dumping-shed on a narrow track, the propelling power being an endless wire rope, which is merely laid on the top of the car, and pulls it along by friction. The rope passes around a pulley at the dumping-shed, and carries the empty cars back in the same manner. Arrived at the dumping-shed, the cars are taken off the rope and run across a platform scale, weighed, and then automatically dumped, the contents passing through a chute into the launch waiting at the wharf below. The empty car is then rolled back and put under the rope, which is returning to the shaft-house, and is thus carried back. The Superintendent is a young Chilian educated in England. The coal is sold to the Chilian Government, at $5.00 per ton, but foreign vessels have to pay $10.00 and $11.00, which seems a pretty high price for such a quality of coal.

Italy's Last Monastery.

Within the last few years the Government of Italy has done away with the monasteries which were so numerous all over the country, and now the only traces of them are the buildings of a few monks who have been permitted to remain in the churches for the purpose of taking care of them. The buildings, except the churches, have been turned into barracks, so that now a force occupies them which is very unfriendly to the former one. Some of these monasteries had most magnificent churches attached to them, but these are left for public uses, and, as I have said, are taken care of by a few monks whom the Government has permitted to remain. One example of these is the church we see pictured so often in paintings of Venice, (St. Maria Della Salute); around it is an immense building, once forming the monastery, but now the barracks of the soldiers, and in the church are three monks, who are always to be seen, and whose duty it is to look after it.

But there is one monastery which the Italian Government has suffered to remain and carry out its full object. This is situated on the Island of St. Lazzaro, two miles to the northeast of Venice. It is a very picturesque place, with its long, massive buildings, surrounded by vineyards and gardens.

As we landed we were introduced to the monk of whom we were in search, and were very much surprised on hearing him speak English as well as we did. We had expected on seeing this monk to find one of the type which we find portrayed in so many books. To be sure he was bearded, wore a skull-cap, and his long, dark cassock belted in at the waist with a cord, from the ends of which hung crosses; but he possessed much original fun, spoke numerous languages, was well read, and conversed fluently on almost any subject. He explained, before showing us over the monastery, that they were Armenians, and the reason why the Government sanctioned their existence was, that they had for their main object the education of boys, and, besides, they were independent of outside support.

He first took us to the chapel, which was very pretty, and not overdone; the features of this were not new, being the same as in all Catholic churches. We noticed, while walking down the aisle, that there were tombs in the floor, and upon inquiring, found that the monks were buried there when they died.

From the chapel we were taken through a long corridor, out of which the rooms of the different monks led. Some of the doors being open, the monks could be seen either writing or reading. At the end of the corridor was a large room very much resembling an elaborate parlor, but there were numerous scientific instruments scattered around, a cylindrical friction, and a Holtz electrical machine, a rude kind of a dynamo, and other contrivances of like nature. We were told that the lesson that day had been on electricity, showing this room to be a reception and schoolroom combined. From here we were led to Lord Byron's study, this being the room where he wrote many of his poems, and learned the Armenian language. In the center of this room was a large case, containing various things which he used, together with a letter written and signed by him. Also in the corner was a case, which contained the pictures of many distinguished men who