

our own Grand Trunk Railway, the road everywhere spoken against, and that much of its ill-repute has been manufactured to order for its injury. At any rate, on the principle of praising the bridge that carries you safe over, we can only speak well of it. The trains, two of which we took (lying over at Owego to go to Ithaca), were on time to the minute; the road seemed to be in good order, thoroughly appointed, and well watched; the track, a large proportion of the way, is double, and newly-laid with steel rails; the conductors are gentlemanly and attentive; and the car-seats the most comfortable we ever rode on, being adjustable, and fitted with head-rests, affording every facility for rest and sleep. The Erie is offering most tempting rates for through travel: \$8 American currency from Niagara Falls to New York, and a dollar less from New York to the Falls. These low fares are for continuous through travel, and do not allow of lying-over at any intermediate place or places.

#### CORNELL UNIVERSITY.

This is a newly-founded institution of learning, which originated in the munificence of the gentleman after whom it is named, Hon. Ezra Cornell, who donated a tract of land, and \$500,000 to it. Some idea of its character may be gathered from the language of its founder: "I would found an institution where any individual can obtain instruction in any branch of science." A special feature arises out of the appropriation of the Congressional grant of land for the establishment of an Agricultural College in the State of New York to this institution, as the result of which very complete arrangements are being made for imparting thorough instruction in the theory and practice of agriculture. The necessary professorships are established, and there is a model and experimental farm in operation. Every thing is planned on a most thorough scale, so as to secure to the students in attendance every possible advantage. The buildings are not finished yet, and the University can scarcely be said to be under way, though it has held one session, with upwards of 400 students. A finer location for a College it would be difficult if not impossible to find. It crowns the heights overlooking Ithaca, a town beautifully situated at the foot of Cayuga Lake. When the buildings

are completed according to the original plan, they will present a most commanding appearance. We spent a very pleasant day in examining the characteristic features of Cornell University, but must postpone further particulars until a future and more favourable opportunity.

#### YACHT SAIL ON THE HUDSON RIVER.

After a night's run on the cars, we arrived at New York, just in time to overhaul a party of friends who were about to set sail for a day's yachting on the Hudson. After a hurried breakfast, toilet, and embarkation, we found ourselves aboard "The Alice," a fine yacht of 100 tons burden, and in the company of a circle of cheerful and agreeable companions, intent on a day's enjoyment. Everything conspired to favour their wishes and plans. A pleasanter day never smiled on pleasure party. A moderate breeze carried us along just fast enough for comfort; not the slightest excuse was given for the least qualm of sea-sickness to the most nervous and delicate of the company; a delicious haze, while it rendered the views along the banks less clear, gave a fairy dreaminess to them that was most enchanting; the air was cool enough to be bracing, and yet warm enough to be enjoyable; the lunch amply spread in the cosy cabin was discussed with sharp appetite and cheerful converse; and, in short, the day passed all too quickly, seeming like a short and blissful vision, reminding one of the closing lines in that sweet "homeward-bound" song of the juveniles:—

"Into the harbour of heaven now we glide,  
We're home at last,  
Softly we float on the bright silver tide,  
We're home at last."

But the arrival at "home" brought us to earth, not to heaven, fatigued enough to sleep well, and yet not so soundly as not to repeat in dreams of the night the delightful voyage of the day. The Hudson River throughout presents a succession of lovely scenery. In the vicinage of New York, art and nature vie with each other in the race of beauty; villas, cottages, gardens, and pleasure grounds alternating with hill and valley, rock and wood, sky and water. You involuntarily exclaim, "Happy are they who have homes on the Hudson!" Yet trouble and sorrow, discontent and unrest, are there as else-