CORRESPONDENCE.

SKETCHES OF EASTERN TRAVEL.

NO. XIX.

Heidelberg.—The Rhine—Baden-Baden—The Kursaal—Basle—The Cathedral House—Living in Trunks—Interlachen—The Wetterhorn.

[Correspondence of the Philadelphia Evening Bulletin.]

HEIDELBERG, *Monday Evening*, June 27.—We left Coblentz at ten o'clock this morning for Heidelberg. It was still cold and rainy, as it has been for several days past, and so we concluded to take the cars in preference to the boat. We had both been up the river in the boat when here before, and so chose the cars as more comfortable, in such weather, than the boat. The railway runs directly along the banks of the Rhine, like the Hudson road along our North river, and so we had a fine opportunity of seeing the beautiful views that line the river all the way from Coblentz to Mayence. Whether taken as a sail or a ride, it is very charming. There are very few places where natural beauty blends so richly with historical association, as it gathers round the old ruined towers and castles that crown the hill-tops all along to "make every prospect pleasing."

It is with the Rhine as it is with the Hudson; the portion of its scenery especially interesting is confined within certain limits. Just as the banks of the North river suddenly become wavy into uninteresting flatness, after leaving Newburg, so it is with the Rhine after passing Mayence. Beyond that point, it you chance to be reading an interesting book, there is nothing to call off your attention. You can read on as steadily as you please. We reached Heidelberg about four this afternoon. It is a large old town, finely situated on the banks of the river Neckar. The object of special interest to tourists here is the grand old castle on the side of the hill looking down into the town. It is the largest and best preserved ruin of the kind in all this country. It was originally a palace, as well as a fortress, and was long the residence of the ruling Counts of this Palatinate. It was begun in the thirteenth century, but afterwards greatly enlarged and improved. It has suffered much from the ravages of war, and about a hundred years ago was struck by lightning and consumed. Since that time it has never been restored. But still it is in a state of excellent preservation, and a portion of it is occupied by the persons having charge of it. The view from the top of the castle-tower is splendid. In the vault beneath the castle we saw the famous Heidelberg tun. It is the largest wine vessel in the world. It will hold eight hundred hogsheads, or about three hundred thousand bottles of wine. There is a platform on the top of it, surrounded by a railing, and reached by a flight of steps. In former times, every year, when the vintage was finished and the tun was filled with wine, they used to have a dance on this platform. But those days are passed. The tun has not been filled for a hundred years, and never will be again. It only remains, with the grand old ruins to which it belongs, as an illustration of the truth of Solomon's words when he exclaimed: "Vanity of vanities! all is vanity."

BADEN BADEN, *Thursday Evening*, June 28th.—This is the day on which Mr. I——was to call for Europe, if he should not change his mind in reference to it. In his last letter to C—— he spoke of it with some uncertainty. But I sincerely hope he may come. It will be very pleasant to have his company on our tour through Switzerland. We shall probably hear from him again in a day or two, and know definitely about it.

We had a couple of hours after breakfast at Heidelberg this morning, before leaving, which gave us the opportunity of visiting the old castle again, and enjoying the delightful view from its walls and battlements and from the lofier points of the hill behind it. There are few finer scenes anywhere than that which there meets the eye.

At noon we left Heidelberg for this place. A pleasant ride of three hours brought us here about the middle of the afternoon. The town is most delightfully situated in a beautiful valley, with a fine range of hills surrounding it. The hills are thickly wooded, and run off into the great Black Forest—the scene of so many strange legends among the Germans. This, you know, is one of the most popular places of summer resort on the Continent. The warm baths and the gambling establishments are its chief objects of attraction. Almost every other house is an hotel. Besides these, nearly all the private houses have signs on them of furnished apartments to let. There is an almost endless variety of fine walks and drives from the town over the sides of the surrounding hills and into the deep shades of the adjoining Forest. There is a large and beautifully-arranged public garden, in the centre of which is a large band playing during the day and evening. This is the chief point of attraction. And in this is the celebrated gambling establishment which forms the great feature of the town. We took a stroll through the garden this evening. It was brilliantly lighted up, and crowds of people were walking about or sitting round little tables, enjoying their coffee or their beer, together with the music. We met here Mr. and Mrs. George H——, from Philadelphia, and theirs were the first familiar faces we have seen in all our long journeying. It was very pleasant to meet them and have a nice long talk together about home and the interests common to us there.

Then we entered the gambling-hall to take a look at its strange scenes. I had never been in one before, and strange indeed were the sights we beheld. There are several large rooms splendidly furnished and lighted in the most brilliant manner. There was a lu ge table in each room, and a crowd of persons surrounded each table who were eagerly laying down their money, and then wa ching intently the turn of the wheel or the shuffling of the card by which it was decided whether they had lost or won. I was surprised to see about as many ladies as gentlemen engaged in playing. The extremes both of youth and old age were represented in each sex; and every two or three minutes large sums were changing hands. One gentleman—said to be a wealthy count—literally covered the table with his gold. But the tide seemed to set strongly against him. During the short time of our stay he must have lost thousands of dollars. Notwithstanding the crowd present, no one spoke above a whisper, except the man who announced the result, each time, in a single word. Entire quietness reigned through the large rooms.

The establishment is managed by a stock-company, licensed by the government. They pay a yearly rent of $55,000 for the house and grounds, besides engaging to spend over $100,000 in repairs and improvements. Yet, notwithstanding these enormous expenses, I am told they sometimes declare dividends of *seventy* per cent. on their stock. I should have thought this incredible if I had not seen the way in which their agents literally *rake* up the gold and silver of foolish people. I thought as I saw the aforesaid count dealing out his gold, only to have it swept away from him, that it was a special illustration be afforded of the truth of the old proverb—"A fool and his money are soon parted." I am not surprised to hear that a season seldom passes in which one or more persons are not driven in desperation to destroy themselves as the result of their experience of this horrible system. I am glad to hear that the Crown Prince of Prussia has resolutely set his face against it, determined to break it up. Notice has been given to the company that when their lease expires, in two years' time, it will not be renewed. And so this stronghold of the devil—this gilded, glittering den of iniquity will be broken up. All honor to the Prince for this!

BASLE, *Wednesday Evening, June 29.*—After breakfast this morning, we took a ride into the Black Forest. I wished to show my wife of its appearance, as well as to visit a beautiful waterfall, which forms the terminus of one of the many drives which surround Baden-Baden. What is called "The Forest" is an extensive tract of hilly or mountainous country, with its native growth of trees left upon it, very much like our White Mountain or Adirondack region. But there is more cultivation here in the valleys, with excellent roads following the streams in their windings through the country. We had a charming ride, only we met with no adventure to give variety to it. We took another peep in at the gambling saloon on returning from our ride. It was then about ten noon. I watched one man who seemed to have "a streak of good luck." He was leaving in the gold at every turn of the card, and wondered what the end of it would be. It is impossible to visit such an establishment without feeling that to one unfortified by moral or religious feelings there must be a fascination about it that is hard to resist. We left Baden-Baden this afternoon, and made our entrance into Switzerland, making our first stopping place at Basle this evening. I found a letter awaiting from the agents of the Cunard steamers, informing me that I could have a berth in the Scotia, which sails from Liverpool on Saturday, September 17th. By this arrangement I may expect to reach New York about Tuesday, the 26th. This is just the time which I had, from the beginning, fixed in my own mind for returning. It will allow me time to get home and arrange matters so as what before going to work on the following Sunday. I am sorry to separate from my companion in returning; but C—— is expecting his brother-in-law and wife down in a week or two, and will probably return with them, a little later, in one of the French steamers. I prefer the Cunard-ers, on the whole, to any other line. As I shall be in England, too, before starting, it will be more convenient for me than to cross the channel again. And then this will bring me home just at the time that I desired.

LUCERNE, SWITZERLAND, *Thursday Evening, June 30th.*—We spent part of to-day at Basle, though there is not much to see there. The town is pretty situated on the banks of the Rhine, which rushes by with quite a swift current. We walked round the town to look at the old cathedral and other public buildings, and then embarked to make a visit to the Cathedral House. This institution has been very successful in raising up and sending out missionaries into the foreign field. It was here that our good friend Amerwalder has proved himself so efficient and successful a laborer in connection with our mission work in Africa. was trained and sent forth. I wanted to see how the institution was managed, and learn what I could about its history and mode of operation. There is a fine large building appropriated to the work, and a company of about eighty students in course of training. But I was disappointed in reference to the principal object of my visit, for there was a series of religious exercises going on in the cathedral in behalf of the institution. The students and professors were all in attendance at these meetings, and so we missed the opportunity of either seeing or hearing as much as we desired. We might have attended the services, too, and should have done so had we understood the language. But addresses or singing and prayers in the German would not have been very edifying to us, and so we did not go.

We left Basle after dinner, and arrived here this evening. This migratory mode of life becomes very tiresome. You pack your trunk in the morning, and move on during the day to some new place. There you get your room, unpack your trunk, get all your things out, tarry for a night, and then go through the same process of packing, journeying and unpacking again. And so on, day after day. There is novelty, indeed, in the constant shifting of the scenes about you; and, where there is a feeling of ness for change, I can conceive of it being very enjoyable. But I get very tired of *being in transitu*. When the time comes to settle down again in a steady, quiet, regular style of life, it will be very agreeable.

We spent this morning in walking about the town and visiting Thorwaldsen's famous lion monument. It is a colossal piece of sculpture, representing a lion dying from a wound received in his side from an arrow, the broken shaft of which is seen, but dying with his paw on a shield ornamented with the *fleur-de-lis* or national flower of France. It is hewn out from a mass of rock in the side of a natural rock, and is designed to commemorate the faithfulness of the Swiss regiment, acting as the royal guard, who were all killed while defending the palace of the Tuileries during the French Revolution. It is a fine conception, admirably executed.

Lucerne has only its situation and surroundings to make it attractive. But it has a great deal in these. It is beautifully located on the river Reuss, just below where it issues from the lake. Mt. Pilatus stands on one side of the town, and Mt. Rigi on the other, while between them is a splendid panorama of mountains, the effect of which is very fine.

At noon, to-day, we took an excursion up the Lake Lucerne, or the Lake of the Four Cantons, and which occupied us until dark. There is nothing in Switzerland more interesting or more beautiful than the sail up and down this lake. It is intimately associated with the scenes of the romantic history of William Tell. And then its scenery is superb. The mountains rise directly from the lake on every side, in the grandest way conceivable, while the distant views of the snow-clad Alps make a beautiful finish to the picture.

INTERLACHEN, HOTEL DES ALPES, *Saturday Evening, July 2.*—We were up at five o'clock this morning to get an early start for this place. We have had a charming day's ride over the Brunig Pass, though the weather was somewhat of a damper upon it. We left Lucerne at seven o'clock by steamer on the lake for Alpnach. There we took the diligence for a six or seven hours' ride over the mountains. We had secured seats in the banquette. These are the back seats on the top of the stage, with a sort of pig-sty cover to them. They overlook the stage, and command a fine view of all the surrounding prospect. It set in to rain just as we started in the diligence, which some what interfered with our fine view of the mountains. Still we could see enough to keep us on the look-out continually, and I enjoyed every moment of the ride intensely. Before reaching the top of the Pass the rain ceased, and the sun came out finely. As we emerged from the Pass, on this side, the whole range of the Wetterhorn burst suddenly upon our view. The rain we had in the morning had fallen in snow upon the upper summits of the mountains. White, fleecy clouds were slowly sailing overhead. Huge masses of mist were wreathing themselves around their sides, while the glorious sun was lighting up the whole scene with its gladdening beams, making altogether a most magnificent prospect. Every nerve within me seemed to be set a tingling with excitement. I could have leaped from clapping my hands and shouting aloud for very gladness, as I stood and gazed upon the scene. What a glorious world this is! I do not wonder at the strength of the tie which binds the Swiss to their native mountains. If I had been born here it seems to me that the wealth of the world would never have induced me to have turned my back on such a matchless fatherland. To put a finishing touch to the beauty of the landscape, the rain of the morning had started numerous cascades, which were leaping in streams of silvery brightness down the sides of the mountains.

About three o'clock in the afternoon the diligence brought us to the little village of Brienz, on the lake of the same name. Here we took another steamer, and after a couple of hours' sail down the beautiful little lake, we reached our present place of sojourn, Interlaken, by the close of the afternoon. It lies, as its name indicates, between two lakes, being pleasantly situated on the stream by which the waters of Lake Brienz empty themselves into Lake Thun. The clouds returned after the rain of the morning, and the day's journey ended, as it began, with heavy clouds and frequent showers. But it has been a day of great enjoyment. H. N.

OUR WILMINGTON LETTER.

[Correspondence of the Philadelphia Evening Bulletin.]

Yellow Fever.

WILMINGTON, August 12.—Wilmingtonians feel some personal interest in the probability of the spread of the yellow fever, for the relations between our city and yours are so close, and the intermingling of their people so constant, that any general contagion in Philadelphia is likely to spread this far, though not to work amongst the people living along our close and much fearful have as in your dense population.

Droughts and Floods.

Wilmington was never drier than it is just now in the matter of news, wet as it is with the recent rains, which have been fearfully heavy, and accompanied by such thunder as once let the "oldest inhabitant" ever claim to have heard before, and it is considered now that their hearing is dull so that they did not know how to hear it. For three days and nights we have had gust after gust.

The rain was badly needed, and is worth millions of dollars, as it will save the corn crop of the State and peninsula, which were seriously threatened by the protracted drought. The lightning did but little damage so far as we heard from. I have heard of one place being struck. That was one of the tall chimneys of the Kingsbury Iron Works, on the river just north of the city limits. It was badly damaged, and will need rebuilding. A man standing near it was stunned, but soon recovered.

There is a great many people, as is the summer resorts, Cape May being the favorite place for those seeking the seaside. Veteran battles, who have sniffed around the circle of the watering-places, say there is nowhere else so much as that of Cape May.

Political.

The Democrats hold meetings throughout the State to-morrow, to elect delegates to their State Convention, which meets at Dover on the 24th inst. It will in all probability nominate James Pauler, of Sussex county, the speaker of the last State Senate, for Governor, his claim to the place being that he is as near to a Sanbury as can be had, being a brother-in-law of the Senator. The Constitution renders it impossible to elect the same man two terms in succession, and so Gove is not available, and Willard cannot be Senator and Governor both. There is, of course, another brother in the ty-mwrials, Eli by name; but Eli is satisfied to manage the party and pull the strings that make the legislative puppets to accomplish the family's behests, and does not seek an office. He exercises more power and makes more money outside. The whole stock of simpering pure princes of the House of Sanbury being thus out of the market, the reigning family, following European precedents, look around amongst their wives' relatives for rulers. Hence Mr. Pauler will be nominated. Mr. Biggs will be re-nominated for Congress, he having only served his first term. There will be some effort made by the small and weak faction of anti-Sanbiurytes to overthrow his programme, but it will not amount to anything. The crowd is weak in spirits as well as in numbers, and will always be whipped so long as the party has anything to lose by dissension. If it is once really in a minority for a few years, the decency and more independent portion of it may be able to throw off the family yoke.

The Dog Question.

We are not behind the world in all things. We can too the mark with Boston or any other place on the dog question. Council unanimously repealed the ordinance requiring them to be muzzled, last night, at the request of the Drinking Fountain Society, which is not disposed to incur the expense of a separate basin for the animals without having it used. The Humane Society, however, in opposition, went before Council with a formidable array of documents to prove that hydrophobia was a rare disease at long time, rarer in summer than at any other time, and more likely to be cause by muzzling than guarded against, and the Council surrendered at discretion, not wishing to hear any further proof. DALE.

Frequency of Railway Disasters in India.

In the year 1869, on the railways in India which has just been issued, it appears that the list of casualties for the past year is a heavy one. Two accidents also occasioned the death of thirty passengers and injury to forty-nine more. The number of passengers carried in 1869 is put down at 16,513,057. Out of these thirty-one, or 1.87 per million lost their lives, from causes beyond their control, and 4.78 per million were in like manner injured. Besides these, seven were killed and thirteen injured through their own fault or want of caution. With regard to the servants of the companies one hundred and nine were killed, out of whom eight met their deaths from causes beyond their control; twenty-six to the number of forty-eight were also run over and killed. In addition to the deaths recorded a remarkable list is given of persons who have died while traveling, or at stations when starting for their journey or at the end of it. No less than one hundred and thirty-two passengers were thus, during the half-year, found either dead or dying. The most common cause ascribed is cholera. Heat apoplexy also took off several, fatty degeneracy, fever and asthma others; but many deaths are attributed to "natural causes." It is possible that the fatigue of traveling and the heat may have accelerated death in some cases, but no reliable data are made of proceeding, and it is supposed that most of the sufferers started on their journey in a weakly condition, some, perhaps, in the hope of reaching their homes or a sacred river or shrine and dying there.

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TELEGRAPHIC SUMMARY.

THE President goes from St. Louis to Chicago to-day.

HON. WILLIAM H. SEWARD has arrived in Chicago.

ADMIRAL FARRAGUT is still alive, but there is said to be no hope of his recovery.

ARCHBISHOP PURCELL was warmly received on his arrival at Cincinnati yesterday.

ANTONY JOHNSON has been nominated for Congress by the Democrats of the First Tennessee District.

THE Sultan's fleet, from this port for Gibraltar, has been picked up as sea derelict, and is detained at Gibraltar.

THE Georgia Legislature has finally decided that an election is to be held there this autumn.

THOMAS SEYMOUR, D.D., a well known Episcopalian Clergyman, died in Baltimore, yesterday, aged 50.

An unknown man died suddenly at Norristown, and in the same town Mrs. J. A. Reiff hanged herself.

THE Sioux Indians are reported to be collecting for a grand council, and desire peace with the whites.

A fire at Chicago, last evening, destroyed the paint and oil store of Heath & Milligan, loss about $20,000.

IT is rumored in Chicago that Senator Trumbull has been tendered the position of Secretary of State by President Grant.

THE Indian Commissioners have been buying $400,000 worth of Indian goods. The largest award is to a Philadelphia manufacturer, for $100,000 worth of blankets.

SECRETARY BOUTWELL SUPERINTENDED a visit to his home in New Jersey. Secretary Hollinap also left Washington yesterday for the Western States, on a pleasure tour.

NIMROD RICHARDS was hanged for murder, yesterday, in Prince George's county, Maryland. He killed William Lyles in July, 1869.

THE Atlantic Base Ball Club beat the Harvard nine, yesterday, by a score of 15 to 4. At Cincinnati, yesterday, the Red Stockings beat the Lone Stars of New Orleans, 40 to 15.—At Indianapolis, the Chicagos beat the home club beat the Indianapolis Club and 4 to 1.

THE Louisiana Republican Convention, which has been in session for the past four days, adopted resolutions sustaining Republican principles, and the Grant Administration, denouncing equal rights for all mankind, whether in schools or at places of