

lighted in the streets and houses. One of my friends who went to the city this morning in a hansom affirms that the fog was so great that he could not see the head of his horse.

Sir Samuel Baker delivered his long expected lecture on Central Africa last evening, which he was prevented before from doing by a severe attack of Pneumonia. The Prince of Wales was present and delivered a short address at the termination of the lecture. The public attention at present is much occupied by the Ashantee War; the Illustrated and Daily papers are full of it. It seems to have entirely eclipsed the Tichborne trial, which still drags on, though hopes are entertained of its speedy termination. Reports from the Gold Coast say that Sir Garnet Wolsely is prostrated by the fever of the Country. Much anxiety on his behalf is felt here, and it is hoped that his recovery will be speedy and complete. Everybody here is preparing for Christmas, and the shops are beginning to put on their holiday garb.

Hoping that I have not intruded too much on your valuable space,

I am, Sir,

Yours, truly,

F. S.

## BERLIN CORRESPONDENCE

BERLIN, Nov. 25.th

Nature could hardly do less for a place than she has done for this. A barren, sandy plain surrounding it on all sides without a vestige of anything that might be called a hill; and the muddy, sluggish Spree, just deep enough to float barges, flowing through it towards the Baltic, form the sole natural features. Being a modern city it is well laid out, with wide but wretchedly paved streets; while the houses, though of brick, are stucco-covered and uniform, so that the general appearance of the place is clean. Unfortunately the cleanliness goes no farther than looks, being the very opposite in reality. The drainage is everywhere deficient,