



GRAND MASONIC BALL, IN THE TOWN-HALL, OXFORD.

## THE MASONIC BALL,

On Wednesday evening (the subject of the second Illustration upon the next page), was given at the Town-hall, by the members of the Apollo University Lodge of Freemasons. This Ball may truly be described as the most successful effort of the whole week. The visitors, on their arrival, were received by the stewards and their assistants, in full masonic costume, in the area under the Hall, which had been fitted up as a reception-room and promenade. The staircase was hung with paintings. The Hall itself was so transformed that it was difficult to recognise the old room. The walls, hung with drapery, were emblazoned with the arms of the Chancellor, and of every College and Hall in this University; and between these were interspersed masonic emblems, banners, and rich devices, bearing appropriate mottoes.

The splendid masonic attire of the brethren, their jewels, collars, and other decorations, the handsome dresses of the ladies, and the objects of taste and beauty which met the eye in every direction, combined to make the spectacle very striking. The Grand Jury Room, the platform end of the Town-hall, and the Council Chamber, were fitted up as refreshment courts. The supper was served in the Council Chamber. Upwards of 600 persons were present; and so great was the demand for tickets, that the stewards resolved on the last day to issue twenty additional, at three guineas each, the whole of that amount to be given to the Radcliffe Infirmary.

Among the distinguished company present were the Chancellor and the Countess of Derby, Lord Stanley, and the Lady Emma Stanley.

The festivity of the week was brought to a close by the second Installation Ball at the Town-hall, when about 100 persons were present. Balls were also given at Magdalen College.

The hospitality displayed throughout the week by every College and Hall was most liberal, but we have only been able to notice the more important circumstances.