ANGLO-COLONIAL GOSSIP

[From our own Correspondent.]

LONDON, September 3.

Chief Justice Way left London on Wednesday morning for Bath, for a visit of the liveliest. We hear that he is in close touch with a former Chief Justice of South Australia. He is at Exeter to-day, and to-morrow he is to embark on the Orube at Plymouth. It is un
usual for Chief Justice Way to go abroad, but he is popular here, and has left hosts of friends.

He has been spending a considerable portion of his time lately collecting evidence for the Musgrave inquiries, where he has done all the popular books at Adelaide University. Since I wrote last week he has also been on a visit to Lady Musgrave, and on Tuesday last was at a meeting of the Grand Lodge of Freemasons, with whom he dined.

Mr. F. Mortimer Trimmer, formerly of Sydney, a man of whom I have written before which I referred last week, has received a complimentary post-card from Mr. Gladstone. Mr. Trimmer and Mrs. Trimmer have come up to town to see some of his friends, and at the same time to go away to the Continent. Mr. Trimmer has been busy in London, and has gone away, but has not yet reached his Continent.

Mr. W. Menz, of Adelaide, after a pleasant stay in London, has gone for a couple of months' trip on the Continent. Mr. W. Menz is a man of the world, and will be back in a month or two. He reached London on September 3.

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The Canon O'Brien, Protestant Rector of Adamstown, York, took a prominent part in welcoming the Duke and Duchess of York to Adamstown. He was the guest of Lord Dunraven at his own residence. Canon O'Brien, who placed himself at the head of an insurrectionary movement after the death of the famous Dan O'Connell. Of course the insurrection was put down by the authorities and the leader was sentenced to death, but ultimately was sent to Tasmania, and after some years returned to Ireland, where he died in 1894. It is said that when O'Brien, erected by public subscription, now occupies a site in the part of the City of Dublin which was refused as a site for the British Museum, had been practically completed, the Mayor of Dublin telegraphed to the Mayor of Hamilton, Ontario, that the site of the Irish Constitution was now in the hands of the Lord Mayor of Hamilton, and that he would be pleased to receive the future site of the British Constitution. On some friends since Slavin's departure said that the last letter she had received from her missing husband was dated July 15, 1868, and that she was still living in the United States. The news seems to have been confirmed by the cablegram announcing his death. Frank was not alone, but was accompanied by Joe Boyle, his manager, and Frank something or other—I do not exactly remember what. It does not mater. I believe, the heavy-weight champion of Canada. They were on their way to. York, and were using their best efforts to contact newspaper correspondents in New York and elsewhere. It was not until the cablegram was received that the story of how Slavin's body was discovered, and the details of his death, were revealed. The cablegram stated that Slavin's body was discovered in a river near the place where he was last seen. It is believed that Slavin was killed by accident while crossing the river, but the exact circumstances of his death are still unknown. The cablegram also stated that Slavin's body was brought to New York for an autopsy, and that the results of the autopsy would be released in due course.
At the fortnightly meeting of the University Shakespeare Society on Thursday evening the Rev. J. Day Thompson delivered a lecture on "Richard III.; a study in dramatic equilibrium." The lecturer prefaced his remarks by stating that he did not intend to deal with the play as a whole, but with the character of Richard, using it in illustration of the relative breadth and balance of Shakespeare's art. The character was the soul and staple of the play. No other character had any prominence beside him, the only rival in force being that of Margaret. Notwithstanding his villany, the character of Richard would be found to be full of moral significance as it was of artistic force, fire, and fancy. In this, the lecturer argued, was the balance or equilibrium of the character from a dramatic point of view as against its being that of a deep dissembler, lowly of countenance, arrogant of heart, outwardly compassionate where he inwardly hated, not "letting" to kiss whom he thought to kill, spiteful and cruel, nor for evil will always, but oftener for ambitions, and for the surety or increase of his estate. Where his advantage grew he spared "no man's death whose life withstood his purpose." This common condemnation of the man dropped out of sight all the good side of him, and that there was another side than that presented to a Tudor populace was palpable to any one who would put forth an honest hand to the touch of evidence. If the dramatist could not make the monster morally better he made him intellectually bigger, and endowed him with transcendent intellect to take off the edge of pure loathing against him.

Over against the unmitigated villain of the tradition the dramatist set some more humanly attractive elements, and thus maintained the equilibrium of the character and the drama. Taking this view as the groundwork of his arguments the lecturer proved his case with admirable analysis, specious argument, and philosophic acumen. There was a large attendance of members and friends, who heartily applauded the lecturer. A discussion was participated in by the Rev. A. T. Boas and Messrs. H. Barrett, F. F. Wholohan, E. H. Lock, and Paris Nesbit, Q.C.