

Our Contributors.

WINTER STATIONS ON THE MEDITERRANEAN. II.

ST. RAPHAEL,

one hundred miles east of Marseilles, and eleven west of Cannes, has recently become a winter station. In summer, too, many Provençal people come from the hot districts in the interior to enjoy its cool sea breezes and refreshing salt baths. Hotels and villas are yearly rising around it, and soon, doubtless, it will be as full of foreigners in winter, and as expensive, as similar places on the Riviera. The air is good, and there are endless rambles on the beach, and up the valley of the Garonne, amongst the Esterel mountains, whose bare porphyry cliffs rise in fantastic forms from the midst of sombre green pines. East of the town is a park which ascends from the rocks on the shore. It was at St. Raphael that Napoleon landed on his return from Egypt in October, 1799, and here, too, he embarked, 28th April, 1814, when he sailed for his brief residence in Elba.

An omnibus runs to Valescure, two miles inland, where there is a large hotel, and two miles distant is

FREJUS,

founded by Phœnician merchants of Massilia (Marseilles), under the name of Forum Julii. Here was born Agricola, the father-in-law of Iacutus. There are still remains of Roman towers, walls and aqueducts, and also an amphitheatre, calculated to contain more than 9,000 spectators. At Frejus commence the pleasant glimpses of the Mediterranean, which are visible all the way to Genoa.

CANNES,

one hundred and twenty miles east from Marseilles. Is the next winter station, and the most fashionable and expensive of all the stations on the Riviera. New hotels are constantly being built, each finer than the last, and of villas there are already about 500, scattered up and down in sheltered places amongst the hills which look partly upon the Gulf of Jouan and partly on the Gulf of Napoule, for Cannes extends four miles along the seashore. It measures about the same distance landwards, and embraces some pretty high hills, on which stand luxurious hotels and sheltered valleys in which nestle pretty villas surrounded by lovely gardens. Prior to 1831 the hygienic qualities of the air of Cannes were unknown. In that year

LORD BROUGHAM

was requested by the Sardinian police to withdraw from Nice, or, according to another account, was driven from that place through fear of Asiatic cholera, and found in the "Arrondissement" of Grasse, in the midst of a delicious region, a poor little hamlet of three streets, inhabited almost exclusively by sailors and fishermen. After prospecting among the hills covered with orange and myrtle trees, with palms and cacti, he chose the spot for that "Villa Brougham," which became the nucleus of an English and foreign colony almost unrivalled in its rank, wealth and brilliance. Here he spent his winters ever after until his death.

And here he is buried in a new cemetery, on the summit of a hill some distance from the town. His monument consists of a massive cross of immense height on a double basement, bearing the simple inscription, "Henricus Brougham - natus 1788—decessit 1868." In one of the squares in the town stands a life-size statue in his official robes, erected by the authorities in honour of their great benefactor.

A few years ago land at Cannes rose to an extravagant price. Sand hills which, twenty years ago, were worth £80 an acre, sold for £800, and land in the town sold from £8,000 to £16,000 an acre. The price, however, for the last few years, has fallen considerably, and no wonder, for it had been forced up to factitious prices by speculators. Cannes, as a place of residence, is preferred by many, from its possessing three

ESSENTIAL CONDITIONS

First, protection from north winds by an amphitheatre of hills and mountains, in which there are but few openings; second, the absence of mountain torrents, so numerous in the south, and whose broad and stony beds, always nearly dry and heated by the sun, cause an incessant current of air; third, the facility of placing invalids, according to their special needs, close to the sea, or far enough from it to prevent the sea

breezes from reaching them. This is regarded as an important matter in the south.

THE CLIMATE,

though dry and sunny, is yet precarious at times. The mean winter temperature is 47 degs. Fahr.; the average number of rainy days in the year fifty-two, and the annual rainfall twenty-five inches, same as that at Nice. Still the quantity of watery vapour in the air is more than in some wet countries. This is owing partly to proximity to the sea, where evaporation is always going on, and partly to the heat of the sun which prevents the watery vapour from being transformed into fog. Here, as elsewhere on the shores of the Mediterranean, at sunset the temperature suddenly lowers, and a portion of the vapour suspended in the atmosphere condenses, and produces an abundant dew. Hence invalids are forbidden to be out at sunset; or if out, they are requested to carry overcoats or plaid, to prevent the danger of being chilled. "The electrical condition of the climate of Cannes, as well as its agreeable warmth and dryness," says Dr. Madden, "together with the stimulating properties of the atmosphere, indicate its fitness for scrofulous and lymphatic temperaments." "While Cannes, therefore," says Dr. Hassall, "possesses a winter climate well suited for children, elderly people, and many classes of invalids, especially those who require a stimulating atmosphere, it is not so well adapted for the majority of those suffering from affections of the respiratory organs."

Those who cannot sleep, owing to the electrical condition of the atmosphere, are sent to the village of Caunet, two miles north and to other places, where the atmosphere is supposed to be less highly charged with electricity.

North winds are said to be frequent, and to bring fine weather, the north-east is cold and disagreeable; the east winds sometimes bring clouds which fall in rain when the temperature lowers, the south-east brings the longest-continued rains. It is said to be almost the only one under whose influence the sky assumes a uniform gray colour, but it is not a bitter wind. The south wind blows rarely, but when it does, it is violent and raises immense waves in the sea. Invalids have to study all this and to be prepared for every change, for "of all flowers, the human flower is that which has most need of the sun."

On a bright sunny morning a sail to the

ISLANDS OF LERINS,

a mile or so out in the bay, is very agreeable. There are two isles, both small, Ste. Marguerite and St. Honorat. The former is four and a half miles in circumference, and contains a fort built by Richelieu, in which are the apartments in which Marshal Bazaine was confined from December, 1873, to August, 1874, when he escaped, and fled to Madrid, where he is still living. But more interesting is the cell in which the

"MAN OF THE IRON MASK"

was so long detained; and regarding whose name so many guesses have been made. According to the last story I have seen, his name was Hercules Anthony Matthioli, a Bolognese, born in 1640, who entered the service of the Duke of Mantua, and became a medium of communication between him and the French Ambassador, regarding the introduction of a French garrison into Casale, at that time, in a measure, the key of Italy. He was invited to the French Court, and rewarded by Louis XIV. On returning to Italy he was bought over by the Austrian party, which so exasperated Louis that orders were given to arrest him at any cost. This was effected in 1679, when his name was changed to Lestang, and he was imprisoned first at Pinerolo, and then on this island in 1687. In 1698 he was removed to the Bastille in Paris, where he died in 1703. Such is briefly the last story which may be as incorrect as so many others.

St. Honorat is only one-fourth the size of Ste. Marguerite. Near the landing place is a convent of Cistercian monks, settled here in 1859, when the island became the property of the Bishop of Frejus, who gave it to the monks, fifty in number, of whom two-thirds are lay brethren. For the ecclesiastical history of this island, see J. R. Green's "Stray Studies."

Those who pass the whole winter at Cannes are sent for a change to

GRASSE,

a town on the summit of a high hill, at twelve miles distance by rail, where extensive views, delicious water, and the best of air are to be had. There is much

around and in this mountain town to interest the visitor. A little way inland is a grassy spot called the Plain of Napoleon because here, 2nd March, 1815, he breakfasted at the foot of three tall cypresses, and then went on to St. Vallier. Several fine paintings, too, can be seen, the work of J. H. Fragonard, a native of Grasse, who died at Paris in 1806. The great industries of this town are the distilling of perfumes and the preserving of fruits. The flowers are cultivated on terraces resembling great nursery beds. Of the perfumes the most precious are the Otto of Roses and the Neroly. The Otto of Roses made is said to be superior to that of Turkey. The best Neroly is from the flowers of the bitter orange tree, and it is used principally in the manufacture of Eau de Cologne, of which it constitutes the base. One house works annually 80,000 kilogrammes of orange flowers.

Bez, Vaud, Suisse, May, 1880.

T. H.

STATE OF EDUCATION IN BRITISH INDIA.

India for ages has had a civilization of its own; a certain kind of knowledge prevailed there, especially in large towns; and two out of every three villages had native schools, though the education given was a mere smattering of writing and counting.

The direct influence of the English in India may be said to date from the last day of the year 1600, when the East India Company received its charter. By the great victories of Plassey in 1757, and Wandewash in 1760, England established her supremacy in India, and the country was ruled by servants of the company (among whom were Lord Clive and the Right Hon. Warren Hastings) with but little regard for the rights of the unfortunate natives.

But a day of reckoning came, and the helpless found champions. Parliament insisted that the trading and governing functions of the company should be separate and distinct, and there ultimately was established that Indian Civil Service in which Englishmen of honour and principle have, for nearly two centuries, nobly discharged their duty to their sovereign and their Indian fellow-subjects.

Meanwhile in 1793 when the East India Company was seeking a renewal of its charter (which it had to do every twenty years) Grant and Wilberforce, by dwelling upon the responsibility of England toward India, succeeded in securing certain religious advantages for the people, and thus the first step was taken in a system of instruction which is now being more fully developed.

Upon the renewal of the charter in 1813, Zachary Macaulay and others secured the insertion of a provision requiring the company to devote £10,000 to the encouragement of education. About this time the teaching of English was begun by Dr. Marshman and other missionaries, and gradually there followed a demand for English education in the various employments open to the natives. Very soon after, David Hare, an English merchant of Calcutta, established a school for half-caste children in that city, to which the natives eagerly sought admission. This school ultimately developed into a college, and the system spread in Calcutta, and extended to other cities; in these schools, thus established, the standard works of English authors became students' text books.

In 1830 Alexander Duff arrived on the scene—our first and greatest missionary. He opened a school for teaching English. It is known to this day among the natives as Duff's School. It was openly declared by him to be a Christian school, to be carried on for the purpose of educating the scholars, above all things else, in the knowledge of the truth as it is in Jesus, and winning souls to Christ. It speedily became the most successful school in the presidency.

When the company's charter was again renewed in 1833, the grant for education was raised to £100,000, and closely following this, in 1835, Lord Macaulay, then president of a special law commission, and member of the Supreme Council of Calcutta, secured, by means of his famous minute, that the English language should be the great subject of study in the Government schools of India.

In 1853 the charter was again renewed, and in the following year Sir Charles Wood's well-known despatch on education was issued, the aim of which was to foster general education in various ways, leaving higher education to be provided for by private individuals. But the provisions of this Act were never properly carried out, for ultimately higher education re-