THE ACADEMY.

[April 17, 1886.—No. 728.

Pritz Ralph was occupied was not Wycliffe's; and in the De Dominio Divino and Stephen's controversy, but only a speculative theologian.

R. REGINALD L. POOLE.

"STRIDIANA" IN THE AEGEAN.
Sir Charles, Madras: March 16, 1884.

In the February number of Blackwood's mention is made of the creation and enjoyment of property by the women of the mountain villages of the unfortified island of Karpathos in the Aegean, and to its devotion to the female issue on the lines of primogeniture is said to be its custom, as one among the other many customs of the ancient Greeks which have been preserved through long ages in this out-of-the-way place. In "On a Far-off Island," pp. 203 ff., the custom is stated thus: "First-born sons inherit their father's property, first-born daughters their mother's, and no girl can marry without [see] she can provide her husband with a house" (p. 206).

And further on (p. 211) the following details are added:

"They have no pews to sit in, but each mother of a family possesses one of the stone slabs which form the pavement of their church; on this she performs her devotions, and no lock can imprison. This slab she leaves, together with her jewellery and her embroidered dresses, to her eldest daughter."

It would be interesting to ascertain whether this custom is common to any of the neighbouring islands; and still more so to inquire by what means this survival of ancient Greek law, assuming it to be so, which is so suggestive of the Stridians of Hindu lore, could have become established in this isolated locality. Is it a survival of the ancient laws of the common ancestors of the Indo-Germanic peoples in the ages before their eastern and western dispersions?

THOMAS FOULKES.

"CREW."

Cambridge: April 10, 1886.

Please allow me to say that, in the supplement to the first edition of my dictionary, issued with the second, and also separately, I gave the word "crew," formerly of a more inclusive signification. It is a clipped form of accruer, or acuerre, "a reinforcement, recruiting force."

See my articles and Acuerre, sh., in Murray's New English Dictionary. Sir James Ramsay's quotation helps to clinch this.

WALTER W. SEKAT.

"LIPPE." Oxford: April 12, 1886.

May I suggest that "lippe" is leap-gale, i.e., a stile, a gate which does not open but must be leaped? "Lippit" is not an uncommon surname in Gloucestershire.

What is the meaning of the ending "lip," as "Birdlip," "Hindlip," and other names of places in Worcestershire and Gloucestershire?

THOMAS KERSLAKE.

APPOINTMENTS FOR NEXT WEEK.


Friday, April 23, 4 p.m. Victoria Institute: "The Persistence of Type," by Dr. F. D. C. Bayley. "The Persistence of Type," by Dr. F. D. C. Bayley.