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TWO PICTURES.

A midnight drear,
A seeming conscious fear
In shivering earth and inky, gloom-bathed sky.
A frequent blast,
The sere leaf earthward cast,
From swaying, trembling tree, lament and sigh.
A youthful form,
A heart amid the storm
Unfearing,—full of buoyancy and power,
A spoken word,
As if a God was heard,
A calm; the winds grow mute; clouds cease to
lower,
In life a path
Of gloom. Th' opposing wrath
And bitter spite of spirits born of Hate.
A darkness dense,
No refuge; no defence.
A throbbing dread of hard un pitying, Fate.
A valiant will,
Within, a sudden thrill
Of joy. The birth of hope. A song.
Fast-lifting gloom,
The torturing dread of doom
Far fled. A life triumphant, grandly strong.

O.

REMINISCENCES OF EUROPEAN STUDY AND TRAVEL.—No. 12.

BY PROF. D. M. WELTON.

Those readers of the ATHENÆUM who would have me take them faster over the road to Leipzig, telling them less of things by the way, that they might sooner learn of University life in Germany and of distinguished University men, will please exercise their patience a little longer. As Leipzig is only ten or twelve hours distant from Frankfort, two or three hours may yet be spent in the latter city, and the former reached on the same day. These two or three hours

shall be given principally to two objects. The first is

THE ROMER,

historically the most interesting edifice in Frankfort. Nearly five hundred years ago the building was purchased by the city for a Town Hall. On the first floor is the Kaisersaal (Imperial Hall), where the coronation festival was held, and where the new emperor dined with the electors after having shown himself from the balcony to the people assembled in the Romerberg, as the open place in front of the building is called. The Hall was restored in 1840 and ornamented with portraits of German emperors from Charlemagne to Francis II., in all fifty-two. From the Kaisersaal the visitor is conducted to the Wahlzimmer (election-room), where the emperors were chosen by the electors, and which has been left in its original condition. The ceiling is most allegorically and burlesquely decorated.

One of the chief objects of interest in the *Archives* is the celebrated 'Golden Bull' of the Emperor Charles IV., promulgated at Nuremberg in 1356, by which the election of the emperors and the attendant ceremonies were regulated. In the 17th and 18th centuries this bull was regarded as the most notable sight of the city, and was only exhibited to persons of high rank. Goethe, in his autobiography graphically describes the public rejoicings which took place in the Romerberg on the occasion of the election of the emperor.

The second of the two objects referred to is

DANNECKER'S ARIADNE,

a most exquisite piece of sculpture. Dannecker, who ranks among the best German