned to supper—after which an hour or two were wiled away in the enjoyment of brotherly converse, and responding to Masonic toasts.

**LODGE OF PRUDENT BROTHERS (No. 169).**—The brethren of this Lodge met for the first time after the vacation, at the Freemasons' Tavern, on the 23rd ult., under the able management of Br. Hewlett, the W.M. The business of the evening which was entirely of a private character having being disposed of, the brethren supped together, and passed an hour in social harmony.

**ST. JOHN'S LODGE, HAMPSTEAD (No. 196).**—The annual meeting of this excellent Lodge, was held at the Holly Bush Tavern, Hampstead, on Tuesday, the 9th ult., when our worthy brother, and highly valued correspondent, Br. Samuel Aldrich, was installed into the chair as W.M. for the year 1855—56, by P.M. Br. T. A. Adams—the ceremony, it is needless to say, being most excellently performed. The new W.M. was pleased to invest his officers as follows:—Br. R. Hazard, S.W. and Treasurer; W. Johnson, J.W. and Secretary; A. D. Wesson, S.D.; A. Whittet, J.D.; Cornick, I.G. Br. J. R. Thompson, was also invested with the insignia of immediate P.M. Five candidates were ballotted for, and elected for initiation, but only three being present, viz.—Mr. F. W. Collins, Mr. Joseph Smith, and Mr. Geo. Pritchard, all of Hampstead, they were respectively introduced, and the W.M. initiated them into the Order in a very impressive and able manner. Br. P.M. Shury, proposed a new candidate for initiation, and the W.M. five—so that our Br. Aldrich's office appears likely to materially add to the strength of the Lodge—and it is peculiarly gratifying to observe, that a large number of the new brethren are coming from the immediate neighbourhood, evincing how highly the W.M. is respected amongst those with whom he is in the closest communion in the every day business of life. A Committee of General Purposes was also appointed, consisting of Brs. Hamilton, P.M.; Shury, P.M.; Adams, P.M.; Thompson, P.M.; H. Paxon, P.M.; Hazard, S.W. and Treasurer; Johnson, J.W. and Secretary; Rippon, Wesson, Cornick, and Whittet. At the conclusion of the business, the brethren adjourned to a very elegant banquet served in Br. Thomas's best style. Amongst those present were a large number of visitors, including Brs. Geo. Barrett, Barton, Farmer, Holloway, Howe, Kardel, Paxon, Spencer, Warren, Wells, &c. "The health of the Queen and the Craft," with the other usual and Masonic toasts having been drunk, the health of the newly initiated brethren was proposed in most appropriate terms by the W.M., and duly acknowledged. Br. Geo. Barrett, returned thanks for the toast of the visitors, and expressed the gratification they had all felt at the very excellent working of the W.M., P.M. Adams, and the officers. The W.M.'s health was given at the request of Br. Thompson, P.M., who expressed himself highly gratified at having had the opportunity of installing into the chair as W.M., so highly respected, and worthy a man and a Mason as Br. Aldrich, for whose exertions and excellent working, he augured a large amount of prosperity for the Lodge. The W.M. responded in feeling terms, and proposed the health of the P.M.'s, particularly thanking Br. Adams for the valuable services he had rendered the Lodge that day, as well as on previous occasions. Br. Adams having replied, the health of the officers, and other toasts drunk and responded

to, the W.M. proposed, "Prosperity to the Royal Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and their Widows," and in doing so lamented the limited support the Institution had received—and called attention to some defects in the laws, which he considered prevented the proper development of the Institution. Br. Warren, at the request of the W.M. responded, and pledged himself to call together at an early period, some of the brethren who wished to see the Institution put into a proper position, with the view of endeavouring to make arrangements for amending the bye laws, and increasing the funds. At a later period of the evening, Br. Warren returned thanks for the toast of "The Masonic Press"—and the brethren separated highly delighted with the entertainment of the evening.

**LODGE OF JOPPA (No. 223).**—This very numerous and excellent working Lodge re-assembled for the season, at the Albion, Aldersgate Street, on Monday, the 1st of October, when an unusual amount of business was in the circular, viz:—seven candidates for initiation, for which, the Right Honourable the Earl of Zetland, M.W.G. Master, had granted a dispensation, but only five of them were in attendance, and they were duly admitted into the Order. There were four brethren raised to the third degree, and Br. Lewis Lyons, son of the W.M., passed to the second. Amongst the candidates for initiation, was the Chevalier J. D. Benhouliel, from Algiers, a gentleman of high literary attainments, whose visit to England is to make himself more intimately acquainted with some of our Arts and Sciences. His appearance in the Lodge was peculiarly interesting, inasmuch as he wore a rich Eastern costume, turban, &c., thus showing, that neither colour, creed or clime is excluded the privileges of the Order. The W.M. Br. Henry Lyons, after going through the various ceremonies, delivered the charge in a most impressive manner. The brethren having been at labour from three o'clock until seven, it was natural to suppose they required some refreshment, for which purpose they proceeded to the banquetting room, which was bountifully supplied with all the necessary requisites to satisfy the appetites of the most fastidious. The Brs. Staples, the proprietors of the Albion, the Purveyors, gave general satisfaction. Grace was said before and after dinner, by the Rev. D. A. De Sola, Minister of the Lodge. The usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to with the customary cordiality. The Benevolent Fund was not forgotten by the newly initiated and other brethren, six guineas being announced as the evening's donations thereto. The musical arrangements were under the management of Br. Taylor, who was assisted by his sister, daughter, &c. The infant daughter of Br. L. M. Anerhaan, 7 years of age, performed several difficult pieces of music on the Piano, much to the satisfaction of the brethren. We will not say much respecting the W.M. at present, as his year of office is coming to a close, when we shall be enabled to allude to his labours at greater length. We will only add at present, that the Lodge of Joppa never had a better Master than the present. The greatest harmony prevailed throughout the evening, and the brethren departed highly gratified with the proceedings of the day. There were 85 brethren present at the dinner.

An emergency meeting was convened for the 10th inst., for the purpose of initiating Messrs. Charles Davies and Israel S. Moses, Merchants, who are proceeding forthwith to Melbourne. The candidates were grandsons of Br. D. Moses, the Treasurer, and as was anticipated, unanimously accepted, and initiated. There was no banquet on this occasion, but after the Lodge was closed, the brethren exchanged a cup of good fellowship with each other. The usual routine of business having been gone through, the W.M. proposed the healths of the candidates, and adverted to the gratifying circumstance of the Treasurer introducing two of his grandsons into the Lodge. Br. D. Moses had held that office for 44 consecutive years, having joined this Lodge in 1811. He was elected Treasurer the same year, and year after year has the ballot been unanimously in his favour. The W.M. called particular attention of the newly made brethren to these facts, and hoped they would (of which he had no doubt) endeavour to carry out those honourable principles which had always actuated their grandfather, and which had caused him to be, not only respected, but revered by every member of the Lodge, whilst in private life, he was respected by all who has the pleasure of his acquaintance, and as a Merchant—the head of that highly wealthy firm, Moses, Son, and Davis, second to none in the City for honour and integrity. He (the W.M.) was quite sure, that the brethren could see in the newly initiated brethren, all the materials



which would enable them to follow in their grandfather's footsteps, and he wished them a safe voyage to the far distant land, for which they were now on the eve of departing, assuring them, that they carried with them, the hearty and sincere wishes of their Lodge, for their health, happiness and prosperity.

**PERCY LODGE (No. 234).**—The brethren of this Lodge met for the first time this season, at the Ship and Turtle Tavern, Leadenhall Street, on Tuesday, 9th of October, for the despatch of Masonic business, and to present to Br. Seelie, P.M., a jewel, which had been voted to him at the last meeting in April last. The jewel is extremely plain and handsome, and has been made during the recess by Br. P.M. Lambert. Br. John Sheridan, W.M., addressing Br. P.M. Seelie in a neat and pointed speech, fastened the jewel on his breast in the name of the Lodge. All business ended, the brethren partook of an elegant dinner supplied by Br. Painter, who did not fail to provide a good supply of Turtle, and every delicacy of the season. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were drunk, and the brethren highly delighted. Among the visitors we noticed Br. P.M. Moriarty, and Br. P.M. T. Skidmore, &c., &c. Br. Moriarty, in his return speech to the proposal of his health from the chair, told the brethren, that it was upwards of 30 years since he was made a Mason in this Lodge, and stated the great benefits he had received from Lodges and Masons throughout his long life of travel all over the globe. He dilated upon the "Percy" of that day, when the late Br. Gilkes, Br. Johnson, and other Masonic stars and authorities were members of the Lodge, and compared it with the "Percy" of the present day.—We must add, that this is one of the most improving Lodges in the Metropolis. In former years it was a supper Lodge, but by the exertions of the present Pastmasters, it has for the last six years been converted into a dinner Lodge. The working of the brethren is in strict accordance with the Ancient Landmarks of the Order. There were present, Brs. Sheridan, W.M.; Seelie, P.M.; — Key, P.G.S.W., Kent; — King, P.M.; G. Lambert, P.M.D.C.; Burrell, P.M.; Robinson, Cathie, Thompson, Painter, &c., &c.

**LODGE OF UNITED STRENGTH (No. 276).**—This Lodge held its first meeting for the transaction of business since the long vacation, at the Gun Tavern, Pimlico, on the 9th October, Br. Cooper, the much respected W.M. presiding. The W.M. initiated Mr. John Norris Frost into the mysteries of Freemasonry, and passed Br. Nunn to the second degree, in his usual learned manner. The other business being only routine, the brethren adjourned to a banquet, served in Br. Rackstraw's usual liberal manner. Amongst the visitors we observed Br. Long, of the Mount Hiram Lodge, of Irish Constitution. After spending a very pleasant and convivial evening, the brethren adjourned until the second Tuesday in November, when we believe the Lodge will have to meet at an earlier hour than customary, there being an unusual quantity of business to be transacted.

**PILGRIM LODGE (No. 289).**—The brethren of this Lodge held their monthly meeting, at the Manor House Tavern, Walworth, on the 24th October, when the W.M. Br. Farmer, most ably initiated a candidate into the Order.

**LA TOLERANCE LODGE (No. 784).**—The brethren of the French Lodge, met on the 24th September, when a brother was duly passed to the second degree. The attendance of the brethren was very limited.

### INSTRUCTION.

The Lodge of United Pilgrim's Lodge of Instruction held its meeting on Friday evening, the 26th ult., for the purpose of working the 15 sections, Br. J. Thomas (P.M. of Lodge No. 745) putting the questions, and the following brethren answered them in a very efficient manner, viz.: 1. Br. H. Garrod; 2. Br. F. Geider; 3. Br. Z. Ansell; 4. Br. H. Garrod; 5. Br. D. R. Farmer; 6. Br. H. Garrod; 7. Br. J. Collins. 1. Br. C. Ollis; 2. Br. J. W. Ward; 3. Br. F. Geider; 4. Br. G. Haward; 5. Br. C. Ireland. 1. Br. J. R. Warren; 2. Br. P. Moss; 3. Br. D. R. Farmer. The Brethren separated highly gratified with the very able manner in which the questions were put by the W. Master, and answered by the above-named brethren.

## PROVINCIAL LODGES.

### CHESHIRE.

(FROM OUR OWN REPORTER.)

ON Wednesday, September 26th, the Provincial Grand Lodge of Cheshire assembled at Congleton, under the presidency of the Right Hon. Lord Viscount Combermere, R.W.P.G.M., for the transaction of the annual business of the province. The Craft Lodge was opened at the Lion and Swan Inn, and at twelve o'clock the Grand Lodge entered the room, which was much too small for the brethren present, and was consequently most inconveniently crowded. The V.W.P.G.M. of course occupied the throne. Brs. Cruthenden, as V.W.P.S.G.W.; Smith, as V.W.P.J.G.W.; Br. Gibbs Crawford Antrobus, acting as R.W.D.P.G.M., in the absence of Br. J. Fincheff Maddocks, who was prevented attending from indisposition. All the Grand Officers were re-elected, and the business being over, the Grand Lodge was closed, after which the brethren formed in procession, and, preceded by a band of music, marched to St. Peter's Church, where full cathedral service was performed, and a sermon preached by the Rev. J. W. Newell Tanner, V.N.P.G. Chaplain, and a collection made, amounting to upwards of £22, in aid of the Provincial Masonic Fund of Benevolence. The choir consisted of Br. Twiss, N.P.G., organist; Brs. Edmondson, of Stockport; Scarisbrick, of the Philharmonic Concerts, Liverpool; Gee and Hayter, of Macclesfield; S. Pearsall, Vicar Choral, of Lichfield Cathedral; and Miss Shand, of the Manchester Concerts—a choir which for musical talent would hardly be surpassed, and whose performances, both in the church and during the banquet, gave the greatest amount of satisfaction.

After service, the brethren again formed in procession, and proceeded to the Town Hall, which had been kindly lent for the purpose by Br. J. Dakin, Esq., Mayor of the borough, where a substantial banquet was provided by Br. Ullivero, of the Bull Hotel. The R.W.P.G.M. occupied the throne, supported on his right by Brs. G. C. Antrobus, as D.P.G.M.; Cruthenden, P.S.G.W.; Moss, P.P.J.G.W.; Samuelson, P.S.G.D.; Bland, P.G. Treasurer; Smith, P.J.G.D.; and, on his left, by Brs. Tanner, P.G.C.; Folliott, P.P.G.C.; Dutton, P.P.J.G.D.; Billinge, P.G.M.C. of West Lancashire; Butterworth, P.G.S.W.; Abel Hyde, P.G. Pursuivant; Griffiths, P.G. Sec. And amongst the company, we noticed Brs. Edwards, 403; H. Lloyd, W.M., 615; Wedgewood, W.M.; Griffith, P.M.; Hornly, as S.W.; Herdman, as J.W., 701; Howard, W.M., 782; Bully, S.W., Plat, J.W., Marshall, I.G., also of 782; Cooper, Sec., 782; Pickering, W.M., 880, &c., &c. Nearly 200 of the brethren joined the banquet. On the removal of the cloth, *Non Nobis* was sung by the choir.

The noble lord, R.W.P.G.M., then rose, and said, he had the honour to propose "The health of her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria." (Cheers). He need not ask his brother Masons, especially Cheshiremen, to fill a bumper to that toast. He knew they would do it, and therefore he would simply propose the health of Her Majesty. The toast was drunk with great enthusiasm, and followed by the Masonic version of "God Save the Queen."

His lordship next gave the toast of "Prince Albert, the Prince of Wales, Earl of Chester, and the rest of the Royal family," which was drunk with the like enthusiasm. Glee, "When Winds Breathe Soft."

The noble lord next gave "the Army and Navy," which was drunk with three times three, and long-continued cheers.

Song, "The Queen's Letter."

The next toast was "The Town and Trade of Congleton"—drunk with three times three.

Glee, "The Breath of the Briar."

The Worshipful the Mayor, Br. Dakin, P.M., responded, and trusted the Craft would for many years to come enjoy the advantage of having Lord Combermere amongst them. (Loud cheers).

Song, "The Chough and Crow," so well sung as to elicit an enthusiastic *encore*.

Br. Antrobus rose, and having called for bumpers, said he had the unfortunate privilege, in consequence of the absence of the D.P.G.M., of proposing the next toast. It was one he gave with considerable regret, because it was a prelude to requesting the absence of the ladies, before entering upon their own more secret proceedings. (Cheers and laughter). The brethren seemed to laugh, as if they thought there was any anxiety anywhere to discover what were the secrets of Freemasonry. If any such desire should be manifested, the brethren would take care to hide them within the deep recesses of their own breasts. (Cheers). However, whether they had secrets or not, he begged to give "The health of the Ladies," and to add to that toast the name of the Viscountess Combermere—(tremendous cheering)—a lady who honoured them that morning by being present at the church—an exceedingly good Mason, and who ought to be made one, if any lady could be admitted into the Order. (Applause). He had had the honour of having her ladyship on a visit at his house during the last few days, and it was only the day previous that he heard her speak in the highest terms of commendation of the Craft as a bond which linked people of all sorts together in amity and good fellowship. The toast was drunk with the greatest enthusiasm.

Song, "I'm a Merry, Laughing Girl," by Miss Shand—*encored*.

Lord Combermere returned his warmest thanks for the honour conferred upon his lady. He could assure the brethren that Lady Combermere wished well to Masonry, and if it were possible for ladies to become Masons, she would be one, but as it was, she had done all in her power to promote the good of Masonry in general, and of that province in particular.

The uninitiated having retired, the following Masonic toasts were drunk with Masonic honours:—

"The Earl of Zetland, M.W.G.M."

Glee and chorus, "Hail to the Craft."

The P.G.C., Br. Tanner, gave "The health of the P.G.M., whom he justly described as one of the best of Masons, and best of men. Masonry ought to think itself highly favoured in having one so excellent to preside over its proceedings—a nobleman whom to know was to love. The toast was drunk with a warmth and enthusiasm which showed how much the noble lord lives in the hearts of his brethren.

His lordship, in responding, said, as long as it pleased the G.A. of the U. to give him health and strength, he should always feel it a pleasure to attend the P.G.L. He expressed his satisfaction at the proceedings of the day, and trusted to have the honour of meeting all of them next year at Egremont. (Loud cheers).

SONG—By Br. Pearsall.

Here's a health unto Lord Combermere.

With a fal, la, la,

Who never knew the name of fear,

With a fal, la, la,

And he that will not drink this health,

I'll wish him neither joy nor wealth;

But a good strong rope, to hang himself,

With a fal, la, la.

To his Lady fill the glass again,

With a fal, la, la,

And let us all the goblet drain,

With a fal, la, la,

And he that will not drink this toast,

With right good will—why clear the coast;

And bear him to the whipping post,

With a fal, la, la.



"The Wigton Lodge, No. 409," though not the first Lodge in the Province as regarded numbers, was certainly the first in the province in respect of Masonic lore. It also set the other Lodges of the province an example, inasmuch as the members subscribed to the whole of the Masonic charities.

Br. Roper, W.M. of the Wigton Lodge, was proud to meet such a body of men on the present occasion. It was the best Prov. Lodge that had ever been held. Although the Wigton Lodge was small in numbers, they subscribed to all the Masonic charities, and he hoped the example set by them would be followed by all the other Lodges in the province.

The D.P.G.M. said, that in his present capacity, he might be allowed to divest himself for a moment of his connection as a member with the Lodge he was about to propose. It was "The Master and Brethren of the Lodge of Unanimity, No. 424." He could assure the brethren that a more honourable and worthy body of Masons could not be met with, and he had no doubt but the brethren would assist him in doing honour to them.

Br. Walker, W.M., of No. 424, begged to return thanks on behalf of himself and the brethren of his Lodge, for the very flattering terms in which No. 424 had just been introduced, and for the kind manner in which the toast had been received by so large an assemblage of Cumbrian Masons. He saw around him many distinguished brethren, who would have been much more able than himself to respond to the toast. He had only known the Lodge of Unanimity since 1848, in which year he became a Mason, but this he would say, that the affairs of the Lodge were now in a much more flourishing condition than when he became a member; they had improved not only in numbers, but in funds, and everything else likely to conduce to their permanent well-being; and for this prosperity, which he believed was unparalleled in the annals of the Lodge of Unanimity, they were chiefly indebted to the indefatigable exertions of a worthy member of that Lodge, whose zeal in promoting the welfare of Freemasonry was beyond all praise, and that brother was none other than the D.P.G.M., Br. Greaves. It had been remarked, and very properly, that the Wigton Lodge was the only one in the province which subscribed to all the Masonic charities, and it was his duty to inform the brethren that the subject had been discussed in the Lodge of Unanimity, and he believed it was the intention of that Lodge to imitate the noble example of their brethren at Wigton. (Hear, hear).

Next followed "The Master and Brethren of the Longtown Lodge, No. 595." The Longtown Lodge, and especially Br. Foster, had never failed to put in an appearance at their Prov. G.L. meeting.

Br. Foster responded. He had great pleasure in forming a part of so numerous an assemblage; many brethren from Longtown would have been present on that occasion, had they not been particularly engaged.

The D.P.G.M., in proposing "The Victoria Lodge, Carlisle," said, though not numerous, he hoped they would ere long become so, so that each year might add to their prosperity.

Br. Bell, W.M. of the Victoria, hoped that next year they would be able to muster in larger numbers; for his part—and he was sure he might say the same on behalf of the brethren of the Victoria—he should always be happy to do all in his power for the benefit of the Craft, calculated as it was to confer great benefits on all who ranged themselves under its banners.

The parting toast having been given, the meeting broke up.

#### DEVONSHIRE.

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST LODGE, PLYMOUTH (No. 83).—The brethren assembled at their usual monthly meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 4. There was a large show of business on the summons, but none of the candidates for the various degrees were in attendance, consequently nothing but the routine business of the Lodge was accomplished. We regret, that when brethren are prevented from attending punctually, they do not apprise the W.M. of the fact. Were they to use this courtesy, which is certainly due from gentlemen, much unnecessary delay and disappointment would be obviated. On Tuesday, October 2nd, the Lodge again met, and as in the last

instance, the candidates did not make their appearance, the previous minutes were confirmed. A gentleman was proposed for initiation on next Lodge night, and in the absence of other business, the W.M. (Br. Gambell), ably assisted by his officers, worked the three degrees in a manner not often witnessed out of the metropolis. Having regard to the want of Lodges of Instruction, this must be regarded as a step in the right direction, calculated, if persevered in, to bring the Lodge into an efficient working state. Lodge was closed in harmony, the members separating at a very early hour.

**LODGE OF FORTITUDE, STONEHOUSE (No. 122).**—This Lodge met at Br. Killingley's, Prince George Hotel, on Wednesday, October 10. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, a lengthened discussion was carried on relative to the conduct of a member towards one, whose resignation was sent to the Secretary in consequence thereof. The offending brother having declared his innocence of any intention to wilfully disoblige, a committee was appointed to wait on the seceder, and endeavour to restore harmony between the brothers. Lodge closed, and the brethren retired.

**STAR OF BRUNSWICK LODGE, PLYMOUTH (No. 185).**—The members of this thriving Lodge met on Wednesday, the 3rd October, in the New Masonic Hall, Union Road. The Lodge was close tyled at 7.15, Br. P. E. Rowe, P.M., and P.P.G.D.C., &c., &c., presiding, who most ably raised Brs. Dennaforde and Chapel to the sublime degree of M.M. After the transaction of some further business, Lodge was closed in harmony at 9 o'clock, the brethren retiring to refreshment in their most *convenient* banquetting-room (this is not a mere *figure of speech*, but the Lodge and its appurtenances are the most complete, comfortable, and *constitutional* of any in this province, and does the members great credit for the spirit displayed in leaving St. George's Hall, and its anti-Masonic accommodation, or rather want of accommodation, the furniture having to be moved up and down stairs on each night of meeting, besides objections of a much graver character). The W.M., Br. S. Pearse, after the Masonic toasts had been duly honoured, gave "The healths of the visiting brethren," stating that 185 was always pleased to see their table well filled with visitors, whether local or strangers. The kind wishes expressed by the W.M. were most eloquently responded to by Br. Thomas Fallard, P.M. of 83 (senior Lodge of these towns), P.P.G.T., &c., as also by Brs. R. Pomeroy, 122, Woodhouse, 122, Rodd, 122 and 224, and W. G. Emmett, 238, who cordially reciprocated the kind wishes of the W.M., and gave pressing invitations to the members of 185 to visit their respective Lodges, promising, that although their Lodges might not be as handsomely furnished, their hearts would be found all a Mason could wish. The W.M. then gave the healths of two brothers to whom the Lodge were under great obligations, one (Br. H. J. Waring, P.M. and P.G.T., &c.) for his indefatigable exertions in getting the Lodge removed, and superintending the alterations and decorations of the Hall for their use; the other (Br. P. E. Rowe) for his kindness in working the several degrees in the unavoidable absence of the W.M. We need hardly say, the names were received most enthusiastically, the brethren responding in speeches of great modesty and merit. After some excellent singing from our worthy Br. James Clase, S.W., P.G.S., the brethren wended their way homewards at an early hour. An Emergency Lodge was held on Thursday, Oct. 11th, at the Masonic Hall. The Lodge was close tyled at 7.30. Br. P. E. Rowe, in the chair, initiated a gentleman into the Order. The Lodge closed in peace and harmony at 8.15, when the brethren retired to refreshment. After the routine toasts had been disposed of, the worthy B. James Clase, S.W., P.G.S., having obtained permission of the W.M., proposed the health of his friend and brother, John McKay, J.W., and in a speech of great excellence, expatiated on the beauties of Freemasonry, not alone in the sacred precincts of the Lodge, when an admirable series of Lectures were ably worked, and the secrets and mysteries of the Order so lucidly explained, but in the every-day business of life. He was led to consider the day on which he first saw the light as a Mason, as a *Red letter one*, and not only had he received good will at all times from the body generally, but more particularly was he under great obligations to his Br. McKay for innumerable instances of kindness at his hands, and what enhanced their value, was the fact that

some time since there was a probability of estrangement, arising from a difference of opinion on a matter of etiquette; but this, he was happy to say, had, from the great kindness of heart and real Masonic feeling possessed by Br. McKay, passed away like a summer's cloud. It was from his appreciation of the sterling worth of that brother as a *man and the Mason*, that induced him to propose long life and happiness to him here, and a blissful entrance hereafter to the Grand Lodge above, where the Great Architect lives and reigns for ever. The toast was received most cordially, the brother responding in suitable terms, regretting he had not the same gift of oratory displayed by the worthy S.W. The brethren retired to their homes at a very early hour, shewing the advantage of a private place of meeting.

LOYAL LODGE OF INDUSTRY, SOUTHWALTON (No. 610).—On the first Tuesday in the past month, the members of this Lodge held their usual monthly meeting, Br. Galliford, W.M., in the chair. Mr. Robt. S. Spicer, of Northwalton, surgeon, was duly balloted for and elected, but in consequence of his being unable to attend, the Lodge was adjourned to the Thursday following, when the ceremony of initiation was beautifully performed by Br. Galliford, after which the brethren adjourned to refreshment, and spent an hour in great harmony, and having joined "hand in hand" around the festive board in the entered apprentice's song, separated in peace with each other and all mankind. Br. Ley, of the Bideford Lodge, attended as a visiting brother.

#### DERBYSHIRE.

TYRIAN LODGE, DERBY (No. 315).—The brethren of this Lodge held their anniversary at the Royal Hotel, on the 7th October. The Lodge was opened at two o'clock, under the able guidance of Br. John Gadsby, W.M., when Br. J. Johnson, M.D., was passed to the degree of Fellow Craft. At three o'clock, a Prov. Grand Lodge was opened by the R.W.A.G.M., C. R. Colville, M.P., who proceeded to appoint the following as the officers of the Grand Lodge of Derbyshire for the ensuing year:—Brs. J. Gadsby, P.D.G.M.; S. Henchley, jun., S.W.; Rev. F. W. Russell, J.W.; Rev. G. Wright, Chaplain; S. Collinson, Reg.; W. Allen, Sec.; S. Wilder, T.; W. Prince, S.D.; W. Brodhurst, J.D.; W. Giles, Dir. of Works; G. Mason, Dir. of Cer.; J. Swain, Assist. Dir. of Cer.; J. Redfern, Pursuvt.; S. W. Ready, Sw. B.; Henry Turner, St. B.; W. Faulkner, Tyler. The report of the state of the progress of Freemasonry in the province was satisfactory. A Lodge has been recently established at New Mills, called the "Peveril of the Peak Lodge," having the Rev. F. W. Russell W.M., and Br. W. Brodhurst, and S. J. Ready, Wardens. An excellent banquet, comprising every delicacy in season, was provided. The wines, &c., were excellent, and gave the greatest satisfaction to about 40 of the brethren.

#### DURHAM.

##### PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

The Provincial Grand Lodge of this County was held in the Phoenix Lodge-room, Sunderland, on Wednesday, October 3rd, and passed off in a manner most satisfactory to all who had the pleasure of participating in the proceedings as brethren of the renowned Craft.

The Fund Committee met at the Hall, at 12 o'clock, for the despatch of matters of a strictly business character, and we learn that the financial prosperity of the body in these districts was sufficiently indicated by the fact that the funds showed a disposable surplus of some 600*l.* or 700*l.*

The Lodge was next duly constituted. Br. John Fawcett, R.W.P.G.M., officiated on the occasion, and the following officers were appointed and installed for the ensuing year:—Br. Henry Fenwick, M.P., P.D.G.M.; Br. the Rev. Robert James Simpson, P.S.G.W.; Br. Joseph Dodds, Esq., P.J.G.W.; Br. the Rev. John Cundell, P.G.C.; Br. Robert Reynolds, P.G.T.; Br. Robert Thomas Wilkinson, P.G.R.; Br. John Crossby, P.G.S.; Br. George Watson, P.G.S.D.; Br. William Tiplady, P.G.J.D.; Br. Edward Dr. Davis, P.G.D. of C—; Br. George A. Middlemiss, P.G.

Superintendent of Works; Br. John Smith, P.G., Organist; Br. Mark Douglas, P.G.B.; Br. Geo. Brown, P.G.S.B.; Br. Wm. Martin Laws, P.G. Tyler. A Steward each was also appointed from six of the Lodges, named by the R.W.P.G.M. There was a large attendance from all parts of the county, and Stockton and Hartlepool were, as we are informed, especially well represented.

The brethren, to the number of upwards of 100, afterwards dined together at the Palatine Lodge-room, Bridge Hotel, the R.W.P.G.M. John Fawcett in the chair, supported by Br. Henry Fenwick, M.P., Br. R. T. Wilkinson, Dr. Saville, and others of the staunchest and most honoured members of the Fraternity from different Lodges in the province. It need scarcely be stated that the evening was spent in the most agreeable manner, the proceedings being marked by that loyalty, warmth of feeling, and mutual respect, which are recognised as the inviolable characteristics of the Craft. The annual ball, which was held at the Lodge-room in the evening, was well attended, and afforded the members of the Craft, and a few others who joined the party, an agreeable opportunity of gratifying their relatives or friends of the fairer sex with an evening's amusement of a very choice and well-regulated character.

## HAMPSHIRE.

### PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

The Grand Lodge of Hampshire held its annual meeting this year at Southampton, and assembled at the Masonic Hall, Bugle-street, on Tuesday, August 25. The R.W.G.M. of the Province, Admiral Sir Lucius Curtis, Bart., presided, supported on the right by Br. Thomas Willis Fleming, of Stoneham, P.G.M. of the Isle of Wight, and his Deputy Br. Hyde Pullen, and Grand Lodge; and on his left by Br. Charles Ewens Deacon, D.P.G.M., and the Grand Lodge of Hampshire. The body of the hall was filled with the W.M.'s, officers, and brethren of the twelve private Lodges of Hants. The usual Masonic business was transacted after an admirable opening address from the G.M., the petitions for relief heard, and sums varying from £1 to £5 voted. The town of Portsea was selected for the assembling of the Grand Lodge next year. The Treasurer's accounts passed, having a balance in hand of £197, and the following officers were duly invested for the ensuing year:—Brs. H. M. Emanuel, P.M., 428, S.G.W.; Edwin Low, P.M., 319, J.G.W.; Rev. T. F. Haverfield, P.M., 555, G.C.; Alfred Heather, W.M., 319 and 387, G. Treas.; Jarvis Tibbets, G. Registrar.; J. Ranking Stebbing, P.M., 152 and 555, and Thomas Norcross Firmin, P.M., 152, G. Secs.; J. J. Galt, W.M., 717, S.G.D.; Geo. Martin, W.M., 555, J.G.D.; H. Abraham, S.W., 152, Supt. of Works; Thomas Slade, W.M., 428, Dir. of Cer.; Batchelor, 717, Assist. ditto; Stening, 387, G. Pursuivant; Webb, 152, Standard Bearer; S. R. Everitt, S.W., 90, Sword Bearer; Hiles, G. Organist; Pearce, 152, Woolven, 319, Swayne, 387, Geo. Drysdale, 555, Rake, 717, Totterdell, 428, Stewards; Bannister, P.M., 428; George Lockyer, 152, G. Tylers.

The P.G.L. having been closed in due form, the brethren adjourned to dinner, which was laid in the audit-room of the corporation, the use of which had been granted by his Worship the Mayor; about sixty brethren were present.

The cloth having been removed, and the usual loyal and Masonic toasts duly honoured, the R.W.P.G.M. gave "The health of their honoured guest, Br. Fleming, R.W.P.G.M. of the Isle of Wight," who, as the representative of an ancient family so long seated in the county, was well known to them all. He included also in the toast, the Deputy of the Isle, Br. Pullen.

Br. Fleming, in acknowledgment, said it afforded him the greatest pleasure to attend the annual meeting of the province; besides, that the many years' friendship between himself and Sir Lucius Curtis afforded him additional gratification in being present on this occasion in Southampton. The vast advances in prosperity the town had made were unexampled; and from its port were transmitted the enormous supplies of men and materiel for the great contest in the Crimea. He concluded by giving, by desire of the P.G.M., "The Allied Forces in the East."

Br. Pullen said, the kindness with which he had been received, and the intellectual



entertainment of their Lodge meeting, made him proud of being a member of the Order, in which the best of feelings of man towards his fellows were brought into action, and men of all creeds were assembled in brotherly union.

The health of the P.G.M. was given by Br. Dr. Clarke, and was greeted most enthusiastically.

The P.G.M., in reply, assured them his heart was devoted to Masonry; it afforded him much pleasure to be among them, as the more he saw of Freemasonry and its members, the more satisfied and gratified he was. He then called on the brethren to give a hearty reception to Br. Deacon, his invaluable Deputy, who for so many years had filled that office, to the perfect satisfaction of every member in the province.

Br. Deacon tendered his most grateful thanks for the warm greeting his name had received; the brethren were always so pleased with his services, that the fifteen years he had held the appointment seemed but a day. The only return he could make for the confidence reposed in him was, by being ever ready to aid the cause, and to urge among its members the great point of Masonry—charity, in its broadest sense; not that of taking from our surplus wealth, but that tenderness, good-will, and brotherly love, which united all in bonds of brotherhood. Br. Deacon's address was embodied in eloquent language, to which our space is insufficient to do justice. He concluded by saying, "The encouragement you have given to my past services cheers me at this moment, and the memory of it will gild the future."

The P.G.M. called on the brethren to give a hearty welcome to their visitor, Br. How; and from his connection with a publication devoted to the Order, to unite with his name "The Press."

Br. How having replied, the healths of the several brethren who had received their appointments were drunk, and the brethren separated.

#### KENT.

**LODGE OF FREEDOM, GRAVESEND (No. 91).**—This Lodge held its monthly meeting at Br. Wate's hotel, on Monday, October 15, when a numerous attendance of the brethren took place. After the Lodge was opened with solemn prayer by the W.M., Br. Spencer, he initiated Mr. Everest into the mysteries of the Order, and passed Brs. Davis, Denton, Martin, and Williams to the Fellow Craft degree, in his usual masterly manner. In both degrees he was ably assisted by his Wardens, Brs. Watson and Hills. Four gentlemen were proposed as candidates for the ensuing month. This Lodge not only bids fair to be the largest, but from the admirable way in which the work is done, to rank among the first in the province. After the business was concluded, the brethren sat down to a very excellent supper, provided for them by the worthy host, and separated highly satisfied with the whole of the proceedings.

#### LANCASHIRE EAST.

**LODGE OF FIDELITY, BLACKBURN (No. 336).**—This Lodge held its usual convention on Friday evening, the 28th Sept., Br. Daniel Thwaites, jun., W.M., presided, most ably assisted by Brs. Whewell and Gates, S.W. and J.W. The attendance of members was about the average, and included Br. Pearson, 432, who is a very worthy and esteemed old member of the Craft. The usual business was duly attended to, and a candidate proposed; and the W.M. announced that the Lodge of Benevolence had relieved Br. Thomas Forrest, the late Tyler (who has been afflicted with paralysis, and still is suffering from it), with £5. The brethren then adjourned, and the harmony of the evening was much heightened by the excellent singing of Brs. Whewell, Stocks, Eaves, and others.

**LODGE OF PERSEVERANCE, BLACKBURN (432).**—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held on Monday, the 1st of October, the W.M., Br. C. Boardman, assisted by Brs. H. Backhouse and W. Harrison (S. and J.W.) presided. The regular business was duly transacted, when the brethren were called off and partook of a supper served up in that excellent style which characterises such efforts of the worthy host, Br. Sausom; after which the brethren resumed labour, but we regret to say the installation of the W.M. was not proceeded with, in consequence of the indisposition of the P.M.

## NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

POMFRET LODGE, NORTHAMPTON (No. 463).—The brethren of this flourishing Lodge, held at the George Hotel, re-assembled after the summer recess, on Thursday, the 4th ult., Br. John Whiteman, W.M., presiding, when Mr. F. W. Bowman, of the Northamptonshire Militia, and Mr. W. Lennan, of Weedon, were nominated as fit and proper persons to become members of this ancient Order, and their names will be submitted to the ballot at the next meeting of the Lodge, to be held on the second Thursday in the present month, and not on the first Thursday, as usual.

## NORTHUMBERLAND.

FUNERAL OF THE LATE CAPTAIN FENWICK.—On Monday, the 17th September, were interred in Jesmond Cemetery, Newcastle-on-Tyne, the last mortal remains of Br. Geo. Fenwick, P.P.G., Sword Bearer for Northumberland. A large number of the Masonic body, including the D.P.G.M., paid a last mournful tribute to the memory of their departed and beloved brother by walking in procession to the grave.

LODGE, DE OGLE, MORPETH (No. 919).—On Thursday, the 13th September, the brethren of this Lodge assembled in their Lodge-room at Mr. Pringles, the Black Bull Hotel, for the installation of Br. V. C. V. Surtees, the W.M. elect for the ensuing year. The interesting and impressive ceremony of installation was performed by Br. Wm. Dalziel, P.G.D.C. for Northumberland, with his usual ability. The installation ceremony concluded, the W.M. proceeded to appoint and invest the following brethren as officers, viz.:—Brs. Robert Shute, P.M.; I. M. Henderson, S.W.; Edward Stamford, J.W.; R. Shute, Treasurer; Robert King, Secretary; John Hutchinson, S.D.; W. E. Franklin, J.D.; Robert Vardy, S.S.; Andrew Rutherford, J.S.; John Ord, I.G.; John Harrison, Tyler. Afterwards Br. Lieut. Henry Mitford, of Mitford Hall, who had been initiated in the Lodge Tolerance (784) received his second or Fellow-craft degree. The Lodge was then closed, when the brethren sat down to a sumptuous dinner, prepared for them by Mr. Pringle. The dessert comprised every delicacy, and the wines were of *recherche* quality. The W.M. presided on the occasion, supported on his right by Brs. Rich. Metcalf, D.P.G.M. for the province; Wm. Dalziel, P.P.G.S.W. and P.G.D.C.; and Geo. Weatherhead, P.P.G.J.W.; and on his left by Brs. Robert Shute, P.G.J.D., and P.M. De Ogle, 919; Wm. Berkley, P.P.G.S.W.; J. S. Challoner, P.P.G.J.W., and Wm. Johnson, P.P.G.J.W. The vice-chairs were ably filled by the S.W. and the J.W. Amongst the brethren present were observed, Brs. John L. Donald, W.M., 793; Lieut. Henry Mitford, H.M. 19th Light Infantry; W. E. Franklin, J.W. 56; Thos. Andrews, J.D. 56; Robert King, Secretary, 919; Robert Vardy, S.S. 919; and Robert Fisher, S.D. 706. The brethren did full justice to the ample spread, and, thanks having been returned, the cloth was removed, when the W.M. rising, said, he felt they were all loyal subjects. He begged to give "The health of Her most gracious Majesty The Queen." (Cheers). The health of the Emperor of the French was then given by the W.M., and warmly responded to. The W.M. again rose and said, it gave him great pleasure to propose "The Army and Navy." It was with peculiarly sympathetic feelings that he gave the toast on this occasion, for they had that day the honour of having among them a young officer, Br. Lieut. Henry Mitford, who had taken part in the adventurous campaign in the Crimea—(cheers)—who was just now recovering from wounds received at the battle of Inkermann, and whose intention it was shortly to join again his brave comrades in the field—(cheers)—where they all, he was sure, wished that Providence might shield him from all dangers. He would give them the Army and Navy, coupling with the toast the health of Br. Lieut. Henry Mitford. (Prolonged cheers.)

Br. Lieut. Mitford, on rising to reply, was greeted with enthusiastic cheers. He said he wished the task of returning thanks on behalf of the army and navy had devolved on one better qualified than he was. No doubt the army and navy had many claims on the country's gratitude, but that gratitude was freely given, and only those who had experienced it, knew how much the gratitude of those at home encouraged the soldier amid the cold and cheerless labor of the trenches. (Hear, hear.) He begged most

warmly to thank the W.M. and brethren for the way in which the toast of the army and navy had been proposed and received, and for the honor done to himself in having had his health coupled with the toast. Should he live to return to the Crimea, that day would be a green and hallowed spot on the tablet of memory to cheer him in his duties. (Cheers.)

"The Earl of Zetland, G.M. of England," by the W.M. (Drunk with Masonic honors.) "The Earl of Yarborough, D.G.M. of England." (Honors.) "The Dukes of Athol and Leinster." (Honors.)

The W.M. then proposed in appropriate terms "The health of the R.W.P.G.M. of the Province, the Rev. Edward Challoner Ogle," who had been prevented being present by very urgent business. (Drunk with Masonic honors.)

The W.M. again rose, and said it gave him peculiar pleasure to propose "The health of the D.P.G.M. for Northumberland," who had, to their great pleasure, honored them with his presence that day. (Cheers.) The D.P.G.M. had ever been known to them as a straightforward and zealous Mason, with one of the warmest of hearts. He would give them the health of Br. Richard Metcalf. (Cheers.) Drunk with Masonic honors.

The D.P.G.M., on rising, was received with enthusiastic cheers. He said he begged to return his sincere thanks to the W.M. for the honor done him in proposing his health, and to the brethren for so warmly responding to the toast. Morpeth, many years ago, had a flourishing and highly respectable Lodge, and he thought it would be discreditable to the ancient borough if the new Lodge could not be sustained with equal efficiency. (Hear, hear.) Happily there were those amongst the brethren who would hear nothing of impossibilities. He (the D.P.G.M.) trusted at the end of the year to be able to congratulate the W.M. of De Ogle Lodge, on numbers, prosperity, and position. (Cheers.)

Br. Wm. Berkley, P.P.G.S.W., rising, said the W.M. had kindly given him leave to propose the next toast. It was particularly pleasing to him that it had fallen to his part to propose "The health of their much respected and beloved W.M., Br. V. C. V. Surtees." (Applause.) In electing Br. Surtees to fill the chair of De Ogle Lodge, the brethren had merely done a duty and a pleasure to themselves. (Hear, hear.) Having filled the highest offices many years ago, Br. Surtees is once more appearing and taking an active part in Masonic life, was to them as one "long lost to battle, now to arms again." (Immense cheering.) Dear was the name of Surtees to the Masons of Northumbria, more especially in connection with Northern Counties Lodge. Drink then, in a bumper, said Br. Berkley, the health of Br. V. C. V. Surtees, W.M., of De Ogle Lodge. (Cheers.) Drunk with enthusiasm, and Masonic honors.

Br. V. C. V. Surtees, the W.M., rose to reply, and, when the applause had subsided, said for the kind expressions of Br. Berkley, he felt indebted, and also for the very warm and flattering manner in which the brethren had responded to the toast. He (Br. Surtees) had always endeavoured to do his duty as a Mason, and, whilst he should remain W.M. of De Ogle Lodge, nothing should be wanting on his part to prosecute its interests and to render it worthy the high hopes of their much respected D.P.G.M. (Cheers.) He (Br. Surtees) again begged they would accept his sincere thanks.

The W.M. next rose to propose "The health of Br. Shute, P.M.," and paid him many graceful compliments.

Br. Shute said he felt deeply grateful for the many kind and flattering expressions of the W.M., and for the very hearty response given to the toast.

Br. Shute, again rising, begged to propose "The healths of Brs. Johnson and Weatherhead, the Past S. and J. Wardens," to whom the Lodge, but yet in its infancy, was much indebted.

Br. Johnson replied, he was grateful for the honor done him, and proud to see De Ogle flourish.

Br. Weatherhead also returned his sincere thanks, and felt happy if any little services of his had been conducive to the prosperity of the Lodge.

Br. J. S. Challoner rose, and said he considered it a privilege, and felt it a pleasure to have leave to propose "The Officers of De Ogle Lodge." To the extreme pleasure of

Br. Shute, its first W.M., the Lodge had surmounted almost insurmountable difficulties, but much remained to call for all the energies of the newly-appointed officers. He begged to give the health of the Officers of De Ogle Lodge. (Cheers.)

Br. Henderson, S.W., in responding to the toast, said the Officers of the Lodge were fully sensible of their responsibilities and duties, and trusted they would do more than answer all the expectations of the brethren.

Br. Stamford, J.W. and Br. W. E. Franklin, J.D., also made appropriate replies.

The W.M. proposed "Prosperity to the Newcastle-on-Tyne Lodge, 24," with the health of Br. Johnson, W.M.

Br. Johnson made a neat reply.

Next followed, "Prosperity to Northern Counties Lodge, 586," with the health of Br. Wm. Dalziel, W.M. (Cheers.)

Br. Dalziel, responding, said the Lodge De Ogle had paid Northern Counties Lodge a compliment in electing Br. Surtees W.M., for the name of Surtees was revered in Northern Counties Lodge. He (Br. Dalziel) thanked the brethren most cordially for their hearty response to the toast. He also felt grateful for the many undeserved compliments which had been showered upon him.

Then was given, "Prosperity to St. Peter's Lodge, 706," coupling with it the health of Br. Fisher, S.D., of that Lodge.

Br. Robert Fisher returned thanks. He said he had very great pleasure in attending the meeting, but he little thought so high an honour would have been paid him. He felt it indeed a proud distinction for his health to be proposed as the representative of St. Peter's Lodge, which every one allowed was the pet Lodge of the province. The more he saw of Masonry the more he appreciated its excellence, and he would, whenever he could, render every assistance to the W.M. of the Lodge De Ogle.

The W.M. then said it afforded him peculiar pleasure to propose the health of a very young Brother, who had been honored with a very high position. He begged to give "Prosperity to Lodge De Leraie, 793," and to couple with the toast the health of Br. John L. Donald, W.M., of that Lodge.—(Cheers.)

Br. Donald made a graceful reply.

The W.M., again rising, said they had drunk the health of Br. Mitford in the earlier part of the evening, in connection with the toast of "The Army and Navy," he (the W.M.) now begged they would drink his (Br. Mitford's) health, as a *Freemason*. (Drunk with honors).

Br. Mitford made a neat reply, thanking the Lodge for conferring on him the second degree. He said he knew that in the Crimean campaign many had been largely benefitted by Freemasonry.

The toast "Our next merry meeting," brought to a close one of the most pleasant festivals we ever remember to have attended.

#### NORTH WALES AND SHROPSHIRE.

Br. Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, Bart., M.P., the Grand Master of the Province, held his annual Grand Lodge at Admaston, Shropshire, on Tuesday, August 28th, when there was a very numerous attendance. The hotel is almost the only building of importance in the village, and is a neat, commodious, and comfortable edifice, exceedingly well conducted, and surrounded by park-like grounds, and with neatly arranged garden and other conveniences, and the terms of accommodation are moderate. About three years ago, there being many Masons in the neighbourhood, a warrant was obtained, and a Lodge opened at the hotel; and, at this time, No. 328, with the assistance of Br. Byton, an opulent Mason, dwelling near, is one of the most flourishing and well managed within the Provincial Grand Master's jurisdiction. The furniture is splendid and valuable; and a charter for a Royal Arch Chapter has been recently applied for and obtained.

The Lodge was opened at twelve o'clock, in the three degrees, by the W.M. Br. Evett, and an improving brother having been raised to the higher degree, by P.M. Br. Marriott, R.W.P.G. Registrar, the R.W.P.G. Master entered in procession with his officers, being saluted with the customary honours, and a solemn tune played on the harmonium by Br. Bloxham, W.P.G. Organist. The P.G. Lodge was then

opened in due form, and the business of the Province disposed of. The following brethren were the P.G. officers appointed for the ensuing year:—Brs. Eyton, V.W.P.G.S. Warden; Wood, V.W.P.G.J. Warden; Rev. — Bently, V.W.P.G. Chaplain; Rev. — Guise, V.W.P.G. Chaplain; White, V.W.P.G. Treasurer; Bloxham, V.W.P.G. Registrar; Wigan, V.W.P.G. Secretary; Burr, W.P.G.S. Deacon; Emerson, W.P.G.J. Deacon; Patchett, W.P.G. Superintendent of Works; Evett, W.P.G. Director of Cer.; Randall, W.A.P. Director of Cer.; Anslow, W.P.G. Standard Bearer; Hayden, W.P.G. Organist; Beeche, W.P.G. Pursuivant; H. H. Bayley, John Francis, R. Maddock Williams, Aronson, W. Thomas, R. Pritchard, Holyhead, P.G. Stewards; W. Mallard, P.G. Tyler; J. Cureton, P.G. Assist.-Tyler.

The R.W.P.G. Master intimated his intention to hold the next P.G. Lodge, about this time twelvemonth, at Holyhead.

The Lodge having been closed, the brethren, in number about seventy, sat down to an excellent banquet, furnished by Br. Purcell, and consisting of turtle, veision, and all the delicacies of the season, pines, melons, grapes, and other fruits, in abundance, and wines of the choicest vintage.

Grace was said by the Rev. Br. Jellicorse.

The musical department, which was most efficient, was under the direction of Br. George Hay, of Shrewsbury. The vocalists were Brs. Roberts and party, from Liverpool.

The cloth being drawn, and “*Non Nobis Domine*” sung,

The R.W.P.G. Master said, as all Masons were loyal, true, and religious, he need only mention the first toast, “The Queen,” whose rule was most glorious, and whose domestic character was an example for all to follow. “The Queen,” drank with great enthusiasm, followed by the National Anthem.

The R.W.P.G. Master then gave “Prince Albert, Albert Prince of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family,” observing that he had little doubt that when the Prince of Wales came of age he would join the Royal Craft, as his grandfather and all his family had done, to their own infinite satisfaction. (Cheers).

“The Earl of Zetland, M.W.G. Master of England.” (Masonic honours).

Br. Marriot, R.W.P.G. Registrar of England, proposed “The Earl of Yarborough, M.W.D.G. Master of England” (Masonic honours).

The R.W.D.P.G. Master proposed, “The health of the R.W.P.G. Master,” as a worthy, indefatigable, and liberal promoter of Masonry—a good landlord, an admirable sportsman, an honourable descendant of one of the most ancient families in the Principality, and closely allied with the best of those in Shropshire. (Masonic honours).

Br. Sir Watkin replied, expressing his great admiration for the principles of the Order, urging the brethren to carry them out to the utmost extent, and to perfect their practice, and avowing the pleasure which it would always give him to meet and assist them. (Cheers).

The R.W.P.G. Master then proposed “Br. the Right Hon. Lord Viscount Combermere, R.W.P.G.M. for Cheshire, and the neighbouring P.G. Masters.”

This toast was responded to by Br. Masefield, V.W.G. Treasurer for Staffordshire, and Br. Martin, V.W.P.P.J.G. Warden for West Lancashire.

Br. Marriott, R.W.P.G. Registrar of England, gave “The health of Br. the Rev. C. Dymock, R.W.D.G. Master for North Wales and Shropshire.” (Masonic honours).

Br. Dymock returned thanks.

“The Provincial Grand Wardens, and other Grand officers.” (Masonic honours).

Responded to by Br. Rowlands, R.W.P.P.G.S. Warden.

Br. Martin, at the request of the R.W.P.G. Master, proposed “The Army and Navy,” observing that the toast had been familiar to them from their earliest years, but especially under existing circumstances would it give them great pleasure to drink it. The glorious deeds of the army and navy in other wars were probably within the recollection of all present, and they had fully maintained their character in the war now carrying on in the Crimea. Masons were men of peace, but one of their leading principles was loyalty and love of country. They never mixed themselves up in plots or conspiracies against Government, but were obedient to the laws of the country in which they resided, or which afforded them protection—never forgetting,

however, their allegiance to the sovereign of their native land. They recognised fully the sentiment of one of England's ancient heroes, which had been immortalised by England's greatest poet—

“ In peace there's nothing so becomes a man,  
As modest stillness and humanity.  
But when the blast of war blows in our ears,  
Let us be tigers in our fierce department.”

(Cheers.)

Through the aggressions of the Emperor of Russia, this war had been forced upon them, and right glad would they be when an honourable peace should be secured. They had not yet taken Sebastopol, but they had done something at Sweaborg which was indicative of their ultimate success, and there was that in the English character which would never let them give up, but they would persevere under all discouragements until it be destroyed. The best blood of Cambria had been shed in the course of the operations, and there was scarcely a high family in the country that had not sustained severe losses. It was to be hoped that the sufferings of the last winter would not have to be repeated, but whether or not, the army and navy would stand firm, and do their duty. Let all present then—remembering not only that they had many brethren in the Crimea, and in the Baltic and Black Seas, but that all men were brethren—join heartily in acknowledging their services by drinking the toast which he had been commanded to propose. (Cheers). The toast was drank with three times three.

Br. Marriott proposed “Lady Wynn, of Wynnstay, Lady Combermere, Lady Corbett, and the other patronesses of the Order.” (Cheers).

Responded to by the Rev. Br. Elliott.

The R.W.P.G. Master gave “The health of the Chaplains, Brs. Guise and Bentley.” (Masonic honours).

Responded to by the Rev. Br. Jellicorse.

“The visiting Brethren,” “The R.W.G. Masters of Ireland and Scotland,” “The Masters and Wardens of Lodges,” responded to by the Rev. Br. James, of Ludlow; “The Treasurer and Secretary,” responded to by Brs. White and Wigan; “The Musical Brethren, and thanks to them for their services,” responded to by Br. Bloxham, V.W.P.G. Registrar; and “To all poor and distressed Masons throughout the world, and speedy relief to them;” having been drunk,

The R.W.P.G. Master expressed the great pleasure he had in attending their meetings, and promised to be present at the consecration of their new Chapter.

On the following day, for the satisfaction and enjoyment of the ladies, the brethren gave a pic-nic on the Wrekin, which was fashionably and numerously attended by the gentler sex. A sumptuous repast was provided, and “the ladies” and “all friends round the Wrekin” were enthusiastically toasted. There was a band of music also provided, and the merry dance was kept up on the green sward with great spirit till the shades of evening warned the party that it was time to retire. The gallantry of the Masonic body was the theme of universal praise amongst the female portion of the community, and the brethren avowed their deep regret that it was not in their power or that of any body of Masons to make such an innovation upon the ancient constitution of the Order as would admit females to a participation in their mysteries and privileges. The weather was delightful throughout the day.

#### SUFFOLK.

Wednesday, 20th Sept., was a day long to be remembered in the history of Beccles, as being the occasion of the P.G.M. for Suffolk of free and accepted Masons (Sir E. S. Gooch, Bart., M.P.) having held a Lodge in that town. About 7, a.m., the day was ushered in by a merry peal from the musical bells of St. Michael's tower, which was repeated at intervals. At one, p.m., the brethren of the several Lodges in the province went in procession, accompanied by a band, to the Corn Exchange, where the Lodge was held. At three o'clock, the Lodge was closed, and the public were admitted by tickets to hear an address in aid of the funds of the Lying-in-Charity of the town; when the Rev. G. Mingaye, of Wilby, F.G.C., delivered a most suitable,

impressive, and eloquent oration; in which he expressed to the audience his regret at the necessity of addressing them in the present building, instead of the church, which had been refused for that purpose—a circumstance unknown in the annals of Freemasonry. A collection was made amongst the brethren in Lodge, which amounted to £13 11s. 6d., and a further one at the doors of £6 12s. 3d., making a total of £20 3s. 9d.

#### WORCESTERSHIRE.

DUDLEY.—The following excellent institutions have recently received the benefit of the proceeds arising from the Annual Masonic Ball, held at the hotel, in January last. The Dispensary, £15; the Sick and Indigent Society, £5; the Lying-in-Society, £5; and the Blanket Club, £2.—Total, £27.

#### YORKSHIRE.

AMBITIOUS LODGE, LEEDS (No. 322).—On Wednesday, 17th ult., the brethren of this Lodge met at the Freemasons' Hall, Hickmondwicke, for the purpose of presenting a portrait of the value of 30 guineas, and a purse of £7, the surplus of the subscription, to Br. Thomas Allatt, P.M., as a testimonial of their esteem and respect for his zealous and unwearied exertions in promoting the welfare of the Lodge. The brethren, to the number of nearly 80, sat down to an excellent dinner. After the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, Br. James Royle, P.M., the President on the occasion, in an excellent and appropriate address, presented the portrait and the purse. Br. Allatt accepted the testimonial, and expressed his high gratification in a feeling reply. He then presented the portrait to the brethren, to be hung in the Lodge-room. The portrait was painted by Br. Samuel Howell, of London and Huddersfield, and is an excellent picture both as a likeness and a work of art.

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## ROYAL ARCH.

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#### METROPOLIS.

ROYAL YORK CHAPTER (No. 7).—This Chapter met for the first time this Season on Tuesday evening, the 23rd of Oct., at the Freemasons' Tavern, the meeting was very numerously attended the M.E. and R.W., companion Le Veaux in the chair. There was no particularly Masonic business before the Chapter and various resolutions were agreed to with respect to purchasing new decorations and renovating the present furniture which was referred to a committee of seven companions. All business being ended the companions sat down to a most elegant dinner supplied by Messrs. Elkington. We remarked a decided improvement in the cuisine and arrangements under the new administration of the house. After dinner the usual loyal toasts were given, and the evening enlivened by some capital singing. The company retired about 10 o'clock.

ENOCH CHAPTER (No. 11).—This distinguished Chapter held its meeting for Installation of Principals, at Freemasons' Tavern, on Tuesday, October 14th, on which occasion Comp. Jas. Simpson was installed Z.; Comp. Young, H., and Comp. Bird, I., by Comp. George Biggs, P.Z., and P.G.D.C., in that efficient and impressive manner for which he has long been distinguished. The following officers were also inducted: Comp. P. Matthews, S.E., R. Temple, S.N., and Kennedey, P.S., who appointed Comp. Solomons, 1st Assistant. After which Br. Pain, of the Enoch Lodge, was exalted to the sublime degree of a Royal Arch Mason. The Chapter was then closed, and the companions proceeded to partake of an elegant banquet. After the usual loyal Masonic toasts the M.E.Z. proposed the health of the Grand Officers on whose merits he dilated, and expressed himself particularly happy in being honoured with the company of two such valuable members of that body as Comps. George Biggs P.G.D.C. who had on the present occasion rendered such valuable service by per-

forming the installations and who was ever ready to render his assistance when called upon, and Comp. Matthews, P.G. and S.E., of this Chapter whose many services to it, and the Lodge, were too well known to need comment. Comp. Matthews in return expressed his surprise at being called upon to return thanks for the Grand Officers when so do distinguished a member of that body as Comp. Biggs was present and whose many virtues as a man and a Mason were acknowledged. For himself he must say that he felt very much the honour of the appointment he had received, and trusted that he should long be spared to enjoy the pleasure of coming amongst them. The M.E.Z. then proposed the health of the visitors, Comp. Biggs, of the Supreme G.C.; Dearsley, and Thackleton, No. 3; Jones, 9; Potter, 13; Binckes, 49, and Kain, 51; thanking them for their attendance and hoping that the hospitality afforded was to their satisfaction, and also that he should again have the pleasure of seeing them. After several suitable speeches from the visitors, Comp. Binckes in returning thanks expressed the happiness he felt at meeting so many old and respected faces of friends with whom he was and had been connected in the Mother Lodge by the strongest ties of brotherhood and affection, and trusted that he should some day have the pleasure of joining them as a member instead of a visitor. Comp. R. Williams, P.Z. then proposed the health of the M.E.Z. and said that on the present occasion the government of the Chapter had been intrusted to efficient hands, and he made no doubt that at the end of his year of office the M.E.Z. would resign his trust as pure and unsullied as he had received it. The M.E.Z. expressed his thanks and at the same time his determination to do all in his power to further the interests of the Chapter, in the working of which he counted much on the assistance of Comp. Williams and other Past Principals and Companions. He then proposed the health of the Past Principals and thanked them for the zeal and ability they had ever displayed in furthering the interests of the Chapter; and in proposing the health of his officers the M.E.Z. said that as a ship could not be expected to make a prosperous voyage unless it was well commanded, neither could any other undertaking, but he felt certain that the course of the Enoch Chapter could not be otherwise than prosperous under the guidance of such able and experienced members of the Order.

**ROBERT BURNS CHAPTER (No. 25).**—At the quarterly convocation of this Chapter held at the Freemasons' Tavern, on the 22nd inst., three brothers viz. Todd, Goodyear, and W. Harrison were most ably exalted in the sublime degree of the Royal Arch—Comp. Newton M.E.Z., presiding. The Companies to the number of upwards of 30, afterwards supped together and spent a very pleasant evening.

**OLD KING'S ARMS CHAPTER (No. 30).**—The 1st meeting of the season was held at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Monday, the 1st inst. Comp. James Linton, M.E.Z. presiding, but the business was purely formal. The election of officers will take place at the next meeting, in January.

**MOUNT SINAI CHAPTER (No. 49).**—A convocation of this Chapter was holden at the Gun Tavern, Pimlico, on the 16th ult. Br. Anderson P.Z. in the absence of the M.W.Z. presiding. Br. Blackburn was introduced and most ably exalted into the Royal Arch. The other business having been properly disposed of, the Comps. adjourned from labour to refreshment.

**DOMATIC CHAPTER (No. 206).**—The Companions of this Chapter met on Thursday evening, the 25th Oct., at Comp. Ireland's Masonic Hall, Fetter-lane, Comp. Clark Z., Comp. Buss H., Comp. T. A. Adams J. The business of the evening consisted of a very long discussion upon the private affairs of the Chapter, after which the Companions retired to a banquet prepared for their enjoyment in Comp. Ireland's excellent style, the usual toasts having been disposed of, and some excellent songs sung, the Companions, retired shortly before 12 o'clock, much pleased with their evening.

**JERUSALEM CHAPTER (No. 218).**—This Chapter commenced its meetings for the season on Tuesday evening, the 9th ult., at the Bridge House Hotel, Southwark, under the able presidency of Comp. Scambler, Z. There being no proposition before the meeting, the business was merely of a formal nature; but several members were proposed for exaltation at the next meeting of this flourishing Chapter.

**POLISH NATIONAL CHAPTER (No. 778)**—The seventh annual convocation of this



Chapter, was held at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Thursday, Oct. 25, for the purpose of exalting two candidates into the Royal Arch, and installing the Principals for the year 1855-6. The Chapter having been opened in due form, Br. John Gurtor, and Brs. C. D. de Nerode were introduced and duly exalted, the Principals' chairs being filled by Comp. Watson P.Z. as M.E.Z.; Comp. Goring P.Z. as H., and Comp. Warren J. At the conclusion of these ceremonies, the installations were proceeded with, Comp J. W. Adams, being initiated into the chair of Z. and Comp. H. G. Warren that of H., by Comp. Wm. Watson who most ably went through his duties. Comp. Warren next installed his successor Comp. J. Michals, Sen., as J. The other officers of the Chapter, also took their appointed places; Comp. Limanski P.Z. as Treasurer, to which office he was unanimously re-elected; Comp. Blackburn as E.; Comp. Dettius M.; Comp. E. Johnson as P.S.; and Comps. Hayward and Webber Asst. S.; Comps. Limanski P.Z., and Boyde were also appointed Stewards. On the motion of Comp. Szulczewski P.Z. it was resolved that a minute be placed on the records of the Chapter expressive of the regret of the Companions at the deep loss sustained by the Chapter by the death of Comp. Lord Dudley Stuart, who having been elected as Z. of the Chapter, did not live to be installed into the chair. The other business having been brought to a close, and one or two brethren put in nomination as candidates for exaltation at the next meeting in January, the Companions adjourned to a very elegant banquet, served under the personal superintendence of the new proprietors of the house. The chair was of course taken by Comp. Adams M.E.Z., supported by upwards of 20 Companions, amongst whom were Comp. Rd. Spencer, No. 3; Comp. W. J. Newton, M.E.Z. No. 25; Comp Goring, P.Z. 25; Comp. A. H. Hewlett, 25. The evening was spent in great harmony and in the course of the proceedings an official toast was dedicated to the memory of the late lamented Comp. Lord Dudley Stuart, which was drunk in solemn silence. The speeches of the evening were alternated by some excellent singing by Comp. G. F. Taylor, Miss Marian Taylor, and several of the Comps. belonging to the Chapter.

#### DEVONSHIRE.

CHAPTER OF FORTITUDE, STONEHOUSE (No. 122).—A correspondent writes to complain that in our notice of the proceedings at this Chapter in our last number there was no allusion to the principal business of the evening, and supplies the following—The Chapter met on the 18th September, for the purpose of electing and installing the Principals, and appointing the respective officers for the ensuing year; on which occasion M. E. Companion Rowe was elected and installed into the Chair of L., and M. E. Companion Gidley into the Chair of J. By the previous and special invitation of the Past Principals and Companions of the Chapter, Doctor Dowse, Deputy Inspector-General of the Army Medical Department, M. E. Past Z. of the ancient Frontenac Chapter, No. 491, of Kingston, Canada West, assumed (for the evening), the Chair of the 1st Principal, and performed the ceremony of Installation, which together with the opening and closing of the Chapter was gone through in a most solemn and impressive manner, so much so, as to call forth a vote of thanks from the Companions, and the unanimous election of Companion Dowse an honorary member of the Chapter.

#### DURHAM.

CHAPTER DE BURGHI (No. 614).—This Chapter held its annual meeting and festival on Thursday, the 18th instant, at the Black Bull Inn, Gateshead, when the following Companions were installed officers for the ensuing year: Edward Dean Davis, Z.; F. P. Ionn, H.; H. L. Monro, J.; W. E. Franklin, E.; A. Stewart, N.; F. H. Woolley, P.S.; A. Dickson, Janitor. After the business of the day, the Companions sat down to an excellent dinner, and the evening was spent in the most agreeable way.

## SCOTLAND.

## GLASGOW.

## PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

☞ This Lodge held its Quarterly Convocation on Wednesday, the 24th October, 1855, in the Masonic Hall, 87, Union-street. Present: Br. Dr. Walker Arnott, LL.D., R.W. Substitute, Prov. G.S. Warden; Br. James Thomson, W.M. of 362, as Prov. Gr.Sr. Warden; Br. James York, S.W. of 3½, as Prov. Gr. Jr. Warden; Br. James Miller, P.M. of 102, Prov. Gr. Treas.; Br. Donald Campbell, D.M. of 102, Prov. Gr. Sec., and a large attendance of the members.

The minutes of the meeting of July 26, as well as minute of Committee of date 13 September, were read and approved of; and from the great interest exhibited by the leading Lodges in the province, in having agreed to enter into the arrangements of the proposed Benevolent Fund, the former Committee were re-appointed to complete the arrangements. The W.M. of 219 tabled the following motion: "That every Lodge in the Province shall subscribe to the proposed Benevolent Fund the sum of one guinea, in addition to the ordinary subscriptions; and that, in the event of any Lodge or Lodges failing such payments, their members will not be entitled to relief from the said Charity Fund.

On the motion of Br. Donald Campbell, it was unanimously and enthusiastically agreed to, that the Prov. Gr. Lodge should hold a Masonic Festival on St. John's day, 27th December, when the following brethren were appointed a Committee to carry out the arrangements:—Br. Donald Campbell; Br. James York, Br. John Eisten, Br. David Sutherland, Br. Robert Thomson, jun., after which the Lodge was duly closed.

ST. MARK'S LODGE (No. 102).—The members of this Lodge met in their Hall, Buchanan-street, on 1st October, being convened for the first of the regular monthly meetings for the year 1855-56. D.M. Br. Donald Campbell occupied the chair, Br. G. J. Lyon acted as Sen., and Br. Reid as Jun. W., present also other office bearers, and a full attendance of members and brethren of sister Lodges. The minutes as usual were read and approved of. Applications for initiation into the order from Messrs J. H. S. Jekyll, York Terrace, London; Charles Hamilton, Merchant, Glasgow; John Ellison Cowan, Merchant, Glasgow; David Benzensohn, Chiroprapist, Dublin; James Mc L. Henderson, Shipbuilder, Renfrew; and David Haire, House Painter, Glasgow; were read by the R.W.M. These applicants were all found eligible and were initiated; Br. Jekyll, on account of his requiring to leave Scotland the following day, as was certified by his recommenders, and on a motion, to that effect regularly made, and carried, was, along with Brs. G. R. Dalgleish Gibson, and P.M. Hannah, passed to the Fellow-craft degree; and thereafter Fellow-crafts Jekyll, I. K. Donald and Robert Dunlop were raised to the sublime degree of M.M. In consequence of the lamented death of the able and worthy Jun. W., Br. John Elder, the acting R.W. M., nominated Br. Robert Thomson jun., as a fit and proper person to fill the vacant office; and also nominated Br. J. N. Sutherland to the office of S.D.; Br. Alen Macdonald nominated Brs. W. F. Buckie as a Br. qualified in all respects to discharge the duties of J.D.; and Brs. D. Campbell proposed Brs. Henry Johnstone for Steward, and Richard Brunson, for Jun. Guard. These several nominations were duly seconded, and it was intimated that at the next meeting the Brs. so nominated, would if approved be elected, and if present, be installed. The Treasurer stated that his books had this day been audited, and that a considerable balance remained in his hands. During refreshment and after the usual toasts from the chair, Br. James Miller, P.M. responded to the toast of the Prov. G.L. of which he is Treasurer; and the toast to the memory of the late J.W., was received with much feeling by the assembled brethren.

On the 9th October, there was an Emergency meeting, Br. D. Campbell in the chair, assisted by the Wardens, &c., at which Br. David Benzensohn, having to return

instantaner for Ireland, was (on the law of the G.L., applicable to such occurrences being complied with,) passed to the Fellow craft, and afterwards raised to the sublime degree of M.M.

At a further meeting held on 15th October, Br. D. Campbell, D.M., officiating R.W.M., the S.W., Br. James Horne, and acting Jun. W., Br. Robert Thomson, Jun., other officers and brethren, Br. John M. Rowan, who at a former meeting had been nominated to the office of Treasurer, and Mrs. Robert Thomson Jun., J. N. Sutherland, W. F. Buckie and Henry Johnston were called forward and took the O.B. of the respective offices to which they were nominated at the meeting, held on 1st October current, and were installed, John M. Rowan, Treasurer, R. Thomson, Jun., J.W., J. N. Sutherland, S.D., W. F. Buckie, J.D., and Henry Johnston, Steward. By a vote of the Lodge, 20 copies of a book, entitled the "History, Nature, and Objects of Masonry," of which, P.M. Br. James Miller is the author, were at his own request, presented to Br. Miller. The copyright of this work Br. Miller had some time ago gratuitously and generously assigned to the Lodge St. Mark. A brother who for some time past had been making a practice of calling upon various Lodges in the province, and also on individual members for charity, and who had previously on more than one occasion been assisted by the Lodge, was, after some remarks had been made on his case by brethren conversant therewith, refused assistance on this occasion.

The Lodge was after a short and harmonious refreshment, duly closed.

Another meeting was held on the 17th October, Br. D. Campbell presiding, assisted by Br. J. N. Sutherland, as S., and Br. Robert Thomson, Jun., as J.W., and other brethren. Mrs. W. A. G. Mc Leod, P.M., Hannay, and J. R. Dalgleish Gibson, proved themselves skilful Fellow-crafts, and were accordingly raised to the sublime degree as Master Masons.

## RENFREWSHIRE.

### INAUGURATION OF A NEW LODGE.

The inauguration of a new Lodge, named the "Renfrew County Kilwinning," took place in Paisley, on the evening of the 25th October current.

Br. Donald Campbell read a commission from Br. Sir John Maxwell, of Polloc, Prov.G.M., empowering him as a M.M. of St. Mark's, No. 102, to act on the occasion as Dep. P.G.M., and accordingly Br. Campbell took the chair. The charter from the G.L. constituting this Lodge by the style of the "Renfrew County Kilwinning, No. 370," was produced by the R.W. Prov. G.M., and handed to the Prov. G. Secretary, Br. Robt. Mitchell, and by him read. The O. B. of fealty to the G.L. was administered to the Master and Wardens *in propria forma*, and the P.G.M. appointed Br. James Horne, of St. Mark's, P.G.S.W., and Br. J. W. Flemington, G.K.L., No. 4, P.G.J.W., and other office-bearers, and the Lodge was opened. Br. Campbell read the ancient laws and regulations of the Order, and to these the Masters assented, and the other office-bearers present, took the O.B., and all were invested with the insignia, and installed in their respective offices. The Prov. G.M. in a lecture, enlightened the brethren on the beautiful precepts of Masonry. This *resumé* of the Prov. G.M. was most eloquent and redolent of the noble principles of Masonry, and was illustrated by selections from poets, some of whom had been "wiser than they knew." On the Prov. G.L. being closed, the "Renfrew County Kilwinning" was opened by the R.W.M. Br. James A. M'Kean, who then occupied the chair. Applications for initiation of five gentleman were read by the Secretary, Br. Wm. Murray, who informed the brethren, that this number was much less than had requested to be admitted, but he had delayed getting their petitions brought forward, as, at one meeting, more could not conveniently be admitted. The Secretary's statement was hailed with much pleasure as indisputable evidence of a career of success.

During refreshment, the R.W.M. Br. M'Kean, proposed the toast of "The Queen and the Craft," alluding to the noble and honoured lady, to whose rule the brethren would acknowledge, that the tender words of the ballad were peculiarly applicable, "The sway of our Monarch was mild as the May."

Br. Ronald responded to the toast, and assisted by the brethren, sang, "God save the Queen."

"The rest of the Royal Family, and the Baron of Renfrew," a most appropriate toast, was received with great enthusiasm. And the R.W.M. said, that to all true Scotsmen, Renfrew should be a revered county, as it was the birth-place of Wallace, and that, therefore, the title of the "Baron of Renfrew," was the brightest ornament in the diadem of the Prince of Wales.

"The Grand Lodge of Scotland, and the Duke of Athol," of "England and the Earl of Zetland," of "Ireland and its only Duke," were severally responded to.

Br. Wm. Taylor, sung "Burns' Farewell to the Tarbolton Lodge," and in compliance with the poet's request, craved the brethren to give "Ae round for him that's far awa."

"The Provincial Grand Lodge," was given by Br. J. A. M'Kean, who said, that the success of Masonry depended more upon the Prov. G.L., than upon the Grand Lodge itself, and coupled with the toast, the name of Br. Donald Campbell.

Br. Campbell, for himself and the office-bearers *pro. tem.*, returned thanks.

"The Army and Navy," given by the R.W.M. was received with cheers. He alluded to the gallant actions fought in the Crimea, where our braves had done their duty up to, aye, past England's expectations; and to the sailors who had warred well even on land. Ships could not sail as yet at the bottom of the seas, nor through stone walls, and it was want of opportunity, and not inability, which forced the renowned British Navy to remain comparatively inactive.

Br. Capt. Letham, in returning thanks, said, that being a Militia Officer, he responded for the Army, somewhat in the like manner as he once heard an officer of Marines respond for the Navy, and trusted that the pluck of the Allies would yet conquer all opposition in the Crimea.

Br. Swan favoured the meeting with the "Red, White, and Blue."

Br. D. Campbell, toasted "Prosperity to Renfrew County Kilwinning Lodge, and the Officers who had that night been installed." He shortly enumerated some of the eminent Brothers who had in former times been members of this Lodge—Lord Blantyre, Earl of Glasgow, &c., and stated that in former years mostly all the principal proprietors of the county were members of this Lodge, for though now called a new Lodge it was in reality an old Lodge revived.

To this toast Br. M'Kean replied in neat terms.

From the chair, "The Mother Kilwinning and Brother Russell, Glasgow," who returned thanks.

Some of the sentiments in the "Soldier's Funeral," as sung by Br. Ronald, S.W., being singularly applicable to the "present aspect of affairs," was feelingly welcomed by the assembly.

"Glasgow Kilwinning Lodge, No. 4, and their services in getting up the Lodge R.C.K., and particularly those of Br. Alexander," was responded to by Br. Easton, who said he was glad to observe that the R.C.K. Lodge had got such a chaste and handsomely fitted up room in which to meet, and remarked on the pleasure it at all times afforded the G.K.L. to attend and countenance Lodges on occurrences similar to the present.

Br. Robert Thomson, jun., who represented the St. Mark's Lodge, Glasgow (No. 102), as R.W.M., and headed a large deputation of that Lodge, at the request of Br. Swan, sung very ably and humorously.

Br. Thomson proposed "The Greenock Kilwinning Lodge, and Br. Captain Stuart."

Br. Stuart replied, saying that he was rejoiced to be at the inauguration, as it was a ceremony not often witnessed, and had been well performed. His Mother Lodge Greenock Kilwinning was instituted a few years after the R. C. Kilwinning, as it was No. 15, and the R. C. K. No. 11 in former days on the G. L. Roll. He trusted the R. C. K. would yet get back their former number, and take their place among the venerables.

Br. Japp responded to the "Paisley St. Mirrans," a deputation from which body he headed.

"The Lodge St. Mark" was answered by Br. Robert Thomson, jun., who, in an

able and eloquent reply, thanked the brethren for the eulogiums passed upon the Lodge of which he was office bearer, and which he had the honour that evening to head.

Br. Patterson, at the request of the Master, raised the hilarity of the meeting by singing a humorous ballad.

The health of Br. Sir John Maxwell, as proposed by Br. John Irvine, was honoured with much applause; and to the toast of "The Wardens of the Renfrew County Kilwinning," as proposed by Br. Donald Campbell, S.W. Br. Stuart returned thanks.

Brs. D. Campbell and William Alexander were, on motions regularly made and carried, affiliated members, and thereafter the Lodge was closed.

In November, 1750, the Renfrew County Kilwinning Lodge was instituted, and then stood No. 11 upon the roll of the G.L. of Kilwinning, who alone at this period had power to grant charters in Scotland. It continued for many years to be a most flourishing Lodge, probably the most aristocratic in Scotland. The meetings were held oftentimes at the residence of one or other of the members, and, in this respect, we understand that some sort of rotation was observed. The Lodge was made by this means pretty exclusive.

William, Earl of Dundonald, became, in the year 1752, a member of the R.C.K. He was an ancestor of the present Lord Dundonald, whose proposed scheme for the destruction of Russian power has of late brought him conspicuously before the population of these islands. William Lord Blantyre, in 1778, was made a member, and he, as the quaint words of the roll-book bear, "made a present of all ye jewels to ye Lodge." The Earl of Glasgow likewise became a member in 1778.

In a minute dated 30th November, 1798, the initiation of Lieutenant John Moore of the 15th Regiment, is recorded. That brother died as Sir John Moore, little more than ten years afterwards, on the field of Corunna.

The minute-book of the Lodge is somewhat curious, as from it can be observed that the state of the country, from 1790 up to 1805, was somelike what at present prevails, as the names of many officers of the "Fencibles" are during that period noted in the minutes. Indeed, from the great quantity of names of military brethren, it might almost be denominated a military Lodge. The ancestors of the P.G.M., Br. Sir John Maxwell, of Polloc, of Sir Michael Shaw Stewart, Colonel M'Dowall, of Gartland, Boyd Alexander, Esq., of Southbar, Colonel Mure of Caldwell, and of most of the distinguished families of the county, are enrolled in the books. After 1805, up to which time the Lodge had worked, it became dormant; and now, although it has been virtually resuscitated, still the former office-bearers, by not coming under the G.L. laws, and refusing to acknowledge her supremacy, lost to the succeeding generation of brethren their honourable number 11 in the G.L. Roll. It is to be hoped, however, that at some future day the Lodge may receive its old distinctive mark.

#### ROYAL ARCH.

GLASGOW CHAPTER (No. 50).—On the 5th Oct., the monthly meeting of this Chapter was held in St. Marks Hall. Br. Donald was admitted a member of the "Mark" and "Past" Lodges in connection therewith, preparatory to his exaltation to the Royal Arch. M.E. Comp. Donald Campbell Z. presided as R.W.M. After the Lodges were closed, the companions present, with the newly made *Mark* and *Past* Master, retired to partake of a light repast, in the "adjacent," where the evening was happily spent.

#### FREEMASONRY IN INDIA.

The following interesting letter from a gallant officer who was some years since initiated in the John of Gaunt Lodge, No. 766, Leicester, has recently been received by the Senior Past Master of the Lodge :—

Thayetmyo (Burmah), 1st June, 1855.

Dear Brother \* \* \*—Even at this, to you, unheard-of place, the head quarters of the Frontier Brigade, in our new territories acquired in Burmah, I cannot forget

the merry days when we were younger than we are now, and the era in my life when, at your hands, I "received the light;" the more so from the interesting fact, that having revived our very old Regimental Lodge at this station, on the 4th April last, working under the warrant of the venerable age of 96 years (3rd May, 1759), we are now revising the old bye-laws, and have adopted some of the articles in the bye-laws of 766—my mother lodge; thus my Masonic parent has been present in my thoughts to some purpose. Our 29th Lodge is an Irish one, No. 322. I was, I rejoice to say, the means of reviving it after a dormant state of many years' standing; and although nominated W.M. by the voice of the brethren applying, still the M.W.G.M. appointed our Lieutenant-Colonel (a Companion of the Bath and a distinguished officer, and through whose aid, freely granting his sanction to the revival—a M.M. himself—we obtained the permission) as Master, my humble self S.W., and another captain, J.W. However, the W.M. being absent on staff employ, I have been ruling in his absence, making the third Lodge I have sat as Master of since 1852. It is not in the spirit of boasting that I thus write; but to mark my feelings of gratitude to the W. Master, Wardens, and Brethren of 766, "Old time-honoured Lancaster's" namesake, in the good old town of Leicester, through whose instruction and example I have thus been sustained in my Masonic career. I was fortunate enough to obtain the approbation of the brethren of No. 609, "True Brothers," at Dinapore, who unanimously voted me a very handsome gold P.M. jewel on leaving the E. Chair. The brethren of 794 "Philanthropy," at Maulmains, in the same way, passed a minute appointing me an honorary member for life, and voted me a tea-service of plate; and, to crown all, the R.W., the Provincial Grand Master of Bengal was pleased to appoint me, for the little service I was able to render during my occupancy of the E. chair, Past Provincial Senr. Grand Deacon of the District Grand Lodge of Bengal; for each and all of which, W.M., I return sincere and heartfelt thanks to you, and the Wardens, and brethren of my mother Lodge. And I trust that, some of these days, I may have the pleasure of visiting the Lodge, and, in person, say what I now write. Rumours are afloat that the 29th are for Europe this year; if so, and I can get a spare moment, I will, of a certainty, if the G.A. permit it, visit your town; although, perhaps, few of my acquaintances are now left. Should any of them think of me, pray give them my sincere and warmest regards. The recruiting subaltern, although now a captain, never forgets the kindness experienced by him there. Your reply to my former letter was duly received, but since then I have travelled over much space and never had the opportunity of giving you the information sought regarding the Masonic emblems on the Allahabad Fort. It is perfectly true that our emblems appear in many places in India; and, although not a Mason at the time, I remember seeing carved on the face of the marble rocks in the Run Nerbuddah in Central Hindoostan, figures which I was at the time informed were Masonic, and now know to be so. I have also heard, from undoubted authority, that a R.A. brother can enter the holy places of the Brahmins, while the unauthorized brother would be driven away with insults and abuse, perhaps death, if he attempted to enter.

. . . . Believe me to be, my dear brother, . . .

Yours, fraternally and sincerely.

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## CORRESPONDENCE.

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### UNIFORMITY OF RITUAL.

*To the Editor of the Masonic Mirror.*

SIR AND BROTHER,—I have perused with great interest, the very well timed Article, entitled "Uniformity of Ritual," which appears in your number for this month, and I venture to offer a few remarks upon one point, which seems to me to be particularly deserving of consideration and discussion. I allude to your suggestion, that the Grand Lodge should depute some properly qualified brethren to visit the

different Provinces, for the purpose of instructing the various Lodges, and of reporting to Grand Lodge, at certain intervals, upon their state and condition. I fear you are only too correct in your opinion, that a step of this kind would disclose a state of things which the Grand Lodge is by no means prepared to expect, and if your valuable suggestion should be acted upon, you will have rendered essential service to the Craft at large, inasmuch as a laxity of discipline exists in many Lodges which is very detrimental to the progress of Masonry, and which ought to be speedily reprov'd and corrected.

Without entering upon the discussion, as to the possibility of obtaining positive "Uniformity of Ritual," one thing is certain to be admitted by all who have the success of Masonry at heart, and that is, that our Masonic Ceremonies ought at any rate to be decorously and efficiently conducted by the respective officers of the various Lodges. The appointment by the Grand Lodge of Instructors, whose duty it would be to visit the various Lodges, and to report from time to time upon their working, &c., would induce a spirit of emulation amongst them, and would be the means of preventing the introduction or continuance of all improper practices. In this province, there are many differences in the working of the various Lodges, and also many shortcomings in the officers, both private and provincial, which the appointment of a competent Inspector would lessen, if not altogether remove, and I trust, Sir, that you will keep the subject before the Masonic world, for I feel assured, that the appointment of properly qualified Instructors in the Ceremonies, and Inspectors of Lodges, would be an important and a valuable addition to our present list of Grand Officers.

Should you deem this letter worthy of insertion in your columns, I may at a future time recur to the subject, and endeavour to prove the urgent necessity of some more efficient supervision than is at present exercised, by describing more minutely the state of Masonic affairs in this province.

I am, Sir, and Brother,

Yours fraternally,

A PAST MASTER OF A YORKSHIRE LODGE.

24th Oct., 1855.

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## SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR OCTOBER.

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The month of October is generally most barren of news; and notwithstanding the war, and the consequent occasional startling announcements which we see at the newspaper offices, the past month has been scarcely an exception to the general rule, though it cannot be denied that a few events of more than usual importance have taken place, as we have recorded in this summary.

### THE COURT.

After an absence of about five weeks in her Highland home, Her Majesty and the Royal family returned to Windsor on the 17th October, where they have been since sojourning, nothing worthy of record having taken place beyond the fact that the whole of the Royal Family remain in the best of health.

### THE WAR.

If the war is not attended with such a succession of dashing enterprises as the impatience of the public would desire, and which it is vain to expect, when we consider the difficulties to be overcome, everything at least appears to be steadily progressing in favour of the allies. The allies having made preparations for pressing on the Russian army in the Crimea, as much as possible, a brilliant cavalry affair took place on the 29th September, at Koughil, five miles north-east of Eupatoria, in which General d'Allonville defeated the Russians, and took 160 prisoners. The Russians also left 50 men dead on the field, whilst the loss of the French did not exceed

30. At the latest accounts the allies were pressing closely on the Russian army, and threatening to cut off its communications with Perekop; whilst Prince Gortschakoff was expected to risk a battle, in order to relieve himself, if possible, from his embarrassing position.

On the 17th, the allied fleets, having landed a detachment to the south of the forts at Kinburn, at the mouth of the Dnieper, so as to prevent their receiving reinforcements, commenced a bombardment of, which resulted in the garrison, between 1,400 and 1,500 strong, capitulating, and delivering themselves up as prisoners of war, having first lost 45 men killed and 130 wounded. The loss of the allies was inconsiderable. On the 18th, the Russians blew up the fort of Otchakoff, thus opening the Dnieper and the Bug to the vessels of the allies, which now threaten Cherson and other important points.

In Asia, the Russians have also received a considerable check. On the 29th, the Russians made a desperate attack on Kars; and after a contest, which lasted eight hours, were completely worsted by the gallant little band of Turks, which have been holding it for some time, almost starved in consequence of the siege. The Russians had 3,500 killed, besides nearly three times that number wounded; and though the Russians are again threatening it, it is hoped the Turks, who are led by General Kmetz (an Hungarian, who stood true to his colours when Georgey betrayed the cause), Major-General Williams, and other British officers, have had time to provision the garrison, and will be enabled to hold their ground until the arrival of Omar Pasha, or the setting in of the winter shall compel a raising of the siege.

The Baltic fleet has done nothing of importance, and may be shortly expected home for the winter, leaving the Russian fleet to be blockaded by Admiral Ice.

#### ACCIDENTS AND OFFENCES.

On the 4th, there was a severe thunder storm at Liverpool, and an explosion at a firework makers, caused it is believed, by the electric fluid striking some of the combustibles used in the business, by which several persons were much injured.

On the 8th, a large boiler used for driving the nail mill at the iron works of Messrs. Losh & Co., at Walker, near Newcastle-on-Tyne, exploded with great violence, causing the death of seven workmen, and severely wounding many others.

On the 10th, a singular accident took place on the London and Brighton Railway. An empty train of 15 carriages, on being moved from one line to another, was in consequence of the points being turned the wrong way, propelled in an opposite direction to that which it was intended to take. It consequently broke through the boundary wall, and fell over into College Street, Bermondsey. Fortunately, it being early in the morning, no persons were injured.

On the 14th, a young woman, a servant in the family of the Rev. Wm. Ponders, at Southampton, was brutally murdered, by having her throat cut by a fellow-servant named Baker, in consequence of her declining to receive him as a lover.

On the 12th, Miss Charlotte Hinds was most brutally murdered by two men on her own property, near Ballyconnell, in the county of Cavan, it is presumed because she endeavoured to obtain her rent from some refractory tenants. Miss Hinds was dragged from her car in open day, and beaten with loaded whips or bludgeons. The lady lingered in great suffering previous to her death. The tenants of Miss Hinds, are stated to have shown themselves in Ballyconnell market very auspiciously on the day of the murder, as if with a view of preventing suspicion falling upon them, but thereby evincing that they were aware of what was about to take place.

On the 17th, a disastrous fire occurred at the Green Man Tavern, Green Street, Blackfriars-road, which resulted in the death of the proprietor, who, after hanging from the window-sill for a few minutes, fell heavily to the ground, and received injuries from which there was no chance of recovery. Two other inmates were also dreadfully injured, but fortunately Mrs. Hollwell and the rest of the family were in Cheltenham.

Some French Refugees have been expelled from Jersey for publishing in a paper, entitled *d'Homme*, principally intended for circulation in France, the report of a



meeting, purporting to have been held in London, in which a number of refugees, of various countries, are stated to have made speeches, insulting to Her Majesty, and inciting to the murder of the Emperor of the French, and indeed, of all royal personages.

On the 27th, Sir J. D. Paul, and Messrs. Strahan and Bates, the bankers, were convicted of having illegally disposed of the property of their customers, and sentenced to fourteen years' transportation. The Governor of the House of Detention has been suspended for treating these parties with undue partiality whilst under his care.

#### PROVIDENT.

The Unity General Life Assurance Company held its first annual meeting at Willis's Rooms, King Street, St. James's, on the 10th, when a report was presented, which shows that in addition to the previous income of £24,000 a year, handed over to it from the Trafalgar, which this Company supersedes, a further income of £10,303 had been obtained from the same source in the ten months ending on the 30th September. The Life losses during the year amounted only to £1,450. Mr. Thos. H. Baylis entered into a long explanation relative to the position of this Company, and particularly called attention to the Unity Joint Stock Mutual Banking Company about being established in conjunction with the Unity General and Unity Fire Associations. The report was adopted, and a dividend at the rate of five per cent. per annum was declared. The offices have been removed to Cannon Street, City.

The Merchants and Tradesmen's Mutual Life Assurance Society held a meeting on the 16th, to receive a report on a recent valuation of their business. The report said that the contingencies, or the present value of the claims, valued by the Carlisle rate of mortality, on the supposition that money made three per cent., amounted to £234,918 1s., and that the premiums were worth £256,746 1s.—leaving a balance of £21,828 in favour of the office, which, with the realised assets, made the balance applicable for present and future profits, and for future expenses on existing policies, £40,978 6s. 3d. The report was adopted, and a resolution passed for paying off the guarantee fund, with a bonus thereon, thus making the society entirely mutual. A bonus was also declared of 25 per cent. on the premiums paid during the last triennial period, being equal to one-and-a-half per cent. on the sum assured.

The Saxon Life Assurance Company held its first annual meeting on the 25th. It appears from the report, that although the Society has only been in active operation eight months, it has issued 254 policies, assuring £64,238, and producing £2,010 18s. 3d. per annum in premiums. It has also organised about 250 agencies, many of which have not as yet come into operation, but are expected to lead to important results in the future. A dividend at the rate of five per cent. per annum on the paid-up capital was declared.

At the fourth annual meeting of the National Provincial Life Assurance Society a report was presented, which said: During the past year the directors have received 884 proposals for assuring the sum of £215,210, out of which 652 have been accepted and completed, and policies issued assuring the sum of £143,377, producing a new revenue of £4,931 0s. 1d. per annum. Since the establishment of the society, the total amount of assurances effected is £667,896, and the annual income arising therefrom, £23,252 4s. The mortality experienced by the society continues to be extremely small. The claims during the past year are only 38, and, after deducting the amount re-assured, the net loss sustained by the society is £3,930 0s. 9d., making the net losses since the establishment of the society, £7,181 3s. 8d. After payment of all losses and current expenses for the past year, and reserving the sum of £1,802 11s. 7d. received for the purchase of annuities, there remains a surplus upon the year's income alone of £6,995 5s. 11d. to be carried to the reserve fund, making that amount now, £18,876 15s. 8d. The report was adopted, and a dividend at the rate of six per cent. per annum declared. Mr. Clench, the manager, has been elected into the direction.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

On the 1st inst., Br. Alderman Kennedy, and Alderman Rose, were duly installed into their office as Sheriffs of London and Middlesex. There was a grand breakfast at Br. Staples, Albion Tavern, in the morning, and a dinner at Brs. Bathe, Funge & Co., London Tavern, in the evening. The London Tavern had been newly decorated to do honor to the occasion.

On the 9th, the Duke of Cambridge visited Liverpool, and was received with the highest honors—the authorities and the people vieing with each other in their endeavours to show the high estimation in which H.R.H. is held by his fellow countrymen.

On the 16th, a very important case was decided at the Mansion House. The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals prosecuted a butcher, of the Jewish persuasion, for cruelty in the mode adopted of slaughtering bullocks. It being well known the Jews slaughter their beasts in a peculiar manner, in order to drain the body of blood, in accordance with the ordinances of their religion, considerable interest was attached to the case, which was decided against the Society, on the ground that it was not made out that any unnecessary suffering was inflicted on the animals; and that it was not desirable to interfere with the religious customs of any portion of the community, so long as they were consistent with morality and good order.

Sir Wm. Molesworth, M.P., the Colonial Secretary, died on the 22nd, after a short illness.

Ald. Salomons has been elected Lord Mayor for the ensuing year. His Lordship is the first member of the Jewish profession who has held that distinguished office. Knowing from our intercourse in Freemasonry how many honourable and estimable men are to be found amongst the Jews, we have great pleasure in congratulating them upon the honor which the citizens of London have bestowed, not only upon their body, but the corporation itself by the election.

In consequence of the drain of gold from this country, the Bank of England have raised their discount, on short bills, to 6 per cent., and on those having more than 60 days to run, 7 per cent.

## AMUSEMENTS.

Mr. Smith opened his third season at Drury Lane Theatre by the production of a grand Egyptian drama, entitled *Nitocris*, founded on the history of an Egyptian queen of that name, on the 8th. The drama was most gorgeously painted, and as a spectacle, has rarely, if ever, been exceeded; but the weight of the dialogue almost destroyed it. Miss Glyn, Mr. Barry Sullivan, and other artistes, too good for such an affair, did all they could to ensure success—and now that the greater part of the dialogue has been expunged, it bids fair to have a prosperous run until Christmas. On the 10th, *Married for Money*, a favorite comedy by Poole, which has lain dormant some years, was revived for the purpose of introducing Mr. Charles Matthews and the *dite* of the Lyceum company, to the audience. Its success was complete, and the reception of Mr. Matthews and the other public favorites, all they could desire.

The Adelphi re-opened on the 8th, when Mr. Hudson made his re-appearance in *Rory O'More*, after an absence of five years. Miss Kate Kelly made a successful debut in *Kathleen*, and the performance throughout gave great satisfaction. Br. Webster and Madame Celeste have been starring in the provinces, and as yet no novelties have been produced.

The Olympic opened for the season on the 20th, with the *School for Scandal*, admirably cast, and a light farce, called *Catching a Mermaid*, which was a mere vehicle for displaying the peculiar powers of Mr. Robson, in the character of a country showman, which he filled to the life.

On the following evening, the Princess's opened with *Henry the Eighth*, which bids fair to run through a second season, and a new farce, entitled *Don't Judge by Appearances*, which was quite successful.

On the 27th, a new drama, entitled *The Beginning to the End*, was produced at the Haymarket. It is of the dreadfully dismal school of Victoria domestic drama, and though admirably written, and well supported by the powerful acting of Miss Cushman and Mr. Howe, is not likely to hold the stage for any length of time.

At the Lyceum, Mr. Anderson, the Wizard of the North, has been drawing crowded houses to view not only his wonderful feats of magic, but listen to his exposure of table-rapping, and whether he produces the result by the same means as the regular mediums or not, it is perfectly clear that he shows some most startling results, and has been eminently successful in rapping the coin out of the pockets of Her Majesty's liege subjects.

To those who are not addicted to theatres, we would recommend the Polytechnic Institution, and Woodin's *Olio of Oddities*, as well deserving attention.

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## OBITUARY.

We regret to announce the death of James William McKenzie, Esq., late of Pitt-riche, Banffshire, which took place very suddenly on the 5th day of October. Br. McKenzie was Secretary to St. John's Lodge, in which he was initiated in December, 1813, continuing a member until the time of his decease. He was also Scribe N. to the Banff Operative Royal Arch Chapter. His memory will not soon be forgotten in any of the Lodges of the brethren in this quarter. He was a worthy Mason—seldom absent from any of the meetings; and nothing afforded him greater pleasure than to supply instruction to those who were young in the Craft. He was often heard to say that, although the sun of Masonry, for a time, had suffered an occultation, yet he rejoiced to see it again dispelling the clouds of darkness—arising above the horizon, shedding its benign influences all around, and reflecting its pure light in the pages of the "Mirror;" and, he was confident, that ere long, it would again shine forth in all its meridian splendour and pristine glory.

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## NOTICES.

### TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS.

Annual Subscribers are respectfully informed, that their subscriptions closed with the last number. The first volume will be completed with the 14th number, in order that our second volume may commence with the new year—when many important improvements are contemplated. Brethren wishing to complete their volumes, are requested to make early applications for back numbers, some of which, are nearly out of print.

### TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Our correspondents are earnestly requested to address their future communications to the editor, to No. 2, Red Lion-court, Fleet-street. Br. Barton will continue to receive advertisements at his office, 2, Upper Wellington-street, Strand, as usual.

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ROBERT BURNS LODGE OF INSTRUCTION.—We are requested to state that the 15 sections will be arch'd by the members of this Lodge, at Br. Testar, Union Tavern, Air Street, Piccadilly, on Friday, the 16th inst. The Lodge will be opened at 7 o'Clock. J.S.K., Sheerness, will hear from us in a few days. Br. Goring did not attempt to teach the whole of the Ceremonies to one brother in 14 days—but the brethren of Whitby selected

a number of brethren who undertook to learn different Sections, and then form themselves into a Lodge of Mutual Instruction.

W.O., Southmolton.—We hope to make many improvements acceptable to the brethren on the commencement of our second volume in January next.

Ethée—Your friend is mistaken. We wrote, making an appointment, but received the letter back marked "gone away." We have again written to the new address, and as yet received no reply.

BR. FISHER, Newcastle-on-Tyne.—We regret that our esteemed Correspondent's communication came too late to be attended to in our last number.

△—There is a distinct ceremony and word for each of the Principals' chairs. If a Comp. has once filled the Z. chair, it would not be necessary that he should go through the whole of the ceremony a second time, in order to qualify him again to fill that distinguished position.

A SENIOR W.—If you have not been installed you should not have taken the Master's chair; but performed the duties in a chair to its right. We will endeavour shortly to obtain a list of the French Lodges.

J. F., Carlisle.—Certainly not.

Br. Julian Adams is thanked, but his communication arrived too late for our present Number.

Mark Masonry.—Comp. Rettie's Letter, and some observations thereon, are unavoidably postponed.

P. P.—The Arch Jewel alluded to is of an Ancient form, and if you know the Ceremonies, you will perceive that it does not answer the description given of it in the address from the Chair. If you do not know, then apply to some Companion more learned than yourself to recite the description to you.

Several valuable communications are delayed from the late hour at which they were received.

A BROTHER WITH LITTLE TIME TO SPARE.—We would advise you to join the Phoenix Lodge of Instruction, which meets at the Freemasons' Tavern, on the 1st, 3rd, and when they occur, 5th Saturdays in each month. It is one of the most comfortable and economical Lodges of Instruction in London.

W.S.—The Duke of Sussex, whilst G.M., laid the foundation stone of Hammersmith Bridge, in 1825; Caledonian Asylum, 1827; London University, 1827; Licensed Victualler's Asylum, 1828; and Charing Cross Hospital, 1831.

Freemasons' Hall was dedicated in 1776. A notice of the event will most probably appear in our next month's portion of Freemasonry in England.

S.C.—We have not the honor of the acquaintance of the brother alluded to, though we have every reason to believe him to be a most worthy and honorable man.

Anxiety.—We have great pleasure in being enabled to inform you that our respected R.W.D.G.M., the Earl of Yarborough, is making such progress, that his medical attendants have every confidence in his complete recovery. He is at present, however, compelled to abstain, as much as possible, from business, and is living quietly at his country seat. We have every confidence in seeing him again amongst us at an early date—the more especially, as we know his Lordship takes the greatest interest in the success of the next Festival of the Boys' School. Indeed, a second Festival in aid of the Building Fund would, we believe, have been held last year, in accordance with the expressed wish of the D.G.M., had it not been for his Lordship's unfortunate illness.

A Young Mason.—Adhere to your obligation, and you cannot do wrong. You will find plenty of brethren able and willing to give you instruction. If you do not know any such in your Lodge, you have only to visit one or two Lodges of Instruction two or three times, and you will be sure to find them.

An Initiate.—You will know in due time—do not be too curious.

Public processions of Freemasons, on Feast Days, were discontinued in London in 1747. We do not approve of Masonic processions in public—considering such displays beneath the dignity of the Craft.

Viscount Combermere, who has lately had the distinguished rank of Field Marshal conferred upon him, is Pl. G.M. for Cheshire—and a truer hearted Mason, or a Pl. G.M. more conscientiously determined to do his duty to the Order, is not to be found. We wish other Pl. G.M.'s would imitate his Lordship's example—Br. Benjamin Bond Cabbell for instance. If we mistake not, it is three years since he was nominated Pl. G.M. for Norfolk—and during the whole of that time he has neither held a G.L., or presented himself for installation. The M.W.G.M. should look to this. If a brother, no matter what his rank, will not perform the duties assigned to him, he should be, without favour or affection, at once deprived of his office.