

Replies.

BAPTISM BY SOLDIERS.
(clxii. 316, 358).

Further illustrating irregularities during warfare, early in the American Civil War there were great revivals of religion pending battles on each side of the line near which I then lived though too young to have personal knowledge of the following incident. A Massachusetts colonel, wrathful at the news reaching him one morning that an adjacent Pennsylvania regiment was to have a dozen converts baptized that noon, sent for a subordinate and ordered: "Sergeant Major, detail fifteen men for baptism at two this afternoon; I'm not going to let any — lot of Pennsylvania Dutchmen get ahead of my Yankee boys!"

Rockingham.

DIVERSE EYES (clxii. 213).—At Scunthorpe in Lincolnshire a gentleman who was Churchwarden there forty years ago had one eye grey and the other brown. His wife had the same peculiarity, though less markedly. It used to be suggested that that was one reason why they married. Hearing of a terrier dog with diverse eyes, the gentleman purchased it. I never heard that he was able to add further to his collection.

V.

BOBBED HAIR (clxii. 333, 409).—There is a version of the influence of the Terror upon Parisian hairdressing, which differs somewhat from the account suggested by Mr. Hamill. When Madame Elizabeth had her hair cut off as a preliminary to her execution, some of those present took away a lock as a souvenir. So too, Charlotte Corday, when the executioner was busy with his shears, picked up a lock from the floor and gave it to the young man who was engaged in sketching her.

Many French women, imprisoned during the Terror, had beautiful long hair of which they were justly proud. Wishing to leave plaits of it to their relations as a keepsake, they cut it off themselves before they were sent to the Revolutionary Tribunal, at the same time arranging to leave the neck clear for the knife of the guillotine. This fashion was known as coiffure à la sacrifiée. So when, after the fall of Robespierre, the gates of the prisons were unexpectedly opened, many of the women who came out had short hair, and one of them, Madame Tallieu, famous for her beauty, determined to wear it short. Her example was quickly followed by the Merveilleuses, as the smart ladies of Paris were then called. Immense interest was taken in the changes of fashion, as trivial as they were frequent, and just after the battle of Rivoli all Paris was astir with excitement, not because of the victory which gave North Italy to Bonaparte, but because a decree had gone forth from the leaders of feminine society that in future all women aspiring to social distinction must wear their hair à la Grecque. Madame Tallien aimed as far as was possible at resembling a Greek goddess.

T. Percy Armstrong.

In France bobbed hair is termed "à la Nino," after Nino de l'Enclos.

H. H. W.

MINIATURE MAHOGANY BUREAUS (clxii. 162, 354, 392, 430, 447).
— In America these miniature pieces of furniture were made by the apprentices when they were learning the trade of cabinet-maker. I have a "blanket-trunk" so-called of bird's eye maple, 15ins. high. The top is a lid that lifts, and below are two drawers, with wooden knobs.

Constance Williams.

UNUSUAL CHRISTIAN NAMES (clxii. 226, 322, 429). — On 29 May, 1596, a marriage licence was granted to Thomas Trapper to marry Parnell Burton at St. Gabriel, Fenchurch Street. In the Close Rolls (temp. Richard II) the name of Parnell Persoun is mentioned (a male). I knew the Rev. Florence Wethered, who was for many years Rector of Hurley, Berkshire, and had a son of this name. Petronella is an ancient feminine form of Peter, for instance Petronella de Cham.

J. P. Bacon Phillips.

"Parnel," or "Parneli," is not yet obsolete, as a Christian name. A male resident in Stratford-on-Avon is named Parnel Field.

Wm. Jaggard.

SQUATTING (clxii. p. 353). — In 'Mushroom Town' by Oliver Onions (published by Hodder and Stoughton in 1915) on p. 64 an explanation is given of "Hafod Unos":—

Strictly speaking, it's the summer-house-pavilion-shelter-of a night. The essentials are