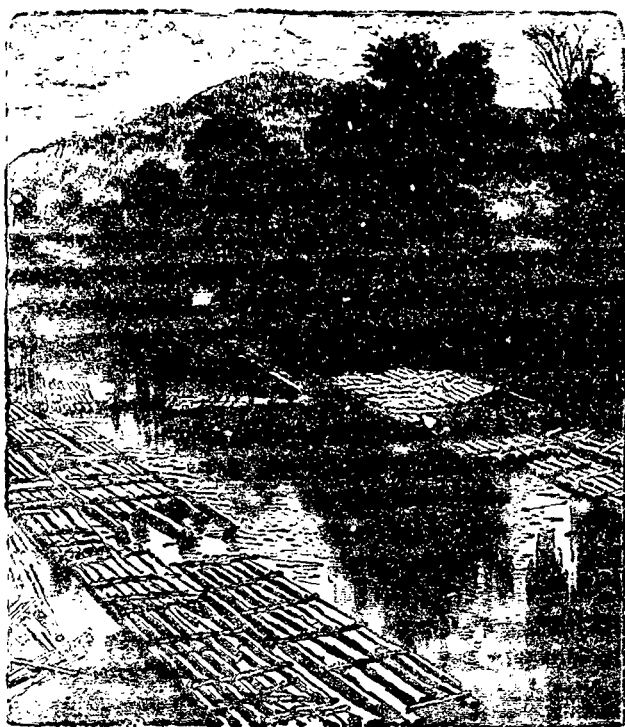


river. There is always something new in the moving scene, but you get almost surfeited with beauty. Our next landing-place is Mayence. The streets are the strangest and the houses the oldest of almost any of the old towns along the river. Its cathedral dates from 978, and could tell many a tale of conflict and disaster.

We now leave the Rhine for a moment, and take train for Frankfort-on-the-Main. This is one of the most famous of the



RAFTING ON THE RHINE.

old free cities of Germany, and was for a long time the capital of the Empire. The Guildhall, or Romer Palace, contains in good repair the election-room, where the electors met to choose their Emperor. Around the walls of the Kaisersaal, or banquet-room, are ranged the portraits of the long lines of emperors, almost from the time of Charlemagne. Frankfort is the home of the Rothschilds, whose house is still pointed out in the Jews'