



MASONIC SHIELD PRESENTED TO GENERAL RAMSAY, PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER OF BENGAL,—SEE PRECEDING PAGE.

MASONIC TESTIMONIAL TO MAJOR-GENERAL RAMSAY.

A HANDSOME silver shield has been presented to Major-General James Ramsay, Provincial Grand Master of Bengal, by the Freemasons of that province, as a tribute of affection and a memorial of their faithful allegiance and high appreciation of his successful masonic government. General Ramsay was appointed Provincial Grand Master of Bengal in 1853, and, at the special request of the Earl of Eglar, Grand Master of England, continues to hold the office, administering the masonic government of the province by deputy.

This testimonial is of solid silver, in the form of a shield, and can be used as a rose-water dish; it measures twenty-seven inches in diameter. The border represents the collar worn by the Grand Master, and is of openwork chased silver, in the centre of which are the armorial bearings of Major-General Ramsay. The group of figures composing the centre of the shield is of frosted silver in bas relief, representing the attributes of Masonry. On the left are Unity and Strength (Hercules with bundle of sticks), Beauty (Venus with a mirror), and Justice holding the scales; Wisdom being in the centre. A figure with Minerva's cap on is introducing a candidate to the Master Mason. On the right we find Faith, a devotional figure; Hope, with the anchor; and Charity dispensing the bounties of the lodge. In the foreground are various tools and implements. Three different orders of architecture also are shown, the significance of which will be recognised by all Freemasons. The whole design is spirited, and the artistic modelling and manufacture reflect much credit on the silversmiths, Charles Williams and Co., of Oxford-street, by whom it was manufactured. The value of this testimonial is 200 guineas.