

Englishman's favourite beverage, yet I had not before visited Canterbury, and I was well repaid for my trip.

On my arrival I found that the business of the Association had commenced, and I lost no time in proceeding to St. George's Hall, where the retiring President, Dr. Radcliffe Hall of Torquay, took his leave in a few appropriate remarks, and introduced his successor, Dr. Alfred Lockée, a well known and very popular physician of Canterbury. He delivered a very good address upon medical matters generally; this was followed by routine business, and then a discussion upon Homœopathy. This latter I need hardly tell you was the old story, and is really becoming a sickening matter. No good is done by it; if anything it rather advances this miserable quackery by giving to it more importance than it deserves. It is entirely a personal matter between a few, and not the many. A large portion of the second day's proceedings was lost by a discussion on special Hospitals. There were several good papers to be read, which was just barely accomplished and with some amount of haste; and finally the meeting was brought to an end by a public dinner on the third day. There are some people who are great talkers, who have not advanced medical science one single iota, and who care more for a subject upon which they can publicly descant than all the original investigation under the sun. These persons are always to be met with at such meetings, and must be gratified in some way, to the regret of all sensible people.

Those members who did not care for long discussions upon bags of wind, sauntered about Canterbury and its neighbourhood, and were gratified with the inspection of many old relics of antiquity. The cathedral is one of the finest in the kingdom, and full of historic interest. By appointment on the afternoon of the 24th July, we met the Dean of Canterbury, who took us over the whole of the building, describing everything as we went along, the objects of interest, the antiquities, when the various parts were built, the scenes in the history of the cathedral, &c. The murder of Thomas à Becket, with a perfect account of its occurrence, the corridors and doors at which the knights who were the assassins entered, the spot where Becket was killed, were all most graphically described and pointed out by the Dean. Our antiquarian explorations concluded by a visit to the crypts, which form some of the oldest parts of the cathedral, thence we walked over the grounds attached to it. Many of the ancient stained glass windows still exist, and the Dean showed us the difference between the old and the modern. Edward the Black Prince is buried here, and his monument surmounted by his effigy, is as perfect as the day it was erected, excepting that the gilding is worn off the bronze. Some twenty feet above it are suspended the shield, helmet, scabbard and leather jerkin originally worn by him. And I learned from a clergyman who was with us, that the features of the effigy of the prince are presumed to be a good likeness of him; if so he must have been a fine looking man with an aquiline nose. We spent nearly two hours in the cathedral, and I never experienced such a treat as this before, the general interest was so much enhanced by the obliging courtesy of the Dean in describing everything.

In the evening of this day, a large party assembled at a soiree at the Dean's, in the precincts of the cathedral. All the *élite* and fashionable of both sexes of Canterbury had assembled to greet us, and we were most hospitably entertained.