THE ATHENÆUM

The poem called 'The Picture: or, the Lover's Resolution,' the ten lines, commencing 'Here Wisdom might recoil, and here Remorse,'

Pickering, vol. ii. p. 105, are not given in 'The Poetical Register.' In the passage immediately following, the variations in italics occur:

'No mythil walks are here: those are no more
Loves to decive or, the low stooges would gen
fling's many feet; the hair and the thorn
Nor could his plumed hagget: still, like wounded bird,

 laurels higher than his stature, would mock

his toils in making him low feed;

Crafty Olden's 'thorn bush on yon hedging-bach's.

In the subsequent portion of the poems, the following variations have not been noted:


'He who searches

Had from his heart's depth 'tomed, or locks by stealth.'


The noontide and night that have passed

omitted by some of the modern editors, the fourth stanza in Derwent and Sara Coleridge's edition, 1870, p. 26, and Pickering, 1877, vol. i. p. 117, reads

In 'Monthly Literary Recreations' as quoted, it is

'With eager step, and wistful eye,' while, in the second stanza,

The lines 'On a Late Conchological Expedition, or High Life,' in Pickering, 1877, vol. i. p. 107, are taken from 'The Monthly Magazine, September, 1796.'

In 'The Poetical Register,' 1860, p. 366, they are signed, 'S. T. Coleridge, 1796,' without reference. In 'Fears in Solitude,' the variations are right, but the correct reading. 'No speculation on an erroniously connoted or contingency in all the modern editions except Pickering's,' is given in 'The Poetical Register.'

The lines 'In France: an Ode,' the text and notes of Pickering's edition, 1877, give the numerous changes that have been made in this fine poem. The following slight variations have been overlooked:

'A dance more wild than ever was maiden's dream.'

The celebrated line,

in all the editions with R. & J. Pickering,

which, in the first edition with R. & J. Pickering,

is given correctly in 'The Poetical Register.'

The editor mentions that,

in 'The Spirit of the Public Pamphlets,' 1798, 'Onde camp' is substituted.

With knowing eyes, spot your mountain snows

and with knowing eyes spot the mountain snows

And there I left my 


'At Midnight,' which is published in

'At Midnight,' for 1868, p. 530, the follow-

owing note is appended — 'This poem, which was first published in a broadsheet in Solitude,' and 'France: an Ode,' has been since enlarged and corrected, and, with the other poems, is now inserted in 'The Poetical Register,' by the kind permission of Mr. Coleridge's executors. In the latter, the eight or nine lines that follow

Making it a companionable form.


In 'The Poetical Register,' the poem ends, as in all the modern editions except Pickering, 1877, vol. ii. p. 12, with the line

"quietly aching to the quiet noon.'

In Pickering six lines are added in brackets. These, with some sequence in composition and an occasional misprint, are all the unrecorded variations that I have noticed in the text of Coleridge, and 'The Poetical Register.' One more may be added from Crosby's 'Monthly Literary Recreations,' 1807, vol. i. p. 9. In the musical lines 'Imitated from Ossian,'

"The sweet sound, and the swing of the breeze;"

imprinted 'The Hours.'

D. F. MACCARTHY.

THE OGHAM INSCRIPTIONS.

During my late visit to Cairo, that literary Arab city par excellence appeared to me the best place for the origin of the mysterious alphabet which you were kind enough to print in your issue of April 7, 1877. 'El-Mushabbar,' every day to gain importance. Prof. J. Rella (Borbon, &c., London, Tribun, 1877), treating of the Welsh inscriptions which date from the second century, shows how the 'Gymn' alphabet, claimed for their country by certain Irish antiquaries, passed from Wales to the West; and opines that if it be the invention of the Celts, the gift must have been due to the ancestors of the Welsh. He believes, moreover, that the 'Ogham' used before the introduction of the Runes was borrowed by the Romans from their Teutonic neighbours, and finally, that it was based on Phoenician, a conclusion formed apparently, for I know only the reviews of his book, without his having read the letter which you published.

My letter to the Archéoproyo Tristíno, of which a copy is herewith forwarded, gives the fac-simile of a crescent lamp in the collection of his reverends Don Giovanni Bolmarco, Archi-

prest (Rector) of Chero city, in the Gulf of Genoa, Italy, which Island, which is separated from Chero by a narrow water-cut apparently artificial. Perhaps the lines may have been, as suggested by the learned Dr. Carlo Kuna, to the word of instruction to the wor of a waggish apprentice (Fig. 1). But they are disposed upon a Runa-stuff, which mere scratches would the more be by. Ad. Alh. Abad, who is the Ogham of the Sacred Isle has to do with Chero, I reply that Palm-runes have lately appeared in 'impos-

able' places; and that the Lion of Marathon, now standing before the Arsenal, Venice, is partly composed of them; and that the atom of Limerick. I find it in the 'Marcha Figularis,' &c. (Table III. 42, 1st Supplemento, A. Fabbretti, Parts 7th. Rome, 1873), thus shaped (Fig. 2):—

\[ \text{Fig. 1.} \]

\[ \text{Fig. 2.} \]

Dr. Samuel Ferguson, who is editing for the Royal Irish Academy a series of Ogham inscriptions, kindly forwarded to me the other Palm-runes (Fig. 3). Whether genuine or imitated, it occurred on a clay urn, found, with objects of decidedly Etruscan origin, in the Tyrrel. There are many repetitions of the characters, but the differences are not sufficient to convince us that they were used alphabetically. My correspondent also assured me that he had lately applied to Colonel Fothergill to submit a Palm-rune which had been cut in the old quarries worked to supply the Wall. Amongst interesting relics, Palm-rune is, in general, has disappeared. Lastly, I find an evident 'Mushabbar,' in the cave Pit Clunbary; apparently associated with two Phoenician 'Ailh' (Journal of the Anthropological Institute, pp. 431-441, May, 1877).

Among those consulted at Cairo were the Hofrat Alfred von Leisemann, and the young prince now studying in England, had heard of the cryptogram; he declared that it should be called El-Shajari, and he thought it an Arabian invention, not of Persian origin, as I have been overstepped the Persians invent, whilst the Arabs adopt.

Fortunately, I consulted H.E. Yakoub Artin Pasha, the ambassador of H.H. Prince Ibrahim Pasha, and the following is convincing:

"There are amongst Moslems great differences of opinion upon the origin of El-Mushabbar. The chief of the 'Heber' (Gorby), &c., London, Tribun, 1877) concisely declares that the Kaae el-Mushabbar is 'a form of Kaae' (writing); and passes to another subject. An informant traces it to Hid, the well-known Hingham Prophet, buried in Hadramaut (see prep. essay, Sale's Koran). The Koran (vii. 80) sends him on a mission to the tribe of 'Ad, the Palangi of Arabia; his genealogy, differing from Sale's (Atay), is hid, bin Amir, bin Shabib, bin Filah (Peleg), bin Aarkashah, bin Sam, bin Nuh (Nobin), and he lived about 1700 n.c., under Khal Khatibi, the Adite king. Some Oriental writers have identified him with Heber, a prophetic hero, differing from Ibn Khaldin Tabari. There are various coincidences (!) in the histories of the Heber of the Arab and the Irish 'Heber' and 'Heremon,' sons of Mileus: of course both are legendary and prehistoric, but the subject appears worthy of inquiry."

The book named 'El-Durar el-munkittah bab el-marub, ii Infall.' (II. 1645, etc.) was called the 'Cooke' (the choice plate of El-Mushabbar was named vulgar error), translated from Arabic into Turkish, A.D. 1526 (1426-1527). One of this alphabet as being formed upon our well-known Arabic Aqayd, the old Hebrew sequence, still preserved for the Arabs for dates and chronograms. The author, and named 'Malatia' (i.e. Discorides the Doctor) was the inventor of a modification of El-Mushabbar; and his assertion is confirmed by
Ahmed bin Abibakr bin Wabshiyah, who in the Meḥsamawat al-mustahā fi Māʾālimī Ramūz el-Dīnī, in this article, in the knowledge of the secrets of written characters says distinctly that the alphabet of the Ḥakim (sage) Dīkordūš is the Kālin el-Mouḥessib, the Persian writer of the Arab translation, or of the Greek author was made in this cryptogram; and the translator, or the scribe, has confused it with the original. It is, moreover, that the alphabet was published in the days of El-Maʾāʾīn (seventh Abūbāṣīr Khāliṣ, a.H. 200) and of Saʿf al-Dīnul-ʿAdlī (Prince of Aleppo, a.H. 260); and that a book certifying this thing is known to exist.

Artin Bayrmi promises to procure me, if possible, this volume; unfortunately the owner, who speaks highly of it, is a confirmed wanderer, in the habit of disappearing for weeks and months, and possessed of all the wild enthusiasm of his forefathers. As a rule, therefore, I have taken it for granted that I should not receive it. Nevertheless, the most learned know even the form: hence it is extremely improbable that any inscriptions will be found on the monuments of the Minbari tribe. My good correspondent throws out, at the end of his letter, a hint which may prove of great value, and which suggests that possi-
bly I shall be able to contribute to the Minbari a Persian origin: "Groyez-vous que les arabes, au revers des medaillons Sassanides, aient quelque rapport avec cette forme?"

I cannot answer him: here numismatologists are yet to be invented, but, per-
haps, one of your numerous readers will think the subject worthy of attention. Once the branch-Rūses to the parent stem would, indeed, be an exploit; and after that we will not despair of the discovery of the alphabet. I have four characters that I have fixed the characters in these Historie hiero-
lyphs; but, like Jordan, it is a hard road to travel; and the way must be trodden sees East and West. —Richard F. Burton.

THE "ST. CATERINA" OATH.

This following gives some account of a curious episode in the history of the last year of Arch-
bishop Lang, of the Government of the Holy See, of which there is no notice either in his published correspond-
ence, or in Cardwell's Synodical, or in Mr. G. G. Pert's history, or in Dr. Stoughton, or in Dr. Cotterell. I believe the circumstance narrated has entirely slipped out of notice. But it is very curious.

On the 24th of September, 1640, as is well known, the famous "St. Caterina" oath was framed ("Nor will I ever give my consent to alter the govern-
mant of the Church by archbishops, bishops, deans, and archdeans, et cetera,") and ordered to be taken by every bishop and clergyman through the realm, and by every Master of Arts (sons of no exception) throughout the Universities. The oath commenced, "I swear that I do approve the doctrine, ... established in the Church of England and the Church of Ireland, ..." and if the king were to appoint to any of the vacant bishoprics which arevacant, or to dissolve any of the Universities. The oath commenced, "I swear that I do approve the doctrine, ... established in the Church of England and the Church of Ireland, ..." and if the king were to appoint to any of the vacant bishoprics which arevacant, or to dissolve any of the Universities.

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In the Abbevium of June 2 I read a lengthy review of Col. Denny's "History of Cavalry," and must say I was greatly interested; more particu-
larly with that portion where Lieut.-Gen. Sheridan is mentioned as having described the defeat of the German cavalry by infantry skirmishers at Sedan. At once wrote to Sheridan on the sub-
ject. After calling his attention to the book (a copy of which I regret I have not yet seen), and to your lengthy criticism, I continued: "I should like to know if you have been correctly quoted in this matter. You are sometimes inaccurate as to the date of the charge; also how it was that a line of skirmishers could resist—"a regiment of Hussars? Were you in a position where you were actually coming from your lips, or was it told you by some officer who was on the skirmish line? I should like to know how you recovered your recollec-
tions of this affair. . . . I am afraid Col. Dunlop has been imposed upon; and it will require your own statement to dispense me of that belief. I write you in the interests of the service here and abroad, and have the honour," &c.

In a very few days I received a letter from the Lieutenant-General as follows:

"Headquarters Military Division of the Missouri. Chicago, June 23, 1877.

Dear Captain,—Your of the 17th instant is just at hand. Lieut.-Col. Denny's statement, as quoted by you, in reference to the charge of the French cavalry at Sedan, above and near the village of the same name, correct. I was watching the advance of the German troops through a field-glass, and saw the whole affair as it follows: The German infantry, after passing through the village of Floing, moved up a steep ascent with a skirm-
ish line in advance. Upon reaching the crest of the hill the infantry was supposed to sort out a sort of a plateau, and were at once discovered by the French cavalry, a small brigade of which, as you saw them in the extreme distance, was a part of the immediate vicinities. The line had advanced but a short distance upon the plateau, when they were met by the cavalry, which charged them. The French were broken into small knots or detached men, of somewhat unequal size, the cavalry having ridden completely through the line; but mean-
time some men of the advanced line cut up a sort of a plateau, and were at once discovered by the French cavalry, a small brigade of which, as you saw them in the extreme distance, was a part of the immediate vicinities. The line had advanced but a short distance upon the plateau, when they were met by the cavalry, which charged them. The French were broken into small knots or detached men, of somewhat unequal size, the cavalry having ridden completely through the line; but mean-
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