

THE HOUSE OF EULALIE.

From the London Telegraph. It was a pretty little house, in very charming country—in an untraveled corner of Normandy, near the sea; a country of orchards and cozia fields, of soft green meadows where browned, and with slim French willows, and with a surprise to see this little house just here, for all the other houses in the neighborhood were rude farm-houses or laborers' cottages; and this was a coquetish little chalet, white-walled, with slim French windows, and balconies of twisted wrought-iron, and Venetian blinds; a gay little pleasure-house, standing in a bright little garden, among rose-bushes and paperoses of geraniums, and smooth stretches of greenward. Beyond the garden, there was an orchard—rows and couples of old gnarled apple-trees, bending towards one another, like fantastic figures arrested in the middle of a dance. Then, turning round, you looked over a feathered coast, fields of yellow corn fields, a mile away, to the sea, and to a winding perspective of white cliffs, which the sea bathed in transparent greens and purples, luminous shadows of its own nameless hues.

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touching. And something like a pale spirit of the girl seemed gently, sweetly, always to be present in the house, the house that Love had built for her, not guessing that Death would come, as soon as it was finished, and call her away. "Oh, but it is a joy, Monsieur, that you have left us, Monsieur," the old couple were never tired of repeating. One day Madame took me up into the room, and showed me Eulalie's study dressed in the wood sister, the handsomely bound books that she had won prizes at the convent. And on another day she showed me some of Eulalie's letters, asking me if she hadn't a beautiful handwriting. If the letters were not beautifully expressed, she showed me photographs of the girl at all ages; a jock of her hair; her baby clothes; the priest's certificate of her first communion; the bishop's certificate of her confirmation. And she showed me letters from the wood sister, the Sacred Heart, at Rouen, telling of Eulalie's progress in her studies, praising her conduct and her character. "Oh, to think that she is gone, that she is gone!" the old woman wailed, in a kind of helpless incoherence, incredulity, of loss. Then, in a moment, she murmured, with what submission she could, "Le bon Dieu sait ce qu'il fait," crossing herself.

CURIOUS HISTORY OF PANAMA CANAL AND PHILIP OF SPAIN OBJECTED

The Big Project First Proposed Nearly 400 Years Ago. Active Operations Began in 1881. About \$200,000,000 Already Expended, and \$100,000,000 More Will Be Needed Before the Giant Task Is Completed.—The Railroad.

Journal. The idea of connecting the waters of the Atlantic and Pacific by a canal across the Isthmus of Darien or Panama is not a new one. Darien was one of the earliest Spanish settlements on the main land. In 1513 the conquistador Balboa, governor of Darien, conceived the idea of cutting a canal across the narrow part of the Isthmus, the idea of cutting a canal across was first suggested by Balboa. In 1528 Messrs. Lopez and Falmarck, two English civil engineers, conducted a series of levellings for the Colombian government, and ascertained that a break of several miles in the great mountain chain made the canal project a feasible one. Afterwards, between 1843 and 1874, repeated surveys were made by French, English and American engineers.

nal \$12,000,000, will be paid the old company for full ownership of the Panama railroad, and the canal project will be abandoned by the company. The liquidation has made a free transfer to the new company, of all rights and concessions, all work done, all machinery and material on hand, and 68,000 shares of the Panama railroad. This is done in consideration that, upon the completion of the canal, the two companies shall share half and half in the profits, after the payment of 5 per cent. interest upon the capital expended in completing the work.

By July the strikers began to weaken and many laborers returned work at the old wages, and in August the company prepared to resume operations in earnest. Artisans were hired and a guard of Columbia soldiers was distributed along the line at a cost to the company of \$10,000 a month. Work was begun by the new company in November, 1894, on the summit of the Culebra, on the line of water-shed between the two oceans. At the latest reports a cut of about four miles in length, three-fourths of which is on the Atlantic, and one-fourth on the Pacific slope, had been made. The excavation has an average depth of about 50 feet, and it is about 50 feet wide at the bottom. Some 1,700,000 cubic feet of earth has thus far been removed at this point. The work is being prosecuted with laborers imported from the West Indies and West Africa. Competent engineers estimate that \$100,000,000 will be needed to complete the project. At the beginning of the present year dredging was in progress to deepen the harbor at Colon, so that ships of the largest size could reach the wharves and unload cargoes directly into the cars instead of unloading by lighters, as is necessary at the present time. This important improvement will, it is expected, be completed by the end of the present year. Some what similar work is now being done at the port of La Boca, the Pacific terminus of the proposed canal. A great metallic pier, which is being built, will allow the transfer of goods from ship to ship.

THE BEARDED LADY. Curious Story of a Woman Hermit Who Lived in a Cave. Many stories have been written about Sherwood forest, and of Robin Hood, who was buried beneath the old yews that for centuries had withstood the storms of heaven, and whose gnarled and knotted trunks were not intact illustrations of the life of him who was laid beneath their shade. But little has been mentioned about Dorothea Langton, "the bearded lady." This extraordinary woman was discovered in a cavern in the forest of Sherwood, Eng., about the year 1818; and so strange was her appearance that no one could imagine that she was anything but an old man. When found she had a long silvery beard which descended to her chest. She stated that she had resided in this curious retreat for thirty-seven years, being induced to take to the life of an ascetic by having been crossed in love. Dorothea was the only daughter of a gentleman in London, and was in her youth accounted a most handsome woman; as, indeed, her features even then corroborated. She said that it was not till she had been in the cavern for seven years that her face became disfigured by the singular phenomenon of a beard, but its growth was very rapid, so that in four more years it had reached its full length. During all these years she had remained in her lonely retreat she had had no communication with any human being; and had never ventured farther than about half a mile from the cavern, living chiefly upon wild berries and the water from a spring. The cavern was most curiously constructed, and the entrance to it was under an immense oak tree, and was so small that it seemed scarcely possible that a human being could crawl through it. The place she occupied consisted of two apartments, which was hardly lofty enough to allow her to stand upright, and was furnished with a bed, a table, and a chair. Her bed was formed of leaves, and she had a few books of a religious nature. When first discovered it was with great difficulty that she could be made to understand what was spoken to, as she had almost forgotten the use of speech; but after a time it returned to her, when she begged earnestly that they would allow her to die in her miserable abode. To these requests, however, they would not listen, but conveyed her to London, where the wonderful circumstances of her mode of living being made known, she excited universal curiosity. Dorothea's uncle, a very old man, who for a number of years past had retired upon a comfortable fortune, hearing the name mentioned so often, resolved to travel to London to ascertain whether it was his niece. Upon arriving there Dorothea quickly recognized the venerable old man, and consented to go home with him, but she had not been at his house for more than two days when she was attacked by fever and shortly afterward died. Her uncle did not long survive her, as they were both placed together in one grave on the same day.

VETERAN AMONG BRIDGES. Its Peculiarities of Construction Make It a Curiosity.

From Lloyd's Newspaper. The triangular bridge at Croylund, in Lincolnshire, is probably not only the most ancient bridge in England, but on account of its peculiar construction one of the greatest curiosities in Europe. It is built in the middle of the town at the confluence of the Welland and the Nene. The plan of the bridge is formed by three squares and an equilateral triangle, about which they are placed. It has three fronts, three thoroughfares over and three under it. There are the same number of abutments at equal distances from which rise three half arches, each composed of three ribs meeting in the center at the top. Seen from a point of view a pointed arch appears in front. Antiquaries—often fanciful writers—have suggested that the piece of masonry was built as an emblem of the holy Trinity; for, though the bridge possesses three arches, it yet properly has but one grained arch. More matter-of-fact archeological authors hold the structure to have been designed as a starting place for measuring ecclesiastical boundaries, with the additional utility of forming a support for a market cross. An exceptionally interesting feature of this bridge is a much weather-worn effigy, traditionally said to be a representation of King Ethelbald. The rudeness of the design, the uncouthness of the head and drapery, lead to the conclusion of the effigy being a genuine Saxon sculpture, placed in a sitting posture at the end of the south-west wall, the figure is embellished with a crown. In one of Eldred's charters the triangular bridge at Croylund was mentioned, but that now existing is supposed to be from its style of architecture, of the time of Edward I. The statue must be of much greater antiquity. Croylund, ten miles south of Spalding and eight and a half north of Peterborough, should greatly interest artists and lovers of antique associations.

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