at the same time useful to life," and where he records the fact that "oracles were spoken in verses and the way of life pointed out." See also Sir Philip Sidney's 'Defence of Poiesie' for such ideas as this, "The first light-giver to ignorance." Indebtedness to the classics for the word "legislator" is somewhat indicated by another sentence in Shelley's essay, "Poets, according to the circumstances of the age and nation in which they appeared, were called, in the earlier epochs of the world, legislators and prophets: a poet essentially comprises and unites both these characters."

RUSSELL MARKLAND.

THE CHESAPEAKE AND SHANNON.—
The following inscription is written on a stone which has been lately removed from St. Paul's Churchyard, Halifax, Nova Scotia, and placed in the vestibule of St. Paul's Church in that city—the oldest church in Canada—and it is thought would be of interest to your readers:

SACRED TO THE MEMORY OF MR. JOHN SAMWELL, MIDSHIPMAN OF H.M.S. SHANNON, WHO DIED AT THE NAVAL HOSPITAL ON THE 13TH OF JUNE, 1813, AGED 18 YEARS, AND WILLIAM STEVENS, BOATSWAIN, AGED 56 YEARS. THOSE BRAVE OFFICERS CLOSED THEIR CAREER IN CONSEQUENCE OF DESPERATE WOUNDS RECEIVED IN THE GALLANT ACTION BETWEEN THEIR OWN SHIP AND THE AMERICAN FRIGATE CHESAPEAKE, ON THE 1ST OF JUNE, 1813, WHICH ENDED IN THE CAPTURE OF THE ENEMY'S SHIP IN 14 MINUTES.

A LOVER OF HISTORY.

W. MONCRIEF, DRAMATIST.—Amongst the many letters addressed to George Daniels, editor of Cumberland's Plays, &c., I transcribe the following as it affords information hitherto unpublished and not available in any other form:

3, Cadogan Street,
Sloane Street,
June 10, 1841.

My Dear Daniels,

As a brother author, and quondam (sic) brother Editor, I feel no hesitation in intruding on you sans ceremonie, but avail myself at once of the Freemasonry of our craft, without introduction. My object is get an introduction from you.

You may possibly be aware that amongst other unkindnesses Fate has, for some time past, visited me with the crowning calamity of blindness. You know the Theatrical profession, and will not wonder that they have seized the opportunity of rendering this most distressing of all mortal privations, still more distressing by taking every possible advantage of me, and rendering my theatrical pursuits little better than a sincere. I feel so disgusted with their cold heartlessness (sic), that I do not intend to place any further dependence in them.

W. F. P. STOCKLEY.

Dr. Johnson and Shelley.—The last sentence in Shelley's essay 'A Defence of Poetry' is the famous line, "'Poets are the unacknowledged legislators of the world.' With the difference of the widely qualifying word "unacknowledged" there is a remarkable similarity between this and a sentence in Dr. Johnson's 'Rasselas' (chap. x., 'Imlac's History continued: A Dissertation on Poetry'), "He must write as the interpreter of nature and the legislator of mankind." Can Shelley have had this in his mind, consciously or unconsciously, when writing his well-known line? The likeness is striking, even if both were echoing the sentiments of an earlier classic, as, for example, the central idea in such sentences from Horace's 'Art of Poetry' as these, "Poets wish either to give profit or pleasure, to say things both pleasant and