faith," whispered the steward, observing my surprise; and I held out my hand to Athualmanco, inviting him to enter the house with me; but, with a slight negative motion, he turned away, bowed his head in sign of adieu, and disappeared among the trees.

"Yes, it was the young cacique: I know him very well," remarked the factor later on, as he bustled to and fro, giving orders to his dusky subordinates as to the preparation of my very indifferent supper of stewed beans, garlic soup, and starved chicken. "He and his grandfather live near here, in a hut, though they do say that the old man might be richer, if he chose, than the wealthiest hidalgo in the State. These half-heathen dogs, caballero," he added, by way of explanation, "very often know of buried treasures that have been hidden since the Conquest, and that would gladden the heart of many an honest Spaniard like myself. But here, Senor, are the frijoles, and the olla, and the chicken, if your Excellency would deign to sup."

When I was inducted, after supper, into a great ghostly bedroom, hung around with gilded leather, and furnished after the fashion of a bygone century, I fell asleep, and dreamed that I was groping through the semi-darkness of a cavern, guided by a lithe slender form bearing a spear, with the point of which he presently struck the rock, causing it to divide and open, letting in a flood of light, by which I could discern that the floor of the cave was thickly strewn with yellow gold dust, while all around lay gleaming heaps of the precious metal ready to hand, to which young Athualmanco, smiling, pointed with his spear, as if offering these piled-up hoards to me. So vivid was the impression of this vision that I did not shake it off till long after I was awake and astir, in broad daylight, to begin a new life in my new home.

END OF PART THE FIRST.

"TWO ARE COMPANY!"

THERE'S a little nook I know
In a garden quaint and old,
Where the young folk often go,
And tales of love are told;
And I softly steal away
When I see them lingering there,
For it's just as true to-day
As when I was young and fair—
True as aught beneath the sun:
"Two are company, three are none!"

And in that little nook
Sometimes I love to stay,
And down the years I look
To a time long passed away,
When a lover proud and true
Lingered ever by my side,
And neither of us knew
That the world held aught beside
Just ourselves beneath the sun,
When two were company, three were none!

G. WEATHERLY.

THE LORD CHANCELLOR'S WORK.

BY EDWIN GOADBY.

THE Lord High Chancellor of England still remains the most picturesque as he was formerly the most powerful functionary of the State. Time has robbed him of some of his former grandeur by creating new rivals and by changing our administrative system. The powers of the State are more specialised. There are more officials, they are in less personal contact with the Sovereign, their powers are more accurately defined, and there is individual as well as collective responsibility. But the majority of Ministries are essentially of modern creation, and there is none of the glamour of ancient history about them. We can understand their work without much reference to ancient custom, or the interpretation of an older system of government.

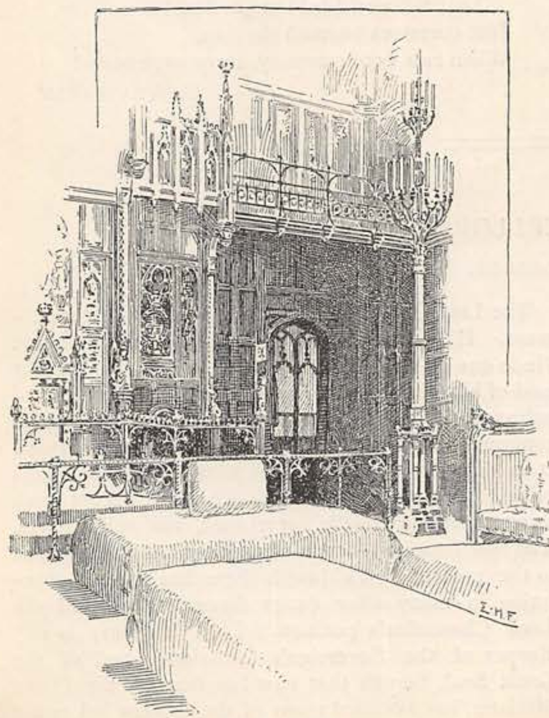
The Lord Chancellor, however, is an historic monument. His powers and duties are not of yesterday. He is one of our oldest officials. It may be literally said of him that he came in with the Conqueror; and unless we understand his ancient position we cannot comprehend the true nature of his modern functions. It is doubtful whether there were any Chancellors prior to Maurice, William I.'s Chaplain, except such as were ordinary clerks, secretaries, and roll-keepers. The two functions bestowed upon Maurice continue to the present day, although there has been a revolution in many other duties formerly a part of the Lord Chancellor's position. Lord Halsbury is still Keeper of the Sovereign's Conscience and of the Great Seal, though that new functionary, the Prime Minister, has assumed many of the powers belonging to his early and even modern predecessors. Maurice

received the title of Chancellor, and was placed at the head of a College of Royal Notaries, which consisted of the King's Chaplains. He thus became Arch-Chaplain and the Keeper of the King's Conscience, and also Grand Notary and the Keeper of the Great Seal.

Confessor, adviser, and chief administrator, the Lord High Chancellor truly was, as Shakespeare makes Henry VIII. say to Wolsey, "the prime man of the State." He was the older Premier, in direct touch with the Sovereign, acting through the Privy Council, and a veritable despot. No man had more power or patronage, more attendants, or more personal glory. He ruled the country; he was England's Viceroy. For a long period he was generally an ecclesiastic, because laymen were not sufficiently skilled in public affairs. Of late he has always been a lawyer, partly because he gradually became head of a special court, and partly because he answers to what in other countries is the Minister of Justice.

The work of the Lord Chancellor is of the most diversified kind. It is much lighter than it used to be; but if Lord Halsbury has less to do than Lord Eldon or Lord Westbury, he still finds the duties of his office to be of an arduous and a very absorbing nature. The official labours of State all tend to increase; and if changes are made in one direction, there is augmentation in another.

The Judicature Acts of 1873 and 1875 have been of considerable benefit to the country, if they destroyed the old Court of Chancery, and restricted the judicial duties of the Lord High Chancellor. "This morning I lit my fire before the clock struck five," wrote Lord Westbury to one of his daughters. He had so much



THE WOOLSACK.

THE RIGHT HON. LORD HERSCHELL, EX-LORD CHANCELLOR.
(From a Photograph by Messrs. Maull and Fox.)

to do and to read that he found it better to work in the morning light than by candle-light. Lord Halsbury is relieved of this intense labour. He need not toil so terribly, but his sense of anxiety and responsibility may be still as great. His judicial functions include a general supervision of all the divisions of the new High Court of Justice. He is President of the Chancery Division and of the Court of Appeal, and also of the Supreme Appeal Court of the House of Lords. All writs of summons for actions in the High Court are issued in his name. The changes here indicated were not made without some resistance. It was said that they destroyed the dignity, prestige, and power of the great Court of Chancery, and that they endangered the existence of equity jurisprudence. The work of the Chancery Courts, however, had outgrown the powers of seven judges, and the evil was still increasing.

The Lord Chancellor's Parliamentary work is that which now most meets the eye. When the Great Council of the realm sat as one body, he probably presided as the delegate of the Sovereign, and this function he would have continued to him with the division of Parliament into Lords and Commons. He is the Prolocutor of the House of Lords by prescription, but he has no official residence. Lord Westbury complained of this defect. "It is a great shame that the Lord Chancellor has no official residence," he wrote to Sir Robert Phillimore, on arranging for an official levée in the Middle Temple Hall. "It detracts much from the dignity, and much more from the emoluments of the office." The Lord Chancellor's official position manifests itself in many ways. He issues the writs for summoning and

proroguing Parliament. On the first day of a new Parliament he and four other Peers usually constitute the Royal Commission, and sit on the woolsack in cocked hats. The Clerk then reads the roll granting power to the Commission, each commissioner taking off his hat as his name is read. The Lord Chancellor then rises, and informs Parliament that as soon as members have been sworn the cause of the calling together of the two Houses will be declared. The Commons are then ordered to repair to their places and choose "some proper person" as Speaker, and submit him on the morrow for "Her Majesty's royal approbation." After election, the Commons are again summoned to the House of Lords, and the Speaker, preceded by the mace, appears at the Bar, addresses the Lords Commissioners, notifies his election, and submits himself, "with all humility, for Her Majesty's most gracious approbation." The Lord Chancellor thereupon "confirms" him as Speaker; and the Speaker claims for the Commons all their "ancient rights and privileges," which his Lordship concedes. The Lord Chancellor's part in this ceremony discloses his old power as the officer of State more connected with the Crown than any other. It is now almost the only pictorial display. His official coach, in which he used formerly to ride to Westminster, was used once during the present reign, after a long interval, but has now ceased to exist. The cavalcade of lawyers on horseback which used to attend him to Westminster Hall is also a thing of the past.

THE RIGHT HON. LORD HALSBURY, LORD HIGH CHANCELLOR.
(From a Photograph by Messrs. Elliott & Fry.)

The functions of his Lordship in the Upper House are peculiar. He presides by prescriptive right. He can sit on "the woolsack" as soon as he has received the Great Seal from the Sovereign, whether he has been ennobled or not. Technically, the woolsack is out of the House. Some singular customs follow. Any noble Lord sitting on the woolsack cannot vote in a division. The Lord Chancellor himself is not addressed by the Peers, and when he wishes to speak to the House, standing order No. 19 sets forth that "he is to go to his own place as a Peer": that is, he goes to the left of the Chamber, above all Dukes not being of the Blood Royal. "He is always to speak uncovered." Up to the middle of last century he is always represented with his hat on; and the present three-cornered hats date from Queen Anne's time. The hat is now discontinued even by judges, except in sentencing to death.

As Keeper of the Great Seal, or Seals—for there are two, obverse and reverse—the Lord Chancellor is an important official. The seal itself is a silver mould, designed by the late Benjamin Wyon, R.A. The Lord Chancellor is the only person who can affix it to Royal Charters and Letters Patent, and at the express command of the Sovereign, with his assent. There is no disputing the authenticity or validity of any document duly sealed. A distinct record is kept of the movements of this important instrument. It has had a wonderful history. "It has seen much service in foreign lands," says Jeaffreson. "When the Crusaders stirred all Europe, it started in pomp and glittering magnificence upon the road for the Holy Land; it has smiled at the feast of kings, and starved with hunger in the garrets of Continental cities; in vain have earth, fire, air, and water banded together for its destruction; it has sunk to the bottom of the sea, and has risen again to the top of the waves; men compassed its death by hurling it into the Thames, but it asked help of a fisherman—through whose timely aid it

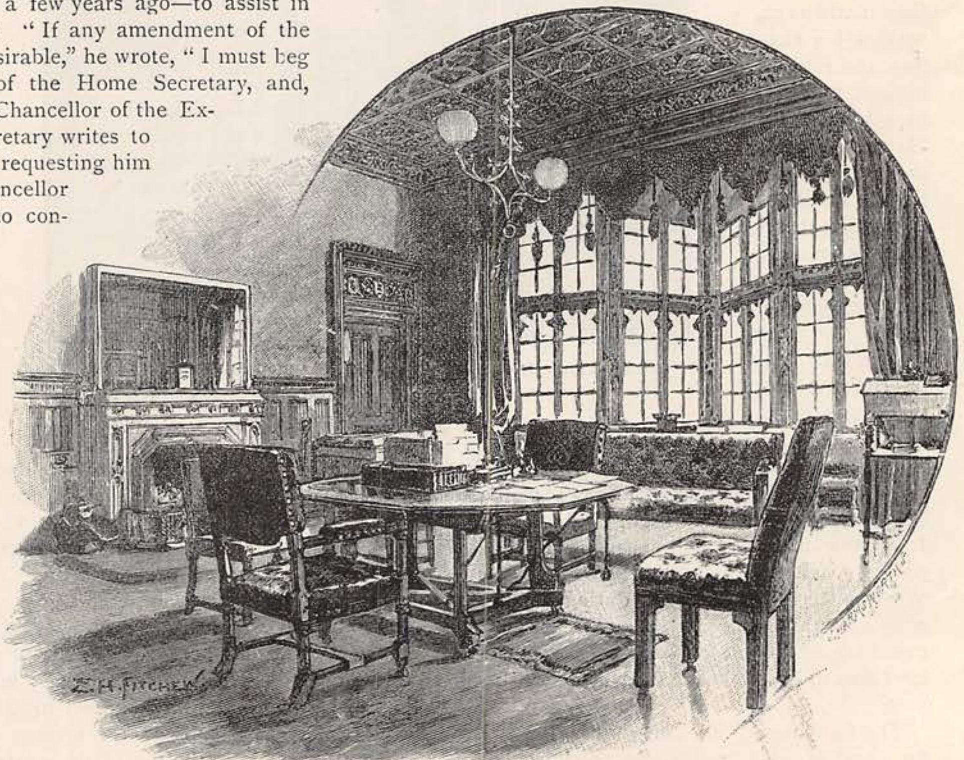
was restored to the King's House; thieves have stolen it, melted it down, and sold it for old metal; it has been buried beneath the ground, but friendly hands exhumed it and reinstated it in honour; over and over again ruffians, armed with murderous instruments, have broken it into minute pieces; but still the Great Seal is with us, entire, sound, beauteous, flawless as ever."

The Seal, called by Coke "the key of the realm," used to be carried on the left side of the Lord Chancellor on official occasions, either when in the Sovereign's presence, at audience, or when acting as the Sovereign's delegate or commissioner. He is now only burdened with the bag in which he received the Seal in the first instance. This he holds in his hand, a purse of crimson velvet about twelve inches square—emblazoned with the Royal arms, and with bullion fringes. Sometimes his purse-bearer carries it; in the Lords or elsewhere, it lies before him as the symbol of his duty and authority. It used to be renewed yearly, and every Chancellor who held office for a year claimed the purse. Lady Hardwicke hung her State bed-room at Wimpole with twenty such purses. When a Seal is worn out and "damasked"—or touched for destruction by the Sovereign—it becomes the property of the Lord Chancellor for the time being.

It is part of the Lord Chancellor's work to personally draft legal bills for Parliament; and Lord Chancellor Westbury has given us an amusing insight into the method. There are no persons or funds available—or were not a few years ago—to assist in making researches. "If any amendment of the law seem to me desirable," he wrote, "I must beg for the approval of the Home Secretary, and, through him, the Chancellor of the Exchequer. My secretary writes to Sir George Grey, requesting him to move the Chancellor of the Exchequer to consent that the Lord Chancellor may have a small sum of money to pay the gentlemen he may employ to effect the necessary reform. After weeks of delay, an official letter comes from Mr. Peel, or some subordinate, doling out some niggardly sum as if it were a favour, and often with the most absurd stipulations." Of late, we believe, a little less parsimony has been exhibited.

The Lord Chancellor is *ex officio* a member of the Privy Council and the Cabinet. The former right enables him to interpret the wishes of the Sovereign; the latter gives him, under our Cabinet Government, a large amount of political power, second only, perhaps, to that of his virtual supersessor, the Prime Minister. Lord Palmerston's letter to Lord Westbury over the Edmunds case, saying, "We cannot spare you," may be taken as an indication of the value an active Lord Chancellor must always have in a Cabinet.

As the head of the legal system of the country—the point to which ambitious lawyers may all aspire—the Lord Chancellor is always full of work. All commissions under the Great Seal are issued by him; and to him the Lunacy and Charity Commissioners make their annual reports. He is the guardian of infants, idiots, and lunatics. The Common Law judges and the County Court judges are nominated by him—subject, of course, to Her Majesty's approval. He selects the justices of the peace for boroughs and counties, in the first instance, upon recommendations made to him by political parties, in which nice adjustments are constantly required, and position and occupation have to be considered. Any magistrate, County Court judge, or coroner can be dismissed by him for improper behaviour. In the exercise of these duties an incredible amount of correspondence and interviewing takes place.



THE LORD CHANCELLOR'S ROOM IN THE HOUSE OF LORDS.

The clerical patronage in the Lord Chancellor's hands has been diminished by Lord Westbury's legislation, though it is still considerable. It arose in the old days when he had a College of Chaplains about him, or Clerks in Chancery. This will account for the smallness of many of the livings. In 1863 there were 720 small livings in his gift, which have since been reduced by upwards of 300, and of the former number 150 were under £150 per annum. No doubt Lord Halsbury could tell some good stories about the excuses made by applicants. Eldon sent a short note to an applicant : "I cannot to-day give you the appointment for which you ask." The recipient was asked to "turn over," and there he read the words "I gave it you yesterday." Westbury once received a letter in which a lady laid her husband's death at his door. He had applied for a living, but could not wait for the answer, went down to view the place, slept in a damp bed, caught cold, and died!

Another Chancellor had a living claimed in a romantic manner. When simply an aspirant for political preferment, he blessed a baby-girl, and whispered over her cradle that if she ever married a clergyman, and he himself became Lord Chancellor, he would give her husband a living. The bride-elect claimed it of him in person as necessary to marriage, and received its promise with blushes. But "giving agreeable girls away" like this is seldom the good fortune of the Lord Chancellor, unless they happen to be his wards.

The power of a Lord Chancellor is great, and so is the extent of his work. Incessant appeals and complaints reach him from all quarters by nearly every post. He need be a Briareus to satisfy everybody. If he reward competent relatives, he is sure to be accused of nepotism ; if he essay to be too scrupulously impartial, he will do them an injustice by passing them over. Partisans and opponents lead him a nice life. The burden upon his time and his attention is immense and unceasing. It is only in the far-off Elizabethan days that it could be said—

"My grave Lord Keeper led the brawls,
The Seals and Maces danced before him."

SOME SUMMER SAVOURIES.

IN presenting the readers of this Magazine with the following recipes and suggestions, I have made special provision for dwellers in house-boat or tent, as well as for picnic parties and holiday-makers generally, the hot dishes being easily and expeditiously cooked (as in some cases the tiniest oil or spirit stove will suffice), while those which are intended to be served cold will, I hope, commend themselves to one and all at the present season ; to the latter kind I will give first attention.

A nicely made *meat pie* is, I think, a generally liked dish (but people who begrudge a little time and trouble in its preparation will be wise to turn their attention to some other branch of cookery), and I confidently recommend the undermentioned, the crust for all of which is known as "French raised crust," and is less difficult for beginners than our English raised pastry. It is also very delicious, keeps well, and retains its crispness. The flour used must be good "pastry whites," warmed and passed through a sieve ; to one pound, six ounces of fresh butter should be added, and rubbed in until very fine, with half a teaspoonful of salt, and a fourth as much pepper. The unbeaten yolks of three eggs, the juice of a quarter of a lemon, and enough cold water to form a smooth, stiff mass must next be added, the whole being lightly mixed with the tips of the fingers ; it requires very little kneading, and should be rolled out once only. Have in readiness a tin pie-mould, round or oval, about three inches high, and well buttered, line it evenly with the crust—reserving a portion for the lid —then pack in the meat, about a pound and a half for the foregoing proportions, and press the lid on, first brushing the inner edge with a little beaten egg; ornament the top with leaves cut from the trimmings, taking care to make one or two holes for the escape of the steam. The oven must be steady, and of a moderate heat, a little quicker at first to "set" the crust. When done, let the pie stand for half an hour before filling up with the gravy, as it allows the meat to sink, and the better to absorb the liquid. Now for a few suggestions as to the meats for our pies :—

1. Veal, with a fourth its weight of ham, and a couple of hard-boiled eggs, and a half-teaspoonful of mixed sweet herbs to each pound of meat, a morsel of grated lemon-peel, and a pinch of grated nutmeg being a further improvement.

2. Chicken, with ham, &c., as above, or cooked tongue, may be used in either recipe ; the ham should be raw, but will be improved by soaking awhile in tepid water if it is hard or too salt. I would, however, suggest good bacon in preference to inferior ham.

3. Pigeons, with a third their weight in veal or beefsteak, with boiled eggs as before-mentioned ; the livers of the birds to be pounded, and mixed with the ordinary ingredients used for veal stuffing, the forcemeat being formed into small balls, and interspersed