

Greek art," says Mrs. Henry Jenner, "she is not so much the Mother as the queen, the Empress, the great crowned lady, severe, remote, immovable, faultless and serene." By an easy transition the name of *Imperatrix* may have been applied to her, and the name of *Imperator* to her Son.

It is a mere guess of mine, but may not the term "Empress of Hell" refer to her intercessory power, so potent that she could, by using or withholding it, decide what souls were to be admitted into hell? The vitality of Pagan ideas has been amazing, and some may well have felt that a substitute must be found for Proserpine.

T. PERCY ARMSTRONG.

DÜRER AND THE POPE'S RHINOCEROS (clxxii. 10).—Dürer was fond of animals. There is a stag, hounds and horses in his picture of St. Hubert, and when he painted St. Jerome he did not forget the lion. One of his characteristics was his interest in anything that was strange; he has even left a drawing of a pig, born near Nuremberg, which moved along on six feet and had two more feet protruding from its back. He also drew a walrus. In 1514 good Christians were much taken up with a spectacular embassy, sent by Emmanuel the Great, King of Portugal, to the Pope, Leo X; it was the finest show that Rome, the city of fine shows, had ever seen. Conspicuous among the many presents, intended to call attention to the dominion of Portugal over far-off heathen lands, was an Indian elephant, larger than had ever been brought to Rome in the days of the amphitheatre, which, mounted by a swarthy Moor, caused a general stupefaction when it bowed its head and bent its knee three times to the Sovereign Pontiff, who was watching the procession from the Castle of St. Angelo. It had been hoped, perhaps, that a rhinoceros, symbol of Africa, would imitate the genuflections of the elephant, but unfortunately it was drowned off the rocks of Liguria. The elephant was the talk of everyone in Rome; Raphael was commissioned to paint it, and Dürer may very well have asked himself why he should not produce a sketch of the rhinoceros.

But, alas! he was at Nuremberg and could never see it. He got over this difficulty with the help of a friend in Lisbon, who sent him a rough sketch and description of the animal. The original print of the monstrous creature is preserved in the British Museum, where

it still attracts a number of visitors. Above it is printed "Rhinoceron 1515," and beneath its feet in minuscule German writing is an inscription by Dürer. The rhinoceros may also be seen in stone in the Tower of Belém, near Lisbon, where, appropriately enough, it supports the turret of a fortress, where the architect has aimed before all at obtaining strength and solidity. He sought his inspiration in India, but has ignored it to the extent of introducing the rhinoceros—an indication of the interest that was taken in it.

T. PERCY ARMSTRONG.

COVENT GARDEN COFFEE HOUSES (clxxii. 9).—Tallis's *London Street Views* (published 1838-1840) shows "Bow Coffee House" and "Moth Coffee House" on the south side of New Street at Nos. 6 and 14 respectively. It seems likely that "Bow" is a misprint for Row, because the 1839 P.O. London Directory gives William Row as occupier of the Chapter Coffee House, No. 6, New Street, Covent Garden, and Robson's London Directory for 1838 also gives Row at the Coffee Rooms at the same address.

George Moth, according to the 1839 Directory, was the landlord of the Swan Hotel, No. 14, New Street. J. H. Macmichael in his *'Charing Cross'* (1906) says, "now, I think, known as the White Swan Hotel." Moth's immediate predecessor was John Lord (in the 1838 Directory No. 14 is called "Lord's Coffee House") who is to be found here in 1823.

Under its old name of the Swan Tavern this house evidently enjoyed something of a reputation for keeping a good table, for in *'The Epicure's Almanack'* (1815) it is referred to as "a long established house well known for the excellence of its fish, flesh and fowl which are served up in the best style of cookery . . ."

AMBROSE HEAL.

DIOCESAN TRANSCRIPTS OF PARISH REGISTERS FOR CORNWALL (clxxii. 9).—Those of the parishes in the peculiar jurisdictions of the Bishop and the Dean and Chapter of Exeter are wholly at Exeter. Those of the rest of the parishes (in the Archdeaconry of Cornwall) are partly at Exeter and partly at the Probate Registry, Bodmin. Some twenty years ago Mr. Jasper Nicholls published a full list of these transcripts in the *Journal of the Royal Institution of Cornwall*.

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