

INTERESTING OBJECTS.

The tobacco plant, in aboriginal villages, stood eight feet high. Millet, luxuriant and green, had ears two feet long, and maize, tall and stately, covered the charming plantations. Fishes of the genus *Diodon* species, such as *Pilosus* and *Hystrix*, were examined on the sandy shore in heaps of hundreds each. It was curious to see flat, oblong, rough skins in a moment erect spines an inch long at right angles and inflate their bodies so as to become perfect balls on which could be seen beautifully decked yellow and black spots.

Flying fishes (*exocoetus volitans*) were caught, laid open and eaten.

A baby bear (*ursus malayanus*) was presented to me and is now a pet on the grounds here.

Eight monkeys (*genus macacus*) with their round faces were brought for our inspection. One is a playmate for Bruin here.

An establishment for artificial hatching of ducks' eggs stood beside a road. Rows of large baskets were filled with alternate layers of rice chaff and eggs. Two men sat on the ground inside near a hole four inches square. Each in turn held an egg against the light and examined it to see if the chick was fully developed and needed any help to leave its dark abode for one of light and life.

Several hundred water buffaloes stood in a kraal with mud two feet deep.

A Cantonese from America wished to "air" his stock of English with choice hoodlum phrases, especially those for consigning enemies to the depths below. "I come Flisco," etc. No room on this paper for the rest.

At Ang-Chhâ-nâ, Doctor Rennie went out with a party of Pi-po-hoan deer stalking. One was seen but bounded out of sight in a moment. I did not blame him, for such yelling as the natives made would frighten more than those lovely creatures. All returned soaking wet. Fine large deer of the plain were abundant within the radius of one mile. There is the Creator back of all. I cannot adore His exalted person, love His precious Word, without admiring His wonderful works!

WORK ACCOMPLISHED.

Dr. Rennie photographed individuals, groups and landscapes. He removed several tumours, attended numerous patients and diagnosed 105 at Ka-le-oan; then assisted by the rest dispensed to them in one hour. He willingly, ably, and cheerfully rendered assistance whenever needed. His patience sitting at our gatherings hour by hour, both in- and out-doors was praiseworthy.

My special work (assisted by the natives) apart from our usual routine was to examine the young, hear their recitations on subjects allotted previously, and reward them accordingly to merit with small presents provided by a few natives here. It was the first round of prizes ever given in North Formosa. All the Churches and outposts were taken in order. Religious services were held forty times; 221 children rehearsed a New Testament Catechism, Psalms, hymns, Lord's Prayer, Ten Commandments, Apostles' Creed, Bible characters and geography. The last eve at Ta-ma-ien several boys who followed us from another village challenged children at the former place to a contest reciting. Girls accepted it and beat them. Both sides did well. The converts there raised \$12 and painted their building for devotional exercises.

In the Southern Plain, where a heathen temple was given for public worship of the true God, we advised them to change the whole interior and erect an addition in front. They began at once. Some removed bricks, etc.; several made a fence, and a band went to the mountains for poles, reeds, etc. When cutting these they had their heads within a trifle of being cut off by savages. That caused delay but I now hear of its completion. We marked chapel sites in new hamlets where the people are going to build ere long. The most inland settlement grew since last year beyond recognition. Imagine two long rows of thatched dwellings with a broad space between and foundation for an assembly house at one end, and you have Thien-sang-ju before you. Baptisms were delayed till a future occasion.

Since April I have gone through North Formosa, laboured at fifty stations, and, since July 27, have had Oxford College and the Girls' School open and in full blast. Thus in crowded cities, scattered villages, and distant settlements, the eternal Truth is spreading and will spread till victorious in all the land.

And idol forms shall perish,
And error shall decay;
And Christ shall wield His sceptre,
Our Lord and God for aye.

SKETCHES OF TRAVEL IN EUROPE.

BY REV. E. WALLACE WAITS, D. SC., OF KNOX CHURCH
OWEN SOUND.

SOME GREAT CITIES—A VISIT TO NOTTINGHAM—ITS CASTLE—MANUFACTORIES—CHURCHES—LARGEST MARKET-PLACE IN ENGLAND—THE ARBORETUM
THE TALE OF BELNOIR—SEAT OF
THE DUKE OF RUTLAND—
DR. SAMUEL COX,
ETC., ETC.

Great Britain has the largest number of great cities and towns of any country in the world, excluding China, as to the census of which we have really no trustworthy information. The United Kingdom has no fewer than twenty-seven towns each with a population of more than one hundred thousand

inhabitants. The population of these twenty-seven towns amounts to 9,287,000, being about twenty-six and a-quarter per cent. of the whole population of the kingdom. London, Liverpool and Manchester generally come in for a good share of attention from the tourist, but very few, especially of the American travellers, have time to linger in the quiet nooks and smaller towns of England. Hence the true and beautiful home life of the people is seldom, if ever, seen by the foreigner. Some of these smaller towns will well repay a visit, and add much to your knowledge of the English people. The homes of England are the glory of our country, the dearer, sweeter spots, than all the rest.

The stately homes of England,
How beautiful they stand,
Amidst their tall ancestral trees,
O'er all the pleasant land;
The free, fair homes of England,
Long, long in hut and hall,
May hearts of native proof be reared
To guard each hallow'd wall!

—Mrs. Hemans.

Our selection was made from those places situated in the picturesque vales of Derbyshire and Nottingham. No nobler scenery is to be found in England than that which belongs to the Derbyshire district; Matlock Bath, Miller's Dale and Monsal Dale are each specific in their character and all-embracing in their beauty.

NOTTINGHAM

is a town of considerable antiquity. That it existed at a very remote period there cannot be a doubt. Its situation at the terminus of an extensive forest, and on the banks of the river Trent, with a fertile pasturage all around, on an elevation eminently calculated for war and defence (when war was carried on by missiles alone), was such that few sites could be found more tempting than this. It is assumed that a town of some description existed here prior to the birth of Christ, and, indeed, anterior to the Roman invasion. It was a flourishing town during the Heptarchy, and belonged to the kingdom of Mercia. One thing is certain, that the soft and easily excavated sandstone rocks were utilized to form dwellings, many of which were inhabited until a recent period, and a few remain to the present day. Some of these were of considerable extent; they were supported by columns more or less carved, and are believed to have been in some instances places of refuge for the inhabitants during the Danish invasion and in times of religious persecution. Since the Conquest the town has borne the name of Nottingham, a name said by some to have been derived from the quantity of hazel-nuts growing in and about it, "Nut-hall" being cited as a corroborative illustration of this etymological theory. It can claim to have been a town of note for nearly one thousand years; it has been governed by a mayor for more than 550 years, and it has sent two members to Parliament for the same period.

The manufacture of dyed cloth was in the twelfth century the staple trade of the town. Tanning was in the seventeenth century an important branch of business in Nottingham; and its matting trade has been for centuries of great repute. The staple trades are now hosiery and lace of all kinds, bleaching, silk-throwing and dying, spinning and twisting. The modern prosperity of Nottingham is greatly attributable to the invention of the stocking frame by William Lee, in 1589. He was a native of Woodborough, near Nottingham. The circumstances connected with his invention are invested with considerable interest, although the details are open to dispute. One biographer states that he was paying his addresses to a young lady who was, whenever he visited her, so absorbed in knitting as to be unmindful of his appeals. Provoked by the successful rivalry of the knitting-needles, he tried to invent a machine which would liberate his lover's fingers, engage her affections, and ultimately success crowned his efforts. Another historian avers that the inventor was stimulated by the desire to lighten the labours of an industrious wife. There can be no doubt young, unmarried ladies will believe the former statement, while all loving, industrious wives will give credence to the latter. The first cotton mill ever erected was built in Nottingham by Richard Arkwright in 1767, and James Hargraves, of Blackburn, who invented the spinning jenny, set up several machines there. The rising town has now its palatial warehouses and factories, in which tens of thousands are daily employed, the weekly wages of some of the talented artisans reaching five to six pounds sterling. Its beautiful lace and hosiery are sent into every part of the civilized world, and serve to adorn royalty itself on its most important national and social festivities. At present the town is governed by a mayor, fourteen aldermen, forty-two councillors, and has a staff of 104 police and a population of 150,000. The town has a market-place which justly merits the title of "great," being the largest in England. It was formerly divided across the centre by a wall four feet high, originally built to separate the Roman from the English inhabitants. This immense open area is perhaps the most distinctive feature of the whole town; it occupies a triangular area of about five and a-half acres. Leaving the market-place by way of Cheapside and the Poultry, a painting may be seen over a butcher's shop adjoining the Shambles, intended to represent Henry Kirk White (the favourite of Nottingham's poets), and near it a small window, lighting a proportionably small room, which has the honour of being designated as the Poet's Study.

The town of Nottingham has eighteen Episcopal Churches, with a suffragan bishop, etc., thirty Churches belonging to the various nonconformist denominations, a synagogue for the Jews, a Catholic Apostolic Church, a Roman Catholic cathedral and bishop, with a convent. The Congregationalists have a theological college there, where men who take a "short cut" into the ministry usually go. Nottingham is also the scene of the labours of Dr. Samuel Cox, author of "Salvator Mundi," better known perhaps as the first editor of the *Expositor*. In fact he made the *Expositor* what it is. We confess that now our interest in the *Expositor* is not what it was when he was its able editor. Since Dr. Cox re-

tired from the editorship of the *Expositor* he has published four volumes of Expositions. One each year from 1884 to 1888. Many of our readers, we dare say, have already made acquaintance with these volumes. In his preface to one of the early volumes Dr. Cox, somewhat strangely, finds it necessary to defend his title, "Expositions," against certain persons who seemed to have assumed that such a name only covers such things as scholastic commentaries. He protests most warmly, and surely with reason, "against the assumption that any writing ceases to be an exposition if it deals with the ethical and spiritual teaching of the Bible in a devout or hortatory spirit." For an expositor to act on this assumption is to mistake his true duty and to neglect the chief uses of the Word of God. It is just because Dr. Cox's rare scholarship and keen critical instinct have been used as means rather than as ends, that his expositions have been so quickening and so helpful. He has always aimed at inspiring the spiritual nature of men; and to this end the grammatical and critical apparatus has been studiously kept in the background. We see and rejoice in the results, and there is no creaking or groaning of the exegetical machinery to disturb our pleasure or mar our profit. Like poets, expositors are born, not made; and Dr. Cox is certainly one of those rarely-gifted souls whose mission in the world is marked out for him, not so much by what he has acquired, though that is no little, as by what he was to begin with. His birth stamp was that of a genius amongst expositors of the word.

NOTTINGHAM CASTLE.

As a fortress, a prison and a palace the castle held for many centuries a proud position in the midland counties. It was built by William the Conqueror in 1068 on the site of an ancient tower, and it is probable that from the earliest ages the natural advantages of an eminence so admirably adapted for a watch tower and stronghold would be readily recognized. The only existing remains of this ancient fortress are the present gate-house or lodge, with its approaches, and the fragments of two or three bastions. The aperture through which the portcullis descended is still visible. In the feudal ages the castle often changed masters and sides, and its history is connected with the fortunes of a long line of sovereigns. Stephen, while he was warring against the Empress Maud, or Matilda, daughter of Henry I., resided there, as did also his successor, Henry II. Richard Coeur-de-Lion besieged it while in the custody of his brother John, who had treacherously taken possession of it during his absence. John, when he came to the throne, often held his court here, as did Henry III. and Edward I., the former of whom made considerable alterations and additions to the castle. When Cromwell assumed the reins of the Government he gave orders for the Castle to be dismantled, and its history as a fortress may then be said to have closed.

After the Restoration it was acquired by the Duke of Buckingham, who sold it to the Marquis, afterwards the Duke of Newcastle, who began the present building in 1674, having previously razed the old structure. The architect was named March, a Lincolnshire man, probably a pupil of Inigo Jones. The style is *renaissance*, and is a blending of Elizabethan, Corinthian and Italian architecture. An equestrian statue of the founder was placed at the entrance door of the north-east facade. Until the last hundred and fifty years the park connected with the Castle was well timbered, pale and stocked with deer, and in the middle ages frequent tournaments were held in it. The modern castle, for some unexplained cause, was seldom used. It was long unoccupied and was ultimately let as private dwellings. In the year 1831 Nottingham was much affected by the widespread agitation for reform, and on the rejection of the Bill by the Lords an indignation meeting was held in the large market-place, and the rabble, becoming furiously excited, soon proceeded to acts of violence. The houses and shops of obnoxious persons were robbed and sacked, and a local reign of terror began. A mob marched to Colwick Hall, forced its way in, and destroyed indiscriminately paintings, furniture and articles of *virtu*, endeavouring to set fire to the building. Returning to Nottingham the House of Correction was attempted, but the Castle, as the most prominent object for assault, was now singled out for outrage. The lodge-gates were forced open and the walls scaled, and, as the building was uninhabited, no check was experienced, and the Castle was deliberately set on fire in various quarters, and, with the exception of the bare walls, was totally destroyed. The rioters proceeded to commit similar havoc on a silk mill at Beeston, and were meditating a like fate for Wollaton Hall, Lord Middleton's, but meeting with a stout resistance they returned into Nottingham. The ringleaders, or those who were pronounced to be such, were arrested. Three of them were hanged and several transported. The Duke of Newcastle received from the town \$105,000 to rebuild the Castle, but no attempt has yet been made by the Duke or family. The lower apartments are now used as the drill room of the Robin Hood Rifles, the Castle green or lawn forming their parade ground. Fetes and galas are held there during the summer months. Season tickets are issued and also tickets to private parties.

The general cemetery and the Arboretum are worthy of a passing notice. Immediately on entering the grounds, which are tastefully laid out, profusely planted with shrubs and well kept, the visitor is struck with the beautiful views, which are presented on all sides, of the surrounding neighbourhood. The foreground is filled in by the Arboretum, which comprises seventeen acres, and presents within itself a beautiful landscape, a people's park and an ornamental garden; the cemetery itself comprises about twenty acres, and was incorporated by Act of Parliament in 1836, and is devoted to the interment of Nonconformists. Passing from these scenes of the living and the dead of the past and present, our thoughts were lifted to the "Rock of Ages," to the King of kings in His beauty in those heavenly mansions—that house above not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. Oh, come hither, ye sons of ambition, ye children of pride, ascend this lofty summit, and think of the past! Come and pass a few silent moments in this lonely ruin which boasts the most noble inhabitants, and let pride no more dwell or vanity rise in your hearts! What will be the eternal results of events connected with Nottingham and other large and historic places only the great day of judgment will reveal.

The busy tribes of flesh and blood
With all their cares and fears,
Are carried downward by the flood
And lost in following years.