

bert and Captain Cross went ashore, and on landing at the Ragged Staff and crossing the draw-bridge Arderne met an old school chum in the person of one of the officers of the garrison. After a brief explanation,—for Gilbert's raiment bore signs of rough usage,—Major Hammond

conducted them to his own quarters where they were introduced to his wife and daughter. Captain Cross, having duties to perform, was permitted to retire on condition that he would dine at the mess that evening.

(To be continued.)

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE SUPERSTITION IN AMERICA.

Nor long since we referred to a case in which an adept of the Christian Science school, who had ministered, after the manner of the sect, to a patient suffering from typhoid fever which proved fatal, was convicted of practising medicine without a licence; and to another case in which a similar decision of a judge had been appealed against, the Supreme Court of the State (Rhode Island) having the knotty problem propounded to it whether Christian Science is a method of medical practice or a system of religion. The Court has not yet, so far as we are aware, delivered judgment. In the meantime, the Court of Common Pleas in Ohio has decided in another case that the rites which the Christian Science healer performed "were religious and not medical, and therefore not within the State medical law under which she was prosecuted." As an illustration of the "religious" rites practised by these deluded people and their results, the following story told by Dr. Frank S. Billings, in a recent issue of the *New York Times*, may be cited. We give it in his own words:

"Mrs. — was the pretty young wife of a clerk. Her mother was a maniacal Christian Scientist. When it came time for Mrs. — to be confined, the husband was told he might go to business, and the mother (mother-in-law) took the case in hand, aided by a Christian Scientist healer. The poor girl began to suffer, and the fool women put a Bible on her abdomen and told her that her pains were all imagination, that the Lord never gave people pain, and so on, *ad nauseum*. The agonies of that poor child must have been terrific, for neighbors heard her screaming and begging for a physician, but these Christian fiends never let up. Finally, the pain stopped; no further screaming was heard. The reason was that the child had ruptured the womb and was in the abdominal cavity of the mother. Then there was rushing in mad haste. The husband was sent for, the physician was sent for, but too late; the woman died of hemorrhage and the child choked to death. Two murders! But were those women prosecuted? Not a bit of it. Public sentiment was entirely on their side, and no official dared to issue a warrant. 'It was God's will to take his dear ones that way,' said the minister (not a Christian Scientist) at the funeral."