

THE PARTHENON.

Prof. Dorpfeld on the Preservation of the Historic Structure.

"The Parthenon is doomed!" Thus begins an article in your issue of August 14, which has created a sensation, not only in England, but throughout Europe. Is the Parthenon really doomed? Is this gem among the monuments of the world irreparably lost? Is it impossible to save it?

As a student well acquainted with the Parthenon, and as a member of the committee appointed by the Greek government to superintend the repairing of it, I think I may assert that the temple is by no means yet doomed. The condition of the structure is certainly not satisfactory. Earthquakes and fire, rain and sun, frost and heat, several bombardments, and more especially the unfortunate explosion of the Turkish powder magazine by the Venetians under Morosini in 1687, have all contributed to annihilate entirely large portions of the temple and severely to injure those still preserved, and even to destroy in many places the beautiful white marble. One has only to read the reports of the three distinguished European architects—the Englishman, C. F. Penrose; the German, T. Durm, and the Frenchman, T. Magne—on the state of the temple in order to satisfy himself that the structure has indeed suffered severely and that the condition of certain portions is even dangerous. But, according to the undeniably authoritative opinion of those architects, the damage is not so serious as your correspondent describes it, and, on the contrary, the preservation of the existing structure for hundreds, and perhaps thousands of years is still possible. One thing only is necessary—viz.: That the proposed repairs shall be carefully and expeditiously carried out. The same conclusion has been arrived at by the committee of Greek and foreign architects and archaeologists to whom the Greek government has intrusted the task of superintending them. As the opinion of all these experts with regard to the mode of restoration shows few divergences, the work might be taken in hand at once, those repairs being undertaken first upon which all the experts are agreed.

Last winter a solid scaffolding was erected along the western portion of the temple in order first of all to replace the specially damaged epistylion beams of the opisthodomus by new ones. The stones required for this purpose had in part been already brought from Pentelic to the Acropolis, and the machinery obtained for raising these huge blocks, and work was about to begin when war unfortunately broke out and arrested the progress of operations. The funds for the work of restoration were granted by the Greek Archaeological society, which derives its large revenues from a lottery sanctioned by the state. This year, unhappily owing to the disastrous war, the lottery has hardly produced anything, and the society has consequently no funds at its disposal to prosecute the works. The repairs have therefore been temporarily interrupted, and who knows when they may be resumed. For the Parthenon this is a deplorable matter, and the consequences may be most serious should a severe earthquake shake the mountain rock on which it stands.

Your correspondent then proceeds to point out how excellently, since the erection of the scaffolding, the remaining portions of the celebrated frieze, the wonderful masterpiece of Phidias, can be seen and admired, and suggests in this connection whether it would not be better to place the frieze itself in museum, and to replace it on the temple by a copy. That suggestion I heartily endorse. Not only are the marvelous works of a Phidias exposed on the temple to a gradual process of disintegration under the influence of weather, but in their present position they cannot be properly seen and appreciated. Now for the first time, from the scaffolding which enables one to approach and study them at leisure, their great artistic merit stands fully revealed. If a modern sculptor or architect could set them up about 12 meters from the ground, in a gallery a little more than three (sic) meters broad, he might well afford to disregard scoffers and critics. And must we allow valuable Greek originals, numbered among the finest sculptures of the world, to perish slowly in a place where they might very well be replaced by copies?—Prof. Dorpfeld, in London Times.

A Hypnotic Incendiary.

A Georgia court is called upon to decide whether a woman whose property was destroyed by fire which she set herself while in a state of hypnosis is entitled to damages from the owner of the building. At a sociable in a hotel the woman was placed under hypnotic influence and playfully told to set the house on fire. She did as she was bid and all her clothing was destroyed. Now comes the fine point of deciding who is responsible for the loss of the clothing.

ICE WATER IS HARMFUL.

Water for Drinking Should Never Be Below Fifty Degrees.

We are a nation of ice-water drinkers. It is said that more ice water is taken as a beverage in the United States in one year than in all the rest of the world in ten. This fact is in part due to the facility with which ice can be obtained and the comparatively low price at which it is sold—yet our national craving for ice water cannot be altogether the result of its cheapness, for we find in Norway and Sweden and in the high regions of India, South America and Switzerland ice water as a beverage is almost unknown. But, is the drinking of so much ice water healthful?

Dr. William A. Hammond, the famous surgeon, says most decidedly that it is not. So far as the appetite for ice water is concerned, says he, it certainly is the result of education. If the proclivity were an innocent one there would not be much to say against it, but that it is extremely harmful, Dr. Hammond declares, is not a matter for doubt. He then goes on to assert that "in the first place, it may cause sudden death, especially if indulged in when the body is overheated. A very important part of the nervous system, called the solar plexus, is situated immediately behind the stomach; a big drink of ice water reduces the temperature of the plexus so suddenly that the action of the heart is greatly lessened—sometimes so great as to cause instant death. It is quite common for persons to feel faint and to become pale immediately after drinking a glass of ice water. They attribute these effects to heat or over-exertion, or to some other cause which has nothing to do with the result, not knowing that they have so weakened the heart as to prevent its sending a due amount of blood to the lungs and brain. Besides being one of the most prolific causes of neuralgic affections, very cold drinks injure the teeth. The effect upon the stomach of ice water drinking is very injurious. As soon as the cold liquid reaches this organ, the blood vessels, which are enlarged during the process of digestion, in order that a due amount of gastric juice may be secreted, are at once contracted, and the function is accordingly more or less completely arrested. Confirmed dyspepsia is a necessary consequence, and this frequently assumes the form of gastric catarrh, than which few disorders are more intractable. There is some reason to believe that cancer of the stomach, a disease certainly more frequent among Americans than other people, is likewise one of its consequences. Water for drinking purposes should never be below 50 degrees. We can almost always get it, even in the hottest weather, as cool as this by letting it run for a minute or two from any household faucet, or draw it from any country well. I am quite sure that if ice water should be generally discarded as a drink, the average duration of life would be lengthened, and the society has consequently no funds at its disposal to prosecute the works. The repairs have therefore been temporarily interrupted, and who knows when they may be resumed. For the Parthenon this is a deplorable matter, and the consequences may be most serious should a severe earthquake shake the mountain rock on which it stands.

The eminent doctor's words may be heard by a few, but it is quite probable that the great majority of people will continue to indulge in the temporarily refreshing beverage.—Boston Herald.

AFRICAN POISON STORY.

The Ground Seemed to Be Covered with a Deadly Gas.

Charles M. Stern, of Chicago, who has just returned to this city after a journey through northeast Africa, told of a curious meteorological phenomenon which he observed in a district called Gwallah. "The vegetation in that region is very luxuriant," said he, "and the plant life must give off an unusually large quantity of carbonic acid gas. At least that was the conclusion I reached after seeing three natives die and four or five dogs."

"The moment the animals put their noses close to the ground they would fall over and gasp, and die in about five minutes. The natives who died slept on the ground instead of in hammocks, as others did. I saw hundreds of dead birds. My theory is that a stratum of the deadly gas covered the ground for a depth of three or four inches, and any living thing breathing in that area would be asphyxiated."

"In cold weather car-truck and cab drivers in New York and other cities wear them for the reason that they are warmer than any other footwear. Some drivers cover them with black cloth, or blacken them, and then tack old rubber or leather bootlegs to the top. Worn thus the thick soles are a great protection against frost, and one's feet are always dry. They are also worn by street cleaners and men who work at paving roads, especially when hot asphalt is used, which is found to be very destructive to leather."

Wooden shoes are now sold by the thousands in New York. Some of them are made in Maine, but most of them come from Holland. They are made of birch, ash and boxwood and sell retail at from 50 cents to \$1.25 a pair, according to finish and quality.

A HORRID LOT.

Mrs. St. Clair De Fraud Couldn't Stand Reporters.

"Oh, you dreadful reporters! Is there anything you do not try to pry into?" said Mrs. St. Clair de Fraud, when a servant had admitted the reporter for the New York World, to whom she had sent a card for her ball. "How did you know I was giving a ball, anyhow? But there's no use trying to keep anything from you horrid reporters. If there's anything I do detect it's newspaper notoriety, and I shudder every time I see my name in print."

"I think that it's vulgar to—what are you putting down in that horrid notebook of yours? Oh, about the floral decorations. They were done by Planty and the man in charge of my own conservatory. Aren't they lovely? Be sure you do them full justice if you must say anything at all about them. I would very much prefer not to have my entertainments noticed in any way by the press, but don't fail to give as much space as you can to the dining-room. It would be no more than the simple truth if you stated that the decorations there are the finest and most elaborate ever seen at a private ball. Have you made a note of that?

"What? Oh, about my costume? How perfectly horrid you reporters are! To think that even the dress of a hostess must be dragged into print to satisfy the morbidly curious. It is positively disgusting. But if you really must and will know, my gown is from Worth, in Paris, and it is a lavender moire antique and velvet with trimmings of almost priceless old lace. Be sure and get that down. And, you see, of course, that I have on my diamond tiara and necklace. You reporters see everything. There's no keeping anything secret from you.

"Oh, the gowns of the guests? Well, I could send you a list of them, or you could get behind the floral screen with the orchestra in the ballroom and see and describe the gowns for yourself. You can come to me when the ball is over for anything else you would like to know. I can't stay away from my guests another minute. Look around for yourself and do be accurate as possible in your reports, although I do think it is too horrid for anything to have one's affairs in print in this way. It is simply vulgar, and you reporters are a horrid lot; you are, really."

WOODEN SHOES.

Find a Ready Sale in America—Not Confined to Foreigners.

A wagon load of wooden shoes, such as are worn by European peasants, lay in a heap on the floor of a woodwear dealer's store downtown in New York the other day.

"Who wears 'em?" inquired the writer, as he looked at the stock.

"More people than you would think," was the answer of the dealer, "and not only foreign-born, old-fashioned folks, but quite a number of Americans. Their chief sale is in winter. In fact, there is little or no call for them at any other season. Our customers are mostly dairymen, gardeners, farmers, brewers, dyers and men employed in slaughter houses. Chicken cleaners in the dressed poultry business who stand in feathers and steam wear them to save their shoe leather. Gardeners' wives and daughters wear them about home, and sometimes in the severest weather in the market."

"In cold weather car-truck and cab drivers in New York and other cities wear them for the reason that they are warmer than any other footwear. Some drivers cover them with black cloth, or blacken them, and then tack old rubber or leather bootlegs to the top. Worn thus the thick soles are a great protection against frost, and one's feet are always dry. They are also worn by street cleaners and men who work at paving roads, especially when hot asphalt is used, which is found to be very destructive to leather."

Wooden shoes are now sold by the thousands in New York. Some of them are made in Maine, but most of them come from Holland. They are made of birch, ash and boxwood and sell retail at from 50 cents to \$1.25 a pair, according to finish and quality.

He Wanted a Start.

A very bad case of highway robbery was tried several years ago before Judge C—and resulted in an acquittal. The judge was resolved to give the western jury a rub for their verdict, so, addressing the sheriff, he said: "Mr. Sheriff, is there any other indictment against this innocent man?" "No, your honor," was the reply. "Then you will greatly oblige me if you do not let him out until I have had half an hour's start of him on my way to Chicago," said the judge.

Crowing Contests.

In Belgium cock-crowing competitions are very popular among the working classes. The cocks are ranged in cases and markers note the number of crows. In competition recently held at Poulseur a cock gave voice 134 times in an hour.

VENTES A L'ENCAN.

PAR HECKER & SMITH.

ANNONCE JUDICIAIRE.

Soixante-six Terrains de Valeur dans le Septième District.

A L'ENCAN.

Jeudi, 16 décembre 1897.

Dans l'Affaire de la Succession du Dr

Paul S. Carrington.

No 53,265—Cour Civile de District pour la

PAR HECKER & SMITH, avocats

verso leur Bureau No 324 rue Carondelet

JEUDI, 16 décembre 1897, à midi.

PAR HECKER & SMITH, Encanateurs.

A la date de 16 décembre 1897 à midi.

Propriétés

à vendre à la Division E,

verso la date de 16 décembre 1897 à midi.

l'encanateur, pour la vente à l'encanateur initiale

verso la date de 16 décembre 1897 à midi.

verso la date de 16 décembre 1897 à midi.

verso la date de 16 décembre 1897 à midi.

verso la date de 16 décembre 1897 à midi.

verso la date de 16 décembre 1897 à midi.

verso la date de 16 décembre 1897 à midi.

verso la date de 16 décembre 1897 à midi.

verso la date de 16 décembre 1897 à midi.

verso la date de 16 décembre 1897 à midi.

verso la date de 16 décembre 1897 à midi.

verso la date de 16 décembre 1897 à midi.

verso la date de 16 décembre 1897 à midi.

verso la date de 16 décembre 1897 à midi.

verso la date de 16 décembre 1897 à midi.

verso la date de 16 décembre 1897 à midi.

verso la date de 16 décembre 1897 à midi.

verso la date de 16 décembre 1897 à midi.

verso la date de 16 décembre 1897 à midi.

verso la date de 16 décembre 1897 à midi.

verso la date de 16 décembre 1897 à midi.

verso la date de 16 décembre 1897 à midi.

verso la date de 16 décembre 1897 à midi.

verso la date de 16 décembre 1897 à midi.

verso la date de 16 décembre 1897 à midi.

verso la date de 16 décembre 1897 à midi.

verso la date de 16 décembre 1897 à midi.

verso la date de 16 décembre 1897 à midi.

verso la date de 16 décembre 1897 à midi.

verso la date de 16 décembre 1897 à midi.

verso la date de 16 décembre 1897 à midi.

verso la date de 16 décembre 1897 à midi.

verso la date de 16 décembre 1897 à midi.

verso la date de 16 décembre 1897 à midi.

verso la date de 16 décembre 1897 à midi.

verso la date de 16 décembre 1897 à midi.

verso la date de 16 décembre 1897 à midi.

verso la date de 16 décembre 1897 à midi.

verso la date de 16 décembre 1897 à midi.

verso la date de 16 décembre 1897 à midi.

verso la date de 16 décembre 1897 à midi.

verso la date de 16 décembre 1897 à midi.

verso la date de 16 décembre 1897 à midi.

verso la date de 16 décembre 1897 à midi.

verso la date de 16 décembre 1897 à midi.

verso la date de 16 décembre 1897 à midi.

verso la date de 16 décembre 1897 à midi.

verso la date de 16 décembre 1897 à midi.

verso la date de 16 décembre 1897 à midi.

verso la date de 16 décembre 1897 à midi.

verso la date de 16 décembre 1897 à midi.

verso la date de 16 décembre 1897 à midi.

verso la date de 16 décembre 1897 à midi.

verso la date de 16 décembre 1897 à midi.