

Gymnasium into the University until he can not only read Latin, but compose and converse in it as well.

In the University valuable courses of lectures are often delivered in Latin, but they must be a sealed book to him who has not been trained to understand the language as spoken.

Cologne is the largest City in the Rhenish Province of Prussia, and one of the most important places in Germany. Agrippina, daughter of Germanicus and mother of Nero, was born here, and founded here a colony, called *Colonia Agrippinensis*, in the year 50.

The City has more attractions than I can here particularly describe. I cannot, however, pass by its Cathedral, which justly excites the admiration of every beholder, and is probably the most magnificent Gothic edifice in the world. It is smaller, indeed, in superficial area than the Cathedrals of Milan and Rome, but it surpasses either of them in beauty. It has a grandeur born of a vast design, and the most harmonious proportions. It is a magnificent poem in stone, and fascinates the eye as music does the ear. The mind that originated its plan—which lay its multiform proportions and graces before they were realized in stone, deserves to be ranked with those which produced the *Iliad* and the *Paradise Lost*.

It is a cruciform structure, the nave being flanked with double, and the transept with single aisles. Its total length is 444 feet, breadth 201 feet, length of transepts 282 feet, height of the walls 150 feet, height of the roof 201 feet, height of the central tower rising over the transept 357 feet, and the projected height of the two great towers which are now rapidly approaching completion, 511 feet. These will consist of four storeys, crowned with elegant open spires.

The principal portal is 93 feet in height and 31 feet in width, and is most elaborately ornamented with statues, making it a fitting entrance to so grand an edifice.

The interior is beautiful and impressive beyond description. Especially is it the case from certain angles of observation, in which its combined charms strike the eye at once. Its 56 columns, branching so gracefully at the top in flying buttresses and arches, seem not unlike so many majestic elms, though they are taller than elms ever grew. At the height of 150 feet they seem to weave their branches beneath the roof which they support. The streaming down among these columns

of the sunlight, colored with the hues of the magnificent stained windows through which it has come, and flinging these hues over pillar and statue, and altar and worshipper alike, filling the whole place with glory, produces upon the beholder an almost overwhelming effect.

Flanking the side aisle of the Cathedral are seven chapels, in which are preserved various relics. In the fourth, for instance, are exhibited what are declared to be the bones of the Magi, who came from the east to worship the infant Christ. They were brought in the first place by the Empress Helena to Constantinople, from which place they were afterwards taken to Milan. In 1164 they were presented by Frederick Barbarossa to Archbishop Reiald, by whom they were removed to Cologne.

These bones may be said to have made the fortune of the Cathedral. They were the greatest religious card of the middle ages. The old feudal lords would keep an oath made over these bones, though they broke every other.

Other Churches in Cologne can also boast of their bone relics, notably that of St. Ursula, so called, from an English princess of this name, who, according to the legend, when on her return from a pilgrimage to Rome, was barbarously murdered with her 11,000 virgin attendants by the Huns, on the spot on which the Church is built. The bones of these virgin martyrs are preserved in cases, placed round the Church. Their skulls grin and stare at one everywhere. On the little altar is the very skull of the very saint himself, and that of Conan, her lover, who made the pilgrimage to Rome with her, and with her was also slain.

The guide who conducted us through the Church of St. Ursula was a young man of extraordinary linguistic ability. Though only 19 years of age, he spoke seven languages, namely, Latin, Greek, French, Italian, Spanish, German, and English. As we entered the Church he said to the party that he would be happy to answer our questions—to converse with us concerning the Church, or on any other subject in either of these languages. Questions were accordingly put to him in four of them, namely, English, German, French and Greek, all which he fluently answered; and no doubt, had he been tested, he would have shown himself equally at home in the others. On asking his name he took my note-book and wrote in it: *Joseph Maubach, opposite the Church of St. Ursula, B. A.*