excited considerable attention on the other side of the Atlantic; as I have received from America several communications on the subject. It was rather strange that the note appeared in the columns of the number of "N. & Q." which bears date Saturday, February 21, and that on the following day, February 22, at the dedication of the Washington monument in the capital of the United States, a Bible, stated to have been the one on which George Washington took his first Masonic obligation, was borne in the procession, whilst it was claimed for another Bible, also present, that Washington had used it while Master of a lodge.

In Harper's Monthly for March I read also as follows:—

"Lodge No. 4 of the Masonic fraternity of Fredericksburgh is quite famous..... Among its early members was Washington, who received the first degree November 4, 1752, the second March 3, 1753, the third August 4, 1758. The Bible used in these ceremonies, still in good preservation, is the richest treasure of the lodge; it was printed at Cambridge by John Field in 1693. The Bible is always borne in state during the Grand Performances of the Masons."

It would be interesting to have this "battle of the books" decided, so that it would be made clear whether the book in possession of the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry or the one in the Virginian Masonic lodge is the veritable Washington Bible.

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SIR E. LANDSEER'S "DISTINGUISHED MEMBER OF THE HUMANITY SOCIETY" (6th S. xi. 225.)—Mr. Walford, in his Greater London, vol. ii. p. 178, records the fact that the original of this picture was a dog belonging to Mr. Newman Smith, of Birdhirst, Croydon, that his name was Leo (not "Paul Pry"), and that he was "a frequent swimmer in the Wandle." Mus RUSTICIUS.

TO BALKE TO CONDE (6th S. ix. 88.)—The meaning of these fishery terms is to guide, to direct. Boag gives conde, "in seaman's language, to conduct a ship, to direct the man at helm how to steer." The Ency. Dict., quoting Cowell, says balkers are "men who stand on a cliff or high place on the shore and give a sign to the men in the fishing boats which way the shoal of herrings is passing." A quotation from Carew's Survey of Cornwall is also given: "The pilchards are pursued by a bigger fish, called a plusher, who leapeth above water and bewrayeth them to the balker." The Ency. Met. gives "Conders, Fr., conderiu, to guide; a name given to persons placed on heights near the sea-shore to make signs to the men engaged in the Herring Fishery out at sea, of the direction in which the shoals are passing. The blue colour caused by the mass of Herrings in the water is more easily descried from above than on the level of the water. Conders are known also by the names of Huers, Balkers, Directors, and

Guiders." Littleton's Dictionary (1723) has "Balkers, who upon shore give notice of the herrings' coming"; "to cond a ship, naveu dirigere, gubernare"; and "balkers or conders, speculatores balceum." Again, Barclay gives, "Balkers, in fishery, persons who stand on the cliffs to inform fishermen which way the shoal of herrings go"; and "to cond, cond, or conn, in sea language, signifies to guide or conduct a ship in her right course." GEO. H. BRIERLEY.

Oswestry.

IRISH VOLUNTEERS (6th S. xi. 260.)—MR. E. T. EVANS will find much information on this subject in the second and third volumes of the Correspondence of Charles, Marquis Cornwallis, published by the late Mr. Charles Ross, M.P. Another source of information would be the Life of Lord Charlemont.

E. WALFORD, M.A.

For information on this subject Mr. Evans is referred to the following works, viz.: The Life of the Earl of Charlemont, by Francis Hardy, 2 vols., London, 1812; The Volunteers of 1782, by Thomas MacNevin, Dublin, 1845; The Kingdom of Ireland, by C. G. Walpole, London, 1852.

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The following will introduce Mr. Evans into a wider field of matter connected with that interesting period of Irish history:—

Life of Charlemont, by Hardy.
Life of Grattan, by his Son.
Life of Wolfe Tone.
McNevin's History of the Volunteers.
Froude's English in Ireland.
Ireland's Case, stated by Father Burke. (An answer to the latter.)
Barrington's Rise and Fall of the Irish Nation, &c.

LECKY'S LEADERS OF PUBLIC OPINION IN IRELAND.

History of Belfast.
Wilson's Resolutions of the Volunteers.
Gilbert's History of Dublin.
Madden's Lives and Times of United Irishmen, &c.

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BISHOP BABINGTON (6th S. xi. 168, 314.)—An error has crept into your pages through the fact of there having been two bishops of the name of Babington. The information sought for by Mr. GIGGOTT was concerning Brute Babington, not Gervase Babington, as was supposed by the REV. W. E. BECKET. Brute Babington was Bishop of Derry.

"He was a native of Cheshire, sometime Fellow of Christ College, Cambridge; was consecrated at Drogheda in 1610, and died the next year,"—SIR J. WARE, Prelates of Ireland, Derry, p. 51.

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