

quantity of the penultimate syllable alone? How long is it since *Tittyre* was superseded by *Teytyre*? and *eddite redgibus* by *eedite reegibus*? Where did the new system originate? and who were the chief agents in establishing it? You have, no doubt, among your correspondents, many who could give ample particulars of this change; but if these be not soon put on record, they may be irrecoverably lost. I believe it has not yet been attempted, at least with any success, to extend the above change to the *last* syllable. I have not yet heard *meeceenace atavice*, though consistency might seem to require such a pronunciation; and to *my* ear, it would not be more offensive than what I do hear.

E. H. D. D.

"*Rucksle*." — Can any of your readers, who have made the peculiar county dialects of England their study, help me to the derivation of this word? I heard it first in Cornwall, and it may probably never have been used beyond the western borders.

T. H. P.

"*Saxon and the Gael*." — Who is the author of *The Saxon and the Gael*, printed by J. and A. Aikman, Edinburgh, 1814, in four volumes?

E. J. LITTLER.

De Sancto Albino, St. Aubin, Tobin; Daubigne, Dobbyn. — Are the names here set down *aliases* of each other? or are we to take Daubigne and St. Aubin to be distinct? That St. Aubin and Tobin are substantially the same name there is undeniable proof, but it does not appear so clearly that Daubigne, Dobbyn, and Tobin are identical. Perhaps it might help towards a solution of the question if it were decided whether Daubigne is derived from the name of a place or from the saint Alban. A note in elucidation will oblige.

JAMES GRAVES.

Kilkenny.

Two Cathedrals in Dublin. — Mr. D'Alton tells us in his *Memoirs of the Archbishops of Dublin*, p. 4., that "there are in the diocese of Dublin two cathedrals (Christchurch and St. Patrick's), a peculiarity in which Saragossa alone participates." Is this statement exactly correct?

ABHBA.

Plowden's Claim to the Barony of Dudley. — Can any correspondent give me any particulars of this, and how the Plowden family founded their claim?

C. J. DOUGLAS.

Rochester Registers. — In a work by Mr. W. Osburn, an extract is given from Strype's *Annals* (vol. i. ch. lxii. ff. 521, 522.), where Strype states that the account "is taken out of the Register of the See of Rochester," which he gives respecting one Thomas Heath (a brother of Nicholas Heath, Archbishop of York), who was a concealed and dispersed Jesuit; and who was

detected at Rochester in the disguise of a Puritan preacher, with a Bull from Pope Pius IV. in his possession, about the year 1568.

Could any of your readers, who have access to the Rochester Registers, ascertain whether this record is still there? and if so, could they supply a copy of it?

As Dr. Edmund Gheast was Bishop of Rochester in 1568, I presume it would be in his register.

C. H. DAVIS, M.A. (Clergyman).

The "Lay Readers" of the Reformation. — From a memorandum made at Oxford, where I had an opportunity of consulting Strype's *Annals of the Reformation* (vol. i. part i. ch. xi. ff. 224—226.), I infer that there were, in or about the year 1559, certain "lay readers," licensed by the bishops to perform divine service, after making a subscription to a certain declaration. Archdeacon Hale, in his charge of 1853, at p. 19., also refers to Strype's *Annals* (vol. i. pp. 265, 515., of the Oxford edition of 1824), with reference to these readers as existing in 1559, and as recognised in the Convocation of 1562 to read divine service and homilies in places where there was no minister.

I should be glad of full information respecting the date and continuance, and precise duties, of these "lay readers," with the form of subscription made by them, and of license granted by the bishop. I would also ask whether the system of lay readers prevails to any great extent in the American Episcopal Church, where it is in use? and whether their ministrations are confined to rooms, or extend to churches also?

It must not be overlooked, that these lay readers are quite distinct from the "Scripture readers" of modern times, who merely read the Scriptures from house to house.

A COUNTRY CLERGYMAN.

Systems of Short-hand. — Where can I find an account of a trial of different systems of short-hand, which I am told was held some forty years ago? and, also, which is the most generally adopted and most practical system of short-hand at the present day. Each of the Encyclopædias (Rees', Metropolitana, Britannica, and Penny) commends a different system, and most of them refer to Lewis's *History of Short-hand*, but none of them mentions Lewis's own system; and I should be glad to know whether it is considered a good one.

FRANK FORTESCUE.

Stephano's Bottle. —

"This bottle, which I made of the bark of a tree with my own hands since I was cast ashore." — Shakspeare, *Tempest*, Act II. Sc. 2.

Can any of your readers inform me what was the particular kind of bottle to which the above passage alludes? The only kind of bottle practicable to Stephano, so far as I can fancy, would

be made by stripping off a small sheet of birch bark, pinching up its corners, and pegging them together, so as to make a deep dish. I should be much obliged for any information referring to the bark vessels formerly in use in England. F. G.

Variation of Currency. — The currency is —

	s.	d.	
In Canada - - -	5	0	to the Spanish dollar.
The New England States	6	0	ditto.
New York - - -	8	0	ditto.
Pennsylvania - -	7	6	ditto.
Virginia - - -	6	0	ditto.
South Carolina -	4	8	ditto.
England (nominally)	4	6	ditto.

And in the British West India Islands it is believed there are several different currencies to the dollar. In the New England States, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and South Carolina, there is no coin to represent the shilling. In Canada there was not, until lately, any such coin. In New York State the shilling is a "real," one-eighth of a dollar.

The above being now, or having been formerly, all English colonies, how did these different currencies originate? S. W. RIX.

Beccles.

Mrs. Fitzherbert. — Information is requested respecting any pamphlets that appeared on the subject of the marriage of the Prince of Wales with Mrs. Fitzherbert. G. H.

The Cobbe of Lyme. — When was the Cobbe of Lyme, in Dorsetshire, built, by whom, and why so named? A FISHERMAN.

Gunston Manuscript. — A manuscript which I have, of 12mo. size, in a good hand of the seventeenth century, bears the following title:

"A Short Meditation or Consideration of the Future Joyfull, Blessed, and Eternall Life: collected out of the Holy Scripture, for especiall Cheering and Comfort of Heart to all Sorrowfull, Godly Christians in these last dangerous and troublous Times. By Jeremia Apfelio, in the German Language. Now Englished by J. Gunston."

There follows an epistle dedicatory — "To my dearly beloved sister, Mrs. Mary Gunston," dated "Hambourg, 31. Xber, 1681." The Preface occupies eight pages, and the "Meditation" itself forty-seven. The author observes that, in this life men have need of food, raiment, dwellings, company, and exercise; and proceeds to show, "out of the Holy Scriptures," to which the marginal references are very numerous, that "all these shall the saints have in the life to come." At the end is written, by the hand of the translator or transcriber, "Hannah Gunston, 28 December, 1691;" and on the back of the last page:

"A book may find him who a sermon flies,
And turn delight into a sacrifice."

Has this MS. been printed?*. Was not "J. Gunston" the father of Thomas Gunston, who built Sir Thomas Abney's residence at Stoke Newington; and of Mary Gunston, who became Lady Abney? S. W. RIX.

Beccles.

History of Newspapers. — I have not seen "N. & Q." regularly for some time, but a friend informs me that a notice has appeared in a recent Number of the intention of the writer to compile a History of Newspapers. As I have been engaged in collecting materials for such a work for some years, — deferred it till I ascertained how Mr. Knight Hunt would handle the subject, — and have now resumed it, and have it nearly completed, I should be glad to know if your correspondent is still proceeding with his task. A. A.

The Derwentwater Family. — Can M. R. be informed who is the heir of the Derwentwater family, as James the third earl, and Charles his brother, died without male issue?

Sir Charles Sedley. — Is there any picture or engraved portrait of him? If there is, I should be obliged by a description such as might enable me to decide whether a small picture in my possession is a likeness of him. N. B.

Minor Queries with Answers.

"*Myrrour of the Worlde.*" — I have before me a very old dwarf quarto volume in black letter, of which the title-page has been lost, and in which I can discover no date. The "Prologus" commences thus:

"In the name of ower sauour criste Jesu, maker and redemour of al mākynd, S. Laurēs ādrewe, of y^e towne of Calia, haue translated for Johnes doesborowe, booke prenter in the cite of Andwarpe, this p̄sent volume, deuyded in thre partes, which was neuer before in no mat̄nall langage prentyd tyl now."

The first part is called the "Myrrour of the Worlde," and treats of the creation of the earth, astronomy, physics, the nature of heaven and hell, and the like. The second part treats "To the lawde and prayse of Almighty God, of y^e bestis and wormes on erthe, with their properties and vertues." The third part treats of "Serpētys on y^e erthe, fowles in y^e ayre, and fisshes and monsters in the water." The whole volume is profusely illustrated with a number of most

[* This translation does not appear to have been published. A copy of the original work is in the Bodleian, entitled *Apfeli Meditatio vite æternæ, Germanice*, 8vo., Bremæ, 1689.]