

him too dearly to wish him any evil. Forgive me, sir, if I have offended you."
 "No, child, I told you I would not be offended, but I am hurt that all of you should depreciate my new daughter's appearance. You shall read her letter to me, little one, and when you can write such elegant French, I shall consider you a credit to Madame Duchatel's instructions."
 Clara gladly accepted the permission, and after attentively perusing it, she confessed that her judgment of Mrs. Linden must be erroneous; a refined and cultivated woman only could have penned this charming epistle.

CHAPTER IV.
 THE PROPOSAL.

The week following the announcement of Ernest Linden's marriage was passed by Ellinor in her usual round of employments. She did not seclude herself from company, nor did she neglect the claims of the destitute and afflicted. In ministering to the wants of the wretched, she found such consolation as genuine benevolence can always afford its possessor. Many a weary heart was cheered by that gentle voice and liberal hand, even while her own lay heavy and desolate in her bosom; and she upbraided herself that she, whose lot was comparatively so blessed, could not find happiness in the many good gifts showered upon her. It should not always be thus; time must restore to her the control of her own feelings, and freedom once regained, she would for ever restrain it: love again she would not—wed she never would.

In her deep desolation of heart, Ellinor every day became more tenderly attached to her young protégée. She did not consider it possible that any chance could sever Clara from her until she was of an age to be sought in marriage. She was, therefore, quite unprepared for the events which quickly followed the news of Ernest Linden's marriage.

Gen. Easton heard it with ill-suppressed exultation, for he had long felt assured in his own mind, that the tie between Linden and Miss Graham was not utterly severed, though the world so believed. Save the bride of his youth, he admired Ellinor more than any woman he had ever known. He was still a handsome man, not much beyond middle age; then why should he not succeed in winning this charming woman to be the companion of his future life? He believed that through Ellinor's attachment to his daughter he could almost command success, for in the event of a refusal, it was in his power to separate Clara from her, and he had not the generosity to forbear doing so should she wound his vanity by a refusal.

Thus doubly prepared for conquest, Gen. Easton came one morning to Linden Place, and requested a private interview with Miss Graham. As it was often his habit to consult with her concerning his daughter, Ellinor received him with her usual cordial greeting, and great was her dismay, when, after a brief preamble, he said—

"I have lately been newly fitting up my residence, Nelly, and I shall be glad if you will call in with Clara and see if the upholsterer has done his duty. I desire also to consult your taste, as I not only consider it perfect, but I dare to hope that you will some day preside over my home as its mistress."

"I am quite satisfied to remain with Cornelia," she replied; "neither do I think I can assume the charge of your establishment; it would be rather an unusual proceeding."

"You willfully misunderstand me, Ellinor. I said I desire you to become the mistress of my house. Only as my wife could you hold that position; consent to be indeed the mother of my darling Clara, and I shall be the happiest and proudest of men."

This was too plain to be misunderstood, and she quietly replied—
 "My childhood was spent beneath your roof, General Easton, and I have always regarded you as my best friend. Let our relations remain unchanged, for it will not promote the happiness of either party to assume duties which to you would be a burden—to me something more. I shall never marry."

"Never marry! Ellinor, recall those words, I pray you. You, with your large heart, your tender sensibility, must find a congenial soul to walk hand in hand with you through life, or waste the finer part of your nature. It is sacrilege to speak of never giving your hand to one who can appreciate the gift at its just value."

"It would be deeper sacrilege to marry where my heart was indifferent. Pray let us leave this subject, and forget that you ever spoke about it to me."

"Nay, Ellinor, for the sake of Clara you must hear me. I cannot live without her companionship

any longer, and only as my wife can you retain your present relations towards her."

Miss Graham grew very pale; she hurriedly said—
 "You do not mean it! You cannot be so cruel as to separate Clara from me? Ah, if you knew what she is to me—how fondly I cherish her, how tenderly she loves me—you could not speak thus."

He looked at her, and saw that he had stronger power over her than he supposed. Resolute to use it to its utmost limit, he said—

"My daughter must come to my home; choose if you will accompany her as my bride. I have loved you long in silence, Nelly; I have not before spoken of my attachment, because I saw that some inexplicable tie bound you to Linden. Whatever it may have been, his own act has now effectually severed it, and you are now free to listen to me. Be sensible, and accept the position I offer you. It will be impossible for you to remain here after Ernest brings his wife home. You feel that, I see, for you change colour. Had you not thought of it before?"

"Yes, I had thought of it; but I need be in no haste to change my abode on that account, as Ernest does not hint any intention of returning to his native land."

"But he must return, Nelly, for his father is failing rapidly, and his only son cannot be so unkind as to remain in Europe till his death takes place."

"I do not know what Ernest's plans are, but they will not materially affect my actions. I have my own little estate of Ivy Cottage, where a portion of our summers are annually spent, and the house is always ready for my reception. Should I find it unpleasant to remain under the same roof with Mrs. Ernest Linden, I can go thither."

"And bury yourself in the dull neighbourhood around a little country town! You were not born for such a fate, Nelly; accept my offered hand, and become the queen of the most brilliant *clique* in Gotham. With your intellect, cultivation, and beauty, you can support the rôle of a *bel esprit* of the highest type."

She shook her head, for his words fell drearily upon her ear. To her wounded heart there was no temptation in the brilliant picture he placed before her, for

"Bleak and bitter, and utterly doleful,
 Spreads to her vision the map of her life,
 Hour after hour she looks in her soul, full
 Of deep dismay and turbulent strife."

She faintly said—

"I dare not. I should make you wretched, and become so myself."

"Nelly, don't let a phantom from the past stand between us. For the sake of my sweet Clara, you will give me a favourable answer, for my child must take up her abode with me."

"You are Clara's father, General Easton, and of course you can reclaim her if you choose to do so, but I—I have been a mother to her, and she has now been with me many years. I cannot bring myself to believe that you can find it in your heart to separate us."

"I do not sever you from the child of your affections, Nelly. It is you who must decide to give her up, or to come with her to my home."

"And is there no alternative?" she asked, with pale lips.

"None."

Ellinor shivered, but she did not falter in her resolution; she said—

"Act as you think best for Clara's future welfare. Since I decline to accompany her, under whose charge is it your intention to place her?"

"My brother George has returned from Europe. Mrs. Easton is one of the most elegant women I know; under her auspices the education of Clara can be completed, and her *début* in society be made."

This was an impromptu thought on the part of the speaker, which he considered a master-stroke of policy, for he knew that Mrs. George Easton was a woman for whom Ellinor had no esteem, and it would be a bitter pang to her to know that the child of her affections was placed under the influence of a heartless devotee to fashion.

"You surely will not undo all I have endeavoured to accomplish for your daughter's mind and heart, by giving her over to such a woman as you know your brother's wife to be?" asked Ellinor, with emotion. "In the name of her angel mother, I entreat you to have compassion on her child, on me, for this transfer would be a severe blow to me."

"Avert it, then, Nelly, for you have the power. I must have Clara with me, and if you decline to accompany her, I must do the best I can without you. In the event of my death, George will be her natural guardian, and then she would, of course,

reside with him. I only anticipate what may happen before Clara attains a marriageable age."

"Do not speak thus, General Easton, for it is your duty to provide against such a contingency. After yourself, I have the strongest claim on Clara, and to me she should be left, even if her uncle controlled the management of her estate. I feel this very acutely, for I consider that I am fulfilling a sacred duty intrusted to me by the dead. I feel as if I am responsible to our lost Alice for the moral and religious training of her child. I ask you if Mrs. George Easton will be likely to impress upon her young mind any lessons better than those taught by vanity and folly? Excuse me—I feel strongly, and I must speak the truth."

"You are easily excused, Nelly, but if you are resolute in your refusal of my hand, what can I do? I am tired of the wandering life I have led so long, and I wish to have a home of my own, with a bright little mistress and a charming household fairy, such as you and Clara can make for me. Put aside all sentimental nonsense, and say 'yes,' Nelly darling. You shall do exactly as you please—you shall—"

"It is useless to plead. General Easton, I do not believe that you can take my darling Clara from me, any more than I can consent to marry you without that strong affection which can alone hallow the marriage tie."

General Easton was a man of strong will and irritable temper, and the impassive manner of Ellinor's refusal aroused his anger. He arose, and haughtily said—

"Am I, then, to understand that no inducement can be offered which will change your decision?"

She deprecatingly said—
 "I can wrong neither you nor myself by giving false hopes. Forget this interview, and let us return to our old relations toward each other."

"Enough—enough. I understand the position we must henceforth hold toward each other. I profess no hollow friendships such as you propose. Inform Clara, if you please, that on this day a week hence I shall remove her to my own residence to remain there. By that time Mrs. Easton will be comfortably established in her new home. Good morning, Miss Graham."

With a chilling bow he left the room.

(To be continued.)

EDWIN CHADWICK, ESQ., C.B.

It is a characteristic and gratifying sign of the times to find noblemen and gentlemen of eminence and distinction standing forward as the pioneers of the work of popular advancement. We have the premier, and the leading men of all shades of political opinion, delivering lectures and addresses to crowded audiences, on the most important subjects which affect the people; and to this object, especially, we have the well-directed efforts of the Social Science Congress. Nothing, for example, can be of more importance to a crowded population, than an acquaintance with the laws of health; and no man is more competent to treat on such a subject than Mr. Edwin Chadwick. We all owe much to the exertions of this gentleman; and his recent address at the congress increases the debt.

This gentleman is the scion of a younger branch of an ancient Lancashire family, and was born at Longsight, in 1801. He was educated for the bar, but his special efforts have been in legislative and administrative reforms. We shall confine our notice to those of his efforts which have been specially devoted to the relief or the advancement of the masses of the population. He wrote an article on what he designated "The Taxes on Knowledge," in the "Westminster Review" for August, 1831. This article, which was reprinted and circulated in a cheap form, first displayed the impolicy of all fiscal imposts on the press; and the designation which he then gave to them has been continued.

In a previous article "On the Means of Insurance against the Casualties of Sickness, Premature Disability, and Mortality," Mr. Chadwick displayed the unsoundness of the data on which the insurances by friendly societies were then based, and he propounded one of the main principles on which sanitary science and the measures for the improvement of the sanitary condition of the population are founded—namely, the dependence of excessive sickness on surrounding bad local conditions, which are appreciable and removable. In another article, "The Administration of the Medical Charities of France," which appeared in the second number of the "London Quarterly Review" for 1828, he set forth some advanced principles for the administration of public relief to the suffering. The original views displayed in these and other papers on penal

jurisprudence, led to the cultivation of his acquaintance by the father of law and political reform, Jeremy Bentham, who applied to him to trace out the legislative and administrative functions of the public health minister, in the direction of a public health department for Mr. Bentham's model constitutional code, for the study of all nations. The philosopher, who had offered him an endowment to prosecute the study of jurisprudence and public administration, bequeathed to him his library of works on jurisprudence. But Mr. Chadwick was taken from these studies and engaged in the public service by Lord Grey's Government, for the purpose of aiding in the preparation of legislative measures, especially measures for the reform of the administration of the old poor laws. His treatment of that subject was eloquently eulogised by Lord Brougham in parliament, and by Lord John Russell. Mr. Chadwick especially directed his exertions against the abuses of administration by which farmers, in the capacity of overseers, and other employers of labour acting as public officers, paid rates in aid of the wages of labourers of the class employed by themselves, and reduced those wages, whilst they made the labourers paupers. He contended for the abolition of the law of parochial settlement, by which the free circulation of labour to its best market is impeded, and labouring men—by maladministration of the law, by the influence of large owners or employers acting on overseers or local officers—are kept "penned up," as it were, within particular parishes.

Whilst proceeding with measures repressive of the abuses of the old law, he prepared and urged measures for the entire prevention of pauperism. One set of these measures advocated more efficient means for the training and education of the children of the poor. But he showed that the effects of all religious and moral training were frustrated, by the conditions in which labouring men's families, and persons of both sexes, were heaped together in wretched sleeping rooms. He demonstrated that the disease engendered by these conditions, and the bad public works of house and town drainage and water supply, was a great source of pauperism and public chargeability; that by improved works, which he wrought out, cesspools ought entirely to be abolished; that three houses, or three towns, might be drained well, at an expense heretofore incurred for draining one ill; that the supplies of water might be improved, and ought to be carried into every poor man's dwelling at half the ordinary expense; and that, by these means, half the sickness and mortality afflicting the labouring classes was preventible; that the period of life and health, and working ability of adult labourers, might be extended full ten years, and that, too, under a proper administration of the local means, at lower rates than the common nuisance charges for the pecuniary mitigation of evils which are wholly preventible. His report on "the Sanitary Condition of the Labouring Population of Great Britain" was published in 1842. In the dedication to him of a treatise on the "Decrease of Disease by the Progress of Civilisation," by Dr. Marx, of Göttingen, and Dr. R. Willis, the librarian of the College of Surgeons, they ask to associate him, though not of their profession, "with its very highest offices—the diminution of the causes of disease, and, through this, the elevation of mankind in the intellectual and moral scale;" and they add, "Your general report on the sanitary state of towns is,

beyond all question, one of the most valuable contributions that has lately been made to the noblest department of medical science—the art of preserving the health of the community—and will have an influence upon the human family as long as it exists."



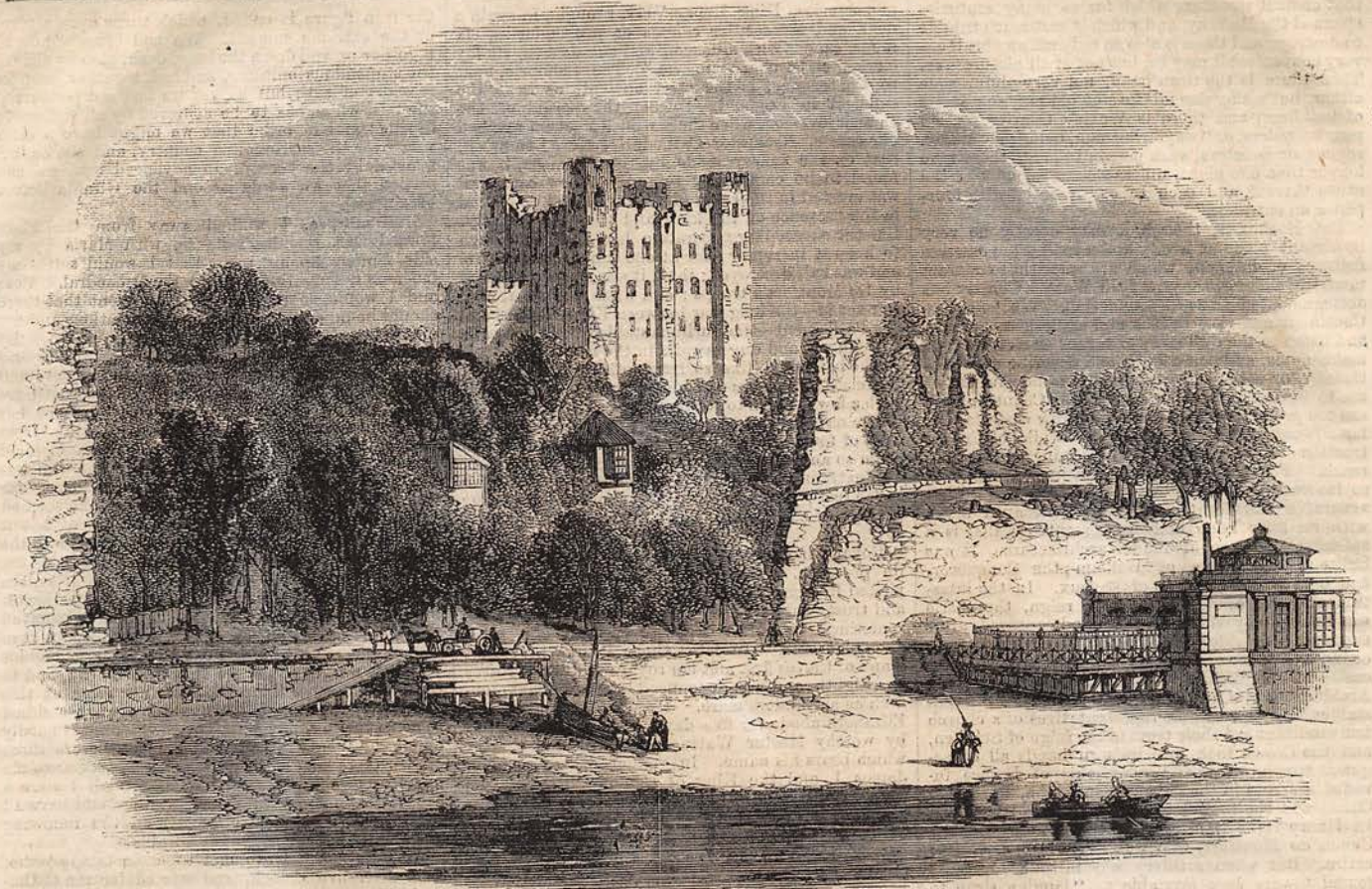
EDWIN CHADWICK, ESQ., C.B.

Sanitary science, however, as he showed, is not simply medical, but requires new engineering and new administrative means, which he was required to devise for its application. In other dedications that report is similarly spoken of, and Lord Stanley, in his speech, as president of the health section, at the meeting of the British Association, referred to it as the great text-book on the subject. At a recent meeting of the association, held at Bradford, the Right Honourable William Cowper gave instances where, by the system of self-cleansing, house and town drains, and works of water-supply, the death-rate of the general population has been already reduced one-third, or to the full extent predicted as practicable. In particular blocks of model-dwellings typhus and epidemic fevers have been almost entirely eradicated, and the former fluctuations of the death-rates prevalent amongst the working classes, of from thirty to fifty per 1,000, have been reduced to from thirteen to twenty per 1,000. Mr. Chadwick, in 1843, followed up the general sanitary report by one on the practice of intramural interments, and on the means of preventing its evils, and of reducing the charges as well as the sufferings of survivors of the poorest class, particularly the prolonged retention of the dead in their one only living and sleeping room. He proposed measures for the protection of the mortal

remains of the dead from desecration, and for maintaining the solemnities of the funeral rites to the poorest, and for providing for them cemeteries of an elevating character. The violent opposition of vested interests, however, frustrated a large proportion of the measures which he proposed. In 1833 he was one of a board of commissioners to whom the ten hours' "Factories' Bill," and the examination of the labour of young persons in factories, was referred. They unanimously agreed that young children, as not being free agents, were entitled to Governmental protection, and that the protection proposed for them by the previous bill, of a limitation of their daily labour to ten hours, was too little. The board proposed, as a compromise, a restriction of the labour of children to eight hours, and that public inspectors should be appointed to see that the protection intended was given. But Mr. Chadwick, who was charged by Government with the preparation of a new "Factories' Regulation Bill," which should embody the results of the new investigation, procured a practical limitation of the working-time of children below thirteen years of age to six hours daily, necessitating the employment of double sets of children, to enable those double sets to accompany the labour of adults. The measures which it fell to Mr. Chadwick to prepare, and which were commended to the attention of Parliament in five Royal Speeches, unavoidably trenching upon powerful interests in the House of Commons: those for sanitary measures upon the interests of shareholders in water companies and cemetery companies, and lawyers and engineers, who desire emoluments from the passing of local acts; those for the protection of factory workers excited the opposition of great manufacturers who are members; those for the abolition of the law of parochial settlement, and freeing the circulation of agricultural labour, the hostility of powerful members who are owners of whole parishes, which the present law enables to keep clear of cottages and of chargeability by deriving their labour from adjacent towns or parishes.

By a combination of interests of these classes, the Government bill for the continuance of the first General Board of Health, of which Mr. Chadwick was the chief paid executive officer, was defeated by a small majority in a thin house, and his official services were interrupted.

In nearly two hundred local Boards of Health, and various new local representative bodies, several thousand paid officers are now engaged in the execution of new administrative measures, in the preparation of which he has had a leading part. His official papers occupy many volumes. The general result of his measures, so far as they have been carried into effect, has been a reduction of expenditure, concurrently with an increase of efficiency in the service. His chief reports have been eulogised by statesmen as of the highest order of English State-papers, and they have had much influence abroad. On questions for the improvement of the labouring classes, he has been consulted by foreign statesmen and by foreign Governments. One of his recent papers, on the application "of sanitary science to the protection of the Indian army," prepared, as it was understood, at the request of Miss Nightingale, led to the appointment of a Royal Commission on the subject. On the outset of the expedition to the Crimea, he endeavoured to warn the military authorities of the defective character of the preparations for the sanitary protection of the army. At the last general election he was invited to stand for Evesham



ROCHESTER CASTLE, KENT.

on "purity principles" and administrative reform, but was defeated by a wealthy landowner.

The last public speeches made by the late Joseph Hume and Sir James Stephens contained eulogistic notices of Mr. Chadwick as an administrator; and amongst his foremost supporters on sanitary questions have been the late Bishop of London (Blomfield) and Lord Carlisle, Lord Shaftesbury and Lord Ebrington.

At the recent meeting of the Social Science Congress, Mr. Chadwick read, as we have already noticed, a paper on public health. We cannot, in our limited space, attempt even an outline of this admirable essay, but we may be allowed to draw attention to one or two of its leading points.

A thorough investigation will prove the truth of the premises that Great Britain is at this time under-peopled—that is, the supply does not keep pace with the demands for a suitable quality of labour and service. The death-rate may be stated in round numbers at half a million annually. On an analysis of the causes of death, with a knowledge of the present state of sanitary science, we see that one-half may be prevented by well-ascertained means.

The course most urgently required by the present demands for labour and service, of improved quality, as well as increased amount, is first to arrest the great infantile slaughter from preventable causes in towns; and next to improve the physical, and thence the moral, training of all the children, especially the children of the labouring classes.

The chief means for the removal of the insanitary condition of towns have been tried and found effectual; to one part of the subject, however—namely, the physical education of children—Mr. Chadwick calls particular attention: "It is common to hear the manly education of English youth, and the healthy exercise they have received in boat-racing and cricket, made matter of boast; but what class of youth and what proportion of the population do they form who receive these advantages? In the densely covered-in town districts what space is there for citizens' children to partake of any such exercises? or what time is there, after the present school hours, to get to any place out of the town to engage in them? These, or other games, ought to

be maintained and provided for; but they do not, however, dispense with systematised bodily training. Cricket often leaves contracted chests, which a well applied drill or systematised gymnastics expand—round shoulders, which the drill makes straight; shambling gait, which the drill makes regular, and firm, and quick. The youth of Eton and Oxford, I have been assured by the collegiate authorities, are greatly improved in health and strength and in every way, by the common military drill in addition to their common exercises. For the middle and higher classes who could afford it, the cavalry drill, or horse exercise, would be a valuable sanitary, as well as a civil and military improvement. As denoting the connection between body and mind, it may be mentioned that, as a general rule, to which there are fewer exceptions than might be supposed, those who are foremost in the drill and in bodily exercises are found, in low schools as well as high, to be amongst the foremost in mental exercises. Our higher education, which governs the education of the middle and the lower classes, is assumed to be classical; but in the hands of the ecclesiastics of the middle ages, from whom we derived it, it ceased to be so. It is not now so, and our movement ought to be to make it strictly so; for the classics, as may be seen from the dicta of Plato, Aristotle, Galen, put the bodily training before the mental, and by the Greeks and Romans, during the time of their strength, it was most successfully cultivated."

In describing the chief insanitary conditions which occasion infantile slaughter, Mr. Chadwick remarks: "1st. The insanitary conditions of their homes, which have the principal share in the deaths of 173,000 children, under five years of age, in England and Wales, of which 56,000 are reported as having been specifically caused by zymotic or fermenting diseases, which may be called filth or foul air diseases, which sanitary measures are proved to be effectual in preventing. 2nd. The insanitary conditions of the imperfect bodily training of children, and their general ill-treatment in the school stage, which aggravate the conditions of their homes, and occasion the deaths of 29,000 children more between the school age of five and fifteen years of age, of which 16,900 are specified as foul air or filth diseases.

3rd. Conditions arising from over-work, or work for the same length of time as adults immediately after leaving school, or the insanitary conditions affecting the adult workers, but which will make up more than the sum of 200,000 premature deaths annually from preventable causes. Large as the amounts of death are, the means of preventing them, it may be confidently averred, are adequate to them. The great object of sanitary reform, and the great need in the present position of the country, when seriously considered, is now therefore to make that generally prevalent which science has indicated, and which practice, obtained under varied conditions, has demonstrated to be sound. If the maintenance of the physical power of the population, and their aptitude for productive labour, whether mental or manual—if a saving of life equivalent to the present drain on the population of Great Britain for emigration—if the most efficient preparation of the population by an improved physical training for civil as well as for military service be great national objects, they can only be accomplished by commensurate national, legislative, and administrative means." But Mr. Chadwick conceives that "the means required are not simple coercive measures, but the exercise of a general tutelary and publicly responsible authority, acting by the communication of advice and instruction, through properly qualified officers, to local administrative bodies, much on the same principle as those by which the chief local administrative improvements in our time have been effected."

ROCHESTER.

ROCHESTER is an interesting old town, with a castle, which is said to be the finest specimen of Norman architecture in England, and a cathedral still very beautiful; but that has suffered much from time and still more from man.

Under the castle wall, where the broken, time-worn stones are overgrown with creeping plants and ivy, there is one of the prettiest walks imaginable, commanding a view of the Medway, and the green fields and yellow uplands on the opposite side.

There is a new bridge over the river in place of