your correspondent H. G. D. I have never heard of but one portrait by West of Dr. Franklin, and that was painted for my grandfather, Mr. Edward Duffield, one of the executors of the Doctor's will, and sent to him by the Doctor himself. It is now in my possession, in excellent preservation. A short notice of it will be found in the ninth volume of Franklin's Writings (Sparks's ed.), p. 493.

EDWARD D. INGRAHAM.

Walnut Street, Philadelphia.

Derivation of "Island" (Vol. viii., p. 49.).—H. C. K.'s derivation of island from eye, the visual orb, because each are surrounded by water, seems to me so like a banter on etymologists, that I am doubtful whether I ought to notice it; but as our Editor seems, by the space he has given it, to take it as serious, I shall venture to say two or three words upon it. H. C. K. begins by begging the question; he says that "the eymon from the Fr. ile, It. isola, Lat. insula, is manifestly erroneous." Now I think I can prove—and that by a single word—that it is "manifestly" the true one. I only reverse his order of placing these words; they should stand, the mother first, the children after; insula Lat., isola It., ile Fr., and to them I add my single word, which H. C. K. has chosen to ignore altogether, isle English; as, Isle of Wight, Isle of Man, Isle of Thanet, Isles of Arran, &c. This single word, thus supplied, is to my mind a sufficient answer to H. C. K.'s theory; but I may add, as a corroboration, the peculiarity of retaining in spelling, and dropping in pronunciation, the s in the English isle and island, just as it is in the French ile and islet. Indeed the relation between the French and English words is, in this case, not derivation but identity. I may also observe that the Scotch and Irish names for an island, inch, innis, ennis—tench-keith, innis-fallen, Ennis-killen—are "manifestly" derived from insula, the common parent of all. I half suspect that H. C. K. is a wag, and meant to try whether we should take his suggestion of the rector, as parish memorials; a proceeding which I think might be copied with advantage in all cases of church restoration. In the one drawing mentioned the hour-glass stand is a conspicuous object. CUTHBERT BEDE, B.A.

The following extract is from a tract published by the Cambridge Camden Society, entitled A Few Hints on the Practical Study of Ecclesiastical Antiquities:

"Hour-glass Stand. A relic of Puritanick times. They are not very uncommon; they generally stand on the right-hand of the pulpit, and are made of iron. Examples: Coton, Shepreth. A curious revolving one occurs at Stoke D'Abernon, Surrey, and in St. John Baptist, Bristol, where the hour-glass itself remains. Though a Puritanick innovation, it long kept its place: for Gay in his Pastorals writes:

'He said that Heaven would take her soul no doubt,
And spoke the hour-glass in her praise quite out':

and it is depicted by the side of a pulpit in one of Hogarth's paintings.'

I saw, a few weeks ago, an iron hour-glass stand affixed to the pulpit in Odell Church, Beds.

W. P. STORER.

Olney, Bucks.

"The inventorie of all such church goods, etc. . . . . which the churchwardens [of Great Staughton, co. Hunt.] are and stand charged with. May 31, 1640."

[Inter alia.]

"1m. A pulpit standing in the church, having a cover over the same, and an hour-glass adjoining."

JOSEPH RIX.

St. Neots.

Selling a Wife (Vol. vii., pp. 429.602.).—There can be no question that this offence is an indictable misdemeanor. I made, at the time, a memorandum of the following case:

"West Riding Yorkshire Sessions, June 28, 1837. Joshua Jackson, convicted of selling his wife, imprisoned for one month with hard labour."

S. R.

Chiswick.

Impossibilities of History (Vol. viii., p. 72.).—St. Bernard, according to Gibbon, lived from 1091 to 1153. Henry L., who did rebel against his father, was twelve years older than the Saint, and ascended the throne at the age of twenty-one in the year 1100, when the Saint was nine years old. The descent from the devil alludes, I should think, to Robert le Diable, the father of the Conqueror. The historian of the Tablet found the authority most probably in some theatrical review or fly-leaf of the libretto.

J. H. L.