a representation suggested by a song formerly sung in a pantomime by the then recently deceased clown, the renowned Joey Grimaldi. It was still highly popular in the harlequinades of my early boyhood. It will be observed that the ballad adds a still more extravagant diversion. I remember the first verse only.

It ran:—

A story I've heard in my youth,
I don't know whether serious or funny meant;
I don't mean to vouch for its truth.
Once a man ran away with The Monument;
Up Fish Street swiftly he flew.
A policeman who saw him quick followed it;
When what did this strange fellow do?
Why, he made but one gap and he swallowed it!
Perhaps some folk-lore lyric-loving reader may be able to supply the remaining stanzas.

Gnomon.

"Humanum est errare" (10th S. i. 389, 512; ii. 67).—The saying in this form can be carried back further than the date (1551) given at the last communication. In 9th S. xii. 62 these words were quoted from Burton's 'Anatomy of Melancholy' (II. iii. 7), and Buchmann's article in his 'Gellugelte Worte' was referred to. Whether the proverb occurs in the first edition of the 'Anatomy' I cannot say for certain. It is in the oldest edition which I have, that of 1632. But Burton does not supply the earliest instance. Pantarvolo in Jonson's 'Every Man out of his Humour' (1599) says (ii. I), "Pardon me: humanum est errare." See the 'Stanford Diction ary of Anglicized Words and Phrases.'

With regard to E. W. B.'s suggestion that "it is possible that the Latin phrase comes from an early translation of Plutarch (that of Stephanus appeared in 1572)," it may be remarked that the version of the passage in 'Adv. Coloten,' ch. 31, given by Xylander (tom. ii. p. 1125 f. in the Plutarch of 1599; Wyttenbach's 'Plutarchi Moralia,' vol. v. p. 397; Xylander's translation of the 'Moralia' first appeared in 1570) is "Aliquo errore decipi, ut sapientia non sit, saltem hominis non est," which bears no resemblance in form to "humanum est errare." I am unable to consult Arnoldus Ferronus's Latin version (see Wyttenbach, op. cit.), vol. i. p. xcviii) of the 'Adversus Coloten' given in E. Stellmacher's edition of Plutarch (1572), which I presume to be the translation referred to as "that of Stephanus."

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MESSRS. COUTTS'S REMOVAL (10th S. ii. 195, 233).—In connexion with the above it is interesting to note that the site lately vacated by Messrs. Coutts is part of the ancient site of Durham House, once the residence of personages of great note in our history. It is supposed to have been erected by Thomas Hatfield, who was main Bishop of Durham in 1345. Prince Harry, afterwards Henry V., lodged here for a few days in 1411. Stow gives a long account of the festivities here in 1540 in connexion with a great tournament in St. James's Park, and on May Day of the same year the challengers here entertained Henry VIII. and Anne of Cleves. In 1553 Dudley, Earl of Northumber land, was living here, and in May of that year three marriages were solemnized here with great magnificence, viz., Lord Guildford Dudley to Lady Jane Grey; Lord Herbert to Catherine, Lady Jane's youngest sister; and Lord Hastings to Lady Catherine Dudley. In 1572 Walter Devereux, Earl of Essex, was the occupant; and about 1683 the house was granted to Sir Walter Raleigh by Queen Elizabeth, and here he lived for twenty years. On a part of the site of this famous house was built "The New Exchange," opened on 11 April, 1699, by James I. This was pulled down in 1737 and eleven houses erected, the middle one being occupied by Middletons' Bank, afterwards Coutts's. When the brothers Adam planned the Adelphi, Mr. Thomas Coutts employed them to build a new house for the bank, and there it remained until 1 August last. Any one desirous of a fuller account should consult a paper read by Mr. H. B. Wheatley before the London and Middlesex Archæological Society on 17 April, 1852, entitled 'The Adelphi and its Site,' to which I am indebted for the above information.

A. H. ARKLE.

There is a paper in the Nystander for 9 March entitled 'Coutts, the Romance of a famous Private Bank,' which gives a detailed account of the rise and progress of this interesting institution, with photographs of the old and new premises; a portrait of the chief cashier, Mr. Turner, who has been connected with the bank for fifty-four years; and other curious particulars. There is an unwritten law as to the dress of the clerks, who are all required to be clean shaven, a law to which every one conforms.

JOHN HEBB.

SPORTING CLERGY BEFORE THE REFORMATION (10th S. ii. 89).—P. C. D. J. will find many instances of clerics with sporting proclivities in the records of Monastic Courts, such as the following from the Durham Halmote Rolls: 1378, Acley. It is presented that Robert Chaucellor, Sir John Caries, and William Powys, chaplains, are