CORRESPONDENTS.

Anonymous communications will receive no attention. Everything intended for insertion must be accompanied by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as evidence of authenticity. It is also impossible to correspond on any subject except one side of the sheet of paper.

Correspondents desiring to return rejected manuscript must enclose stamps for the purpose.

The Daily News.

SATURDAY EVENING, SEPTEMBER 2.

Mr George Jacob Holyoake, an eminent representative of industrial England, presumed of freethought practical sense, visited the American continent two years ago and recorded his impressions of the United States and Canada in a graphic contribution to the Nineteenth Century. Another article of his in a recent number of the same periodical on the same political epithets is marked by abundant humour and sagacity. Mr Holyoake is coming out here again at no distant day, and probably our rulers will assign one of him as his couch on again! Mr Holyoake is one of the judicious radicals of whom Mr Goldwin Smith spoke at the Cooperative Congress held in Oxford last May. In character is the personality and activity of the industrial movement in England, the speaker went on to say. "He was, no doubt, in very various centres, to the good sense and sterling character, the working men, and to the generous liberal character of her institutions, but also owes it among other causes to the fact that the movement has had far better leaders here than it has had elsewhere. It has been led by men such as Mr Holyoake, who were not well-wishers, who were not demagogues, who had nothing at heart but the real interests of the working classes, and who, when conflicts arose between employers and employed, were the intermediaries and by their probity, by their moderation, by their sagacity, gained the confidence of both parties."

ANONYMOUS FREE-THOUGHTS.

A correspondent of freethinkers was held at Watkins N Y., last week and ended its session on Friday evening. The principal business of the closing day was delivered by the Rev George Mills, of Chicago, who lately retired from the Christian ministry after ten years service. This ex-minister of the gospel made a bold attack upon the religion which he had so recently abandoned, and with speech clothed in resistless garb sought to point out the folly and absurdity of the doctrines in which it is presumed he was formerly a devout believer! According to his view, the cause of the instability of the institutions of religion is to be found in the vast masses prevading the church itself, as evidenced by the disturbance created by a recent sermon in the Andover seminary and by Mr Beecher's late utterances. The church, he thinks, is more in danger from "Sphinxes within than from "foxes without. His charges against her are (1) That she is an anachronism, a survival entirely out of harmony with the advanced culture and civilization of the nineteenth century. (2) That her creeds contain much that is fabulous and ridiculous, such as the resurrection and the immediate conception. (3) That their underlying basis is falsehood. (4) That its seductive promise of immortality is with at foundation a lie. That she is seemingly oblivious to the wail of anguish going up from the human race. Then Mr Beecher who made these acknowledged that the Church retained a very strong hold on the affections of mankind by virtue of her antiquity, imposing the imagination, the mystery which surrounds her, the wonderful wealth of poetry, the high hope of her endless bliss, and her numerous charities. He declared that the Church is a skeleton or rather frame-work, which is wholly nonsolidary, but that has a constructive work part on the hypothesis of reform society and make earth a heaven. He said the people would not be a respectable Christian if the hypothesis failed. That it would accomplish by inducing the individual and society to live a noble life, by disseminating scientific views of life, and so on hypothesis.

The objections urged against the Church religion by this one time minister of a universe are preposterous beyond by any means now for the first time, but for the most part outworn. Some of the force depends not upon their plausibility but upon their capacity for being prized, and there is small likelihood that the truths which have survived the attacks of skepticism from the time of Julian the apostate to the present will succumb to the re-statement of old objections by one modern free thinker. It will be noticed above that the fulsome praise for Christianity is painfully and palpably dishonest. The dissemination of hygienic information is a worthy object, and doubtless Christians will aid that all that is contemplated in Mr Mills's programme tends to accomplish the purpose of morality and Christianity. However laudable it may be to prevent disease and savage human suffering, this is not religion, and that the religious opinions, the conception of a God and the desire to worship him, are planted deeply in the constitution of the human soul. The world can never be thus blind, and left in the heart when religion is slain (dead), and therefore Col Ingersoll and his followers are foreboded to defeat and dismay. It bad, original, and remote speculations ever succeeded in affecting the church, it will not be by destroying her but by modifying existing beliefs confirmably with rational ideas of truth. There will be different opinions as to whether this is possible. Those who will to a vigorous practical attempt at it would do well to read W. R. Greg's Creed of Christendom. Criticism, in a milder larger than perhaps, is, in part, purely religion and presents it from beginning to end with unlightly and destructive fungus, perhaps, and with those who seem are without faith with a desire to cling to what is left them. Greg's work is a fair specimen of the warm.

The influence of a well-conducted journal was demonstrated in the address of Dr Strange at the semi centennial meeting of the British Medical Association. The doctor eulogized in lavish terms the services of the London Lancet. Monopolies, he said, had been attacked by it, sanitary abuses exposed, official neglect of the poor, the disregard of all decency in the burial of their dead and the adulteration of food and medicine had all been ventilated in its columns, and permanent improvement obtained through its exposure. The value of such a journal he declared, was simply incalculable.

THE FRENCH SITUATION.

The trouble among the members of the constabulary appears to be growing worse instead of better. The men feel great dissatisfaction at the manner in which they have been treated by the authorities, claiming that their services have been ignored. Not a word has fallen from the pen of the Lancet. Such a recognition of the British mounted in facility.

FROM THE SEAT OF WAR.

Shelling the Enemy.

TRYING TO BREAK THE CANAL.

SHELLING THE ENEMY

Alexandria, Sept 2 The iron clad Monitor shelled the enemy's camp between Ramleh and Abassy this morning.

THE MONITORS AGAIN

Ismailia, Sept 2 The Highland brigade has arrived from Alexandria.

CANAL BREAK

Alexandria, Sept 2 The canal bank near Ismailia