

WHERE TO GO.

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LETTERS FROM LIFE.—No. 12.

Graithwaite, Cumberland.

DEAREST PHYLLIS,—The chief interest of the political and social world centres at present in Marlborough House and in Prince George of Wales. Every one is commenting on the strange coincidence that the Prince Consort was taken ill with typhoid in November, 1861, and died on December 14th from the disease, and that the Prince of Wales was seized with the same complaint in November, 1871, and that his most dangerous time was on the anniversary of his father's death. Of course, Prince George has everything in his favour, youth, health, and strength, and many much-improved methods in medical treatment and Nursing. Dr. Jackson also tells me that twenty years ago, fifteen people out of every hundred attacked with typhoid died; but that the proportion in Hospitals now is only about five per cent., which is a splendid

advance, and one which, he says, is largely due to medical directions being so much better carried out now by Trained Nurses than was formerly the case. So every one is hoping for the best, and that Prince George will be quite out of danger before the fateful 14th of December arrives.

There is to be quite an explosion of political gas this week. Lord Salisbury, Sir William Harcourt, and Mr. Gladstone, are all to make important pronouncements. The Cabinet Councils have begun, the programme for the Session is practically arranged, and Parliament, I hear, will meet unusually early in the New Year. And as the Gladstonians fondly imagine that this will be the last session of the present Government, of course they are all eager to put themselves *en évidence*, and railway platform oratory will again be the order of the day.

Abroad, Chili and the United States have been playing at the game of bounce, and naturally the little one has got the worst of it. New South Wales, which has, until now, been the staunchest supporter of Free Trade in Greater Britain, seems veering round to Protection, and I really do not blame it. Free Trade in principle is excellent, but in practice when only one nation adopts it, it does not pay, and the working men in this country are clearly finding it out. And if they demand Protection of their industries as they are now

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